



Get a pre-game
glimpse at Mercy's
Powderpuff team
and the game to
come on Pages 4-5

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As Mercy Newsprint staff we promise to keep you entertained and informed with accurate and unbiased information. Our goal is to provide timely news while promoting diversity and representing the entirety of the Mercy community. We encourage letters to the editors and any other feedback you may have. You may reach out to us through our email (newsprint@mhsmi.org), our Instagram (@[mercy.newsprint](https://www.instagram.com/mercy.newsprint)), or through any of our staff members.

Maroon & Gold Raffle kicks-off

STORY AND GRAPHIC: **ZAARA AHMED, COPY EDITOR**

What happens when school spirit meets with the thrill of winning? The Maroon & Gold Raffle returns, and with it, a shot at prizes that have everyone from freshman to staff members rushing to sell tickets. Not only is the raffle a fun experience with lots of incentives, but it also significantly helps the school.

“We do the raffle each year because it raises money for our general fund,” coordinator of this year’s Maroon & Gold Raffle, Mrs. Nicole Mahjoory, said. “The money we earn from the raffle goes towards curriculum enhancements, tuition gap, and facility & technology upgrades.”

The start of the Maroon & Gold Raffle is marked by the famous kick-off assembly. This year, Advancements coordinated with Fishbowl to ensure the assembly was filled with specialized incentives for Mercy students.

“We’re planning for the kick-off assembly to be really fun,” Mahjoory said. “We’re going for an ‘Olympics vibe’—there’s going to be gold, silver, and bronze medals awarded to students and staff who win the games that are going to take place. Prizes include Lululemon items, Sephora kits, Owala water bottles, gift cards and more.”

Not only is the assembly filled with prizes, but so is the actual raffle. The advisor group who sells the most raffle tickets will be rewarded with a Crumbl Cookie party. Similarly, individual students who sell enough tickets are granted specific clothing passes to be used during dress down days, such as being allowed to wear shorts or leggings.

“Last year, I sold enough raffle tickets to get both a leggings pass and a shorts pass,” senior Eleanor Brook said. “It was so worth it; I was able to wear basically anything I wanted without having to worry about being dress coded.”

The goal for this year’s Maroon & Gold Raffle is to raise around \$153,000. At each stage of raising money to reach the goal, the school is rewarded with certain school days off. For example, the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving break are selected as rewarded days off. If the raffle is able to raise a certain amount of money, not only will individual students and staff members win prizes, but the whole school will be rewarded.

“I really enjoyed the days off we got off from the Maroon & Gold raffle last year—it really boosted everyone’s enthusiasm to sell raffle tickets,” senior Campbell Smith

Maroon and Gold Raffle Incentives

| WINNERS | STUDENTS | STAFF |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| GOLD MEDAL | \$125 Beats Studio Pro Headphones | \$250 \$25 Mercy Cafeteria Gift Card |
| SILVER MEDAL | \$100 Airpods Pro | \$150 \$25 Mercy Cafeteria Gift Card |
| BRONZE MEDAL | \$75 | \$75 \$25 Mercy Cafeteria Gift Card |
| TOP SELLER FROM EACH GRADE | \$50 | — |



Mercy Mock Trial team. Photo Courtesy of Mercy Mock Trial member.

Mock Trial heads to Chicago

STORY: **ANEESA SYED, SENIOR REPORTER**

Outside of the courtroom, the Mercy Mock Trial members are just like any other high school students, but once inside, they become skilled attorneys ready to defend their case. The team formed back in 2011, qualifying for state championships each year. In 2019, staff member Mrs. Martha Kreucher took over and has been leading the team to the state championships since.

They are set to attend the national mock trial championship in Chicago this year, on November 10th. There, they will compete against different countries and hope to advance to the next round.

Mock trial is a learning activity that simulates a court trial, and it allows students to act as lawyers and witnesses to present a given case. It can be in the form of classroom activities, high school programs, or intercollegiate competitions, where students are defending at a national level.

“Mock trial is a hands-on courtroom trial experience combined with critical thinking, public speaking, and performance art, Mercy Mock Trial leader Mrs. Kreucher said. “It’s an actual trial experience from all aspects.”

Rather than working on a real life case, students are scored based on their performance. This includes factors such as evidence, persuasiveness, presentation ability, and much more. To perfect these, preparations begin months before; for Mercy, their application process consisted of applying this past spring, with every member-five seniors, four juniors, and two sophomores- composing an essay based on the prompts provided by Empire Mock

Trial, an education non-profit that runs and organizes the trials.

Once Mercy was accepted, they were handed the case in August, and given two months to prepare.

“We have been working tirelessly prepping in and out of practice,” senior Mock trial member Alaina Mundt said. “Most of the time, a lot of us find each other on off hours and work with Mrs. Kreucher whenever possible.”

Preparing for their roles in the courtroom is easier said than done. In addition to their exercises, there’s just as much of a mental aspect to taking part in an occasion as prominent as this.

“Yes, practice includes a lot of review of the rules of evidence, and practicing our lines of questioning, and we are very prepared, but also nervous at the same time. There’s teams from Ireland, the United Kingdom, and South Korea coming to compete, so we have to have our A-game together,” Alaina said. We still have some work to do, but I think we’re all starting to get in those courtrooms in Chicago.”

“The program attracts those who are interested in pursuing futures in theater by aiding them in taking on the roles of attorneys, defendants, and much more,” senior Isabella Casab said. “Mercy strives to continue to live up to our respected name at competitions. Without Mrs. Kreucher and the rest of the amazing leaders, the Mercy Mock Trial team wouldn’t be able to advance as well as it does. We hope to continue to grow in our legacy of greatness and pass this passion for justice to the next generation of mock-trial Mercy attorneys.”

How many is too many?

Are Mercy seniors applying to too many or too few colleges?

STORY: **ZAARA AHMED, COPY EDITOR AND REESE KIZY, WEB EDITOR**

Pro: More is the way to go

By: Reese Kizy

Some in the Class of 2025 receive acceptance to colleges, while some also tidy up applying to schools. But what is the feeling in the air as the class tries to keep their options open and maximize the number of acceptances? Is there a stigma at a private school to apply to as many colleges as possible?

Senior Maya Ramjattan is applying to 15 schools.

"I have 7 schools in state, and the rest are out of state," Ramjattan said. "I think it is important to put myself out there because you never really know when it comes to college admissions."

Similarly, counseling support specialist Mrs. Tosha Willis comments that "for the sake of logical or deductive reasoning, most tend to think 'you're bound to get into one.'"

As the college admissions process drags on from, seniors have to consider schools, complete applications and essays, and keep up with normal responsibilities all at once.

"The process to apply and submit applications has been very overwhelming," Ramjattan said.

Keeping up with all that a college requires and recommends for their application is a lot. But, Ramjattan says that after you do it for a couple schools, it gets easier to do it for the rest.

She chose to apply to many schools to keep her options open, but also, "my mom has really pushed me to apply to as many schools as possible," Ramjattan said.

As the last step before hitting send on your application is to pay a fee, they can add up quickly.

"The application fee waivers have helped a lot and a lot of my colleges do waive the cost," Ramjattan said.

In the month of October, many schools in Michigan are free to apply to. Some colleges never require a fee, such as Miami University in Ohio and the University of Dayton.

Students at Mercy are pushed to their greatest potential in academics. But college applications are more personal.

"The most important thing when considering how many to apply to is always have to being real with yourself. Sometimes you have to accept that you don't meet the criteria," Willis said.

Additionally, many schools are different, and it is early to know for sure what your perfect fit is.

"I'm applying to many schools because I don't know for sure what kind of school I want to go to yet, or where," senior Julia Wadowski said. "It has been a lot to apply, but hopefully it will be worth it."

College preferences based on size, location, and overall vibe vary for every student.

"You have to consider the best fit for you, but also which place would set you up best for the future," Ramjattan said.

For students at Mercy, and all private schools, there is not necessarily a stigma to applying to a huge list of schools. "From what I've seen, I feel that there is more pressure on students to apply to Big 10 or Ivy league colleges, not necessarily an abundant amount of schools," Willis said.

That pressure to apply to an unnecessary amount of schools may come from a student's parents, or their own tendency to over-achieve. An applying list can grow long fast, but that doesn't make it bad.

"Applying to more colleges helps to spread opportunities for you," Ramjattan said. "Even with colleges you may not even think you want to go to, you never know until you try."

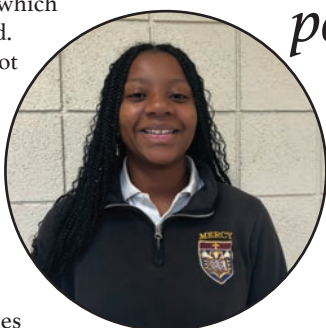
"Applying to fewer colleges is the way to go; I was able to focus on specific colleges and make each application I submitted genuine"

- Jenna Matigian



"In my family, I'm really pushed to apply to as many schools as possible. Applying to more colleges helps spread opportunity"

- Maya Ramjattan



Con: Less is more

By: Zaara Ahmed

As the college application process looms for high school seniors, many students face the temptation to apply to an extensive amount of schools. However, doing so only causes more stress and costs you more money.

First off, one of the primary reasons as to why students should only apply to a select few colleges is because they risk potential decline in the quality of their applications when applying to a large amount of schools. Namely, students should focus on quality over quantity. Creating a college application takes lots of time and hard work. When students spread themselves too thin trying to get as many applications done as possible, all they end up doing is producing lackluster applications. Colleges are looking for a thoroughly tailored application that shows genuine interest in their school. A student that's applying to 15 or more colleges will struggle to put in the sufficient effort needed to create a quality application.

"I think that it's more important for students to focus on the quality of each application rather than getting as many done as possible," McAuley Academic Center Technician, Mrs. Marylou Waiono said. "You should be putting your best work into each application and you can't really do that if you're applying to 20 different schools as opposed to seven."

Moreover, when students attempt to juggle too many applications, the quality of certain components of their application, such as supplemental essays, are negatively impacted. Things like supplemental essays are crucial because admissions committees use them to determine if a student truly has a place at their school. A student who applies to a handful of colleges can take the time to write thought-out essays. Contrastingly, a student who applies to a vast amount of school won't have as much time to focus on each individual application and will up with generic, bland essays and overall applications.

"I think the biggest reason as to why I'm not applying to a lot of schools is because of the sheer time and effort it takes," senior Jenna Matigian said. "The schools I applied to are scarce because I only chose the ones that my heart is truly set on. Why would I take the time to write 10 different supplemental essays if I'm not even interested in the school?"

Another overlooked consequence of applying to a lot of colleges is the expensive application fees. According to Imed Bouchrika at Research.com, the average college application fee in the U.S. is about \$50. However, elite schools and some universities go as far as to charge fees that can exceed \$100. For families on a budget, these expenses can create financial stress—if a student is applying to 15 colleges, they are paying an average of \$750, which is too much to be spending on pending applications.

"One of the biggest cons to applying to a lot of schools is the amount of money that goes into application fees," Matigian said. "Some students are spending hundreds upon hundreds of dollars on their applications and it blows my mind."

Overall, when thinking about applying to a numerous amount of colleges, the cons outweigh the benefits. By prioritizing quality over quantity and considering financial components, students are able to increase their chances at acceptance and also navigate this stressful time with a more focused approach.

18 and ready to vote on Nov. 5

STORY AND PHOTOS: **REESE KIZY, WEB EDITOR**

With only 12 days until the presidential election, many in the Mercy community prepare to vote. Some students in the class of 2025 have recently turned 18 and are eligible to vote on November 5, even though they may have not voted in the primaries or in any other election before.

Senior Campbell Smith is a new voter and will be casting her ballot this year.

"I think it is important to exercise your right to vote because even though you're one person you still have a lot of power in elections," Smith said.

As a member of Generation Z, Campbell and all other eligible voters in Mercy's student body are part of a cohort that "has an increasing voter registration rate since the 2018 election," according to the Berkeley Institute for Young Americans.

On her political ideology, Campbell comments, "growing up surrounded by my parents and their ideology have influenced my own morals and eventually how I will vote this year."

As people who have just recently become adults, it can be hard to branch outside of home values and tradition in gaining knowledge about elections.

"I definitely have experienced new things that have made me analyze family values a lot, which has made me more comfort-



able to have my own voice that I will use when I vote," Smith said.

The ballots on Nov. 5 will look different based on the district in which you live. In order to prepare for what you will see and the choices that are presented, you can visit Michigan Voter

Information Center online

and input the information according to your county, jurisdiction, and precinct. The ballots don't just contain the names Harris and Trump; they will take votes in elections from the state Court of Appeals to school district board members. For everyone in Michigan though, a new Senator, and a new district representative will be decided this election.

"Honestly, I have no idea about the representative and

senator elections, mostly I just know about the presidential candidates," Smith said. "I try to get knowledge from reputable sources, but in order to keep getting informed about how I'm voting I've just been paying attention to CNN on the TV when my parents watch it."

With the media having a constant place in most of our lives— in advertisements interrupting TV programs, on social media, and even unwanted polling messages appearing through text or email— the election is a large presence and focus in America this fall. Intaking accurate information is as important as ever.

"I think being able to vote is exciting. I'm excited to finally have the opportunity to do it!" Smith said.

I think it's important for all citizens to exercise their right and do everything they can to create a better nation.

- Registered voter, Isabella Casab '25



Michigan's crucial elections in the House and Senate

STORY AND GRAPHICS: **REESE KIZY, WEB EDITOR**

It is easy to perceive the political mood in the country as laser focused on the presidential election. However, votes for the Senate and House of Representatives will also be cast on the ballot on Nov. 5.

There is lots of importance to these elections. As a swing state, Michigan's voters matter. But, their representatives and senators also have an important voice. Whether a democrat or republican takes those seats in Congress can affect laws passed.

"It is hugely important to vote for representative and senators because they are in the legislative branch, so they make laws," government teacher, Mr. Mike Barnes said. "A president heavily relies the House and the Senate to get things done."

One political party can have control in the House or the Senate. If that is the case, the party with more representatives or senators is the one that has a more prevalent voice in lawmaking.

"The founding fathers intended for the legislative branch to have the most power, not the executive," Barnes said.

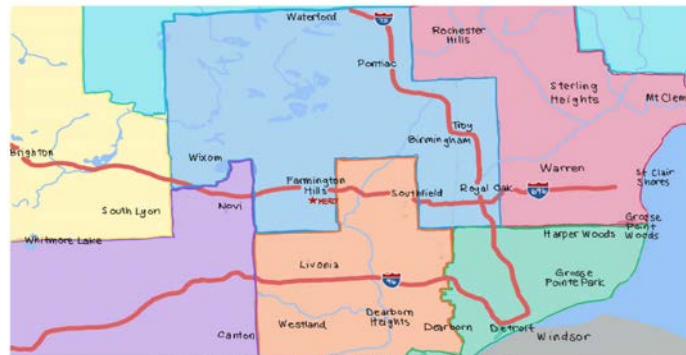
Debbie Stabenow, current Michigan senator from the Democratic Party, is not running for reelection. The last time that Stabenow's seat was up for election was 2018. Democrat Elissa Slotkin and Republican Mike Rogers compete for her spot. Whoever wins will serve in the Senate along with Michigan's other senator, democrat Gary Peters.

Policies and issues that parties focus on get closer to home when senators establish their foundation and voter base.

"I see the Slotkin and Rogers commercials way too often," Emily Walker, AP Government student said. "I think senators and representatives kind of have more of a responsibility to enact policies closer to home."

Regardless, the parties still hold true to their platform issues.

"For the Republicans, they stress immigration and inflation. Where the Democrats' key issue is reproductive rights," Barnes said. "I could see if the Democrat nominee for president won in Michigan, that the Democrat senator would win as well, and for the republicans, vice versa."



● Haley Stevens
DEMOCRAT

● Debbie Dingell
DEMOCRAT

● John James
REPUBLICAN

● Lisa McClain
REPUBLICAN

● Rashida Tlaib
DEMOCRAT

● Shri Thanedar
DEMOCRAT

● Elissa Slotkin
DEMOCRAT

CURRENT MICHIGAN SENATORS



Gary Peters



Debbie Stabenow



Elissa Slotkin



Mike Rogers

candidates for
Stabenow's Senate seat

This year's election draws partisanship on many key issues. On a state-wide level, cohorts are formed based on the makeup of the population.

"Especially in Michigan, an issue that I think really animates or concerns young voters is the war in Israel and Gaza," Barnes said. "The larger Arab population around here is a big contributor to that."

In addition to international conflict, voters in Gen Z tend to also question the things that will be around for a while; the things that will affect our environment for many years to come.

"Also, young people tend to be more concerned about the climate because it is a long term issue that will continue to affect them later in

life," Barnes said.

Senators have more of a purpose to address concerns and work on legislation while representatives are more of a voice representing the majority opinion of the people in the district they represent. But whatever the issue is, a political leader is one that will always enact fairness on the behalf of the people.

"It is important to see not only the things that the politicians say, but also what they have done and the policies that they have enacted," Barnes said.

Powderpuff '25 preview

STORY AND PHOTOS: **TESS O'DONNELL, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

The second annual Mercy High School Powderpuff game will happen against St. Catherine of Siena Academy at the Hawk Community Center in Farmington Hills on October 25. Following their dominate victory last year, the '25 Mercy powderpuff girls have hopes of another win this year to keep the powderpuff trophy contained within the Mercy walls.

Although much of the victory can be contributed to the players on the field last year, the student section also assisted from the sidelines. With the theme “Pink Out” many Mercy students attended the game, adding to the energy and excitment of the players.

“The energy is going to be super fun as long as the student section is as good as it was last year,” senior Lauren Gawne said.

“The energy and school spirit was high in the student section during the powderpuff game last year and it made the game really fun,” senior Kate Samulak said.

Many schools, public and private, have powderpuff games that are important to the culture and experience of their female students in the fall. Through powderpuff, girls have the opportunity to develop a new interest into a sport they might not have had a lot of exposure to in the past. At Mercy specifically, the powderpuff game is the one chance a year that Mercy students get to attend a football game and cheer on a football team that is actually comprised of students that go to thier school.

“The powderpuff game adds yet one more element of unity to the community,” Mercy powderpuff head coach Nicolas Furiak said. “Everyone wants to win and everyone rallies around one purpose. It is another remarkable way we show strong community and support for each other and Mercy’s mission.”



Faith Fusco, senior, seeks to run past Lauren Miller, senior, without getting her flag pulled during a defensive practice drill. To get past defenders, offensive players need quick feet, reflexives and the ability to see others coming.



Sofia Finelli, senior, completes a drill by attempting to run with the ball without getting one of flags pulled by Jacquelyn LeVasseur, a defensive player. This drill will help them both prepare for the real game, where Finelli will play a running back.



The offensive line, comprised of five Mercy seniors: Jacquelyn LeVasseur, Owynn Evans, Alaina Mundt, Alex Knapp, and Megan Kowalyk, practices their starting positions. They prepare to block and protect the quarterback once Mundt snaps the ball.



Jordan LeVasseur, senior, directs a reciever to a different running route as she practices her throws prior to practice. LeVasseur will be the backup quarterback during the powderpuff game, in case Pallozzi is injured or unable to play.

Powderpuff Key Players:

Photos courtesy of Inter-State Studio



Sofia Finelli
Running back



Lauren Gawne
Receiver



Alaina Mundt
Long snapper



Kaitlyn Pallozzi
Quarterback



Marie Schueneman
Running back



Maddie Linton, senior, passes to Gabby Backus, senior, to warm up her arm before practice begins. Although Linton will not be playing quarterback, practicing passes helps Backus improve her catching and hand-eye coordination on the field for the game.

Powderpuff around the country

Although Powderpuff is one of the only opportunities for many girls to play organized football in high school, there are more professional opportunities awaiting post graduation for those who find their passion in the game.

The Women’s National Football Conference has 17 professional women’s tackle football teams and over 1000+ athletes that play football (wnfcfootball.com). The WNFC also has plans to begin a professional flag football team with more information coming soon (wnfcfootball.com).

Within Michigan, the Detroit Lions Foundation created the Michigan Girls High School Flag Football League that chooses schools to particape based on if the school already had an established flag football program or had expressed strong interest in creating one (detroitlions.com).

The rise of interest in girls in football has sparked a rise in the opportunities girls now have to be football as an organized sport.



Marie Schueneman, senior, runs past a defender while protecting the ball and her flags. Schueneman will play running back in the game, making plays by dodging defenders and running quickly.

Motivation and fun on and off the field

Powderpuff games played throughout the country are great motivation for women and girls to become more instrested in football.

“I think it motivates more girls to watch football at home because they can connect it to things they might do in their powderpuff practices,” senior Kaitlyn Pallozzi said.

The games also help everyone to realize that football is for everyone.

“I think through powerpuff, girls have been able to realize that they can play football, it’s not a one gender sport,” senior Megan Kowalyk said.

Other powderpuff players have different ideas of how powderpuff contributes to motivation for girls.

“It puts women in the environment of the sport, which is creating more interest in the sport,” senior Maeve Casey said.

Powderpuff also gives lots of girls at Mercy exciting new opportunities and experiences that they would not have gotten if they hadn’t choosen to play the game.

“My favorite part about powderpuff is playing a sport with people that you wouldn’t necessarily play a sport with normally,” senior Maddie Linton said.

The powderpuff game is not only a bonding opportunity for the entire school, but provides seniors, who choose to play, with a fun and exciting experiences that is different from their other sports they might participate in.



After warmups the team hundles together to learn more about their goals for practice and the drills they will be running from head coach, Nicolas Furiak. In practice, players wear flags to perpare for the actual game wear the opposing team will be aiming to pull them off, resulting in the player being “tackeled”.



Senior Kaitlyn Pallozzi, starting quarterback for the Mercy Powderpuff team, practices her passes before practice. Pallozzi has multiple players she hopes to target throughout the game while staying in a protected pocket.

Mercy's Haunted House is a Thriller

STORY: ANEESA SYED, SENIOR REPORTER, GRAPHICS: MEGAN SULLIVAN

It's close to midnight, and something evil's lurking in the dark here at Mercy High School. Under the moonlight, the theater department is here to scare you senseless: with their annual haunted house, taking place in our very own Drama studio.

The Performing Arts Department hosted this event every year until 2020, when coronavirus struck and things were difficult to compose. After, Performing Arts Department Chair Mrs. Shelley Bajorek took over, collecting students one by one to take the role of clowns, zombies, and the possessed.

"Before school, we all get together the morning of the haunted house and get dressed and ready to start scaring people all day," junior Jamesyn Douglas said. "But since it's so early we have to hype ourselves up so that we can really take on the challenges of scaring people to make them feel the effects!"

The rehearsal process for this event is much different than a play of musical, because they don't actually have one.

"We don't really have rehearsals because it's not exactly something we can just practice. It all comes just together the day of," Jamysen Douglass said.

The haunted house includes a variety of terrifying horror scenes as you walk through. This is all made possible by the makeup and costume crew, who are responsible for painting the actors ghoul white or zombie green.

"It's fun because a mix of working together and simple Halloween fun," senior Rebecca Morgan said.

But what is the production process like? Surprisingly, it only takes two days for preparation, which includes constructing screens, gathering props, and handling technical equipment for special effects.

In order to create the maze-like walkthrough, the crew puts six by twelve foot flats together that allows them to have giant walls around the entire room. When you walk in, only one scene is visible, until you go deeper into the haunted house and a walking corpse is ready to scare you around the corner.

"I remember being really scared to walk further in, because the walls were so large and high you didn't know what was coming next, but that's what made it even scarier and fun," senior Emma O'Donnell said.

To enhance its authenticity, some actors will even bring their own props from home, and you may be able to spot them around if you look close enough. Otherwise, the tables and chairs from the drama room are used along with the props from the prop room. Others will use costumes or bring old clothes from home.

To turn into a character, they gather as much makeup as they can, which usually in-

cludes a generous amount of dark contour and a ton of fake blood.

Once they are dressed and touched up, the crew creates fake wounds made of latex and place them all over their costumes and skin.

"For me, playing the clown last year I had some scary clown face paint on with some fake blood splattered on a costume, which was pretty minimal," senior Maggie Geraghty said. Some of the other members had to fully step outside the building because they had to put so much fake blood on themselves for the scare effect."

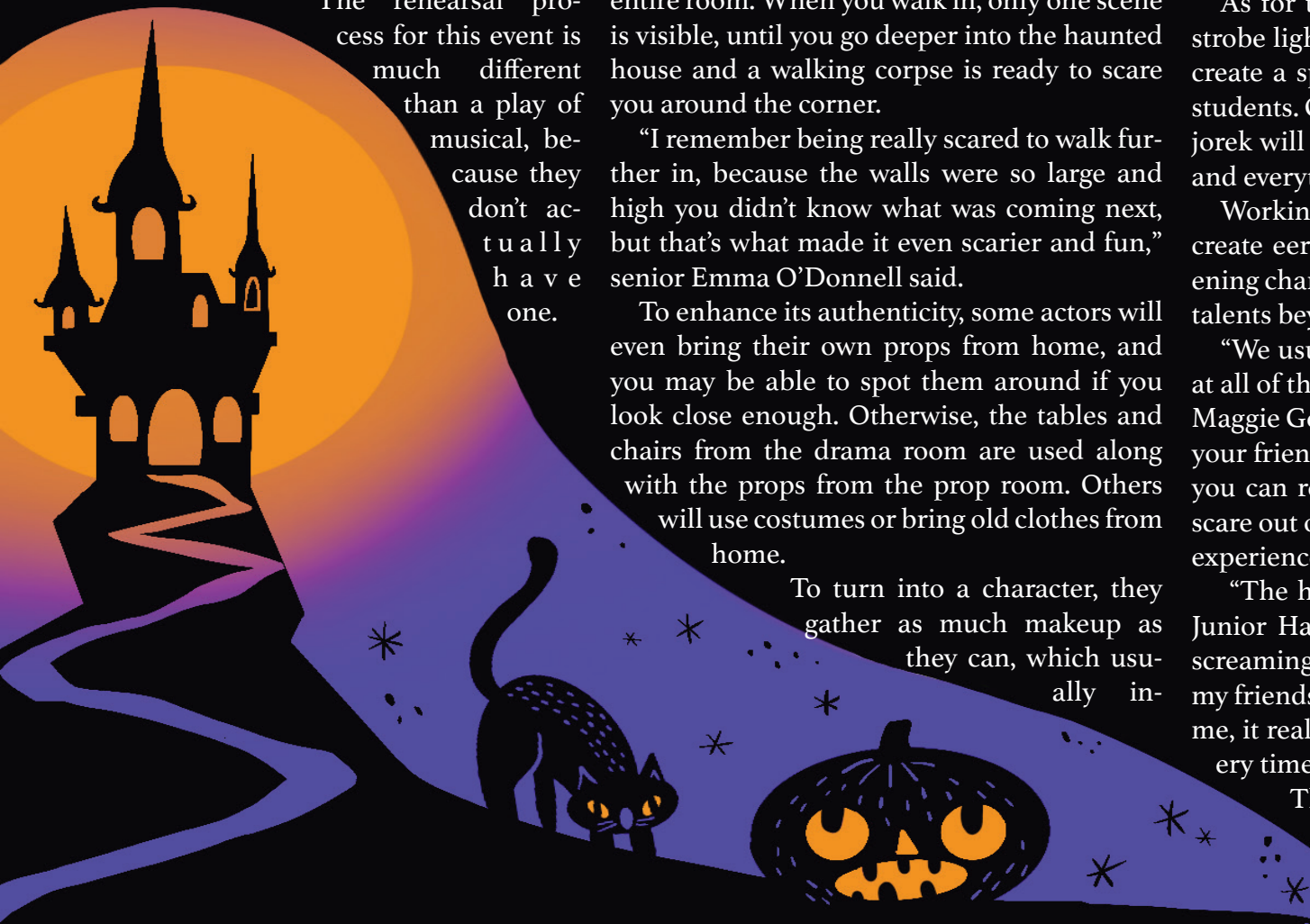
As for the special effects, the crew stations strobe lights and speakers around the room to create a spatial and visual experience for the students. Once everything is finalized, Mrs. Bajorek will assign them roles and pop-up spots, and everything is ready to go.

Working together to design terrifying sets, create eerie effects, and embody those frightening characters allows them to showcase their talents beyond the stage.

"We usually lose our voices from screaming at all of the students who walk through, senior Maggie Geraghty said. It's especially fun when your friends don't recognize you, because then you can really give it your all and get a good scare out of them. It's just such a good bonding experience."

"The haunted house last year was so fun," Junior Hannah Heinzman said. "I remember screaming my head off at the end and begging my friends to go in a second and third time. For me, it really never got old, it just got better every time."

The Haunted House will be available to visit on Oct. 31, second through sixth hour.



Your guide to the perfect fall night

STORY, PHOTO AND GRAPHICS: **ISA PORTILLO, SENIOR REPORTER**

Looking for a good way to spend an October night? Here are a few Newsprint picks to spice up a fun fall evening.

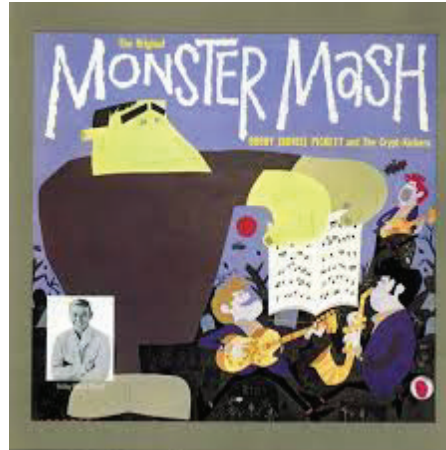
Movies



**F
u
n**

Tunes

Monster Mash – Bobby Pickett



Treats



Apple Cinnamon Crisp Muffins

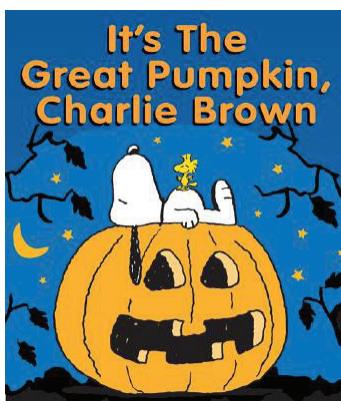
**S
c
a
r
y**



Thriller – Michael Jackson



Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies



**N
o
s
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c**

I Put A Spell On You – Nina Simone



STORY: **STELLA COE, JUNIOR REPORTER**

Volleyball

Last year, Mercy’s volleyball team did not disappoint, winning the division 1 state championships. This year the players are working for the same goal.

With the season starting in the middle of August the team is preparing for their district meets—already having won Catholic league championships where they played Toledo Notre Dame and Marian.

“Our season at its end, all of our Catholic league games are over,” Junior Mercy volleyball player Maya Zarow said. “We have a quad this week and then we have a tournament later in October. Then we have states. Pretty much the end of our games until states starts.”

The team knows it will be a challenge, but they believe they can beat their competition at states, namely Northville and Rockford.

“If we play good volleyball like we are able to, we should win states,” Zarow said. “I think we are expected to win so hopefully we do.”

So far their season has been a success.

“We have won all of our matches,” Zarow says. “The only matches we lost were in Chicago.”

The hope is to continue this record until the end. Their first round of regionals is at Northville versus Northville and they are expecting Mercy to show out.

“Bring people to the Northville game,” Zarow said.



The volleyball team battles for the Catholic League Championship. Photo courtesy of Kristina Sikora.

FALL SPORTS

Golf

Mercy’s Golf team won their state championship this past weekend on Oct 19. With a shorter season, starting August 12 the team has had to perfect their skills quickly to fulfill their hopes of winning states.

“We need to work hard to get it done,” Senior Maeve Casey, a golf participant, said.

And they did just that—bringing home the state championship for the third year in a row.

The state competition was hosted at the Meadows Golf Course at Grand Valley. The team, coached by Mrs. Kowalski scored a total of 677 points.

After competing at Catholic leagues they composed a strategy to win.

“We already had Catholic leagues and regionals,” Casey said. “We didn’t win but there was room for improvement.”

The team is still happy with their progress and win at states.

“Our season has been going really well and I think we have had a really close team that has been a good group,” Casey said.



Photo courtesy of Kristina Sikora.

Dive

Q&A with Sophia D’Orazio:

Where are you at in your season?

Catholic leagues are in about a month. We still have a month so we’re like half way through the season. Both swim and dive states are the last week of November.

How has the season been going?

I think the season has been going really well and throughout the season there has been a lot of improvement for everyone. Like everyone is really progressing really well, there’s been a lot of higher scores recently.

What are your hopes for the rest of the season?

I just hope we can keep pushing through. Our season is so long, and it can get really tiring. It can be hard to keep going to practice everyday, so just pushing through and trying to stay extra motivated and on top of our new dives and everything so we’re ready for our bigger meets.



Photo courtesy of Mercy Swim and Dive Team.

Field Hockey

Mercy's Field Hockey season is coming to an end. After starting in August they met their two new coaches, Mike Williams and Pete Jones.

After a loss in Catholic Leagues, they came back to win their first round of districts.

"We lost 95% of our games, but we actually clutched up and we beat out the first round of districts in a shootout and now we're continuing on," Junior field hockey player Mya Skrabut said. "We are having a turn for the better."

Their second round of districts was Oct. 17 against Dexter. The team did lose and did not make it to the regional competition. However, they played a good game.

"There definitely is room for improvement for next season," Skrabut said.

The Field hockey team is going to put in their best efforts and celebrate their recent success.

"Although we lost our final district game, we put up a good fight and I can't wait to see what next year holds for this team," Skrabut said.

Photo courtesy of Kristina Sikora.

Swim

Q&A with Sydney Meyer:

What are the most important meets?

We definitely try to treat every dual meet like it's Catholic Leagues. We just try to perform our best there. That's where the whole team can really showcase for what they've worked for the whole season at Catholic Leagues. And those who qualified for states also.

How has the season been going?

The season has been going pretty well. We don't try to focus on winning, we focus on how the team is motivating each other as a whole and how we work together. I would say our team is as close as it's been in a lot of years, so I'm excited about where it's going.

What are your hopes for the rest of the season?

I'm hoping everyone can continue to motivate each other and work really hard, and we can showcase what we worked so hard for all season.

Photo courtesy of Mercy Swim and Dive Team.

Cross Country

Mercy Cross Country began their season the second week of August. With their season ending, they have one of their most important meets left-regionals.

"Regionals is at Willow MetroPark," Senior Cross Country captain Sophie Derkevorkian said. "It is our most important meet, besides states, but in order to qualify for states you have to qualify at regionals so it's our biggest meet."

The season has been successful so far. Already having competed at Catholic Leagues, the team got 7 place. Although this may seem low they faced some challenges:

"It was a hard course," Derkevorkian said. "We also have had a lot of sickness on the team and not the best weather which has made it a little harder."

However the runners have worked hard and are hopeful for the remainder of the season.


"I think we will have some girls on the team place in the top 15," Derkevorkian said. "I think it's been really fun so far, and I hope we have some personal records. It's been nice that we have a good team dynamic too."

Even though the team is small they are still expecting success.

"I hope we have girls qualify for states and those girls do well at states," Derkevorkian said. "We've all had a great season as a team together and I can't wait to see what we do at regionals."



Nora Gerzema fights for the finish line. The team overcame multiple obstacles this season. Photo courtesy of Inayah Rouf.




Newsprint's Top 10

Newsprint staff breaks down their favorite Halloween movies to watch during the fall season!

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Hocus Pocus | 6. Halloween |
| 2. The Nightmare Before Christmas | 7. The Great Pumpkin |
| 3. Scream | 8. The Corpse Bride |
| 4. Beetlejuice | 9. Addams Family |
| 5. Ghostbusters | 10. Halloween Town |

Caption This Pic!



Can you think of a funny captain for this picture from Pride and Prejudice? Send in a caption under the “Caption This Pic” story on newsprintnow.net for a chance to be featured in the next issue.

Upcoming Events

Oct

30

Maroon & Gold Raffle kick-off

Nov

5

Election Day

Nov

8

Focus: Hope food drive begins

Nov

19

Ethnic Bazaar

