

D♥LPHIN PRIDE

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Happy Valentine's Day MHS!

Queen Of Hearts

By Cynthia Garcia

Queen of Hearts is a traditional Valentine's Day game at Marathon High School. The game is a competition mainly between the female students. The objective is to win as many heart necklaces as possible before the end of 7th period. The male students of the school wear necklaces around their necks with their names on them. If the male talks to the female, she wins his necklace. The girl with the most necklaces by the end of 7th period wins the title "Queen of Hearts." Last year's winner of Queen of Hearts was, former student, Anna Scott, she won with 20+ hearts just barely beating Haylie Heller with 15+ hearts. All high school students are eligible to play. The game is just for holiday fun and students have fun playing it. However, sophomore class president, TaKara Coleman, exclaimed, "It is ridiculous how many students try so hard to have a certain girl win." Another student exclaimed, "Queen of Hearts is supposed to be a game of holiday cheer and students do treat it that way. Yes, people may help each other win but it still makes the game fun." Students are anxiously waiting to see who the next Queen of Hearts will be, curious to see if it will be the one they think will win.



Stormy Bezanis (center) captures the crown with 18 hearts in this year's Queen of Hearts competition. Lorayne Garcia (right) came in second with 16 hearts and Sofia Antoine (left) placed third.

Photo courtesy of Cynthia Garcia.

Curriculum Fair

By Paul Acosta

One night during the year the school has displays showing what classes will be available the upcoming year, also known as Curriculum Night. After viewing displays and speaking with teachers every student is required to turn in a form to their English teacher that states which electives they have chosen. This year the Curriculum Night Fair was held in our very own gym.

A few of our teachers from every subject were present and available to discuss their program highlights. Students and parents had the opportunity to view the displays, ask questions and make informed decisions about their preferred courses. Let's hope that this process will help students get the classes that they want for the next year.



Clockwise from Social Studies (above left) to art class slide shows, science curriculum and TV Production Q & A with Stacie Colon (lower middle), students view displays and teachers listen, ready to answer questions. Lower right: Student artists, Shane DiPaolo and Chris Falcon demonstrate their talents while Savannah Phythian looks on. PE teacher, Kevin Freeman (middle right) gives a thumbs up rating for the night. Photos courtesy of Dolphin Pride staff.

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MHS - IN THE HALLS

Welcome to MHS: A New Face in the Halls

By Sahalie Smythe



Photo courtesy of Dolphin Pride staff

In the past two weeks my life has taken a drastic turn. I went from living in Bend, a mountain town in Oregon, to living in the Florida Keys. All I can say is "wow" what a shocker. In one day I went from snow pants to shorts. On the 25th of January, I started the second half of my junior year at Marathon High, "The Home of the Dolphins." It was tough going to a new school on the other side of the country. All of a sudden I realized I was alone and that it was my job to make new friends. Luckily for me, the students at Marathon High have been very kind and welcoming.

Ever since I arrived I have been experiencing all kinds of new things. For example, the other day at school we had a tornado drill. Back home I had never heard of such a thing, so I just went along with it and followed the other students to an inner wall of the building and sat down. The scenery down here is unbelievable and very unfamiliar. At home I am used to seeing mountains, snow, and juniper trees. Down here I step out on my back deck and all I see in the horizon is palm trees and the beautiful ocean.

Yes, my life has changed but as a Dolphin Pride reporter, I will be able to learn more about MHS, its teachers and students faster. I'm sure that in no time this place will feel like home.

Library Corner

The Teens Read Program

By Danielle Pabon

It's time to read, read, and read, with this new program aimed at teens!

Mrs. Dodamead, our Media Specialist is promoting a program known as the Teens Read Program. This program is sponsored by the Florida Department of Education and is a way to encourage teens in high school to develop a lifelong reading habit. The books will be either fiction or non-fiction and deal with subjects appealing to a variety of tastes. The books are appropriate for grades nine through twelve. There is some mature content in certain books and discretion is advised. It is worth taking a look at the books available in the library that are a part of the Teens Read Program, you never know if one will catch your eye! Check out the titles listed below, they may just be what you need on a boring weekend.

Books of Interest

The Absolutely True Diary of A part-time Indian by Sherman Alexei
Gym Candy by Carl Deuker
Generation Dead by Daniel Waters
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
The Market by J.M Steele
Unwind by Neal Shutterman

Ms. Dodamead

Photo courtesy of Kaite Landry



The Sweetest Gift

By Lianet Fleites & Maylin Ibarra



photo courtesy of <http://www.ilovehealthychocolate.co.uk/files/chocolate-strawberries.jpg>

Fads may come and fads may go, but Valentine chocolates are a timeless Valentine's Day gift that has continued throughout the years. Almost everyone loves the sweet, smooth delicious taste, and when it comes packaged in a fancy box suitable for gift giving, it seems even more special. Valentine chocolates come in beautiful boxes. Heart-shaped boxes are the most common and may be made of fabric or velvet. There are edible heart-shaped boxes filled with even more delicious chocolates.

Chocolates are often decorated for this holiday. They might be with elegant, rich swirls or even red and white or pink and white sprinkles. Solid chocolate hearts, white chocolate, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, cordials, or truffles... chocolates come in so many delicious forms guaranteed to please and indulge. Whatever you choose, fine chocolates by renowned chocolatiers like Ghirardelli, Knipschildt, David Bradley, or Rose City make an impressive gift. But don't forget-the real appeal of Valentine chocolates is about more than just the candy. It's all about you and your special connection with that special someone. So this Valentine's Day give your loved one some great chocolate to indulge in, but remember that the most important part of the gift comes straight from the heart.

Top Ten Gifts for your Valentine

By Selene Garcia

Valentine's Day is the time to show your love to someone special. Let's see if your gift rates as one of the top ten gifts that are most popular for Valentine's Day gift giving. So, did you buy a gift for your special someone that was sure to please? If not, you can always make up for it next year. Here is a list of the ten most popular Valentine's Day gifts that will let your loved ones know how special they truly are:

- 1) Nothing beats the traditional bouquet of red roses.
- 2) A box of chocolates is another one of the ideal gifts.
- 3) Show your sentimental side and make a CD with romantic songs.
- 4) A nice piece of jewelry is sure to win your beloved's heart. If you cannot afford diamonds or gold, go for silver or even some nice imitation jewelry.
- 5) You can give your partner an entire day with you. Be sure to include a romantic movie, followed by a warm candle lit dinner and ending with both of you gazing at the moon.
- 6) Another romantic gift is a photo frame. However, DON'T forget to put a nice picture of you in that frame, before giving it.
- 7) Your beloved's favorite perfume or cologne.
- 8) Stuffed animal to show your affectionate side.
- 9) A card.
- 10) An arrangement of balloons.



- IN THE NEWS

Shockwaves Reach MHS

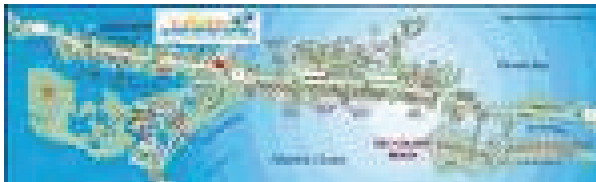
Michaëlle Bellevue, MHS student shares her personal & emotional response to the tragedy.

On Tuesday afternoon a friend called me from New York and told me that Haiti has been hit by a tremendous earthquake, Port-au-Prince is in ruins and he doesn't know about the rest of the country. I quickly hung up the phone and called one of my aunts in Port-au-Prince. When I finally reached her, she sounded so excited, calling: "Martine! Martine! Kote w' ye?" When she realized that it wasn't her daughter Martine, all the excitement went away and she started crying: "Help me. Help me, Mika. Help me call them. I have no strength." She lost her house and didn't know where her children and husband were.

Despite all the difficulties that Haiti had been going through, we Haitians had a little hope. Just a little hope, that maybe one day, our country would find its way out of poverty, and that people would live there peacefully. I personally never thought it was impossible because Haiti has not always been the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. It was one called "La Perle des Antilles" (The Pearl of the Caribbean). Today as a Haitian, it is extremely sad to see how the country has become.



Shockwaves extending from the earthquake in Haiti reach Marathon bringing the tragedy to our shores.
Photos courtesy of <http://www.world-atlas.biz/images>



THE AFTERMATH OF THE HAITIAN TRAGEDY: THE AFTERSHOCKS



By Christina Rios

Earthquakes, strong and destructive forces of dangerous nature that normally occur from stress built because of the Earth's sliding plates has been the cause of somber times to hit Haiti. A 7.0-magnitude earthquake created devastation; ranging from the tremendous loss of life to the destruction of building structures which has left many homeless. Even though the Haitian people endured such a tragedy, another tragedy was yet to form: the Haitian earthquake aftershocks.

The aftershock was a 6.1 magnitude earthquake, an unpredictable, intense experience. Aftershocks are normally felt in the first 24 to 48 hours, but they may sometimes happen weeks or even longer after the major earthquake. Scientists say that they know aftershocks are going to happen, but they do not know where or when.

There is expected to be potential future aftershocks in Haiti in the coming weeks and they will typically range between the 4.0 and 5.5 magnitudes. The only good fortune in this occurrence is the fact that the earthquake happened on land and not in the ocean, because of this, it did not generate a tsunami. But this one good aspect is not enough for the Haitian people to rejoice: they have to deal with the physical and mental pain which the devastating tragedy created. Especially when coping with the knowledge that similar unfortunate incidents can and will strike again.

Resources: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Haiti_earthquake
<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2010/haiti.quake/>

Haiti- Devastation Strikes

By Kaite Landry

Imagine thousands of people sitting in the streets with nowhere to go. People running, crying, and screaming for help. People sleeping on the streets, afraid that their homes will crumble again. There are people trying to dig out victims with a flashlight, hoping and wishing that they would still be alive. Everywhere you go, you can see bodies white with dust, some moving while others lay motionless. Can you imagine this? Haiti, one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world has been facing many problems including violent political and social upheavals, a major health crisis, and environmental degradation. To make these problems even worse, on January 12, 2010, a massive Earthquake struck Port-Au-Prince, leaving the capital and country devastated. It was the largest earthquake ever recorded in the area, with a preliminary magnitude of 7.0 and a depth of five miles.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere and the devastation is expected to run into the billions. They have also recently suffered countless disasters including four hurricanes alone in 2008 that killed hundreds. The Red Cross has reported that three million people have been affected and 250,000 have been killed and the numbers are rising quickly. The U.S. is doing everything it can to help out this situation, and many volunteers could end up staying as long as 10 years trying to rebuild the country. Many support and volunteer groups have been frantically searching for the past two weeks to find any traces of survivors.

According to CNN news, Darlene Etienne, a 16-year-old girl had been pulled from the wreckage of her house after 15 days. A man passing by her home heard her commotion in the rubble, and was alarmed by the situation. The rescuers quickly arrived and took a mere 90 minutes to pull her free. The nearby crowd cheered, as she was pulled free.

Many doctors were explaining that it is rare for anyone to survive for more than 72 hours without water. Darlene was fortunate, because she was trapped between a collapsed wall and door, and had access to the water from the bathroom in her house.

She only ended up with a leg injury and was severely suffering from dehydration. Darlene says she is happy and is extremely concerned for her loved ones, but doctors are currently trying to calm her down so they can stabilize her, so she can have a progressive recovery to her once normal life. They have also made arrangements for her to be flown to a French hospital ship.

Haiti is in need of major help and has a long road to recovery that lies ahead. Right now there are numerous support groups trying to lend a helping hand.

For more information on how you can help out, please visit the following website:

<http://www.haitisupport.gn.apc.org/>.

Additional Resources:

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2010/haiti.quake/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Haiti_earthquake

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/8455629.stm>

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/cb_haiti_earthquake



Photo courtesy of the CNN website....

A baby and its injured mother wait in a hospital in Port-au-Prince.



DOLPHIN SPORTS

Spring Sports by Jose Galicia

Dolphins Crush the Key West Conchs- Move on to Districts... & Win!

The Marathon Dolphins avenged the earlier loss to Key West last Friday, February 5th. The first quarter was pretty even but at the end, we led 16-9. In the second half, Key West turned up the gear scoring more than two times than they scored in the first quarter. However, at half time the Dolphins still led 30-24.

The 3rd quarter came and Marathon fought hard leading Key West by as much as 18 points. The Conchs made a brief comeback cutting the lead down to 8 points by the end of the quarter. During the 4th quarter, the Dolphins were on fire with Kenyatta Scott scoring at the beginning. Marathon only extended their lead from then on when Dwayne Ellis scored a three pointer and a jump shot.

At last, the game ended, the Dolphins won 71-52 and are headed to districts which will be hosted at our school.



Coach Freeman and his victorious Boys' Basketball team.
Photo courtesy of the MHS Website.

News Flash... MHS Basketball Team wins Districts:

Athletic Director, Teresa Konrath had this to say upon hearing the news, "Congratulations goes out to Coach Freeman and his basketball team!! They are the District 16 2A Champions!!!! The next game, Regional Quarter Finals will be on Thursday, Feb 18th @ 7:30. We hope to see you there!!!"

The Dolphin Pride staff agrees- "Way to go, Dolphins!"

Varsity Baseball News:

The first game of the season was played on Friday night, Feb. 12th. Our team easily beat Woods Haven 12 – 2. Jake S. hit three home runs and was backed up by several other Dolphin bats. Second game scheduled to be played is on Feb. 16th at 6:00 pm. Good luck team!

MHS Scholar Athlete

By Christina Rios

Thomas Ryan

#36 USA Football Team



Shocked! This one word was all Thomas Ryan had to say when he received the phone call informing him that he had been selected as one of the forty-five players to be on the U.S.A. Football team. "It was a great experience" he recalled. "I had tons of support from family and friends, and I was just glad to be out there." The team played against The World team at Lockhart Stadium. He had two tackles and a fumble recovery. The final score was USA - 17, The World - 0.

Thomas has a bright future ahead of him. He has been recruited by Vanderbilt University and has signed with them. We all wish him the best of luck at Vanderbilt University!



Above: Thomas, #36 at the game. Far left: Thomas (center) signs with Vanderbilt University. Pictured standing from left to right: Our AD, Teresa Konrath, Thomas' parents, Mr. & Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Harry Russell. Seated: Coach Martin, Thomas and brother, Patrick.

Photos courtesy of Mr. Morgan.