

DOLPHIN PRIDE

March, 2009

Vol. 1 Issue 7

MHS Digital Design

Happy St. Patrick's Day

**Dolphin Pride Staff
2008-2009**

ADVISOR

Mrs. Lourdes Dick

Layout Assistant:

TaKara Coleman

STAFF MEMBERS

2008-2009

Paul Acosta

Sarah Bradshaw

Paola Castaneda

TaKara Coleman

Layne Doyle

Lorayne Garcia

Shelby Kuck

Joseph O'Connor

Michelle Saunders

Nichollette Smith

Alicia Young

Inside this issue:

Fashion Finds P.2

Fine Arts Corner P.2

A.V.I.D. P.3

Teacher & Student

Spotlight P.3

Varsity Baseball P.4

Rib Eating Contest P.4

To See Our Issue online
go to <http://mhs.monroe.k12.fl.us/dp>

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FOLKLORE

By Sarah Bradshaw



Cory sports his wearing o' the green.

As with many other holidays, the origin of St. Patrick's Day is still in debate. There are multiple recordings of how the well-known holiday began, however, there are some things that many scientists and researchers agree on. After researching and examining many web sites, this is the information that I found. St. Patrick's name was originally Maewyn Succat and he was kidnapped and sold into slavery at age 16. As a result of being kidnapped,

he became closer to God. After six years, St. Patrick escaped from slavery and fled to France. There he became a priest and then, the second Bishop to Ireland. He spent 30 years converting pagans to Christianity and established schools, churches, and monasteries across the country.

St. Patrick was said to have used a shamrock as a metaphor for the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) showing how three separate units could be part of the same body. People began wearing shamrocks on their clothes to his sermons. Green is the

most recognizable color during this holiday because it represents spring, shamrocks, and Ireland. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink, and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage. The date of St. Patrick's death is not agreed upon. Some say that he died on March 17th, 461 AD. Another possibility is either March 8th or 9th and the days were added together to get March 17th. What we do know for sure is that the holiday came to America in 1737 and was celebrated in Boston that year. Over 100 U.S. cities have St. Patrick's Day parades with the biggest one in New York City.

Happy St. Patrick's Day MHS, I enjoyed seeing so many MHS "Dolphins" wearing green.



Shayna's Irish eyes are smiling for the camera.

Photos courtesy of Shelby Kuck

Dolphin Days

By Alicia Young

FCAT has finally made its way to MHS Tuesday, March 10th and Wednesday, March 11th. Seniors and juniors who passed the FCAT in previous years did not have to take it but not coming to school those two days was not an option. Mrs. Lynn, our school CCAPS counselor and Mr. Hooper, District Career Education Coordinator had both days planned with events for the participating students.

On Tuesday, the students had to take a Ready To Work Assessment in the auditorium from 7:40-11:30. From 11:30-12:30 the students were provided lunch on the auditorium patio which consisted of burgers, hotdogs, chips and drinks. Next the seniors were taken to the auditorium for a "Making It Count" presentation while the juniors were having a class meeting in the media center with Mrs. Lynn and vice versa which lasted until the end of the day. Wednesday, Mrs. Lynn and Mr. Hooper arranged to have the students addressed by a variety of guest speakers. The speakers talked about how staying in school and furthering your education will help you succeed in life and how your choices now affect situations in the future. Lunch followed with cheeseburgers, BBQ boneless chicken, soup, chips, and water. All of the food provided was courtesy of Chef Green and the Culinary Arts classes. Finally ending our two day vacation from class, the activities were followed by the movie, "The Great Debaters" starring Denzel Washington.

All in all, I think the students enjoyed these days as they gave them time to think about their futures.

Under Pressure

By Michelle Saunders

Spring is on its way and accompanying it follows pressure and stress on our students here at Marathon High School. Even with the FCAT exams completed, other factors can create stress as well. Such as final exams, graduation, dating, and even preparing for prom. After contemplating on the topic of stress, I decided to have a chat with our Marathon High School nurse, Christine Watler. Here are some of her responses and tips to the questions I asked:



Q: "What causes students' stress?"

A: "Of course exams, the FCAT, the SAT and ACT, getting accepted into college, and even being new can cause students stress."

Q: "How does stress affect the students here at MHS?"

A: "It can cause them to become sick and being sick can cause them to become even more stressed."

Q: "In what ways can students reduce their stress level?"

A: "Exercise and physical activity is very helpful in reducing stress. Also a balanced diet, eating breakfast every morning, and 8 hours of sleep every night"

So MHS rest up and get plenty of exercise and you're in good shape to do your best. And congratulations to everyone who took the FCAT!



This Month's Issue is Sponsored By:
Chappy's Restaurant, Frosty's LLC, and Keys Insurance
Thank You For Your Support!



Fashion Finds at Marathon High By TaKara Coleman

Marathon High has a style all its own! From skinny jeans and sandals to one of a kind hairstyles, the students and staff know how to make a statement.



Spring is in the air, and our thoughts turn to fashion and trends. We all know, however, that pulling off certain looks can be difficult. While keeping this in mind, I decided to go around campus taking pictures of styles that are common. I found some popular looks, and some not so popular. Nevertheless, I realized that everyone has their own sense of style and they have the right to display it. While I, being the fashion guru that I am, may not always agree with others and the way they choose to present themselves, they are entitled to my respect. Who knew you could learn so much from observing clothes?

Arie Stewart (left) takes a second to have his 'fro admired by passers-by. He takes pride in his vintage hairstyle.



Pictured left :

Rosie Parato is always prepared for photos in her Baby Phat hoodie.

Lorayne Garcia shows off her skinny jean, cami, and sandal trio.

Pictured right:

Mr. Schubert stops to model one of his famous dress shirt and jeans combos.

An **Anonymous Teacher** volunteers her socks and high heel duo as our fashion don't of the month.



Left to right:

Alicia Young shows some Dolphin Spirit while donning her Dolphin sweatshirt which is a common find on campus.

Nate Kitchen wears a common trend among athletes. Football, basketball, and baseball players can be seen wearing the socks and sandals combo.

Brian Falcon zips up his Abercrombie jacket to let me get a picture of a very popular brand here at MHS.

Stay tuned for next month's follow up on Prom fashions and mistakes. I will be dissecting and bringing to you the most important parts of successful prom attire for both girls and guys!

Fine Arts Corner

March is "The Arts in Schools" month. Our performing and visual arts classes are keeping busy this month with many activities for our students. Check out the schedule below:

MHS Band:

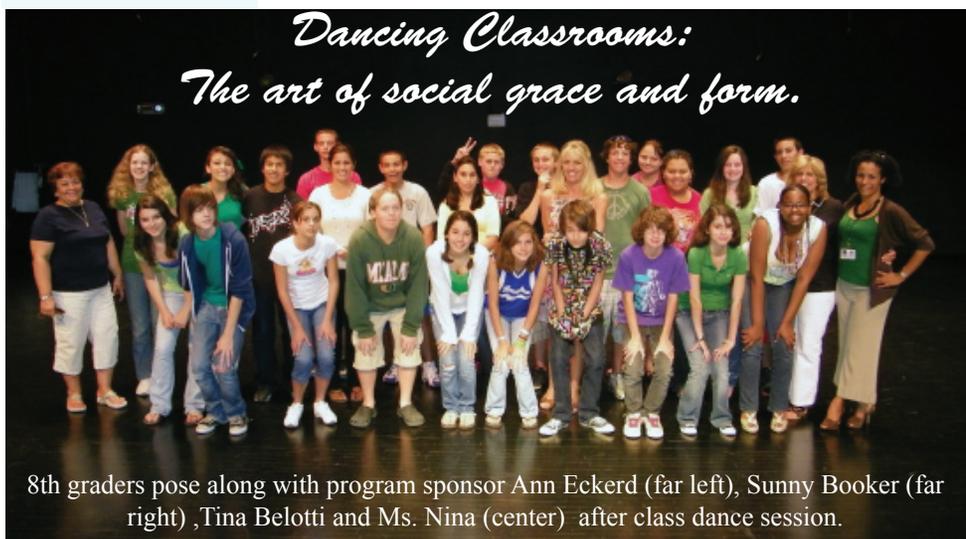
- March 15th - Marathon H.S. Jazz Combo perform at the Seafood Festival.
- Friday March 20th - @ the Robert Morgan Performing Arts Center, both the Middle School and High School Concert bands will be participating in the Florida Bandmaster's Association's, Music Performance Assessment. Think of this as being the FCAT, but for band. Bands perform and are critiqued by three judges, who then issue a rating of either Superior – I, Excellent – II, Good – III, Fair – IV, or Poor – V. This is not a competition but rather an assessment of the progress of our young musicians and band program as a whole. These performances are free and open to the public. The Robert Morgan Performing Arts Center is located at 18180 SW 122 Avenue, Miami.
- Middle School Performance Time: 3:00pm
- High School Performance Time: 5:00pm
- March 24th – 9:30am – The Middle Keys Concert Association will be holding an Outreach performance, special guest "A Far Cry" (Sixteen piece string ensemble), This event will take place at our very own High School Performing Arts Center.



Artwork by Sasha Sosa, Draw & Paint class. 12 x 16 acrylic on mat board

Art: The Pete Rosin Junior/Senior Art Show will be held on March 26-April 10th in the Lower Keys Network Artists in Paradise Art Gallery located in the Big Pine Winn Dixie Shopping Center. This is a judged competition between Key West HS, Coral Shores HS and ICS. Students earn ribbons in a variety of media. Come down and see our talented students display their work. The gallery also holds an auction on March 21st that benefits our senior art students and provides them with a scholarship to study art at a university of their choice in the name of Pete Rosin, a local Keys artist.

Dancing Classrooms: The art of social grace and form.



8th graders learn all the right moves for ballroom dancing as part of the dancing classrooms pilot program offered through the CAMP program under the direction of instructor, Ms. Nina. *Photos courtesy of Travis Leachman*



CURRICULUM NIGHT "Under the Stars"

On Feb. 19, 2009, MHS held its 1st annual "curriculum night under the stars." All subject areas and departments set up booths with displays informing parents, students and community of the many programs of study available to our students. Pictured above from left to right: From a sidewalk art show, to Janet Meinke and student examining the Math curriculum, to Dr. Bayerl and Ryan Fortenbaugh waiting to answer questions about Social Studies, to Ms. Costello's students demonstrating a socratic seminar: the night was full of choices for students to make when planning for next year's classes and pre-fall scheduling.

Photos courtesy of Dolphin Pride Staff Reporter

AVID: A New Approach

By Layne Doyle

Advancement Via Individual Determination, A.V.I.D is a program for fourth through twelfth grade students to prepare them for a greater chance of eligibility to attend a four year college. The program is for students who are completing a college-prep class but are, "falling short of their potential." The most important component of the A.V.I.D program is the elective class which helps students take on and prepare for their most "rigorous classes." A.V.I.D's teaching principles and curriculum are not only used in the A.V.I.D program but also by subject area teachers.

The A.V.I.D. curriculum, based on standards, was created by middle and high school teachers who had collaborated with college professors. It is based on "writing as a tool of learning, the inquiry method, collaborative grouping, and academic reading." The A.V.I.D students are enrolled in the toughest college-prep classes such as advanced placement classes. With the support they receive, they are more likely to complete all pre-college requirements, and get into a four year college than students who do not participate in the program.

Students should take part in the program for at least three years. The students are required to include in their program an A.V.I.D elective class that is taught by a specially trained A.V.I.D teacher. Mr. Hodgerson (pictured left) is MHS's new A.V.I.D teacher.



The main components of the program are academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities. The goal is for the students to gain more confidence, have academic success and be ready for a four year college experience. Mr. Hodgerson is very excited about his new role. He will, however, continue to serve as our ESOL teacher and is looking forward to helping other students as well. A.V.I.D is a great program for helping students get into college and have bright,

successful futures. If you are interested in joining the program; it will start next year. For more information you can go see Mr. Hodgerson in room 2102.

TEEN PREGNANCY

By Nicky Smith



Over the years, the issue of teen pregnancy has developed from a closed-door conversation into an open topic of discussion for all. The subject is now widely discussed with information to be found easily. It has been presented even in the media. You may have seen the show "Secret Life of an American Teenager" which aired on the ABC Family Channel. The shows centers on a 15 year old girl who is going through a pregnancy and high school at the same time. This was unheard of even 30 years ago, but today, pregnant teenagers have more options and places to go for help.

Although no one is encouraging young girls to get pregnant, there are tons of programs in place to help whomever does. While it was extremely shameful and completely unheard of to be attending high school while pregnant or parenting not too long ago, girls today are urged to stay in school. Some schools in more urban, populated areas even have day care to watch the children while their moms go to

Teacher & Student Spotlight

Mrs. Murphy

by Paul Acosta

At MHS, the yearbook is one of the most cherished things a student can own to remember their high school years. For this month's Teacher Spotlight, I spoke with Mrs. Murphy, the teacher in charge of the yearbook. She has an entire class of MHS students helping create the pages for the yearbook. Mrs. Murphy has her classroom in a computer lab as she is also the BST teacher. She says that 'it is very convenient' to have so many computers since the work is done on the computers. She enjoys having so many students help out. I wondered how the students feel about the class. All say that it's a very wonderful classroom, especially with Mrs. Murphy as their teacher. By the way, in case anyone wants to order a yearbook, the cost is \$60.



Mrs. Murphy holding last year's book.

Photo courtesy of Paul Acosta

Anthony Cerny

by Paola Castaneda

Our student spotlight shines this month on Anthony (AJ) Cerny. He shares with us a little bit about his art and what inspires him. When asked to tell us about himself he responded by speaking about his art. "I base my artwork around music, and how I feel throughout the day. I redo my paintings several times before I'm satisfied with the final masterpiece. I dislike drawing, because it takes too long and I'm not good at it. That's why I work with acrylic paint. I started working in art as a junior, taking Creative Photography and 2D Art. I wasn't able to start earlier because I had too many classes to make up so this year I'm taking advantage of what the school has to offer by taking three art classes. This is now my major area of study. In the summer I plan to attend the Florida Art Institute in Orlando."



class and get an education. Even here at Marathon, there is support everywhere. Ms. Denny, our Parenting teacher and T.A.P coordinator, explained that in Monroe County any teen parent enrolled in school may have their daycare costs paid for by the county. Even a grandparent or caregiver may be certified through Wesley House and paid \$36 a day to watch the baby. Florida state statute says, "Each district school board shall maintain a teenage parent program" or T.A.P as it is known at MHS. It is to help pregnant and parenting teenagers complete their class work and graduate. The program should provide, "Instruction in such topics as prenatal and postnatal healthcare, parenting skills, benefits of sexual abstinence, and consequences of subsequent pregnancies." No one will go without help anymore as even schools all around us make accommodations to meet young parents' needs so they can stay in school and make a better life for themselves and family.

DOLPHIN SPORTS

Spring Sports

Varsity Baseball



By Joey O'Connor



This year's Marathon Baseball team seems to have a bright season to look forward to. With returning seniors such as Josh Gratton (pictured right), this year's team seems to be a force to be reckoned with. Josh Gratton known to some on the field as "Batman" says, "This year our team is strong and we know what we have to do on the field and on the plate." When asked why he thinks this year will be such a successful one Josh replied "Because we know the mistakes that we're making and at every game, we're getting better and fixing what we need to."

Josh has been playing baseball since he was about five years old participating on his local T-ball team. "I've always loved baseball it's a fun sport to play and it gives you a chance to make new friends and grow closer to the ones that you already have."

Josh who is going to Lake City, into a three year program to pursue

a career in golf course operations says, "I don't think I'll be playing baseball in college but I'll probably be getting together with friends to play every once in a while to keep up my skills and blow off some steam. I love baseball and I know that will never change." When asked if his success on and off the field is connected, Josh just replied, "I have always just been great at sports..."



Varsity Baseball Team and Seniors: Danny Valerdi, Toby Eigner, Josh Gratton, Blaine Connell, and Jose Lopez. Photo courtesy of MHS Website

MHS 1st Annual Rib Eating Competition

By TaKara Coleman and Shelby Kuck

Photos courtesy of Alicia Young & Cory McCleskey

The sports teams and 10 teachers competed in a Rib-eating contest hosted by our very own Chef Green on Friday, March 6, 2009. They competed for an amazing lunch cooked and served by the Culinary class here at MHS. The contest proved to be quite the source of entertainment. All over the courtyard cheers of encouragement could be heard from students on the sidelines urging their competing friends to clean their plates in the 20 minute time limit set for the competition. Everyone was expecting the football players to take home the gold, but in the end the staff took home the first place prize. Although the sports teams have big appetites, the teachers took the crown. Great job Dolphin Staff!

