



DOLPHIN PRIDE STAFF 2007-2008

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A Night In Paradise

By: Paola Castañeda

A Night in Paradise was the theme of prom, and that is exactly what it turned out to be at this year's junior/senior prom at Hawk's Cay Resort. Juniors worked really hard to reward the seniors with one last memorable high school event before they graduate and what a better place to do it in than the Hawk's Cay ballroom. For the past years, proms had not exactly reached everyone's expectations, therefore making it a not so good of a subject; that changed this year when approximately 215 students and their dates attended prom. Students got out of their cars and entered the fancy hotel lobby. They were guided by the pool side and entered the glass doors that lead to the beautiful ballroom. Everyone was on the dance floor dancing to the great music that DJ Tito played; there was a variety of music that included rap, hip hop, salsa, and even some reggae. Andrew Araque and Elizabeth Pape were chosen Prom King and Queen by their fellow classmates. After their crowning, they proceeded into a slow dance and then were joined by the rest of the students on the dance floor. It was a memorable night, and everything turned out great, leaving some hope to the seniors next year, who should have no problem having their prom at Hawk's Cay again.



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PRIDE OF MARATHON HIGH

Our Knight In Shining Armor Dolphin To Seminole

By: Jade Holroyd

By: Vanessa Sardiña

Imagine having a family with about 90 kids, crazy right? Well, Mrs. Knight, our everything math teacher, has just that and her own family to go with it. Mrs. Knight teaches Multi Variable Calculus, Pre Calculus, and Algebra II.



When Mrs. Knight was a high school student, she says she never expected to come back to school; but luckily for us she did. She started her teaching career in Illinois and then moved to Fernandina when the school she was working for expanded. After Fernandina, she and her family moved down to the Keys where her husband could better utilize his skills as a concrete refinisher; he now works to keep our bridges safe and drivable. Mrs. Knight then transferred to Marathon and

has been a wonderful addition to our MHS family; she has brought math back for her students, who had a rough high school math career. She is willing to stay after school almost any day of the week to be available to her math students and has even cancelled some of her own plans to help students who fall behind.

Mrs. Knight has done an all around wonderful job at bringing our school back up to par in her department. Mrs. Knight has been a math teacher for about twenty years at a few different schools and brings her love of the field, experience, and determination to us here at our little school. Mrs. Knight expects great things for her students and we expect great things from her. I don't think we will be disappointed next school year.

A small town girl is making her way into the big city life. Graduating senior, Jessica Brier, is continuing her education at Florida State University. Jessica has been an MHS Dolphin throughout high school. She is always at the top of her class, and a leader on the court when she plays her favorite sports, volleyball and basketball. Jessica is involved in many extracurricular activities such as Science Club, Interact Club, Relay for Life, and Student Government.

Jessica's determination and her strong leadership skills will be put to the test as she makes the change from Marathon High School, population of 600 students, to Florida

State University, with a population fifty times the size of MHS. "I am coming from a small town to be at a campus of over thirty thousand people. Attending FSU in the summer is giving me the opportunity to get used to the campus, meet people, and make the transition into college less overwhelming."

Jessica has had many mem-

orable moments at Marathon High, as she remembers when the Lady Dolphins Basketball team made it to the 2A Final Four competition her senior year. "I played under Mrs. T who strengthened the 'never give up' attitude I carry with me." She indeed has a positive attitude. Jessica has always had an overloaded schedule by taking many Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses throughout high school, to feel more prepared to go to college. Her Dual Enrollment Government teacher, Mrs. Loggie, says "Jessica is one of my outstanding students. She always does exceptional work and I could actually see her becoming a lawyer. Without a doubt, she will be very successful in college." Jessica is "looking forward to experiencing college and getting out of Marathon for a while."

Jessica is still a little undecided about her career. "I am going to explore my options in the medical field and in engineering." Although she mentions that she is starting to lean more towards Pharmacy. Jessica's favorite quote is by Dr. Napoleon: "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, the mind can achieve."

The students and staff here at Marathon High wish Jessica Brier the best of luck in her future.



Reader, Talker, Traveler



"Shh!" No talking in the library! We all know that rule. But Mrs. Sharon Helms, Media Center Assistant, is the big-

gest rule-breaker of them all! Mrs. Helms just loves discussing books with the students here at MHS.

Early in her life, Mrs. Helms lived in Florida for a short time. She then moved to North Carolina and then again to Colorado. Mrs. Helms says she loved the beauty of Colorado, but it was too cold and she missed the ocean. When she moved back down to Florida, Mrs. Helms met a man who is now her husband of almost thirteen years. He builds

homes here in the Lower Florida Keys. Her husband, Gordon, had always wanted to live in the Keys, so they did.

She and her husband now have two children, Trevor, 12, and Mackenzie, 9. Mrs. Helms has enjoyed the experience of teaching them both to read. Both children attend Stanley Switlik Elementary School here in Marathon and "are avid readers and great students." Trevor will come over to the middle school in the fall, and Mrs. Helms can't wait to have him over. They both will attend school in Marathon High through graduation, too.

When asked if she enjoys her work in the library, she said "Absolutely! My passion in life is reading whether it's me or helping others to love it as well." Her favorite part of her job is recommending and dis-

By: Kelsey Wonderlin

cussion of books with the students. Mrs. Helms says "It's like participating in a book club on a daily basis." here.

Mrs. Helms states that she has seen progress in the school. She says she has obviously noticed the construction going on. "I've also noticed more and more students utilizing the Media Center since it is centrally located now and such an awesome place. Ms. Dodamead, the other Media Specialist, and I love to have students in to read and browse the books or do research. We also enjoy students coming in at lunch to play a quiet game of chess or checkers or simply to peruse a magazine." Mrs. Helms clearly loves her job, and says she most definitely hopes to work in the media center again next school year.

The Results Are In!

By: Michelle Sardiña

Marathon High School celebrated democracy with the 2008-2009 school year elections, but this year there wasn't that usual commotion. Before a single vote had been counted, 16 out of 20 candidates were already guaranteed their position. This included all the Student Government Officers, Freshmen Officers, and Sophomores Officers positions. This is because so many students were running unopposed for class officer positions.

No one is sure why this year there has been such a lack of interest in running for class officer positions, but Cheryl Doll, teacher of the MHS leadership class says that this has never happened before. "It is disappointing that so few students are interested in leadership," stated Diana Walker, 9th grade liaison. Students may feel they already have enough on their plate, or they just might not want the responsibility of being a class leader.

The SGA officers for the following year will be Vanessa Sardiña as

president, Jeanette Betancourt as vice president, Deric Hunt as secretary, and Cory Fulcher as treasurer. The upcoming freshmen, who are new to the class elections, elected Marina Kay Wiatt as their president and Tommy Dodamead as their treasurer. Unopposed, Haylie Heller won the position of Vice President, and Alana Vassil won the position of secretary. The future sophomore class will be led by Annabelle Walker as president, Michelle Sardiña as vice president, Kelsey Wonderlin as secretary, and Bryce Roberts as treasurer. The upcoming junior class will be represented by Luis Gonzalez as president, Shelby Kuck as vice president, Chelsea Joseph as secretary, and Emily Perez as treasurer. For the upcoming seniors Morgan Roberts was elected president, Justin Larson will represent the senior class as vice president, Josh Gratton will be the new secretary, and Sarah Melia will take the position of treasurer. Congratulations to all!

Start Reading

By: Rusana Rassokhina

The summer break is just in four weeks and most students already have made plans as to how they are going to spend their time. But did they pick the right books to read?

The Department of Education requires every student to read books in order to maintain and develop reading skills during summer time. There is a special list of books, composed by our school reading coach Heather Doney that was mailed to students' homes a couple of weeks ago. From that list students who are enrolled in regular Reading or English must choose one book to read during this summer. Students enrolled in Advanced Reading or Honors English must read two books from the appropriate grade level. For DE English and Advanced Placement English there is something different. There are three books to read: Thomas C. Foster "How to Read Literature Like a Professor", Tim O'Brien "Going after Cacciato" and "The Catcher in

the Rye" by J. D. Salinger". Each of them is high reading level, with difficult composition and over 850 pages long. After reading the books, students must write a four page paper and prepare a special presentation on one of them. Failure to complete the assignment over summer break, will have bad consequences such as excluding the student from the class. It will be definitely smarter in advance to budget your time and get the books early. There are many places you can get the books from. One of them is our school library, which will be open from June 16 until July 18. Students are allowed check out the books for four weeks. There is also the Public Library, Discount Bookstore and health food Store. These places have the same summer reading list so students will not be concerned about remembering all book titles.

So, have a great and fun summer break, but do not forget that there is some work to do!

The Highest Honor

By: Alex Hoffman

The classroom lights were turned off and candles were lit, and if someone unknowingly walked in, they might think it was a strange scene. But if you were to say the words National Honor Society, the picture would become clearer for most. This is a normal part of the NHS tapping ceremony here at Marathon High.

The National Honor Society was officially established in 1921

by Dr. Edward Rynearson. The first chapter was at the Fifth Avenue School in Pittsburg, PA, the school where Rynearson taught. By 1930, there were more than 1,000 chapters. According to the NHS official site, NHS and its middle school counterpart NJHS, are "the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding high school and middle level students. More

than just an honor roll, NHS and NJHS serve to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character."

Recently, new members were chosen to be inducted into the Marathon chapter. The first part of induction is the tapping, which occurred on May 1st. Current members walk through the school and when they

find the soon-to-be inductees, they tap them on the shoulder which signifies that they are being inducted. They are then taken to Dr. Bayerl's classroom where the ceremony was held. The president, Katie Greenman spoke about leadership and the vice president Jessica Briar about scholarship. Secretary Melanie Boyd spoke on service, and stand-in treasurer Ben Dillingham talked



about character. Overall, eighteen new members were chosen which included nine sophomores, eight juniors, and one senior. One of the main focuses of the groups is community service. NHS hosts events such as holiday parties at Grace Jones Daycare, and give the children gifts for Christmas.

The induction ceremony was on a larger scale, held in the auditorium and watched by an audience of family members. After the officers discussed the four main merits, the inductees signed the NHS records book and recited an oath, and officially became members. Since 2002, Dr. Elizabeth Bayerl has been the faculty sponsor for NHS. She believes it is so important because it "puts the focus on leadership and community service". She informed us that everything was done by the manual, which keeps consistency with the national organization. This includes the tapping and induction ceremony.

With only three members last year, National Junior Honor Society has

grown to fifteen members currently. The original three members, Marina Waitt, Alana Vassil, and Hallie Heller continue to serve their positions as chairperson, treasurer, and secretary. The twelve new members who were inducted this year were Taylor Konrath, Victoria Arnett, Sean Roussin, Meghann Herd, Duncan McCarthy, Katelyn Boyden, Alaina Boyden, Jasmine De La Cruz, Joseph Gonzalez, Kaitlynn Landry, Christina Rios, and Takara Coleman. The National Junior Honor Society also does their part for the community. NJHS has contributed by a Thanksgiving food drive, as well as a Christmas toy drive. One of their more recent activities was Teacher Appreciation week, where members gave teachers gifts to show them their gratitude. As a part of NJHS, these students are most likely on their way to becoming a member of NHS sometime during their high school career. Hopefully both groups will continue to provide aid to our society, and congratulations to all new members.

COMMERCIAL ART: MORE EXCITING THAN YOU THINK

By: *Tori LoMonaco*

Look all around you. See the posters on your wall? See the illustrations in your text book? These are examples of commercial art, which is everywhere you look, and yet most take it for granted.

Commercial art has never been as exciting a career to enter as it is right now. The field is so vast and the employment opportunities are so huge that anyone entering it has their choice of a large array of positions.

Let's say for a moment that you've been convinced to give commercial art a try. But how do you go about it? Marathon High student Jessica Broche thought about it last year, and this year she has entered the class for the first time.

Jessica has been interested in all kinds of art for the last few years. Her participation began as long ago as the third or fourth grade, when she was inspired by her mother and brother. Like most artists, Jessica has occasionally questioned her abilities, but says that her teacher

keeps her going. Mrs. Dick, Marathon's Commercial Art teacher, is known for her ability to teach her students new skills as well as for being particularly easy-going.

A glance at the Commercial Art class syllabus reveals a variety of projects scheduled throughout the year. Some of them, such as logo design and the use of Microsoft Publisher, will teach the students skills which will remain useful throughout their professional life, regardless of whatever career path they might have. Others are more art-specific; Jessica states that calligraphy has been her favorite project so far this year. She would also like to work on pottery in the future.

Some other students like this class so much that they take it again and again. One of those students is Tara Wingate, who has taken three years of drawing and painting as well as three years of commercial art which



Tara's figure drawing

she managed by doubling up her classes.

Like Jessica, Tara also has a favorite project in Commercial Art class. Hers is figure drawing for fashion design, and using the computer to add pattern and color. Tara also gives Mrs. Dick great reviews. "She is awesome!" she said. "Mrs. Dick taught me really good lettering, and how to do accurate measuring."

Now that you know more about it, are you thinking about taking Commercial Art? The rewards can be great. For entry-level positions requiring a college degree, salaries range from \$28,000 yearly to \$34,000. Creative directors, top designers and art directors with ten or more years of experience can command high five-figure and mid six-figure salaries. It takes some work, but it is possible to have a very successful career in the field.

It Has Finally Been Unveiled!

By: *Annabelle Walker*

Marathon High School's fifty-first year is coming to a close. Our school went from one story wings, to massive three story buildings. Marathon High School has gotten an extreme makeover the past three years, but now all that hard work has paid off, and the new school has officially been opened.

The new Marathon High School consists of the old, two-story middle school building, a state-of-the-art auditorium, a huge media center, an indoor-outdoor cafeteria, an enormous three-story vocational building, a two-story administration building, a gigantic high school building, and a gym that would make any Dolphin proud.

On Wednesday April 30th every student was offered ice cream at lunch. In addition to the ice cream party, DJ Tito was playing music for the students to dance to. The students also had their own personal ribbon cutting during seventh

period, when our new mascot, Big D, was introduced into the MHS community. Once school was out of session, it was time for the community grand opening. The community was given a ceremonial event in the auditorium. Many district and



Principal Russell poses with Big D, the new mascot

county representatives, and alumni alike came to see the major changes that were unveiled. During the ceremony, Mr. Stiglitz or "Pops" was honored by having the vocational building named "Pop's Place." Once all of the speeches were given, the guests went back in time in

Mrs. D'Ascanio's Marathon High School dedication video. It went through 51 years of Marathon High School history and was a huge hit with the viewers.

After the ceremony, the guests were allowed to wander around the new campus alone or with one of the Leadership students. In the court yard, Chef Green's culinary class prepared a dinner fit for royalty. They had everything imaginable; pork, pasta, sushi, soup, and salad.

Harry Russell announced, "As the principal of Marathon High School I am very proud and honored to have been able to be a part of such a wonderful Grand Opening Event. The amount of community support over the years with the development of the new campus was well worth it. I am very happy for our current and future students that will have the opportunity to obtain their education at a world class high tech facility."

Field Day 2008

By: *Cody Stricklin*

Marathon High School's 2008 field day was a complete blast and success. Students had all afternoon to get dirty and wild as they participated in several different events which included musical hula-hoop, water balloon catch, sponge relay, obstacle course, human pyramid, and the infamous tug-of-war. There was something for everyone as the freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors battled it out for the top prize as field day champions. It's not a real prize or trophy, but the pride of winning is more than any trophy could ever symbolize.

Field day started off by a wonderful senior barbeque which is a tradition for Marathon High. There were hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, and soda served by Mr. Frank and Mr. John Keeney. The sun was hot and so was the competition as the classes joined and did their best to beat the class under them.



The excitement was everywhere until the last, and some would say the best, event of all: TUG-OF-WAR! It was the freshmen boys and girls versus the junior boys and girls. The boys prevailed but it wasn't so good for the girls. Then it was the senior boys and girls versus the sophomore boys and girls and the seniors dominated. It all came down to the junior boys versus the senior boys. Ready, Set, Go! The pulling commenced with a fierce struggle by both sides. Amazingly, the rope actually broke in half! I was the anchor for the senior boys and didn't know what had happened and thought we had an easy victory! I later found out that the heavily braided rope had snapped into two.

Everyone had a blast at field day. From sliding in cat food in musical hula-hoops to tugging at the grass to get that extra inch in tug-of-war. Future classes can only hope to top the fun we had during Field Day 2008.