



Youth of Today  
Hope of Tomorrow



## High School Sports



**Sarah Robertson  
Connally H. S.**

On Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, with Connally, I had my first district volleyball game against Pflugerville High School and our school had our first football game against Del Valle. On the morning of the 7th we had a prep rally which was really fun and had

our spirits up for the volleyball and the football games.

Our Volleyball game was at 5:30 for freshman and Junior Varsity and at 6:30 for varsity. I play for the JV team and our match was close but we did not win, congrats to Pflugerville. The same was true for our freshmen and Varsity.

In the Varsity football game, our team lost 21-26 in another close game. Even though both of the volleyball and football teams lost we still have a great season to look forward to not to mention the prep rallies. Connally homecoming is September 10-14 and we still have plenty of chances to win some games.

## School is in Session



**Tyler Allen  
Gus Garcia YMLA**

"Yes", school was started. Another year with new teachers, new classes and new student. Yet some of the same old problems. All of the new adjustments. One thing that seems to not go away is some form of bullying I often wonder

are there anyone that has not been bullied at one time or another. I have dealt with it. The problem is that each one deals with it differently. I've heard of some schools that have stop bullying signs all over the walls. I think there should be mandatory classes on that subject. The reason is many students are afraid to talk to anyone about their particular problem. I have parents and grandparents to discuss it with.

Some students confess to their friends but don't want them to tell anyone. This can cause a problem. I wonder is/ if bullying is here to stay especially since seems to have always been around.

## Black Girls Rock



**Zaila Pearl Rowland  
TOPS**

This past Sunday I watched Black Girls Rock with my mom. I loved it! I felt it was inspiring to black girls and everyone expressed who they really are. Here is why I am a black girl that rocks. Last year I was the only Black student in my 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class. It didn't bother me that I was

different, and it did not stop me from being at the top of my class. Being different is what makes me unique. When I was born I had no movement in my right arm. I wore a sling for 6 months until I was old enough to have surgery. I still don't have 100% use of my arm but that hasn't stopped me from doing well in sports.

I made it to the Jr. Olympics in Detroit for track and I also have won gymnastics competitions. Sometimes I have challenges, but it doesn't stop me from trying. Being a black girl that rocks sometimes means you must be a Unicorn in a field of horses. My name is Zaila and I'm a Black Girl that Rocks!

## This School Year



**Cecil Green  
Dobie Middle School**

School can be very intimidating and scary on your first day. You don't know anybody, your new teachers look strict and you're worried you won't make any friends.

But I have good news for all of you new students who think this. I personally was scared on my first day of high school and I thought the same thing. But I was very wrong. Now I have friends, cool teachers and everything else is going great (except my grades).

So if you want to be successful in school, follow these simple rules and you should do just fine:

1. Don't skip class. This is very important because you might miss any information that you need. Also you and/or your parents can get in trouble with the law.
2. Talk to people and make friends. You shouldn't be afraid or shy to make new friends, so just walk up to people and say "hi". Or you can always join a club or team sport to make friends.
3. Always be RESPONSIBLE. Make sure you keep up with informational papers, notes, and any thing else that you really need. And also make sure you're on time to class on time every day.

If you follow these simple 3 steps you should be doing great in school and you should have a great school year.

## Hozier Cried Power



**Chance Hall  
Del Valle High School**

On September 6th, 2018, Andrew Hozier-Byrne, an Irish musician known professionally as Hozier, released a four song EP titled "Nina Cried Power". The EP runs about 20 minutes and features multiple genres, from a ballad of past love to a western-style swing, all while having beautiful lyrics that carry a message or feeling that is either directly said or implicitly quoted, but is still poignant in the way that Hozier always delivers. And this release, four years after his last EP, the one that gave us his hit song Take Me To Church, has practically cemented the fact that I will always be a Hozier fan first, and a person second.

The first song, Nina Cried Power, titles the EP, and is an anthem that regularly references revolutionary movements, like the civil rights, and the music and art behind them. In the song, Hozier references multiple artists

that contributed to progressive movements and even brings in Mavis Staples and Booker T. to have, in his words during an interview with Billboard, "a thank you note to the spirit of protest".

I find it amazing that he's so respectfully interested in the music behind such powerful movements like the civil rights movement, and that he's able to pay tribute so easily with this song. It's so full of soul and energy, and when I heard it I knew I would be listening to nothing else for at least 24 hours.

The rest of the EP, although it doesn't fully follow along with the idea of revolution, has their own merits. NFWMB, the second song, is a strong power ballad about a protective love. The third, Moment's Silence (Common Tongue), is a song that juggles both being a hit swing song and taking sneaky potshots at the hypocrisy of how organized religion is used, with an emphasis on the Catholic church. The final song (and in my opinion, the best song), is Shrike, a lost-love song that works with only a guitar and great vocals and deserves all the love.

If you have the time, just look up the songs on Youtube and listen. It's jazz and blues with a modern touch and message and it's worth it.

## Places I Want to Visit



**Ruby George  
Cele Middle School**

I really want to visit Canada sometime in my life. Not a lot of people think of Canada when they talk about vacation, but I have my reasons. And I also prefer cold over hot. I have my reasons for that also.

I watch this youtube channel that has a woman trying all of these different food. She also travels a lot, so she doesn't get all of the food she eats from her hometown. She does live in Canada, and she gets a lot of good looking food from there. And I want to try it!

I see her with sushi all the time, so I'm guessing that there are great sushi markets and restaurants there. It also snows a lot, and I do like snow, considering that we barely get any over here. They also have really nice hotels and places to stay. People keep it very clean there too. For a vacation, Canada would be my first choice!

## College Applications



**Ira "T.J." Williams  
Cedar Ridge H. S.**

As the college application deadline gets closer by the second, it is evident that I'm going to have to make some life changing decisions in the next couple of months. I've spent the last few months researching colleges to figure out whether or not they fit my educational and social needs. While every institution has different opportunities available to me, I can't apply everywhere. I can confidently say that narrowing down to a list of nine colleges has been quite challenging.

My parents and I have been working on my college list and we are taking multiple into consideration. We limited our search to schools who accept students with my GPA

range as well as colleges that emphasize extracurricular activities and volunteer work. We've divided my top choices into three categories: reach schools, match schools, and safety schools. The reach schools that I am looking at, most focus on standardized test scores when evaluating students as well as a student's leadership roles in extracurricular activities. In contrast, the match schools will focus on elements of a student's application that makes them stand out from other applicants such as employment opportunities and the ability to speak multiple languages. As for my safety schools, they are the schools that have more generous acceptance rates.

I still have a few months before I have to submit my applications to the schools. I am finished researching potential schools and I am content with the list of colleges I've made. However, when all of my applications have been submitted and I have been accepted by various schools, I'll know I've had more than enough time to make the right decision.

## Week Of Remembrance

**Cecilia Agboga  
LBJ High School**

In the month of August we lost two American icons. First we lost Aretha Franklin due to pancreatic cancer. Shortly after we lost our United State Senator John McCain due to brain cancer. While we mourn their deaths we should always remember their lives, and give them both their R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

Aretha Franklin was quite the woman. she was and still is a great inspiration to every woman in the world. Her music spoke to a lot of people's ears and hearts. Some of Aretha Franklin's greatest hits are I Knew You Were Waiting, Respect, I Say A Little Prayer, and many more. Aretha Franklin was a hero of the stage, but John

McCain was a hero of public service.

John McCain was a Naval officer, prisoner of war, senator, and a presidential nominee. Aside from all of that he was a believer in true democracy. One incredible thing that John McCain did was when he was running against Obama he defended his opponent. This endeared him to the American public.

From both of these American icons we can learn a lot. From Aretha Franklin we can learn perseverance. From John McCain we can learn statesmanship. Both icons had a zeal for doing their best. Aretha had a zeal for doing her best on the stage. John McCain had a zeal for doing his best in politics.