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# The Devil Dog Advocate



Morrilton High School  
701 East Harding  
Morrilton, AR 72110

## Meet Mr. and Miss Outstanding Devil Dog: Maddie May and John Hopkins

### Maddie May:

1.) Where do you plan to attend college?

- I plan to attend ASU.

2.) What are your future goals?

- I want to major in Social Work. I hope to specialize in Art Therapy.

3.) What accomplishment are you most proud of?

- I am the most proud of this, the Outstanding Devil Dog Award. Being chosen by my educators means a lot to me, and I am very thankful.



### John Hopkins:

1.) Where do you plan to attend college?

- I am undecided. But, after graduation, I plan to go on a two year mission for my church.

2.) What are your future goals?

- To go to medical school and fulfill the medical needs in this community

3.) What accomplishment are you most proud of?

- It is difficult to choose. Every accomplishment has been such an honor for me.



## Patterson named 2017 Mr. GQ

### Camryn Davis Staff Writer

On February 25th 2017 Troupe 3131 took Morrilton on an adventure through H.B.White Auditorium, as they hosted yet another GQ Revue for our MHS boys.

The theme for GQ this year was Superheroes, which was a spectacular idea

thought up by Troupe 3131, allowing the contestants to present their personalities in a very unique way.

Ten of MHS's very own took part in displaying their hidden talents, astonishing personalities, and dashing good looks for our community. All of the boys were just outstanding and kind! One boy in particular

made sure to be extra kind to all of the other contestants. Demike Harris was voted "Mr. Nice Guy" by his peers.

The audience also gets to cast in a vote on who their favorite contestant of the night was, and that young man happens to be JD Plummer.

For our talent portion, Cortlen Fox was the 2nd runner

up for his outstanding trumpet duet performed with Justin Moll. 1st runner up went to Luke Peterson who left the audience in awe after his beautiful performance on the piano. GQ's overall talent winner was Drew Patterson as he dumbfounded the entire audience with his Saxophone solo.

Luke Peterson won 2nd overall runner

up for the evening. 1st overall runner up went to Mr.Nice Guy himself, Demike Harris. Last but certainly not least the MHS 2017 GQ winner is senior Drew Patterson.

Every contestant portrayed what a gentleman truly is all while having fun and creating amazing memories along the way!

## 2017 Activities Court is held

### By Madison Knapp Editor

On Friday February 3rd, Morrilton High School's annual Activities Court was held. Activities Court is a special event because each club, organization, and sport at MHS votes for a male and female representative for the court.

The community is able to see how much involvement opportunities there are at MHS. This year, there were twenty-one activities, or clubs and sports, represented.

Some of the representatives included: Ashton Kremer for the Cheer Squad, Jordan Ryals for the tennis team, Zach Gullet and Adrian Blakely for baseball and softball, and Ramsey Yarbrough and John Hopkins for Beta

Club.

The students were displayed in H.B White during the school day, and they were also displayed after the Lady Devil Dog's basketball game. Band director, Mr. Hogan, was the announcer for the event. Mrs. Starkey, Mrs. Grendell, and Student Council members were responsible for the planning and making arrangements for the event.

Each year, there are four awards given: Mr. and Miss Outstanding Devil Dog, and Mr. and Mrs. Outstanding Educator of the Year. The Outstanding Devil Dog Awards are given to two deserving, high moral, highly involved, and model students. These awards are chosen by the faculty out of the representatives from the Activities Court. The Outstanding Educator

Awards are voted on by the student body.

This year's recipients were Maddie May, John Hopkins, Mrs. Erickson, and Mr. Parks. The award winners were honored with an engraved plaque. These four award winners embody the high quality faculty and students MHS has and helps mold.

Sophomore, Alex Zangara, says, "It was honor to represent cross country, the sport I love, on Activities Court. It is awesome to see how many clubs, organizations, and sports there are to get involved in at MHS."

Junior, Alyssa Mullins, says, "I was thrilled to represent volleyball on Activitie's Court. It is always fun to get dressed up, but it was more exciting to display all of the great things and great students MHS has."

## MHS clenches spots at All-State

### By Will Cody Entertainment Editor

On February 4th, Morrilton High School's All-State qualifiers traveled to Russellville for a shot at making All-State. For those who do not know, All-State is the next level above All-Region, and includes everyone from the nine regions of the state to tryout to make one of three All-State bands: Wind Symphony (first band), Symphonic Band (second band), and Concert Band (third band). All-State takes only top tier players, and it requires a lot of talent and practice to make it.

Drew Patterson (alto saxophone), Kaelani Perez (clarinet), Cortlen Fox (trumpet), Ethan DuVall (percussion), and Will Cody (euphonium) traveled to Arkansas Tech University on February 4th to see if they had what it takes to make All-State. It would be an understatement to say that the day was anything but stressful and nerve-racking. Tryouts lasted all day, so there was a lot of hanging out and practicing being done.

Similar to All-Region tryouts, three sections from the three prepared pieces were selected, followed by three scales,

followed by a selection of sight reading, except many of these selections were more challenging both in difficulty and musicality. The tryout music was posted at 10:30 a.m., and official tryouts began at 11:00 a.m. and lasted until around 6:30 p.m. It was a long day of tryouts and practicing, and it paid off for the ones who made All-State.

Both Drew Patterson and Kaelani Perez scored high enough on their tryouts to make All-State. Drew, on the alto saxophone, made third band and fourth chair, and Kaelani, on the clarinet, made second band fifteenth chair. The countless hours of practicing finally paid off for these two musicians, and they will travel to Hot Springs to practice for an All-State concert.

"Making All-State is one of my greatest accomplishments and I'm so happy that all of this practice and lessons finally paid off and helped me earn a spot with the best musicians in Arkansas," mentions Drew Patterson after a long day of waiting for results.

All-State is a very great experience for any band member, and despite the stress and endless hours of practice, it can prove that hard work pays off.

## Schools need more cell phone restrictions

**Kayla Dollar**  
**Staff Writer**

There are a lot of arguments to be considered when it comes to student cell phone usage and the use of the schools free wifi. Do cell phones at school on the school wifi help us, or hinder us? Are cell phones in the classroom collaborative or calamitous?

Personally, I do not think the answers to these questions are one or the other. It is not are they a teaching tool or a distraction, the real issue is not the cell phones but how they are used.

As a teenager myself, I know how social media plays a big role in my life. I love to be on Snapchat, I love to get on Instagram and Twitter, and I love having another way to connect with my friends, family, and acquaintances outside of everyday life.

I believe cell phones used in the right manner is perfectly fine for school. Cell phones can be a very useful resource in the classroom and in life. Cell Phones can benefit by being used for research, studying and a multitude of things.

As a whole the internet can be used in so many resourceful ways to benefit education. 94% of High School students

use cell phones during class throughout the day. What I would be more interested in knowing is what percent of those students are using their cell phone in class for educational purposes and what percent out of 94 is using phones for social media purposes.

What happens when for instance 70% of those are on social media, and the other 24% get on a cell phone to do research for a project but the internet is too slow due to the others. That is where use of the Schools free wifi comes into play.

I do not think Cell phones at school is the problem we need to focus on. The school and community as a whole should be focusing on how they are used and the restrictions that are put on the school's internet. Instead of banning cell phones which would cause a lot more of students to get in trouble by accepting a consequence of sneaking them, we should just put more restrictions on the school's internet.

Banning phones would produce an epidemic of trouble in the school, but restricting the internet would produce a confined amount of trouble by cell phones and possibly even an increase in the focus of education by students.

## Students should give prom a chance

**Grace Windham**  
**Staff Writer**

Are you thinking about attending prom? In my opinion, I think everyone should go. Though some people may feel as if prom is "not for them" it is a something that I believe all high school students should experience. It is a night to make memories that you can carry with you throughout your life.

Prom season is a time of excitement: picking out a dress, renting a tuxedo, making plans with friends, or planning a special date. The prom event is meant to be fun,

## Valentine's Day is not the only day to show love

**Abby Wooten**  
**Staff Writer**

Valentine's Day is a holiday made up by people to show their loved ones how much they mean to one another.

In my opinion, Valentine's is a great way to prove to your loved one that you truly love them. Valentine's Day is a day full of happiness for some people, and some just absolutely hate it because they do not have a girl or guy. However, Valentine's is not always about having a boyfriend or a

enjoyable, and memorable. If many people do not attend, it could make the event less fun. It can only be as fun as people allow it to be, meaning if everyone has the mindset that it will be a bad experience and they do not go, then most likely it really will not be fun!

Many deem prom as an annoyance... and an expensive one! But there are many ways to avoid these costs: renting instead of buying a tuxedo, borrowing a dress, buying a dress from a consignment dress shop, finding a friend to do your hair rather than a hairdresser, and choosing affordable plans for before

girlfriend, you can show your parents, friends, grandparents, and siblings how much you appreciate them with a box of chocolates or flowers.

Everyone has made Valentine's seem like you have to be in a relationship to get something or feel loved, and that is wrong.

I love Valentine's day because I get chocolates, but in reality you can buy chocolates whenever you want to. The holiday just gives guys and girls an excuse to get their loved one something. When really everyone should do

and after prom.

Many also do not want to go because they do not have a date, but did you know that over 50% of people actually go to prom dateless? Planning prom with a group of friends can lead to a great and memorable night that you will never forget!

Skipping prom could be a decision you regret in the future. You could miss out on potential memories and a fun night where the entire school is all together in one place.

So, if you are one of the "prom skeptics," take time to consider all the fun that it could be if you give it a chance!

## Opinion

### Express Yourself: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF VALENTINE'S DAY?

**FRESHMAN: LYDIA CRAIN-**  
**My favorite part is all the decorations and snacks.**

**SOPHOMORE: DAWSON BULLOCK-**  
**Getting a gift for my mom**

**JUNIOR: JACIE BOYD-**  
**Being surrounded by loved ones and all the chocolate covered strawberries**

**SENIOR: JORDAN RYALS-**  
**Having the perfect opportunity to let everyone know how much I love them.**



## Entertainment

### The 59th Grammys impresses viewers

**Will Cody**  
**Entertainment Editor**

It is that time of the year again! The 59th annual Grammy Awards ceremony was held on Sunday, February 12th at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The Grammy Awards focuses on artists, songs, and recordings that have stood out and gained the most success over the past year. This year, the Grammys was quite a success.

James Corden, host of his The Late Late Show with James Corden, was the host of this year's Grammy Awards, being his first time hosting such a big event. In his natural style, Corden cracked jokes every now and then to throw some comedy into the night. His overall hosting seemed to please the crowd, which is always a good thing.

As usual at the Grammys, there were many great performances. Adele performed "Hello," followed later by The Weeknd and Daft Punk with "Starboy" and "I Feel it Coming," and then Keith Urban and Carrie Underwood threw some country music into the mix with "The Fighter."

The sea of an audience was also pleased to watch Ed Sheeran perform "Shape of You," which comes from his brand new 2017 album. Throughout the Grammys, countless other artists and groups performed songs on the stage, and ended with John Legend and Cynthia Erivo performing "God Only Knows," which served as a tribute to all musicians who had died in the past year. This performance was very heartfelt and impactful to every artist at the Grammys.

The most important and suspenseful part of the Grammys were

the awards, nominees, and actual winners. Adele seemed to be the main attraction this year, taking home five Grammy awards: Album of the Year (25), Record of the Year ("Hello"), Best Pop Vocal Album (25), Song of the Year ("Hello"), and Best Pop Solo Performance ("Hello"). A fairly new rapper, Chance the Rapper, won in the Best New Artist category. In the rock category, David Bowie's "Blackstar" won Best Rock Song, as well as Best Rock Performance.

Among these winners were many others in numerous categories, which led to an overall success at the 59th annual Grammy Awards. James Corden's comedy and the outstanding performances from Beyonce, A Tribe Called Quest, Metallica and Lady Gaga, and many other artists served a great time for everyone at the annual Grammy Awards.

**Top 10 Valentine's Day Gifts**

- 1.) CHOCOLATE STRAWBERRIES
- 2.) FLOWERS
- 3.) BOX OF CHOCOLATES
- 4.) GIFT CARDS
- 5.) BIG STUFFED ANIMALS
- 6.) CLOTHES
- 7.) SENTIMENTAL GIFTS (THOUGHTFUL CARDS, PINTEREST CRAFTS, etc...)
- 8.) JEWELRY
- 9.) HOMEMADE DESSERTS
- 10.) SNACK PACK ARRANGEMENTS

### The 89th Oscars wows audience

**Amy Volz**  
**Staff Writer**

The 89th annual Oscars Awards aired on February 26th. The Oscars is an event that people look forward to all year. It is an event that embodies art, culture, and elegance. The most critically acclaimed, artistic, and moving cinematic masterpieces are acknowledged at this award show. A special, hand-picked Academy determines the winners in categories including Best Actor/Actress, Best Actor/Actress in a Supporting

Role, Best Production Design, Best Original Score, Best Animated Film, etc.

This year's show was hosted by Jimmy Kimmel. This year, the movie *La La Land* was a huge buzz at the Oscars. The movie as a whole won six awards. Emma Stone won Best Actress for her leading role in *La La Land*.

Casey Affleck won the Best Actor award for his leading role in *Manchester by the Sea*. The Best Film of the Year 2017 was *Moonlight*. This film as a whole was awarded three different awards. The Best Animated Film of the Year

was *Zootopia*. Another huge theme of the night was protesting President Donald Trump. Many of the jokes were directed towards the President. Many of the guests even wore blue bows which represented the American Civil Liberties Union.

Perhaps the most riveting part of the night was Viola Davis's heart-warming acceptance speech for Best Actress in a Supporting Role for the movie *Fences*. Her speech left everyone inspired, motivated, and teary-eyed.

### Patriots make a comeback win

**By Alexis Clay**  
**Staff Writer**

Super Bowl LI was an American football game played between the American Football Conference (AFC) champions New England Patriots and the National Football Conference (NFC) champions Atlanta Falcons, to decide the National Football League (NFL) champion for the 2016 season.

The Patriots defeated the Falcons, 34-28, in the first Super Bowl ever to go into an overtime period. Super Bowl LI was played at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas, on Sunday, February 5, 2017.

It was the second Super Bowl to be held at NRG Stadium, the other being Super Bowl XXXVIII in 2004, which also featured the New England Patriots; and also the third time the Super Bowl has been played in Houston, with Super Bowl VIII in 1974 having been held at Rice Stadium.

Thirty NFL records were either broken or matched in Super Bowl LI. The Patriots rallied from a 25-point deficit to win (trailed 28-3 with 8:31 left in the third quarter), breaking the record for the largest deficit overcome to win the Super Bowl (the previous record

was ten points, which was first set by the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl XXII and matched by the New Orleans Saints in Super Bowl XLIV, and the Patriots in Super Bowl XLIX); it is the third-largest comeback win in NFL history.

The Patriots won their fifth franchise championship, all under the leadership of starting quarterback, Tom Brady.

Brady won his fourth Super Bowl MVP, also an NFL record, completing 43-of-62 passes for 466 yards and two touchdowns, with one interception, while also rushing for fifteen yards.

## Boy's Basketball team defeats Conference

**DeMichael Harris**  
Sports Editor

The Morrilton Devil Dogs are Conference Champions! Everyone was on their feet for the boys basketball team as the final buzzer sounded. Conquering the talented rivals of Beebe, the Devil Dogs took home the illustrious title of Conference Champions.

It was a perfect scene. Senior Night,

final home game, a chance to silence the critics once and for all. It was a special Valentine's Day game, and love was indeed in the air after the victory. It was seemingly love at first sight between the Devil Dogs and that special 1 seed in the playoffs, as the entire crowd could see just how bad they wanted it.

The first round of the playoffs will see the boys take on 5a

rivals, the Harrison Goblins.

The ladies are no pushovers. The Lady Devil Dogs came into the new season with a mission: to prove that they can ball.

Last year was a season many are hoping to forget, and the ladies looked to wipe that season from the memories of the fans and the rest of the teams. They did just that.

In a stellar comeback season, the Lady Devil Dogs proved that they will be the future rulers of the conference with the next 2 years. Though they failed to make the playoffs, they certainly made their marks.



*The Dogs in a tense game*



*The Lady Devil Dogs watch their team.*



*Wright prepares to shoot a free throw*



*Jefferson prepares to shoot*

### Sport's Spotlight:

**Jaren  
Hill**



1.) How long have you been playing baseball?  
- Since I was three years old

2.) What is your favorite part of baseball?  
- Playing defense

3.) What are your goals for this season?  
-To hit a batting average above .400

4.) What are some of your hobbies other than baseball?  
-Hunting and fishing

5.) What are your future goals?  
-I want to play college baseball and then eventually be a baseball coach

6.) What is your favorite part of being a Devil Dog?  
- Playing with my great team



### Sport's Spotlight:

**Kaliyah  
Brooks**



1.) How long have you been playing basketball?  
-As long as I can remember

2.) What is your favorite part of basketball?  
-Being with my team

3.) What are your goals for this season?  
-To become a better leader, and for my team to make it to State

4.) What are some of your hobbies other than basketball?  
-Spending time with friends and family

5.) What are your future goals?  
-I want to obtain a nursing degree.

6.) What is your favorite part of being a Devil Dog?  
-The support the Devil Dogs give

