As conflicts rage throughout the world, outside observers of war often see only the two conflicting sides of the argument. However, it is vital to recognize the innocent bystanders and civilians who suffer as a result of the war raging around them. Right now, countries around the world, including the U.S, are attempting to diffuse a very dangerous threat to the people of Syria with threats of more violence. While the U.S military strength may be considered the most formidable force on the planet, waging another war in the Middle East causes only more distress for the civilians of Syria who already fear for their lives.

Unfortunately burdened with the setback of an incomplete varsity roster, which included the absences of Cait Imhoff (12), Lupe Pulu (12), Stephanie Mahi-na (12). The team had two commanding triple crown victories over Cottonwood, along with a record of 6-8, the girls looked forward to the last week of season with excitement and determination.

Unfortunately burdened with the setback of an incomplete varsity roster, which included the absences of Cait Imhoff (12), Lupe Pulu (12), Stephanie Mahina (12), Teu Vaitai (10), and Aggie Stanley (10), both the last season and first playoff games were tough losses. Even with this disappointing end, the girls have no regrets about the season. “It was a great season with our new coaches and we all really grew as a team,” says Nina Skipps (12). “As the years come, it’s only going to get better!” she adds.

With a new coaching staff and an entirely new program this year, the season started out slowly, especially for the juniors and seniors who were used to the old system. Despite these issues, the Lady Panthers kept working hard. “It was tough at the beginning,” says Hue Tran. “But we worked together to improve ourselves which resulted in an awesome season.”

At the end of the season, the Lady Panthers said goodbye to six seniors, leaving a young team to fill their shoes. “Next year will be hard on the girls, but as long as they stay a team, they’re going to go far no doubt,” says Skipps. The girls are determined to work hard in the off-season to prepare themselves for next year, hoping to improve upon this year. Head coach Sabrina Kefu comments, “I’m proud about how we started and even more excited about our future.” The girls show lots of promise and can’t wait to keep playing for West High.

As conflicts rage throughout the world, outside observers of war often see only the two conflicting sides of the argument. However, it is vital to recognize the innocent bystanders and civilians who suffer as a result of the war raging around them.

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Due to a threatening environment that has no problems with the use of chemical weapons on its own people, Syria has been driving members of its population away in fear of their lives.

Since the beginning of the Syrian civil war in March 2011, more than 2.5 million Syrians have been displaced from their homes, fleeing from the war torn zones of their home country. Estimates range from 600,000 to almost 1,200,000 refugees in the neighboring nations of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) only has about 600,000 registered Syrian refugees, but it does not take into consideration those who are not registered as official refugees. Due to the current growing rate of the refugee population, it is estimated that by the end of this year, over half of the Syrian population, a total of 3.4 million people, is going to be displaced or in need of humanitarian assistance. As of right now, about 75% of these refugees are women and children.

The civil war has affected those countries where Syrians have been fleeing since the beginning of the war in March 2011. In Lebanon alone, the overall population of the country will have increased by 25% by the beginning of 2014, due to the massive influx of people from Syria. The Zaatari refugee camp is now the fifth largest city in Jordan, and the second largest refugee camp in the world, housing roughly 120,000 Syrians.
With the stress of college applications looming over high school students, it is important for them to prepare. Apart from recommendations, personal essays and transcripts, colleges also require test scores. Most students take the ACT and/or the SAT once during the fall of their senior year. Also, many colleges require test scores ranging from zero to 800, which combined is a total possible score for the SAT. There are fees and deadlines for these tests, which must be met first. Students are also required to pay the fee. The ACT and SAT tests have some components from either the ACT or the SAT, but most important for them to be prepared. Apart from the differing set ups, it is probable that they do have many similarities. The ACT and SAT tests are used by colleges to assess your ability to do college-level work. The ACT test is mostly focused on student achievement, testing what the student knows and not penalizing for wrong answers. The student receives three separate scores for each section ranging from zero to 800, which combined equal a total possible score ranging from zero to thirty-six as well.

Most colleges accept either or both tests for applications and class placement, though because of the differing set ups, it is probably a good idea to take both anyway, and maybe even more than one. Most students take the ACT and/or the SAT early in the spring of their junior year and again during the fall of their senior year. Also, many colleges require SAT subject tests, along with the SAT. There are fees and deadlines for registration, so hurry up and get on it!

The West High Red and Black does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Principal Parley Jacobs<br>U.S. Response to Conflict in Syria<br>Matthew Parker

After the June 13th revelation that Syrian president Bashar Al-Assad had been using chemical weapons against his own people in the ongoing Syrian Civil War, many eyes around the world decided something needed to be done. But these groups are the United States government. Earlier President Barack Obama had told Al-Assad that he would not intervene in Syria unless Al-Assad crossed the “red line.” That “red line” was the use of chemical weapons, and now that there is proof that Al-Assad has indeed crossed the “red line,” Obama has been forced to rethink his position on intervention in Syria. The Syrian Civil War has been going on since March of 2011 and has claimed the lives of over 100,000 Syrians. The initial uprising was part of the Arab Spring, in which many Arabic countries (including Libya, Egypt and Tunisia) overlapped many of their leaders, who were primarily dictators. However Syria has not been as successful as other countries in the Arab Spring. Syria has remained in power despite mounting opposition. Throughout it all the US has watched the Syrian Civil War with disgust, but has been as successful as other countries in the Arab Spring. Syria has remained in power despite mounting opposition. Throughout it all the US has watched the Syrian Civil War with disgust, but has been as successful as other countries in the Arab Spring. Syria has remained in power despite mounting opposition.

Syria is party to the Geneva Protocol, a worldwide contract about the storing and production of chemical weapons. The stockpiling issue was dealt with through the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), a world policy that required all those who joined to gradually destroy stockpiled chemical weapons. While Syria is party to the Geneva Protocol, it is one of only seven countries not to the

SLFS raises $135,000 through Kickstarter for equipment to bring independent, classic, and local films to Salt Lake Valley. Film patrons, art lovers were able to donate whatever amount they wanted.

Miranda Cannon
Maxim Nebeker
Milo Marsden
Red & Black
Elliott Burr
Cole Hartog
Emma Culver
Eliza Asay
Diego Alem
Jack Brown
Christopher Chen
Javier Garcia-Concurro
Alexander Cooper
Emma Culver
Ellie Fuller
Cole Hartog
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Madison Colbeth
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(801) 578-8500

The question is why the Society is concerned about theaters across the state of Utah. The Society has broken the fundraising up into portions to make the realization of their goal more feasible. The first of these portions ran through Kickstarter, a fundraising website, and the projected objective was to raise $50,000 by October. As of Sept. 19 they had $8150, far below their much-despated target. The Society won’t come near the $50K (and ultimately, the $100K) if the fundraising pattern is not concrete and there may yet be a redeeming light at the end of the privotal tunnel.

SLFS’s two venues, are unique in the state of Utah. SLFS is making every conceivable effort to raise the required funds, but the required funds happen to be exorbitant. Most are not aware of the threat to theaters across the country. The Society is stuck between a rock and a hard place: they can either raise the money or not, and “not” means closing the doors to their theaters. This would be a tragedy for many reasons, not the least because the Broadway and Tower Theaters, SLFS’s two venues, are located in the state of Utah.

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WEST PUSHES FOR RECYCLING PROGRAM
ELLYE FULLER
As far as colors go, West High is comfortable with red and black—it’s green that’s presenting the problem. This struggle for West to “Go Green” is not as simple as it may appear, and is not due to lack of effort. Students have noticed the illegible blue bins reserved especially for paper, but there is no other form of recycling at West, such as aluminum and plastic to toss in garbage cans.

Recycling seems like a no-brainer, but unfortunately it is not that simple. According to a West High environmental science teacher, Crystal King, “[there is] no no-brainer, yet far from dumb, but ideally we wouldn’t need both dumpsters if we had recycling.”

If West wants to establish a system to recycle materials in addition to paper, we would actually end up saving money. Recycling, as far as West is concerned, is not a no-brainer. Recycling companies buy recycling, but we would actually end up saving money. Recycling materials in addition to paper, we would save the expense of the dumpster, and the risk of someone getting stuck in the recycling bins would be a hassle. After all, there is no preventing teenage footloose from absent-mindedly chucking a half-eaten burger amongst the plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Until West is able to place a waste bin in every classroom, the room in which 96% of the student body hangs out, the project will not move forward.

The Utah Museum of Fine Arts’ (UMFA) new Salt 8 exhibit features a triptych by artist Shigeyuki Kihara titled Fa’afafine. In a Manner of a Woman and deals with the controversy of gender identity and non-binary gender expression. The triptych is placed in the highly trafficked Oceania exhibit. Consisting of three photographs, taken in the same style as Victorian postcards depicting the “un civilized” people of the newly found colonies in Oceania, colonies such as New Zealand, Samoa and Polynesia. The first portraying Kihara topless and wearing a grass skirt, the second without the grass skirt and the last exposing the fact that she also possesses male genitalia.

The art itself is very powerful, deconstructing Victorian notions of sexuality and gender expression, and the timing of the exhibit coincides perfectly with the passing of the Russian “Gay Propaganda” law passed just a few months ago. Fa’afine is a word that in Kihara’s culture roughly translates to “possessing both male and female spirits” or what Western Society refers to as “transgender” or “gender-queer”. The Fa’afaine was a highly revered member of society until Western Imperialism attached a stigma to anything out of gender binary. Despite the antiquity of these ideas concerning gender and gender-identity the triptych still makes some squirm in their seats, even to a point of outrage. The triptych strips away the dehumanization of queer-identified individuals, requiring the viewer question preconceived notions of gender identity and Western Culture. The purpose of art is to incite a reaction, to call into question or to reinforce an idea. This triptych is, thus, particularly thought provoking or arresting depending upon the perspective of the viewer, and the reaction is further amplified by the fact that the works are placed in the field of vision of children touring the museum.

In the spring of 1812, Massachusetts governor Elbridge Gerry signed a bill that reorganized the voting districts in such a way that the Democratic-Republicans, Gerry’s own party, would have a numbers advantage in all future elections. The bill worked like a charm; and the Boston Gazette coined the term “gerry-mandering”, a cacophonous redistricting name and a lampoon-like shape he had carved the districts into. Since Elbridge Gerry, politicians have manipulated rules and laws to take advantage of the population, keeping themselves in office, and gerrymandering is still a serious problem today.

Gerrymandering is even an issue close to home, in our own state of Utah. Despite many practices in Utah, you might not be living across the street from someone, and yet be in an entirely different voting district than him or her. For a more specific example see Utah. Voting districts are reviewed every ten years, after every census, and after the 2010 census Utah added a new district, and one more representative to the House of Representatives. Before 2012, Utah only had three representatives, and only one of those was a Democrat-Jim Matheson. The added zone, drawn by Utah’s mostly Republican leaders, split Salt Lake City, Utah’s most liberal area, into three different districts to divide Democratic voting districts and limit their voting strength. Looking at the map, one can see that someone who lives in Salt Lake might be in the same congressional district at someone who lives in St. George. Despite this manipulative redistricting, Utah has had one Democratic seat from Republican challenger Mia Love. Needless to say, Utah’s new representative, Chris Stewart, is a Republican.

Taking power away from voters like this is a complete abuse of power, and something that should be abolished in the future. Our country’s government is based on representing the all people equally, not just the supporters of the majority party. Taking advantage of your party’s current power and using it to secure future power is completely slimy and underhanded. Politicians should please the people who chose them, not on whatever they need to do to get re-elected. While there is no clear solution to gerrymandering, it is a serious problem that needs to be on the forefront of political debates in Utah and overall in the nation. People should be aware of this issue.
West’s most unique sport- Winter Guard

While West High School is home to many different types of sports, some of them are more tradition-
al than others. One fairly understated sport is col-
er or winter guard. The term “color guard” could summon an image of a team standing in front of paint buckets with their arms crossed. Unsur-
prisingly, this is not even close to what it actually is. Color or winter guard is not a group dedicated to protecting a season or vibrant hues. In actual-
ity, they are a team of skilled dancers that twirl flags, rifles, and sabers. These instruments become a unique beauty to their routines, and enhance spe-
cific themes. Each year, the color guard dances to represent a different country or region, whether it is Spain, America, or The Middle East. This variation ensures an interesting and cultural performance.

Winter guard performs at half times, assemblies, and at several different com-
petitions. In order to prepare, our winter guard works incredibly hard. Voluntarily, the team came in twice a week for three
weeks. Their dedication and hard work is because our winter guard is home to many different types of sports, some of which are more tradition-
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Ultimate Frisbee at West

How to play ultimate Frisbee: scramble to gain an advantage. You always place everyone, except for the two opposing teams, across from each other. If you have the Frisbee, you need to be able to make a point. The Frisbee is intercepted, dropped, or a point is scored, which results in a throw off to the other team on the opposite side of the field.

Frisbee has been a growing sport of West over the last few years, with last year see-
ing a game every almost lunch. This year, West introduces the Ultimate Frisbee club. The first meeting of which occurred on Wednesday, September 11th. “Games are going to be every day during both lunch or if there are enough people, otherwise we’ll just pass around...” said Eric Ander-
son, founder of the Ultimate Frisbee club. “Anyone is welcome to play regardless of experience, talk to your class offi-
 cer to get more involved. Seniors talk to me, juniors to Jack Brown, sophomores to Xavier Mathesen, and a freshman officer spot is still open to those interested.”

Ski Season is coming to town

As we go deeper into fall, the weather begins to cool, the leaves begin to fall, the holidays near, and a sense of anticipation begins to fill West High. Most students know what this means: ski season is ap-
 proaching. Winter might seem far away, but the be-
ginning of ski season comes sooner than you think. Most Utah ski resorts open in mid-November to early December.

Skiing is the only thing I actually enjoy getting up for,” says Marcelina Kubic (11). “I don’t care that I’m in the car, driving up the mountain as the sun is slowly rising. If it means I get fresh powder, I’m more than willing to do just that.”

West High, grab your gear and head to the mountains for some winter fun- ski season is just around the corner!
Who is Doctor Who?

Who is your favorite Doctor? Is it Matt Smith, David Tennant or Tom Baker? What do you think? Do you speculate that Capaldi will be more your guy?

British science-fiction television series “Doctor Who” is approaching its 50th anniversary episode as well as the retirement of the 11th Doctor, played by Matt Smith, and the issuing in of the 12th Doctor, to be played by Peter Capaldi. The show, in its modern incarnation, is centered around “The Doctor”, an alien, “Time Lord”, and Lone Callifrean survivor of the “Time War”. The Doctor travels through space and time in a TARDIS (Time And Relative Dimension In Space), which is disguised as a British police box. The Doctor picks up human companions, taking them on adventures, showing them the marvels of all space and time saving the universe and the human race.

The 75-minute episode will premiere in Utah for 3D screenings at the Cinemark-Bountiful, Layton Hills 9, Tinseltown, Tinseltown Newgate and Cinemark 16 Provo theaters on November 25. The episode itself will bring feature the beloved 10th Doctor, played by David Tennant, Rose Tyler, the 10th Doctor’s companion played by Billie Piper, and Clara Oswald, the 11th Doctor’s second companion and played by Jenna Louise Coleman. The story of the episode is centered on the secrets that the Doctor has kept about his treasonous actions during the Time War, and the introduction of the character John Hurt, who was hinted at the end of the previous series. However, with the announcement of the reunion episode comes the announcement of Matt Smith’s stepping down from his role as the Doctor, and Peter Capaldi’s casting as the 12th Doctor. The original series states that each Time Lord only gets 12 regenerations, which is what happens to Time Lords instead of death. This serves as a problem for the head writer of the show. Steven Moffat, however, if given Moffat’s reputation, he will surely find a way around the regeneration limit...

Golden Tickets at West High!

Mary Peng

It is time again for West High students to rehearse after hours for the school musical. This year the school will perform “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,” based on the famous children’s book, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, by Roald Dahl.

The musical revolves around a poor young boy, Charlie Bucket, who finds a golden ticket to visit the famous Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory. Along with four other children, Charlie sees the oddest of things at the factory with things ranging from the Nut Room to the Oompa Loompas.

Directed by Mr. Brett Neale, the theater and drama teacher, the school musical started its rehearsals back in September. Joey McCorie (11) has been cast to play the title role, Willy Wonka. Along with McCorie is Hannah Stevenson (11), who has been cast to play Mrs. Bucket, Charlie’s mother. This year will be Stevenson’s fourth school production. “The musicals at West are put on by amazingly talented people and it doesn’t even feel like work, everyone is friendly and it’s so much fun to sing and dance with friends!” says Stevenson. She also hopes to continue being in musicals in the future. “Musicals are so much fun! I couldn’t keep away even if I tried to!” This year’s school musical is definitely one everyone must see. Performances are from Nov. 21-23 at 7 p.m. so don’t forget to attend!

The Theater Drama Season

Cheri Brisendine

To every story, there is a season, and Pioneer Theatre Company is kicking off their 2013-2014 season with a spoof, a drama, and a cult classic. We can see the world very different shows. This arrangement will provide something for everyone, so check out the shows, head up to the University, and decide which one is for you.

If you like murder, music or who doesn’t spoofs, Pioneer Theatre Company planned its first show of the season just for you. “Something’s Afoot” is a musical parody of detective stories, specifically a parody of Agatha Christie’s And Then There Were None, which is also titled Ten Little Indians. The show was enormously popular in the West End back in 77, and it ought to evoke plenty of laughs in Utah as well. “Something’s Afoot” will start showing Sept. 20 and will run until Oct. 5.

“Other Desert Cities” will run from Oct. 25 to Nov. 9. This first play by Jon Robin Baitz premiered on Broadway in early November of 2011. The play is a drama and deals with a fairly intense subject matter. The plot follows a family grappling with tumultuous politics and unaddressed family secrets. If you seek dark humor, exceptional amounts of tension, and contemporary theatre, “Other Desert Cities” will be well worth your time and energy.

“Don’t become entrenched in the deeper Christmas classics; “Elf the Musical” will run from Dec. 6 to Dec. 21 and will surely invite as much merriment as ever! A cult classic gone musical might sound like a draw, but it truly looks promising. Bob Martin and Thomas Meehan wrote the book, Matthew Sklar wrote the music, and Chad Beguelin wrote the lyrics. By way of explanation, Martin co-wrote and performed in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (fabulous, sporty musical). Meehan wrote the books for several shows on Broadway, most notably “Hairspray”, and Sklar and Beguelin collaborated for “The Wedding Singer”. “Elf the Musical” will surely prove to be a raucous delight.

For those interested in Christmas, Utah will prove to be a raucous delight. A cult classic gone musical might sound like a draw, but it truly looks promising. Bob Martin and Thomas Meehan wrote the book, Matthew Sklar wrote the music, and Chad Beguelin wrote the lyrics. By way of explanation, Martin co-wrote and performed in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (fabulous, sporty musical). Meehan wrote the books for several shows on Broadway, most notably “Hairspray”, and Sklar and Beguelin collaborated for “The Wedding Singer”. “Elf the Musical” will surely prove to be a raucous delight.

Advantageous to note, students can purchase tickets for half-price if they attend on a Monday or Tuesday, and we can attend student matinees for $16 or less. Student Matinees are Wednesdays and begin at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online or over the phone; however, you must bring your student ID with you to the production if you would like to enter the theater. For more information, check out Pioneer Theatre Company’s website, www.pioneertheatre.org.

First Annual SLC Comic Con!

Cheri Brisendine

This September, from the 5th to the 7th, Utah’s capitol welcomed wookles, pirates, and zombies eagerly at the Salt Palace for the first annual Salt Lake City Comic Con. Over those three days, many attractions made Utahans flock to Salt Lake City. Over the three days Comic Con was in Utah, well over $50,000 was collected from tickets alone. Additionally, Salt Lake’s Comic Con was the largest, most successful first annual Comic Con in the nation, breaking records in all other states. Comic Con has signed a five-year contract, so if you missed going this year, don’t worry about it; you have the opportunity to go for the next few years and experience a new side of Salt Lake!

Holiday Movie Season

Cheri Brisendine

Thanksgiving is the time to be grateful for what we have. This day is not always the center of attention come the holiday season, given that it lives in the shadow of Christmas, but there are certainly movies that emphasize the virtues that Thanksgiving is all about, such as giving, sharing, and being gracious. These are the Red & Black top four:

1. Alice’s Restaurant:
If you like older movies, this one is for you. “Alice’s Restaurant” hit the big screens in 1969 and is based off a popular song of the time by Arlo Guthrie, appropriately called, “Alice’s Restaurant”. Arlo Guthrie’s rhapsoms through 1960’s pop culture comical-ly and the film follows the song pretty closely.

3. Pieces of April:
This movie is about a girl named April, played by Katie Holmes, trying to throw together the perfect Thanksgiving dinner in her cramped, dirty apartment in New York City. With snarky relatives and an emotionally satisfying conclusion, this film certainly is a hit.

4. Elf:
“Elf the Musical” will run from Dec. 6 to Dec. 21 and will surely invite as much merriment as ever! A cult classic gone musical might sound like a draw, but it truly looks promising. Bob Martin and Thomas Meehan wrote the book, Matthew Sklar wrote the music, and Chad Beguelin wrote the lyrics. By way of explanation, Martin co-wrote and performed in “The Drowsy Chaperone” (fabulous, sporty musical). Meehan wrote the books for several shows on Broadway, most notably “Hairspray”, and Sklar and Beguelin collaborated for “The Wedding Singer”. “Elf the Musical” will surely prove to be a raucous delight.

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Our past is concrete, the present is fluid, and the future will remain steeped in uncertainty, as there is no earthly way to look beyond the borders of each passing second. However, we have come in contact with a man who claims he is from the future.

On October 17th, James B. Finding, who was returning home for lunch, heard a strange noise in his backyard.

Thinking it could be a couple of delinquents, he decided to investigate. Much to his surprise, he discovered his neighbor standing next to a machine that resembled the Flux Capacitor from Back to the Future franchise.

Upon questioning, his neighbor, who is to remain unnamed, claimed, “I’ve been to the year three thousand.”

According to him, not much has changed except for humans now live underwater. Although Mr. Finding asked him many things about the future, the only piece of information that the enigmatic time traveler revealed was that Finding’s great-great-granddaughter is doing fine.

He then climbed back into his time machine and, in a flash, disappeared.

Rest assured, West High, we will wait and watch for more news from the future. Meanwhile, we should start pondering some things.

Ben Franklin, as he campaigned for the turkey to be the national bird, once said, “The turkey is a bird of strong moral fiber and a proud symbol of American culture.”

Thanksgiving is an American cultural history lesson, more than any other holiday. Thanksgiving is also one of our oldest holidays, dating back to the pilgrims’ first celebration in 1621. This is something common knowledge, but you might not know is the first Thanksgiving was only eaten with spoons and knives because the fork was not popularized until the 19th century. Here are some interesting facts about Thanksgiving.

Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin, when debating the different symbols for America’s national bird, settled the argument. Jefferson wanted the eagle to be the national bird because the eagle is a bird of prey. The eagle’s connotation of strength was how Jefferson envisioned America.

Franklin thought the turkey would be more suitable because the bird was eaten at the first Thanksgiving meal. Franklin also argued against the eagle, stating the bird was of “bad moral character” as a bird of prey. The turkey failed to yield the American vote and the eagle became our nation’s bird. After losing the argument, Franklin began to nickname turkeys “Toms” in order to make fun of Thomas Jefferson.

There is a long-standing tradition, dating back to President Truman in 1947, of presidents pardoning two turkeys every Thanksgiving. The pardon was created to put some good humor into the holiday. The American people vote on the name of the turkeys pardoned. President Barack Obama recently pardoned a turkey named Courage, and he now lives in Disneyland.

Vote here for your favorite turkey names: www.facebook.com/minnesotaturkey/.

Thanksgiving is a holiday where we reflect on what we are thankful for in life, and in our history as Americans we have plenty of reasons to be thankful. Without Thanksgiving, there would not be a reason to sit down with your whole family for dinner, there would be no epic college football games, and without Thanksgiving, there would be no microwavable TV dinners.

Daniel Micklemouse was having a soda in the Northwest Orient first-class lounge when a hoary stranger sat down next to him and said, “I’m harking.”

“Hark unto me, O traveler.”

“Fair enough. Here?”

“Here,” the stranger asked.

“Eighteen days,” the hoary stranger said.

“How long?”

“Four days,” the hoary stranger added.

“Where?”

“West to east,” the hoary stranger replied.

“Suppose two kangaroos, opposite each other, each exactly ten yards from a tray of vegetables, start out for the tray at precisely the same instant. Away from a tray of succulent vegetables, start for the tray at precisely the same instant. Each of them makes exactly ten yards per leap. The atmospheric conditions and all other elements are identical, the only difference being that the that the kangaroo named Josephine goes from west to east, while the kangaroo named Josephine goes from east to west, which kangaroo would get to the vegetables first?”

“Josephine,” the hoary stranger said.

“The problem intrigues me,” the hoary stranger said.

“Then I’ll also get some food at McDonald’s, and buy her a T-shirt that says, ‘Reading is for losers, find a new hobby.’”

“If you think you know the answer, come back to this page in one week.”

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Your stomach is stuffed, your hair is a mess, and with all the Thanksgiving cleanup, you’re running on two hours of sleep. You don’t know how you’re functioning, but you jump in your car and race to the store anyway, not caring about how you’ll look to the hundreds of people you’re going to run into. They’re all dressed the same, feeling the same, doing the same, because it’s finally that time of year: Black Friday shopping.

Honestly, it’s the most stressful time of year. Do I buy my sister the seventy-five new books she wants, or do I just give up and buy her a T-shirt that says, “Reading is for losers, find a new hobby, dock?”

Does my brother want socks or should I buy him some new shirts? I mean his shirts are so old you could probably still smell the excellence from the Salt Lake Olympics, but his socks have so many holes you could call them Swiss. I could just buy him both, because we all know that I have so much money. But it’s Black Friday, so I guess everything is on sale and I can buy it all, right?

I’ll also get some food at McDonald’s, and buy her a T-shirt that says, ‘Reading is for losers, find a new hobby.’”

“I’m harking.”

“Hark unto me, O traveler.”

“Fair enough. Here?”

“Here,” the stranger asked.

“Eighteen days,” the hoary stranger said.

“How long?”

“Four days,” the hoary stranger said.

“Where?”

“West to east,” the hoary stranger said.

“Suppose two kangaroos, opposite each other, each exactly ten yards from a tray of vegetables, start out for the tray at precisely the same instant. Each of them makes exactly ten yards per leap. The atmospheric conditions and all other elements are identical, the only difference being that the that the kangaroo named Josephine goes from west to east, while the kangaroo named Josephine goes from east to west, which kangaroo would get to the vegetables first?”

“Josephine,” the hoary stranger said.

“The problem intrigues me,” the hoary stranger said.

“Then I’ll also get some food at McDonald’s, and buy her a T-shirt that says, ‘Reading is for losers, find a new hobby.’”

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Before the glorious colloquial revolution of our esteemed leader Noam Chomsky, the world was burdened with a tragic state of heretical polylinguism. In the year 2015, when gilded Lexicor Chomsky lead His brave Eloquitioners in the War of the Common Tongue against the coddled Patois. After 8 long years of verbal dispute, the War of the Common Tongue was over, and with it came the martyrdom of Grandmaster Linguist Chomsky. Some say He wove His words in ways that transcend human intellect or understanding. His story is compiled in the Holy Lexicon within the Temple of Divine Syntax, in the City of Brotherly Love. It is known as the Tale of Logos, Pathos, and Ethos.

In the first week of Logos our Rhetorical Savior battled the maelstrom of polylinguist pigs. He demonstrated to the Patois the enlightening articles of the Holy Language. Without pause, one week led to another and our Persuasive Leader found himself in the second week of Pathos. Throughout this week He stunned the Patois with phrases so emotionally charged that tens of thousands of polylinguists converted on the spot. Thus began the third week of Ethos. Our Lord Chomsky’s throat was raw; every word was accompanied with a trickle of His divine blood upon the faces of the devoted. He preached the Three Tenants: Grammar, Syntax, and Universal Dialect. A hundred thousand Patois linguists fell prostrate and welcomed Uniliginguism into their hearts and voices.

But for every man converted ten more took His place, and by the end of the third week Lexicor Chomsky was captured. They cut out His tongue and placed Him upon a pyre of Oxford Dictionaries, Second Compact Edition. As they lit the flame that would end His life, he raised His head to the heavens and, in a tempest of words smote down the nonbelievers. In the center of the storm Our Savior hung his head, for he was weary. He whispered His final words “It is done”. As the storm enveloped His tattered body, a flash of brilliant light illuminated the world and every man, woman, and child came to know the one Holy Language, as Chomsky became the God he didn’t believe in. And it came to pass that He uttered His divine name, “Munkith”.

Fantasy Football:
The only way you’ll make it in the NFL

Fantasy Football, you may think it is a game for no-life, die hard football fans. Fantasy Football is really made for universal football fans and it can get incredibly competitive. For those of you who don’t know what fantasy football is, here is a short explanation: You draft a player from each offensive scoring position, quarterback, running back, wide receiver, tight end, and kicker, and an entire team’s defense and special team. For example one might pick Tom Brady of the New England Patriots as their starting quarterback and pick AJ Green of the Cincinnati Bengals as their wide receiver and so on.

After your team is picked, watch every game that has one of your players in it. You gain points is if one of your players, let’s say your tight end, Julius Thomas of the Broncos, makes a catch, you would then earn points for your fantasy football team. Moreover, the same goes for all of your other players; if your quarterback throws the football and makes a touchdown then you would get more points.

The objective is to have the individual stats of your players be good enough to out-score your opponent for the week.

Now, you might be thinking, “What does fantasy football have to do with West High?” Many students of West play in fantasy leagues.

“Fantasy is great,” says Jacob Fang (11), “I love the prospects of being able to control those large, muscular men. I also love the competitive nature of the game.”

“Football is a sport I really enjoy,” says Jake Colangelo (10), “It gives me an excuse to watch football all day on Sundays.”

Fantasy football is an excellent way to learn who your favorite professional football players are, and watch nearly all of the professional football games.

Some times leagues even have money pooled together by the members that goes towards a prize to the league champion.

Fantasy football is predominately played online and there are still leagues available to join. So if you are interested in joining this prestigious activity, go online and sign up, if you haven’t already.