

THE BASIS SCOTTSDALE GAZETTE

SRPs: MORE THAN JUST SOME RANDOM PROJECTS

BY VICTORIA MEYER



The Class of 2016 (Photo by Life Moments Photography)

Each year, a new batch of seniors prepare their goodbyes to BASIS Scottsdale. Yet, those goodbyes come much sooner than students from other schools would expect. As many know, senior year at BASIS is significantly different than at other high schools. Rather than taking classes all year, seniors have the opportunity to spend four months independently studying, starting in February. While Senior Research Projects (SRPs) are not required, most seniors choose to participate in a research project during their third trimester.

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SAVE THE DATE

February 5:
Beginning of Trimester 3

February 15:
President's Day

February 6:
Sadie Hawkins Dance

February 20:
Day of Nations

February 6:
InterBASIS Science Bowl

February 27:
School Science Fair

FEATURED

PERIODIC TABLE

ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT'S DAY

NEW ELEMENTS!

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MORE THAN A DATE?

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This year is especially unique for seniors. In addition to the traditional SRP where students work for a certain amount of hours per week, students this year had the option to participate in AP Research for the first time in BASIS Scottsdale's history. Rather than doing an internship or working at a job, AP Research students spend their third trimester conducting their own research on a topic of their choice.

Here are a few examples of this year's SRPs and AP Research Projects. Both Vaibhavi Mohan and Elizabeth Barnitt started their SRPs this week, while Viktoriya Kovalchuk has just recently begun implementing her research for AP Research.

Vaibhavi Mohan: "Against All Odds: Finding my Identity as a Musical Theatre Artist"

"My project is about the visibility of people of color on Broadway. As a young actress of color, this is the way I'm researching how the business is changing and how more can be done to increase the number of people of color cast in shows. I'm focusing on the history of people of color, especially Asian-Americans, in theatre and how certain shows have broken down racial barriers in theatre. I'm focusing on the show Hamilton as an example of a show that is redefining musical theatre and how people of color are perceived in the casting room and in society by showing American history in a way that makes it relatable to everyone."

Elizabeth Barnitt: "The Lost Art of the Bookstore"

"I'm researching how bookstores (specifically indie book stores) are still thriving in an age of technology where you could just buy books online or even just buy e-books. I'm going to be working at Changing Hands bookstore and seeing the business side of things as well as doing a few customer surveys. I'll also visit a Barnes & Noble and try to meet with the manager there to get the comparison between indie and 'big box' stores."

Viktoriya Kovalchuk: "Shedding Light on Dark Matter Particles"

"Astronomy is a blossoming field, as new physical phenomena are observed and discovered each day. I chose to further research one of the most promising and revolutionary discoveries in the field today-- dark matter, different from light matter, which composes most of our known, visible universe. Dark matter makes up about 27% of the entire universe (as opposed to light matter, which makes up less than 5%), and is incapable of reflecting light, which makes it invisible to us. My project seeks to find a way to indirectly detect the particle in order to find out more about its anatomy."

Whether the seniors chose to participate in SRPs or AP Research, every student makes his or her project unique. Some use these research projects as a chance to further learn about a potential future career, while others purposefully choose to investigate an unknown field. No matter what topics are chosen, SRPs are a great example of what makes the experience of a BASIS student so unique.

#STARTTALKINGFOR SHE'S THE FIRST

As gender equality and education for girls become prominent topics of discussion around the globe, She's the First wants to bring the conversation to the forefront by kicking-off a global #StartTalkingFor campaign. By inviting leaders of change from various fields such as science and technology, academia, entertainment, and business, the club wants to present multiple perspectives about gender inequity in education and arrive at tangible solutions.

BY DIVYA VATSA &
CATHERINE O'NEILL

The school's first #StartTalkingFor summit will consist of discussion panels, in which community members will have a chance to converse with speakers, and a showcase of achievements by students from Phoenix who are making advances in breaking gender stereotypes and promoting education.

SENDING OFF BASIS SCOTTSDALE VARSITY BASKETBALL'S SENIORS BY RAJ WATSON

As the BASIS Scottsdale basketball season winds down, co-captains Yu Sang Ma and Sachin Pathaney reflect on their four years of playing varsity basketball.

What was your fondest memory while on the team?

Yu Sang: The funniest moment was probably when Zach [Ginsberg] put on the bulldog mascot costume for the first time and began doing tricks at the BASIS Chandler game last year. It was a real morale booster and a fun time for everyone cheering us on.

Sachin: My best memory was probably starting my first game. It just showed how far I had come from when I first joined the team and barely played in my first two seasons to that moment when I was able to help the team compete at a higher level.



Yu Sang Ma (Right), Sachin Pathaney (Middle), and Ved Narayan (Left) defend a screen in a game against BASIS Chandler (Photo by Sabrina Kharazzi).

What advice would you give to prospective BASIS Scottsdale Basketball players?

Yu Sang: The biggest piece of advice is to never give up. Even though you may not make the team your first year, you should work even harder. If you continue to work and work, you will eventually be the best you can be. Also, don't always try to be the hero. Sometimes people notice you more when you act as a member of the supporting cast. Finally, do your best no matter the circumstances.

Sachin: Enjoy every moment that you have on the team. Even if your part may be small in the beginning, realize that every moment, both in practices and games, is an opportunity to prove your skills to everyone else and learn from others. Work hard and show how much you want it, but most importantly, have fun.

These two senior captains have made lasting impacts on our basketball team. We wish them the best of luck in college, where we hope that they will continue to get buckets and love the wonderful game of basketball!



Sachin Pathaney (Left) and Ved Narayan (Right) celebrate a crucial charge (Photo by Sabrina Kharazzi).

NEW YEAR, NEW DEBATE

BY VARUN KUKUNOOR

At the start of 2016, the top Public Forum (PF) Debate teams of BASIS Scottsdale competed at the Southwest Championship, held at ASU.

The tournament brought together competition from across the country; schools like the Harker School in San Jose and Dougherty Valley High School in the Bay area put forth their best teams to win the tournament. These high schools are known for their commitment to academics and for the tens of thousands of dollars they spend on their debate team. In fact, the competition at the annual tournament is so fierce that making it to elimination rounds is enough to attract national recognition.

After a brutal day of preliminary rounds, two BASIS Scottsdale PF teams emerged on top: Abbas Haider and George Yang, two seniors who are currently nationally ranked as the seventh best team in the nation, and Hardy Niu and Adi Sidapara, a team of sophomores who have proven their potential as the future of PF in BASIS. Simply by making it to the elimination rounds, they drew attention toward BASIS Scottsdale as they were given the chance to represent the school on a national level.

PF debater Adi Sidapara shared his experience with us by answering some questions that outline his experience.

How did it feel to represent BASIS Scottsdale at the tournament?

Being a multi-disciplinary academic competition, this tournament really allowed me to express the knowledgeable argumentation from what I learn at school every day. I am thankful that BASIS teaches me this sort of thing rather than just letting me explore on my own. They definitely help with the path to success.

What did it feel like to debate top teams?

I was honestly very humbled to meet some of the top debaters in the nation, and it felt very thrilling to get to know the people who work the same way as you do, just in other states. We make connections as debaters, and the community in the whole country grows stronger with every one of these tournaments.

The future of debate lies with our new competitors, and with all the success our current debaters are bringing in, one can only see a bright future ahead.



NEWS

TARGETING GUN VIOLENCE

BY BAILEY MIRABELLI

On Tuesday, January 5th, during a press conference at the White House, President Obama announced a series of executive actions designed to reduce gun violence in America.

The most controversial of his actions was aimed at diminishing unregulated gun sales. Obama's plan was not enacted by an executive order or a new regulation. Instead, he has simply directed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to monitor firearm exchanges and to confirm that all gun-sellers are licensed and background-checked. He even went further as to warn the public that any person who deliberately engages in an unlicensed transaction of firearms could be charged with a federal crime and be fined up to \$250,000, sentenced to up to five years in prison, or both.

Gun shows, most Internet sales, and other mediums which allow firearms to be accessed without any form of regulation have been frequently criticized. Firearms bought in these markets are thought to have been involved in public shootings, acts of terror, and other criminal activities. Obama stated in his press conference, "A violent felon can buy the exact same weapon over the Internet with no background check, no questions asked."

However, significant opposition to the new executive actions has arisen. Some people believe that this type of regulation infringes on citizens' Second Amendment rights. The National Rifle Association wrote in an article opposing Obama's new executive action, "The president made it abundantly clear that restricting the rights of America's law-abiding gun owners will remain his focus in the last year of his tenure." They went on to claim that Obama is harshly punishing lawful behavior (no official regulation restricts the selling of firearms at gun shows and informal shops).

In 2013, Obama had signed a series of twenty-three executive orders addressing gun violence. His executive actions include new steps for ensuring safe exchange of firearms, such as a proposal to launch national safe and responsible gun ownership campaigns and a plan to nominate an ATF director. However, his previous executive actions have not been very effective. Only time will tell if President Obama's newest one will be more effective.

IOWA AND NEW HAMPSHIRE EXPLAINED

BY GURSAJAN GILL

In the Iowa caucus, Iowans elect delegates to elect delegates to vote for a certain candidate. Although Mike Huckabee and Rick Santorum, the last two Republican to win the Iowa caucus did not go on to win the Republican nomination for president, the Iowa caucuses remain very important in determining which candidates go on to be nominated by the parties.

The winner of the Iowa caucus garners a lot of money for the winner, which translates into advertisements and political momentum. Additionally, media coverage increases for the winners — giving the particular candidate a tremendous amount of beneficial political attention.

Nevertheless, Donald Trump's presence in this race raises questions over whether either will make a big impact in 2016; Trump attracts the vast majority of media and social media attention. Trump has lessened the effectiveness of advertisements from big spenders like Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio.

Going into the Iowa caucuses, there were two big questions. The first was whether Donald Trump would be able to beat Ted Cruz. Trump and some political experts believed that if he won Iowa, Trump will win all the states.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 The other question was which establishment Republican—Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, Chris Christie, or John Kasich—would lead in the caucus. The race was expected to end up as a race between Trump, Cruz, and a moderate.

Ted Cruz, who earned 27.6% of the vote, beat Donald Trump by over three percent, but the big winner was Marco Rubio, who received 23.1% of the vote and the momentum going into New Hampshire.

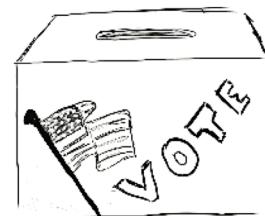
Hillary Clinton, the favorite in the race for the Democratic Party nomination, barely edged out Bernie Sanders. The margin was small enough to prove that Hillary Clinton will not have an easy path to the general election. She does have reason, however, to smile because the last two Democrat to win Iowa, Barack Obama and John Kerry, went on to also win the party's nomination.

The next elections are the New Hampshire primaries, which happens on February 20. The biggest difference between the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire is that political parties run the Iowa caucus, while the New Hampshire, and all the following state primaries, are run like a general election.

In the New Hampshire primary, the people vote for a delegate to vote for the candidate in the National Party Convention. Independents can vote in either party's primary.

Currently, Trump has a large lead in the New Hampshire primaries, and is the favorite to win. However, the Democratic race is much tighter, with Clinton and Sanders currently neck-and-neck. Last election season, Mitt Romney and Barack Obama both won the New Hampshire primary and, subsequently, his party nomination.

This election is definitely a unique one, challenging many political conventions. However, it would still be interesting to see how effective the traditional New Hampshire primaries and Iowa caucuses are in predicting the winner of the parties' nomination.



SHOWING LOVE FOR AN AMERICAN HERO

BY DIVYA VATSA

If February is known for anything, it is the roses, hearts, and red of Valentine's Day. However, in many states including Florida and California, a different kind of celebration occurs on February 15th. Across the country, there is a growing movement to recognize the 15th as a national holiday to celebrate one of the most important female leaders in the world: Susan B. Anthony.

Born on February 15, 1820 to a Quaker family, Susan B. Anthony learned the importance of social equality from a young age. She began fighting for equality at 17 years of age, when she collected petitions for abolitionism. Noted for her pioneer efforts in the women's suffrage as leader of the National Women's Suffrage Association, Anthony rallied groups of women to fight for equality.

During her time in prison and after, she defended the suffrage movement by traveling across the country and inciting masses to support basic civil rights for women. Ultimately, Anthony had the chance to experience the fruits of her labor when the 19th Amendment passed, granting women suffrage.

But what makes Anthony so special? Her boldness and fearlessness goes beyond the suffrage movement. Her actions sparked a new era of American history that has been marked by a shift toward tolerance and acceptance by the nation at large. From race to gender to religion, Anthony has paved the way for a more equality and unity, an achievement that deserves to be celebrated across America on February 15.

COHEN'S COMPLAINTS

VAPID VALENTINE

BY ALEX COHEN

Something smells different in the February air – something acrid like raw sewage, something that reeks with undertones of sweat and yesterday's hot lunch choices, something many have heard rumors of but don't understand. This, of course, is the smell of school love on Valentine's Day.

Far-removed from romantic visions of picnics in secluded meadows, seaside walks at sunset, and efflorescent bouquets of the reddest roses, Valentine's Day in school takes the form of something longed for but unattainable. Since preschool, I have faced this holiday head-on, coping each year with the same cookie-cutter disappointment and trying each year to handle the holiday better than I did the previous year. To this end, I've developed Valentine's Day strategies that can help you transform from pathetic idealist into a successful romantic realist.

Valentine's Day is what I like to call a *Bouillabaisse* (pronounced in English as **bool-yuh-beys**) Holiday. For those unfamiliar, *bouillabaisse* is a traditional Provençal stew that consists of several different kinds of fish mixed together. A *Bouillabaisse* Holiday, then, is one that puts a bunch of smelly, slimy components together to create the illusion of a pleasant whole. In order to survive Valentine's Day at school, you simply must work your way around the multiple parts designed to draw you in:

1. Ditch the Cards

I don't think there has been a single year of my life in which I didn't receive some flimsy, generic valentine that someone printed at home and. In kindergarten, this took the form of Spongebob cards, left unsigned by the senders, with smeared computer printer ink that read "I love you!" Now, these cards will likely show images of DJ Khaled dabbing, Donald Trump in any of several insulting positions, or some joke about Zayn leaving One Direction. The content of the cards may have changed, but my problem with Valentine's Day cards remains the same: if you actually want to express affection for someone or show that you appreciate his or her friendship, why would you want to do it in the most corny, insincere way possible? I

mean, you could just walk up to someone and talk to them instead of wasting paper, time, and ATP meticulously printing and signing a series of allusion-heavy paper squares. Really. Just talk to people. It resonates more strongly, anyway.

2. Skip the Sweets

Candies, chocolates, and other sweets are other elements of Valentine's Day designed to rope people into the artificial air of romance. These confections promise to help you show your sweetheart that you care, but they, too, come off as unnecessary. "I love you! In order to show you that I love you, I'm going to fatten you up like the witch from Hansel and Gretel so you can't run away from me. We'll be together forever!" Instead of placing the burden of eating unhealthy things on your lover or friend, try scheduling a fun activity with him or her instead. Help him or her study for a test in a quiet café! Take a romantic stroll through the hallways during passing period! Block your sweetie from hallway traffic! Just don't waste money on caloric chews.

3. Love Yourself

Valentine's Day places a burden on young people to find an arbitrary person to call "valentine." Without a valentine, you're an undesirable, a loser. Don't subscribe to that way of thinking. Treat yourself in addition to others. Instead of wasting your whole day chasing down a valentine, take some time to reflect on what really matters to you. Sure, the thought of expending a lot of effort on someone and being rewarded is nice, but is it "aesthetic" – is it "goals" – to feel bad about yourself and get distracted from the test you have tomorrow? I don't think so.

Don't get too worried about Valentine's Day – after all, it's just another ordinary day in the shortest month of the year. I hope that, with a little help from my survival tips, you can make your Valentine's Day just a little bit lovelier. Even though it's the actual worst holiday.

Other than that, there isn't much to complain about.

SCIENCE & TECH

FOUR MORE PLACES AT THE PERIODIC TABLE

Students will have a little more studying to do for chemistry class next year.

Four new elements will join the periodic table, completing its seventh row—much to the dismay of students memorizing the reference chart but much to the delight of the scientific community.

On December 30, 2015, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC)—the U.S.-based organization dedicated to the beneficial use of chemical knowledge—officially approved the validity of the discovery of elements 113, 115, 117, and 118. IUPAC President Dr. Mark Cesa announced, “We are excited about these new elements, and we thank the dedicated scientists who discovered them for their painstaking work,” according to an IUPAC press release. Two IUPAC reports supporting these discoveries will be published in 2016 in the journal “Pure and Applied Chemistry,” according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

As the board governing the decision to add the new elements, IUPAC examined the claims touting the discovery of the four superheavy elements, which are defined as elements with over 104 protons, according to *The Atlantic*. In fact, “discovery” is a bit of a misnomer: the elements do not occur in nature but are artificially created by nuclear fusion using particle accelerators in laboratories. Conditions to create these superheavies require tremendous patience and precision.

It is not easy being superheavy. Radioactive, the elements decay to lighter elements within the briefest of lifetimes—nanoseconds. Consequently, the creation of superheavy elements demands nuclear fusion—the energy-releasing combination of two nuclei. Yet fusion between heavy nuclei is only possible with a heavy-ion accelerator to surmount the immense repulsion between the huge number of protons in both nuclei, according to David Hinde in *The Conversation in Physics*. Not only must the two nuclei touch, Hinde adds that they must change their

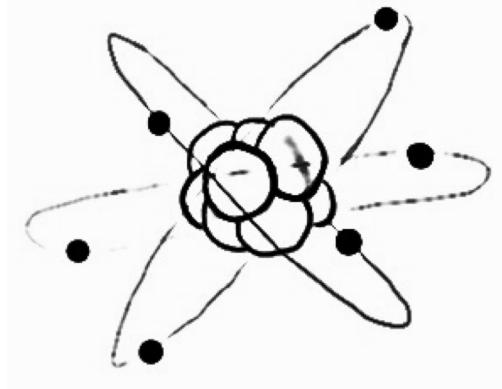
BY LAUREN APPEL

shape into a superheavy nucleus—something so rare that it only occurs about one in a million collisions. Moreover, Hinde explains further how, even after achieving the nearly impossible fusion, the superheavy nucleus faces another daunting obstacle: its likelihood to immediately decay by fission. Up against another statistical improbability, only one in a million lasts to become a superheavy atom.

Given these staggering odds, it is not surprising that the discovery of each element took over ten years, according to *The Wall Street Journal*. To capture a sense of the magnitude of the scientific endeavor, Noble Laureate chemist Ryoji Noyori said to *The Guardian*: “To scientists, this is of greater value than an Olympic gold medal.”

But what is the impact of this discovery for the rest of us? Finding these artificially created elements adds insight to the inquiry as to whether they existed in the past or still do exist in another part of the universe. Increasing our knowledge about subatomic activity benefits nuclear medicine specifically and quantum physics generally, as reported in TIME.

Creating not just one but four superheavies is indeed seismic subatomic news. The simultaneous induction of four elements at one time is unprecedented.



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Moreover, the move marks an additional milestone: the element 113 is the first discovered by scientists in Asia, according to *The New York Times*. Japanese researchers at the Riken institute began smashing together atoms in 2003. Two nuclei fused together the next year, forming the first-ever nucleus for element 113, as reported in *The New York Times*. Unfortunately, hopes were dashed as the nucleus existed merely for less than a thousandth of a second. Hopes were raised again in 2005 with its second creation, yet the *Times* notes that the IUPAC did not deem the evidence sufficient enough to constitute a discovery. Seven more years of perseverance garnered the conclusive evidence of element 113 needed by the researchers. “I was not prepared to give up,” related Kosuke Morita, the leader of the Riken research team in a press statement. As discoverers, the Japanese scientists have the honor of naming element 113.

Given the prevalence of Euro-centric names peppering the Periodic Table—francium, germanium, scandium, polonium, californium, berkelium, and americium—one of the names being considered by the Japanese team, according to *The New York Times*, seems likely to be a favorite—japonium.

On the other hand, the proposed names for the three remaining new elements seem to be more contested. Elements 115 and 117 will be named by their Russian and American discoverers from Russia’s Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, California’s Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Tennessee’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory; element 118 belongs to a partnership between the Californian and Russian scientists, according to *The Atlantic*.

The IUPAC possesses the final power to approve all names and two-letter symbols for periodic elements. According to its guidelines, the names and symbols must be consistent and translatable into many languages. Specifically, an IUPAC statement announcing the discovery details that the “elements can be named after a mythological concept, a mineral, a place or country, a property, or a scientist.”

Not only must the name proposal endure a three-stage review—IUPAC approval at the division level, a five-month period of public review, and final acceptance by IUPAC’s highest body—the suggested moniker must also survive a tug-of-war between transnational jockeying and scientific egos. As noted in *The Atlantic*, the naming process for elements 104 to 109 lasted over three years of international debate for the elements discovered by American, Russian, and German researchers. Sometimes an element, according to TIME, memorializes individual scientists: einsteinium, fermium, mendelevium, and copernicium.

Time will only tell how difficult the spelling or pronunciation of these new elements will be for science students everywhere. However, one prediction seems certain: the names will be catchier than the current atomic-number-based placeholder names for elements 113, 115, 117, and 118: ununtrium, ununpentium, ununseptium, and ununoctium (except, perhaps, for Latin scholars).

OPINION

KISS AND TELL: THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day! It is that time of year again when everyone acts all "lovey-dovey" towards their special someone for one day and then forgets their promises of love and devotion the next day. Although I am sure that many of you love the day of love, Valentine's Day has not always been about love and affection.

Have you guys ever wondered why there is an apostrophe and an "s" right after Valentine? You may be thinking: "Wait! Doesn't an apostrophe and an "s" show possession?!" And you would be correct! The reason for this is that Valentine is a real person! Shut the front door, right?! Valentine's Day has changed quite a bit over the years, and I, your trusty time travel guide, will lead you through the years.

We are currently in Ancient Rome. The sun is shining, the birds are singing, the chariots are glistening. Yes, Valentine's Day started in what was the heart of civilization, Rome. On February 14, at around 270 B.C.E., all the people of Rome would honor Juno, the Goddess of Women and Marriage. Although we regard Valentine's Day on the February 14, in ancient Rome, the exciting stuff actually happens on the next day. On February 15, the Romans would have a festival, The Feast of Lupercalia, which was dedicated to the Gods of Agriculture. A common custom that occurred after this festival, was drawing the name of a boy and a girl from two separate bags and forcing that boy and that girl to remain a couple indefinitely. Sometimes the boy and the girl fell in love, giving Valentine's Day its associations with love. I know you guys are saying: "Ok, I get why Valentine's Day relates to love, but who in the world is Valentine?"

Historians are still debating this question. The events surrounding St. Valentine are still very controversial, but most historians support one of three theories.

BY ARIA NARANG & POOJA KOLLA

Theory #1: At one point in time, the emperor of Rome was going through some tough times and banned all marriages and engagements. However, a kind-hearted soul, St. Valentine, disagreed with this banishment and secretly married couples. When the emperor found out that he was defying his law, he beat him to death. Soon after his death, he was named a saint.

Theory #2: Another theory says that St. Valentine was killed because he helped release captured and tortured Christians.

Theory #3: The last theory states that while in prison, St. Valentine fell in love with the jailer's daughter, who came to visit him while he was in jail. Before his death, he wrote a letter to her, ending it with: "From your Valentine." This explains where the phrase "your valentine" comes from.

In the end, St. Valentine is still remembered, as a romantic hero. Later on, the Romans changed the festival to February 14th, and renamed as St. Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day, today, has changed a little over the years. In around the 1800s, people started gift exchanging and writing cards to each other, a trend which lives on into present day.



A DISAPPOINTING END TO A GREAT SEASON

Cardinals fans' hearts sank on the night of January 23rd, when Carson Palmer threw 4 interceptions and fumbled twice. Many lost all hope and forgot the monster season owner Michael Bidwell and general manager Steve Keim put together.

Twitter reactions to the loss made the Red Sea and Arizona Cardinals seem like the Dawg Pound and Cleveland Browns.

SeaBreezy (@HotDisaster) said, “@AZCardinals WE DIDNT WANT A BLOWOUT, I think the fans forgot to tell you that before the game started.”

Enrique Martinez (@kiki_martinez87) seemed to sum up the reaction of most of the “Red Sea”: “@AZCardinals most embarrassing game ever.”

Some even suggested replacing the MVP candidate Carson Palmer,

Valentine VanDerzee (@Valetina94208) went as far as, “@cardschatter @aroundthenfl Palmer needs to be replaced as the starter QB!”

Although those 60 minutes destroyed fan hopes for Super Bowl 50, the same 60 minutes cannot erase the 13-3 NFC juggernaut that won every one of its primetime game this season. Palmer lead the offense to 2nd in the NFL in scoring with 30.6 points a game and 1st in yards per game. Tyrann Mathieu, or the “Honey Badger,” led the defense to allow the 5th fewest yards per game and generate the 2nd most turnovers in the league.

But the real highlight of the Cardinal season was Week 10. The 6-2 Cardinals faced a hungry Seahawks team. This game decided the NFC West; if the Seahawks had won, the season could have been very different. It was a statement game. With a 39-32 win at the hostile and loud Century Link Field, the Cardinals proved doubters wrong and showed why they were into the most dynamic team in the league.

BY ASHWATH VIJAYAKUMAR

Unfortunately, the final game did not fully exhibit the talents of the MVP runner-up Palmer, or the Defensive Player of the year candidate Mathieu, or the shutdown corner Patrick Peterson, or the Cardinals’ “No Fly Zone” secondary, or the disruptive pass rush, or the speedster John Brown, or the future hall of famer Larry Fitzgerald. Only rookie David Johnson played well. Most of our team wasn’t on the same page, but whatever went wrong that Sunday can be fixed.

The 2016-2017 Cardinals will have many of the same pieces, and an excellent GM in Keim who will improve our offensive line and build a consistent pass rush. We even have 2 first round o-line picks sitting on our roster. Carson Palmer still threw 35 TDs and 4,671 yards. So don’t mull over the disappointing ending, but instead think about the season and be optimistic about the future, like these fans.

AZSportsFan97 (@PHX_Sports_97) optimistically tweets, “@Cardschatter Can’t wait to see Palmer back for us next year. Gained some great playoff experience this year. Will be ready in 2016-2017.”

Ashwath V (@Chubbygoat8) writes, “The 2016 Cardinals will be an even scarier team. Everyone saying fire Palmer really didn’t watch any of the 2015 season.”



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CANDY HEARTS, REAL LOVE

If you are trying to communicate how special someone is to you, there's no need to give them flowers, chocolates, or teddy bears. To win over their heart, just give them some chalk-tasting candy hearts printed with these BASIS-inspired messages.

- ♥ Be My Daily BASIS?
 - ♥ Join My Club
 - ♥ I'd Walk All the Way to Room 1 for You
 - ♥ Add Me On Google Plus?
 - ♥ Hallway Stopper
 - ♥ I'll Write Your Lang Essay
 - ♥ Lunch? Parking Lot?
 - ♥ Be My Lab Partner
 - ♥ I'd Give You My Last Whiteboard Marker
 - ♥ Let's Study Together
 - ♥ Simplify: $2i < 6u$
 - ♥ I'll Edit Your Seminar Paper
 - ♥ I'd Give You My Parking Spot
 - ♥ You Can Have My AP Prep Books
 - ♥ You Make Me Happier than 3:40
 - ♥ Dissect a Fetal Pig with Me
 - ♥ You Are Better than a Full Night of Sleep
 - ♥ You Light Up My Passing Period
 - ♥ I Should Be Studying
-

LEAP YEAR

No, this article isn't about the 1924 romantic comedy *Leap Year*, or the 1932 romantic comedy *Leap Year*, or the 2010 romantic comedy *Leap Year*. This article is about calendars.

The Julian calendar was introduced by Julius Caesar in 46 BC. However, the seasonal year is slightly longer than the Julian calendar year of 365 days. To compensate for this, an extra day was added to the calendar at the end of February once every four years. Unfortunately, the seasonal year was actually *shorter* than the new 365.25-day calendar year. Every 128 years, the calendar moved one day ahead of the solar year.

By the sixteenth century, the Julian calendar was off by over ten days. To remedy this, Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar in 1582, which is still used today. It moved the current date back by ten days

BY TREY CONNELLY

and modified the system for leap years. Just like the Julian calendar, leap years occur every four years. To slightly shorten the average year, years divisible by 100 but not 400 are not leap years. Years divisible by 400 are still leap years in order to make the average year ever-so-slightly longer. This calendar is still inaccurate, however—by the year 9282, it will be off from the solar year by an entire day.

But what does this mean for you, the reader? It means that it's time to plan ahead: eighty-four years is not a minute too soon. This Leap Day, go out and buy a 2100 calendar, then mark that calendar for February 28th, 2100, and remember that the next day is March 1st.

MIDSEASON T.V. PREMIERES

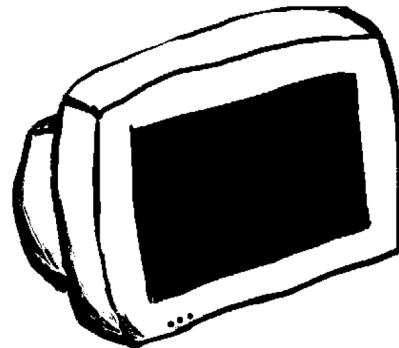
BY BRIAN GLUCKSMAN

Although the television season starts in fall, January and February, often called “midseason”, usually features the premiere of some of the year’s best shows. The midseason releases of 2015 included excellent *Better Call Saul* and highly original *Last Man on Earth*. The first new series of 2016 appear to be as promising.

The most advertised and perhaps most anticipated new show is *Baskets*. The comedy, created by Louis C.K., Zach Galifianakis, and Jonathan Krisel, tells the story of Chip Basket’s (Galifianakis) failure to fulfill his dream to become a clown. *Baskets*, having premiered January 21, joins reruns of *The Simpsons* and a strong lineup of original programming on FX’s Thursday night.

FX’s sister network Fox has gotten off to an early and highly promoted start with four television premieres in January. *Cooper Barret’s Guide to Surviving Life*, which details the whacky mistakes of a group of friends, is an unambitious but funny addition to Sunday night. *Bordertown*, also on Sunday nights, has a much more original voice. The cartoon, created by *Family Guy* writer Mark Hentemann and produced by Seth MacFarlane, takes place in Mexifornia. The interactions of Bud Buckwald (Hank Azaria), a white border agent, with his family and Latino neighbors satirizes relations between the white and Latino communities. *Lucifer*, a loose adaptation of a character from Neil Gaiman’s comic book series *The Sandman*, sends the devil to Los Angeles to solve crimes. *Lucifer*, full of self-aware mockery, runs on Monday nights. *Second Chance*, also a crime series, runs Wednesday. In *Second Chance*, Detective Jimmy Pritchard (Robert Kazinsky), resurrected, returns in a young body and is tormented by old flaws.

The two other major networks have not tried to match Fox’s production. ABC will premiere no new shows. CBS has premiered one, *Angel from Hell*. Jane Lynch stars as curt guardian angel Amy in the Thursday sitcom.



The online streaming services have some premieres as well. Netflix releases the first season of *Full House*’s sequel, *Fuller House*, on February 26th. The premise of the new show is very similar to that of the old. Widow and mother D.J. Tanner-Fuller (Candace Cameron Bure) lives with her friend Kimmy Gibbler (Andrea Barber) and her sister Stephanie (Jodie Sweetin) to help raise D.J.’s kids. John Stamos, Bob Saget, Dave Coulier, reprise their old roles and make cameos.

Love, Netflix’s other new show, will be released on February 19th. Judd Apatow hopes to mirror the success he had with *Girls* with his new romantic comedy that realistically portrays dating. *Love* is one of only two shows that Netflix has given a two-season order, so Netflix must see huge potential for the show. Hulu brings James Franco back to television as time-traveling English teacher Jake Epping in *11.22.63*. Based on a Stephen King novel and produced by J.J. Abrams, *11.22.63* shows Epping’s attempts to stop the assassination of John F Kennedy. *11.22.63* is available for viewing on February 15.

MR. PRESIDENT, LET'S CALL IT A DATE

It's that time of year again. February marks another occurrence of that holiday everyone knows and loves. If you haven't marked your calendar, you've probably forgotten about it, and now you need something special to do with your boyfriend or girlfriend on the most romantic day of the year. Don't worry! Here's a list of the best places to take your date on February 15, President's Day:

1. Mi Nidito Mexican Restaurant:

1813 S 4th Ave, Tucson, AZ 85713
1hr, 57 min from BASIS Scottsdale

Mi Nidito is a family-owned restaurant that has been proudly serving Tucson Mexican food since 1952. President Bill Clinton visited Mi Nidito on February 25, 1999, and the restaurant now serves the President's Plate in his honor. For just \$14.25, enjoy a bean tostada, a birria taco, chile relleno, a chicken enchilada and a beef tamale at the restaurant called "One of the Best Mexican Restaurants" by *Hispanic Magazine*.

2. Grand Canyon National Park:

36°03'19"N 112°07'19"W
3hr, 25 min from BASIS Scottsdale

The Grand Canyon is the United States' 15th oldest national park, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The park features several restaurants, including the Yavapai Lodge Restaurant and the Bright Angel Bicycle Rental and Café. President Obama and his family visited the Grand Canyon for three hours on August 16, 2009. Admission to the park was free for President's Day 2014 and 2015, but will not be free this year.

3. Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport:

6033 South Sossaman Road, Mesa, AZ 85212
45 min from BASIS Scottsdale

Coded AGA, the airport is Phoenix Sky Harbor's reliever airport and an operating base for Allegiant Air. It features two restaurants perfect for a date: Copper Plate—an American Grill-and Paradise Bakery and Café.

BY TREY CONNELLY

On December 16, 2015, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump held a rally here during his layover. Additionally, in May 2013 a former Air Force One plane was kept in Phoenix-Mesa while it was being auctioned off. No one provided the minimum bid of \$50,000 for the auction.

4. Ronald Reagan Presidential Library:

40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley, CA 93065
6hr, 33 min from BASIS Scottsdale

The largest of the 13 presidential libraries, the Reagan Library hold the presidential records for Reagan's administration, as well as Ronald Reagan's tomb following his death in 2004. The library has two restaurants: Reagan's Country Café and The Ronald Reagan Pub. It was also the site of the second 2015 Republican Presidential Debate on September 16. The library will not be open on President's Day because it is a federal holiday.



YASH-IP GIRL

Dear Yash-ip Girl,

Ever since winter break ended, I have found myself stressing out over silly things. Things I used to not care about, like school, are suddenly so important to me. I don't want to be a "nerd" or anything, but all of the sudden reading King Lear has become the most exciting part of my day (other than reading your column, of course). How do I keep my street cred without sacrificing the things I now love?

--CLOSETED nerd

Dear CLOSETED,

Clearly, if you are submitting your problems to Yash-ip Girl, you have some “street cred.” I personally think that there is nothing wrong with indulging in some Yash-ip (just being unbiased), reading a heart-warming Shakespearean tragedy, or caring about school. It’s your choice to do what you find enjoyable without thinking about others. If they are your friends, they will accept what you love, albeit with some good-natured teasing.

However, I understand your need to keep your “street cred.” If you need to maintain it, don’t change what you love, just put on a facade to stay cool. For example, you could tell everyone that you read this column. Word on the street is that it’s “hip.” You could even be a daredevil and purposefully leave some of your homework for lunch.* The one thing you don’t want to do is go to a party though. It’s a beginner’s mistake if you want to look cool. Hope this helps!

--Yash-ip Girl

Dear Yash-ip Girl,

My friends are all Team Jacob, but I'm secretly Team Edward. I know if they found out my true allegiance, they would all abandon me, but I hate lying to them. I tried to see things from Edward's perspective, but honestly he is an insipid character with no depth or inner sparkle. Should I tell them the truth and be ostracized, or continue to live this lie???

--WERE-Y of judgement

Dear WERE-Y,

I’m glad you are trusting me with a topic so important to you (I mean, you did use 3 question marks). Although I have not read or watched any part of the Twilight series, I know it is excellent.

I see no reason why you should have to like a character with no “inner sparkle” just because of your friends. You should stick to your beliefs and be honest with them. Tell them you are on Jacob’s side, tell them about his depth, and tell them about his sparkle. Illuminate them about your beliefs, but avoid attacking theirs. They won’t bite (even if Jacob would).

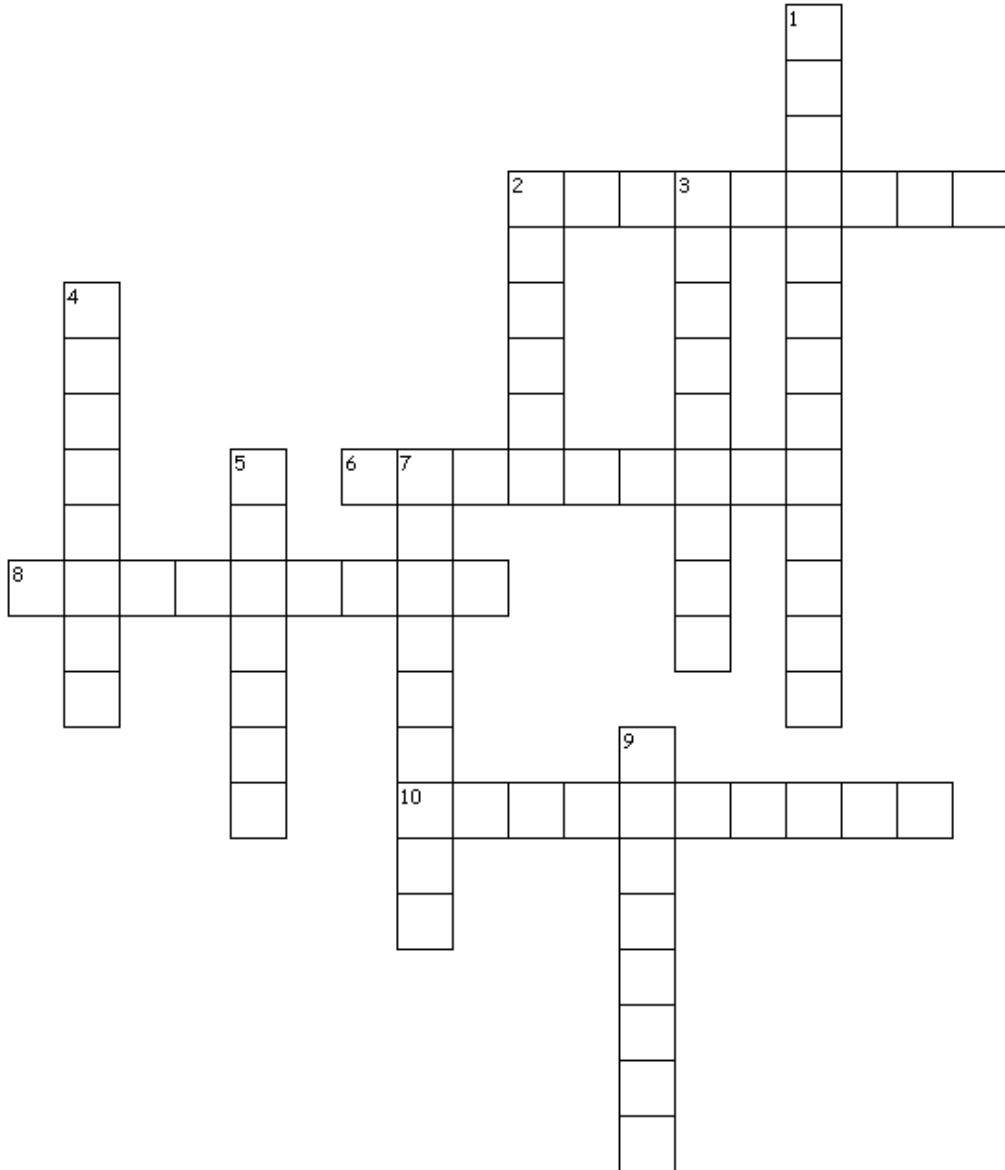
If they do not agree with you, it could turn into a fun debate, with you all reading the books together. Keep it loose, and do not get too intense about your team. If you cannot reach a consensus, then just accept your differences. Friends do not have to agree on everything. If this doesn’t work out, at least you’ll have Edward.

--Yash-ip Girl

***DISCLAIMER:** The BASIS Scottsdale Gazette is not liable for a drop in GPA if you follow this column’s advice.

FAMOUS INVENTIONS

BY TREY CONNELLY



Across: 2. Cotton Gin; 6. Streamship; 8. Lightbulb; 10. Atomic Bomb

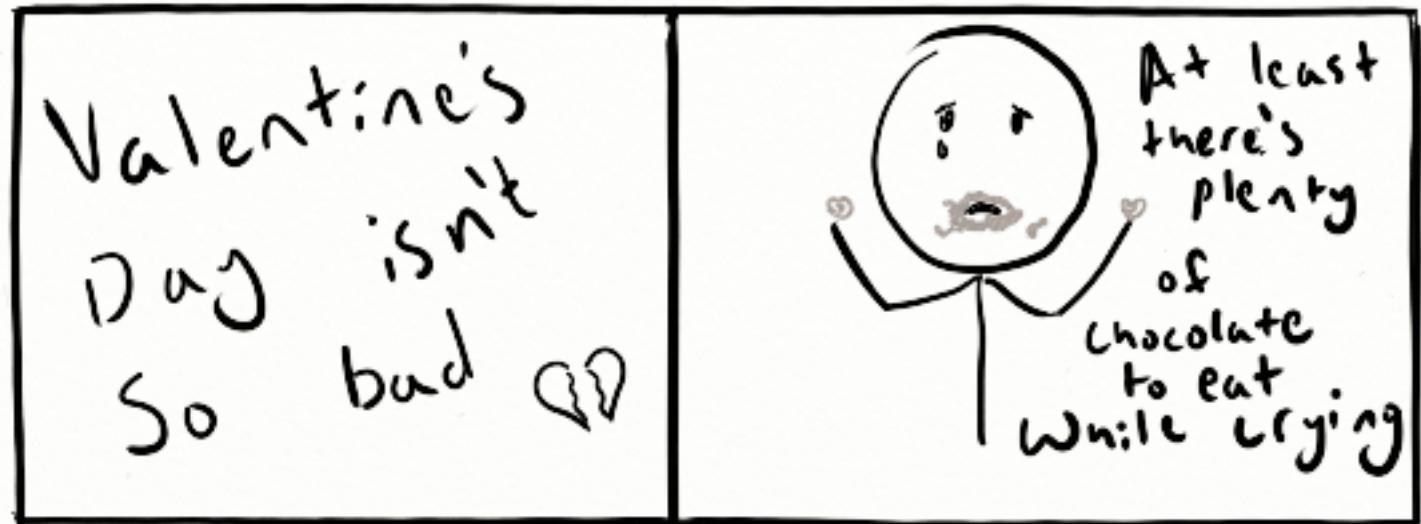
Down: 1. Printing Press; 2. Camera; 3. Telephone; 4. Dynamite; 5. Batteries; 7. Telegraph; 9. Airplane

CAPTION CONTEST

The BASIS Scottsdale Gazette is excited to announce it's first caption contest ever! Simply submit a caption for the following image at tinyurl.com/BASISGazetteCaptionContest. The winners will be announced in next month's Gazette.



Caption this at tinyurl.com/BASISGazetteCaptionContest

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