



## RIVERFIELD ROCKS STUDENTS PERFORM FOR A FULL HOUSE ...

PHOTOS BY YEARBOOK STAFF

Published biweekly by and for the Upper School students of Riverfield Country Day School in Tulsa, OK

DECEMBER 13, 2019

# THE COMMONS

## HOMECOMING IS TONIGHT!

By Jack Bluhm  
STAFF WRITER

**B**asketball season is now in full swing for all teams, and each of the high school teams has won games and is improving every week. The Varsity Girls team, for one, has been in some tight games this season, and they have come out on top of them. The annual Homecoming basketball game is tonight on Dec. 13, and we are expecting a big crowd for all the games. The theme this year is a *blue-out*. Try to wear everything blue.

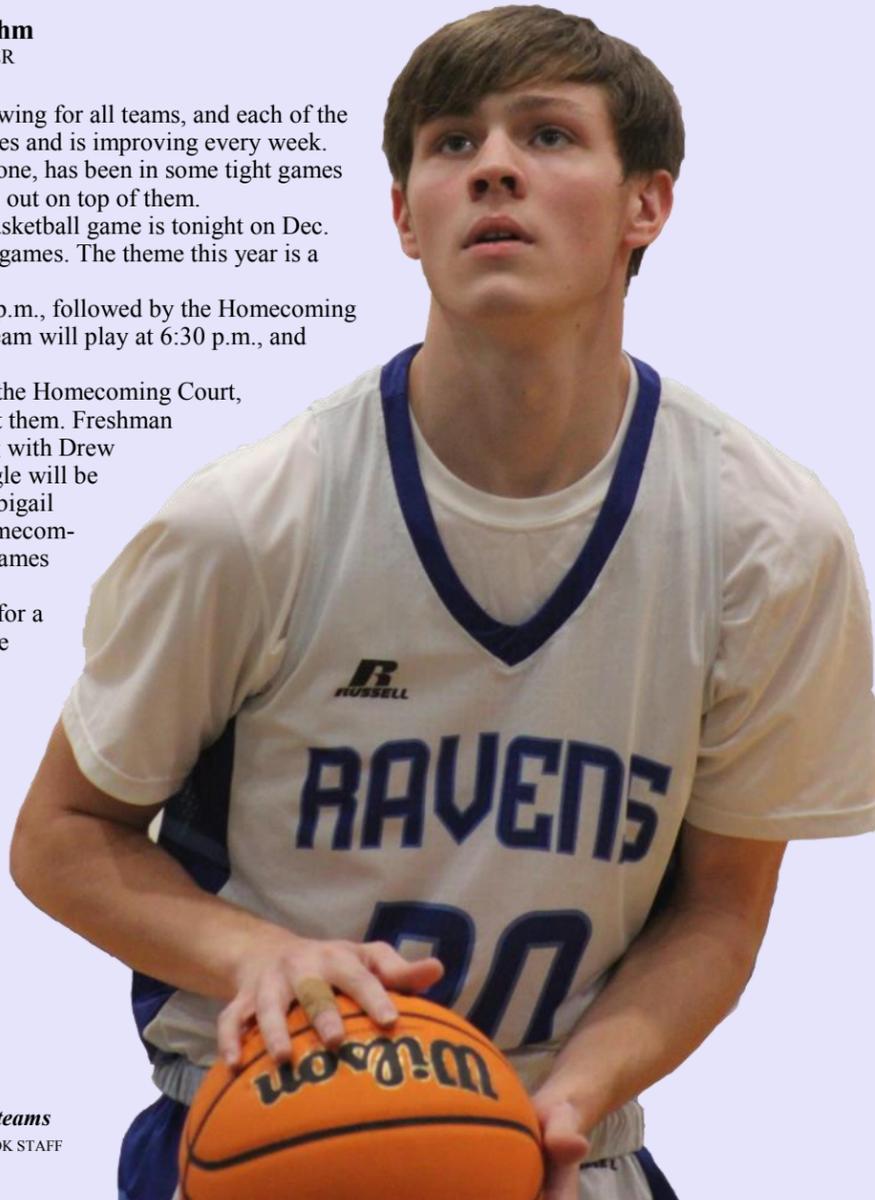
The Junior Varsity Boys team will play at 5 p.m., followed by the Homecoming Court presentation at 6 p.m. The Varsity Boys team will play at 6:30 p.m., and the Varsity Girls play at 8 p.m.

Each grade voted on their representative for the Homecoming Court, and the girls then chose the boys who will escort them. Freshman representative Amelia Anderson will be walking with Drew Heining, sophomore representative Miranda Cagle will be escorted by Zion Nokes, junior representative Abigail Pope will walk with Gannon Alden, and the Homecoming Queen, senior Hannah Grenier, has chosen James Carson to walk out with her.

Congratulations to all the basketball players for a good season so far, and good luck to them for the rest of the season. These teams are fun to watch. Come out to see them play someday in the next few weeks. Good luck to the teams tonight against Wesleyan Christian!



Quinten Nokes and Hannah Grenier will lead their teams tonight in the Homecoming game. PHOTOS BY YEARBOOK STAFF



## Protests continue in Hong Kong

By Andrew Jordan  
NEWS EDITOR

The special Administrative Zone of Hong Kong has been heating up in recent months.

It started when the Chinese government began to take power away from the Hong Kong government, even though the Hong Kong government was still technically in control.

That made people in Hong Kong worried that the Chinese would take over the area, regardless of what they had said when Britain handed Hong Kong over.

These actions were met with protests, at first peaceful. But when the Chinese government refused to back down and cracked down harder on the civilians, the protests got more violent.

As the weeks progressed, the Chinese government started to send in government troops. They moved a Chinese special forces company into the city, as well as seven heavily armed and armored tanks.

As the protests got even worse, the Chinese troops began to disregard public image and tried to put down the riots, killing 26 in one night alone.

The protesters soon hid out in many small areas, with one large group hiding in a university downtown. However, troops soon surrounded the university, and most of the people hiding inside have either managed to escape or surrender to the police and military forces outside.

However, there has been one shocking development in the whole situation, the possibility of the United States stepping in.

Recently, Congress passed a bill unanimously supporting Hong Kong. The bill provided no action, and it was symbolic in nature.

However, the Chinese government saw this as a threat to its control over the small city-state, and tensions continue to rise in the South China Sea.

## Industrial Arts students work on various projects

By Mason Malloy  
STAFF WRITER

The students in RCDS's Industrial Arts elective are currently working on a revised project from the 2017-18 school year. The students are rebuilding the drones from a couple years back.

In turn, the students who did not get the opportunity to engage with the program can learn how to solder wire and circuit

boards and work with electrical equipment. The students will also practice piloting the drones built, as well as their own drones they bring.

Beginning on Thursday, Nov. 14, some RCDS Industrial Arts students participated in Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance's first "Flight Night" at Tulsa Tech's Riverside campus. Thousands of students from schools all over the Tulsa area competed with their drones in a

three-day event. Riverfield had a group that finished in the top 25.

The Industrial Arts students are also building sea perch. These are underwater propulsion vehicles that can be controlled by remote.

Those who are not working with electrical equipment are working on 3D models for their metal fortification project. The students will learn to melt, bond, and work with various

types of metals before constructing various objects with them.

This metal fortification project is something that Industrial Arts has never done. However, most of the students are ready to get involved with it.

I asked junior Teddy Ames, one of the Industrial Arts students, to explain what he is building for the project. He said, "I am currently working on a metal pencil holder."

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MEMBER 2019-20

Online: [riverfield.org/community/studentnewspapers.cfm](http://riverfield.org/community/studentnewspapers.cfm)

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# SPORTS

THE LAST BASKETBALL GAME OF 2019 WILL BE PLAYED ON TUESDAY, DEC. 17 AS RIVERFIELD TEAMS TRAVEL TO AGRA. THE SEASON RESUMES IN JANUARY.



Nokes and Grenier prove to be outstanding examples of dedication and leadership to their teams.

FILE PHOTOS

## QUINTEN AND HANNAH ARE VALUABLE LEADERS

After the first few weeks of the new basketball season, the Varsity Boys and Varsity Girls started their seasons with an away game at Glencoe, which has won State many times in recent years.

The games went well for both teams, and they will watch film of the games to continue to improve their games.

Both of these players showed their eagerness to win in the games as well as their leadership on and off the court.

**Quinten Nokes** — Quinten played a key role last year when he started for the majority of the season. He is a vital piece in the Varsity Boys' system, being one of the best free-throw shooters on the team. In one game, he made 15 of the 17 tries he shot from the charity stripe. The team went on to win the game in overtime, and Quinten earned himself the nickname "South Coffeyville." He was able to win that game with his fantastic shooting from the line.

**Hannah Grenier** — You might remember that Hannah



was one of the MVPs for the cross country team this year. She was an important part of Riverfield's first ever girls cross country team that qualified for State. Hannah has brought experience, composure, leadership, and the mindset of winning at all costs to this basketball team. As captain of the team, she has shown her teammates that she is a captain who will lead from the front. She has the ability to see passing lanes, and if there is just a small gap to shoot it, she will. Overall, her game can be described as cool, calm, and collected.

Both Varsity teams are working hard putting in time in the Blue Gym. They are focusing on the games ahead. Make plans to come watch them!

## Drillers' improve ballpark during their offseason

By Jon Morley  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Tulsa Drillers season is over, and they are making some changes to the ballpark this off-season.

The biggest change will be the renovation of the scoreboard. They are constructing a new LED video board that will be extended beyond left center field. It will replace the original

scoreboard and video board that have been utilized since the opening of ONEOK Field in 2010.

Another scoreboard will be placed right in front of their mascot Hornsby's hangout. It will show the stats of the game as well as a line score of games. Additional game and statistical information will be shown that includes today's baseball analytics.

The players' suites will also see some changes that will result in a higher quality of presentation on the scoreboard. Hopefully these changes can be made in time for Opening Day.

Fans will be excited to see the new scoreboards and the new suites. Get your tickets now for Opening Day on April 9, when the Drillers play the Frisco Rough Riders at ONEOK Field.  
*Go Drillers!*

## Houston Astros caught cheating

The Houston Astros were the 2017 World Series Champions, and we just found out that they cheated their way to the championship title.

Now there are a lot of unhappy fans and some of them want the title stripped from the Astros or a loss of draft picks.

Here is what they did to cheat. During the MLB regular season, the Astros were playing the Chicago White Sox. During the game, the Astros were up to bat and there were

cameras in the outfield and also in the dugout. So they knew what pitch was coming, and they tried to signal their batter which pitch to expect.

It was as if they had trash cans, and no bangs meant a fastball, and two bangs for a change up.

It got to a point where the White Sox knew they were reading their signs during a long time at bat. For instance, in the 5th inning, there was a trip to the mound so the pitcher and

catcher could talk and change the signs so the Astros wouldn't know what was coming.

They stuck with a change up and struck the Astros' batter out.

During the World Series, the Astros did the exact same thing they did to the White Sox earlier in the season. But this time, they got caught doing it.

Now we have to wait and see what penalty they could receive, or if they get away with it.



HOMECOMING DOORS DECORATED BY CLASS GROUPS

## Rangers' new park, Globe Life Field

By Jon Morley  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Texas Rangers have been playing at the Globe Life Park for 24 years. But now it is their former park, as they have been building a new ballpark which will be finished by Opening Day in April 2020.

The new ballpark will be called Globe Life Field.

The reason they are getting a new ballpark is that the old park got way too hot in the summer, and there is no shade for seats close to the field. It was just miserable to watch a baseball game at that field.

Through the years, the team had talked about building

a retractable roof that would close when it gets too hot or when it is raining. But in the end, it was cheaper to build a new park.

The old Globe Life Park is not finished hosting sport events, though. It just won't host baseball games anymore. According to Wikipedia, Globe Life Park will be home to a football team called the Dallas Renegades (XFL) for the next three years.

Next time you're in the DFW area, go check out the Rangers' new ballpark in Arlington. And while you're there, see how the 2020 Texas Rangers team looks to start the season.

## FANTASY FB: GOOD PICKUPS

By Brenden Paul  
STAFF WRITER

Fantasy Football is winding down for the year, and some teams out there may need to get a crucial win in order to make the playoffs.

This column will serve to show some of my picks of players that you should pick up on waiver wire to help you get that playoff-clinching victory. For this column, I will talk about players who are on less than 65% of rosters in Fantasy Football Leagues.

**Zach Pascal (WR, Indianapolis Colts)** — Pascal has been a very reliable target for Indianapolis QBs this season. After slow starts in the first two weeks, Pascal had a good Week 3 and has been putting up solid numbers since then. Although he had a bad Week 8, Pascal had 19.6 points in a PPR (Points Per Reception) League. Look for Pascal to be a good option for a second/third wide receiver or FLEX.

**Kareem Hunt (RB, Cleve-**

**land Browns)** — Hunt is coming back from an 8-game suspension and is expected to have an immediate impact for the Browns. He will primarily serve as a secondary back to Nick Chubb but can also be a good option for FLEX.

**Kyle Allen (QB, Carolina Panthers)** — With Cam New-

ton out for the season, this is the perfect time to pick up Kyle Allen. Although Carolina focuses on their running game, and Allen had a terrible game against San Francisco, after the Packers, the Panthers have an easy schedule throughout the next 3-5 weeks. Look for Allen's numbers to be on the rise.



Zach Pascal catches another target.

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Raven basketball teams for their wins in the Wilson tournament last weekend. The Varsity Boys took 1st Place, and the Varsity Girls took 3rd. Way to go, Ravens!

# REVIEWS/A&E

VISIT RIVERFIELD'S HOLIDAY MART BY MONDAY!

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## MUSIC REVIEW: 'Jesus is King'

By Will Dozier  
STAFF WRITER

In late October, famous rapper and producer Kanye West released "Jesus Is King." The album enlists Kanye's gospel vocal group, known as Sunday Service, to craft his interpretation of Christian Hip-Hop and Gospel.

This album comes in the wake of Kanye's newfound Christian awakening, and the album dives into Christian themes.

The album opens with "Every Hour," which is an excellent performance by Sunday Service.

On the next song, "Selah,"

the song introduces Kanye's punchy production and rapping with Sunday Service's vocals. This concoction of styles sets the scene, creating a grandiose tone for the record.

The fun and punchy production continues with "Follow God," "Hands On," and "Use This Gospel" being highlights.

Additionally, there are great features on "Jesus Is King," and on "Everything we Need." Ty Dolla \$ign crafts a fantastic hook.

On "Use This Gospel," Clipse verse creates a classic sound. Additionally, Kenny G has a great saxophone solo.

The lyrical content in "Jesus is King" explores Kanye's faith

with sincerity. However, if his mission with this album was to convert his listeners to the Christian faith, he may need to explore the subject through a less narcissistic lens.

In "Jesus is King," Kanye fails to communicate the values of loving their neighbor and justice, instead justifying his billionaire status as God's plan.

Despite this, Kanye stays true to his family values, and the record is helped by the fun and punchy production.

I give this album 3.5 ravens out of 5.



Cassie and Chase prepare for the HQ invasion.

ART BY PENNY MUSICK

## THE CHASE EXPERIENCE

By Andrew Jordan  
STAFF WRITER

*Previously ... Chase and his associates plan to invade the headquarters of the people who experimented on him and his sister, Cassie.*

### creative fiction

"A trap, sir?" Will asked as he took a position on the wall.

"Yes," the Administrator said, slowly sitting down in his chair. "We have a person giving us information from inside their strike group. They are on their way here. They think our defenses are weak enough for them to take us out in one blow."

Will smiled at the realization, but then his demeanor went back to neutral. "So what happens when we get the boy?" he said, looking around.

Two men stood nearby. They were dressed in suits and each had a red pin on his lapel. The Administrator's personal guard, the best of the best. His old commander had been assigned to that. He never saw him again.

"You got the order, right?" the Administrator asked, a hint of annoyance coming into his

voice. Will stiffened. "Yes sir, but I thought now that we know where he's going to be, and walking into a trap no less, we may have a better chance of capturing him."

The Administrator shook his head. "He's too much of a danger. If you get the chance ..." he looked at Will, and his eyes were devoid of sympathy and warmth.

"...you take the shot."

\* \* \* \* \*

The sounds of gun magazines being chambered ringed through the van. Chase looked around at the various men and women getting ready. Then he stared off into space.

"You good?" Cassie asked. Chase snapped back up. "Yeah, yeah, I'm good. Just nervous."

She smiled at him. "Don't worry, you got your big sister here to protect you."

He smiled back at her. She dug around in the front seat and handed him a pistol. Chase recoiled a bit, but then took it.

"You don't have to use it. But if you need it, better safe than sorry."

Cassie nodded at him, then turned around.

... to be continued

## MOVIE REVIEW: 'A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD' IS INSPIRING

By Brenden Paul  
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, December 2, I had the chance to see "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" at Warren Theater in Broken Arrow.

Going into the movie, I thought it would be about the life and background of beloved children's television personality, Fred Rogers (better known as Mister Rogers), but that was not at all what this movie was about.

The film digs deeper into the more darker subjects of life, including internal struggle, turmoil and hardship in one's lifetime.

In Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Mister Rogers (played by Tom Hanks) is always seen in a bright colored cardigan living in a vibrant neighborhood with friendly faces. But this film went above and beyond in showing the internal struggles and hardships of Lloyd Vogel (played by Matthew Rhys), a journalist for Esquire who is given an assign-

ment to profile Mister Rogers.

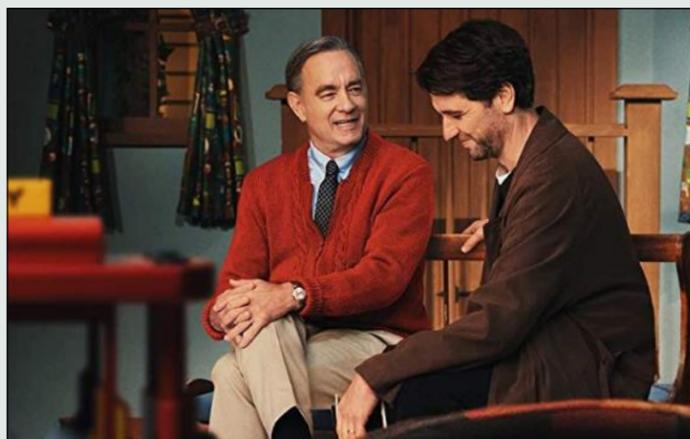
Vogel was not considered to be very friendly amongst his peers. But with the unconditional love and attention given forth by Rogers, Vogel learns characteristics that make him a better friend, father to his newborn child and a better person as a whole.

Even though the movie wasn't as I originally expected, I thought it was a very inspirational film that teaches us all that with help from our community, we can get through any struggle we may face, no matter what.

I also thought Hanks very well represented the Mister Rogers character, showcasing all the heartwarming characteristics of this beloved figure.

I thought this movie was very good and delivered a very important message about getting through your internal struggles regardless of how hard they may be.

I give this PG-rated film 4.5 out of 5 ravens.



Tom Hanks and Matthew Rhys turn in stellar performances in this deeply affecting story.

PUBLICITY PHOTO: TRISTAR/SONY

## GAME REVIEW: 'Call of Duty: Modern Warfare'

By Mason Malloy  
REVIEWS EDITOR

It has been 3 years since the release of Call of duty Modern Warfare: Remastered. When I got news about the release of the new Call of duty Modern Warfare, I was excited.

I remember the good old days of modern warfare 2 and 3 and how it got me into the franchise. And may I say after playing multiplayer of the new 2019 game it recreates that nostalgic feeling of that 2009 game. After playing this game the

best way I can summarize it is a combination of black ops 3 and modern warfare 3 as it has some of the same mobility as black ops 3 but, some of the less futuristic weapons compared to black ops 3.

I also am a fan of the Time to kill as it is really easy to have to respawn on the battlefield as it is highly realistic. This mechanic will force players to really put themselves in the characters shoes and be cautious.

One thing I do not like about the multiplayer, however is the fact that campers are very com-

mon. However I find that players will get used to this and will adjust themselves to where this wont be an issue any more. This could also be because it is a new game and people are trying to find strategies.

But overall, this game is one of the best call of duty's I have played in a long time. It combines two of the things I wanted in a new call of duty game perfectly. I give this game 5 ravens.



## CAFÉ NIGHT 2019



On Saturday night, Dec. 7, performers from Riverfield's Middle and Upper Schools presented various covers and original songs to a full house in the Upper School cafeteria.

PHOTOS BY YEARBOOK STAFF

## FEATURES/OPINIONS 4

## A 'glovely' musical

It is getting colder, so get your gloves out! Who doesn't love gloves! Maybe we don't all want to produce a musical about them, but who's to say?

With the Riverfield Theatre Co. looking toward their spring musical, "Little Shop of Horrors," how about I turn your head toward a ... um, stranger one.

"For the Love of a Glove: An Unauthorized Musical Fable About the Life of Michael Jackson, As Told By His Glove" is coming.

The life of a celebrity told by an article of clothing?! That's right, according to *broadway.com*.

Johnny Depp is producing this musical which is set to open at the Carl Sagan and Ann Druyan Theatre in Los Angeles on Jan. 25.

When I told Dr. Edwards



about this, she broke down in laughter. It sounds like something someone would think up when they officially run out of ideas.

Then I asked Tara Fritts, who is the biggest musical fan I know, and she had this to say. "First of all, Johnny Depp ... he's been in his fair share of movie musicals, "Sweeney Todd," "Into The Woods," etc., but I don't know if this is the best time to be making a musical about a glove. It seems a little absurd."

A little absurd?

## IMPEACHMENT LOOKING IMMINENT

The impeachment inquiry is wrapping up, with public testimony encouraging Democrats to take their efforts a step further and impeach President Trump.

After calling a multitude of witnesses to the stand, including high-profile individuals such as Gordon Sondland, Alexander Vindman, and Fiona Hill, Democrats released a report on Tuesday, Dec. 10, relating their reasoning for impeaching the president. These accusations are related to his use of military aid as leverage to secure investigations of Joe Biden and the DNC, according to Politico.

Although there is obvious bias throughout this entire process, I believe the allegations have enough merit to warrant impeachment.

Republicans have largely been on the defensive since the inquiry was formally opened,



but their strategy during the hearings has been interesting, to say the least. Those who have watched the hearings may be familiar with the common strategy, employed by Devin Nunes and other Republicans, to attempt to discredit each individual's testimony and sow doubt about the factuality of Trump's actions.

The issue is that they are unable to do so properly. What may seem to Republicans a fool-proof strategy to show the public how wrong Democrats are has actually become a confusing

series of questioning that leads nowhere. The GOP is backed into a corner, and they're unable to get out. Further hurting the GOP are allegations by House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff that Nunes colluded with the White House during the hearings.

Unlike the Republican Party, Democrats seem to be in a very strong position. Recent polling suggests that although public support for impeachment has not increased since the hearings began, it has not decreased either, according to the Washington Post. Therefore, Democrats can find solace in the fact that a substantial portion of the population does not see the inquiry as illegitimate. The problem for them now is the possible effect of impeachment on public opinion and the 2020 presidential election.

## Reforms needed in the college admissions process

By Shashwat Singh

OPINIONS EDITOR

and

Will Dozier

STAFF WRITER

With college deadlines fast approaching, high school seniors at Riverfield and across the nation are paying high fees to seek admission to their dream schools. In a system that is becoming increasingly expensive and biased, we must reconsider the lack of transparency, prominence of standardized testing, and the role of economic status in the admissions process.

The college admissions system is too subjective, especially with the increased prevalence of essays. Affluent applicants often have the advantage of paying for external help, which defeats the purpose of a personal response.

Another problem with contemporary college admissions is the subjectivity and lack of transparency surrounding selection. Colleges have full authority to decide based on any factor they wish, allowing representatives to decide students' fates based on arbitrary metrics. Supercharging this dilemma are decreasing acceptance rates, as increased scrutiny on individual applications makes factors separating them more arbitrary.

Riverfield junior Mason Malloy had an interesting perspective on the matter, saying, "I think they should primarily look at academics because it's a school."

While this may not be possible, his statement alludes to an increasing dilemma: more and more students have similar academic capability, making factors distinguishing

them harder to find. If colleges were more transparent with their admissions decisions, students could gain a better understanding of the necessary course of action to achieve admission.

Standardized testing has largely lost its purpose. In the College Board's mission statement, it says, "We're a mission-driven, not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success." However, they fail in their mission to serve the needs of students from low-income families. Test fees are expensive, encouraging wealthy students to retake the SAT and ACT more than once to get the score they want.

Additionally, affluent students have access to expensive

marginalizes low-income students who must compete with affluent students who can afford to retake the test to get the score they want.

Other than standardized testing, issues with college admissions also revolve around tuition and the respective colleges. Following the college admissions bribery scandal earlier this year, it became evident that bribery and nepotism are severe issues in college admissions. At a few elite universities, legacy is still considered, which The New York Times' editorial board has criticized as "an affirmative action program for successful families."

Furthermore, college costs



Want to attend Harvard? Your chances are better if your parents did.

PHOTO BY TED EYTAN (FLICKR)

prep courses, such as Princeton's \$1,300+ prep course.

According to the Washington Post, despite being a non-profit, the College Board's C.E.O. earned over \$700,000 in 2014 alone. The College Board, which administers the SAT, PSAT, and advanced placement, has been criticized for its practices by human rights organizations such as the Americans for Educational Testing Reform.

ACT has issues as well. Next year, students will be able to retake specific sections of the ACT for a fee. This again

too much. Not only does it cost students to apply to most colleges, but tuition is increasing at an alarming rate. According to the Hechinger Report, UChicago will have a six-figure tuition by 2025.

Although it may be tough to fix these issues in a timely manner, unless substantial steps are taken to solve the problems students face during the college admissions process, the system will continue to favor the wealthy and rely on arbitrary measures to shape the futures of millions.



More innovations are coming ...

ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY.COM

## WHAT IS 5G TECHNOLOGY?

Anyone who has a mobile device (that is, pretty much everyone) has probably at some point noticed the little 5G icon at the top of your phone when using mobile data.

5G is, as the name suggests, the fifth generation of wireless technology. It promises to provide even faster internet speeds than before.



fast as the standard 4G setup.

The technology is only recently beginning to reach the common user, which is why you don't actually see it very often when you're using wireless data.

However, within the coming years, 5G will begin to standardize.

There are a lot of theories regarding what kind of impact 5G technology will have on the wireless world. Some even go as far as to say that it will replace in-home WiFi.

While this isn't too likely, it's undeniable that this technology will greatly accelerate the development of new wireless innovations.



[5G] WILL GREATLY ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WIRELESS INNOVATIONS ...

That being said, the technology is still somewhat experimental, and the ability to use it is still the exception, not the standard.

The goal of future 5G technology is to be able to provide speeds of 10,000 megabits per second, almost three times as