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RITON VOICE

Triton High School

Triton's Student-Produced Newspaper

March 15, 2019

Spamalot: The Show Must Go On!

Despite Late Preparations, THS Presents *Spamalot!* And Finds the 'Bright Side of Life'

By Madi Butler
Staff Writer

As the lights started to flicker in the Triton High School Auditorium all of the people took their seats in excitement to see this year's spring musical.

All week the cast and crew of the spring musical had been immersed in tech week, making costumes and running through the show as many times as possible. This year's show was a musical version of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* known as *Spamalot*, a British comedy about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table.

In the musical, the leading actress, the Lady of the Lake, played by Kendale Sicard, gives King Arthur, played by Quentin Callewaert, the famed sword, Excalibur. She then tells him he is king of England and he needs to gather a bunch of knights to make up his army.

King Arthur travels all over with his trusty companion, Patsy, played by Jonathan Riley. In this show, he gathers four Knights: Sir Galahad, played by Brayden Toth; Sir Lancelot, played by Kameron Sicard; Sir Bedevere, played by Olivia Valley; and Sir Robin, played by Madison Butler.

Once Arthur assembles his Knights of the round table, they are given a quest by God to find the Holy Grail, which is the cup used by Jesus at the Last Supper. The rest of the musical is the story of their quest.

The first three nights of the show have garnered positive reviews.

"I think it was really well put together and it was fantastic," said senior Kelley Frithsen. "The part where Robin sang about needing Jews was my favorite." [The song is known as "You Won't Succeed on Broadway"].

However, on March 4, less than a week before the show's opening night, both the cast and crew were nervous that the show was not going to be ready. Most of the cast felt unprepared. The *Triton Voice* interviewed some cast members and asked if they had felt the show was ready at that time.

"Absolutely not," said senior Olivia Valley. "However when opening night hit I was pleasantly surprised at how well everything went, and everyone's ability to create solutions on the spot."

In a similar way Kendale Sicard spoke about how she felt during the week leading up to opening night.



King Arthur (top center) Quentin Callewaert, and his knights, Galahad, (top left) Brayden Toth; Patsy (top right) Jonathan Riley; Lancelot, (below Callewaert) Kameron Sicard; Bedevere, played by Olivia Valley; and Robin, played by Madison Butler (Photo by Kendale Sicard).

"I was a little worried," said Sicard. "But we made it. The beginning of tech week is always stressful, but we always pull it together."

"This show was really one that came together suddenly."
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New Principal Aims to Build 'Real World' Skills

By Erin Bayuk
Staff Writer

Groups of teachers, students, parents, and administrators finalized the search for a new high school principal late last month. The search began with 26 candidates, and out of the six who became finalists, Mr. Patrick Kelly was chosen to take over the position held this year on an interim basis for an interim basis this year on an interim basis.



Mr. Patrick Kelly (Photo courtesy of the Newburyport)

On February 28, the school staff had a short after-school get together where Kelley introduced himself. "We want people to be running into the building instead of running out," Kelley said.

Kelley, 37, is currently the assistant principal at Holliston High School, a suburb southwest of Boston. He held that job for five years, previously serving as a history teacher. He will begin his job at Triton on July 1, 2019.

The *Triton Voice* emailed questions to Kelley and he responded as follows

Triton Voice: First I would like to ask why you wanted to become a principal?

Mr. Patrick Kelley: To start I just really love working with young adults. I have been in some form of teaching or working with children since I was 13. I taught learn-to-skate, worked at summer camps, and then began teaching when I finished graduate school. I really want to be principal at this point in my career
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Day of Giving: Turning Orange Into Blue

Triton StuCo Launches Work Day to Recondition the High School & Build Pride

By Grace Poster
Staff Writer

"Why Triton?" was a slogan first devised by the school to promote the attitudes and merits of Triton to its surrounding communities.

Through the years, however, the student body has transformed "Why Triton?" into a phrase with a negative connotation. When students hear "Why Triton?" around school, it's oftentimes a sarcastic response to the leaking window panes, broken floor tiles, or missing ceiling panels.

Perhaps these negative comments are what first drove Student Council President Lily Fulford to create the Viking Day of Giving.

"It's always been my goal to increase school spirit and this seemed like the perfect way to do it," said Fulford.

So, how is Student Council increasing Triton's school spirit?

Over the course of two days, Friday, March 15th and Saturday, March 16th, Student Council and participating students, teachers, and other members of the Triton community will gather within the school to carry out an assortment of reconditioning projects.

"The focus of painting will be on that central office/main office hallway, just turning the orange [walls] into blue. . . We will have brag boards displaying student work, and hopefully we will have the photos up for pictures that will line the back side of the auditorium, the T's, and the gym. These will be pictures of visual and performing arts. . . and sports teams," explained Student Council advisor Ms. Beaulieu.

In addition to the projects mentioned by Beaulieu, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Dempsey's classrooms will be repainted,



The THS Student Council Board. Left to right: Sophie Proctor, Publicity Officer; Farrah Gabrian, Secretary; Grace Poster, Member at Large; Lily Fulford, President; and Grace Mclellan, Vice President. (Poster Photo).

while Ms. Flaherty and Mr. Colbert's doors will be decorated to resemble the covers of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *Slaughterhouse Five*.

On Saturday, there will be a breakfast provided by Aroma Joe's in Salisbury. Lunch has been offered by an assortment of organizations, however the Student Council Executive Board has not yet decided on which one to use. As of March 6th, 40 student volunteers, 20 staff volunteers, and an assortment of community volunteers will be attending the event.

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Skating Through a Successful Season

Connor Beevers
Staff Writer

The Triton hockey team ended their season on a high note, although they lost their final game 8 to 3. They got big wins against big teams and played hard-fought hockey the entire season. With high points such as beating rival Newburyport 3 to 1, and making the tournament while on a huge win streak, the team's season was considered a huge success.

The Viking team exceeded expectations from the beginning of the season, proving they were one of the best in Division 2. They beat teams who towered above them such as Masconomet and Newburyport, while quietly going on a nine-game winning streak in the second half of the year.

At the beginning of the year, few expected the Vikings to make it to the playoffs, let alone blowout teams in the first two rounds. The fans and the rest of the league thought the 2018-2019 season would be similar to the previous year, missing the playoffs and only grabbing a few wins.

This '18-'19 team was lead in points by senior captain Sam Rennick, a four-year varsity player who reached the milestone of 100 points centering the green line (Lines were given different colored jerseys for practice). On his wings were junior Brad Killion, and sophomore James Tatro, all three of whom notched 30 or more points this year. The second line consisted of sophomores Ryan Lindholm, and Jack Forrest, centered by Cael Kohan. Despite Lindholm and Kohan being first year varsity players, the white line competed with the best of teams, consistently getting goals and making big plays on the ice. The gray line

reaching tourney in 2019
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The Jonas Brothers Are Back

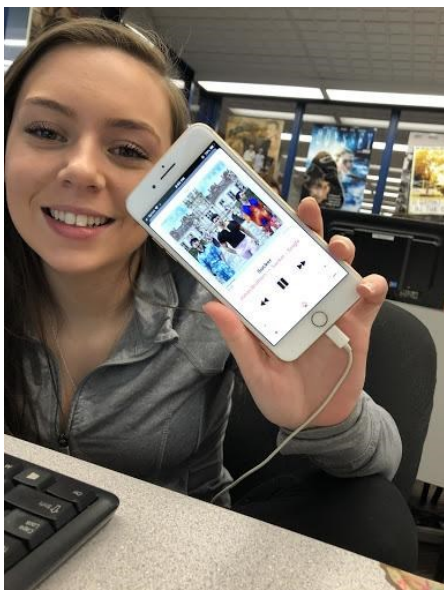
By Connor Kohan & Sophia Agrella
Staff Writers

Picture this: It's spring of 2009, you come off the school bus after trading your most valuable silly band for a sick panda eraser. Hopping on the couch with three bags of fruit gushers, you flip to Disney Channel to hear the theme song you know so well. *You gotta live to party, bust your move...*

The Jonas Brothers, a pre-teen pop culture sensation in the late 2000's, came to an abrupt end during 2013 due to complications within the band, as well as the fact that family came first in their lives. During their time as a band, they starred in their own television show on Disney Channel called *Jonas*. With more people watching them on television, the band released more music on iTunes, hoping their fan base would follow. The show and their music complimented each other, making them increasingly popular. Now they've come back with a new album in 2019, and many of their followers have grown up during that time. Some are optimistic about the Jonas's future, some pessimistic.

The Jonas Brothers put a lot of time and effort into TV and music in their younger years. Their voices were still young and "developing," automatically making most of the songs easier to listen to but not necessarily ground-breaking. The new released album is a relatively good pop album, seeing as how the group has matured and gotten more experience in the field of music separately.

It's easy to see how many pop fans might enjoy this new album. The beat and melody of their new single "Sucker" is very nonchalant, yet certain parts are definitely appropriate to bang your head to. The lyrics flow together so smoothly that you wouldn't be able to tell they have been broken up for the past 6 years.



Student Maggie Bowen shows off the cover to the Jonas Brothers' new album (Agrella photo).

"I've been dancing on top of cars and stumbling out of bars, I follow you through the dark, can't get enough..."

Our opinion on this returning band is hopeful. They had many fans back in the day and many fans support them on social media and what not. As pop music has been a tad redundant in the past year; with some exceptions to big artists like Ariana Grande and Bruno Mars, this might be what the genre needs to spice it up this year.

The Jonas Brothers have a sure shot at being successful in this comeback, and we are extremely hopeful that this might be the next big thing in pop music. The Jonas Brothers, leading role models in American youth culture, created a new path, showing how after everything, they can still come back together and make music great music again, as a family and a band.

Most of the mics worked, but some did not. The crew scrambled to figure out what the cause of the problem was. The time was getting closer to opening the doors. With 20 minutes left to get ready and do hair and makeup the crew finally figured out the problem with the last three mics, and the show was finally ready.

One of the stage managers, Amanda Bowman, who runs the booth, shared her thoughts regarding how the show turned out after all the stress of tech week and even opening night.

"Honestly watching it on Wednesday, it was terrifying," said Bowman. "When it opened on Thursday and they just came out and it really pulled together last minute, it made me really proud of everyone."

The cast and crew were excited about the outcome of the show, and for the seniors it was a bittersweet moment. Closing night was March 10, leading up to that, Triton's theater program had performed three shows. On Sunday *Triton Voice* reporters talked to most of the seniors in the show. The reports asked how they felt about this being their last show.

"Amazing," Valley said while putting makeup on for that night's performance. "Though I'm sad to leave Triton's theater program, im very happy to end it with this funny and vibrant show."

clean, and beautiful, more people will treat it with respect.

"I hope [the Viking Day of Giving] shows that there are people that care," said Beaulieu. "I hope that it makes students think they're cared for, and it sends a message to the School Committee and the community that the student body wants to make their school warm and welcoming, and a place that they'd like to be and that they're proud of."

It is not just Beaulieu that has high hopes for the event, but Student Council members as well.

"I think the Day of Giving will really bring back some school spirit, and get everyone excited to be a viking again," said senior and Student Council Secretary Farrah Gabrian. "I think going forward this is going to be a positive milestone for this council, and it will hopefully continue on."

TRSD Budget Update

By Joseph Luciano
Staff Writer

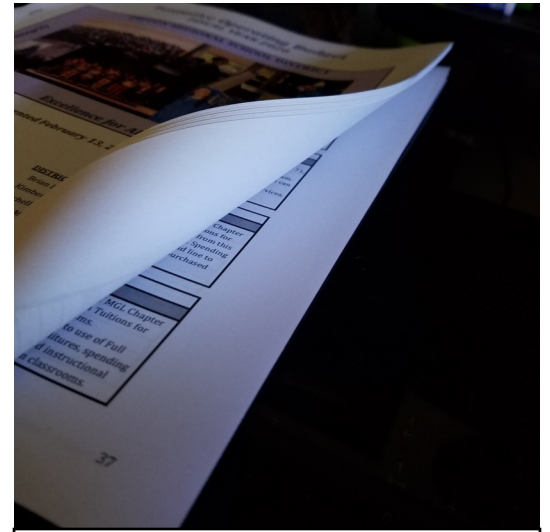
Forty-four pages, \$44 million, and 44 attempts it will take to stay focused reading through it. Yep, it's the school budget and it's as boring yet as important as ever.

Last year was yet another year when budget cuts were necessary after two out of three Triton towns did not vote in favor of spending the additional money needed to fulfill the operating budget. With Rowley, Newbury, and Salisbury all being relatively financially stable towns, questions have been raised as to why the school district representing those towns seems to struggle financially compared to similar-income districts.

Mr. Brian Forget, Triton's Superintendent, said, "The state formula would see that Newbury Rowley and Salisbury are relatively wealthy towns; however there's not a lot of industry. So if you go to say Masco,... they have a huge industrial tax base, they have a lot of businesses that are paying taxes." Newbury is nearly entirely residential and Rowley is mostly residential, so when towns are asked to spend additional money, the burden falls almost entirely on the average taxpayers of the town.

It is determined how much each town pays by first taking the total operating budget for the year and subtracting revenues (money from the state). There is a set number each town must pay by law and then whatever is left is divided by student enrollment percentages and then voted on. This year, Newbury will owe just under \$9.4 million, Rowley will owe around \$10.6 million, and Salisbury with the highest enrollment will owe just under \$12.7 million.

Not quite as entertaining as the Super Bowl, but a close second lies the School Committee meetings that are available



Flipping through the pages of Triton's Budget Plan (Luciano photo).

for all to watch on YouTube. There, the most recent budget for 2020 has been discussed. Last year, the schools cut nearly 5 percent of its staff, and those cuts will remain this year even with the new budget. Michelle Cresta, Triton's school business administrator states, "Those reductions were real, they're still there today ... for the most part, all of those positions have been cut and they're staying that way."

This year's budget is a bit over \$1.7 million, higher than it was last year. That may seem like a steep increase to some, but as Forget states, this is just to keep a level amount of services, which simply means that \$1.7 million is how much it will cost for the experience of going to school here remaining the same.

Some are concerned about the budget being over \$40 million while seeing the school and its facilities in their current deteriorating condition. However, there are plans to have an engineer come in and do a facilities assessment. Forget said that this year they want to have everything looked at so they can get a 25-year scope capital plan.

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because I love the idea and work of developing and setting a vision for a school.

Voice: How long do you hope to be principal for? Why choose Triton?

Kelley: I am hopeful to be a principal for a long time. I am still early in my administrative career, and being a principal has been what I have been working towards. I would say we choose each other. When I made the decision to look for principal jobs, my wife and I discussed where we wanted to live and raise our family, what types of communities would be a fit, what the ideal size of the school would be. Then what became most important for me centered around what the educational beliefs of the school and community are, where they see the district going in the future, what the relationship with the superintendent was like, who was part of the administrative team. Every person I have interacted with at Triton so far has been thoughtful and kind.

Voice: Is there anything around the school that you want to change? What are your goals in the first year?

Kelley: I have learning objectives that I believe strongly in, but much of the first year will be dedicated to getting to know the faculty, students, and community. I am really interested in helping to implement different types of learning opportunities for students. I think that learning should have real-world application and the things we want students to be able to do as citizens when they leave. I also believe strongly in student agency and increasing student voice and choice within the classroom.

Voice: Tell us about your family and interests outside school.

Kelley: I am married and have two little boys. We also have a yellow lab. My wife works in education. She teaches first grade. My sons are 4 1/2 and 3 and keep us busy at all times. We love spending time together as a family and doing outdoors activities. Every indication I have got is that this is a wonderful community and I feel really lucky to be joining the team.

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consisted of seniors Tommy Girard and assistant captain TJ Regan, and junior Michael Beevers. The gray line prided themselves with their physical presence on the ice, often going out and trying to raise spirits with big hits, solid defensive plays, and dirty, hard-fought goals. The fourth line was the blue line, consisting of Senior Josh Price (before a season-ending injury), Junior Jack Niska, and Sophomores Aidan Lowry and Ben Rennick. The blue line battled with line changes, and never really stayed together, eventually being split up to put Ben Rennick on the white line, and Jack Niska on the gray line.

The team's defensive core was one of the better in the league, led by junior captain Tyler Godfrey, with sophomore Brady Lindholm pairing up with him. The next pair of defensemen was junior Connor Kohan and senior Matt Duncan. The final set of defensemen was the trio of senior Derek Maldi, sophomore Trevor Quigley, and freshman Cam Murray. The defense played a huge role in the team's success, helping out the goalie by making big plays in the D-zone, as well as playing solid on the opposing teams blue line in order to keep the team on offense.

Triton's goalie core was the trio of seniors Ben Fougere, Justin Szymanski, and myself, Connor Beevers. Fougere played outstanding throughout the entire year, allowing only 37 goals while having about 390 saves. The goaltending was a big factor of the Vikes' seven wins to close out the regular season, allowing a total of eight goals during that streak, while the team was able to put in a total of 35 goals for that same span.

The team had many achievements: two first team all-stars in Ben Fougere and Sam Rennick, as well as two second team all-stars in Tyler Godfrey and Brad Killion. Godfrey was also honored at a Boston Bruins' game after being voted by the coaches of the league for the Sportsmanship award.

The Vikes can also boast winning the Newburyport Bank Classic Tournament, cruising through Methuen in the first round 7-1, and stomping Lowell in the finals 7-1. In the Kasabuski Christmas Classic Tournament, the Vikes beat North Reading in the Consolation round 3-0 to earn third place. Along with their success in these tournaments Triton can also say that they beat rival Newburyport in their second matchup 3-1, a colossal win during their end-of-the-year hot streak.

Triton was rolling coming into the State Tournament, leading to a 5-1 win in the first round against North Andover, then crushing Masco in the playoff matchup, 5-1. It was in this game that Triton's hockey team showed they were able to play against the best in the league, and go above them, proving their worth as a team. The team hopes to continue this wonderful season and compete for the state finals again next season.

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During the tech week rehearsals, cast members were missing scenes and forgetting lines, and the set was far from being complete. There was only a rough outline of a castle and there was a big chunk of props that were still not made.

"In this particular show, we had to be conscious of the space we were occupying, so that we would have a substantial area to play scenes on," said Callewaert.

On Thursday, March 7, the crew, cast, and supporters of the program worked all day to get ready for that night's show. They painted bricks and wooden posts and painted the stage one hour before the show.

It looked like all the basics were covered for that night. (Director and drama teacher Ms. Sharon) Riordan said that there would be no set dressing, which means no extra scenery to make it look pretty. It would just be a castle and whatever props that the cast already had been working with.

But then the cast had their microphone check. During this time, everyone in the cast who uses a microphone in the show lines up at the front of the stage and they test their mics to make sure they are all synced to the right channel in the booth.

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"Originally as President, I wanted the Student Council to have a big impact on the community, but I didn't know how," Fulford stated. "At first I wanted to look outside the school, community service wise, but after talking with Beaulieu we realized it would be better to fix up the school before we try and help the community."

"In the long scheme of things do I think the students will be like 'Oh yeah, the school is so much better because it is our school colors!' Probably not. I think that subconsciously for some, and consciously for others, there will be a thought of 'Hey, this looks better, I'm going to treat it better,'" Beaulieu detailed.

Beaulieu mentioned that additional research derived from the junior class backed up the theory that if students see their school as well taken care, neat,