

# The Greylock Eggplant

SpooF Edition

Mount Greylock - Williamstown Mass

April 1, 2021

## Is a ‘Burdick Dynasty’ Imminent?

By CLVIE SLOWES



*All Six of the Burdick Siblings are Teachers. Note the gleam in their eyes.*

Did you know that there have been Burdicks in the Mount Greylock Regional School District since the 60s? Contrarian to popular belief, this is by no coincidence.

Former Greylock science teacher Scott Burdick confessed, “Our parents, who taught in the district, always talked with us about establishing a ‘Burdick dynasty.’ During a rebellious stage, my brother Shawn attempted to launch out on his own and set his sights on creating and taking a rocket to Mars. Our parents were devastated that their plan was being eroded, and made sure that my siblings and I would not make a similar mistake.”

Luckily for the family, Shawn Burdick soon found out that NASA actually stands for the National Archive of Secret Anteaters. He said “I attempted to lead an uprising of the anteaters, but was eventually asked to resign.” This anecdote explains why someone of his intellect would take a job that pays “only a sixteenth of what [he] used to make.”

With three of the six Burdick siblings ensconced at Mount Greylock, the family then set their sites on expanding their reach. “We came up with a plan to control as many schools in the district, and the state, as possible,” Liza Burdick-Barrett, Mount Greylock librarian, admitted.

“We enlisted our other three siblings into helping us. Although we knew that there were not enough Burdicks to take over the district quite yet, we decided to raise our children with this single goal in mind.”

Thus far, the plan is working: Scott’s son Ben and Shawn’s son Ted have joined the district. Shawn Burdick said that “all of our nine kids

teach or are in school to teach, so I would say we did a good job of furthering ‘the dynasty.’”

Building the family dynasty has not always been easy, and at times the Burdick siblings have lost sight of their true aim. A teacher who asked to remain anonymous recalls that, at one point, “Shawn and Scott had a fight over whose subject was best. At first it was a friendly competition, with each brother attempting to outdo one another. Soon, though, students were taking sides.” After a fight resulted in some of Barrett’s precious books being damaged, she took matters into her own hands.

The principal of Mount Greylock at the time recalled, “She was a force to be reckoned with. She called a school wide assembly and proceeded to tell embarrassing stories about her brothers until they called a truce. My favorite of the stories was the one about how Shawn Burdick dropped out of a physics course once in order to focus on his writing.”

Barrett said, “I was so angry with them for losing track of our goal”.

Barrett felt that she “was doing all the work to influence the students and administration, and Scott and Shawn were ruining it with their petty fights. We all know that English is the best subject anyways.”

Where will all this end? Leaked documents show that the district is already in discussions with the family to rename the school after the Burdicks left a threatening note detailing the chaos they could cause if they did not get their way. It’s only a matter of time before the Burdick control of Mount Greylock becomes absolute, and Burdick High is born. ♦

## 1 in 650: An Interview With the Empty Band Room

By SCREW DANLON



*Photo Courtesy of Beethoven*

**Echo:** Welcome to the set for the first time. How are you doing?

**Band Room:** I’m great, thank you. But first, I have a question for you. What happened to last year’s teacher?

**E:** Ummm...that’s not really how this works...

**BR** (threateningly): I asked you a question!

**E:** Ok, ok, chill. (Checks notes) I believe that he retired.

**BR:** That had nothing to do with me, right?

**E**(clears throat): Moving right along...Been much quieter in here, hasn’t it?

**BR:** Yes, it has. But it’s actually been relaxing not having 25-30 children blasting away at instruments in here.

**E:** I’m sure. But the students can’t be that bad, can they?

**BR:** Not bad, exactly. Loud. Loud would be the best word to describe this situation.

**E:** Right. Could you describe your 2020 in a few words? Would ‘lonely’ come to mind?

**BR:** Hmm. Peaceful, maybe? Quiet? But lonely? I don’t think so.

**E:** Any final words?

**BR:** Yes. To the powers that be, please, for the love of Mozart, keep school remote. My 10 year-long headache has just started to fade. ♦

### Cohort Wars

Solly Mullivan investigates the recent showdown between Cohorts  
See Page 2

### Six COVID-19 Problems

Bernie is your solution. Always.  
See Page 3

### Zoom Links Go Public

Greylock embraces “diverse perspectives” in a surprising new move  
See Page 3

### Fitness Scores Rise in Hybrid Model

Gym coaches cite record scores as fitness days move online  
See Page 2

# “NEWS”

## Classes to Finish Out Third Quarter With “Lord of the Flies” Themed Units

By RUIN QUINPETTO

Several Mount Greylock classes are finishing up the third quarter by drawing ties to the current 9th-grade English reading assignment, *Lord of the Flies*. Teachers considered the lessons from the novel, famous for its exploration of human nature, to be perfect for the current climate.

“It seemed fitting,” said mathematics teacher Crystal Williams, whose Personal Finance class is starting a unit on fire-building.

In a recent interview with the Eggplant, Williams discussed the various ups and downs regarding teaching students this potentially dangerous skill. “Fortunately, they mastered gathering large piles of wood rather quickly,” Williams said. “We were able to move into stealing other’s glasses almost immediately.” She went on to assure the Eggplant that, despite prevalent rumors, the students have not lit any portion of the woods on fire. Although, just to be safe, she suggest you don’t look.

Meanwhile, in Biology class, the current unit of pig-dissection has proven to be slightly more problematic than fire-starting. “The nearby slaughterhouse has so far not been available to answer questions,” said Mount Greylock

science teacher Shawn Burdick, “So I’ve only been able to teach the students the bare essentials.” These bare essentials appear to have been enough, though, judging by the number of pork dishes cropping up in the cafeteria lately.

Elsewhere, in PE, Gym Coach Brian Gill has opted for a little less structure in his Lord of the Flies themed unit. The class starts out with students choosing a sharpened javelin from the track team and venturing out into the wilderness. While in the woods, the students engage in healthy, team-building activities, such as forming tribes, organizing rules and laws, beating each other with their weapons in a chilling, barbaric ritual, and other such positive activities typical to the average school setting.

However, “some minor problems have arisen,” said Gill in a recent interview with the Eggplant. “There have been difficulties with students not coming back at the end of the designated class period.” Fortunately, many students have gym at the end of the day, so this was less of a problem. “As long as they aren’t missing class, it’s fine,” said Gill.

Another controversy arose when some par-

ents protested the apparent lack of safety in the activity. Some students were even pulled out of school due to the parents’ concerns. However, Gill delivered a speech that calmed most of their fears. “Yes, the spears could theoretically be a little dangerous,” said Gill, “But I assure you, we sanitize them before and after use, so the danger is virtually nonexistent.” This reasonable precaution has appeased almost all the protesters.

Students can look forward to many healthy, fun activities in their upcoming classes; PE, Biology, and Personal Finance are just a few of the classes that will be incorporating *Lord of the Flies* into their units. And what is English doing? Well, “[*Lord of the Flies*] did depress some students,” said English teacher Kellie Houle. “So we are moving on to more cheerful books, such as *Flowers for Algernon*, *Les Miserables*, and *Where the Red Fern Grows*.” These selections are just one more thing for students to look forward to in a lineup of exciting prospects. ♦

## Fitness Scores Skyrocket as Testing Days Move Online

By ICY LIGOE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this school year has looked a bit different than those past. School has switched from remote, to hybrid, back to remote, and finally, back to hybrid. Like most aspects of school, gym class has also been forced to undergo some changes. For example, “fitness days,” a time honored Mount Greylock tradition, are now conducted virtually.

When conducting recent interviews, the Eggplant found that gym fitness days have been going surprisingly well. According to gym teacher Robert Jutras, “students have never done this well on fitness days. The pushup and situp records have gone from 80 to 150. Just last week we had a student complete a twelve minute tabata workout in under five minutes!”

Jutras says he only knows it took the students that long because they turned it in three minutes after he explained the assignment. Looks like Mount Greylock has some incredible student athletes!

“I always knew we were an athletic school, but this is making me so happy!” Jutras said. “When I log into my Zoom classes and see all the cameras off, I smile because it means the students are already up and doing their workout. It’s amazing!”

A recent survey found that 99.9 percent of students liked gym fitness days much better at home than in school. The only person in the .1 percent was sophomore Lainey Gill, who the Eggplant has learned completes extra workouts to increase Mount Greylock’s overall fitness levels and make up for when other students forget to turn in their assignments.

Gym and track coach Brian Gill said that after looking through the submissions on Canvas, he has never been more proud of his gym students.

“When we are in person, we have to bribe kids to participate in fitness days, but online, most students turn their fitness scores in right away! Some students get so excited about gym online fitness days they forget to mark their scores and instead just submit “done” in the text entry box,” said Gill

“I’m so excited for track this year,” Gill said. “Students’ fitness scores have improved so much, it looks like there is hope for another Western Mass championship.”

“I personally love online fitness days. It’s nice to know that I can sleep through all of gym class in the morning and then watch the workout video on 2x speed. I mean to be honest, I don’t even do the-” said an anonymous student, who was cut off when Coach Jordan walked by holding her new essential oils.

When he heard that Greylock might be going back fully in person, freshman Cedric Lemaire was astonished: “No more online fitness days? I don’t know what I’m going to do!” he said.

Many other students feel the same way. When one student learned of this news, she was seen running out of the building sobbing. Students are in hysterics over the possible elimination of online fitness days. Will Mount Greylock’s fitness scores go down when students are no longer in the comfort of their home? Only time will tell. ♦

## Cohort Wars

By SOLLY MULLIVAN

On Monday, March 29, all high school students returned to in-person school at Mount Greylock. After experiencing the 2-cohort system all fall and winter, many students were excited to be back in-person with all of their friends. Others, though, were not so excited. The cohort separation had created deep divides within the Greylock community.

At 9:20 on Monday, students were let out of class for the passing period. Will Starenko, a senior in cohort B, caught sight of John Manuel Morales, a freshman in cohort A, on his way to English class.

Starenko said he had a few choice words for Morales. “I said, you may be my friend, but we don’t take too kindly to your cohort around these parts.”

According to some anonymous witnesses, Morales walked out of the foyer while muttering, “your cohort is B for BUNS!”

Starenko, who requested to be called Willie by the Eggplant, became incredibly enraged. A few chairs were thrown and many students had to pin Willie down to hold him back. He yelled multiple times that “B” stood for “cohort beast mode” in response.

Charlotte Sanford, cohort B senior, witnessed the incident on her way to class. “I mean, I’m shocked that something like this could happen at our school,” Sanford said. “Meaning, I’m shocked that the cohort A kids could be so insane. Obviously, Willie had the right to roast the cohort A students.”

Blair Dils, Greylock English teacher and soccer coach, said that he has to remain neutral in these developing “Cohort Wars.”

Continued on Page 6



# “NEWS”

## Mount Greylock Regional School Opts to Make All Zoom Links Public

By McLUCY WEENY

On Friday, March 19th, Mount Greylock Regional School made all class Zoom links available to the public. After a number of recent Zoom incidents, or Zoom “bombings,” the administration decided to take real action.

“We were honestly just exhausted with dealing with all of these Zoom incidents,” said Vice Principal Colin Shebar. “Obviously we want to make the learning environment here at Greylock as safe as possible, and we thought this would be the best way.”

Every Zoom link for classes at Mount Greylock has been posted in various places on the internet, including platforms like Instagram and Twitter. By making the Zoom links public, Greylock avoids the chance of Zoom bombings. The administration has said that it is technically only a Zoom bombing if a per-

*“There’s always a new face in each of my classes, which definitely brings some excitement to the learning environment”*

son comes into the Zoom without being given access. With this new model, when other people not associated with Greylock come onto the Zoom, it is in no way considered a Zoom bombing.

All other Zoom safety precautions have now been removed, such as muting students when they first enter the classroom, or students having to turn their cameras on. “It’s just so much more convenient,” said Shebar. “Students and teachers alike no longer have to deal with those distractions from learning.”

Plus, Shebar added, “We’ve been meeting so many new people!” With public Zoom links, random people will often drop into classes to say hello. The administration emphasized how great this change has been, and mentioned that many new perspectives are being brought into the classrooms.

The administration said another positive of the public Zoom links is that they no longer

*Continued on Page 6*

## Six COVID-19 Problems and Possible Solutions, One Year Later

By DAURA LUPUIS

**Problem:** Since I’ve been staring at a screen for the majority of the past year, my head, eyes, and back hurt.

**Solutions:**

- Think the Harry and Megan interview. After all they’ve dealt with in the past year, sitting in your bed playing on your phone all day isn’t the worst thing in the world.

- Sleep in order to avoid reality. This is a solution for many of life’s problems, and hey, you’re already in bed!

**Problem:** I’m so bored. I want to get outside, but it’s too cold.

**Solutions:**

- Hey. Bernie braved the DC cold, so can you!

- We live in the Berkshires, which is practically the capital of hiking. Throw on your three heaviest coats, at least two hats, some mittens, and you’re good to go! Look at that pretty -20 degree scenery.

- Chant to yourself: Bernie in the chair, Bernie in the chair, and oh! Bernie in the chair.

**Problem:** Since I haven’t had anything else to do, my online shopping addiction is getting really bad. Amazon’s three-clicks-and-done is making my bank account suffer.

**Solutions:**

- Listen. You only live once. Allow yourself to splurge. But, you also need to protect your bank account. So, my advice is this: stop giving yourself two hour breaks after being productive for twenty minutes.

- Really *think* about what you’re buying. For example, that sweater and hat combo you want to buy your cat for next Christmas? It’s only spring. See? You’re saving money already. Those dog booties, though? Go for it.

**Problem:** Zoom makes me bored and boredom makes me hungry. How can I eat my Ramen over Zoom without being rude/badly embarrassing myself?

**Solutions:**

- Turn on your microphone, just for a second. “I’m-krrrr-having-krrrr-wifi-krrrr-issues!” Then, feel free to leave the meeting to make your Ramen without having to worry about L’Hopital’s rule.

- Make an excuse, but make sure it’s legitimate and believable. “My dad’s friend’s neighbor’s pet fish died two weeks ago. We’ll be having a funeral, so I won’t be able to come to class for the next few days://” There you have it. An unspecified number of days where you can eat your Ramen in peace. Nicely done.

**Problem:** I get so anxious when I talk over Zoom.

**Solutions:**

- Sit really, really still. The teacher will think you’re frozen, so you won’t have to answer their question. When they call out your cat for walking in the background, freak out and tell them you don’t have a cat. You can now leave the meeting to look for said “mystery” cat wandering around your house.

- Unmute yourself and say, “You ever smell the air and are taken back to the fourth grade scholastic book fair on a chilly Tuesday in October of 2007?” Everyone will feel so nostalgic that the question will be forgotten. You’re welcome.

**Problem:** People are always asking me what I did today. Now how am I supposed to answer that?

**Solutions:**

- Answer with “This year is not yearing like the other years have yeared.” They’ll leave you alone.

- Be totally honest. “I breathed a lot and ate some food. I probably got mad at something and then watched the entirety of Schitt’s Creek for the 40th time.” ♦



*Half of The Eggplant Staff Braving the Cold*

## “NEWS”

### Retitling The Harry Potter Series, Because I Can

By SCREW DANLON

The Harry Potter Franchise is one of the most successful franchises to date. With seven great books and eight not as great movies, it remains one of the most iconic series in entertainment history. So naturally, in the spirit of the Eggplant, I decided that it was time to make fun of it. I've always wondered what books would be titled if they were honest about their content, because normally, they aren't. Below please find a list of the Harry Potter books, renamed.

*Book 1: Harry Potter - Happy Birthday! Have a Castle*

Of all the books, this was a difficult one to rename. I think that we can all agree that Harry Potter had one of the more interesting eleventh birthdays. I mean, a giant comes to your hut on the sea, tells you you're a wizard, and tells you you're in a magic school? Not exactly uneventful. I wished that my eleventh birthday was that interesting, but that's another story.

*Book 2: Harry Potter - We Really Should've Hired a Plumber*

I'm pretty sure plumbers existed in whatever time the franchise is set in. Yes, I know that you can only understand the snake if you speak Parseltongue. Still, you'd think that someone would check those toilets every once in a while. And then, maybe someone would notice the weird looking sink, right? And all would be saved! Seriously, someone should've just gone down there and checked out that bathroom.

*Book 3: Harry Potter - Quidditch is Finally Somewhat Relevant*

I toyed between this idea and making some sort of Godfather joke. In the first book, there was so much hype around how Harry was this amazing Quidditch player, but it never really materialized. In this book, however, something major finally happens in terms of Quidditch. I won't spoil it for the sake of anyone who hasn't read it yet. I feel like that would be...improper.

*Book 4: Harry Potter - Adolescence Part 1: Hogwarts Olympics Edition*

Cho Chang, who was hinted at in Book 3, really reaches the forefront in Book 4. So does Cedric Diggory. These formerly minor charac-

ters find themselves tangled in a love triangle, all the while competing in the triwizard tournament.

*Book 5: Harry Potter - Yes, We Threw In a Prophecy*

It's almost as if J.K. Rowling ran out of clichés to use, so she threw in a prophecy, a terrible teacher, and government takeover of the school. I mean, if you're going to throw in as many clichés as you can, don't put it all in one book. And if you're planning to write seven, try to spread them out a bit.

*Book 6: Harry Potter - Adolescence Part 2: More Love Triangles*

Gone are Cedric Diggory and Cho Chang. Did you think that maybe the love triangle would be gone. If so, boy would you be wrong. Now we have Ron, Hermione, Cormac McLagen, and Victor Krum to deal with. I guess that would be a love square technically. We also have the drama between Harry, Ginny Weasley, and Dean Thomas that drives at least 60% of the plot. Basically, Harry and his friends' love lives are highlighted quite a bit in this sixth installment.

*Book 7 Part 1: Harry Potter - Your Questions, Answered*

Now normally, this would be a compliment. Having questions answered is a good thing. The only problem is...explanations get annoying after a while. It's like JK Rowling uses the whole book to explain why anything in the previous books happened. As I read it, I began to think, "Why did I read all the other books when I could've just read this one?"

*Book 7 Part 2: Harry Potter and the Ending that At Least 75% of Readers Expected.*

If you're familiar with this genre, the ending of stories like these are all basically the same. As much as I actually love the ending, I have to say that it was somewhat expected. For the sake of anyone who hasn't read the series, I won't spoil the ending for you. But for heaven's sake, give the series ago. Either that, or just read book seven. ♦

### College Board Seeks Recruitment at Greylock for Pyramid Scheme

By SLAYNA AWARZER

In the recent months, the College Board has reportedly lost around 200 million dollars in revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Their status, too, has declined. You don't have to be in the halls or classrooms of Mount Greylock for long to hear a quip about the floundering prominence of the organization.

So what are they up to now? Well, the College Board has recently pursued a new business venture - a pyramid scheme marketing leggings. The majority of the profit is made from recruiting new "brand ambassadors," according to the January Facebook live stream hosted by the College Board. On the stream, the Board explained that the venture is an attempt to make up for lost profits from COVID-19.

Since an increasing number of colleges are going test optional, many students feel less of a need to take the SAT. Even Mount Greylock

*They called the guidance  
office, sobbing, begging  
them to support students  
taking the SATs*

has placed less of an emphasis on standardized testing. When the College Board learned this, they called the Greylock guidance office, sobbing, begging them to support students taking the SATs. When guidance threatened to hang up, the Board then attempted to recruit guidance staff as brand ambassadors.

Upon denying their request, the Board took to social media. According to followers, "They prayin' on my downfall," was posted to their Snapchat story shortly after the incident. "They," assumedly, is in reference to the Greylock guidance department.

Still, the College Board has persisted in their efforts to gain high school brand ambassadors for their leggings.

"They asked to use the foyer to give press to their brand and recruit staff," said Library Media Specialist Liza Barrett.

After Barrett declined, the Board asked Barrett to promote their leggings on the school Instagram page, which has amassed up to 600 followers.

"I finally just told them that none of our staff wants to sell your ugly leggings." That did it. The Board went full to freakout mode. The Eggplant staff unanimously decided that the events that transpired next were too gruesome to detail in a school newspaper. We'll let you use your imagination.

Rumor has it that the Board has since been in conversations with the Echo, Mount Greylock's lesser known publication, about buying some ad space to promote their leggings.

Editor-in-Chief Clara McWeeny, a known leggings fanatic, was "open to the idea." ♦

Want to write for the Eggplant?  
You can't. Sorry.



# ETC.

## Editor-in-Chief McWeeny Goes on Wild Rampage

By SEMMA ANDSTROM AND SACKENZIE MEEHY

She finally cracked. The Greylock Echo's Editor-in-Chief Clara McWeeny has lost her cool and is officially off the rails. Is it the stress of impending AP tests? College decisions? No one knows for sure, but either way, friends and family alike are fearing for their safety as McWeeny becomes an increasing threat to society.

For fans of the hit show Gilmore Girls, Paris Gellar exemplifies the stressed dictator of a newspaper editor while at Yale University. She rewrites articles in her perfectionist haste, scours the paper for hours looking for mistakes, and even creates a massive chart to keep track of staffers at all hours of the day. Eventually, Gellar breaks down and launches into a tyrannical tirade.

As it turns out, McWeeny is secretly Gellar's personality doppelgänger. Her infamous Google Sheet that supposedly "keeps her organized" has become a control mechanism to track her constituents and their every journalistic move.

The other editors have not been given tasks in weeks. It appears as though McWeeny has decided they are simply inadequate. Associate Editor Laura Dupuis said, "I've done nothing for weeks! She has commandeered the paper. The rest of us just don't exist anymore."

While she holds her writers mentally hostage at school, one might think she would relax at home. This could not be further from the truth. As it turns out, "McWeeny the Menace's" true colors shine best when she's at home, and they aren't flattering.

Recently, McWeeny has taken to letting out all of her pent up aggression and frustration on her family. What started out as a relaxed game of Monopoly with her brothers and sister

quickly turned into a bloodbath of yelling and crying as soon as she fell behind.

Charlie McWeeny, her brother and an Associate Editor of the Echo, has fallen victim to his sister's rampages on multiple occasions, but said, "it was up until her little 'Monopoly episode' that I thought she was just a little bit stressed. Now, my family is fearing for our lives."

Clara, "banker as usual," said Charlie, had landed on the Boardwalk property, owned by her little brother, Nico, and owed a \$200 fine. Rather than handing over the money, Clara tried to banish her siblings to jail for tax fraud. When she was told this wasn't part of the game, McWeeny flipped the board and lunged for her brother's face.

"I know it was St. Patrick's day and everything, but having a red head come flying towards me just wasn't what I'd had in mind for the day," said her younger brother Nico, who can now be spotted with a black eye.

"I'm genuinely concerned for the safety of myself and my family," said Charlie. "The doctors had warned us about this: the excessive competition and aggression," referencing the common side effects of the "Twin Rivalry" phenomenon.

"Twin Rivalry" occurs when the younger twin constantly feels the need to take back the precious few minutes that they were behind their sibling. In most cases, the younger twin may try to surpass the older twin in athletics or academics, but in Clara's case, she's tried to take over the household entirely.

Not only has she been known to take a violent approach to losing, but she has also assumed the role of "house monarch." She now seems to be in charge of all that goes on under

the McWeeny family roof.

Nico said, "I think Clara's a different breed. She's up at all hours of the night and refuses to turn off the lights." Nobody knows what Clara is working on behind closed doors, but rumor has it that she has been formulating a master plan to rule over the Echo from college.

"Whenever anyone tries to turn off the lights," said Charlie, "it sounds like the rainforest with all the screeching and marching around. We've learned to just let her be, or else Nico's black eye might be the least of our problems."

It turns out the Monopoly game wasn't the only incident that put her family in danger. In recent years, Clara's younger sister and Features Editor Lucy McWeeny has been struggling with a knee injury. While she was fine in the fall, Lucy mysteriously came back to the Fall II soccer season with an injury that was once again flaring up. Clara told teammates that she "was sure Lucy was fine and would bounce back."

While Lucy also told Girls Soccer Coach Tom Ostheimer not to worry, many are concerned for her safety. Rumors have been swirling that Clara is to blame for the flare up. Supposedly, in Clara's favorite game of 2 v. 2 soccer, Lucy blew by her in a skillful maneuver. Never to be outdone, Clara slidetackled Lucy to take her down and cleated her right in the knee.

When asked about this incident by the Eggplant, Lucy said, "I don't want to fuel any rumors, BUT beware of Clara. She's a very sore loser. Let's just say I've learned my lesson to steer clear of competition."

Be careful Mount Greylock. You never know when McWeeny will strike next. ♦

## Sudoku (Easy)

You're Wecolme.

		1						
					1			
						2		
							1	
								1

2	5	6		4	9	8	3	7
1	8	3	5		7	9	6	4
9	7	4	3	8	6	2	5	1
8	4	9	1	6	2	3	7	5
5	6	2	7	9	3	4	1	8
7	3	1	4	5	8	6	2	9
6	9	7	8	3	1	5	4	2
4	2	8	6	7	5	1	9	3
3	1	5	9	2	4	7	8	6

# “NEWS”

## A Brief History of the ‘Mountie’

By MACE GALONE

Throughout Mount Greylock’s history, students have long theorized about the silhouettes of “Mounties” that dot the school. The “Mountie,” a nickname for a member of the Royal Canadian Mountain Police, is Mount Greylock’s unofficial mascot. As a highschool in Massachusetts, this image may seem a bit out of place.

“I’m confused,” said Bella Rontris, a sophomore who attends Manhasset High School. Even students in other states are baffled by the meaning of our unofficial mascot.

You may be thinking, “Mount Greylock, Mountie; makes sense.” But a mountain doesn’t make for a very interesting mascot. After digging a bit deeper, the Eggplant discovered a richer history behind our school mascot.

As some of you may be aware, Mount Greylock was built on the land of an old airport.

Unbeknownst to most, though, the airstrip was owned by a largely concealed agency of the government. In 1971, the Canadian government, upset that the United States was attempting to become the world’s leading producer and exporter of maple syrup, began searching feverishly for hidden government airstrips they could land on in order to gather information about local manufacturers.

Coincidentally, the first airport they found was our very own, located at the site where our school stands today.

However, when the Canadians first landed, they were met by some locals. Our school’s resident population of moose, bears, and coyotes ambushed the outsiders, launching acorns at ridiculous speeds and nearly decapitating several Canadians.

The battle lasted for twelve and a half days, with beavers and Canadians flying in every direction.

Caught in a stalemate, the two opposing forces eventually came to an agreement. If there was ever a school built on the property, the Canadians could choose an image to represent the school, while the animals would choose a few species to represent the trails on the property. So, a Mountie is displayed throughout the school, while a number of the trails are named after the different animals (Coyote, etc.).

So, anytime you’re confused about the beginnings of a certain familiar silhouette, just remember it was maple syrup that made this school what it is today. ♦

## Cohort Wars

Continued from Page 2

“I saw the fight, yes, and I obviously know that cohort B is the better cohort, but I have to be nonpartisan. It’s not my place to comment on the superiority of the cohort B students.”

Cohort A students came to school on Tuesday, March 30th, with signs, planning to protest the clear favoring of cohort B. One sign, held by a sophomore, read “cohort A for amazing.” Willie grabbed the sign and shoved it in the trash can on his way into school.

“It was absolutely ridiculous,” Willie said. “cohort A for actually-terrible.” Willie also mentioned 36 other words A could stand for that the Eggplant cannot list.

On March 30th, the boy’s soccer team had practice in the gym afterschool. Willie arrived in a good mood, until he saw Morales and a few other cohort A students.

“Willie seemed off all practice. He was really concerned with the first letter of everybody’s last name,” Dils said. “He was very hostile to all A-M students. We had a couple injuries, and multiple people told me I should bench Willie, but to be completely honest, I think I’m just going to bench all cohort A students.”

According to gym cameras, Dils, and a few witnesses, Willie verbally attacked cohort A students all practice. Morales has a broken ankle, and another cohort A soccer player has a concussion. All of these injuries can be traced back to Willie or other cohort B allies, including junior Christian Sullivan.

“The audacity to show up at practice and expect to play... I can’t believe it,” Willie said in regards to the cohort A athletes. “It’s like they think they are real people or something.”

When the Eggplant told Willie that cohort A students are, in fact, real people, he punched a hole in the wall. ♦

## Mount Greylock Regional School Opts to Make All Zoom Links Public

Continued from Page 3

have to deal with “all of the annoying things we have to do when there are Zoom bombings.” They said that all of that administrative work that comes with them was really taking up a lot of their time.

“These Zoom bombings were a real issue for our students and the learning environment at our school,” said Principal Jacob Schutz. “They were scary for a lot of students, so we’re really happy to have any possibility of them in the past.”

The Mount Greylock administration has deemed this making of Zoom links public a positive change, and many students agreed.

“I was hesitant at first,” said freshman George Munemo. “But these public Zoom links have actually been really great for me.” He added, “There’s always a new face in each of my classes, which definitely brings some excitement to the learning environment.”

During the time when students are learning remotely, many have a difficult time paying attention in class and finding motivation. However, Sophomore Annie Art said, “Because I’m meeting new people, I look forward to class everyday.”

Art said before this change, students rarely participated in Zoom classes. “Now we have new perspectives and ideas brought into the classroom, which really helps students engage more. We’ve been having many more interesting and intellectual discussions in a lot of my classes.”

This recent decision to make Zoom links public has brought a whole new perspective to Mount Greylock learning. Schutz said, “I feel like the school is just so much more inclusive now, which is something we are always striving to be.”

“I can’t tell you how happy I am about the results of this recent decision,” said Schutz. “Opening our Zoom classes to the public is the best thing that has ever happened to Mount Greylock.” ♦

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Questions? Comments?  
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 Too bad.

Please note the *untraditional format of our masthead. This is because this is our spoof edition and we can do what we want. But in the spirit of truthfulness, which the Eggplant strives for, it is also because it won't fit anywhere else. Deal with it.*