
In The News

“Maus” Ban

“Maus”, written by Art Spiegelman in 1980, is a nonfiction graphic novel about the Holocaust. In this Pulitzer- Prize winning novel, the Nazi’s are portrayed as cats and the Jews are mice which provides a less gruesome introduction to the Holocaust while still educating youth on the tragedy. A Tennessee school board recently voted unanimously to remove “Maus” from its 8th grade curriculum. This decision was made on the objections to nudity and profanity in the text which immediately sparked backlash and was seen as a “red-flag” in the way we educate youth today. “It’s been truly life-changing for so many students, so taking it away is incomprehensible,” says Paul Regelbrugge, former teacher and now director of education for the Holocaust Center for Humanity in Seattle.



Photo: Flickr

Ecuador Landslide

On February 4th, the heaviest flooding hit Ecuador in two decades at the capital, Quito. This event has killed at least 22 people, injured 47, and 22 are missing. The streets and homes are covered in mud and debris leaving the city completely ruined.



Photo: Pixabay

A Horrifying Start to Black History Month

The start of Black History Month is off to a shocking start with at least 14 Historically Black colleges universities (HBCU) receiving bomb threats on Monday and Tuesday. Many colleges and universities have postponed classes and locked down campuses as police and FBI try to find out where the threats were coming from. No explosives turned up and law enforcement deemed the threats non credible. These bomb threats are “of the highest priority for the Bureau and involves more than 20 FBI field offices across the country,” stated the FBI. The New York Times reports that the FBI has identified six juveniles as persons of interest while BuzzFeed reports a neo-Nazi group may have been behind at least one of the threats. This has undoubtedly left students and faculty in fear and uneasy as they are awaiting more information to be revealed.

COVID Update

The FDA could approve the Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5 and below within the next few weeks. Anthony Fauci reported, on February 2nd, Pfizer was submitted to be reviewed and he is optimistic about the vaccine's authorization. On another promising note, the average number of cases in New York, after the Omicron peak, are still, fortunately, rapidly decreasing. A final “positive” is 80% of teens have now received at least one dose of the vaccine. Hopefully this upwards trend will continue.

Washington Football Team’s New Name

The NFL’s Washington “Redskins” scrapped their name back in July of 2020 because it was a blatant appropriation of Native American culture. So, for the past 2 years, they temporarily adapted the name, “The Washington Football Team.” Their new and permanent title, after much contemplation, was released on the 2nd of February. Tens of thousands of fans sent in suggestions for the team and they chose to rebrand as, “Washington Commanders.”

February 4th, 2022

MAROON