

What We Are Thankful For This Thanksgiving

The staff of *The Rambler* has plenty to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. The 11 students on the staff of *The Rambler* reflected on what they are thankful for in 100 words or less. Enjoy and have a happy Thanksgiving!

I am super duper thankful for dogs. Dogs are the best. I have a dog. His name is Tucker. He is a golden doodle and a very good dog. Every time I see a dog I smile. When I'm working at The Presque Isle Yellow Bike during the summer and somebody walks by with a dog, I immediately cease all working and take a moment to appreciate the majestic beast. Sometimes when I am bored I just google image search "Cute puppies," and can kill several hours scrolling through. I also enjoy the phrase "Sup Dawg." My family is cool too.

—Brian Buseck

I am thankful for the opportunity to attend Cathedral Prep. This school has not only built me in my athletic and academic ability, but I've gained a brotherhood experience like no other. The friendships I made at Cathedral Prep are amazing and I wouldn't trade it for anything. Through the football team, rally crew, and in the classroom I have many people I consider to be brothers to me. The teachers here are awesome as well. They all want to help us succeed and for the most part, they do. Thank you, Cathedral Prep.

—Charles Deitrick III

I am thankful for my family. I have a big family and they have been a huge asset to my life. My family has made me the man that I am today. I am also thankful for the opportunity to attend Cathedral Prep. I feel very confident that I am prepared for college and whatever life throws my way.

—Nick Frisina, senior

I am thankful for all of the gifts that God has given me, my family and friends, and everything in this world that is good. I am also thankful for the gift of sports in which I can participate in, especially basketball, baseball and golf. I am

thankful for the gift of education that I am given here at Cathedral Prep, I am truly blessed with great teachers. I am thankful for everything God has given me in this life and for the gift of life.

–Mark Majewski

I am thankful for my family this Thanksgiving. They help me with anything that is going on in my life and I appreciate that. They also do so much for me on a daily basis to make my life easier. I am also thankful for sports since I love to play and watch most of them. They bring a lot of joy to me, especially when my favorite teams win! Lastly, I am thankful for everything else that I have been blessed with in my life.

–Ryan Misko

What am I thankful for? I am thankful mostly for my family. My mother, sister, grandparents, aunt, uncle, and cousins have always been there for me. Whether it's during a tough time or when everything is well, they are there to pick me up and there to make me smile. Health, my life, passion, a house, and food are only some of the other things that I am blessed with and thankful for. God giving me the chance to play baseball and succeed is another opportunity that I am thankful. These are the things I'm mostly thankful for.

–Trent Robison

I'm thankful for all of my friends and family that support me through my good and hard times. I am thankful for basketball being my outlet to my life. I'm thankful for the opportunities that have been given to me throughout my entire life and how well I have handled those opportunities. Most importantly, I'm thankful for my life that I have been blessed with.

–Jaryn Simpson, senior

I am thankful for my awesome family and the great food we will enjoy over all of the holiday seasons. I am also thankful for newer family members that I met due to marriages over the years. Lastly, I want to pray for those alone during any holiday season due to death, divorce or otherwise.

–Brian Stark, senior

This year for Thanksgiving, I am thankful for my family, my parents, brother, sister, and all of my relatives. Their love and support to me whenever challenges become present is uplifting and unrelenting. I am thankful for good health that

our family and close friends have had over this past year. I'm thankful for all the successes and good fortunes that have blessed my family in the past year, and all of the failures and setbacks that have made us stronger. I am thankful for God and all his blessings that He grants to me, my family, and the world.

–Alec Thomas

I have much to be thankful for in my life. From the shoes on my feet, to the bed I sleep in, to the food on my plate, I cannot be grateful enough to be this fortunate. However, these material things cannot even begin to compare to the love, support and guidance my parents have shown me throughout my entire life no matter how difficult a situation may be. They are always there for me and it is near impossible to repay them for that. They have shaped me into the person I am today and I am forever thankful.

–Alex Welz

I am thankful for music. As Stevie Wonder perfectly said it, "Music is a work within itself, with a language we all understand." By this, I believe that Stevie refers to how music is something that everyone can appreciate, no matter their background. I am thankful for my father and my brothers for exposing me to such a large diversity of music. From this, I am able to appreciate a large assortment of music, from mostly any genre. Music is something that I am truly thankful for and passionate about. From Tame Impala to Bollywood, music is truly universally appreciated.

–Roman Zegarelli

Strange weather shakes up weekend in Erie

The weekend of Nov. 18-20, the residents of Erie, Pa., and surrounding counties experienced some pretty weird weather

patterns. On Friday, Nov. 18, the weather was 75 degrees and sunny, which was actually a record high temperature for the day. Then, on Saturday, Nov. 19, the temperatures in the region began to drop, reaching the 40s. The cold temperatures brought the first snowfall of the season.

On Sunday, Nov. 20, the temperatures fell lower into the mid-to-high 30s. On Sunday the Erie area accumulated even more snow. Erie was predicted to receive about 2 to 4 inches on Sunday, with even more snow predicted for Monday.

Prep senior Trey Deitrick, a wide receiver on the football team, spoke about how weather and the snow will affect the team's run for a state title. Trey said, "Yes, the cold weather is more difficult to play in." However, he finished by saying, "The Prep football team is prepared for the cold weather."

Fellow senior Brian Stark said, "I am excited for the winter and being able to snowboard at the Peak." Brian also said that outdoor activities like pick-up basketball won't be played until the snow leaves the area.

Prep also has a handful of kids that travel a long distance to school each day. Senior Phil Cammarata is one of those students. Phil said, "This weather coming up will affect my commute to school greatly. During the winter I tend to wake up 20 minutes earlier so I can drive at a safe pace without putting myself in danger."

As of Tuesday, Nov. 22, most of the snow in the area has melted. Although many residents of the Erie area are relieved that the snow went away quickly, they are getting prepared for harsh winter that is approaching.

Prep and Villa Giving Day 2016 a success

On Wednesday, Nov. 16, students from both Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy demonstrated their generosity toward the school. Combined more than 700 students made contributions totaling more than \$9,000. Factoring in alumni, friends, and families, \$959,151 of donations came in on Wednesday, an amount that will be tripled by an anonymous donor.

In advance of Giving Day, Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy students were invited once again to participate in the 3rd annual Mission Cup Challenge. The "Mission Cup" is the trophy awarded to the Prep or Villa campus with the higher percentage of student participation on Giving Day.



With 100 percent participation Villa Maria Academy earned the Mission Cup for the third consecutive year. As a reward the Villa students earned a day off from school and will have their campus name engraved on the Mission Cup as the 2016

champions.

A rally/assembly was held on Wednesday morning to announce what was at stake this year. The rally crew put a comedic video together of the Ramblers stealing last year's Mission Cup from Villa's trophy case. The Prep students loved it, but it was not enough to outperform Villa's 100 percent participation in Giving Day. Students needed to donate a minimum of \$5 in order to qualify toward the total active percentage.



“The idea is to have you realize the importance of giving to a charitable organization you feel is important in your lives,” said Fr. Jabo, president of Prep and Villa.

In addition to the Mission Cup Challenge each school has their own individual goal. For Prep the dollar amount goal was \$5,000 to earn a guaranteed day off. For Villa, the dollar amount goal was \$3,000. Both goals were set based on student population. This year 50 percent of the donations will go directly back into the class treasuries as well.

Following presidential election, some protests turn violent

After the results of the 2016 presidential election were announced, anti-Trump Americans took to the streets. Nights following the election, streets of major cities all across the United States were filled with thousands of protesters.

Many of these protests remained peaceful; however, in the city of Portland, Oregon, things got violent. It was announced that 71 protesters were arrested in one night. Things also got

violent in Indianapolis, where a few protesters ran into problems with the police. The protesters in New York City also gathered in front of the Trump Tower. Many of the chants chanted at the protests were centered around welcoming immigrants and love "trumping" hate. Many of these protesters fear what Donald Trump will do as President, while others are upset that Hillary Clinton lost the election.

The Rambler reached out to people at Prep to see what they had to say about the protests that turned into violent riots. Prep senior Peter Bloomstine said, "They are babies, and they should accept the electoral college because that is how the system works."

Cathedral Prep history teacher Mr. Parsons said, "My opinion regarding the protests is that protesting peacefully is an important and fundamental right we have as Americans. We have a government that allows for disagreements and protests. I support someone's right to protest as long as they are peaceful. However, when you become violent and are no longer peaceful, then you give up your right to protest and are doing more harm than good for your cause."

Prep junior John MacKenzie said, "Even though protesting is an act that is respected under the constitution in many forms, I highly, highly disagree with what has been going on." John continued, "I find it very troubling and honestly quite concerning that the upcoming generation of Americans would rather fall into a state of disbelief and completely shut themselves down over their hurt feelings that their preferred candidate did not win the election." John finished by adding, "It's time for us, who are the true patriotic citizens, to put our energy and trust behind President-elect Trump to preserve the American Dream."

The election is over and Donald Trump will be the next president of the United States. Both candidates fought a hard campaign. Trump won the electoral vote fair and square, and no

amount of protesting can change that. We as Americans need to gather behind President Trump and support him and trust that he will do what is best for our country.

Should strict stipulations on students' socks stay?

Cathedral Prep is well known for its strict dress code policies that keep students uniform and prevent bullying. The shoes, dress shirts, under shirts, pants, socks, belts, ties, and even socks of students need to be in line with the parameters set by the Cathedral Prep Handbook, or else punishments are given.

The only freedom of physical expression that Prep students have is their choice of underwear, but this of course is never seen. Thus, the question arises: should Prep students be allowed to express themselves with small articles of clothing, such as socks?

According to the Cathedral Prep Student Handbook, socks must be "traditional dress socks, crew or calf length, in black, navy, gray, or khaki. White socks are not permitted." However, are such strict stipulations really necessary?

The Prep Handbook has strict rules on pants as well. This is relevant because the Prep Handbook says that dress pants need to be "of appropriate size." We can assume that appropriate size pants cover up most or all of the socks of a student. Thus, are such strict rules on socks really necessary?



Non-uniform socks have a good amount of benefits for students actually. Socks come in all different colors, patterns, and designs. Students would be able to express some part of their outside lives within the school walls. For example, Prep senior Mike Ruff wore his Donald Trump

socks to Gannon the day after the election.

Of course, dress socks prevent students from getting bullied for what they wear, but with a strict no bullying policy at Prep as well, the risks may outweigh the rewards. Students would be able to express who they are, even if it is something as minuscule as socks.

Class of 2017 hosting trifecta fundraiser

The Cathedral Prep school year is off to a great start with an increase of dedication in and out of the classroom. This is partially due to the great leadership of the senior class



and specifically Senior Class President Will Lewis. Will has done a splendid job as leader of the Class of 2017 and has continued it this year. One of the important things going on now is the senior class fundraiser. The fundraiser features two Nike T-shirts, CP dress socks, and a CP American flag.



Will and the rest of the class leaders have held numerous fundraisers over the past few years to raise money for the class of 2017. The money that is collected immensely helps the students of the class. It can cover things all the way from free doughnuts on Thanksgiving to tuition assistance. The class officers are also trying to cover prom and graduation costs with the money raised by this

fundraiser. Will is also looking to be the first class to establish a scholarship fund in the class's name, which would be a monumental accomplishment.

The idea from this year's fundraiser came from wanting to sell items that Prep students would want to have. They realized that T-shirts and dress socks would be popular due to the dress code at Prep and the numerous spirit days that Prep has. Also, a flag was chosen as the last item as it combines two things that all students have passion for; Prep and our country. The flag is similar to the American flag but with Prep colors and a CP logo.

Will shared his thoughts on the fundraiser and how important this is to the senior class. "I would like to say to people that we would really appreciate participation in this fundraiser as it is a pretty big deal for our class and the class's success," he said. "We would just love for Prep flags to be flown around Erie, the country, and the world. We are trying to finish our time here at Prep



strong, and this fundraiser hopefully will be an extension of that strength.”



Students, parents, alumni, or anyone who wants to purchase any of these items is encouraged to order through the order form that was sent out recently. If not, they can email the Class of 2017 president at William.Lewis@prep-villa.com. The orders will continue until next Monday, Nov. 21. Senior Trey Deitrick plans on purchasing items from the fundraiser. “I am especially excited about the flag since I will be able to take it with me to college and show my

support for Prep all the time.”

Follow in Trey’s footsteps and buy items from the trifecta fundraiser to support the Cathedral Prep Class of 2017.

Class ring mysteriously returned

As the upperclassmen at Prep are aware, Prep students order and receive their class rings during junior year. This year’s juniors had their first class ring meeting Tuesday, Oct. 18. The rings are a keepsake, so it’s quite the unfortunate loss when a student or alumni misplaces their ring. Fortunately, Josten’s offers the option to purchase a 10-year warranty and a 20-year warranty, but when purchasing a somewhat pricey piece of jewelry most teenage boys aren’t too inclined to spend more money. Without the warranty, losing one’s ring can

be quite the bummer.

One such bummer occurred about 53 years ago to Jack Schultz when he was 18. Schultz, Cathedral Prep Class of '63, lost his class ring while throwing snowballs in a field off of Zimmerly Road with the woman who would one day become his wife. Recently, at the age of 71, Mr. Schultz received his ring back. It's not uncommon for someone to return a found class ring to Prep so Prep can help find the original owner, but Mrs. Fehr, Constituent Relations Manager for Prep, confirms that this is not an ordinary case.



The mysterious note accompanying the ring

Jack Schultz's ring was returned anonymously about a month ago. It showed up in a plain brown padded envelope with a small handwritten note that only said, "Hope you are the right John Schultz." The source of the returned ring still remains a mystery. Mr. Schultz decided to take it upon himself to investigate and discover who returned his ring and how they did so. His only clues are the Fairview, Pa., postal stamp and his belief that the handwriting looks like that of an old man.

Jack spoke with the owners of the house near where he lost the ring so many years ago, and they don't seem to know anything about it. He had previously assumed that the ring had been forgotten in the snow and then stepped on or run over by a

lawn mower, leaving it buried ever since. He also realizes that the ring may have been found many years ago, thrown into a drawer or jewelry box and forgotten, only to be rediscovered recently and returned.

Jack Schultz's curiosity about the ring still gnaws at him and his search for answers continues. If anyone knows anything about the ring, feel free to comment below or call Prep with any information. Certainly Mr. Schultz would appreciate it.

Chicago Cubs win first World Series since 1908

Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs was filled with huge crowds of fans this year. Could it be because the Cubs were the best team in all of baseball this year, or is it because fans were hopeful that the curse would finally end?

Back in 2003, the Cubs were facing off against the Florida Marlins. During Game 6 of the 2003 National League Championship Series, a fan by the name of Steve Bartman reached over the wall in the foul ground territory of left-field and interfered with the ball that Cubs left-fielder Moisés Alou had a chance to make a play on. Wrigley Field erupted and began to harass Bartman and boo him.

The fans got so bad and out of control with Bartman that he had to be escorted out for his own safety, and he was even put on police protection due to the exposure of his name and address all across the country. Cubs fans were hysterical about this whole situation. The Cubs were eliminated by the Marlins the next day in Game 7, thus furthering "The Curse."

That curse did end after 108 years on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at

Progressive Field in Cleveland, Ohio. Indians fans believed that the series was over after Game 3 in Chicago, but Cubs fans stayed loyal and hopeful that their Cubbies would bring a championship back to Wrigley. This past Wednesday, the Cubs defeated the Indians in a winner-take-all Game 7 as they won the game 8-7 in 10 innings. Kyle Hendricks pitched the most important games of his career as he went 4 and 2/3 innings, giving up four hits, two runs, and only one of the runs scored was earned. But why was this World Series so significant to the Cub's franchise?

The fact that the Chicago Cubs hadn't won a World Series since the year 1908 made fans happy that their team finally earned another championship. It had been so long since the Cubs had won that women didn't even have voting rights and there wasn't even a National Football League. This year's champions of baseball brings not only joy and relief to the fans, but so much significance to the city of Chicago. Everybody has waited so long for the Cubs to break their streak, and they have finally done exactly that!

Congrats to the Chicago Cubs on claiming the trophy and being the best team in Major League Baseball.

Benedict Cumberbatch's SNL episode holds great surprises

Saturday Night Live has long been a popular American sketch comedy show, known for opening monologues, musical guests, recurring characters, and political parodies. This weekend's episode was no different, except this American tradition was infused with some UK charm. The host this weekend was Benedict

Cumberbatch, a British actor known for portraying Sherlock Holmes in the show Sherlock, and Dr.Strange in Marvel's Dr.Strange. The episode aired live from NBC studios in New York City this past Saturday Night.

As per usual, the opening sketch focused on Kate McKinnon's Hillary Clinton and Alec Baldwin's Donald Trump disagreeing on policy and exchanging humorous takes on the 2016 candidates. What made this skit different from recent takes came at the end where Alec Baldwin broke character, stating "I'm sorry Kate, I just hate yelling all this stuff at you like this." Kate replied "I know, this whole election has just been so mean." Then Alec responded "I just feel so gross all the time.. Don't you all feel so gross all the time." The characters then ran out of the NBC building in full costume and paraded around New York City interacting pleasantly with both Trump and Clinton supporters. At the end they went on the main SNL stage and encouraged all viewers to vote. It offered a nice change in perspective, as if to say "This election is so ridiculous, let's all just get along and band together no matter what happens."

Next came Benedict Cumberbatch's opening monologue. He began by addressing the election from his British perspective. He gave advice to America, saying that when British people face tough times, "We drink." Then, since he is not super well known in American, he had the band and some SNL cast help him with a soulful tune outlining his accomplishments, beginning with a deep "OHHHHHHHHH YEAHHHHHHHHH." It's clear Benedict is not an accomplished vocalist, but the jokes and the vibe were overall funny.

The show rapidly changed to the first short of the night, which depicted a futuristic society where all conformed to sit on toilets in the same boring way. Then Cumberbatch burst in, looking like Neo in The Matrix, and defied the ruler, bringing in the Kohler toilet, which allowed users to sit on it backwards and lean in it with a cool and effortless ease. This

short gets credit for taking an everyday concept and making it random and comedic.

Cut ahead to the first live sketch. SNL has long parodied game shows, and this one was a quality addition. Rising cast member Beck Bennett hosted a mysterious game show, where the contestants Vanessa Bayer, Aidey Bryant, and Benedict Cumberbatch were unsure of why they were there. It's revealed that the show is called Why Is Benedict Cumberbatch Hot? and consisted of Bennett trying to understand why all the female cast members were in love with Benedict (and not him). The sketch ends with Beck getting complimented by Cumberbatch and then saying "Ohhhhhhh Benny... When you look at me I feel truly seen," and understanding the hype. The bromantic ending and the girls' reactions to Benedict's beauty made this sketch hilarious.

The short "Office Hours" was mediocre, but next came a sketch where some ladies threw a surprise Bachelorette party for their grandmother. They failed to realize however that their surprise had given Grammy a heart attack and rendered her either unconscious or dead. Enter Benedict and one of SNL's new cast members as the adult entertainment, who performed for an unresponsive Grammy. This sketch was only adequate until the end when three Chicago Cubs, fresh off of their World Series win, came in with the entertainment and made suggestive baseball related puns. They came back later in the much anticipated Weekend Update, when Anthony Rizzo, David Ross, Dexter Fowler, and Bill Murray sang Go Cubs Go as a barbershop quartet. Bill Murray cued them in with a pitch pipe and they sang, dressed in sweater vests and straw hats. This was hilarious and the Cubs performing a catchy tune made for a phenomenal cameo.

Honorable mention goes out to a date night sketch where Cumberbatch, playing a rock and roll mentalist, meaning he "does magic tricks to like... Rock music" and his trashy British girlfriend, played by Cecily Strong, ruined the date of Keenan

Thompson and Vanessa Bayer. The sketch with Benedict giving out riddles as an evil mastermind and another where he adamantly served a boss that had the head of a carved eagle and never said a word also deserve shout outs.

The musical guest was Solange, and while I had never heard of her, her vocals were crisp and her music was soulful with backup singers and a small horn section. Overall, this was one of the better Saturday Night Live episodes. No sketches were absolutely amazing, but there were no flops, and Benedict Cumberbatch played a nice array of funny characters and the cameos from Cubs players and Bill Murray really made this installment stand out.

Samsung's newest phone is "burning" up the competition

iPhone 7, Unlocked Zte Axon 7, and the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 ... which one is different from the others? Well, they are all new cell phones released this year, each with different and unique features. However, the biggest difference between these smartphones is that one has a good chance of blowing up when someone uses it (and not in a good way!) Yes, that's right. All Samsung Galaxy Note 7 phones have been recalled by the company because of a design flaw that makes these latest gadgets of technology fire hazards to the user. While Samsung has not given any specific reason as to why it happens, investigations have shown that the battery is the likely cause of these fires and explosions.

The Galaxy Note 7, released on Aug. 19, 2016, was predicted to be the best Samsung on the market by becoming a carbon copy of

the previous Samsung phone, the S7, while adding new features such as a bigger screen and a touch-screen pen making it easier for the consumer to work and write. While initial sales for the phone soared, early reviews released information that the phone was susceptible to overheating, a likely warning sign of the fires and explosions that have occurred in the last few months.

According to many sources, the Note 7 is now dead. Samsung has stopped the sale of the phones, having recalled all of them until they can determine with certainty what caused this new device to suddenly go haywire. Samsung has instructed customers who purchased the phone to either return them immediately, throw them away, or even destroy them to minimize any potential risk. There is even a ban issued by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on the Note 7 so that they are not used or even taken on planes because they may cause havoc in the air.

While this is a serious issue, there have been many videos, vines, tweets, and pictures that have gone viral throughout the Internet making fun of it. Pictures of cars and houses blowing up, with the sayings such as, "This is what happens when you're charging your Note 7," have taken over the social media world. One particular video shows a customer in a convenient store buying a box of cereal when suddenly his pants are on fire and he has to stop, drop, and roll to extinguish it! While most of these videos and pictures have been removed by the heads of Samsung, people of course have not stopped talking nor making fun of this issue.

Samsung has officially stopped sales of the Note 7 and have even begun sales of their new Note 8, which the company reassures does not pose the problems that occurred with the previous model. It will be interesting to see if the problems that happened with the Note 7 are a one time deal or if it will be an ongoing issue in the future. The world will have to wait and see; maybe even keep a fire extinguisher close by

just in case.