INFO FOR THE FUTURE

IN EACH ISSUE, WE WILL INCLUDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION PERTAINING TO EITHER THE FIRST-YEARS, SECOND-YEARS, OR GAMES SQUAD AS A WHOLE: THIS MONTH IS FOR THE SECOND-YEARS.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, IT IS THE DREADED COMMON APP SEASON. WE ARE AT THE CUSP OF OUR FUTURES. WITH THAT IN MIND, HERE ARE FEW TIPS AND DEADLINES TO REMAIN AWARE OF.

1. Fill Out FASFA and CSS Profile. These are important ways to receive money for college. Don't let these slip away.

2. Proofread your Common App essay and supplements: once, twice, and more. If you have not started, PLEASE DO! Although early decision deadlines have passed, regular decision is still an important time to apply to safety schools. This is one of the most important parts of your application: be careful.

3. Future ACT and SAT dates. If you have not already reached your desired score, and you need to retake, here are the test dates you should be working towards: December 9, 2017 (ACT) and December 2, 2017 (SAT).

4. Don't slack on your MGA classes. Senioritis is kicking in; I know we are all tired of the grind. However, DO NOT STOP WORKING HARD. We are at the finish line; let's see it through.

5. But, at the same time, RELAX. We are Seniors! Let's enjoy our last year.
SHOULD THE GEORGIA ACADEMY HAVE A MASCOT?
BY TEVYN FUDGE

A sense of identity is the key to both personal and communal confidence, to a sense of belonging. Without a symbol to represent you, to define you, what are you? Many schools (even the useless ones known as “elementary”) have mascots that they use to represent them in their sports and extracurriculars. These mascots are usually animals or people that the school has some deeply entrenched, moving connection with.

Either that or they just think that particular mascot sounds cool. Either way, they exist, and they are fun to have. And because of that, I, Tevyn Fudge, believe that the GA Academy deserves a mascot. Yeah, technically it’s not a school, but it is still a collection of students. And that’s basically what a school is, right? This infallible logic leads to only one conclusion: having one will only have positive benefits. We can refer to ourselves collectively as a group, rather than “Georgia Academy Students,” which consists of too many syllables. We can have a really cool-looking logo to be proud of; prospective students can look us up and be like, “Woah. They have a mascot. Now I’m morally obligated to join the GA Academy.” I also think that the existence of a mascot will lower PDA levels in Welch. I don’t know how, but I think it will happen.

Here are a few of my personal mascot ideas:
- The Llamas
- The Yellow Bulldog Falcon Hawk Jackets
- The Official Khan Academy Logo
- The Cougars
- The Googoos
- The Smashers
- The Smash-Mouthers
- The Purple Devil iOS Emoji

And finally,
- The Gamers.

Now I know this list is basically perfect as is, but if you have any other ideas or recommendations for a mascot, go ahead and slide in my DM’s and we’ll sort it out.

Do you agree? If so, let’s start a petition to Brian.
In 1960 Harper Lee published her novel depicting the harrowing reality of race relations in American South. "To Kill a Mockingbird" garnered critical acclaim and has since been embraced by numerous outlets to be one of the most influential pieces of literature in the last century. Over the course of the story, characters and readers experience a lesson centered around the inherent good and bad of people. Harper crafts a theme that deals with the coexistence of good and evil. It can be argued that the work serves the same purpose as the tales told to children. The novel is a staple in many American middle and high schools. Teachers have often used it to foster discussion and critical thinking within their students. Despite its esteem, Lee's novel has not escaped criticism. In fact, it is one of the most frequently contested pieces of literature.

Recently, "To Kill a Mockingbird" made headlines once again due to a Mississippi school board declaring its language "uncomfortable" and taking steps to remove the book from curriculum and libraries completely. The school board has made no comment (as of the writing of this article) to indicate which language specifically is being called into question. With its discussion of racism, rape, and romance there is an abundance of phrasing that can be described as unsavory. However, many argue that the usage of such language is vital to the story and its impact among readers.

Those who find issue with the books' usage of racial slurs and "profane" language have worked for years to see the novel removed from public libraries and school reading lists. They claim that the novel is inappropriate and harmful to those who read it and that it is best to keep the book out of the hands of teens and pre-teens. Lee's story is not the only one to undergo public review...

Toni Morrison, one of the most prominent authors of the last 100 years, has had her works repeatedly challenged. Her book "Beloved" includes discussion of sexuality, slavery, and other topics that raise alarm for parents concerned with protecting their students from "inappropriate" themes. "To Kill a Mockingbird" was written to expose the ugly truth of American prejudice, but in its attempts to do so, it includes language and concepts that alienate a large number of people.

Opponents to the banning of the book argue that the censoring of literature will have a largely negative effect on society. To them, the path of censorship is a dangerous one that can lead to a Bradburian civilization. They worry about raising children in a world such as the one described in "Fahrenheit 451", a novel that has also faced backlash and banning efforts. Some who support Lee's work being allowed in schools have vocalized their own issues with it. A common one is the portrayal of the character Atticus Finch as a champion for the rights of African Americans despite holding problematic opinions himself. They believe that qualms such as this one create even more opportunity for critical analysis of the novel and its characters. For many educators, the positive effect of inspiring academic investigation outweighs the potential negative outcome of the book harming students. Both sides hold deeply personal opinions on the appropriateness of "To Kill a Mockingbird".

The battle over literature has been ongoing since the days of Socrates and Plato and, in all likelihood, will continue for decades to come. Words hold too much power for them not to face inquiry. This cannot be denied, but it is important to analyze why we take issue with certain texts over others.
THOUGHTS ON SUCCESSFUL STUDYING AND SOME DO’S AND DON’TS
BY BRIAN WARREN

“I’m going to start studying right after I’ve played just one more game” (or watched one more Youtube or fill in the blank with the thing you aren’t doing instead of studying . . . ) You won’t. Studying needs to be planned into your schedule—not the thing you do when you have some spare time.

“Oooh, I’m going to highlight my notes with 4930 different colors to help me retain information” Highlight key words; use tools to review weekly and monthly as needed. Focus on finding the things you do not know well and dig in deeper to the material until you do understand.

“Revision is so unnecessary. I have a good memory and I know I’m going to remember this on the test I have in 2 months!” Sorry to break this to you but you probably won’t remember a lot. Go through everything you’ve covered during the last week on the weekend. Use regular review to prevent having to pull all-nighters later on. (The kind of studying which requires a curfew extension is NOT as effective as regular study and review weekly).

“Oh boy, I’m so tired. I think I’ll just read this chapter in bed.” Hint: You’ll fall asleep—which means you are probably not getting good healthy regular sleep. Research suggests students your age need a minimum of 8-9 hours of sleep every night! And also a healthy diet and some regular exercise!

“I didn’t get a ___ in the test. I must be dumb, an idiot, and a complete failure who won’t ever accomplish anything in life” One grade will NOT ruin your life. Sometimes you can learn more from failing at something than you can from easy success. Learn from the mistakes you make and you will make less of them in the future.

More words of wisdom to come next month. Are you victim to these habits? Anytime is a good time to start newer, better habits.
EMPOWER.
INSPIRE.

BY ENDURE MCTIER

Hello GAMERS,

We are in October, which means that first-years, your first semester is almost over, and second-years, our senior is almost done. From this moment until winter break, things will get very intense. You will have finals and college applications to do. As we grind harder than ever, please remember that you have people who care about you and that everything is relative. One bad grade, although you should always strive for greatness, will not ruin your life. As long as you put in the work and work to the best of your ability, things will work out.

Problems with a certain class or a certain teacher will resolve. If you are struggling or wonder how other people have their lives all together, the truth is that they do not; they can just conceal it better. If you need someone to talk to, remember that there are many people here to support you on your journey. Just endure (haha get it?) and know that you are strong.

Show off your creativity!

Share your opinions.

Dare to be different.
GAMERS SEEM TO LIKE THESE

MEMES

*SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITES TO BE INCLUDED*

LIFE VS. ME

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M DOING.

WHEN YOU TURN THE LIGHTS OFF AND TRY TO FIND YOUR BED

WHEN YOUR TEACHER WALKS BY SO YOU PRETEND THAT YOU’RE WORKING:

THE 5 Stages of Childhood

WHEN YOU SHOW SOMEBODY A POST YOU LAUGHED REAL HARD AT AND THEY DON'T LAUGH

YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE?

FALSE. YOU LIVE EVERYDAY. YOU ONLY DIE ONCE.

HOW HIGH ARE YOU?

NO OFFICER. IT'S "HI, HOW ARE YOU?"

SAFELY ENDANGERED

WHAT'S UP, LOSERS!

YOU DORKS ARE SO UGLY

AHH! WHAT'S WRONG?

SENSITIVE TEETH...

JIMMY, YOU GET DOWN FROM THERE RIGHT NOW

BUT MOM, THE FLOOR IS LAVA

I'M SO SICK OF YOUR CHILDLISH GAMES

SAFELY ENDANGERED

WHO'S A GOOD BOY?? NOT YOU.

"Mom calls your name!"

"Yes mom?"

"Go away."

"Yes mom!!!"

"Mom calls your name!"

"Yes mom?"

"Go away."

"Yes mom!!!"

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A LETTER TO THE GAMERS

BY ANKITA MOHAPATRA

My life at the University of Michigan is exciting and challenging. Every day brings different obstacles, triumphs, and adventures. The school is so large that any student has the freedom to carve an individualized path, whether it be a very active social calendar, sports, or all of the above.

There will be difficult times ahead for those of you planning to attend big-name universities after GAMES. I wished to join a dance or a cappella team, and I invested much time into auditioning for these groups. In the end, I tried out for four dance groups and five singing groups, but did not earn a spot anywhere. This came as a shock to me, because I’ve danced and sang most my life, but in a massive, talented school like the University of Michigan, everything becomes so much more competitive. Another day, as I headed back to my dorm after my third failed proof-based Linear Algebra quiz, I felt so puny in comparison to the standards I set out for myself. I felt like an academic failure, asking myself “Am I really a math person? Am I even smart?” UM teaches me that I can’t measure my success in grades, which are subject to curves and drops and weights and discrepancies. And sometimes you need to fail before you can succeed.

The Academy taught me to be resourceful and proactive. I learned to contact my professors for help, send emails, and take advantage of the resources for GAMES students. The skills I developed in GAMES are so useful in Ann Arbor because I send and reply to about twenty emails a day, and I reap so much value from the countless resources. I can seek out opportunities with different offices who specialize in a variety programs.

I still call and Skype a handful of my GAMES friends, and that connection grounds me.

GAMES is a haven for lost souls. It was the first place where I didn’t feel ignored. I needed that growth period in a tighter-knit community to recognize the face of a friend. Now, in a school of forty thousand, I do not feel lost socially, because I found a few people who appreciate me as I am. My friends at Michigan are genuine, guileless people. We respect and celebrate our differences and learn from each other. At GAMES, I also learned how to share space, which helped me build a friendship with my roommate. I developed many of my life management skills during my time at MGA. Living three hours away, I did not always get to ask my parents for help. I learned how to live on my own, a skill crucial to my success at Michigan. I am able to focus on adapting to the new setting rather than dwell on nostalgic thoughts of home. Since coming here, I have not felt very homesick because I Skype family every Sunday, a habit we formed last year when I was with the Academy.

Michigan is drastically different from MGA. The pace of life is tenfold; There are honorary speakers, concerts, foreign language conversation hours, parties, comedy shows, help sessions, campus activities, organized protests, athletic events, and so much more. I’m always chasing the next thing, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.

I wish you all the best.

- Ana
A BRIEF BRIEFING

BY KAREN ZRAICK AND SANDRA STEVENSON

1. “Mr. Manafort, did you collude with Russians?”
That was one of the shouted questions from journalists that Paul Manafort, above, ignored as he surrendered to the F.B.I. today. Watch the video here. He and a business partner pleaded not guilty to money laundering, tax fraud and foreign lobbying related to their work in Ukraine. They were the first charges handed down by the special counsel Robert Mueller. Our reporters are annotating the court document, which makes no mention of President Trump or election meddling. But Mr. Mueller could be using the charges to pressure Mr. Manafort into providing information about those topics.

2. President Trump’s 12-day trip to Asia starts this weekend in Japan. At the top of the agenda, of course, will be the North Korean nuclear threat. Today in Seoul, the head of South Korea’s weather agency warned that another powerful blast at the North’s nuclear test site could send radioactive material into the atmosphere. Above, a South Korean scientist measured seismic waves caused by the last test.

3. The F.B.I. is investigating the $300 million contract to rebuild Puerto Rico’s power grid that was given to a tiny Montana firm with ties to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Puerto Rico’s governor canceled the contract on Sunday. Most of the island remains without power. Celebrity chef José Andrés has set up a makeshift aid organization in Puerto Rico that has grown to include a network of kitchens, supply chains and delivery services. No other agency — not the Red Cross, not the government — has fed more people freshly cooked food since Hurricane Maria struck.

5. Spain’s attorney general said that Catalan leaders will be prosecuted for rebellion after illegally declaring Catalonia’s independence from Spain. He ordered them to appear in court in Madrid in the coming days. Judges will now decide whether to charge them with rebellion, sedition and misuse of public funds for organizing the vote on Oct. 1.

6. An empty butter shelf in France is like a dry baguette: disconcerting. And the emptying of shelves is exactly what’s happening, because of rising global demand, slumping production and rising prices. There’s mock panic (including a hashtag, #Beurregate) and real anxiety. The French consume about three times the amount of butter that Americans do.

7. You can dance if you want to … in New York City, starting tomorrow. Dancing has been illegal at the vast majority of the city’s bars since 1926, because of an archaic “Cabaret Law” that was originally intended to crack down on speakeasies during Prohibition. The City Council is set to repeal it.

All credits to the New York Times.
If there is struggle, there is no progress. - Frederick Douglass
The Gauntlet Team appreciates your support. If you have any comments or questions, email endure.mctier@mga.edu. Until next month...