Male woodchucks are called he-chucks, females are called she-chucks.

Rats can’t burp.

A geep is part goat, part sheep.

Some cat spas serve catnip tea to their feline clientele.

Most swans in England belong to the queen.

Warthogs don’t have warts.

Giraffes have the same number of neck bones as we do.

The agony of her experience continues to this day with PTSD, a condition she was diagnosed with after appearing on the Sopranos.

Stefani gained early attention for her audacious, avant-garde style and her feisty, independent personality.

When she released her first album, singles from it did extremely well, and most recently, her powerful vocals and mesmerizing stage presence have earned her critical acclaim and commercial success.

While initially finding success as a songwriter and producer, Stefani ventured into acting with a role in a 2001 episode of the Sopranos.

Stefani's humble beginnings were humble indeed, but her star was born. The star in A Star is Born, featuring Joaquin Phoenix and Lady Gaga, is a new life in Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga. Gaga Stars as Ally, a waitress who is attempting to pursue music in a Drag Bar. Cooper plays Jackson Maine, a tormented country star who struggles with hearing loss, alcoholism, and a drug addiction. After Maine stumbles into the bar Ally is performing in, he instantly takes an interest in her, and in both her talents and in her as a person. After pulling her onto stage to perform a song she wrote for him in a grocery store parking lot, Ally is rocketed to stardom. The film follows Ally and Jackson as both struggle to keep their love above the sea of Jackson’s struggle with addiction and Ally’s deviation from the individualistic person that made Jackson love her. The film is a masterpiece in all respects: it has a soaring soundtrack, incredible performances, and gorgeous visual elements. The climactic moment of hope and chivalry in a simple, heartwarming and breaking piece of music that fans will continue to be known for.

The Edge of Glory. She wrote the song she wrote for him in a grocery store parking lot, Ally is rocketed to stardom. The film follows Ally and Jackson as both struggle to keep their love above the sea of Jackson’s struggle with addiction and Ally’s deviation from the individualistic person that made Jackson love her. The film is a masterpiece in all respects: it has a soaring soundtrack, incredible performances, and gorgeous visual elements. The climactic moment of hope and chivalry in a simple, heartwarming and breaking piece of music that fans will continue to be known for.

The Blazer

PASSING THE SECOND EFFECT OF JANUS

By Caroline Adams ’21

A Superstar Is Born, Right Here In NYC

At the Christmas Concert, the Senior Social Dance and the show. Courtesy of the Loyola Yearbook.

Stage Band, played some funky renditions of Christmas (Baby, Please Come Home), This Christmas, featuring vocals from seductive Elizabeth Nacion, and Christmas in L.A., their concert was full of excitement. We started off strong with our orchestra, who played a mash-up of family favorites Christmas tunes. A Capella had many new members this year, and they sang some strong unaccompanied versions of Someday At Christmas, Little Drummer Boy, and ended off with When Christmas Comes To Town, from a classic Christmas movie. The Polar Express. Next was another A Capella group, a quartet, to be exact. The Senior Section Quartet, named after the four boys this year, featured seniors Christian Conte, Andre Gillespie, Aidan Henegar, and Sam Kleini. They arranged and performed their take on Jingle Bells, and Silent Night, with Andre even singing a verse in his falsetto. The mas (Baby, Please Come Home) with their Christmas mash-up of hip-hop, salsa, waltz, and ballroom dancing, thanks to dance instructor Katie Pettit. Thank you everyone, especially our director Mr. D‘Alessio, for making this Christmas Concert such a hit!
The iconic Miley Cyrus lives best of both worlds. She released a new song with British musician Mark Ronson on November 29, and got married to Liam Hemsworth the very next month on December 23. Although both incidents were... surprising, most people expected Liam and Miley to get married since they were already engaged while nobody expected Miley to drop a new hit single. The song hear... giving the song a pop and country kinda of feel. (Yes, I know I said about country but this song is not a c...)

The title of the song is Nothing breaks Like A Heart, which conveys a deep meaning that has been complimented by a music video.

Although the song has almost nothing to do with the breakup of a relationship, it describes more of a break up with society. An heart is an object so deli... even the smallest things can damage it, yet in the same breath it can per... through a thousand lifetimes of trauma, all the while radiating hope for the future.

Miley says, “Mark was very trusting about my ideas. It’s all about what is heartbreaking to us in society every single day—waking up to the news of violence, judgment, and hypocrisy. It’s about a deeper heartbeat than los... love in a romance or relationship.” Miley de... all the things can damage your heart and how much of the fault is traced back to society. She mentions how it just hijinks sucks be... not corrupting themselves, they are being corrupted. Throughout the chase we see posters and pictures with Miley’s name every...e who are supporting Miley, but si... and people with signs that are... where. There are many people and help edu... the right person. After a... be best at the job. We had...This image reflects the re...ers to what’s around them. In this “perfect” world...hind what’s really going on in the world. Their actions are not only effecting the upcoming generation but effecting the current generation as well.

On December 21st, the Loyola community gathered together to celebrate Christmas at Loyola, a fun day with no classes or work, thus allowing the students and the faculty to come together and enjoy the Christmas season before... day event with numerous fights showing that people are constantly fighting for material goods when actual terrible things are happen... CK’S Stop” performance from the VMAs. At the very end of the video a crowd engulfs Mark and Miley.

Now we are in the last 7 seconds of the video with Miley standing on a pile of books with her hands out. The car is behind her with its doors open to resemble a cross. This is to represent that society seems to only learn and care about celeb... and hypocrisy. It’s about a deeper heartbeat than losing love in a romance or relationship.” Miley describes all the things that can damage your heart and how much of the fault is traced back to society. She mentions how it just hijinks sucks because all these things are happening and you can’t do anything about it, feeling like a bystander overlooking this disturbed world, watching the world crumble right at your finger tips while doing absolutely everything you can and seeing no improvement. We sit on this planet we call Earth, a place we have made our home, and created this “society” to better ourselves, to make living good...of ap...er the recent sex scandals the church has had and also a metaphor for the fact that the church doesn’t...o practice what it preaches. We then get a quick snippet of two girls taking a selfie with Snapchat filters, while Miley literally breaks a hole in the wall with her car. The two girls are so wrapped up in their phones and social media that they’re oblivious to what’s around them. Miley then crashes into a home where, in a hot tub with rubber ducks, two women are kissing. This might be referring to her other video “Bill Talk” but it also serves to include the LGBTQ+ community.

Then we see a quick shot of Miley jumping into the car with Miley before they drive past a group of football players kneeling. This is to show their support for football players’ right to kneel during the American National Anthem. Miley then enters a store where everything is chaotic. It seems to be a Black Friday event with numerous fights showing that people are constantly fighting for material goods when actual terrible things are happening in the world. Also in the back there is a person holding a big stuffed teddy bear most likely refers to her famous “We Can’t Stop” performance from the VMAs. At the very end of the video a crowd engulfs Mark and Miley.

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Students are encouraged to contribute to the school newspaper at any time by sending their articles to: 19eknapp@loyolanyc.org.

The staff of The Blazer holds monthly meetings to plan upcoming issues. Students are strongly advised to attend these meetings to get a sense of what articles need to be written. We are most in need of straight-reporting articles about school life. We are least in need of...opinion pieces.

Articles of general interest related to school life will also be considered but will be printed at the discretion of the staff. Such articles include, but are not limited to, movie reviews, book reviews, horoscopes, editorials, and humor. All decisions made by the staff regarding the suitability of an article are final.

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The whole world was counted on Donald Crowhurst. His family, his followers, and his country needed him. He had undertaken the task he had undertaken nearly a year before. Donald was one of nine men entered in the Golden Globe Race, which was sponsored by the British newspaper The Sunday Times. They were to sail around the world via the Clipper Route for the re-ward of £5,000. Crowhurst was the underdog of the competition, shaping up to be the fastest finisher of the journey with only a month of sailing left. Little did the world know that Crowhurst was lying.

The Sunday Times had sponsored sailor Francis Chichester in 1966 on an solo voyage following the Clipper Route, from England down to the Cape of Good Hope, hopeful to reach England later in the year. Ewan Mactralia, continuing on toward Cape Horn, and going back to England on a Northward course. Both men had completed the journey in 226 days, a naviga-tion record.

The popularly garnered by Chichester’s voyage was unprecedented for The Sun-day Times, and so they devised a new, non-stop solo race along the Clipper Route, to be launched in the summer of 1968. The race was open to anyone who applied, sailor and landlubber alike, without any vetting process, to discern their nautical ca-pabilities.

Nine men took to the challenge, five of whom would drop out before leaving the Atlantic Ocean. Among the entrants were professional racers such as English marine engineer Robin Knox-Johnston, South Af-rican Naval Lieutenant Commander Nigel Tetley, avid sailor, spiritualist, and Frenchman Bernard Moitessier, as well as electron-ics entrepreneur Donald Crowhurst. Each man was to set off within the time-frame of June 1st and Oc-tober 31st. K. Knox-Johnston was the first of the main contenders to set sail, leav-ing from Plymouth on June 14th in his 32 ft. Suhaili down to the Bay of Biscay. Moitessier, sail-ing on the Joshua, left over the Atlantic and reached the Panama Canal on the 22nd. Tetley’s Victory, his plywood trimaran house-boat, took to the sea from Plymouth on Sep-tember 16th. Donald Crowhurst was far from prepared to face the Halloweeen’s deadline. Born in India in 1932, he moved to England shortly after the colony had won its in-dependence. His family’s savings were invested in a sporting goods factory in India, which burnt down shortly before Donald’s father died in 1948. His family troubled financial-ly, Donald left school and joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment, through which he was trained as a pilot, joining the Royal Air Force in 1953. He lost his wife and children’s un-known, and would thereafter intern with the engineer Crowhurst. Donald finally was dismissed from the army in 1956, after al-legedly stealing a car. Now a free man, Crowhurst established his own busi-ness, Electron Utilisation, attempting to establish a market for his patented radio direction finder The Navigat0r.

Business was far from booming for Crowhurst and when the Golden Globe Race was announced in early 1968, he saw it as a means of advertisement and publicity. Having never sailed on open ocean before, and without a ship to venture with, Crow-hurt mortgaged his home and electronics business to fund his newfound mission. He was financed heavily by entrepreneur Stanley Best, who helped him to fund the self-construction of a tri-maran. Construction of the Teignmouth Electron began in early August, and was almost completely built by the time Crowhurst was required to leave. He decided to work while on the move, often cutting from his construction site in the Isle of Wight to his launch-port in Teignmouth, some 150 miles in the op-posite direction of the voyage. At the Electron’s christening, the champagne bottle knocked against the ship’s hull didn’t shatter, a sign considered by most sailors to spell doom for the journey.

Donald left the port at midday, calm, for something reasonable, in a yellow one-piece, as ready as he could be to be the year long challenge. He failed to sail out of the port, and was dragged back in to wait for a better date. His voyage truly began a few hours later. A month into the race for Crowhurst, five of the nine men entered into the race had already retired, Nigel Tetley was off the coast of Brazil, Bernard Moitessier was nearing Cape Town, and Robin Knox-Johnston was well into the Indian Ocean, moving out of the coast less speed than the Frenchman, but still far in the lead.

Crowhurst was given a camera to document his journey, and was reporting with a calm and col-lected attitude. Off camera, his diary was littered with frantic notes of panic and destruction. Many screws had come loose, and water would slowly fill the boat in calm waters. With death on the horizon and humiliation and financial ru-in at his back, Crowhurst was forced to make a devi-us decision. He chose to lie. Without any means of GPS tracking to make sure he was on course, he sent a Morse radio message to The Sunday Times claim-ing that the winds and tides had changed in his favor, boosting his average of 60 nautical miles a day to 243 nautical miles in a single day. His new world record! Crowhurst’s apparent luck became a sensation back in England, and the tide of the race suddenly changed for his favor.

Crowhurst filled his logbook with fake weather reports and mileage. He detailed the real journey in a secret logbook, writing that he was actually traveling less speed than the Frenchman, and so far in the lead.

The final entries of isolation had overcome because the four months of isolation had overcome Crowhurst’s sanity.

The final entries of Donald Crowhurst’s secret log are the ramblings of a mad man. In eight days at sea, he would write 25,000 words on God, his own position in the universe, and the shame he was terri-fied to bring to his family and his country. The Teign-mouth Electron was discovered abandoned on July 10th, 1969. After a search for Crowhurst’s body, his secret log was discovered, and his deception revealed to the world. Donald Crowhurst was estimated to have jumped ship on July 1st of that year. Robin Knox-Johnston, the only finisher of the Golden Globe Race, donated the money he had won to Crowhurst’s family.

Fifty years after The Sunday Times’ initial an-nouncement of the compe-tition, a new Golden Globe Race was initiated. 18 sail-ors entered in July of 2018, of which only 5 remain. The current leader is Juan-Luc Van Den Heede, who is set to break the record for non-stop solo global circumnavigation with two weeks from this publishing.
By Chandler Naylor ‘19

A roster full of fresh faces wasn’t going to faze the Loyola Varsity Knights as they entered the 2019-2020 regular season. They were coming off a historic year marked by a league championship and a bid to the NYS Class A state tournament, but it also saw thirteen seniors hang up their jerseys. So with only three remaining players, the new-look Knights immediately got to work. They opened up with a commanding win against BWL and continued to grow as a unit despite tough losses against Friends Seminary and Regis. Christmas break arrived, and Knights ventured down to Florida for their annual basketball trip. It was during that one week that they found their identity, placing third in the Rock Holiday Classic Tournament after a huge win versus Lake Mary Prep. The team strengthened mightily, both in their cohesion and individual skillsets. With the league play heating up and postseason drawing closer, the Knights now have one goal in mind: back to back.

By Gus von Maur ‘22

My name is Gus von Maur and I am a member of the 2018-2019 Junior Varsity basketball team at Loyola. There are many ways to describe our basketball team, but the term that comes to mind when I think of the team is determination. Although we are not the most talented team in the league, there is no doubt in my mind that we have a chance to win the NYCAL Championship this year. Our team fights for every loose ball, does not stop playing until the clock hits zero, and supports each player through the highs and lows. Some key points driving us to our successes have been our leading scorer, Andrew Naber, the center of our offense, Alex White, and best of all, Coach J, the man who has pushed us hard enough to get us to the number two seed in the league. With ninety-eight points in six games, Andrew Naber has proven himself to be the best shooter on the team. However, he is not our only threat on offense, as Alex White has more defensive and offensive rebounds than I can count. Coach J has the asset that no other coach has in this league: his mind. He thinks of plays that will trick the other teams’ defenses as well as making sure everybody does his role athletically and academically. Now you may be asking yourselves, what makes our team special enough to win the NYCAL playoffs? The answer is simply that our team’s chemistry is too much for the other teams to handle. Everyone gets along with each other, making sure that no one feels terrible for a poor pass or shot. In conclusion, the Loyola JV Knights are a special group of kids with amazing assets. They are certainly a threat to all the other teams in the league.

By Dennis Coppin ’20

The Los Angeles Rams edged out the New Orleans Saints 26-23 on Sunday in an overtime thriller, with a Super Bowl appearance and both teams respective seasons on the line. A disoriented Rams offense got off to a slow start against the Saints’ defense, as they were left scoreless after the first quarter, down a deficit of 13-0. A bold Saints offense was not content to settle with a field goal on one of their first quarters, as quarterback Drew Brees completed a fourth down conversion through misleading the defense into an off-sides penalty. The Rams were able to shorten the deficit to 3 going into halftime after a strong 2nd Quarter. Two strong third quarter drives by both the Rams and the Saints gave way to an action-packed end to the game, the Saints still holding a tight lead going into the fourth quarter. The Rams were able to drive all the way up the field yet they chose to settle for a field goal just a few yards shy of the goal line on fourth down. The game was sent to overtime after a clutch game-tying field goal by Rams kicker Greg Zuerlein. In overtime, the Rams finished out the game strongly and took home the win to Los Angeles.

The New England Patriots faced off against the Kansas City Chiefs in a shootout that put high numbers on the scoreboard. Receivers Julian Edelman and Rob Gronkowski exposed gaps running slot routes and Tom Brady delivered in a classic fashion. Regardless of whether or not he is the greatest of all time, Brady’s performance on Sunday showed that the dynasty built by him and Bill Belichick is far from over. However, the Kansas City Chiefs did not go down easily. Rookie quarterback Patrick Mahomes launched passes down his field in the usual style. WR Tyreek Hill and TE Travis Kelce both had productive outings. Despite the Chiefs taking a lead with around two minutes to go, Tom Brady led a crucial drive miraculously converting on several third downs against a determined defense. Having led the team into overtime, Brady and the Patriots destroyed any chance of a Chief’s victory with an efficient drive to the end zone.

The Super Bowl has been decided. It will be Rams vs. Patriots. Both teams are powerhouse with innovating coaches and will be put to the test on Sunday, February 3rd.