

# GLADIATOR TIMES

## MARCH 2023

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### *POSI DAY 2023*

*by Alison Navarro-Delgado*

On February 3rd 2023, Goodwin Tech hosted its first ever after Christmas Posi Day. A successful one at that; given that the last non-covid Posi Day was in the year 2019.

This year, we had gifts ranging from gift cards and body care to camping equipment and more! Mr. Lynch and Mr. Bemis did an outstanding job at keeping the names rolling while announcing the winners of the raffles. Also to note that the Music Club did an incredible job entertaining the crowd during their half hour performance. Thanks to the efforts of DJ Murray and Mrs. Atkins, Music club was able to perform on the special occasion.



The day started off with the Freshmen who enjoyed themselves to an extent. Shy and quiet crowd but enjoying themselves. The student in the Freshman class who received the very first gift was Annabella Vega who chose a very sparkly Starbucks style cup. Following the Freshman ceremony were the sophomores who were a slightly livelier crowd but still awfully quiet. Teasing and shouting was heard all throughout the crowd on what winners should receive as gifts. Dillian John who is also part of the music club was the first of the sophomores to receive a gift. His choice of gift was a large KitKat candy.

Between classes, Music Club performed upbeat and entertaining music, one of the best songs was Can't Stop The Feeling where Elijah Munoz played the saxophone beautifully. Accompanied by Elijah were Taimaris Cruz, Mrs. Atkins and Brianna Stenholm with angelic vocals. Our very own Jackson Sloan was performing great on bass, improving and adding onto the music that was played by Mr. Murray.

Once the Junior class entered the Conference room where Posi Day was being held, the room became far more lively. The most laughter, talking and clapping that I personally think was heard all day. In the junior class the first to receive a gift was Vernise Hernandez who chose a Bath and Body Works body care kit. An amazing choice in my opinion given that Bath and Body Works fragrances, lotions and overall items are typically expensive. Saving the best for last, the Senior class of 2023 whose last Posi Day was pre-covid in 2019 had a somewhat relaxed ceremony. There was still enjoyment in the crowd, the first winner of the Senior class was Kayriamis Vega-McDowml; She received a McDonalds gift card. Though the class of 2023 was surprisingly quiet, Goodwin ended on a good note wrapping up yet another successful Posi Day.

### *GIRLS BASKETBALL* *by Megan Lukaszewski*

The Goodwin Tech Girls Basketball team finished their regular season with seven wins. As the girls concluded their final home game, they said goodbye to four senior players and two senior managers in a memorable senior night ceremony.

Sadie Clark and Trinity Chambers acted as managers for the girl's team for all four years. Trinity is a senior in HVAC and Sadie is a senior in Hairdressing. Trinity is an essential member of the Goodwin Tech Girls Volleyball team and Sadie is an essential member of the Girls Soccer Team. They both have shown their dedication and commitment as they have been known to always show up to assist with any needs of the team.

Megan Lukaszewski and Dezarya Trusty were the captains this season. They both were guards who were responsible for taking the ball up the court. In addition to being vital players in Goodwin's starting lineup, they are also well-respected students who take pride in their academics. Megan, measuring 5'8", is a three-sport athlete and a senior in Carpentry. She has been a varsity starter for the girls' team since her freshman year. Dezarya, measuring 4'9" is also a three-sport athlete and a senior in Plumbing. Additionally, she has been a member of the girl's JV & Varsity teams since her freshman year. Both of these captains have shown their leadership and dedication for the last four years.



Jillian Yeziarski and Kayla Vargas are the remaining two seniors who will be leaving this year. Jillian, measuring 5'6" is a senior in Electrical and a two sport athlete. Kayla, measuring 5'4" is a senior in Automotive and a three sport athlete. Jillian and Kayla both act as the forwards on the girl's team, dominating down low. They both have shown their commitment for three years, acting as essential players in the Gladiator's starting lineup. The Gladiators are left with some very promising juniors to lead the team next year, including Mariela Cartagena, Serenity Trinidad, and Ashley Sanches. In addition to these promising juniors,



sophomore Desirae Rodriguez will be an important asset to the Gladiators successes for next season.

### *DO YOU KNOW?..... Mrs. Antonacci* *by Aaliyah Lopez*

One thing that I always say and which i've also said in my last newsletter is that a teacher can either make or break a class, and Mrs Antonacci definitely makes the class. From her strong energy and eccentric personality there is never a dull class when she's teaching.

Mrs Antonacci also has a great way of teaching, she keeps it interesting. Unlike some teachers where it's almost like their goal is to bore us to sleep, I know we all have at least one teacher like that. But Mrs Antonacci is like anything but that. She even has some interesting unknown things about her, like her fear of gnomes because she says they're tricky and why do they even exist. Or she'll talk about her beloved pug who she claims to be the most beautiful creature on the planet.

If I had to describe Mr Antonacci in three words it would be energetic, outgoing, and funny. Everyday Mrs Antonacci teaches in full energy all throughout the day, which leads her to be very outgoing and loud while she is teaching. And along with her strong personality she can be pretty funny. Which makes class more enjoyable when you're able to laugh.



**Birthday:** October 17 B-day twins with Mrs Martinchek

**Biggest pet peeve:** When people don't own up to something they did

**If you had to teach another subject what would it be:**

US History **Biggest Fear:** Failure **Favorite food:** Nachos

**Favorite color:** Purple and orange

**Proudest accomplishment:** Personal - Children; Profesional - Making the senior class of 2020 still memorable

even with covid **Dislikes about the job:** Having to wake up early, school should be from 11:00 to 2:00 **Favorite**

**holiday:** Thanksgiving because there's no pressure of giving gifts and you can just get together and eat food all

day **How long have you worked at E.C. for?** Since 2006 (right after college) **If you had a million dollars with**

**only one day to spend it what would you do?** (Would Spend it all in 20 minutes) First pay off mortgage and

then buy tickets to go on a viking cruise **Hobbies:** Read, watch Celtics Bruins, and play garden scapes (has spent 100s of dollars on the game)

### *Black History Month* *by Jeremiah Barker*



In 1954 the U.S Supreme Court passed its historic ruling on Brown V. Board Of Education. The court ruled that all schools across the nation shall be desegregated. Jump to 1957 and racism in all of America and especially in the south was still rampant. Down in Little Rock, Arkansas the school board voted to gradually integrate students starting in the fall of 1957. They chose nine students who became known as the Little Rock Nine. They were Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, Jefferson Thomas, Terrence Roberts, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Minnijean Brown, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed and Melba Pattillo Beals. The day these nine students were set to go to school was September 4th, 1957 and the Arkansas national guard had to be called in to preserve the peace.

Originally Governor Orval Faubus (the Governor of Arkansas at the time) meant for them to prevent the students from entering, which they did but President Eisenhower federalized the guard (put them under federal control) and ordered them to secure the student's integration. What happened then was a total riot in Little Rock with white citizens even spitting at the little rock nine. In the end however, the students attended school and even with the racism they endured they persisted. The Little Rock nine's bravery and courage cannot be understated and we must always remember them.



Last year, in 2022, five of the nine students met to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Little Rock Central High integration. They were asked how racial issues had changed since they made history and two of the members noted that little to no progress had been made. Gloria Kalmark, of the nie students, encourages the younger generation to take advantage of moving forward and to make their communities a better place. Also that year a ceremony to rename the street in front of Little Rock Central High was held. The street's new

name was to be "Little Rock Nine Way".

*Photo 1: This combination of file photos shows the nine black teenagers who had to be escorted by federal troops past an angry white mob and through the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Sept. 25, 1957. Top row from left are Minnie Brown, Elizabeth Eckford and Ernest Green; middle row, Thelma Mothershed, Melba Pattillo and Gloria Ray; bottom row, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas and Carlotta Walls. (AP Photos/File)*  
*Photo 2: Elizabeth Eckford attempts to enter Little Rock Central High on 4 September 1957. The girl shouting is Hazel Massery. (Bettmann Archive/Getty Images)*

### *Special Education Department by Claudia Hernaiz Lopez*

This month, I had the pleasure of meeting with two people from the Special Education department here at EC Goodwin. Though mostly everyone at our school knows it exists, it is a department that doesn't have much light being shed on it. Because of this, I wanted to find out more so I reached out for an interview with two of the most pleasant women I've ever talked to.

I first spoke with Kaitlin Helaire, located in room 228, she is a personable Special Ed. teacher who has been working in that position for about eight to nine years. Although, five and a half of those years have been here at EC. When asked what her favorite part about her job was, she answered, "I like working with my students. We get to really know our students very well up here, so it's a very nice and homey atmosphere." She concluded that teachers in her department have a strong bond with their students, a pleasant fact that they all appreciate. Miss Helaire's hobbies include quite a bit of traveling, she's even going to Italy sometime this year. She talked about the fact that a lot of people don't really know what goes on in her department and backed this up by clarifying that most kids at our school aren't even sure where the Special Ed. department is. "Because we're in this corner, no one knows where we are," adding that they actually offer multiple therapies such as speech therapy and even counseling for those who might need it. She asks that anyone who has questions or is simply curious isn't shy and heads on up for more information.

Later on, after speaking with Miss 229 to speak with Patricia Kozikowski, a very Special Ed. department. When I questioned said, "I oversee each student to make sure student needs." Mrs. K has been a special years, and started working as a case manager ago. "Just being with the staff and the asked what her favorite part of her job was. working with highschoolers. I love their interesting, and it's exciting to see what their them grow." Mrs. K recently took up snowmobiling, a hobby that accompanies hanging out with her friends, watching movies and taking care of her nephew. As per usual, I asked if there was anything else that she would like to add, to which Mrs. K replied, "I'm looking forward to some more teacher help. We're very understaffed," an unpleasant circumstance that seems to be slowly taking over our building, but the Special Ed. department is doing their best with what they've got regardless.



Helair, I made my way to room wonderful case manager in the exactly what her job entailed she they are in compliance with their education teacher for twenty four at our school around six months students," she answered after I Later on, she added, "I really enjoy personalities. It makes it very next steps are. It's interesting to see

As I draw this to a close, I'd like to restate how delightful both Mrs. K and Miss Helaire were. After many emails back and forth, and finally sitting down to talk with both of them respectively, I'm beyond glad that I was able to speak with them. The Special Education department is, unfortunately, more often than not, overlooked, and I'm pleased that I can bring forward some new information about the department.

### *Carnations for Valentine's by Chaitaly Gonzalez*



We, the Class Officers for the Class of 2026 wanted to do something for our class and to start raising money.

I came up with the idea of doing something for Valentine's Day, and when I brought it up with the rest of the Officers it was decided that we would sell carnations.

We started planning and it was enjoyable being able to see our idea come to life was fun. Even though we knew it was a lot of work, we made the best of it and had fun while doing it. We all chose to sell carnations because we knew that there are a lot of couples who would want to give their significant other something for Valentine's Day, so we decided that a

carnation might do and cost less than roses.

We took orders for 3 days during each lunch wave of 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5, we ended up selling 110 carnations. When sales were over, we now had to prepare the flowers. On the delivery day of Valentine's Day, the Class Officers and some selected helpers went down to the Health Tech room to tie the notes and prepare the goodie bags.

During that time, we were all laughing and joking and working hard. After we had finished that, it was now time to pass out the Carnations. "It was fun." - Krislyn Tice, Freshman said. We separated into two groups, one group working the first floor/Trade Shops and the second group working the second floor. I was working on the first floor and I was nervous to say the least but I was still enjoying myself. The delivery went smoothly and we ended up finishing early and had some down time. To wrap this up, I hope everyone who got carnations enjoyed them and I can't wait to do this again next year and hopefully we sell over 200 carnations!



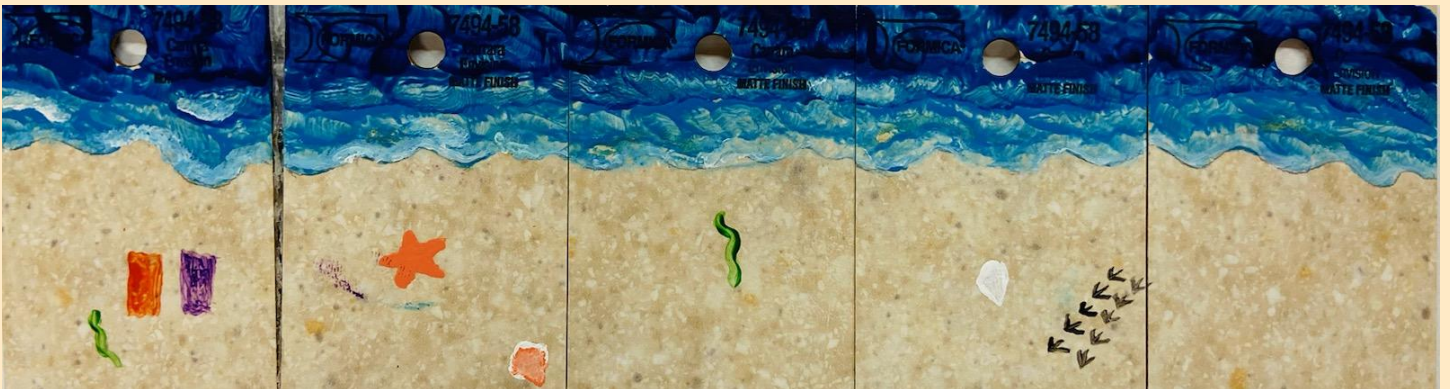
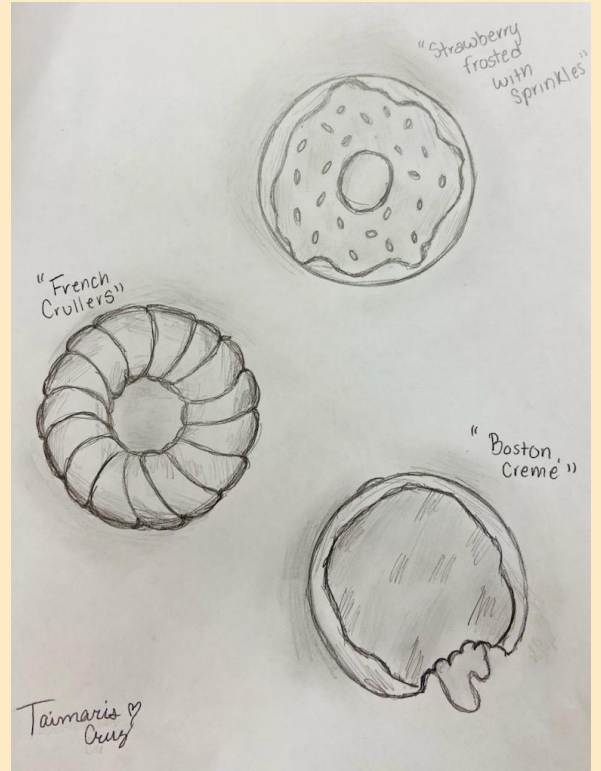
*Artist's Spotlight*  
*by Zoe Monero*



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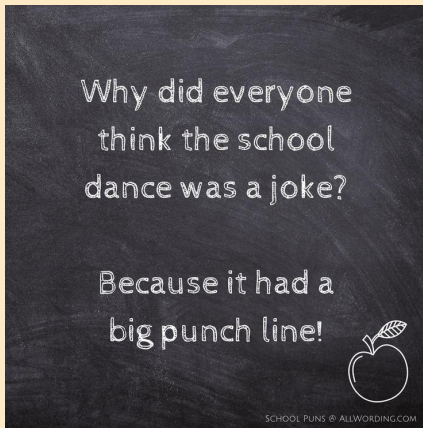


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### *EDITOR'S COMMENTS*

*By Alison Navarro-Delgado*

I'd like to start this off by thanking all the members of the Newspaper Club for making this month's issue possible. We have amazing writers and students who like to get involved at Goodwin Tech. The Newspaper club aims to have new issues released the first of each month and can be found on your class Google Classroom, as well as the official EC Goodwin Website under News and Announcements.

A special thanks to Mr. Houlberg, sophomore PMT teacher for making this club possible. Our goal is to have a student based program where the students, under supervision, take full control of the club. As more issues get published, we hope for more students interested in joining the club to add an addition to the paper. For more information on the Newspaper Club, reach out to me, Alison Navarro Delgado, Junior in Automotive. I look forward to seeing the Newspaper Club grow and progress.