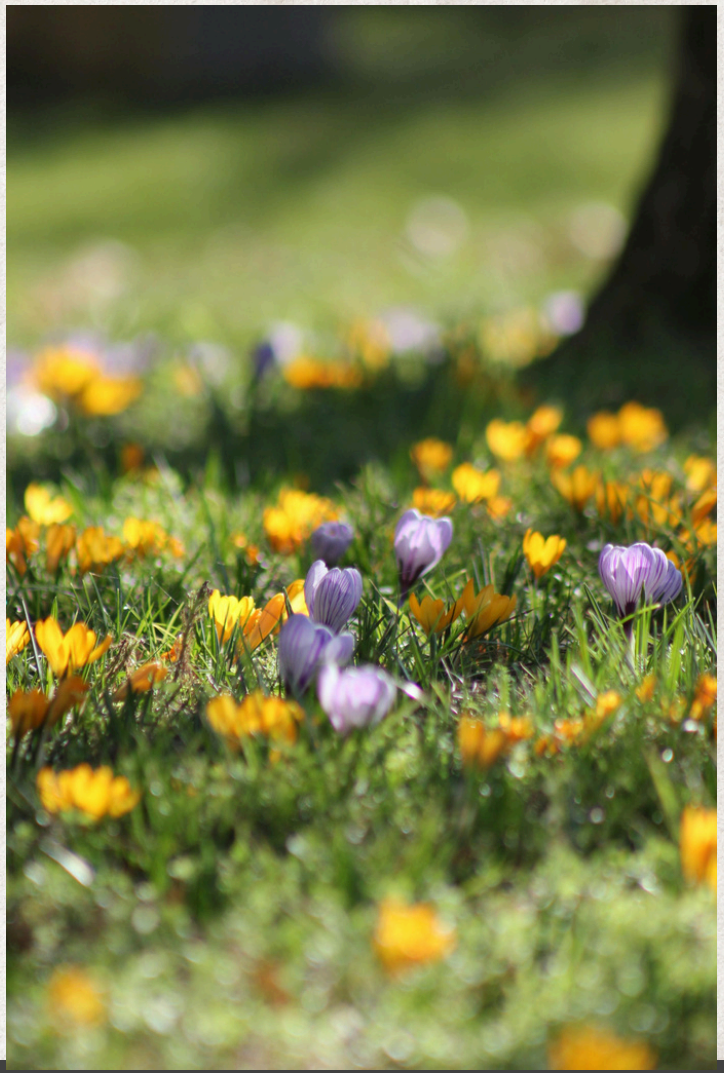
The Mansfield High School NEWSPAPER

SUMMER MINI-ISSUE

Paris, often referred to as the "The City of Light," is a dazzling metropolis where history, culture, and timeless elegance meet, Paris has become one of the world's most beloved cities. Established centuries ago along the Seine, it grew into a global hub of art, fashion, and revolutionary ideas, with every street and building reflecting its rich, storied past.

From the spires of Notre-Dame to the avenues of the Champs-Élysées, Paris is rich in history and beauty. Landmarks like the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and Arc de Triomphe captivate visitors, but in the quiet cafés, neighborhoods, and galleries, Paris reveals its true charm.

EXCLUSIVE
EXCLUSIVE
EXCLUSIVE



Beyond its historical and architectural grandeur, Paris is a city of innovation, constantly evolving while maintaining its charm. The city is at the forefront of fashion, setting trends, and is also a culinary paradise where you can enjoy everything from fine dining to quaint bistros. Its vibrant arts scene, with modern galleries and street art, ensures Paris remains an exciting cultural destination for visitors of all tastes.

Paris enchants its visitors with charming streets, the wonders of the Louvre, and enjoyable moments along the Seine. The city's distinctive blend of history, art, gastronomy, and romance offers unforgettable experiences that captivate travelers and leave them yearning for more.

EXCLUSIVE
EXCLUSIVE
EXCLUSIVE

SCROLL FOR FUN ARTICLES, STORIES, AND MORE WRITTEN BY STUDENTS!

THE MHS NEWSPAPER

SUMMER ISSUE

SCAN QR CODE TO READ!

ARTICLES
FUN FACTS
COOL INFO

STORIES
&
COMICS

AND
MUCH
MORE!



MHS NEWSPAPER

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Comic

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6 What to Know About the FIFA World Cup: 2026



THE REALLY COOL POOL PARTY

By: William Ng

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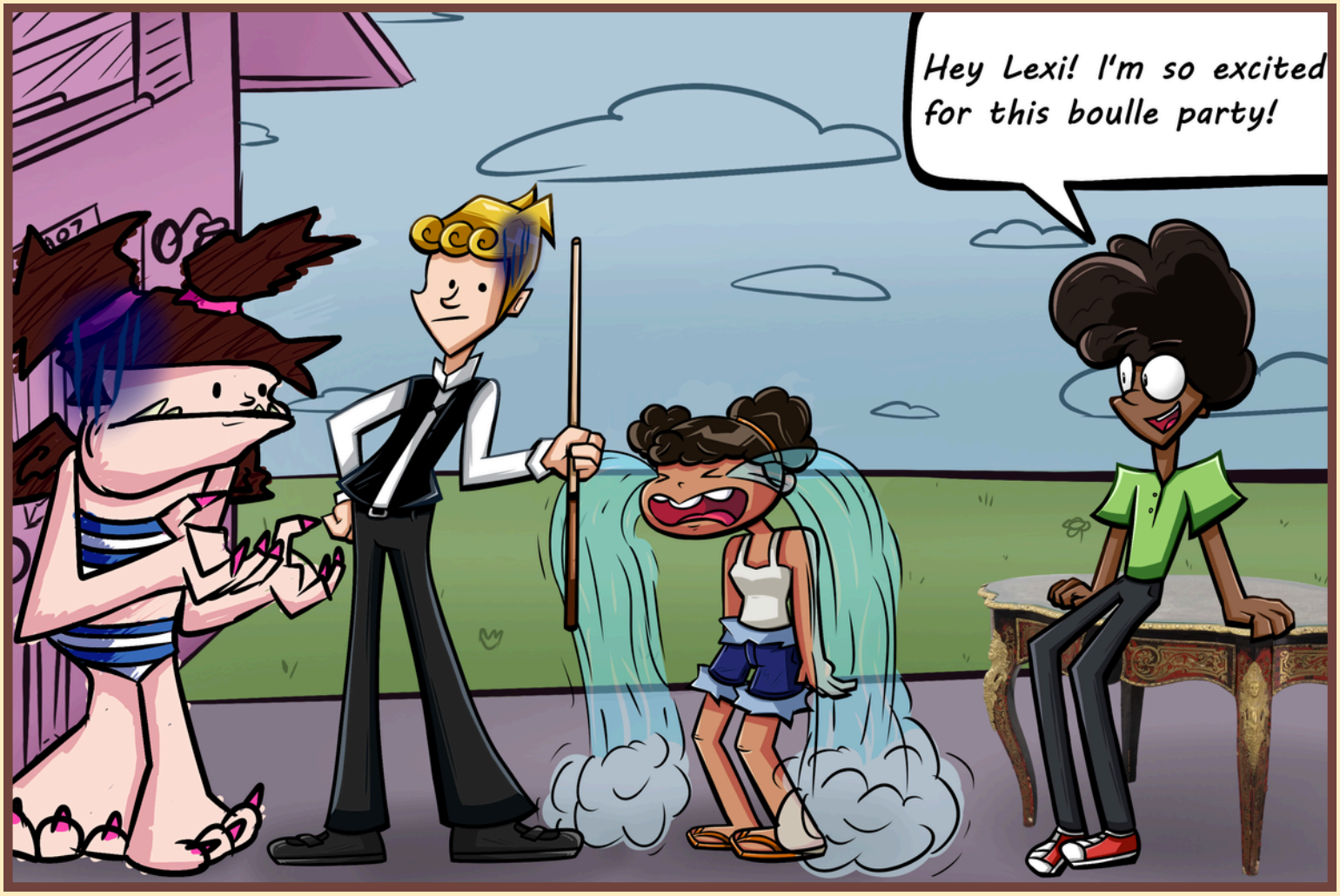
THE REALLY COOL POOL PARTY

By: William Ng





THE REALLY COOL POOL PARTY



By: William Ng

ICE CREAM AROUND THE WORLD

Spaghettieis (Germany): Vanilla ice cream put through a potato ricer, topped with straberry sauce



Kulfi (India): Kulfi is made using simmered full fat milk. It is thicker, denser, and creamer than regular ice cream.



Gelato (Italy): Gelato contains more milk and less cream than regular ice cream. The texture is fluffier, and the flavors are stronger.



Shave Ice (Hawaii): Similar to classic snowcones, but the ice is shaved rather than crushed. It is usualy topped with condensed milk or ice cream



TO BEE OR NOT TO BEE

CONTENTS:

TRI-M
BAND
MARCHING BAND
CHOIR
ORCHESTRA
THEATRE

TRI-M

CONGRATS TO EVERYONE WHO WAS ELECTED TO THE NEW BOARD!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE COFFEE HOUSE.
BE SURE TO KEEP AN EYEOUT NEXT YEAR FOR OUR NEXT EVENTS!

CONGRATS TO OUR MANY SENIORS WHO GRADUATED WITH TRI-M HONORS CREDIT!

BAND

Thank you to everyone who attended our Jazz and Percussion Night, Spring Concert, and the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra Concert!

Last events: Graduation

MARCHING Band

EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEXT SHOW THEME - LAS VEGAS: ALL ON BLACK!

SONG SELECTIONS:

ANOTHER DAY IN THE SUN - LA LA LAND

LUCK BE A LADY - FRANK SINATRA/GUYS AND DOLLS

AS THE WORLD CAVES IN - SARAH COTHRAN

MY WAY - FRANK SINATRA

AND MORE

SHOW DATES

*DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE - WE'RE AT ALL HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

SEPT 28 - OLIVER AMES

OCT 3 - WESTFORD

OCT 10 - HOME SHOW!

OCT 17 - BRIDGEWATER

OCT 24 - WAKEFIELD

Choir



Love to sing?
Contact Ms. Brophy at
laura.brophy@
mansfieldschools.com

Congrats to the
wonderful performers
for their spring
concert and
graduation!

Orchestra

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED OUR SPRING CONCERT AND THE MANSFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT!

LAST EVENTS:
GRADUATION





Theatre

Spring Play

Congrats to the cast and crew of *Cabfare for the Comman Man* for two INCREDIBLE performances! Huge thanks to everyone who came to support MHS drama!

Tony Night

Shout-out to everyone who attended and was awarded at this year's TONY NIGHT presented by the International Thespian Society! The MHS drama department viewed a wonderful video recap of their year by Gwen Low, and welcomed next year's ITS officers:

President: Hazel Vitonis
Vice President: Sarah Farley
Secretary: Miranda Roulleau
Clerk: Violet Roth
Social Media: Gwen Low

The attendees then enjoyed wonderful performances by graduating seniors Anna Graham, Jodie Stanislous, Izzie Carneiro, Vaibhav Daruri, Veda Tebeau, Wyatt Katon, and Tyler Iovino! Best of luck to ALL of ITS's graduating seniors! As always, theatre is open to anyone, and MHS drama would love to see some new faces for the 2026-2027 season.

Violet Roth

Identical

By Wren Connolly



We sat down next to each other in our row, sodas in hand. The tent was more packed than I would assume for a circus, renowned or not. I'd never heard of it, but Kade insisted we should check it out. It had been a while since we'd hung out, so I agreed.

"You excited to see the show?" He asked, a large grin growing on his face. "I can't wait. The performances look so crazy online, you wouldn't believe them."

"I bet it'll be cool," I responded. "I've never been a big circus guy, though. Didn't think you were, either."

He shrugged. "I'm not, but this place seemed different. My friends all said we would like it, so—"

The lights shut off abruptly, and everyone gasped. After a beat, the tent fell silent. Then, a blinding spotlight shone down in the center of the stage. A boy in a long, embellished red coat and top hat was standing beneath it with a cane in his hands - The Ringleader. He looked up at all of us, a huge white smile glinting under the shadow of his hat.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to welcome you all to Clarobo's Circus of Wonder," he exclaimed proudly. "Our show is unlike any other, as I'm sure you've heard. We have performers you can't find anywhere else—people with abilities that are one-in-a-million. I might even go as far as to say that for some of you, the performances that you see tonight could change your life." The crowd cheered, excited for the show to begin. Kade grinned and applauded; I just observed while absently clapping my hands.

"To begin our spectacle, please welcome our lovely opening act, The Magician and her Assistant!" He swept his cane up and stepped to the side, his spotlight flickering out. Another group of lights revealed a smaller, more traditional stage at the back of the theater. The red velvety curtains parted to reveal a petite girl with obnoxiously long white hair capped with a top hat. From the left of the stage, a taller lady with dark hair and a red and gold costume stood beside her. Neither said a word, their smile-plastered faces colored with striking clown makeup.

"Dude, the assistant's kinda hot," Kade whispered.

"Shush," I ordered. The Assistant did stand out, though. Something about her face was strange; her face paint was blurry, and although she was smiling, her eyes seemed distressed.

"I think she's crying," I realized. Kade looked at me, surprised, and narrowed his eyes at her. His face went slack.

"Oh, you're right," he agreed. "Should we do something? She probably isn't supposed to be."

"We can wait until the intermission," I replied. "It doesn't seem like anyone's noticed yet."

As the show proceeded, the two girls pulled a large box from the right curtains. It was an old trick—The Assistant gets into the box, it gets sawed in half, but the participant "miraculously" remains in one piece. Everyone who's seen the trick before knows that there are two people in the box rather than one. As far as I could see, there really wasn't anything amazing about this circus yet.

The Assistant stepped into the coffin and laid down. The Magician pulled a saw out from behind her back—I'll admit, I couldn't tell where she'd taken it from—and began to cut the box. The Assistant squeezed her eyes shut, her face tightening with agony. She was a good actress, I'd give her that. The Magician, too, seemed disgusted by cutting her in half.

The only weird thing was that there was blood spraying from the gash in the crate.

The Assistant let out a horrible, crackling scream as the blade presumably sawed through her torso. Kade grabbed my sleeve. "They couldn't actually…"

I shook my head. "No way. They added special effects like corn syrup to make it more impressive and engaging. Calm down."

"But where would they put the syrup?"

"Between the two women in the box, I'd guess."

"If you say so..."

The Assistant went limp, her head smacking the edge of the crate. They wheeled the bloody casket off stage and The Magician gave her best confident smirk, clearly still disgruntled. She held out her arms, and The Assistant walked out where she came, perfectly intact and unharmed. The two grabbed hands and bowed, the crowd shouting with praise and amazement. Something felt off about the scene, though. Kade noticed it, now, too. They seemed sort of…miserable. They plastered on some smiles and walked off stage either way.

The next trick was The Wheel of Death, in which a woman that they called The Phoenix was strapped to a rotating wooden wheel. You probably know the rest; somebody throws knives at her and somehow never hits her.

Anyway, it seemed like a normal trick. A girl titled The Telekinetic came onto the sand through the stage, armed with a multitude of swords, and threw them right at The Phoenix's head. They tweaked the lights so it looked like the metal was repelled away from her, but it was nothing crazy.

The show continued like that: a performer would do a normal circus trick, the visuals were a little skewed, and they moved on.

At least, that's how the fire breather, animal tamer, and intermission acts went. So far, no one in the audience left during either of the intermission breaks—likely because the girl performing them, The Sorceress, could levitate, create lightning in her hands, and set her hair on fire without it burning—so we never got to ask about The Magician and her Assistant.

"Viewers," The Ringleader announced after the second intermission act, "we urge you to look away now if you have a queasy stomach. Our next act is our amazing contortionist, The Raven. And I will say, folks, I've never seen anything like this."

"You didn't tell me there'd be gross stuff," I whispered to Kade.

"No, no," he assured me, "it's not that bad. But I've seen the stuff online, and I just… you'll have to see it, Pierce."

I turned back to the stage where a lilac spotlight cast upon a small figure. It was a girl. She was short, with puffy pale purple hair, dressed in all black. Her costume had some ballet elements to it, such as the lace up shoes and wide layered skirt, but it captured a raven well, what with its shimmery black feathered texture. She just stood in the spotlight, unmoving, for maybe thirty seconds.

Then comes the part I couldn't explain.

The girl, she…began to *twist*. At first, it was normal, but she kept going, turning and turning and turning until she was facing us again. Her waist looked like a Twizzler. I gripped my seat. How was this possible?

It didn't end there. She did that again, and again, and again, until her torso became a rope. Then, she stretched—I mean, like, taffy stretched. Like something was trying to pull her in half. She made it halfway to the tightrope that was around 30 feet above the ground before she sprung back into her normal shape. People screamed, gasped, took videos. Kade looked away, covering his mouth. I just stared on in horror, and a bit of awe, too.

"How did she…" I started.

"I thought it was CGI," Kade answered when he was able to speak again.

"They couldn't have—"

"Drugged us? I'm not sure, but I feel pretty conscious, dude."

We paused for a moment. Then, I said, "Let's…Let's go get some popcorn, yeah?"

"...Yeah."

The next intermission act went on and nearly everyone left to get some fresh air (The Sorceress seemed kind of relieved at that). People were going wild. I could see how this place was so popular. It just made me wonder how much Kade spent to bring us.

Once we had the popcorn, and were about to re-enter the tent, we both stopped.

"What if we went home?" I asked. "We can watch a movie or something if you want. It's just...this whole place feels suspicious."

Kade thought about it. "I don't know why, but I do get the feeling that we shouldn't go back in...Ah, but it's only a circus, right? What's the harm?"

"I guess..." We walked back inside.

I assumed the tightrope was next, since all the lights other than The Ringleader's were focused on it. A red-haired girl, The Devil, was standing at the end of the rope. I was a little nervous for her, not only because she was going on a tightrope, but because she planned to walk across it in boots that resembled goat hooves: imagine four-inch heels, but without the heel part, and a really thick sole around the ball of her feet.

"What crazy stuff are they gonna pull with this?" I wondered to Kade.

"Not sure. Maybe she'll jump around or something."

"It's practically impossible to safely jump on a tightrope, though..."

But not only did the girl in high heels jump across it, she danced. The woman performed a full-on tango. On a rope. Dozens of feet in the air.

And it got worse; she leaned off the side.

At first, everyone jumped out of their seats, but the girl didn't fall. She swung around the rope and landed back on the top.

Amidst the roaring applause, Kade leaned over and asked, "You wanna explain that one?"

I distantly shook my head. "There has to be a way. Maybe there are magnets in her shoes and it's a lead wire? I don't..."

But it just kept getting more insane. The next show was their acrobat, The Ballerina. Again, I relied on it being a trick of the light, but...

...She split in two.

She was doing her act, flipping and rolling and being a normal acrobat. However, during one of her backflips, she turned into two different people. Maybe a double came out and I didn't see, but that seemed unlikely because half the girl's costume was blue, and half was red. When she "split", one person was in blue, the other in red.

Neither one was wearing the half and half costume. When she ended her act, the two figures perfectly melded into a single person again.

"This doesn't feel right," I muttered. "Something is definitely off. This place is insane. There's no way they have the funding for this stuff."

"Unless it's real," my brother answered.

"But it can't…" I couldn't get through my sentence. I was watching the impossible. How could I say it was not real?

"Isn't seeing believing?" Kade asked. "That's what you always say."

"But I'm not even sure *what* I'm seeing."

After that, I didn't speak for the rest of the circus. The Nymph could float across the stage from one trapeize hoop to the next without falling. The Telekinetic could make objects actually float. It was unbelievable.

I couldn't shake the feeling that it was wrong.

The Ringleader gave the finishing speech. Everyone applauded, and I could've sworn The Ringleader looked dead at us as he left.

"Did he just…?" Kade muttered. I didn't respond.

Once the show was finished, the crowd sat in their seats in shock for a good while. I stared at the circle stage, dumbfounded. Everyone began to stand, but I was so zoned out that I didn't even notice. Kade had to tap me on the shoulder to wake me up.

"You alright, dude?" He asked. "Freaked you out pretty good, huh?"

"It's not right," I mumbled. "None of it. Something is wrong here, Kade. I know it."

My brother sighed and stood up. "Let's talk to The Ringleader, then."

I blinked at him. "What?"

"We saw which way he went, and you saw the look he gave us. He wants us to follow him."

"But security—"

"Everyone is already gone."

I looked around and saw that he was right. Even the security guards had gone outside. It was almost like we were supposed to be left behind.

I stood up. "Well, if you really want to, let's go. But then we're leaving. We have to get home by ten, remember?"

He smiled. "Of course."

NERDY NECTAR

SCIENCE: WHAT CAUSES THE OCEAN'S TIDES?

Tides are mostly the result of the moon's gravitational pull on the Earth. The moon's gravity pulls the side of the Earth nearest to it towards it, raising the water level and creating a bulge, or high tide. Land also experiences the pull, but to a much lesser degree. Another bulge forms on the opposite side of the Earth due to tidal force, which is the difference between gravitational pull on a specific location and average gravitational pull on the Earth. The opposite side from the moon and the side closest to the moon have the same tidal force, so both sides have water bulges. Tidal force also causes low tide zones in between the high tide zones, where there is less water since it has been pulled away from these regions. As the Earth rotates through these zones, it will experience two high tides and two low tides each day. The sun, although much farther away from the Earth, also contributes to the tides, with less than half as much force as the moon does. When the moon and sun are in line with each other, especially high and low tides called spring tides occur. Conversely, when the moon and sun are at a ninety degree rotation from each other, their tidal forces disagree, causing weaker tidal differences known as neap tides. Wind and weather can affect tides in specific areas as well.

SPORTS: WHY IS FOOTBALL KNOWN AS "SOCCER" IN THE U.S.?

The first official rules of football were recorded in 1863 in England by the Football Association. At the time, rugby football was also popular, characterized by allowing players to pick up the ball under certain circumstances. The game recorded by the Football Association became known as association football out of a need for differentiation. In the 1880s, Oxford students nicknamed rugby football as "rugger" and association football as "assoccer," later shortened to "soccer/socker." The term "soccer" was never really used in Great Britain because by the 1900s, rugby football was known simply as rugby, and "football" became a lot less confusing. However, this was not the case in other countries, such as the United States. Gridiron football, the game we Americans know as football today, emerged in the late 1800s and became the most popular version of football. This sport got to hold the title of "football" in its popularity, so association football players used their nickname of "soccer" in the country.

LITERATURE & LANGUAGE: GERMAN WORDS WITHOUT A CLEAR ENGLISH TRANSLATION

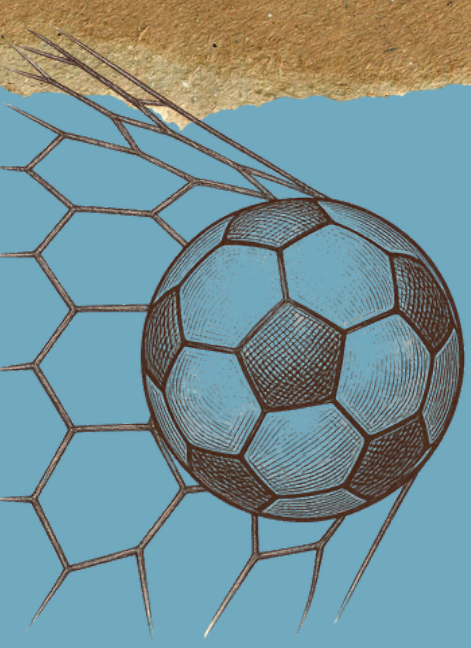
Die Gemütlichkeit = A cozy feeling that comes from being in a comfortable environment and relaxing after a difficult day

Die Gretchenfrage = A question intended to uncover someone's true intentions that is often given an evasive response

Sprachgefühl = Describes someone who very easily learns new languages to a mastery level (literally translating to "language feeling")

Verschlimmbessern = To strive for perfection to the point of worsening the final product

Kitsch = Describes tacky or gaudy art or trinkets, which are often cheap and poorly made, pretentious, or overly sentimental



What to Know about the FIFA World Cup 2026

As the 2026 FIFA World Cup continues across North America, fans have already been treated to memorable performances, historic milestones and a few unexpected stories.

Written by Gia Sen



Global reach

The tournament has exhibited the growing global reach of the sport. African nations have continued to make their presence felt, with countries such as Cape Verde and Senegal proving that traditional soccer powers can no longer overlook emerging programs. The expanded 48-team format has given more nations an opportunity to compete, creating new stories and inspiring fans around the world.

Cabo Verde's Vozinha

One of the tournament's biggest surprises came from Cape Verde, making its World Cup debut. Facing powerhouse Spain, few expected the small island nation to earn a result. However, the iconic 40-year-old goalkeeper Vozinha produced a remarkable seven-save performance to secure a scoreless draw, instantly becoming one of the breakout stars of the tournament. His performance not only frustrated one of the favorites to win the World Cup, but also introduced millions of viewers to a country appearing on soccer's biggest stage for the first time.



No Scotland No party





The World Cup's impact can also be felt closer to home. As Boston prepares to welcome visitors from around the globe, Mayor Michelle Wu recently signed a sister-city agreement with Glasgow, Scotland, strengthening cultural ties between the two cities. While seemingly unrelated to soccer, the development reflects the international connections and cultural exchange that major sporting events often inspire. Other signs of the Scots' impact on the city include the traffic cones on every statue, the pubs that have run out of beer, and the constant chanting: No Scotland No Party!

The Golden Trio

History was also made among the officials. American referee Tori Penso and assistant referees Brooke Mayo and Kathryn Nesbitt formed an all-female officiating crew, marking a significant milestone for women's representation in men's international soccer.





Who will win?

An economist whose statistical model correctly predicted the winners of the previous three World Cups has projected the Netherlands to lift the trophy in 2026. While predictions are never guaranteed, the Dutch have looked strong early in the tournament and have quickly become one of the teams to watch as the knockout rounds approach.

As matches continue and champions emerge, the 2026 World Cup is proving to be about more than just soccer. From underdog nations and historic achievements to cultural connections reaching all the way to New England (New Scotland?) the tournament continues to demonstrate why it remains one of the world's most celebrated sporting events.