

Hopewell Hi-Lites

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Above: Eli Loncar makes a shot for the boys basketball team.

Left: The girls team defends the hoop. Photos courtesy of Madelynn Farkas.

Hopewell's Basketball Teams Look to Rebound in 2016-17

BY: TURNER WILSON

It was a tough year for both of Hopewell's basketball squads last year. While they played better than their record shows, they didn't quite achieve their maximum potential. The girls' and boys' team combined for only a single win last year, a far-cry from the girls' team who won back to back state championships in 2006 and 2007, and the 22-9 2007 boys' team that qualified for the WPIAL playoffs. Despite last year's shortcomings, however, there is no doubt now that they are two teams on the rise.

Emilie Hovanec believes that her senior season has been an improvement from last year. "Last year, we weren't experienced on a varsity level, so now this year, most of our girls know what to expect." The team is tasked

with replacing graduate Emily Cropper, but Hovanec says Taylor Parrish has been able to take on her role as a point-scorer. Juniors Taylor Parrish and Lauren Kaminski have stepped up the most this season. "They have only been playing for three years and contribute so much to the team." The team's gained experience has led them to a strength in being able to rely on each player on the floor. The team stands at 2-7 right now, but the biggest game for the Lady Vikings lies ahead. "Obviously, Central Valley is a big rival, we improved a lot from last (matchup), so it will be a good game."

On the boys' team, Eli Loncar believes the team's strength lies in their competitiveness. "One of our strengths is our willingness to keep playing no

matter the circumstances," says Loncar. It is this determination that has made this season an improvement over last. The team will have to replace Griffin Curry, the team's MVP from last year, and Austin Zuppe, who was a leading scorer. Mike Kovacic has stepped up to play a role in helping the team replace those losses. "We are a team full of guards that are desperate for a solid post presence and, this year, Mike Kovacic really stepped up for us to rebound and to score some easy bunnies." Loncar, a senior this year, is looking forward to playing his last year at Hopewell because of his teammates. "We all get along exceedingly well and that makes for a smooth season." The team is currently 2-8, with some big rivalry games remaining.

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Happenings

The Man Behind the Band

BY: MADELYNN FARKAS

Mr. Christopher Keiper is the Hopewell band director. He says he loves music "I love the fact that every single day I get the opportunity to make music with my students, even when we get frustrated about the upcoming concert or learning a new piece of music." Mr. K has been the band director for eleven years.

He started with music because his parents were performers. He says, "At a very early age my family would sing together, my father played guitar and all of us kids would sing along. Instrument lessons began in fourth grade, which was my first exposure to band."

Joining band comes with many benefits. Mr. Keiper was in band when he was young, so he has personal experience saying, "When I was young, band was my entire social life, it taught me leadership, responsibility, and discipline." The band has three different sections, concert band, jazz band, and marching band.

The marching band season starts in July when the notorious band camp comes along. Then they start performing. Football games, parades, school pep assemblies, and more.

At the end of the marching band season in April the band takes an annual trip. Last year the trip was to Orlando Florida, Disney World and this year the marching band will be going to New York City.

During when the Marching band takes a break from December to April, concert and jazz band are in full swing, are busy performing and preparing for the Christmas and spring concert.

Mr. Keiper, in addition to band, still has many music interests. He says, "If I could have a band it would be a punk ska band, I have played guitar since college, 17 years." Ska is a music genre that mixes reggae and rocksteady.

His inspiration in life is mostly from music. He says, "I find inspira-

tion in dramatic music of any kind. If it has good guts, I'm drawn to it." He brings his music interests to the band making it hard to pick a favorite, saying "I usually get hooked on a tune as I prepare to teach to it." As the music inspires Mr. Keiper, he inspires his students to play with guts.



Photo Courtesy: Madelynn Farkas

Cyberbullying: How Social Media Contributes

BY: ERIN KUNZMANN

Cyberbullying is any bullying that takes place over electronic technology. It is different from the general bullying because it is happening all the time. It continues when kids come home from school every day, on the weekends or anytime they aren't anywhere near the bullies.

Today, the world revolves around the internet and social media. Social media gives kids the ability to contact each other whenever they want. This leads to more cyberbullying and less physical bullying happening every day. According to stopbullying.gov, about 15 percent of high school students experienced cyberbullying in 2013, and the numbers are growing.

Cyberbullying is more difficult than physical bullying to get a hold of

and stop as an outsider. Messages can be sent and pictures can be posted but they can be deleted as fast as they were uploaded. While that doesn't mean they're gone forever, it does make it harder to find again. When the victim of cyberbullying tries to seek for help but the evidence is gone from social media, it is harder to prove the victim was hurt.

Social media and technology are not solely to blame for cyberbullying. These things can be used for positive things, too, but it is just as easy to use them to hurt someone. Social media makes it easier for the bully to contact the victim. The bully might not be as big and tough in person as they can be on the internet. It also makes the bully look better to his/her friends. They think they look cool, but in reality they are really

hurting someone.

The effects of cyberbullying, and bullying in general, are the same. They give the victim the sense that they are not good enough or they don't deserve to be here. Effects of bullying include lower self-esteem, more health problems.

Preventing bullying is easier said than done. Talking about it can be hard for the victim. There is always someone out there that is willing to listen if you need help. Don't think that no one cares because someone does. It may be hard to come out and ask for help, but in the long run, it will be worth it. We are in a generation where technology is taking over and it is making bullying easier. We, as a whole, need to try to prevent it as much as possible.



Connor Forrest



Anthony Gennaro



William Tarleton



Josh Miklos

Students of the Month- December and January

BY: ALEXA BURAK

Connor Forrest excels in academics and sports. He is one of the top five in his class. As a gifted student, he doubled up on math as a freshman and has doubled up in sciences as a sophomore. He is on the Seaperch team and also plays academic games. Connor also has been a starter on the football team for two years, a feat for a sophomore. He also excels in wrestling, as he was awarded a letter and a scholar athlete award.

Anthony Gennaro is president of his class and president of the

National Honor Society. He is also involved in French Club, Student Council, and Viking Ambassadors. Not only is he a great citizen, he excels in sports and academics. He is a scholar athlete and is part of the track and field team. He hopes to pursue civil or aerospace engineering.

William Slick Tarleton is a man of many talents. He is currently taking five AP classes. He is a section leader in band and is a member of National Honor Society, Jazz Band, Latin Club and Chess Club. He also

is bass guitarist in Night Frog. William also is the male lead in this year's musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Last year, he was nominated for Best Supporting Male Mancini Award as his role as Frank Abagnale Sr. William hopes for a nomination this year.

Josh Miklos is a sophomore and is described as a hard worker and kind kid. He received a letter as a freshman in basketball. He is a scholar athlete. He is a starter this year and is currently taking all honors classes.



Walking the Runway of Success

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

On December 9th, Hopewell's auditorium was transformed into a fashion fiesta. The 24 models strutted down the improv "runway" to display the array of fashion to an excited audience. A semester of hard work and dedication payed off in an amazing show, with a great display of up and coming designer's fashion pieces. The six houses featured that night were Avalon, Eccentricity, Aberrant, Greenleaf, DiCaprio, and Boho.

Each house had plenty of models and unique outfits, with various designs and styles. Aberrant's designs featured eyes, which gave off a feeling of mysticism and wonder.

"I think the fashion show went well," said senior and fashion designer Erin Kunzman. "There were definitely some flaws, but overall it was a good experience." Erin recommended a mandatory dress rehearsal to make the show go smoother in the future, allowing the designers

to have more interaction and input with their models. "That way we can tell them 'yeah like that' or 'no a little more to the left' before the show." "In the end, we made a gross total of around \$610," explained Mrs. McCarty. "The money we made will be used for an Italian culinary trip we have planned later this year." McCarty went on to say all left-over profits will go toward next year's show as well as other trips in the future.



New Gymnasts: Cheerleaders Hit the Bars

BY: ERIN KUNZMANN



This year's varsity gymnastics team is bringing in a new kind of talent to help keep their team going. Captain Erin Kunzmann is out for the season with a knee injury. Without one of four constant scores, the team needed to bring in at least one more score. On all four events, each gymnast does one routine. They are judged on each and given a score out of ten.

They recruited freshmen Avalina Anderson and Meghan Parrish and senior Sydne Davidson, all three of which have never done a day of gymnastics until October. The three girls have been cheerleaders before which gives them a little background in the sport.

"It's a different experience going from cheer to gymnastics. There is a lot of differences between the two that you don't really notice," Meghan Parrish said.

Gymnastics is one of the hardest sports to jump into at a high school age. Being a cheerleader helps a little, but there are also three other events that have no comparison to cheer. Floor is the easiest for a cheerleader, but vault, bars and beam require a bit

more practice.

Starting out in gymnastics can be difficult, but having the confidence, encouragement and willpower to try your best for your team can certainly help and take you a long way.

Meghan is shooting to be an all-around competitor this year, meaning she will do all four events. "Bars are my weakest point, but everyone is really doing their best to encourage me and help me get better. I'm willing to help my team if it gets us closer to winning."

At their first meet against Thomas Jefferson and Baldwin, they scored a total of 125 points, a high score for a bronze (the lowest division) team. With help from Robin Lutz, Cristy Senskey and Emily Plesluski, the current lead scorers, the gymnastics team is hoping to take home a State Title as a bronze team.

Taking the top four scores on each event for the team score, leaves one spot up for grabs. Depending on how that day's meet goes, Avalina, Meghan and Sydne could each put up a score on at least one event to help their new team out.

Parker Ultralite 30+ Bow Review

BY: RYAN GAILEY

On that cold winter day you have been waiting all day and finally you see a buck 40 yards away. You pick up your Parker Ultralite 30+ bow, then draw back slowly. It stops before you in front of a tree and finally walks into the open, and you let your arrow fly. It runs 30 yards and falls over. Choose Parker or choose nothing.

Parker bows has been in continuous operation since 1985. They have a life time warranty and are made in America. Parker has over 500,000 bow owners, and those numbers are growing fast.

The Parker Ultralite 30+ came out in 2016. Not a lot of stores sell parker bows, so you have to buy them online or used. The Ultralite 30+ is a little expensive it's \$400, for having nothing on it. There's only a camo finish you can get. The bow comes in 2 different draw weights: 50-60 lbs, 60-70 lbs. Ultralite 30+ shoots around 320 fps, which is pretty fast for a compound bow. It's also fairly light, for only weighing 3.7 lbs.

Parker bows shoot very smooth, and are extremely accurate. With a 80% let off you can hold your Parker bow back longer.

I give the Parker Ultralite 30+ a 8 out of 10. I think there should be more than 1 color for the bow then camo, such as black finish to the bow. The other bad thing about the bow is that they are hard to find in store and not everyone wants to spend \$400 on a bow they've never seen in person.



Culture

Is Technology Entering the Human Body?

BY: TURNER WILSON

I found myself gazing across the cafeteria one December morning, silently observing everyone like I sometimes do. Every other person was on his or her phone, whether they were sharing information, listening to music, doing homework, or playing games. I then said one of my not-so well thought out ideas, "Why doesn't somebody invent a cell phone embedded in people's forearms?"

I did have legitimate reasons. I had forgotten my phone at home that day, and had two assignments in school that required research in class. It would've been helpful if I could just unlock a screen on my left arm and look up what I needed to. If doctors could imbed the phone within a person that there would also be a way that it would be charged by your blood-flow. People would have full function of both hands while using their phone. And how annoying is it to have to take the phone out of your pocket to take a picture? That takes so long, people might miss the moment altogether. The dropped phone would no longer be the most chronic, overwhelming, unsolvable problem our society faces, as long as people don't get into too many brawls. And even then, those equipped would have a very hard portion of their arm to hit people with.

We could play music using our body as a speaker, have the world's favorite invention, the internet, not in our pocket, but literally coursing through our veins. America would lose its dependency on wall outlets. All of the average teenager's problems would be solved, except for it isn't real, or is it?

To first understand the desire for such drastic technologies, the massive market created by teenagers must be understood. A report from Common Sense Media says that teenagers spend 9 hours a day using "media devices," which is anything with a screen.

That is more time than we Hopewell students spend in school (8 hours) and more than the average teenager sleeps (7.5 hours). High school students view the world through a mobile media platform, and there is no other way of putting it. Many teens spend more time communicating using their phones than talking with people face to face. As with anything that takes up nine hours, there are extreme views on both sides. Some say teenagers are losing their sense of empathy by communicating only through text and that phones are taking away our humanistic qualities. Others will argue that phones allow us connection to anywhere in the world at any time, and that technology is supremely important. These views make so called "cell phone implants" so controversial.

The concept started in 2002, when British researchers experimented with implanting a cell phone reception receiver in a person's ear. The person was able to make and receive calls using that implant, and it was unique because nobody else could hear the call. In 2013, a man implanted a smart-phone sized computer underneath his skin that communicated with him through a series of beeps and flashing lights. The most recent implant technology news involves a microprocessor that is implanted in the skin (like a dog's GPS technology implant) that allows users to unlock their phone or his or her house by simply getting the chip close to the device that needs to be unlocked.

The market is certainly there, as America's screen-obsessed youth will soon become the primary consumers in society. And while it may seem far-fetched, it is more likely than not that this technology will advance and become more mainstream as time goes on. So yes, it is possible that we will live in a society where the technology doesn't rule us, but is us.

Pizza ATM

BY: HALEY GAULT

Pizza 24/7 cooked to perfection by a machine

In Cincinnati, Ohio something amazing has been placed in the hands of college students and staff. The dining hall of Xavier University has received the Pizza ATM. The machine was invented by Paline, a French company. Such ATMs are building a history of being popular in Europe due to the simple fact that people hate waiting and enjoy convenience.

Late night pizza is a college staple anywhere in the U.S. due to study sessions, parties, and more. Since the college is very big on helping their students and keeping them safe, the university was not opposed accepting the ATM. Although it is in the testing phase still, the few pizzas that have been eaten were said to be fantastic.

The pizza that comes out of the ATM is boxed and ready to go. At just \$9 to \$10 a pop, a 12-inch pie is made within minutes of placing the order on the touch screen computer. The wait time for this pizza is only three minutes which is very convenient for busy students. Each machine holds up to 70 pizzas total that are hand crafted before being placed inside by the staff of the school's dining hall.

Students can access the pizza any time of the day or night which becomes very attractive to college students that are always on the go. One small step for pepperoni, one giant leap for pizza kind.

Rogue One: A Star Wars Disappointment?

BY: GARRET ROBERTS

Rogue One is not a “Star Wars” movie. Just like it was advertised, it is actually a Star Wars “story.” The movie doesn’t focus on Jedi or Luke Skywalker, but rather the building of the rebellion we see in *A New Hope*. Showing the mundane part of universe, it was proposed to be an interesting look at what other people would do during the rebellion. But, did it turn out that way?

Rogue One characters fall short of expectation. The two main characters, Jyn and Cassian, are bland and unlikeable. The first time we see Cassian is all you need to know about his character: he kills people. I was expecting an interesting character arc, such as Finn’s in *The Force Awakens*, but the only development we see in Cassian is he has a crush on Jyn. The same is true for Jyn. She doesn’t show any character depth in the movie, and her only motivation is finding her father. Felicity Jones did a good job performing what she was given, but the bad

writing kept her from the perfect role.

Jyn and Cassian wouldn’t be as disappointing if the supporting cast wasn’t so interesting. The blind Force prophet Chirrut and berserker Baze add an interesting dynamic to the movie. They feel like real people with their own motivations and drives, much like other Star Wars characters. K-2SO (the robot) was genuinely witty and funny, adding some much needed humor to the film. The character who impressed me the most was Darth Vader, showing more power and intimidation in this movie than the original trilogy. If they made an entire movie using only the Darth Vader in *Rogue One* it would be more interesting.

Some of the cinematography in *Rogue One* wasn’t impressive. CGI characters (such as Grand Moff Tarkin) look fine by themselves but when put next to a real face, they give off an “uncanny valley” effect, causing bad whiplash between real and animated. The space scenes should have been done in this style,

but instead they went with the cheaper way of using miniatures. Certain scenes of impressive space fleets look plastic and unnatural. The lighting in the scenes feels like George Lucas (who did not actually work on the movie) was holding a flashlight over the box, hoping it looked like a sun. These scenes broke the immersion for me, and made the movie feel cheaply produced and slapped together. The 1970s movies made space feel real and awesome, not like a set in a kitchen.

Rogue One didn’t live up to expectations, and I would give it a 4/10. It’s below average, and doesn’t really impress like other movies already in the series. Character flaws and bad cinematography were distractions while watching the movie. Nothing could make it stand out, not even Darth Vader making a Force Choke pun. *Rogue One* ended up being the odd one out.

Childish Gambino’s New Album

BY: TANNER McMakin



“Let me into your heart” those killer words you hear in Childish Gambino’s new song *Me and your Mama*, gives chills. His new album *Awaken, My Love!* Not only brings intense sessions of bass but also a sense of relaxation. Childish Gambino put a hold on rapping to really bring out the soul singer in himself. He not only gives off relaxing vibes, but makes you feel what he is feeling. Manipulating your emotions.

“Childish Gambino album is a slow-burning triumph,” says Apple

Music listening to this album when you’re stressed or at work. If you’re not of fan of pop you may not like it. Gambino does not bring the old age guitar solos or 90’s rap style. Listen to his album with a nice set earbuds or headphones that have really good bass. This is the only way you’ll get to experience this album to its fullest.

When doing homework, or any busy work this album can help keep you sane. Maybe while you’re doing a project or studying for a mid-term this is the album to keep playing. Even when summer rolls around this album would fit great at a pool side relaxation session. However, I would suggest not to listen when you’re working out. This album can’t give the energy to get through the last rep.

This album gave off a Pink Floyd kind of vibe with its intense sessions of gospel vocals and electronic rhythm with songs such as *Baby Boy*, *The Night Me and Your Mama Met*, and *Redbone*. The album overall was very strong and very powerful. Any person would love this album with 9/10!

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Being a BeachBody Coach

BY:TANNER MCMAKIN

With the start of the New Year lots of people have made the resolution of getting healthy. “How?” they ask. Well for starters, get in contact with your local Beachbody coach. Tanya McCullough, one of our local coaches, gave some advice for people looking to complete their new year’s resolution, “Plan ahead and stay focused.” Beachbody coach’s primary objective is to get you healthy. Tanya said “It’s good to do it on your own, but having a coach can give you support and credibility.”

The key to getting yourself in shape according to Beachbody coaches is to not only eat right but to exercise. Tanya says “Getting healthy is 80 Percent nutrition and 20 percent exercise.” A lot of the time people want to eat healthy,

however getting in that one salad that takes 20 minutes to make is quite the hassle, making whom-ever turn to junk food to fulfill that hunger. That’s why planning your meals ahead is important. Tips from Tanya say to “Take a list to the grocery store. This list should include meals for the week for, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Then before the beginning of a work or school week make those meals you planned for the week. Making the hassle of eating healthy easy.”

Eating healthy is the right start but exercising is also a necessary component. The magic rule is to get at least 5 workouts in a week for at least 60 minutes each. This can be tough for people who work or go to school, but getting into a workout class can help keep up with that exercise regimen and help you on the

way to getting healthy. Beachbody also offers up selected workouts online that anybody can do! This tool can give you the power to do a workout any place and anytime.

New Year’s resolutions give goals to reach for a places to be. Completing these goals



Courtesy of Google images

The Next Generation of the Wizardly World

BY:ALEXA BURAK

As Potter fans dust off their wands and break out their favorite robes, they are greeted with unfamiliar faces in theatres. On November 18, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* was released in the U.S. The movie featured the wizarding world in the roaring Twenties and showcased one of the best magizoologists ever, Newt Scamander. The movie follows Newt on an adventure in New York where he accidentally lets out magical creatures from his infamous case.

Newt Scamander is not a new name. His book, titled *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, is mentioned in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s/Philosopher’s Stone*. With this new series, fans are granted a look into the past and how exactly it affected the ever-cherished Harry Potter in the future. Rowling has already confirmed that the series is incomplete, with four more movies on the way. She had recently released a screenplay of the movie and a new revised edition of Scamander’s book, which she released in 2001. Though,

it is not as good as having a seven-part book series, it makes fans wonder if maybe there is a book series on the way.

Something even more interesting about the movie series is that Newt Scamander sadly isn’t the new Harry Potter. The film is supposed to be a prequel. It is rumored that the leading man could be Credence Barebone, an abused and troubled boy in the film. He’s an obscurial, a dangerous wizard that has held his power in for too long. He is manipulated by Grindelwald, Dumbledore’s mortal enemy. In the film, Credence ‘dies’ but they never show his body. They did not fool anyone, though. Many fans have come to the conclusion that he is still alive.

If Credence is still alive and Grindelwald is confirmed to be in the series, could this duo possibly join forces to battle Dumbledore? Another thought-provoking piece of evidence is Leta Lestrange makes an odd and short appearance as Newt talks about his romantic affair with her. The Lestrange name is definitely

a piece of evidence to clue in the future movies. Played by Zoé Kravitz, it seems as if Leta will have many more appearances in the future. The next film in the series is said to be released in the November of 2018, a long wait that Potter fans are used to.



Courtesy of Google images

Food Review: Bert's Wooden Indian

BY: TREVOR KERIOTIS



Bert's Wooden Indian's signature dish: The Hot Roast Beef Toss-Up. Picture Courtesy of Your Beaver County.

Bert's Wooden Indian has had a reputation of taking rudimentary foods and sparking them into some of the best food in town!

Guests have been dining there ever since Bert Sebastian opened up a small rustic place where people could feel at home as they ate shoestring potatoes, delicious milkshakes, and root beer floats.

The restaurant is located in a rather unassuming neighborhood in Bridgewater, Pennsylvania.

Upon entering the Wooden Indian, you're welcomed by the tall wooden indian at the front door. The decorations suspended from the walls allow the beauty of the food to shine. The restaurant is filled with energy and sufficing servers.

For my main meal, I usually order the pulled pork barbecue which is filled with cheese and topped with a bun. The rest of my family ordered the same thing.

As much as the meal was appetizing to my stomach, it was to my eyes. The dish was perfectly executed considering the presentation color of my pork. As far as my drink goes, Mountain Dew goes a long way in this family. The citrus and fizz balanced the spicy flavoring in the pork barbecue.

To sum up, if you're looking for a relaxing place with a tasty, spicy pork barbecue, soft french fries, mouth watering desserts and favorable patrons, then Bert's Wooden Indian is the place to go.

Album Review: I Like It When You Sleep, for You Are So Beautiful yet So Unaware of It

BY: LEAH KNAUFF



The 1975 promoting their concert in San Diego, California. Left to Right: George Daniel, Ross MacDonald, Matthew Healy, Adam Hann. Photo Courtesy of FM 94.9.

The 1975 have definitely made a new and improved comeback earlier this year with the release of *I Like It When You Sleep, for You Are So Beautiful yet So Unaware of It*, or *ILIW*. And just by hearing the title, it gives you a glimpse into how extra, or even pretentious, the band may seem.

Ever since 2012, The 1975's debut, self-titled album, *The 1975*, came out, the Manchester originated band took off in England, before their fame quickly spread throughout the world.

Their first album was considered "black and white," with songs like *Chocolate*, *Girls*, *M.O.N.E.Y.*, and *Me*. These songs describe the British teenage life, as Matty Healy, the frontman, shares his experiences with his obsession with girls, addiction to drugs and alcohol, and his narcissistic personality.

The 1975's second album, released early 2016, *ILIW*, defined the new personality of the band as a whole. The new "pink" era consists of songs like *A Change of Heart*, *This Must Be My Dream*, *The Sound*, *Loving Someone*, and the most famous, *Somebody Else*.

Many of the songs connect to ones off of the previous album, showing the listener how Matty changed throughout the years.

In *Robbers*, from *The 1975*, the opening lyrics are "She had a face straight out a magazine," but in *A Change of Heart*, from *ILIW*, Matty sings "You used to have a face straight out of a magazine, but now you just look like anyone."

There's also a great change in The 1975's sound on *ILIW*. Start-

ing out their opening track, a newly remastered song, *The 1975*, a choir harmonizes in the background, giving you a slight glimpse into the dreamy, euphoric sound of their re-defined reputation.

The new album tells a story of the past few years in the band's lives. Following *The 1975*, *Love Me* begins with the lead guitarist, Adam Hann, strumming upbeat chords to a, deeper than it may seem, song. This track reflects on Matty's narcissism and his need to be in the spotlight. A few tracks later, *If I Believe You*, lays out Matty's belief in atheism, as he sings "I'm asking you Jesus, show yourself." This song is one of the most powerful songs on the album, with its enticing lyrics, saxophone solo, and choir joining in the background.

Finishing the album off with the acoustic *She Lays Down*, Matty's voice cracks as he sings about growing up with his mentally ill mother. As the track starts out, shuffling can be heard in the background before the guitar comes in, and Matty begins to sing. Later on, in a visibly pained voice, Matty sings "The chemicals that make her laugh don't seem to be working anymore."

This group of insanely talented Brits have never defined their music as a certain genre, for they consider themselves an "out of the box" band. So, if you are looking for an emotional rollercoaster of the truth and reality of today's society, then this album is for you. The 1975 never hold back, singing about anything and everything that needs to be brought to our youth's attention.