



MARINER CHRONICLE



February 16, 2026

MANISTEE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Vol 2 Issue 2

Written by Jorren Edmondson

MOCK ROCK

On Monday, February 9th we kicked off Winter Carnival week with Mock Rock. Mock Rock has been a tradition here at MAPS for many years. The performance begins with the Freshman and is worked up to the Senior class. Each class has around 20 minutes to entertain the crowd in their own unique ways. While you are unable to use your voice, classes use audios and songs to perform their skits. Then, the classes will be judges and that is what builds up the points for Winter Carnival King and Queen!

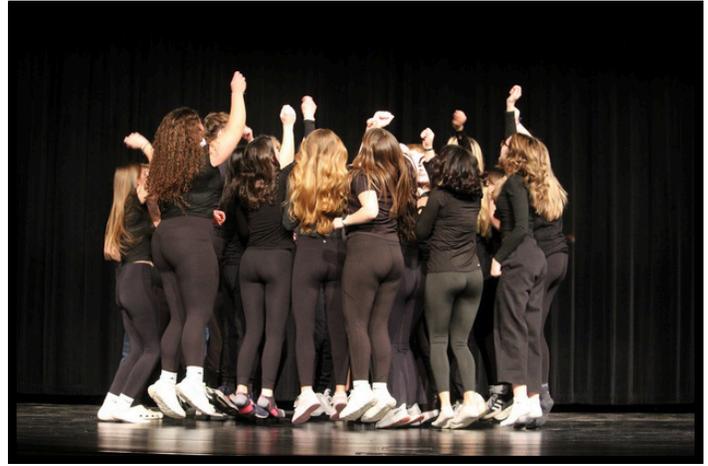


Photo courtesy to Jorren Edmondson

WINTER CARNIVAL BANNERS

Another longtime tradition during Winter Carnival week is the competition between classes through banner painting. These banners are hung in the gym for students and the community to see when at sporting events. This is another way the classes earn points in order for their class representatives to be crowned King and Queen. This year, the results for banner painting was: Seniors (1st place), Juniors (2nd place), Sophomores (3rd place), and Freshman (4th place).



ASSEMBLY FUN!

Another huge part of Winter Carnival Week is the assemblies put on through our Student Council. There are many different and fun games each class gets the chance to participate in. While this is a fun competition between classes it also is great bonding for all grades. One of the games this year was soccer, but with the players in a bubble!



ATTENDANCE!

Written by Alayna Edmondson

Attendance matters! Make sure you are showing up for the last semester and finish the year off strong!

2026 WINTER CARNIVAL KING AND QUEEN

Written by Alayna Edmondson

On Friday, February 13th, the winner of 2026 Winter Carnival was announced at halftime of the basketball game. The crowning is determined by which class obtained the most points. Points are earned through dress up days, mock rock, banners, and powerpuff!

The representatives for each class were: Aubrey Nickleson and Kiedis Underwood (seniors), Lilith Vela and Finnagan Nicholson (juniors), Natalie Cameron and Brady Rivette (sophomores), and Reid Kieszowski and Hayleigh Slaughter (freshman).

Through the totaling of points, Aubrey Nickleson and Kiedis Underwood were crowned king and queen!



ADAMCZAK QUALIFIES FOR STATE!

The Manistee boys swim team hosted Fremont on February 12th for a home meet where they earned themselves a swimmer who raced for a spot at state!

Brock Adamczak (10) swam the 100-yard butterfly and took second place with a time of 58.10 to make the state cut. Overall the team placed second with 34 points.

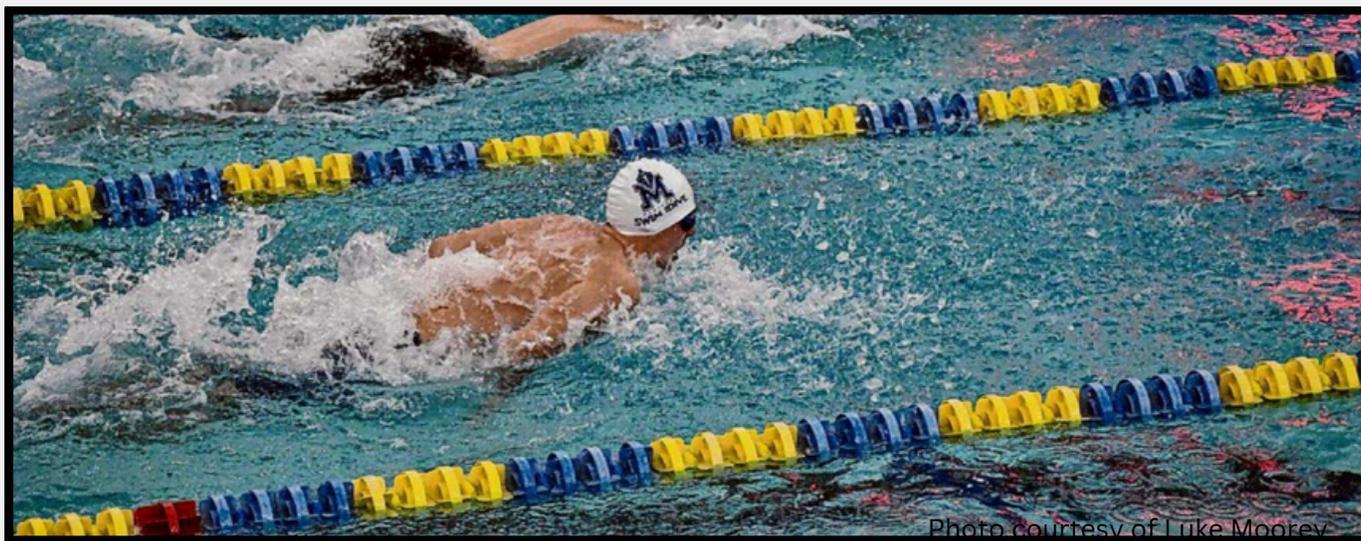


Photo courtesy of Luke Moorey

Many other swimmers also had a great meet! Here are some other results :

- The relay team consisting of **Jacob Lee (12)**, **Zach Herndon (10)**, **Adamczak**, and **Juan Orduna (9)** placed third in the 200-yard medley.
- **Owen Heintzelman (12)** placed second in the 200-yard freestyle.
- In the 50-yard freestyle, **Orduna** placed fifth, while **Lee** placed seventh.
- **Lee**, **Heintzelman**, **Herndon**, and **Orduna** placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.
- **Adamczak** took first place in the 100 yard backstroke.
- In the 100-yard breaststroke, **Herndon** took second.
- The 400-yard Freestyle relay team consisting of **Adamczak**, **Heintzelman**, **Orduna**, and **Herndon** took second.

WINTER CARNIVAL WINS!

This years Winter Carnival games were against Traverse City Saint Francis. The boys team played on Thursday, February 12th at Saint Francis and the girls played home on Friday, February 13th.

The boys won with the score of 63-49. **Landin Sowa (12)** led the Mariners with 18 points and 5 rebounds. **Braylen Zimmerman (12)** added 16 points, one rebound, six assists, and two steals. **Dayvion Neal-Berry (11)** notched nine points, six rebounds, and a steal. **Ean Guenthardt (11)** put up eight points, four rebounds, and two steals.

The girls won with a final score of 66-40. **Avamae Fett (12)** led with a total of 25 points, 1 assist, 1 block, 6 rebounds, and 2 steals. **Lindsey Gardner (12)** collected 16 points, 3 assists, 3 rebounds, and 3 steals. **Madalyn Wayward (12)** chipped in 10 points, 3 assists, 6 rebounds, and 2 steals. **Alayna Edmondson (12)** added 7 points, 9 assists, 5 rebounds, and 4 steals.



WINTER CARNIVAL DANCE TEAM!

This year, for winter carnival, the **Conservatory of Dance** put together a dance team to perform at the girls JV basketball game. This was not just a performance; it was a show of teamwork, networking, bonding, and talent. The dancers danced to **“Just Keep Watching” by Tate McRae**, which was a high energy and fun song to dance to.

This was not just a regular song; it was a song made for the f1 film that came out in June 2025. This song also won “Song of the Summer” at the MTV Video Music Awards. This song placed 8th on the Billboard top 200 and number one on the top pop/dance chart. This song was also nominated for best original song at the Oscars which has yet to be awarded until the Oscars in March of 2026.



The dancers who performed, who are also students at our school, were: **Lilith Vela, Gracie Gilman, Payton Richley, Gracie Pruyne, Hayleigh Slaughter, Kai Marshall, Gracie Boggs, Dani Lampan, Makenna Miller, Elise Godzina, and Taylor Green**. And some extra dancers from the studio who go to another school are **Keely O'Brien, Delilah Sunderlin, and Anna McKeough**. These dancers choreographed this entire piece all by themselves. In this, they all learned how to collaborate and bettered their teamwork skills. Along with working together, they also learned how to network outside of the studio, they made Crew Times to practice in the gym, they worked with other schools to get other dancers here, and they learned how to set up all their own music!

This performance was a fun addition to Winter Carnival. This gave the dancers and the audience watching an exciting event to look forward to, while also allowing the dancers to show off for their school!

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: GRAELEIGH JENSEN

Written by Gracie Gilman

The senior spotlight is a great way to get to know your MHS seniors.

The graduating class has a big responsibility to lead their younger peers. If you want to learn more about your senior **Graeleigh Jensen** read about her below:

- **What is one thing you wish you knew as a freshman?**
- School really does go by faster than you think it will.
- **What advice would you give about stress and burnout?**
- Try not to panic and don't procrastinate, it will just add to your stress.
- **What class or experience impacted you the most?**
- If you have the chance to do CTE, do it! It'll help you realize what you do or don't want to do in your future.
- **What is your biggest regret in relation to high school?**
- Not joining in all the activities, like powderpuff and mock rock.
- **What advice would you give to someone who is thinking about trying new things?**
- Do it! It's scary now, but in the end you'll be so glad you did it!



After nearly four years, **Harry Styles** has made his return! His comeback began with signs popping up around the world. Which fans quickly figured out it was him because he has done the same thing for past albums. These signs have launched his new website, webelongtogether.co. Fans soon discovered this was a link to subscribe to messages. In the text messages, we got lyrics, cryptic emojis, and dates for announcements.

He has announced his fourth album to be released March 6th along with a new single “Aperture” which came out on January 22nd, 2026. This song is synth pop and is best described as a slow build with electronic elements and many have compared it to “Dancing on my own” by Robyn, and similar to the band LCD Soundsystem. This song marks a new direction of sound for Harry, which has made many eager to hear the new album!



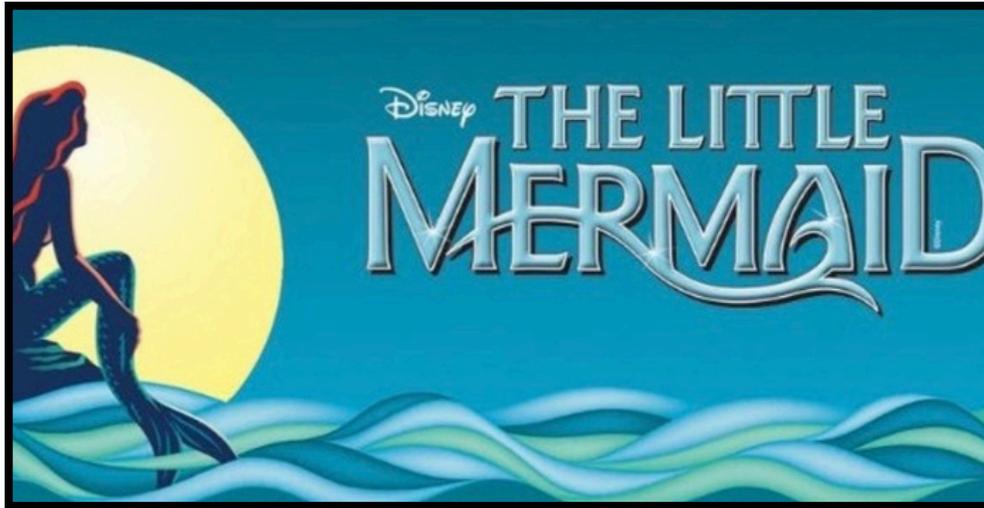
Along with the new single, he also came out with a music video. While fans waited for the video to premiere, a spiral appeared that slowly counted down to the video. But the spiral wasn't just an ordinary spiral, it was an announcement for his song titles on his album. The titles are “aperture,” “american girls,” “ready steady go,” “are you listening yet,” “taste back,” “the waiting game,” “season 2 weight loss,” “coming up roses,” “pop,” “dance no more,” “paint by numbers,” and “carlas song.”

Now a clock has appeared on his website. This clock is not an ordinary clock, but the numbers have been replaced with the words kiss and disco. Behind the clock, the background has been changing between different and never before seen images, likely hinting to his new album. When both hands land on “disco,” announcements follow. So far, including his album, the announcement of Aperture, his music video for Aperture, and the announcement of his world tour.

The tour will be visiting Amsterdam, London, Sao Paulo, Mexico City, New York City Melbourne and Sydney. Now this does not sound like a lot, but he is planning on stopping at these venues for multiple dates. When he stops in New York, he will be at Madison Square Garden for 30 whole days, and tickets are selling fast!

For the fans, Harry's return has been so special and an exciting adventure. The mysterious messages, changing websites, concert announcements, and a new era of his music!

A MAGICAL UNDER THE SEA ADVENTURE AWAITS



Come join some of our students in an unforgettable under-the-sea adventure. After months of hard work, they will be putting on a production of “The Little Mermaid.” You can come watch on **March 6th and 7th at 7 pm and on the 7th and 8th at 1 pm.** Tickets will be available to buy [here](#). They're \$10 for standard seats or \$15 for premium seats!

In this coming-of-age tale about a girl with a tail, the audience follows along with King Triton’s youngest daughter, Ariel, while she makes a risky deal with Ursula to take on the adventures of life above water! She takes us through the struggles of tough decisions making, moments of doubt, and the realization that love requires sacrifice.

In this production, **Natalie Cameron (10)** will be playing Ariel. When reflecting on how she connects to Ariel, Natalie says that Ariel has this longing to be a part of the human world which mirrors her own dreams of performing on a larger stage. Also, just like Ariel is determined to get out of the water and explore new adventures, Natalie hopes to get out of our smaller community, go to bigger cities, and gain more experiences.

Ariel is known for her beautiful voice even though it was temporarily stolen from her. Fortunately, Natalie’s voice is still hers, and is just as beautiful. Playing Ariel shows not only Natalie’s voice, but also her strong stage presence, with her natural abilities, she has the confidence to continue with theater.

You could help these students as the community plays a big role in helping them be able to get on stage and shine. Donating will help with the costs of props, costumes, shirts, makeup, posters, small gifts, and programs for the show. You can donate until February 20th on Venmo (@MAPSFAB). If you do so please put “donation” in the memo area. You can also donate with checks, make your check out to MAPS FAB, and send it to:

MAPS FAB
% Amanda Feyen
525 12th St

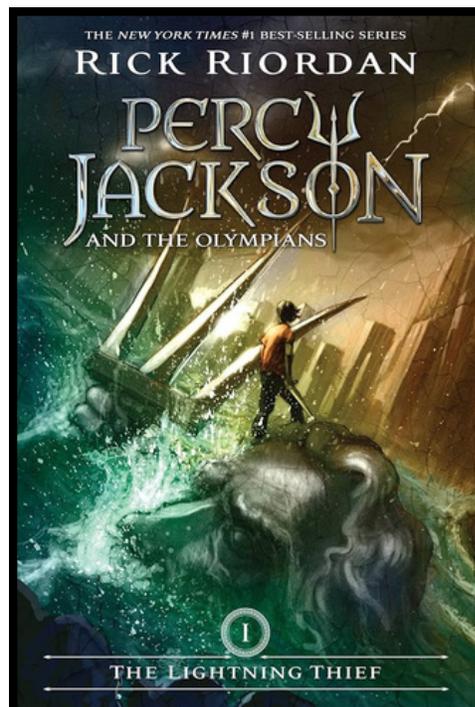
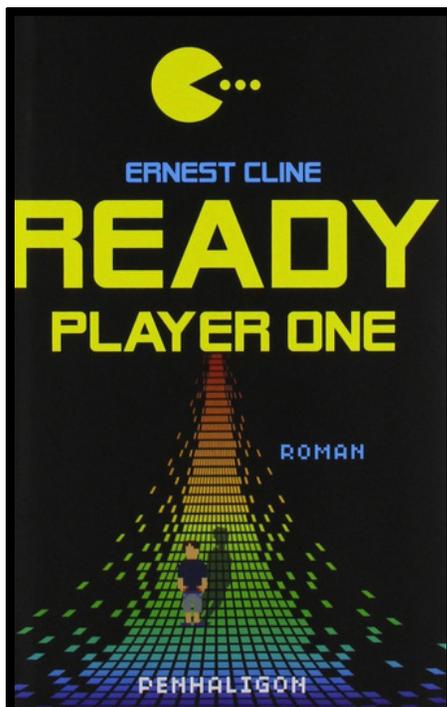
One more way you can help is going to the Outsider on March 1st. At the end of the day, 10% of the sales will go towards FAB funding!

Please come be a part of their world and see this amazing show!

STORYTIME!

Percy Jackson & the Olympians by Rick Riordan is an exciting fantasy series that brings ancient mythology into the modern world. The story follows a regular kid who suddenly discovers that the myths learned in school are far more real than expected. Riordan's writing is humorous, fast-paced, and easy to understand, which makes the series especially enjoyable for high school readers. The books combine action, mystery, and humor while also touching on themes like identity, loyalty, and growing up. One of the strongest parts of the series is its relatable characters, who deal with problems that feel realistic despite the mythical setting. Percy Jackson offers nonstop adventure and clever storytelling that keeps readers engaged. It's a great recommendation for students who enjoy fantasy, mythology, or books that feel fun without sacrificing meaningful messages.

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline is a fast-paced science fiction novel that blends technology, adventure, and pop culture into an exciting reading experience. Set in a future where virtual reality plays a huge role in everyday life, the book explores how people escape reality and search for purpose in digital worlds. Cline's writing is engaging and easy to follow, making it especially appealing to high school readers. The story is packed with references to video games, movies, and music, which adds a fun and nostalgic element without being overwhelming. Beyond the action, the novel raises thoughtful questions about identity, friendship, and the balance between virtual life and the real world. Ready Player One is a great pick for readers who enjoy sci-fi, gaming culture, or stories that mix entertainment with deeper themes. It's an exciting and modern novel that keeps readers hooked from start to finish.





STAFF



Alayna Edmondson (12)
Editor/Writer



Jorren Edmondson (12)
Writer



Macaela Bruce (12)
Writer



Achilles Eckerson (12)
Writer



Lilith Vela (11)
Writer



Andy O'Donnell (11)
Writer



Gabby Senters (12)
Writer



Mr. Quakkelaar
Advisor
"You've got to be kind"



If you would like to join
the Mariner Chronicle or
guest write, email
Mr. Quakkelaar or **Alayna**
Edmondson!

