

The Bulldog Bark



Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Your Middle School News Unleashed!

Spring 2017

Diverse season, but lessons learned

By Kristen Guelcher

Team 8 Baller

This basketball season was definitely a roller coaster. We got a new coach, Coach Al, and she turned out to be great. She was super nice and very helpful. There was, however, some drama this year.

There wasn't a lot, but it was definitely enough. Most of it was resolved by the end of the season, which was good.

Overall we had 15 girls on the team. In eighth grade, there was Maddie Seier, Hailey Evans, Riley



Griffith, Emily Hunsicker, Natalie Keller, Breanna Hoppes, Sofia Boyesen, Shaina Mazzocca, Erica Detweiler, and me. The seventh graders were Sophia Lear, Emma Niebell, Raven Klimek, Caelin

Mack, and Stephanie Steckel. These people were so much fun to play with and they were all very helpful and great to hang out with.

This season, I was able to get closer with the seventh graders and even some eighth graders.

One of my favorite things that happened this season was the Secret Santa.

We exchanged our gifts the practice before holiday break. That day, we listened to Christmas music the entire practice and

See Basketball, page 3



UNMASKED!

The winter dance, held in January, had a masquerade theme and was well-attended. Pictured, Paige Zellner and Dylan D. Miller got the party started.

Photo courtesy of the Yearbook



A glimpse beyond the gender identities

By Lizzy Panetta

Team 7 Barker

Gender is a controversial topic. Physically, yes, there are only two genders. Mentally, there are more than what you realize that's in between *Female* and *Male*. Identifying as something is completely different. You can identify as Female, Male, Gender Fluid, A-gender (not a gender but could technically be classified as a type of gender since it's the absence of gender), Androgyny, Drag King/Queen, Transgender, and many more.

First, breaking it down into only the parts I've listed. Female, everyone obviously knows what that is, as does everyone know what a Male is.

Transgender is being born as the opposite gender you identify as. Being born a Male but slowly transitioning into a Female is one out of the two types of Transgenders. There is also detransitioning, being born a Female, turning into a Male over a course of time, and then eventually going back to your birth gender, in this case I listed Female.

A-gender is the absence of gender, not classifying as a Masculine or Feminine person and going more for the them/they pronouns. Gender Fluid is basically where you start off as a Female (or Male) and slowly begin to identify as a Male. Over time

this may change as you may identify as a Female again or you might identify as both (Masculine and Feminine) or sometimes feel as if you have no gender and identify as A-gender.

Drag Kings/Queens are almost the same as cross dressers, but different. They are Males

sharing is Androgyny. This is one of the more simpler ones of all of the gender identities. Androgyny is basically the mix between identifying of the Masculine identity and identifying of the Feminine identity. You're not really on one side of the spectrum you're more in the middle (the easiest way to



(Drag Queens) who will dress up as a Female on a day-to-day basis (sometimes) when going out or for an event. They're not Transgenders, they continue to have their biological 'parts', yet they still go and dress as a Female (it's the same way vice versa for Females, they're just know as Drag Kings instead of Drag Queens).

The last gender identity I'll be

picture it is being Bisexual; you're not Homosexual and you're not Heterosexual. You're just in the middle).

This was only some of the Gender Identities and that's what it comes down to. Biological differences vs Social differences. If you socially identify as something, people should learn to accept that because it's more of how you feel rather than what you actually are.



Halftime

Breaks were needed from the masquerade fun at the winter dance. (Above) Lillian Fine, Francine Ohlson, Olivia Bailey and Madison Desh.

(Left) Gavin Tischler and Davon Richards.

Relationships made on and off the court

Basketball, from page 1

it was great. We also had multiple people bring in food which is always good. That was definitely my favorite practice, even for a Grinch like me.

I definitely improved so much from last year to this year. I would like to thank my coaches and team-

mates for helping me improve so much and become a better player. I would also like to wish good luck to the incoming seventh and eighth graders on the middle school team next year.

As for us soon-to-be freshman, I'll see you next year for another wonderful season!

Ask Brooke: All Your Advisory Needs

Dear Brooke,

Thank you so much for the other advice. I am going to use a new name now. My cat hates me real bad. I feed him and love him but he hates me.

Why, Pinky

Dear Pinky,

Have you been squeezing your cat? That's probably why he will soon love you.

Brooke

Dear Brooke,

I think my teachers are ganging up on me. I am mad.

Mad Man

Dear Mad Man,

They are not ganging up on you. You may think that but they are not. No need to worry; they care about you. Be glad.

Brooke

Dear Brooke,

My birthday is coming up and I really want a gift that most people think is tacky. Should I ask for it?

911 what

Dear 911 What,

Yes, you should get it if you want it. I would not care if it was a "tacky" gift.

Brooke



Answers to the VOTE

Do you like your friends' stuff or friends in general: 7 out of 10 sadly voted for friends' stuff and nobody did the other votes....typical.

For other people that need advice, put your questions in my "Brooke Delancey" locker 345, Gmail me at Bd5075@mynlsd.org give them to me, in person. Names will be confidential.

Middle School Health Happenings

Students can now sign up for **Spring Net Sports Intramurals** (volleyball, ping pong, badminton, and tennis when weather permits) which are held in our middle school gym after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. It began on March 20. Students must have a ride home by 4 p.m., can take the 3 p.m. activity bus, or walk home with friends. Parents must sign a permission form that students can bring home for you.

The last day of intramurals is April 19 and includes a pizza party.

Our 8th graders learned

about the Miller Blood Bank and organ donation this quarter with guest speakers on those topics.

Our 7th graders learned the American Red Cross First Aid curriculum and, if they met all requirements, earned a First Aid Certification card.

There will be a Family Fun Animal Fest in the middle school auditorium on Friday, April 21 at 7 p.m. This educational presentation is sponsored by the Northern Lehigh Community Center. You will see snakes, lizards, tortoises, parrots, and more.



Mrs. Horninger, Olivia's mom, recently visited her Health class to teach the students about her career in nursing.

Why is Twenty-One Pilots so popular?

By Cydney Krause

Team 7 Pilot Fanatic

The rock-pop duo *Twenty One Pilots* have skyrocketed in popularity. Hits like “Stressed Out,” “Ride” and “Heathens” scored first in the top charts, but why are they so popular? Let’s go to the beginning.

The band was first created back in 2009 by high-school friends: Tyler Joseph, Nick Thomas, and Chris Salih. Also in 2009, the self-titled album named “*Twenty One Pilots*” was released before Nick and Chris left the band in 2011. The album featured songs like “Oh, Ms. Believer,” “Addict with a Pen,” and “A Car, a Torch, a Death.”

After Thomas and Salih left the band, Tyler carried on with a new member of the band, Josh Dun. Later that year, the album “*Regional at Best*” surfaced in the music world.

They also gained popularity with their music videos made by the band’s friend, Mark Eshleman. In 2012, they signed to “Fueled by Ramen” (Created by John Janick and Vinnie Fiorello).

During the summer, they released three songs with Adele’s producer, Greg Wells, on “*Vessel*.” The album was released in January of 2013 and the band was scheduled to support it with an international tour deep in the year. *Twenty One Pilots* opted to work with various producers on

about an every song-to-song basis. They started to work with Ricky Reed, Mikey Crosse, and Tim Anderson. The album that hit the Top Charts, “*Blurryface*” was released in 2015.

The single “Stressed Out” hit the top 10 in February 2016 at #2 and soon rose. The single “Ride”

At the end of the year, the group started to perform with tourmates, *Mutemath* for the “TOPxMM” EP which featured reimaginings of five “*Blurryface*” tracks.

The “Emotional Roadshow” tour also began. The tour has been called the “best tour I’ve ev-



was hitting the top charts as well as it came in 6th in the summer of the same year. This made *Twenty One Pilots* the first alternative band to have two concurrent Top Ten singles. Also, they broke history for staying in the Top Rock Hits Billboard for 59 weeks or 1 year and about 1 ½ months. Next came the single, “Heathens” made for *DC Comics*, “*Suicide Squad*” album. This song also trailed along with “Stressed Out” and “Ride.”

er been to” by fans of the band. With opening bands like *Judah and the Lion* and *Jon Bellion*, they pumped the fans up even before *Twenty One Pilots* hit the stage, and when they finally did, the crowd when wild. They performed hits from “*Blurryface*,” “*Vessel*,” “*Regional at Best*,” and the self-titled “*Twenty One Pilots*.” The concerts lasted over 3 ½ hours and truly stole your voice as you sang to the lyrics of the songs and going home wasn’t even a thought.

doghouse fiction



THE APOCALYPSE, Part One of Two

By Owen Levan-Uhler

Team 7 Writer

Prolougue ~ 2067

You may think that by now, we, as a civilization, would be living on Mars with some fancy space colony, or driving hovercars to work every day. But, it's really the opposite of that. Around 22 years ago, a bacterial epidemic shook the globe.

Bacteria had finally become completely resistant to every antibiotic we could throw at them. One in particular grew and developed into a giant superbug, which we call "The Killer."

When it developed, it attacked mainly crops like soybeans and corn, and farm animals like cows and pigs. The government found a cure for this strain, but not until after the Russians made the Killer into a bio-weapon. They launched bombs on the starving people with the Killer inside, and it killed 2.5 billion people in fewer than 4 years.

The government collapsed after that and everyone has been trying to survive on their own. The last few years it hasn't been so bad, and we've been



pulling ourselves back together in some places around the world, but the Killer still remains....

Part One

We were on the road again. We couldn't live or farm there any longer. It was too hot. The dust always blew, sometimes softly, other times like a hurricane of dirt. We were out of water, and we ran out of things to trade with the townsfolk that still lived. And mom. She died a few months ago now. We filled the car with gas, took with us what we could, and drove away from our little farm. The first day, we drove 50 miles with dead towns all around us. On the second

day, we drove through a city with buildings burned and abandoned, and rabid dogs running in the streets. On the third day, my little sister, Lily, caught a fever and got really sick. We drove for a few more days, and found a farm like ours still functioning. We drove up and my dad got out of the car. An old man walked out with a rifle in his hand. I carried out Lily, and he and his wife led us inside. We laid Lily down on a bed, and the woman checked her. The lady was a nurse before the Killer, and knew how to identify the disease. She said that Lily had developed a strain of the Killer, but it was treatable. Though,

See Apocalypse, page 7

doghouse fiction



THE UNDERGROUND KINGDOM

By Trent Herman

Team 8 Writer

Part 2: It was a warm summer day in June of 2144. I had just moved into my new house in Stockholm Maine. I had moved from Arizona away from my family because of my job. I had just become the CEO of this company that sells popcorn.

I decided I was going to put in an in-ground pool. The employees from the pool store started construction on my pool. They started digging and once they got to 10 feet they found a journal.

At first I didn't think much of it. However, later that night I came across it and started to

read. I couldn't put it down.

Once I got to the end there was a map attached to it. I look at the map and at the end of it was the road I lived on in the middle of the woods. At this point I was very concerned because there were no houses... only a road and woods.

But, in our society forest life doesn't exist anymore. I noticed that there was an arrow pointing at the side of the road. I thought *what if it's telling me that the underground kingdom I read about was under ground beneath my house...?*

But, that's impossible. So, I go to the basement and look around and then I saw that the corner of this giant rug was folded in. So, I move the rug and under it was this mysterious unknown trapdoor. I decid-

ed to open it and climb down this ladder. I get to the bottom and it's pitch black. I used my phone's flashlight to walk down this hall and to this door.

I opened the door and walk down at least 2,000 steps.

When I got to the bottom there was another door. I didn't know what to do but something was telling not to open the door. However, I really wanted to. So, I did.

As I begin to open the door something or someone grabs me by the foot and pulls me back before I could get the door opened. From that moment, my life was changed forever.

To be continued.....

THE END OF IT ALL, PART ONE

Apocalypse, from page 6

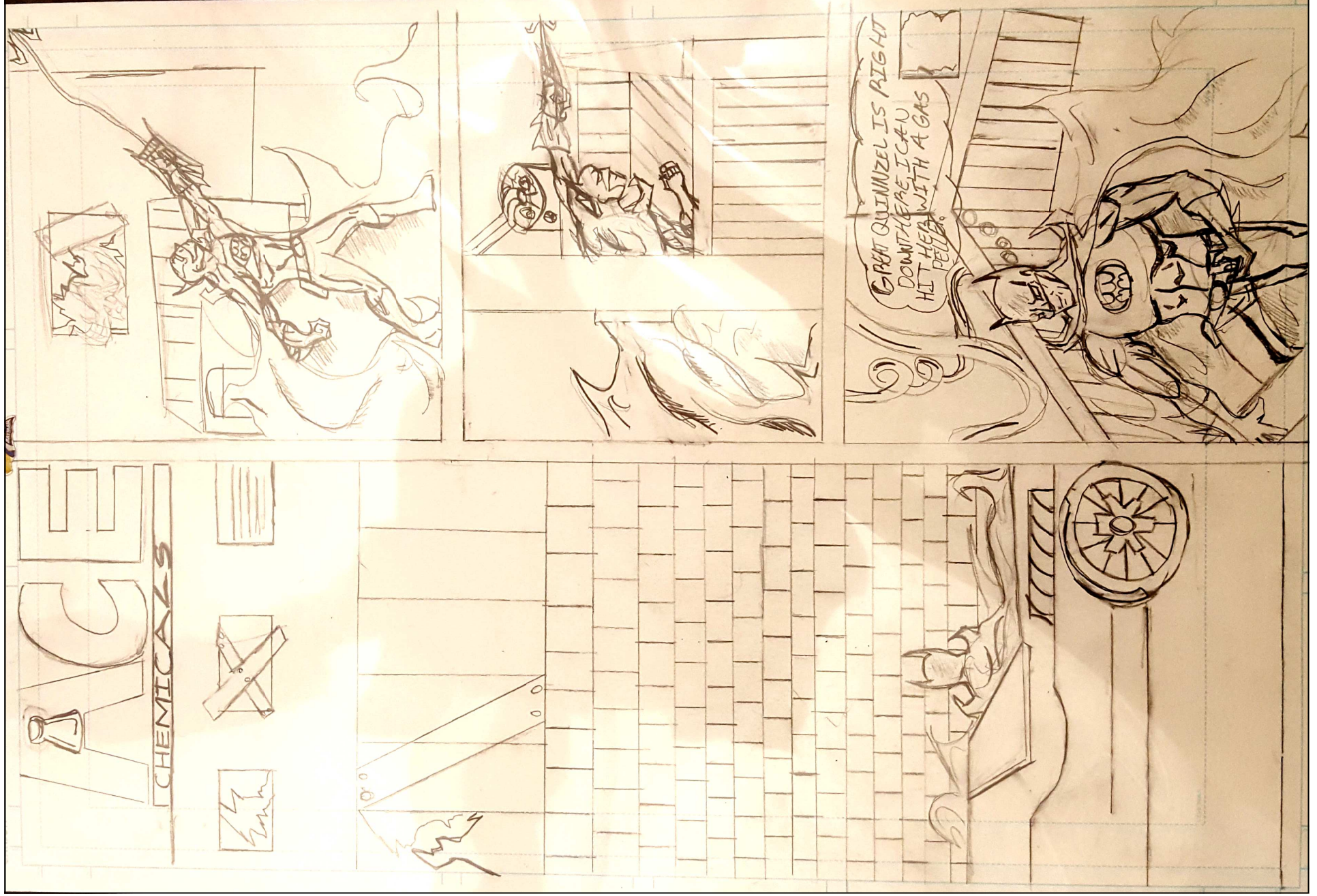
she said we'd have to travel down to the CDC in California to get the medicine Lily needed. So my dad and I filled the car with gas, got some food from the kind couple, and headed off to California. We were currently in Cheyenne, Wyoming, so

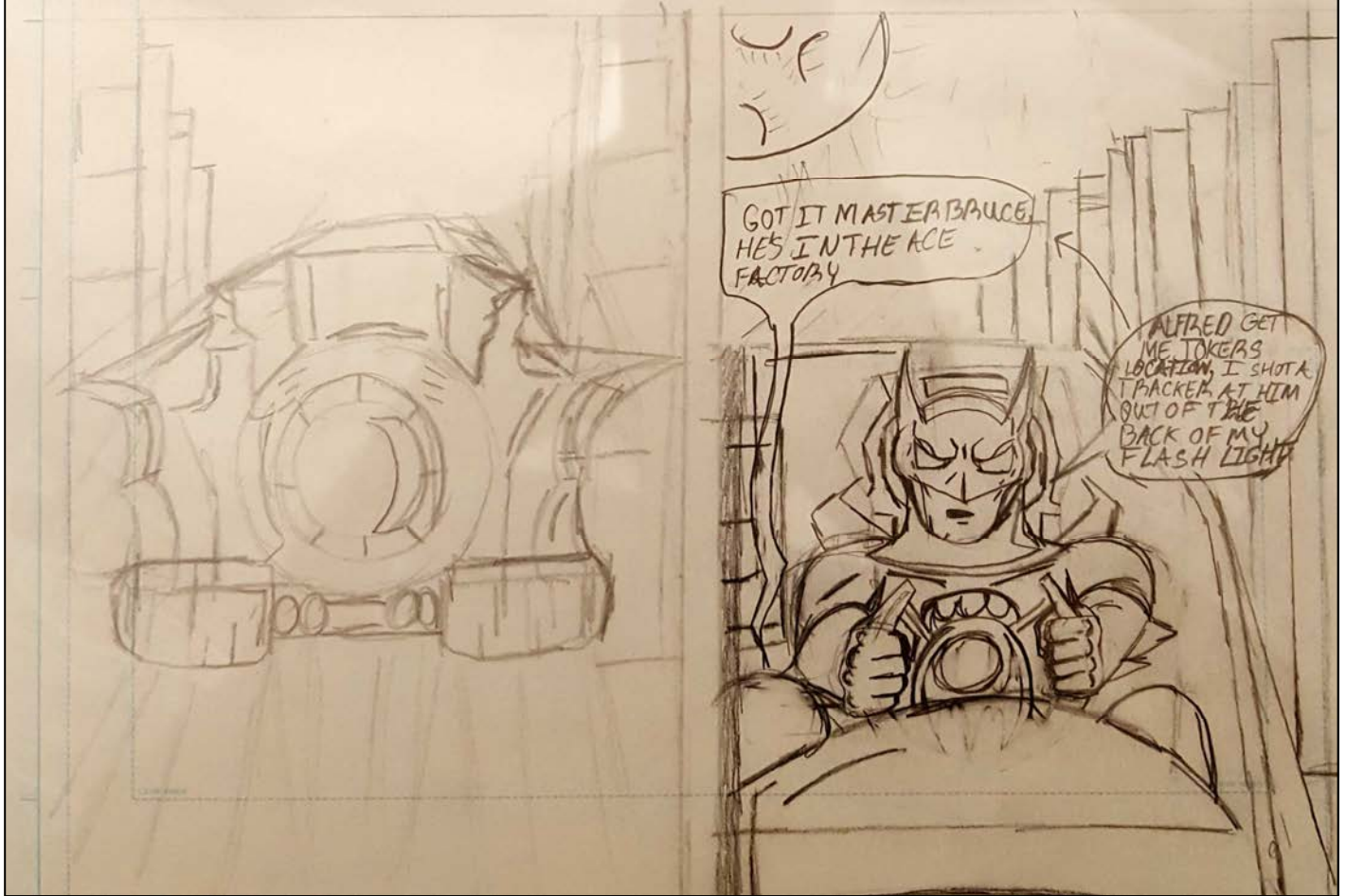
we had 1,000 miles between us and L.A., where the CDC was. A week later when we arrived in L.A., we were greeted by a completely deserted city, or so it seemed. We found the CDC, and drove to the fence. We climbed out of the car, and walked to the entrance. Every inch of the building was cov-

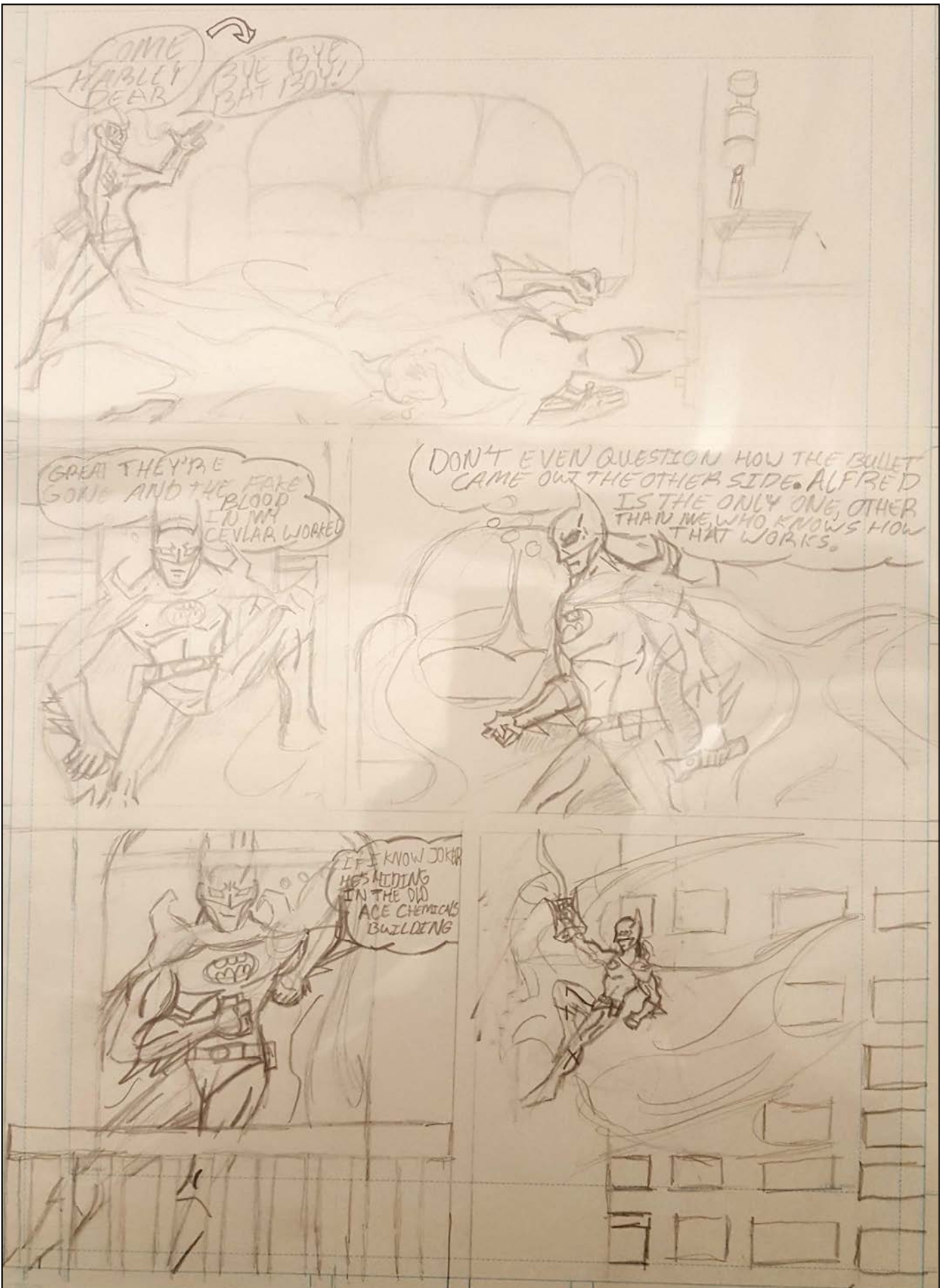
ered with steel. My dad saw an intercom, so he went to press it. We heard a rustle, and we were suddenly surrounded by 20 men in S.W.A.T. gear with guns pointed at our heads.

To be continued...

Comically Speaking, by Chase Jones









Erupting with Science Experience



(Top, clockwise)

Elizabeth Eckert, Sofia Boyesen, and Maddie Seier get help from Mr. Meixsell in their homemade volcano experiments.

Photos courtesy of The Yearbook

