

THE SPECTRUM

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“The Maroon and Gold in Black and White”

February 14, 2019

Retracing steps that led to a government shutdown

Ok, let’s talk politics. I know most of the time that sentence begins an uncomfortable conversation, but these days it is also a necessary conversation. The most recent government shutdown lasted for 35 days, the longest in American history. That is 35 days of our governing body not fully functioning. Not employing, informing, or protecting the American people at its full capacity. Every country needs a strong government to remain united, and it is not in anyone’s best interest to live in a weakened state of order. How did this government breakdown happen in the first place? Here are the actions that landed us in a shutdown, and how it was temporarily resolved:



Livie Crimaldi

Political controversy began trending on December 11th, when President Trump allowed the media to cover the tense negotiations between him, Vice President Mike Pence, future Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (not formally elected until January 3rd), and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer. The meeting consisted of a heated debate on the border wall, with President Trump affirming he “is proud to shutdown the government for

border security”.

On December 19th the Senate passed a short term funding bill, or a continuing resolution (CR), in order to avoid a shutdown. After President Trump announced he wouldn’t sign a bill without funding for a border wall, the House added \$5.7 billion for border security. When sent back to the Senate for approval, the revised bill was declined.

December 22nd: the government shutdown begins. Without a new bill decided on, the old spending bill expires and leaves the US government with no funding agenda. Therefore the government went into shutdown, with nine departments frozen and 800,000 civil servant government employees affected (some furloughed and some required to work without pay). In addition, estimates show that close to four million private government contractors were also furloughed without pay.

After a break for the Christmas holiday, Congressional leaders from both parties met with the President on January 2nd to discuss a resolution. It was made clear that no progress was made.

On January 3rd the new members of Congress were sworn in, giving Democrats majority in the House and Nancy Pelosi the Speaker of the House position.

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Inside: Awkward romantic encounters
Oscar Predictions
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Who needs a significant other? V-day is about the candy

I’m not a romantic person, but there’s just something about Valentine’s day. Or should I say, there’s just something about the day after Valentine’s day.

Sure, Valentine’s day is a great day for everyone in a relationship, but let’s face it, I am VERY single. Because of my lack of a boyfriend, I find that the best part of Valentine’s day is actually the day after. Not because I just can’t wait for Valentine’s day to be over, because I don’t actually mind the holiday that much. I just love the day after sales.



Elena Stojanavski

After every main holiday, there’s always great sales on candy and goodies that weren’t sold during the holiday season.

Post-Valentine’s day is the best compared to the other holidays because of all of the candy on sale is good candy. No one wants to buy gross candy for their sweetheart so all Valentine’s day candy is better than other holidays candy.

I love Valentine’s day candy so much that I even wanted to originally write an article on the best stores to buy candy at after Valentine’s day,

but I couldn’t find much information online on where the best deals were at. However, I still love going out the day after Valentine’s day, buying all of the good leftover candy on sale, and then hanging out with my friends or family and eating all of it in one sitting.

If you’re single on Valentine’s day this year and are feeling a bit down about it, just remember that you always have the day after Valentines day. The day after Valentine’s day is 10x better than Valentines day anyways. Who needs boys when you have candy, amiright?

Editor weighs pros and cons of being in a relationship

Valentines Day- my absolute favorite holiday. And I think it's my favorite holiday because of the fact I've been single for all 18 of my Valentines days, not in spite of. However there's always trade offs, I asked my friends on both ends of the spectrum to help me compile a pro cons list

Single:

Pros:

- No obligation to get your significant other a gift/spend money you don't have. And if you're in the mood to waste money just buy yourself that Pandora ring, sis.
- Don't have to go on a date (from the perspective a straight girl what does one even do with a straight boy in public? Take them out dinner? Talk to them? I could never.)
- If you want to go on a cute date and celebrate love and all that take yourself or your friends on a date. Learn the importance of self love and platonic love, kids.

-No expectations means no disappointment

-You can watch as many rom coms as you want. My personal favorite is Leap Year.

Cons:

-I guess you don't get to post an instagram pic with a gushy caption. But then again why not just post a bomb selfie.

-You can't brag about your amazing boyfriend to your friends

-You're faced with the burdening reality that no one really notices you and you aren't attractive in anyone's eyes and you suddenly realize that you're gonna be alone forever because why are you 18 and you haven't had your first kiss???

And you being to think "what the hell is wrong with me" and then you spiral into infinite sadness and seclude yourself even more than you already have and you see couples walking in the hallway, knowing full well that that will NEVER be you and all of your

friends are hanging out with their significant other and you're stuck at home on yet again another night all alone and before you know it you're rewatching The Office even though you've watched it 5 times already.

WHY am I able to quote every episode word for word? WHY?!

No presents

In a relationship:

Pros:

- Presents
- Love and affection
- You can drum up jealousy with a sappy ig post
- not worried about dying alone

Cons:

- High expectations
- You have to spend money on a date and a present (even if she says she doesn't want something she definitely wants something)

In the end, I think being single wins. Or at least that's what I'm going to keep telling myself.

Messy government shutdown was a detriment to all

Mess continued from pg 1

The new House then passed two bills to reopen the government until February, but each with no specific funding for a border wall. President Trump remained constant in his prior statement to reject bills without border wall funding. The President addressed the public from the Oval Office on January 8th, emphasizing the importance of the border wall. Democrat leaders Pelosi and Schumer spoke afterwards of other security options, rejecting the border wall concept.

On January 10th the President visited the southern border to meet with local officials. While there, the House passed legislation to open several departments.

After many jabs back and forth from both parties, on January 24th President Trump agreed to sign a stopgap bill to reopen the government until February 15th, supposedly enough time to agree upon a long-term financial agenda. The government shutdown ended on January 25th, 2019.

Government shutdowns are detrimental to every person involved. Progress cannot be made in any direction without a fully functioning government body. The duty of public servants, when elected to office, is to protect and serve the needs of Americans. The livelihood of the American public should not be sacrificed because of petty bickering between parties. It is the responsibility of the government to protect its citizens, and that includes keeping them employed. Any negotiating can be done with a fully functioning government, where the well-being of the nation remains the priority.

History is known to repeat itself if people don't learn from past mistakes. By studying why this especially long shutdown occurred, we may be able to avoid it happening again in the future. Here's to hoping the nation has learned something from this event, and that history won't be repeated on February 15th.

Zeck's Oscar Predictions

As anyone who's ever watched a movie with me will tell you- I'm very passionate about movies and have a lot of opinions. So I decided to channel those hot, hot takes into a semi productive use by writing an article on my thoughts regarding the upcoming 2019 Oscars. So here are my thoughts as to who should (or rather shouldn't win)-

Disclaimer: I haven't seen Green Book yet but I really don't want to spend 12 bucks on that movie

- **Best Picture:** Absolutely not Bohemian Rhapsody, Black Panther, or A Star is Born. Bohemian Rhapsody was enjoyable but honestly, it was more like a made for TV movie than a Golden Globe winning movie. And Black Panther was a good Marvel movie, but there's a reason Marvel movies don't get nominated. A Star is Born was for the most part insufferable past the first act. My pointless vote goes to Roma because it's the best movie I've ever seen. And I want to personally hug every cast and crew member of Roma



Lauren Zeck

and apologize that they had to be put in the same category as these 3 movies.

- **Best Lead Actor:** Christian Bale. I won't elaborate any further.

- **Best Lead Actress:** Any of them

- **Best Supporting Actor:** Adam Driver.

I may be biased just because I love Adam Driver but he crushed it in Blackkkklansmen and if you haven't seen it yet you absolutely should.

- **Best Supporting Actress:** Emma Stone. In my opinion it was one of her best

performances. Mia who?

- **Best animated feature film:** Spiderman into the Spiderverse.

- **Cinematography:** Not a Star is Born. They just shot scenes in the dark with colored back lighting for the sake of making the shot moody/ artsy. I keep going off but this movie is so over-rated. It's the 4th time making this movie you'd expect that they'd finally get it right

-**Film editing-** Not Bohemian Rhapsody. We all saw that twitter video.

Silly, Sassy and Sincere deal straight with a two-timing bro

Dear Spectrum,

I have a big problem right now. I technically have 2 girlfriends at the moment. Hey before you go off on me, they kind of just said we were dating and I didn't say anything. It was chill for the first few weeks but now it's hard. They both showed up to my hockey game. I texted both of them afterwards that I had to talk to the coach before getting on the bus. I know I have to drop one of them, and I plan on just flipping a coin. But, how do I keep the girl I do end up keeping from finding out about the other?

Sincerely,

An unwitting chick magnet

Silly- If only this wasn't a school newspaper. Just imagine all the names I could call you.

Sassy- Wow, you have 2 supportive girlfriends, must be such a difficult time for you. And I'm genuinely shocked that in our digital age you were able to get away with this for this long. It's only a matter of time before they find out. Hell, I might even tell them. But, anyways you're a jerk and you should just accept your fate. I really hope we get a teen rom com moment of them pouring a drink on your head.

Sincere- You have to come clean with both of them. Tell them what you've been doing and why. Maybe they'll understand, probably not but at least you'll be able to sleep at night. Actually who am I kidding you're a hockey player I'm sure you've done much worse.

AWKWARD ROMANTIC ENCOUNTERS



Freshman year, I texted this guy a whole paragraph about how much I liked him and he responded with "k thx"

Junior year, I went to see this guy I was talking to perform in his school's play. Afterwards, his friends and I were all standing in circle talking and all of sudden he turns to me with a single flower he stole from someone else, hits me in the forehead with it and said "You. Ed's prom." Worst part is that I said yes.

I asked my physics lab partner to pron abd even offered to pay for him because he said he didn't have the money to go and he said no I was too tall.

My guy friend asked me to the movies. I thought it was as friends, like usual. But then when i turned to tell him something he tried to kiss me and I punched him. I then said I had to go to the bathroom, but just walked home.



Freshman year I was talking to this guy I liked in our grade and when he tried to kiss me I got scared and turned my head... then he stopped talking to me.

Top 5 rom-coms to drown your sorrows this Valentines day

By Caroline Jantz

The Spectrum Editor

February is the time of year where couples get extra romantic, and singles get extra sad. It is during this time where I fill the void of not having a significant other with tons of extremely cheesy rom coms. When scrolling through the thousands of different options, I usually have a few that I am always in the mood to watch. Here are my top 5 rom-coms to watch by yourself or with your boyfriend/girlfriend this Valentines Day.

Crazy Stupid Love

This movie is not only my all time favorite Rom-Com, but it is also



on my list of my favorite movies over all. This movie stars Ryan Gosling, Emma Stone, Steve Carell and many more recognizable faces. This movie centers around 3 relationships and the ups and downs of each. I do not know what else to say other than to go watch it right now.

Stuck in Love

When I tell people that my second favorite Rom-Com is *Stuck in Love*, they usually look at me confused because

they have never heard of it. It is so underrated and deserves way more recognition than it receives. It stars Lily Collins, Logan Lerman, Nat Wolff and more, centering around a family



of writers and each of their relationship problems. Go watch it. Now. **10 Things I Hate About You**

A classic. *10 Things I Hate About You* is one of those go to movies that 90% of the population has seen. Even if you have watched it a billion times already, watch it again. If you have never seen it, are you living under a rock?



Crazy Rich Asians

This one is a very new movie but instantly became one of my favorites. It brings you into the lives of the Singapore elite, and has you rooting for the main couple the entire time. I highly recommend this movie if

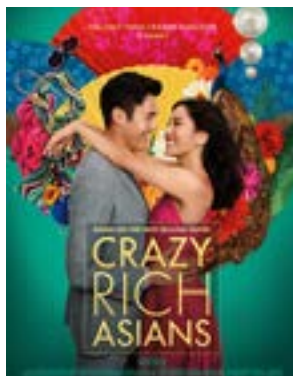


you have not seen it. Its funny and original, and will have any hopeless romantic feeling in love by the end of it.

Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again!

Anyone who knows me knows I have a really unhealthy obsession

with the *Mamma Mia!* movies. I've seen the original thousands of times, and I saw the new one 3 times in the theaters. 3 times. I have no regrets. If I had to pick a favorite of the two, I would have to go with the second. It revolves around Donna's young life when she first met Bill, Sam and Harry and it is wonderfully done. Also, it is a musical which makes it even better.



Aries (March 21-April 19)

We might just be encouraging the most volatile love pairing possible but we suggest another fire sign- Sagittarius or Leo. They're the only ones that can keep up with your wild side. But, if you're looking for someone to balance you out we suggest an Aquarius or Gemini. Whatever you do though please for their sake, stay away from Cancers and Pisces.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Assuming you're looking for security and safety in a relationship we suggest a Cancer or Capricorn. You might also be one of the few signs that won't drive Pisces to the breaking point. But please, stay away from Aquarius and Sagittarius their constant need for change and unpredictability will either terrify or exhaust you, or both.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Try an Aquarius or a Libra. They're fulfill your need for variety and fun and they're probably the best signs to put up with your dual nature. But, stay away from Pisces they're way too sensitive for you. Also Virgos will probably bore you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Go for a Taurus or a Virgo. They'll fulfill your need for security and are a lot more affectionate than other signs would be. Stay away from Geminis and Aquarius because their sociability and never ending need for change will wear you down.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

You need someone to keep up with you so we would suggest another fire sign- Aries or Sagittarius. But you should probably stay away from Capricorn and Taurus. You'll see them as boring and they'll see you as crazy.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Look for a Capricorn or a Taurus. Both are homebodies whose introversion you'll find familiar. However you should probably stay away from Gemini and Aries, you'll drive each other insane. No please for the sanity of everyone around you don't go there.

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Your easy going, social nature makes you most compat-

ible with Gemini and Aquarius. But stay away from Pisces and Cancer. They're too sensitive, you might just break them. Everyone will, but you especially.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Find yourself a Cancer or Capricorn they can return the amount of emotion you feel, although you tend to hide it. But stay away from Libra, Leo, and Gemini, they tend to be far too carefree (you might even call it reckless) for your taste.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Leo and Aries are the most likely to be able to keep up with your happy go lucky, adventurous spirit. But then again there's a good chance other people might not be able to stand being around 2 fire signs. But you should absolutely avoid Taurus, they're too much of a homebody, and Capricorns are far too practical for you.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Your down to earth, practical nature would pair you best with a Taurus or a Virgo. Both signs tend to value predictability and security like you do. But avoid any and all fire signs. No seriously, their impulsivity will give you a nervous breakdown.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Sagittariuses can match your energetic, adventurous, positive attitude. And Libras have a similar sociable nature and

need for intellectual conversation. Avod Virgos, they're too set in their ways, and Pisces, their neediness will clash with your need to be an individual.

Pisces (February 19-March 19)

Stop crying. Ok you stopped? You're emotionally stable? Find yourself either a Cancer or Scorpio. Cancers are similarly sensitive and equally sensitive so let's hope they won't break you. And Scorpions can provide the security you need. But please, for your own sake avoid Gemini and Sagittarius. Their blunt nature might just make you cry every 10 minutes.

SHORE-OSCOPES
FROM OUR MYSTERIOUS

SPECTRUM PROGNOSTZCATOR



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The Spectrum Sports



Shoregals swimming makes a splash winning SWC title

By **Caroline Jantz**

The Spectrum Sports Editor

The Shoregals Swim team has brought home another trophy for the ALHS, and another satisfying win over the Avon Eagles. After completing an undefeated season, this group of girls

went into the conference meet confident that they would triumph. Leading the team were seniors Sophie York, Brigid Mackeigan and Katie Hobar.

“We believed we were going to win,” said senior captain Sophie York, “We were undefeated during the season so we knew we had to defend that title, which in the end is what made us win. At SWC’s we tied with Avon, but since we beat them in the regular season, we won!”

The SWC meet ended with a 321-321 tied score between the Shoregals and the Eagles. The dual meet then came into play, and because Avon Lake had bested Avon then, they got the edge.

“Every single point counted. That’s something that our coaches always tell us, and that there is no such thing as a small swimmer. If you get 1st, or if you get 12th, as long as you are scoring points,

you are essential to the team and contribute to the victory,” senior Maya Assaf said.



One of their philosophies as a team

Photo from Avon Lake sports Twitter

is that there is no small swimmer and that everyone is important. Whether you are on the A relay, or the B or C, you are vital to the win.

“Biggest contributor was probably Maggie Williams.

We swim the same events but she really performs so well at big meets like that. But it was so close that everyone contributed a lot.” York said.

For the seniors, this victory was extra sweet because they had won this title their freshman year as well. To start and end victorious added to the excitement of it all, and they could not be happier about what this team has accomplished.

“Winning SWC’s is always a fun and wonderful experience. We won it outright my freshman year, and now my senior year which is very cool.” Assaf said.

Moving forward into next year, the team is looking to defend their title. With the seniors leaving, juniors like Emma Okuma will have to step up and become leaders and help bring home another trophy.

“We want to have a strong team next year and hope to win again. Winning will take work, so getting to that point will be a long ride,” junior Emma Okuma said, “Overall the season was great and we hope to gain more swimmers to score and help gain us another conference title.”

The Avon Lake girls Swim team ended their season on the highest of highs, and hope to continue that going into the next season.



Photo from Avon Lake sports Twitter

Girls basketball takes the 3 seed in upcoming tournament

By **Paighton Masterson**

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The Avon Lake girls varsity basketball team’s season is coming to a close, but the energy is not going anywhere. Standing at 18-3, the Shoregals are getting amped up for postseason. With two of their three losses being from number one ranked Olmsted Falls, seniors Allie Heschel and Amber Achladis are content with the progress made this season.

“As post season is coming up, as a team I think we need to keep our calm and continue to play the way we have been playing, but remember every team has gotten better as the season has gone on so we

can’t take anyone lightly,” senior captain Allie Heschel said.

“Since the season has started, our team has improved so much in all aspects of the game. We have learned to all read off of each other on both offense and defense, and our plays have run a lot smoother,” star point guard Achladis said.

Most recent losses are to Olmsted Falls and Westlake, both by only one point. Being one of the top teams in the conference, the girls are seeking revenge, looking for a top spot in the rankings while heading into the Southwest Conference Championship tournament in mid February.

“For playoffs we can’t let teams

get in our heads. Olmsted Falls being first in our conference, maybe having to go up against them in the playoffs, we can’t go into that game with a bad mindset because they are a beatable team,” Heschel said.

The shoregals have clenched their spot over reigning SWC champs, Berea-Midpark, blowing them out of the water twice this season.

“Berea is definitely a very good team, but both times we have played them we have come out with a lot of intensity. Even when we went into overtime the first game, we never stopped playing our hardest,” Achladis said.

See ALHS on page 8

2019 senior wrestlers recognized

By Marcy Allen

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The Avon Lake Wrestling Program's Senior Night was held on January 24th, featuring four seniors Adham Abushukur, Alec Negron, Abud Salem, and Ethan Shepard, at the Avon Lake High School.

A sentimental ceremony was held for the seniors and the young

men were recognized for their wrestling accomplishments. "My favorite part of senior night was definitely walking out with my parents," Negron said.

Negron has had an excellent season so far, going undefeated in a tournament in West Virginia, receiving 100 career wins, and placing in several of his tournaments.

The boys have had many fond memories as Shormen wrestlers. "My favorite memory is simply being apart of a great team. We have helped improve the Avon Lake Wrestling program," Shepard said.

The Avon Lake Wrestling Program has the "GBED" mentali-

ty, working extremely hard during practices and workouts. When the four seniors leave, the program is in high hopes of accomplishing many achievements.

"We should be pretty good next year, there's many 8th graders that are good wrestlers and the Freshmen class has tons of potential," said Junior John Perry.



Photo from Avon Lake sports Twitter

Perry will be one to watch next year, as he was SWC champion for the 126 pound category during last year's season, and has swept impressive victories in several matches this 2018-2019 season.

The class of 2019's wrestlers have helped shape a substantial program and there's lots to look forward to for the future Avon Lake Shoremen wrestling program.

ALHS Girls basketball

Continued from page 7

With time winding down, fellow teammates Liz Murdock, Kelsey Simmerly, Ariana Negron, and the rest of the girls are taking everything in these last few games with their senior teammates.

"It's definitely so sad to see the season almost coming to an end. Coach Zvara and I have been together for 4 years and have created such a bond. I'm going to be really really sad once the season ends, but I couldn't ask for a better 4 years," Achladis said.

"Everyone has contributed this season whether it's coming in off the bench, or just cheering from the bench, all of the players on this team have helped us get where we are," Heschel said, illustrating the strength and quality this team has.

It is clear that these girls have become more of a family this season. The quality of the girls, the talent, and the mindset are all in the right position, as their record shows.

The shoregals post season games are starting soon. Come out and support the girls as they are winding down their season and are ready take on the Comets.



Photo from Avon Lake sports Twitter

Shoremen basketball keeps improving toward season's end

By Marcy Allen

The Spectrum Sports Writer

The Avon Lake Boys Varsity Basketball team has had a steady season so far with a 10-5 overall record, 7-4 record in the South Western Conference, and a satisfying victory against rival Avon on January, 25th (final score 57-44).

Triumphing the Avon Eagles in the football season, the Shoreman were extremely ecstatic to once again conquer the competitive challengers.

"Sending the seniors out with wins in both sports is huge," Junior Nick Marsh said.

Nick Marsh has had an excellent season season so far with a grand total of 61 points and contributed a notable 15 points to the team's impressive victory against the Eagles.

Other players to be on the watch

for is Junior captain Nate Sidloski (53 points total), Junior Tanner Russell (50 points total), and Senior captain Cole Schraff (33 points total).



Photo from Avon Lake sports Twitter

With heavy games and the postseason coming up the Avon Lake Varsity basketball team

is working hard to produce impactful results.

"We are preparing well, watching film, practicing defense, and listening to our the coaches," Sidloski said.

The Varsity squad's season started off slow, with tough losses against Olmsted Falls, Berea- Midpark, Amherst, North Ridgeville, Avon, and Bay Village.

"We started out rough, but we are on a roll now," Marsh said.

With ten victorious wins underneath them, the rest of the basketball season seems to be in hopeful shape for the Shoremen. The team aspires to go far into the playoffs, as well as finish with a winning record.

With hard work, a motivating drive, and vigorous focus the Avon Lake Boys Varsity Basketball Program is looking to end with a successful 2018- 2019 season.