

Michael Jackson: a musical legacy lives on

by Dolly Malik

"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same." This quote from an unknown author has applied to many different people in the past. Life is short; days come, and days go - as do people. But some individuals remain forever in the hearts of people, as if they never even left. Michael Jackson is one of these individuals.

On June 25, 2009, the King of Pop, passed away. Those who never knew how much Michael Jackson and his music meant to them, finally realized it. It was a crushing moment for individuals globally. In fact, so many people looked it up on Google that the search engine crashed for about 20 minutes. According to AT&T, a cell phone service provider, 65,000 texts were being sent a second.

Jackson wanted to help the world out as much as he could, and he made big

donations, setting him apart from other celebrities. One of his greatest endeavors was his co-writing and recording of the song "We Are the World." The release of that song helped bring in over 10.8 million dollars to charity, USA for Africa. Perhaps due to his abuse as a child, Jackson tried to help children as much as possible throughout his lifetime. He started a foundation called the "Heal the World Foundation" in 1992 which sent millions of dollars across the globe to help underprivileged children, including those threatened by war and disease. Throughout his tours, he gave free tickets out to underprivileged children as well as donated to hospitals and other charities along the way.

Besides helping out the world's children, Jackson had three of his own - Prince Michael, Paris Michael Katherine and Prince Michael II. Akon, a close friend of Jackson's mentioned in his tribute song, "Cry Out of Joy," that he wished the world could have seen "how a wonderful dad [he] was to all [his]

kids." His passing affected his children the most, who are now staying with the Jackson family after custody was given to Jackson's mother. At his funeral, Paris told the crowd that gathered, "Ever since I was born, Daddy has been the best father you could ever imagine. I just wanted to say I love him... so much."

Jackson inspired so many of today's artists who still say that he is their greatest influence. In The Trumpet's interview with artist Kate Earl, she mentioned that her favorite songs are those by Jackson. When The Trumpet spoke with boy-band, One Call, members Justin Thorne and A.G. both said that Michael Jackson was their favorite singer.

From his starting days in the Jackson 5, until his recent solo career, he entertained people from countries across the globe with songs like "ABC," and "The Man in the Mirror." His tour was to start on July 13, 2009, and it was to be his last tour, titled "This is It," selling out in all fifty states.

Many of the songs he recorded in

the final years of his life may be released, but that has not yet been decided. Certain projects were left undone, and it seems like Jackson's life was incomplete. However, his legacy and influence continue to flourish.

As it is with most celebrities, their fame tends to grow once they are no longer physically alive. Shortly after his passing, Michael Jackson tribute shirts, songs, posters and other memorabilia appeared everywhere. Certain people who never were fans suddenly became fans. Perhaps this is one positive aspect of his passing away.

Remember him, for who he really was. As Akon said in his song, "remember he's the chosen one." Look beyond the negative publicity, and realize that he was an amazing person that no artist or humanitarian will ever come close to in comparison.

As Colby O' Donis told The Trumpet, "Michael Jackson's body died - not his soul, or his legend."

Fresh new band heats up local music scene

by Riddhi Doshi



New demo CD, \$1.00

All across the school one CD has taken to the hearts of music fanatics in every grade. As many students already know, this is the demo \$1.00 of the band All of the Above. All of the Above has been together since Novem-

ber 2008. Already this demo has become a huge hit, with over \$300 in sales since its release on September 2, 2009.

The band consists of five boys: Andrew Dorn, sophomore James Adams, sophomore Jeremy Gideon, senior Matt Adkins and freshman Travis Wingate. The band is managed by Rachel Holly.

"I formed the band when I saw a poster for Open Mic Night," said sophomore James Adams. "I talked to a friend from Orefield, Andrew Dorn and said 'Hey we should do this, you're good at singing!' and Jeremy was in my American Studies class and I had heard that he played guitar, so I went up to him and said asked him if he wanted to be in the band. It was all uphill from there." The original band members included James Adams, bassist, Andrew Dorn, lead vocalist and piano and Jeremy Gideon, the lead guitarist and backup vocalist. Almost immediately af-

ter their performance at Open Mic Night they accepted a drummer, sophomore Josh Hansel into their group and dived into successful gigs and a period of songwriting. After the parting of John Hansel the group added guitarist Matt Adkins. At last, around the middle of September 2009, the group came to its current state by adding manager Rachel Holly and drummer Travis Wingate to the band.

On their MySpace, fans can listen to seven of their songs and view videos of their practices.

"I remember them talking to other students about their band and their new demo CD, they are hard-working and talented," said sophomore Rachel Shussett. "This band is dedicated and very put-together and more professional than most high school bands." says sophomore Kaela Bitting.

This band has come a long way since their performance at Open Mic Night a year ago. The band has played at places such as TGIF and has also performed with bands like 3rd Pandemic at places such as The Strand and is playing for the Gorilla Promotions' Battle of the Bands at the Sterling Hotel in Allentown on November 1. Less than a year since their performance, they have become Parkland's hottest new band. These performances introduced them to music fanatics not only in Parkland but throughout the Lehigh Valley. They reached new heights with their CD \$1.00 and have already made a name for themselves on iTunes, where fans can purchase their single "While You Can." This Parkland band is sure to succeed in the following years and hopefully they will remember their humble beginning at Parkland High School.



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