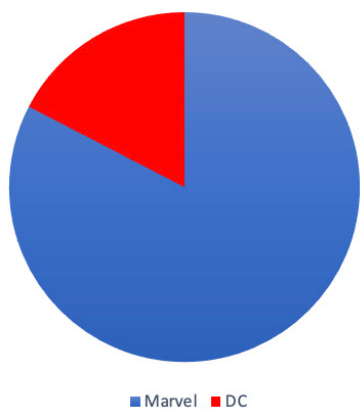


What's Your Opinion?

We asked students which they preferred, Marvel or DC.

Out of 46 responses:
Marvel -- 38
DC -- 8



Next Poll:

Hispanic/Latino on official documents

Do you agree with Biden's decision to allow people to choose Hispanic/Latino as a race?

Students can answer the poll on The Herald's Instagram page, [@astateherald](#).

Instagram polls are posted on Mondays. Previous poll results can be found on [theherald.home.blog/category/opinion/poll/](#).

Have an idea for a poll? Send your ideas to heraldopinion1921@gmail.com.

These and future articles can be found on the Opinion section of The Herald's website.

ANA COX
COPY EDITOR



Anna Cox is a first-year English major from Paragould

True crime has always been something that has captured the public's attention. Brutal events and catchy cutlines grab the eyes better than anything.

With new movies and TV series coming out in recent years, the question of respect and how to properly tell the story of the victims has come up. With "Dahmer" and "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil and Vile," people have wondered if the killers are being portrayed in a positive light.

First, let's talk about more recent news: the Idaho murders. The murders involved four victims: Ethan Chapin, 20, Kaylee Goncalves, 21, Madison Mogen, 21, Xana Kernodle, 20.

How to properly be a true crime fan

TikTok exploded with theories; however, a large number of people started targeting and harassing people who were close to the victims. They even went so far as to harass the boyfriend's family, having no evidence that he was connected to the murders at all.

"It is okay to theorize with your friends or wonder why something tragic happened. It is not okay to start accusing, to start harassing, to forget all empathy and ethics regarding respect to the victims and their families"

TikToker Ashley Guillard accused one of the professors at the students' school, Rebecca Scofield, the history department chair. Scofield has since started legal action against Guillard with the preface of defamation.

Guillard has continued to defend her claim that Scofield is guilty, her evidence being her tarot cards. Guillard was not in Idaho, she does not have access to the evidence that the police do and she does not know anything about Scofield. She is simply throwing darts in the dark.

These people are in mourning, being attacked and told they are the murderer of their loved ones. This is

not okay. People with no evidence or information on the case have no right to start harassing a family.

It is just disgusting for someone to act that way. I am all for theorizing and wondering how or what happened to lead to the tragic event. However, I am not for the persecution of seemingly innocent people. I am not defending murderers, I am defending the people who have no evidence against them and are only being targeted because of their relationship with the victim.

Returning to the TV shows and movies: they are gross. The one regarding Jeffery Dahmer did not have the permission of the victims' families yet made a show with their testimonies and their likeness anyways. It was inappropriate. If they had asked permission and talked with the victim's family, then my opinion would be different.

But they did not. Netflix did not take into account how their series would affect the victims' families, and although Netflix did not legally have to, not contacting them ruins the show. It is another blow to the families that they simply did not need.

"Extremely wicked, shockingly evil and vile" sparked controversy for its glorification of Ted Bundy, a prolific killer and rapist of at least 30 women.

Critics believe it was too upbeat in its perspective, and although Bundy was thought of as attractive and charming, that does not mean that a studio should make that his sole characteristics.

He was a sadistic killer and rapist. If you make a film and it comes off as glorifying him, the next words out of your mouth should be "I'm sorry".

Enjoying true crime is not a bad thing. It becomes bad when there is not a proper tribute to victims. It becomes bad when there is harassment. If you like true crime, don't act like you have a criminology degree and can somehow solve a case with no evidence.

It is okay to theorize with your friends or wonder why something tragic happened. It is not okay to start accusing, to start harassing, to forget all empathy and ethics regarding respect to the victims and their families.



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF INSIDER
The Cast of "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile"

Marvel doesn't have the oomph they used too

JACK BOND
OPINION EDITOR



Jack Bond is a senior English major from Marion

I remember going to see the first Avengers movie three times when it was in theaters. Three times. It was a dream come true to see some of my favorite childhood superheroes make it on the big screen, and it was executed perfectly.

Now when I see a new marvel movie announced, I just shrug and move on with my day. Seeing the name "Marvel" attached to something just doesn't instill the same sense of excitement and child-like wonder it used to.

I'm not the only one either. It seems a lot of people are getting tired of Marvel. What happened in the latest Marvel movie used to be the talk of the town, but I have yet to hear anybody



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF IMDb
talk about the upcoming Ant-Man movie next week.

Even critics are starting to give harsher reviews. Some of the earlier movies had some fairly bad reviews (looking at you "Thor: The Dark World"), but overall it was some pretty stellar numbers.

Most movies seemed to get a minimum 7/10, but with the introduction of phase 4 of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), the numbers have more consistently dropped. Just look at the IMDb ratings

for their latest movies and shows.

"Black Widow," 6.7/10. "Thor: Love and Thunder," 6.3/10. "Eternals," 6.3/10. "Ms. Marvel," 6.2/10. "She-Hulk," 5.2/10.

Where are the days when Avengers would destroy the box office? What happened to the state of Marvel movies? It's a pretty decent number of things, but the main offender in my eyes is the lack of maturity.

Look at the comics that created these characters and you'll see some pretty gruesome stuff. You have people being disemboweled, ripped in half and even eaten alive.

You could argue that the heroes in the MCU are just not the ones who did things like that in the comics, but you would be wrong. Take Spiderman for example. There are comics in which an evil version of him uses his wall-clinging ability to rip the skin off of people's faces. There's even a zombie version of him that ate his family.

This lack of graphic violence is easily forgiven though, as there are ways to write around it while maintaining a more mature story. Multiverse of Madness did it pretty well, but I won't detail it here for risk of spoilers.

What is inexcusable, however, is the amount of jokes. Marvel jokes were a nice break in the action at first, but now they have become a hallmark of the

genre. They are predictable and tiresome at this point.

Just look at their worst offender: "She-Hulk." It was meant to be a comedy series, yet it failed, getting some of the worst ratings of any recent Marvel media.

It doesn't help that many marvel characters seem to almost always have to have a cocky or quirky personality. Iron-Man, Spiderman, Thor, Star Lord, Rocket Raccoon, Ant-Man, Dr. Strange, they might as well have the same personality with all the jokes and jabs they poke at their villains.

It may be, however, that people are just tired of the superhero genre in general. There are so many superhero movies and TV shows nowadays that it's almost overwhelming. There are even shows like "The Boys" popping up just to parody the genre.

But then again, "The Boys" also does what Marvel doesn't. It's much more gruesome and mature. Similarly, shows like "Invincible" or some of DC's animated stuff like "Harley Quinn," both of which are much more adult-oriented, do pretty well.

Unless Marvel fixes itself, it will just continue to lack the same punch it used to. Something needs to change, but I doubt that change will come anytime soon.

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