

# Vine shut down due to Twitter's financial issues

People will no longer be able to post videos on the popular app

by Tia Rotolo

The once popular social media app, Vine, has "died."

The makers of Vine sold their six-second-video social media platform to Twitter back in 2012, prior to its launch.

Twitter would become the parent company to Vine starting with its release in 2013. Since then, Twitter has started to decline financially.

Some aspects of the social media platform had to go. Vine was just collateral damage in Twitter's instability.

On Oct. 27, Vine announced that it would be discontinuing the mobile app. The changes weren't given an exact date as Vine wanted to give users time to download and access their videos one last time.

The online website will remain for viewing purposes, but the ability to make vines will be lost along with the mobile app.

Senior Tom Ratts was sad when the news of Vine came out, but realized that the app was already on its way out.

"I used to watch this user, Evan Breen. His content has gotten

worse because he's not solely on Vine anymore," he said. "I've felt a complete loss of connection because I'm now limited in my expressive means."

Like Ratts, Vine users were saddened. They took to their six-second videos to release messages of thanks for their fans and expressing their sadness that the platform will be coming to an end.

It was a sad night for Vine. Even users who had long forgotten the app had returned for a final goodbye, thanking Vine for all it's done for them.

*"Me and my friends would use it to share videos with one another that made us laugh."*

Sophomore Connor Rooney expressed his disappointment about Vine ending. "I'm really sad because I used it every day," he said. "It's hilarious. Me and my friends would use it to share videos with one another that made us laugh."

Vine hit its height soon after it's release. As intended, users were making six-second videos of what was happening in their lives, similar to Instagram, but with videos.

With the introduction of "revining" (reposting) videos, Vine



While some students are saddened by the news of Vine shutting down, others agree with Twitter's decision | Vine

became even more popular. Users were becoming "Vine-famous" with nearly millions of followers. Vine had become a central hub for jokes and trends.

Junior Ethan Hughes used the app mainly to revine videos.

"I think I made one vine," he said. "I mostly revined, but I didn't really use it after freshman year because it took up too much of my time."

After a few years, the app shifted from its original purpose. Users were now using the platform to create more cinematic vines, compiling many videos and then syncing them to music in a "loop."

The humorous videos were still there, but there was an uprising from the artists on the app that used it as another medium for creation.

Senior Ben Silberman often made vines of his friends, using the community to find new music. "Vine just made me more motivated to get out there and film things that I love," he said. "Plus seeing my friend's reactions to the videos was priceless."

But Vine's ending doesn't sadden everyone. Sophomore Terrence Zapf believed the app to be nearly useless.

"Society will probably be better off without Vine. People used it for bad things and it was a real time

waster," he said.

Some students never even downloaded Vine like Senior Virginia Owens.

"I had no interest in seeing other people try to make videos," she said. "I already had Snapchat and Instagram so I was too lazy to find another form of social media."

The death of Vine has left users yearning for another form of social media. While some students feel lost in a sea of App-consumerism, others remain hopeful.

"I'm not that sad about Vine ending because there will be something in the near future to replace it," Hughes said.

## "Boo! A Madea Halloween" is a surprising letdown

New movie brings in \$28.5 million in first weekend

by Joe Borushek

When I walked into this movie, I tried to stay optimistic. I thought to myself: how bad could this be?

Well, 103 minutes later, I knew how bad it was. Tyler Perry's "Boo! A Madea Halloween" is one of the worst movies of this year, and maybe one of the worst I have ever seen.

Perry is back playing his signature character in this ninth installation, but with an added twist. Instead of going to prison or at a family reunion, she is being haunted by killer clowns and zombies.

The plot is standard for a Madea movie: The setup for a problem, Madea being introduced, Madea getting involved in the problem, a serious few minutes to explain the underlying issue, a solution to the problem, and then a final joke.

This Madea movie is no different. Madea's niece, Tiffany (Diamond White), wants to go a frat party with her friends, but she isn't allowed to go. In an effort to get them to stay home, Tiffany's father, Brian (Tyler Perry), calls Aunt Madea (Tyler Perry) to babysit Tiffany and her friend Aday (Liza Koshy), for the night. Madea, her friend, Hattie (Patrice Lovely) Madea's brother Joe (Tyler Perry), and Aunt Bam (Cassi Davis) all go over to Brian's house to babysit the girls.

This is where the story heats up. After they all get to Brian's house, they decide to unwind by smoking marijuana. But remain calm, it's legally obtained through Joe's medical marijuana card. If that joke didn't strike you as funny, don't worry. This movie is chock full of jokes just as hilarious as this.

As you could have predicted, the girls sneak out to the frat party. After a bit, the girls meet a couple of guys and eventually go upstairs to engage in explicit activities. But low and behold, the girls are just 17 and not 18. Somehow in this mix-up, the cops get called and the party gets busted.

The girls sneak back into the house without anyone noticing, and the cops come to the party to confirm that there were no underage girls. Some spooky things begin happening at the house, including writing on a mirror and some noises in the attic. Then mischief and mayhem ensue.

It's hard to tell where my gripes begin with the movie, because almost every aspect is awful. The acting is bad, the editing even worse. The plot doesn't do the movie any favors either.

What boggles my mind is that this is the ninth Madea movie. The ninth time that we have seen the same formula, editing, acting and plot. And it's still being made.

Not only that, but according to Forbes, this movie grossed \$28.5 million in its opening weekend. Maybe there's something I'm not getting. But I don't understand why people pay money to be insulted for an hour and a half.

Even the message is flawed. Everyone starts putting Brian (Perry) down because he is too "soft". The climax of the whole debacle is the fact that he is so soft that his wife cheated on him.

This is where the little glimmer of hope I had for this movie died. It wasn't just one of the worst messages I've seen, but also a slap in the face for every man struggling with his emotions. It reinforces the stereotype that men need to be strong, emotionless goons as opposed to actual people.

My advice is to choose a different movie this weekend.

## Chess team wins NSCL opener

Chess team working towards their first championship since 1975

by Emily Abt

On Oct. 8 the New Trier Chess team participated in the North Suburban Chess League Opener at Niles North, returning home with their first ever win.

Head coach Dan Hart stated, "This was our best performance at the NSCL opener ever. We have never had a player win, this year we had one win the top section and Nathan placed in 3rd."

An "open" tournament is one in which students compete individually. All other competitions New Trier participates in are either league play or state tournaments, where 8 boards are playing at once.

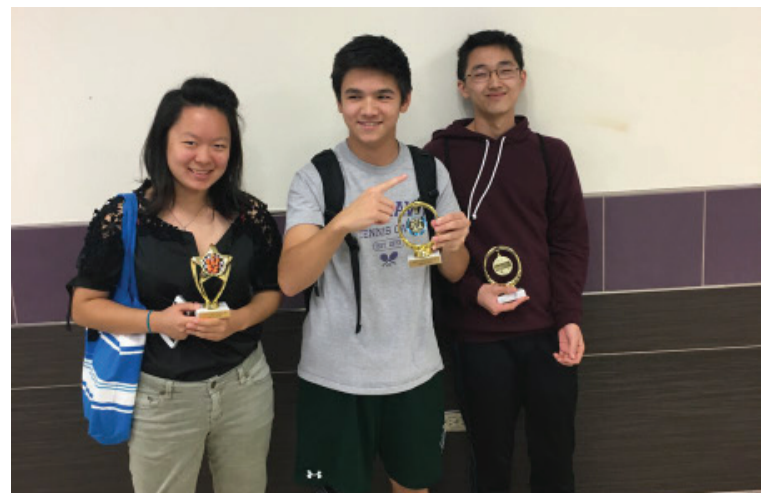
"League matches are similar to tennis or golf, where your top 8 play another school's top 8," assistant coach Matt Mersch said.

This tournament consisted of three different levels, A being the top and C being the bottom.

Chess in Illinois is very competitive. "It's an intensely competitive environment, but not an aggressive one. A chess tournament is incredible, you have a room full of 200+ high school students and outside of the sounds of the pieces moving and occasional question it is silent," Hart said.

Successful chess players begin early and spend a significant amount of time practicing and studying the game.

It is not uncommon for players to begin playing at a young age. Nathan Yamaguchi, a junior and active member of the chess team said, "I first learned how to play chess from my friend in preschool and I was really fascinated by the game."



Freshman Maggie Cao (left), and juniors Nathan Yamaguchi (middle), and Abe Sun (right) hold up trophies after placing at the NSCL opener | Twitter

Junior Abe Sun won 5-0 at the opener, placing first in Section A. This is the first time in New Trier history for a student to win. Just like Yamaguchi, Sun began his chess career very early. "I've been playing chess for 8 years, my mom first got me involved," Sun said.

However to truly excel, natural talent plays a role. There are essential skills and status required.

"If you think very logically and analytically, understanding the game becomes easier. However, like most things in life, practicing is the real reason you can become a good chess player," Yamaguchi said.

From a coach's standpoint important skills include "pattern recognition, a good memory and patience [because] games last between 1 and 6 hours," Hart said.

"Many of our players can remember entire games they played weeks, months, even years ago."

"Many chess players are good at math. It requires some very quick thinking. Most importantly the players have to have a passion for chess," Mersch added.

Coaching is vital to improving a chess player's game. New Trier has

experienced coaches. Head coach Dan Hart has contributed to the success of the chess team.

He himself has experience in the world of chess.

"I played chess for 4 years in high school at ETHS and I have played competitively off and on ever since." He is also the current president of the North Suburban Chess League (NSCL).

The student passion for the game is evident in this year's team.

"Anyone can learn to play chess, and with enough hard work play it at a high level," Hart said.

With vigorous training and dedication, the New Trier chess team is thriving. After 42 years of loss, a victory would place New Trier back at the top.

New Trier has an exciting season ahead of them. "New Trier is extremely competitive within the state. This year we have one of the top few teams in the state and hope to win our first state championship since 1975, not quite as long of a drought as the Cubs, but one we'd like to end. After that we'll set our sights on Nationals where we should do very well," Hart said.