

Rock and roll memorabilia

It may seem hard to believe, but the Beatles made their first American appearance on the Ed Sullivan show over 60 years ago, on Feb. 9, 1964. Rock and roll's origins go back further, even prior to Bill Haley and the Comet's release of Rock around the Clock's in 1954. Rock and Roll was influenced by R & B performers of the 1940s and 1950s.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
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In a 1950s interview Fats Domino said, "Rock & roll is nothing but rhythm & blues," according to a Rolling Stone article. Which is the first rock and roll song is the subject of debate. Mental Floss Magazine's website lists 5 songs that might be considered the first rock and roll song:

1. "That's All Right Mama" by Arthur "Big Boy" Crudup (1946)
2. "Good Rockin' Tonight" by Wynonie Harris (1948)
3. "Rock this Joint" by Jimmy Preston and his Prestonians (1949)
4. "Saturday Night Fish Fry" by Ls Jordan & the Tympany Five (1949)
5. "Rocket 88" by Jackie

Brenston and his Delta Cats (1951)

Of these songs, "Rocket 88" is considered by most to be the first rock and roll record. Ike Turner wrote the record that was recorded at Sam Phillips' Sun Records studio in Memphis. According to Mental Floss magazine, "the guitarist's amplifier had a torn speaker, and producer Sam Phillips (who a few years later, would discover Elvis) jerry-rigged it, stuffing some packing paper in the speaker cone. The unexpected result was a fuzzy sound that defined the song's raw vibe, and became a blueprint for the guitar tone of everyone from Chuck Berry to the Rolling Stones." Later during the 1950s, Rock grew and other acts such as Elvis Presley, Sam Cooke, Chuck Berry, and Fats Domino became popular. In the 1960s Berry Gordon's Motown Record Company produced a string of hits by multiple artists. The Beatles, the Animals, and the Rolling Stones were some of the bands that came to the U.S. as part of the British Invasion during

the '60s. The Vietnam War influenced many American performing artists during the 1960s, like Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and the Doors. The Eagles and Southern rock bands Lynyrd Skynyrd and the Allman Brothers were some of the most popular performers during the 1970s. Alternative musical acts such as the Ramones, Blondie, and the Talking Heads started to gain attention and fans. The 1980s and 1990s saw a wide range of styles from Van Halen and ZZ Top to the Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Pretenders.

There are a variety of items from throughout Rock's history that are popular with collectors. If you happen to have something exceptional like a Ringo Starr drum kit or Kurt Cobain played guitar, it could sell for millions. More common things like records and posters can still be valuable though. The First U.K. pressing of Led Zeppelin's III album sold for over \$3,300 in 2011. A rare Beatles poster for a 1966 Toronto Maple Leafs Garden performance sold for \$50,000 in 2019. Even a guitar pick can be valuable. An Eddie Van Halen Ed Leffler guitar pick recently sold for \$1000 online after striking a



chord with bidders.

Our next multi-estate online auction will begin soon and end in June. Our sports and non-sports cards auction will also be running online soon. More auctions are being planned. See our website for details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>

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QCC's E-Sports team once again crowned champions in League of Legends Tournament

WORCESTER — Another great season has ended for the fledgling Wyverns League of Legends E-Sports team, and another championship is added to their impressive record. The Quinsigamond Community College team played their final games on April 25, winning handily 3-0 over Bunker Hill Community College in the Region XXI Championship E-Sports game. The Wyverns finished the season with a 5-1 record, echoing the record from the fall 2020 season and even mirroring their fall championship win against Bunker Hill 3-0 in the finals. "The team of 12 came together this season. Week in and week out, they dedicated time and effort to improving their skills. Each player got

a chance to start in a game throughout the season, and each and every player stood out," said Wyverns E-Sports Coach Nathaniel "Nate" Mello.

"I am so proud of what this team was able to accomplish this year and I hope to continue our success in the future with players new and old," Coach Mello said.

QCC began its E-Sports team in the summer of 2020, taking part in a League of Legends collegiate competition. This is a highly competitive, fast paced, action-strategy online game. When not in a global pandemic the game is often played in-person, in an arena setting.

QCC's Athletic Director Lisa Gurnick said the E-Sports team has made a superb addition to the

Wyvern sports teams and Coach Mello has been an important part of the team's success.

"Coach Mello was fantastic, and he was the 'sports announcer' for all three of these final games. He presented the play-by play action. It was great for anyone to follow who didn't know anything about the game League of Legends but wanted to follow along," Ms. Gurnick said. "The team has played amazing all season and has worked hard to get where they are. We are incredibly proud of our newest Wyvern team."

The Wyvern 2021 E-Sports team includes:

- Alexis Fluegel
- Samuel Marshall

- Trevor Dodson
- Alex Vongkhamheuang
- Andrew Boucher
- David Huynh
- Dylan Tang
- Joseph Pauplis
- Monica Doan
- Eric Miller
- Lawrence Loughan
- Gabe Varner
- Head Coach Nate Mello
- Assistant Coach Alec Yorston

Visit www.QCC.edu/athletics to learn more.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

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I think the best we can do is give ourselves and our children a wide variety of experiences until they find what they love. And unfortunately, for some, maybe they never find that passion. It's never too late. I know people who in the latter years of their life were struck by something they learned that they loved.

Be open. Let your mind and heart explore the possibilities.

Did you have that moment in your life? If not, are you open to having it?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.



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