Travis Barker

By: Connor White

According to Drummerworld, Travis Barker is ranked as the 98th best drummer in the world. He has been in many bands, traveled the world, and has even survived a tragic plane crash. Travis is known for his alternative rock beats and rhythmic flow. He got his first drum set and started taking lessons at the age of 4, but never really committed to drumming until he was 20. When Travis was young, he did more than just play the drums; he also took piano lessons, joined a choir, and took trumpet lessons. His mother was also a huge influence on him along with Yellowwolf, ANIMAL from the Muppets and Steve Gadd. Three months after her diagnosis of cancer she died. She died the day before Travis started his freshman year of high school.

In 2008 Travis and his band “Blink 182” were flying back to south California in a Learjet 60 when their engine failed. Travis and DJ AM were severely hurt, but survived. Sadly four other band members were killed in the crash. Travis and DJ AM made a full recovery and returned back to their music in less than a year. Travis and DJ AM found new members for the band, and in February 2009 the band announced its reunion at the 51st Grammy awards ceremony. Lately Travis has been working on a lot of solo pieces.

Travis has many tattoos. Some are very simple and some are very complex. He even has some tattoos on his head. Most of his tattoos are inspirational and has a story behind them and some are just because they look cool. His first tattoo was the word “BONES” which he got at the age of 17. It was also a nickname his friend gave him. He also has a tattoo of drum sticks and a boom box on his chest for his love of music. His favorite tattoo is of his last name “BARKER”, which is located behind his ear.
Travis has worked with more than 32 professional artists. He has worked with other musicians like, +44, Yellowwolf, Transplants, Kanye West, Lil Wayne, Kid Cudi, Tech N9ne, Eminem, and Hopsin. He has been in more than 7 films and television shows, 8 video games, and 6 solo singles. Travis was also the drummer for all the performers at the MTV Video Music awards of 2008 including Kid Cudi and LL Cool J. He worked with Blink-182 in 2003 and he worked with Enema State in 2009 and Neighborhoods in 2011.

Travis has played more than 29 songs with Blink-182 not including mixed tapes, music videos, or bonus songs. The top three songs by Blink-182 that Travis stared in are Down, Felling this, and Obvious.

I think Travis is the best drummer in the world. He inspires me to be a better drummer. I find him fascinating for his style and just how his drum beats flow. I don’t really appreciate how he makes drummers look. With his choice of tattoos and clothing. To other people drummers might seem self-centered.