



PIRATE PRESS

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Ms. Ashford Encourages Students to Find Voice

By Katie Ridings

Last school year, Dr. Dobrinic retired from being principal at Pattonville High School and the district hired Ms. Ashford for the role of head principal at the high school. Her resume includes head principal at Holman Middle School, teacher at the high school, and administrator at Pattonville’s Learning Center.

As the new principal, Ms. Ashford hopes to make a positive impact at Pattonville. She has goals set to create a better learning environment and to “support the students to get back on track with learning after the pandemic.” Her hope is to give students a smooth transition back into the routine of normal school after two years of interrupted learning and to be able to support the teachers after the past two years of flexible teaching.

Ms. Ashford wants the student body and staff to see her as “someone who is supportive, friendly, empathetic, and cares enough to respond.” Overall, Ms. Ashford aspires to be seen as an empathetic administrator who students and teachers can turn to in times of need.

Ms. Ashford has worked within the Pattonville School District for 17 years. She was a teacher at the high school in 2006 and 2007. “The opportunity to come back to the high school was the opportunity of a lifetime,” Ms. Ashford said.

After working at the Learning Center for five years, she found that she missed the school environment. She saw the principal position as a segway to further her career in the Pattonville School District. Ms. Ashford felt that being a



Katie Ridings

With a little over one month down of the school year, Ms. Ashford settles into her role as head principal at PHS. “I like that the job will be different every day.”

teacher previously had drastically prepared her for this career at the high school. “This [being a teacher] has helped me understand the challenges that teachers have when working with students, and how I could aid them,” Ms. Ashford said. She also believes that her work in Student Services has helped her understand the unique situations of students and their families.

Having been exposed to different types of situations gave her “a broader lens of compassion and empathy.” Her job as Holman Middle School’s principal both prepared and inspired her the most for her current job. Her favorite thing about that

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Homecoming Game Preview

By Peyton Gregory and Talisa Prabhu

On Friday October 1, 2021, Pattonville’s Varsity Pirates Football Team will be playing against Parkway South High School’s Patriots for Pattonville’s Homecoming Football Game. The Parkway South Patriots’ record so far this season is 1-2, placing them 5th in Class 5, District 2. Last year, the Patriots ended the season with an overall record of 2-4.

The last time Pattonville’s Pirates played against the Patriots was in 2007. The Pirates lost 2-0, so the pressure is on once again, 14 years later.

“There’s a lot of pressure to win since it’s the homecoming game. It’s something we need to win because all eyes are going to be on us,” explains Logan Lindsay, one of the team’s captains.

With the pressure rising as it gets closer to game day, the team is preparing by “working hard at practice and studying film all day,” freshman Kameron Eleby said.

Logan Lindsay is getting his team ready by making sure everyone is hydrated and stretching leading up to the game.

During the game, Kameron plans to “lift up my teammates, and make sure everyone, including myself, knows all the plays.”

While having to go up against some of Parkway South’s star players, including LaRon Eason and Bennett Diehl, Logan knows he has to “give all my effort, make sure my guys know what they’re doing, and play hard.” Let’s get ready to cheer on our Pirates this weekend!



US Withdraws from Afghanistan

By Christian Movick

On August 15, 2021, the people of Afghanistan were on their knees. Their government collapsed, terrorists took over, the United States was rushing and scurrying to get out, and files were being burned and shredded as quickly as possible to prevent them from getting in the hands of the Taliban. It was a day that nobody will forget, and many that weren't there will still remember it for the rest of their lives. How we got here, however, has a much more complicated explanation than how it ended.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, the country united to the likes that many agree haven't been seen since. It came as a shock to many, when at 8:46 A.M., the first plane hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center. At first, many thought it was an accident, but shortly after, at 9:03 A.M., the second plane struck the South Tower.

While this was happening, then President of the United States George W. Bush was in a classroom full of children reading a book to the class. While he was observing the room, then White House Chief of Staff walked over to him and whispered into his ear, "A second plane has hit the tower. America is under attack."

Another plane was supposed to crash into the Capitol; however, that attack failed to hit its intended target. An additional plane struck the western side of the Pentagon.

President Bush took immediate action. Less than one month later, he announced that airstrikes targeting those believed to be responsible for

9/11, which were the Taliban and Al Qaeda, had begun, along with an invasion of Afghanistan.

Within months, the Taliban and their regime in Afghanistan collapsed, and Osama Bin Laden, the founder, and person that ordered the attack on the U.S., had fled.

In March of 2003, President Bush announced the United States' invasion of Iraq. The reasonings for such an invasion included removing weapons of mass destruction, and ending a regime that supported terrorists and "crimes against humanity."

However, a large portion of America at the time also believed that President of Iraq Saddam Hussein was involved in the terrorist attack against the U.S. According to the Brookings Institution, at least 69% of Americans believed that Hussein was tied to the 9/11 attacks, despite little evidence supporting such a claim.

On both sides of the political spectrum, many Americans to this day believe that President Bush either lied or misled the American public to justify an invasion of Iraq. Some speculated he could have wanted to invade Iraq to obtain its large oil reserves, while others thought threats by Saddam Hussein to kill President Bush's father, former President George H.W. Bush, may have also been a drive for such an invasion. Either way, many felt deceived into America's presence in Iraq, particularly after the intelligence that led to the decision did not, ultimately, reveal weapons of mass destruction.

Two months later, it was

announced that fighting had ended in Iraq, and that the mission had been accomplished. Despite this, the U.S. did not begin evacuating until six years later and was not fully evacuated until eight years later.

Ten years after the beginning of the invasion of Afghanistan, Osama Bin Laden was found and killed by U.S. forces. Later that day, then President Barack Obama addressed the nation: "A small team of Americans carried out the operation with extraordinary courage and capability. No Americans were harmed. They took care to avoid civilian casualties. After a firefight, they killed Osama Bin Laden and took custody of his body."

However, despite our primary goals being accomplished and the one responsible for 9/11 being killed, the United States maintained troops in Afghanistan for another decade.

A year ago, then President Donald Trump made a deal with the Taliban, the deal being that the U.S. would withdraw all troops from Afghanistan by April of 2021, and in return, the Taliban would not attack the U.S. service members and would not allow Afghanistan to become a haven for terrorists.

Once President Joe Biden entered office, he altered the deal and pushed the date back to September 11. However, no one predicted the events to come at such extraordinary speed.

On August 15, 2021, the Afghan government collapsed, with the Taliban taking over.

Evacuations from the United States embassy were rushed, with people being evacuated from the rooftop. The U.S. scrambled to shred documents and get out as quickly as possible.

According to Reuters, The President of Afghanistan fled with \$169 million in cash, and the Taliban is now in control of approximately \$28 billion in weaponry such as guns, armored vehicles, rockets, and more.

Thousands are now stuck in Afghanistan, with some going as far as holding onto the sides of planes as they take off so that they could leave. Several also tried to hand their babies over to U.S. soldiers in hopes that they will find a better life elsewhere, outside of a country with a terrorist rule.

No matter what side of the political spectrum people are on, or what one's opinion on the matter may be, or whose fault someone thinks this tragedy is, there is one thing everyone can agree on: the events in Afghanistan and everything leading up to it was a tragedy and the citizens who have died at the hands of these terrorists, or soldiers who have been killed in combat because of these wars, will be remembered. We thank the brave men and women who fought and continue to fight to protect this country, and that did their duty, as well as those who sacrificed their lives on 9/11.



Meet the 2021-2022 Class Officers

By Elise Banks, Abby Evers, and Rebecca Simpkins

2022

President: DeAndre Westbrook

"I want to better the school and keep the stability of the class." He feels that through his leadership roles and extracurriculars, he was best equipped for President. DeAndre started his freshman year in a government role as treasurer and has worked his way up the chain to be class president.

Vice President: Keilah Wilkes

"I see myself as everybody's right hand man and I feel like being the vice president is the ultimate form of resource and that's what I want to be to my senior class and my president." Keilah hasn't served in any previous government roles but has held positions in clubs before, "but nothing quite as high as the office of Kamala Harris herself VP."

Secretary: Sarah Etwaroo

Sarah believes that this will help her "gain the characteristics of a leader." She wanted to be secretary because "it isn't a main role but it is still an important one."

Treasurer: Ponon Masokano

"Mainly the reason I did it is because I love my senior class and I love being around them and these are people I want to serve... I think being treasurer is still a really involved role but something a bit more manageable for me personally."

2023

President: Samantha Newton

"I've been class president since freshman year so I think I just want to keep doing it," Samantha stated. "What made me do it freshman year was the fact that in NHS in middle school, I was the president and I think I just really enjoyed all the aspects of it."

Vice President: Allison Schrupf

"I wanted to serve in a student government role to represent my class in a way that I thought was best fit as well as getting involved and meeting the majority of my class rather than just the people I see at school in my classes. I picked my role to serve with people that I knew already, so we could work together. Also, I picked it because I didn't know anyone else running for it so I didn't want to step on any toes."

Secretary: Sadie Shull

"I wanted to find ways to be more involved with not just the school, but also specifically my class, and I thought that I would be able to take on this role and it would help me get out and meet new people and take more of a leadership role within our class."

Class Treasurer: Athena Housley

"I wanted to serve in a student government role because I wanted to represent my peers and have a voice that I feel like is pretty relatable helping making decisions for our class... I enjoy math and I just wanted to be a part of the financial aspect of helping plan prom and homecoming."

2024

President: Norina Shao

"At first, I thought about settling for something like treasurer or secretary, but I ended up running for president because I really wanted to put myself out there, and to get out of my comfort zone."

Vice President: Amaya Hinga

"I wanted to be Vice President so I can explore different school activities, and so I can be more involved this year. I picked the Vice President role because I wanted to start off a little small and work my way up every year."

Secretary: Alyssa Hamilton

"I wanted to serve in a student government role because I have the aspiration to serve my classmates and be a positive influence for them. Deciding to run for secretary was a tough decision for me. I possess qualities such as effective organizational and communication skills. With those being my strongest qualities, I most definitely fit the role of being a secretary."

Treasurer: Cyan Kelley

"I am in this role because I wanted to be involved with my school and be the voice for my class and make the rest of our high school years feel as normal and enjoyable as possible. My biggest goal is to advocate for those who do not feel heard in our school and create opportunities for them."

2025

President: Brooke Boyce

"I am very outgoing and I thought it would be good for me. I talked about being freshman president all the time so when it came I definitely knew I wanted to run."

Vice President: Jamyra Blair

"I wanted to serve in a student government role because I wanted to be surrounded by others like me looking for leadership... I as well wanted to serve in a student government role because I thought it would be a great opportunity to really be able to share my peers' ideas with the other class officers since the class of '25 is really filled with so many unique and creative students who have a lot of out of the box ideas that should be shared and incorporated into different projects that we come across."

Secretary: Gabrielle Hurd

"I chose secretary because I love working behind the scenes and making sure everything is flowing as it should be... I've been elected president of a club or two and tapped by classmates and teachers to run big projects like fundraisers, a student newspaper, and more in 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade."

Treasurer: Khloe Butts

"I wanted to serve in a government role because I have great leadership skills and others told me it would be a good fit for me... I picked treasurer because I've never been anything like this but I wanted to try something new."



Pirate Press

The Pirate Press is the open forum newspaper of Pattonville High School. The opinions published are that of the publication and are open to criticism. As the members of the 2021-2022 staff, we dedicate ourselves to the accurate and objective dissemination of information to all readers. We will protect and exercise our First Amendment rights.

The viewpoints of all staff members are to be regarded as separate from those of our administration, faculty, peers and adviser.

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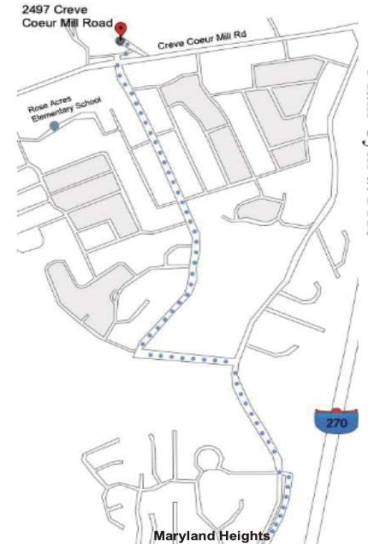
By Matthew Jacobi

The homecoming parade will take place on Saturday, October 2, 2021, at 10:00 am.

The parade will start at the Maryland Heights Community Center at 2300 McKelvey Road. From there, the parade will proceed north on McKelvey, turn left onto Glenpark Drive, and then turn right onto Bennington Place, and continue until it reaches Pattonville High School.

Float building for the parade will be from Tuesday, September 28 until Thursday, September 30. It will start at 6 pm, and end at approximately 9 pm each night at the bus garage behind the Pattonville Learning Center. Talk to your class officers for more information!

Please note: Due to a vaccine/health clinic at Maryland Heights Community Center, there will be NO parking allowed at MHCC on Saturday. Any participants will need to park at Pattonville High School. A shuttle will run from 7:15 am until 9:45 am taking participants from PHS to MHCC.



Christian Movick

MS. ASHFORD, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

job as head principal is that it is different every day. “When I come to Pattonville the only thing guaranteed is that I walk in the door and turn on my computer,” Ms. Ashford said. She doesn’t mind challenges and enjoys all of the busy days that come with the job. She said she is glad to be back in school and be able to talk with and interact with students again.

Ms. Ashford attended high school in University City and is still involved in their alumni program. During her high school years she was involved in a number of different activities including band, theater, and trying out for some athletics, as well.

Her high school, like Pattonville, had only had one high school in the district. Ms. Ashford believes that this has given her “a sense of loyalty and love for her school district.” She said she found her voice and opportunities to lead

in high school through being involved rather than being the head person.

Ms. Ashford’s high school experience has affected the way she thinks high school should impact students. “I think kids should have a high school experience that allows them to find themselves within the school.”

From her perspective, students should be able to find their voice, interests, and passions. She hopes that the students at Pattonville also get to experience these things in the four years they are in high school.

Ms. Ashford wants the students at Pattonville to know “that I am a person.” She always brings a bright side into the mix when it comes to her job, hoping to “bring lightness to situations when things feel heavy in school.”

Ms. Ashford believes that hard work stems from having a positive attitude in

situations. She likes to balance the hard work with fun to keep staff and students positive. She is a people person and is glad that Pattonville is back in school after two interrupted learning years. Ms. Ashford works hard in every aspect of her job and loves being able to come to school every day and work with the students and staff at Pattonville High School.

Ms. Ashford explained that she loves the community and school within Pattonville, and she looks forward to getting to know more about the students, staff, and school as a whole throughout the year.

Overall, Ms. Ashford wants the student body to know that she is here to support them throughout this school year. If you would like to learn more or contact Ms. Ashford, you can do so at the Pattonville High School Administration page.



Homecoming Fashion

By Katie Ridings

Homecoming fashion is a big talk at Pattonville right now. The question of what color or style to wear is huge. Every student at the high school has their own personal style for the occasion. Accessories and hair styles help students express their individuality and style, as well. Homecoming may look a little different this school year, but fashion is always a big part of the dance.

While traditionally girls tend to wear dresses, girls wearing jumpsuits or something else other than a dress is popular now. "I am going to be wearing shorts and a blazer

to homecoming. I want to be different," Kamauri Younge said. Being unique is a part of homecoming. It allows people to show individuality.

Dresses are still popular, too. Isabella Venezia and India Reed are seniors at Pattonville High School. They will both be wearing a dress to the dance but in different styles and colors.

"My dress is red and almost a two-piece dress," Venezia said.

India's dress is "going to be green with an open back." These two dresses are very different but express the uniqueness of each girl.

Homecoming fashion is one of the most important parts of homecoming to some people. The outfit people chose represents their personality.

With the change in venue and the dance being held on the football field, options for dress seem to have undergone a change, as well.

Whatever the attire, PHS students will carefully select their homecoming outfits and make their way to the stadium starting at 7 pm on October 2 for a night to remember. Come check out the fashion for yourself.

HOCO Events

By Matthew Jacobi

- Monday, September 27
Pattonville Day
Modified "A" Day
with Assembly on
Football Field at 1:23
pm.
- Tuesday, September 28
Twin Day
"A" Day
- Wednesday, September 29
Wacky Weather Day
"A" Day
- Thursday, September 30
Night at the Movies
Class Theme Day
"B" Day
- Friday, October 1
Class Color Day
"X" Day with Assem-
bly on Football Field
at 1:36 pm
Homecoming Foot-
ball Game at 7 pm
- Saturday, October 2
Homecoming Parade
at 10 am
Homecoming Dance
at 7 pm

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Spirit Week

By Bailey Shields

<p>MONDAY</p> <p>PATTONVILLE DAY- WEAR YOUR PATTONVILLE SPIRIT WEAR</p> 	<p>HOCO SPIRIT WEEK</p>			<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>CLASS COLOR DAY- MATCH YOUR CLASS FOR THE PEP RALLY</p> 
<p>TUESDAY</p> <p>TWIN DAY- TWIN WITH YOUR FRIENDS</p> 	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>WACKY WEATHER DAY- MIX SEASONS TO MAKE YOUR WACKIEST COMBINATION</p> 	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>THEME DAY- NIGHT AT THE MOVIES</p> <p>9: WESTERN 10: HORROR 11: ANIMATION 12: ACTION</p> 		



PATTONVILLE VARSITY PIRATES ROSTER

#	Name	Pos 1	Pos 2	#	Name	Pos 1	Pos 2
6	Tory Allen	WR	DB	17	Jordan Kedl-Thomas	WR	DB
61	Leland Bartlett	OL	DL	88	Chance Langley	WR	DB
99	Julia Blankenship	K		14	James Langley	WR	DB
41	Jason Boyd	TE	LB	73	Logan Lindsay	OL	DL
75	Zaire Bradsher	OL	DL	52	Anthony McCaa II	OL	DL
27	Zion Bradsher	TE	LB	28	Kameron McCain	WR	LB
24	Darnell Brown Jr.	WR	DB	74	Brendan McFarland	OL	LB
10	Ethan Bryant	QB	DB	85	Kevin Miller Jr.	TE	LB
69	Tim Burnett	OL	DL	8	Mike Montoya Jr.	WR	DB
20	Anthony Clark	WR	DB	4	Kyjuan Morgan	WR	DB
23	Armani Cochren	RB	LB	21	Quran Muhammad	RB	DB
63	Daniel Davis	OL	DL	55	Devin Muldrew	OL	DL
5	Kameron Eleby	QB	DB	72	Tedros Nega	OL	DL
19	Dashaun Ferguson	WR	DB	16	Bryan Orta	RB	LB
77	De'Mekay Gordon	OL	DL	11	Terrell Porter Jr.	TE	LB
66	Karl Gray Jr.	OL	DL	12	Tony Porter Jr.	RB	LB
9	DeAndre Haron	WR	DB	15	Lucas Powell Jr.	WR	DB
25	Damion Harris	WR	DB	2	DeAndre Rush Jr.	WR	DB
57	August Heiligenstein	OL	DL	7	Avery Saffold	QB	LB
38	Chandler Hopgood	TE	LB	29	Caleb Speech	WR	DB
1	Michael Irving	RB	DB	79	Xavier Stepney	OL	DL
13	Lawrence Jackson	RB	LB	18	Dylan Stewart	WR	DB
53	Torrian Jackson Jr.	OL	DL	30	Austin Traxel	RB	LB
3	Charles Johnson Jr.	RB	LB	54	Daveon Washington	OL	DL





#	Name	Pos 1	Pos 2	#	Name	Pos 1	Pos 2
14	Eddie Ahearn	QB	DL	77	Sam Jones	OL	DL
24	Almutasem Alzubair	WR	DB	3	Brady Kehlenbrink	WR	LB
45	Roman Ashman	RB	LB	33	Devin Lawson	WR	DB
5	Derrion Boyd	HB	DB	72	Alex Linson	OL	DL
22	Malikai Boyd	RB	DB	7	Jamison Lombardo	QB	K
66	Kyle Brown	OL	DL	70	Ross McCulla	OL	DL
19	Pierce Bryant	WR	DB	65	Myles Mobley	OL	DL
10	Dexter Cameron	WR	DB	6	Mekhi Moore	WR	DB
7	Quinn Candelario	QB	DB	52	Danny Morrow	OL	DL
39	Marshall Carter	RB	LB	47	Adrian Pena	RB	LB
20	Areion Chaney	WR	DB	68	Konnor Regan	OL	DL
23	Dashon Davis	WR	DB	58	Justin Reimer	OL	DL
85	Joseph Diamante	WR	LB	13	Demar Scott	WR	DB
11	Bennett Diehl	WR	DB	74	Kannon Steinmeyer	OL	DL
9	LaRon Eason	RB	LB	35	Jaedyn Sutton	WR	DB
87	Tyler Geisler	WR	DB	75	Brett Thoeke	OL	DL
4	Drew Heimlich	WR	DB	32	William Triplett	RB	DB
18	Max Held	WR	DB	2	Owen Veltrop	QB	DB
62	John Hintz	OL	DL	8	Ethan Walls	HB	DB
25	Chris Hogenmiller	WR	LB	12	Matthew Williams	WR	DB
67	Nathan Jimenez	OL	DL	34	Blake Willis	RB	LB
76	Carson Johnson	OL	DL	64	Reece Yankowski	OL	DL
81	Justin Jones	WR	LB				

PARKWAY SOUTH PATRIOTS VARSITY ROSTER





Adam Reddy (9) and Savannah Branson (9)
 Savannah: "The best thing about homecoming court is the recognition."
 Adam: "I've only been in high school for a month and this is a great new experience."



Isaiah White (10) and Nicole Cobbs (10)
 Nicole: "The best thing is random people I don't know congratulating me."
 Isaiah: "I am very excited about the parade."



Max McFarland (11) and Isabelle Usry (11)
 Isabelle: "I love the fact that we can dress up for a whole week and wear a sash."
 Max: "It's nice to see that my peers voted for me and the free ticket is nice."



Ty Procter (12) and Tara Chandler (12)
 Tara: I think it's cool that people wanted me to be elected."
 Ty: "Making jokes about being the Asian sensation."



Loudin Cato (12) and Macy Hanford (12)
 Macy: "Being excited for a fun experience."
 Loudin: "It's the first year that boys are allowed on court, so I think it's cool that I could possibly be the first Homecoming king."



Isaac Reddy (12) and Holly Jones (12)
 Holly: "I'm excited to be on homecoming court with my friends."
 Issac: "The best thing about Homecoming court is the free ticket."



Auggie Heiligenstein (11) and Paige Boyce (11)

Paige: "The most exciting part about being on homecoming court is the different events leading up to homecoming."

Auggie: "It's really nice that people voted for me, and the free ticket is a big bonus."



Paulie Palermo (10) and Riesen Riley (10)

Riesen: "It's nice to know my peers think enough about me in a positive way to even vote for me."

Paulie: "The best thing is I get to throw candy at the little kids at the parade."



Mark Kendrick (9) and Reagan Nelson (9)

Reagan: "The best thing about homecoming court is getting to meet new people and be in the parade."

Mark: "The best thing about being elected for homecoming court is being in the parade and having a possibly better homecoming experience."



DeAndre Westbrook (12) and Isabelle Tucker (12)

Isabelle: "Getting my name out there and feeling like teachers know me and students might look up to me."

DeAndre: "The student body nominated me and I have a chance to be the first homecoming king."



Daniel Mamrenko (12) and Alyssa Koller (12)

Alyssa: "I found it cool that people know my name."

Daniel: "I get to go with my best friends."



Bryant Ewing (12) and Camryn Peebles (12)

Camryn: "My plans for homecoming are going to the parade and a haunted house."

Bryant: "Being nice to people pays off."



Art Unveils Deeper Meaning

By Rebecca Simpkins

Many students at PHS choose to take art courses, not only because it fulfills graduation requirements, but art also reduces stress levels. In fact, researchers found that 75% of participants' cortisol levels, which are the main stress hormone, were lowered during the first 45 minutes of making art.

Ms. Kathriner, art teacher at PHS, agrees. "If they are able to express that (feeling stressed, having pressures, etc.), visually, it is a release."

Beyond art affecting stress levels, art is relaxing and can be a way for students to relax, especially in the midst of stressful times.

Senior Tessa Holiday also uses art as an outlet. "Art is really relaxing, I can use it as a way to calm myself down and also as a safe place for me to escape."

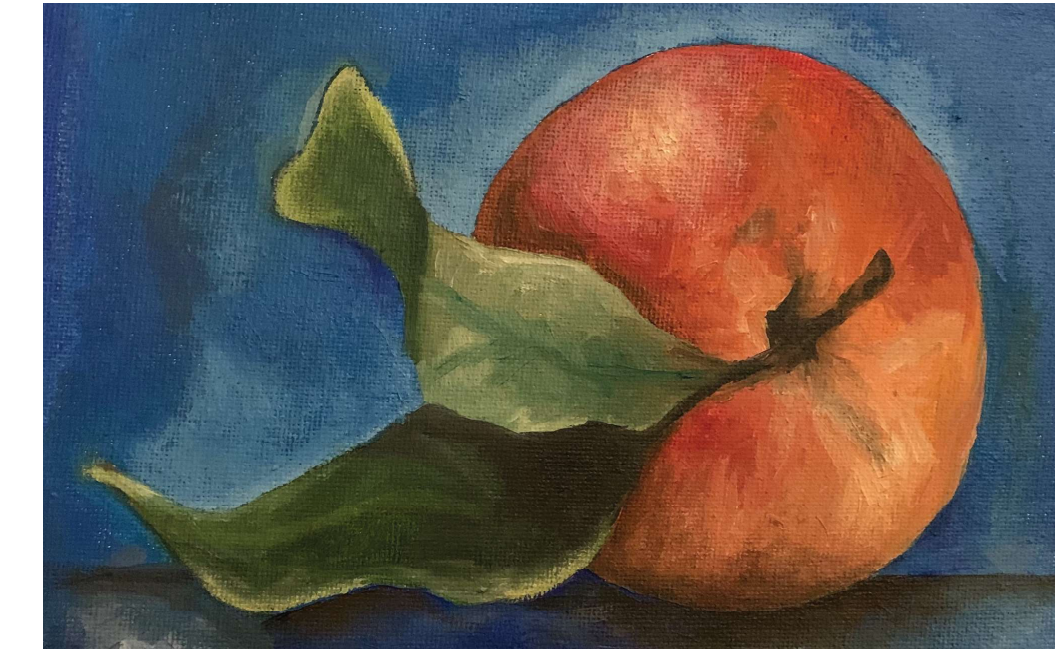
Visual art is more than a hobby; it is an outlet and a way to relax, especially important during stressful times.

Both art teachers, Ms. Kathriner and Ms. Mueller want their students to feel safe and comfortable in their room, along with being able to relax in a "less structured" class.

Ms. Mueller explained, "This is one of the few places during the day where students can take a breath and have a brain break and relax."

Art creates another avenue to express humanity and opinions, especially for a shy or introverted person.

Analiese Smith, a senior at Pattonville who is thinking



"Still Life of an Apple" by Analiese Smith.

Smith explained, "For this piece, I gathered an apple and a blue dropcloth. I used oil paints on canvas, which is the medium I prefer. In particular, the accentuation of the shading on the leaves and the apple are represented well. My paintings can be categorized into portraits or still life, which I like to do the most. Inspiration comes from my real life, seeing the color and artistic aspects of everyday objects. Bringing a certain spotlight to seemingly insignificant objects brings emotion and feeling into life, making it less dull and humdrum. Rooting in realism, painting brings a heart to lifeless objects."

about majoring in art, said, "Let's take an introvert or someone who isn't that outspoken. It can be harder for them to express themselves with words...So it's just another way to get out what we are feeling, a shy person can express their feelings through art so they don't really have to be so outspoken."

Ms. Kathriner explained, "What does it mean to be human and artists are telling parts of that story, then we can find commonalities with each other, relate with each other better, if we can express that, and find ways to share our common humanity with each other."

She believes that visual art is just one way that humans can express their individuality and their humanity.

Along with sharing humanity and expressing yourself, visual art intertwines itself into more aspects of life and affects more than the average person may realize.

When you are drawing, painting, sculpting, or doing visual art, you tap into the right side of your brain. The right side of the brain is the more creative side of your brain.

Analiese Smith said, "The creativity of it helps me come up with a lot of ideas, especially in English class. I can

write more creative articles. It really starts to get that side of your brain working."

Analiese also loves art because of the freedom it brings. "There is no limit to art, like people can take inspiration from others and use it to express themselves and how they feel."

From clothes to English class, art impacts the "little aspects" of life to the bigger aspects such as humanity and how we express ourselves.



Navigating Senior Expenses

By Imani Miller

While many may think senior year is about partying, in reality it can be really stressful. There are so many things people have to worry about before they graduate high school, like finding which college they are going to, maintaining their grades, having all of their credits to graduate, completing all community service hours, and much more.

One of the biggest challenges seniors face is figuring out which college suits them best and which one they want to attend. How much tuition is, what the dorms are like, how the dining hall works, if they have to write an essay to get in, and when applying to make sure they know if they need to take the SAT or ACT. Students should make an appointment with Ms. Luraschi to ask any extra questions they have.

“One thing I wish someone would have told me about senior year is that it can be very stressful. It can be a lot to keep up with. Also everything comes so fast, and I barely get any sleep,” senior Honey Waweru said.

Senior year can be very expensive for students because there are so many activities that seniors participate in, like purchasing cap and gown, senior apparel/class rings, senior pictures, homecoming, prom, and college application fees.

“One thing I wished someone told me about senior year is that it is very expensive,” senior Autumn Chillers said.

While it can be very stressful for seniors, there are a number of things students should take care of over the summer before senior year.

Pattonville requires seniors to have 50 hours of community service in order to graduate. Some students may complete this over their four years at the high school, and even complete more to earn honor cords. If students are struggling with earning community service hours, they should think about joining the community service club. It is one of the few clubs in which a student can earn community service hours. The club recycles plastic and glass from the school hallways and recycles paper from the teachers’ rooms. They meet every Thursday from 1:25-2:15 pm.

It is also required that students have 24 credits, and certain classes are required to graduate. Students should check in with their counselors at least two times a year to make sure they are on the right track. Students can check which courses are required on the PHS Course Catalog.

“One thing I wish I did over the summer is my community service hours because that way I won’t have to worry about doing them during the school year,” Autumn Chillers said.

As we are all stressed and worried about college, expenses, etc., students should also think about how it will pay off in the end. Here are some deadlines that students should think about:

1. October 23--ACT
2. Community Colleges application open October 1st
3. Any senior that hasn’t taken their photo with Wagner needs to by October 27
4. Parents that want to purchase senior ads should do so by the end of 1st semester on yearbookforever.com

Creating Leadership on the Field

By Michael Irving and Imani Miller



photo by Paige Boyce

In their last game before Homecoming, the Pirates face off against Marquette. The Pirates fell to the Mustangs 42-7.

As the 2021 football season progresses, hopes for the Pattonville Pirates are high. After the team could only play a few spring games last season because of COVID-19, the players and coaches wanted to reclaim Friday Night Lights.

According to Coach Smith, the team needs leadership. “When you have a young team, you really need older guys to step up and lead. The team can only go as far as the leadership takes them.”

Senior Anthony McCaa agrees. “We have a young group of guys so we have to work harder,” Anthony explained.

Senior Karl Gray hopes to get a Division One scholarship by the end of the year. He knows his strengths and weaknesses: “Playing too high is my weakness, and my strength is moving people out of the way when I don’t play high.”

So far, the Pirates are 2-3, and they are looking forward to evening things up during the Homecoming game against Parkway South on October 1.



Lady Pirates Serve Up Success

By Talisa Prabhu

Tennis isn't the first sport most people think of when they think about high school sports. However, this year, the girls tennis team is making an impact. The team has increased in size and ability. The tennis team usually has 20 girls, but this year they have 26. Coach McDaniel, one of the Girls' Tennis coaches, said, "We think this is because we are a very friendly team that welcomes beginners. We want everyone to feel like they belong on our team and can learn something new."

The Varsity Girls Tennis team has been playing well in matches. Lindsey Meyer, senior varsity player, and one of the captains on the team, said, "The team has been awesome this year... and everyone is putting in the time and effort." Coach McDaniel added, "We are having a fun and successful season so far. We are currently 6-1 with 5 regular season matches left to play."

Urooj Fatima, a relatively new player to the sport, explained, "I think this season has been really good. I have learned a lot and had many opportunities to improve and assess my strengths and weaknesses."

While being on the tennis team has improved the skills of the players, a lot of growth has been outside of the courts too. Fatima said, "Playing tennis has impacted my life in a positive way...it improved my team working skills, and developed other traits of mine such as time management and patience."



photo by Jaena Daniels

During a doubles match, players work together to figure out how to defeat their opponents. The girls' faced Francis Howell North on September 24.

Tennis has also impacted Lindsey Meyer. "Tennis has changed my life because it has allowed me to meet so many awesome people and...I always have a good time up on the tennis courts," she said.

The team is looking forward to the growth they will experience as individuals and as a team throughout the season.

Coach McDaniel described why she likes coaching the team. "I really love seeing someone who is brand new to tennis fall in love with the sport and want to compete...I like who the girls on the team are as people. The fact that they are good tennis players is the icing on the cake!"

Volleyball Talent Spikes in 2021

By Deandre Rose

So far in the 2021 season, the girls' volleyball team has 13-2-6 record, and they also have been working on becoming closer as a team.

According to Coach Franken, the team is doing really well with overcoming adversity and working together. "They have the ability to overcome adversity and they work really well together," Coach Franken said.

Player Charlyze Heiligenstein agrees. "Some of the team bonding that we do is like asking about each other's day before practice."

Heiligenstein emphasized the importance of helping each member of the team. She said it's important to know "if they had a bad day, if they had a good day so we can uplift each other throughout practice. So when it comes to game time we are a lot more connected."

Coaching is not an easy job. "The hardest thing about being a coach is just like my dad said, 'It's like playing with your arms tied around your back. You can tell them what to do but



photo by Elise Banks

Spiking to put away the point, the girls' volleyball team gets the win, contributing to their 13-2-6 record at the time of publication. whether they do it or not is totally different," Coach Franken said. Still, with a winning record, the team seems to be representing well.



Field Hockey Tackles Having Only One Team

By Peyton Gregory

So far in the 2021 season, the girls' field hockey team has been working on communication skills and making smarter decisions on the field.

Due to the shortage of players, the field hockey team has resorted to only having one team, which has been a struggle. Freshman player, Hannah Richardson explained, "We've kind of had to skip the basics since most people on our team have been playing for so long, so at times it feels a bit overwhelming."

Captain Lauren Barton agrees. "Our team as a whole is way smaller compared to a normal year. And so the newer players are getting thrown into higher level games which can be really hard on the team."

Although there have been struggles throughout the season, there have been a lot of positives. Captain Barton said, "Everyone's not divided



photo by Dr. Boyd

In their match against Parkway South, the field hockey players continue to battle, despite being behind. Part of their strength this season comes from their willingness to battle through adversity as a team.

and we don't discriminate as much because we are all on the same team."

Captain Tamia Dockett feels the same. "We all are get-

ting to know each other a lot faster as a team because I think having two teams makes it take longer to have the connection that we have now."

Since the season started, the field hockey team has improved on understanding each other's needs on and off the field, and they hope to continue to get better as the season goes on.

The lessons that players get from sports are lifelong ones, according to Coach Hale. "We're [she and Coach Overton] teaching skills that are going to be used for the rest of their lives: leadership skills, mental stamina, cooperation; basically, most of the skills that my girls are learning, they're going to take to their workplace and be a better worker. Both physically and mentally, I think it makes them tougher and more confident."

Personal Goals Drive Success

By Baliey Shields

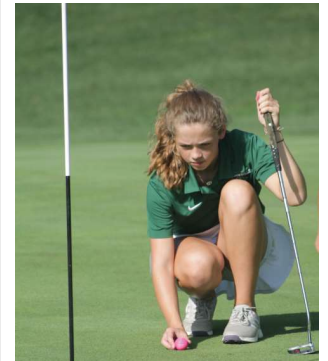


photo by Dr. Boyd

In their match with Parkway North, Zelletta Wyatt marks her ball to allow her opponent to hit first.

The girls' golf team is made up of all new players this season.

Coach Gross explained that the sport is extremely individualized and not many schools have teams competing so there isn't much rivalry. His main goal for this year and what he feels will make a successful season is the girls having fun and having them come back for next year's season.

The players feel the same. "My goals for this season are to just overall improve as a player and just get used to my swings and putts with it being my first year," said senior Macy Hanford.

In addition to individual goals, the players also maintain a sense of team. "My [team] goals are for us to have fun, use this as an outlet for school and become better players than we were at the beginning of the season," said Macy Hanford.

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Diving Into a New Season

By Abigail Evers



photo by Mackenzie Rosenthal

In their September 16 meet against Hazelwood Central, the boys' swim team set their sights on another win.

So far in the 2021 season, the boys' swim and dive team's record is 4-2.

According to Coach Braswell, the team is doing well and is on track for a successful season. She said, "Our goals for this year is to be above .500 and place in the top three at conference, as well as qualify a relay for State."

Captain Wyatt Martin said, "Our focus has been on relays, and I think that we should do well."

Martin also has an individual goal. "I hold the 100 breaststroke record and am close to beating it. If possible I want to break the 200 freestyle; really, just as many school records as I can."

"This season's team is a bigger size than years past, so the talent is very widespread; everyone has their strong suits," Coach Braswell said. "Our main rival is Fort Zumwalt North because they are the biggest threat to us and our placements. They are really good at what they do and are difficult to beat."

Counting the Runs: Softball Season on a Roll

By Mackenzie Rosenthal

Just under .500, the Lady Pirates softball team is tearing up the bases. With the season over halfway complete, the team is aiming to make a play for Districts.

One of the keys to the team's success will be staying healthy. "I would like to see our pitching stay healthy, our hitters to develop into the best hitters they can be, and lastly our defense to be consistent from one game to the next," Coach Simpson said.

Their biggest accomplishments so far this season was "we finished 4th in the Parkway tournament out of 12 teams. They also "finished 2nd in the Zumwalt East tournament last weekend," Coach Simpson said.

Three words that Coach Simpson would use to describe the team is "coachable, competitive, and fun." He explained that "they are just coachable because they are good listeners and try hard to improve. They like to compete no matter who we are playing and they just like to get out there and win. They are a very enjoyable group of girls to be around."



photo by Mackenzie Rosenthal

Aiming for Districts, the Lady Pirates Softball team gets another hit in their September 10 game against St. Charles High. The hit helped them achieve their 11-0 victory.

In order for the season to count as a successful one Coach Simpson wants to "win Districts because I know we're capable of winning it."

Junior Allison Schrupf is one of the team captains. She explained the goals for the team and herself: "Just to stay competitive in all the games we play, no matter if we win or lose. Just keep the games close." She would also like "to create a better team atmosphere to keep everyone positive."

Schrumpf's biggest strengths in softball are "hitting and making decisions for myself instead of being told what to do," Schrupf said.

Even though the season is coming to an end, there is still much to accomplish. "I hope to make it past the first game in Districts because we didn't do great in the past year and I think we have potential," said Schrupf.

The Lady Pirates are ready to hit their way into Districts on October 12, 2021.



High Notes in Band's Future

By Talisa Prabhu, Alaina Sharp, and Logan Otte

The previous year was so many things, and the Marching Band went through its own series of trials. "Last year I ended up quitting," said Floyd Davis, in his sophomore year of high school. Last year, freshmen did not get to see the full potential of what the Pride of Pattonville was really like.

They all started out online then went to go in person two days a week and the other days they were stuck at home to practice on their own. Practicing marching band at home is not the easiest thing to do considering it is loud, and students need a good amount of space to do so.

However, marching band has had a fabulous start to their latest season. Sydney Suvansri, a junior and member of the band, said, "I'm really glad that it is going back to normal because we've been able to do all the regular activities and have more bonding time."

Floyd Davis also added his thoughts. "Now that everything is going back to normal, it has been a really good time."

Suvansri talks about the marching band as a community. "We're all really close because we spend so much time together and so.. we are honestly like a big family. "

Coming back this year has not been easy for the musicians. Davis said, "Starting was a little bit difficult. There were a lot of early mornings and late nights."

Suvansri has also seen many challenges that the band has had to face due to the difficult past year and how it robbed the players of their experience. "Some of the group has been set back since they didn't get to have a normal year last year so we are having to learn techniques and the show...at a different pace," she explained.

Despite the struggles they have faced, the marching band has managed to play through it. Just recently, the band competed in two competitions and were recognized for their performanc-



photo by Matthew Jacobi

Back in full force, the Pride of Pattonville greets students as they enter the first Homecoming assembly on Monday, September 27.

es. Sydney Suvansri said, "We've won Grand Champion, which means we have been the winner of the entire competition." The band has won both of their competitions.

The competition is not all about competing and winning awards for the members of the band. Floyd Davis said, "It was really dope getting to see other bands and seeing how they march, their shows and their music."

Suvansri also enjoys the competitions. "Those are really fun because we get to experience other marching band shows and...it's a bonding experience...we can learn from them and they can learn from us."

While the past has caused a bit of "treble," the marching band and its members have "high notes" in their future.

Communication and Chemistry Key for Soccer

By Ava Bearskin

Pattonville's varsity soccer team is starting out the season with a 3-6 record with nine games left in the season. The team is hoping to have fun and learn as much as they can.

Captain Devin Holtzclaw, senior, has played soccer since he was five. He hopes to finish out his senior season with "my teammates seeing me as someone they can take advice from whenever. At any time of the day, I'm willing to help them improve themselves on and off the field."

Holtzclaw believes that his team has good chemistry on and off the field, which he says is crucial for success. The captain wants to have fun his last season and end on a high note. "I've gained so much knowledge of the game these last 4 years. Looking up to the past captains and remembering how they used



photo by Ava Bearskin

Noeal Arefaine fights a Duchesne player for the ball in the game on September 7. The Pirates went on to win, 2-0.

continued on PAGE 16



Cross Country Team Pushes Through Difficult Season

By Sydney White

The 2021 Cross Country season features a team and coaches who work through difficulties together.

Charlie Bennight, a senior, explained how running is more than exerting yourself, running is more a mental sport, “because your brain always wants you to stop.”

Bennight joined cross country her sophomore year after deciding to quit drill team but wanted to play a fall sport. Cross country has turned into her favorite sport not only because of the competitiveness but also the “fun, welcoming environment.”

Before a race Bennight will use songs like “Pork Soda” by Glass Animals or “Brutal” by Olivia Rodrigo to hype herself up.

Another vital part of the team is the coaches, cross country has a girls’ coach, Coach Hall, and a boys’ coach, Coach McClellan.

Coach Hall explained the hardest part about coaching for her is that “I get very invested in my athletes. But because my cousin is also coaching, that’s all we talk about. This year what’s hard is having a big team and trying to connect to the girls.”

Coach Hall described her coaching style as “definitely not mean, but hard on [the runners], I know what they all can do and push them.” She likes to “learn about the athlete and push them to achieve their goal.”

Hall is not the only one pushing the team: she expects her teammates to encourage each other also, “so that they can turn around and encourage each other not just while running but all the time.”

Coach Hall uses goal setting to help keep the girls motivated during the season.

Coach McClellan thinks the hardest part about coaching is “being able to dedicate the amount of time it takes to develop a successful program while also teaching and having a family. It can be pretty hectic at times and I really have to manage my time so that I am effective at all three.”

Coach McClellan describes his coaching style as “demanding, encouraging, organized, and fair..I also encourage them and help them to work hard to get better at their sport as well as their lives outside of the sport.”

Coach McClellan goes out of his way to make sure all his teammates feel included. McClellan and seniors on the team want to make sure that the athletes feel included and known through doing something as simple as using their names.

Coach McClellan uses quotes to motivate his teammates. “Every day before practice we meet and I read a quote that relates to something we are working on that day.”

McClellan also acknowledges goals and actions to achieve those goals. Running is more of an individual sport, so each runner’s goals vary. McClellan is



photo by Sydney White

During the Stan Nelson Invitational 5k Charley Bennight finishes with a time of 25:26. Placing 37th for JV girls.

intentional about acknowledging when a team or individual goal is met.

Coach McClellan explained, “Motivation for distance runners is really important so this is a big focus of ours throughout the season.”

Boys’ Soccer, continued

to lead the team turned me from a quiet kid on the field to the loudest one always talking,” Holtzclaw said. He is co-captaining this season with Carlos Llamas and Kyle Kaemmerer.

Joe Vasquez, senior, feels that the soccer team is a community that he enjoys being a part of. He hopes that his teammates see him as a good teammate and role model as well as someone they can feel comfortable around.

Personally, Vasquez feels he has gained “bonds with people I’ve grown up with and also the younger classmen and am able to learn how they learn and grow with them and teach them things that I know having played longer.” He also feels he has more physical strength.

Like Holtzclaw, Vasquez wants to finish out strong his senior year. “[Our goal] is trying to build our team, being able to communicate and growing together as a team as the season goes on. I want to be able to communicate and overall have the game come together,” Vasquez said.