

the PURPLE CLARION

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Conference Builds Confidence *Students learn the fundamentals of business leadership*

Madeleine DeNeal, staff writer

Earlier this month, the FBLA club attended Illinois FBLA Southern Area Conference at SIU Carbondale.

The conference was designed to teach youth about leadership in business practices. This includes learning about work positions such as CEO, president or manager.

"Students hear from a keynote speaker and voting delegates participate in elections of FBLA Officers. SIU has various booths set up to show off their various programs at the college," FBLA adviser Jon Sanders said. "It's a chance to bond with other Harrisburg members and members from other FBLA chapters throughout Southern Illinois."

FBLA is important for students that want to pursue careers that could require them to be in a decision-making position, according to Sanders. While some are set

on this objective, others are just testing the waters.

"I joined because my friends were doing it," freshman Ayden Price said. "It's really fun when we go to places like SIU because we got out of school for a day and have fun."

According to Price, FBLA is also an opportunity to make new friends.

"The conference was about electing the area's new leading members and doing competitions," senior Marrison Hale said.

During the conference, students participated in events that revolved around business practices. While the majority of students took their events separately, some chose to participate in pairs.

"I did Emerging Business Issues," Hale said. "(Senior) Selina Wang and I talked in front of judges about things that were causing issues in businesses today, such as cell phones. I learned that public speaking is scary."

Other students got life lessons as well.

"We listened to the office members of the Southern Area FBLA speak," sophomore Rachel Hutchinson said. "We played some games and heard election campaigns for new running officers."

The day finished with senior Haley Sullivan placing third in Marketing, Hale and Wang placing sixth in Emerging Business Issues, senior Josh Smith placing sixth in Parliament, and freshman Wekey Wang placing ninth in Introduction to Financial Math.

"For some, it's their first year, and it's all-new," Sanders said. "For others, they have been before and know the routine."

According to Sanders, the conference is a great opportunity for students, no matter their skill level.

"No matter if the student is new or if it's their fourth year, new things can be learned," Sanders said. "This is my fourth year doing FBLA, and I learn something new every conference we attend."



FBLA members attended the Southern Area Conference at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Students competed in a number of business events

The Southern Area Conference gives students the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals from other schools. The day included the competition events, a game of rock, paper, scissors, and different business workshops.

Photo provided.

Southern Illinois National Guard troops deploy

Selina Wang, CPS editor

White Hats is sending care package items to local troops stationed in the Middle East.

Care packages are sent overseas for different reasons but the main two reasons are provide things the soldiers need but can't get where they are currently located and to send pictures or their favorite snacks or games to play to show support for those serving.

"It means so much for the soldiers to receive one. It's like a little bit of home when they aren't able to be there," Nikki Sanderson, daughter of attendance secretary Cindy Boatright, said.

Nathan Sanderson is current deployed in the Middle East.

"One difficult situation that we've endured is just being apart from one another. We married in March, and he left a few months later," Sanderson said. "It has been trying to not have my husband, but the Lord is still so good to us, and we are thankful for our many blessings even though we are apart."

Keeping in touch with the people at home varies by mission.

"Communication is different for every deployment. Some rely on letters and email, while on some deployments phone calls and texting are available," said Sanderson. "Nathan and I have been very fortunate to be able to talk every day since he's been overseas."

Nathan left Southern Illinois in July of 2019 for his deployment, but he is not the only person from this area serving in the Middle East.

The National Guard's Second Battalion,

130th Infantry Regiment had a mobilization ceremony at the Banterra Center in Carbondale for their deployment.

According to the National Guard, "This is the largest call-up in a decade."

The National Guard is being deployed to Afghanistan after a training period in Texas in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel.

Trenton Byrd, Derek Rivers and Jacob Spurlin (2017) are members of this group.

"Operation Freedom's Sentinel, which the Illinois Army National Guard is supporting, is intended to focus on counterterrorism operations against groups such as al-Qaeda and ISIS-affiliated groups within Afghanistan," according to a Congressional Report.

"While the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan has declined in the past decade, there are still about 14,000 U.S. servicemen and women there," According to the Chicago Tributes.

"My advice for soldiers going overseas is to take every moment in. You're going to see things you may never get to again. Take pride that you're fighting for your country. You have so many people who are so proud of you for your sacrifice and service," Sanderson said.

Many soldiers who are deployed While the soldiers make sacrifices during their time abroad, their families are required to sacrifice as well.

"My advice for the wives, family, etc, is to just trust that God is going to bring your soldier home," Sanderson said. "Worrying will do you no good and only make the process miserable and long. Also make your days full and stay busy, it makes the time pass."



Gov. J.D. Pritzker was at the Banterra Center on the campus of Southern Illinois University- Carbondale for the mobilization ceremony for the Second Battalion, 130th Infantry Regiment. The unit will be deployed in Afghanistan.

Photo by Will Becque, SIUC.

Extra, Extra!

Newsies to feature athletic dances

Sara Wangler, feature editor

This year's spring show is Newsies, a show about the struggle of being a paperboy during the turn of the 19th Century. The plot follows a group of young boys striking against the newspaper business and demanding a pay raise. The musical is full of high energy dance numbers, and earworm songs all while showcasing history.

Sophomore Makayla Dosenbach is still fairly new to the performance world.

"This is the second production that I've had a role in," Dosenbach said.

With the number of dance scenes in the musical a big ensemble was needed.

"I'm a part of the ensemble, the choreography is very physical," Dosenbach said.

For Dosenbach her hope is the audience will appreciate all the hard work.

"We all work really hard, although it's a lot of fun," said Dosenbach. "I really hope people enjoy it."

Prior to joining the cast Dosenbach didn't know much about the plot.

"I have only seen bits and pieces of the movie," said Dosenbach. "I knew it was a very physical musical, it was all about dancing, and paper boys."

Junior Ian Meshew as of Newsies has been in four high school productions.

"I have three roles in Newsies, Wiesel, The mayor, and Nunzio," Meshew said.

Show days are always the busiest according to Meshew.

"Lots of final checks, making sure set pieces are in the right places, cast members, waiting to go on stage, costumes, props, etc," Meshew said.

Junior Avah Businaro is very familiar with the theater world, with this being her eight or ninth play.

"This year involves lots and lots of dancing. On the first full cast practice we had already started learning dances," Businaro said.

According to Businaro Newsies has a meaningful plot.

"No matter your age, circumstances, or what other people believe, you can accomplish your goals. we're like the newsies, just before adulthood," Businaro said. "Grown adults will always think they have the final say in what we do but this can show us that you can accomplish what you set your mind to."



Photo by Madeleine DeNeal.

Seniors Landon Gates, Sam Winkleman and Jacob Penrod are members of this year's WYSE team. WYSE will face their first round of competition at SIC Jan. 23.



Juniors Casey Tran, Gabe Smothers, Emma Williams, Brittany Cossey, and Ian Meshew stand next to the photo they felt like had the most meaning to them.

The tour guide asked each student to stand next to the political cartoon they felt like they understood the best.

The history club/ class trip was rescheduled due to inclement weather in December.

After the visit to Grant's Home, the students went to the mall for lunch.

Twenty-nine students in all attended in the Jan. 13 event.

Photo by Hannah Reid.

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SAT review gamified to increase buy-in

Rheis Wasson, staff writer

SAT is a test required by the Illinois State Board of Education to measure academic growth, and it is looming over the juniors all over the state.

Test results are part of the school district's "report card," issued by ISBE to inform the public on a number of things from test scores to financial aspects of the district.

With the SAT day coming closer and closer, English III teacher Cathy Wall is doing her part to help them prepare for the test.

Wall is "gamifying" SAT review in hopes of getting juniors more involved in preparing for the test and mastering skills needed to achieve the score they want.

In a letter sent to local businesses and clubs, Wall and Principal Scott Dewar explained how making SAT review competitive helped other schools.

"Evidence from other high schools indicate that gamifying the reviews equates to higher buy-in by the students and better scores on the test," the letter stated.

What the reviews look like can vary, but the question style will remain a constant.

"Students work together to complete daily bell ringers that come right off a practice test, 2-3 practice questions a day," Wall said. "They will also be participating in other games through March 20, including Kahoot! which is a class favorite."

The students in Wall's classes were sorted into teams based on their grades in the first quarter; these teams

were made as equal as possible.

"I tried to be really careful in the process and make the teams as balanced as I could," Wall said.

Wall got the idea while attending the SIATE (Southern Illinois Association for Teachers of English) conference held in Carbondale earlier last year.

"The idea was taken from a session I attended. A presenter from Marion shared how they had used gaming to encourage students to buy into the review process," said Wall.

Of course, winning the games comes with a prize.

"The Monday after we end reviews, each classroom winner and runner-up will receive a gift basket," said Wall. "There will also be a grand prize awarded to the highest-scoring team in English 3 and Honors English 3."

Wall has asked local businesses and clubs for donations to the prize baskets.

"Each class will have between multiple teams of 2-3 students, so we are aiming for donations of 20 coupons from each business," said Wall.

Wall believes the response to her request has a lot to say about people who own these businesses and those who have donated as individuals.

"I feel truly blessed by the number of businesses and individuals who have donated to the project," Wall said. "I've told my students (and will continue to tell them) that this is an indication of the number of people in our community who want them to succeed, who are invested in them and their success. It's one of those things about living in a small town that I really love."

Speech ends regular tournament season

Hannah Reid, Op-Ed Editor

Continuing throughout their season, the speech team took a trip up north to Glenwood, Illinois to compete in a tournament with over 20 schools in attendance. Considering there is more competition up north the team didn't place as highly as planned with the judging being more harsh and the teams rivals barely making it into the top five. Overall, the team has been doing well throughout the season according to senior Addie Hanks.

"The season is going pretty good," Hanks said. "We can always improve on our performances, but we expect to do really well into the state series. It's sad with it being my last year, but I'd like to make it to state again like I did last year with PIR and 8th overall."

The team has also been growing throughout the season and have kept up their good reputation, according to senior Javen Wendler.

"Harrisburg High School is known for being very professional at tournaments so we are a very respected team for our performing and the way we act outside of rounds and finals," Wendler said. "With that being said, we have a good record of someone winning at least once a tournament."

Stating the team is always improving, Wendler also says that the team grows on a social level and finds ways to gain new friends along the way.

"The team is always growing on a personal and social level," said Wendler. "As you go to more tournaments you befriend many kids from different schools you'd never think you'd meet. There are also people on the team who you'd never think to be friends with but you realise you slowly become more comfortable with everyone around you."

Wrapping up the season, it has flown by in the blink of an eye with the whole team having many successes, according to junior Ravyn Gauch.

"The whole team, JV and Varsity, have had many successes," Gauch said. "This year, the most successful events have been both of our varsity duets. Junior, Avah Businaro and senior Javen Wendler have won three out of five of our tournaments with their astounding HDA. Senior Addie Hanks and I have won four out of five with our DDA."

Photos by Madeleine DeNeal.

(left) Sophomore Victoria Higgs and junior Ian Meshew give looks in response to the moderator's choice to forego the "power clap" at the Glenwood tournament. "I thought it was a little unprofessional," Higgs said. "It just made the entire awards process go slower."

(bottom) Sophomore Neva Wasson waits to hear her teammates' results at the Jan. 18 tournament at Glenwood. "I felt like [the tournament] wasn't judged how it's normally judged," Wasson said. "I think I did pretty well, and I just need to work on being more energetic."



Jonathan Russell



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What's the green tea

Surviving the cold

Madeleine DeNeal, staff writer

Winter is a time of death, migration and hibernation for many species across the world. Birds hit up their summer homes in the Keys or grow extra fluffy coats. Bears, and humans, to some extent, layer up and hit the snooze button. But what about the less fortunate parts of nature? Some creatures don't have too many options when it comes to moving around. If it isn't obvious, I'm talking about plants, domestic plants, to be exact.

If the type of person who prefers annual plants, then you're pretty much out of luck when it comes to making them stick around though winter. Annuals really take YOLO to heart and are pretty much impossible to keep throughout the year. You won't be seeing much of them in winter, but if you snatch some seeds, it's possible to bring them back around next year.

My main focus here is houseplants. When it comes to "life-hacks" to keeping them alive in winter, I urge every person alive to disregard anything Troom-Troom or 5-Minute-Crafts related. Knitting individual sweaters for plant leaves and using hot water bottles are...not it. First, nobody has time. Second, the plants would probably turn into a depressed version of the Charlie Brown Christmas tree. Instead, try putting them into a room that gets the best heat. If that isn't possible, corners can be a good place, unless it's a dimly lit room (especially for sun-loving plants).

My best advice? Dead leaf, dead leaf, dead leaf! If a leaf or stalk dies, get rid of it. Throw it into compost. The plant will be one thousand times happier than if it's left on. Also, if a plant starts looking sad and/or wilted, be careful with how it's watered. Most people tend to think that if a plant looks like it's dying, then it's not being watered enough, but that isn't always the case. Some plants tend to curl up and get sad in the winter. Overwatering can lead to root saturation, and for more water-sensitive plants, that could be the deciding factor. Plants with too much water are more likely to get mold, root-rot, or infections, and we don't want infections. Whatever the case, my best advice is to look up what is and isn't right for the potted pals that grace your home. After all, they're living beings too.



Honesty of Honors

Hailey Potts, guest columnist

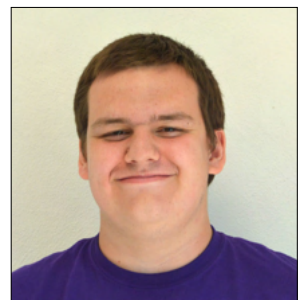
Most honors students have anywhere from 3-5 weighted classes. The work can be overwhelming. Do these students really enjoy the subjects, or do they enroll simply because they want to be at the top of the class? I think that getting rid of the valedictorian status at high schools would greatly reduce the stress and competition that high school honors students feel.

If high schools did get rid of the valedictorian status, it would make some more open to taking non-weighted electives. After all, why should students take honors history, which is very difficult, when they plan to enter a science field after college? Honors students load up on hard classes in order to be on top. However, this can potentially cause negative effects, such as students not being able to take classes they want to take and causing more stress.

Many students worry about looking good on college applications, and so they take these classes to raise their GPA. According to the College Board, however, many colleges are no longer looking at class rank. While colleges may like seeing tough classes on a student's transcript, if they take so many honors classes that their grades suffer, it won't look very good on that college application.

According to a 2017 Prindle Post article, almost half of the high schools in the country have removed the valedictorian title because of unhealthy competition among top students.

Ultimately, taking too many honors classes can cause undue stress on high school students. As reported by U.S. News, high school students state that they spend over three hours per night on homework. However, the National Education Association states that high school students should only have an hour and a half to two hours of homework. Getting rid of valedictorians, called honors speakers at HHS, would help all students relax a little bit and be able to focus on the classes and activities they enjoy. After all, high school students are still kids. A little bit of worrying about school is okay, but worrying every day and constantly checking grades is not. Students should be able to focus on taking classes that they find interesting and work hard in them. Times are changing, and now is a good time to eliminate a tradition that does more harm than good.



Bully for you

No Smoke

Rheis Wasson, news editor

As I'm sure all of us know, there was a certain new law passed in Illinois, passed May 31, 2019 and made effective January 1 of this year, and I'm not talking about the minimum wage going up. I am, of course, talking about the legalization of a certain plant. Mary-Jane, pot, and devil's lettuce, all names for marijuana, which, thanks to the new law, is now available for legal purchase in our little podunk town of Harrisburg.

On the first day the dispensary was open during the new year, the line to make a purchase extended all the way to Rural King. Were they really that desperate for three grams? Sadly, the answer appears to be "yes."

I understand that we literally have nothing else to do around here, but my goodness, people need other hobbies besides smokin' and jokin'.

I've heard it all before. It's harmless, and just a way to relax. I've even heard the argument for the medicinal properties, and I'm not denying these claims, but really? It's hard to believe that so many people have nothing better to do besides blowing a whole paycheck on some pot.

And this begs the question, given the price, why do people even buy it? I'm sure we have all seen posts online about the massive taxes attached to marijuana. I personally have seen receipts of upwards of \$200.

What is really concerning to me is the fact that the state is taking advantage of people who choose to make a purchase. The consumers, in my personal opinion, probably have better things they could be doing with that cash, like buying groceries or saving it for that offday when you're a few bucks behind on rent. It saddens me to see that so many people are blinded by the fact that it is suddenly legal and fail to realize that the state is playing them like a fiddle. They call it a luxury tax. According to Investopedia, "a luxury tax is an ad valorem tax placed on products or services that are deemed to be non-essential or unneeded." Now I understand that there are other things that are affected by the luxury tax, but does it have to be so excessive? Not just on pot, but on everything else that is taxed in such a way.

The state knew what it was doing, exploiting people who have limited clout. In my personal opinion, it's sickening to think that the state would take advantage of people in this way.



Sara's skin care cheat sheet

Tips for manly skincare

Sara Wangler, feature editor

Ever since starting this column, I've been asked to give my tips on men's skincare. So here it is.

First, never wash the face with 3-in-1 soap. Washing the face with anything other than face soap can change the skin. Let me elaborate, 3-in-1 soap is not only bad for the hair and body but death to the pores. The chemicals used to clean hair are harmful to pores and tissue. The skin on the face is far more delicate than the rest of the body. In time those harmful chemicals can clog pores and cause breakouts.

Similarly, body lotion is for the body, like the package says. Don't think "Eh whatever, it won't hurt." Yes, it will, big time. Body lotion is designed to be thicker, more moisturizing and lasts longer than face lotion. Skin on the face doesn't need that much help. The skin is thinner, more sensitive, and the pores are smaller. When using any cream in general a little goes a long way to ensure pores don't get clogged as that's where acne comes in. For dry patches, exfoliate and moisturize with a facial moisturizer or nothing will change.

Let's be real. We're all busy, but your skin is your largest organ, and it needs to be taken care of. That's why I invest so much time into taking care of myself. It's worth it. Spending tons of money (like I've said in a previous column) is not necessary. Start with the basics, soap. Bar soap that is for the face is sufficient, or cleanser, or whatever is the most convenient. If more is needed (this goes for everyone) use a medicated cleanser. X-Out, Proactiv, Differin Gel and Acutine are highly pre products to fight chronic acne.

For athletes, sweat, rubbing equipment, dirt, dust, oil, and bacteria are all liable to get into the skin while playing a sport, so to make sure the skin is clean, have designated products. Having your face squished against a sweaty mat or landing face first in the dirt is not good for the skin but is unavoidable. So bring soap, or face wash to meets and games, after a meet or match or whatever and get all the dirt and water off. In my opinion, having a skincare routine is a basic need of every person, regardless of gender. Putting in the minimum amount of effort will show results, even the slightest change will make a big difference. Don't ever be ashamed of self care.

The Clarion Call

If SAT is so important, why doesn't prep start earlier?

As most students know, the SAT exam is approaching for the current juniors.

Sophomores are slowly approaching the time when they will endure the same tests, but most if not all have done nothing to prepare for them, even though we are a little over a year away.

Now, to high school students, a year may not seem like plenty of time, that is until they are up until five in the morning trying to cram all their studying in the day before the big test.

Student stress is a hot topic during the SAT season. The average student stress level is now so high, students would be considered psychotic if it were the 1950s. Multiple people in the last few years have been admitted to the ER due to stress levels and high blood pressure.

As important as high school and colleges seem to make the SATs, they don't seem to put much effort into helping freshmen and sophomores prepare. Teachers schools voice their opinion on how important studying in advance is, but classes or curriculum

to help ninth and tenth grader could be added to help rather than waiting until the junior year to try and cram it all in.

Some schools in and around Southern Illinois have introduced classes to help students prepare for the SAT. The students can take it just like a regular class, receiving credit for completing it. This seems like a really good idea.

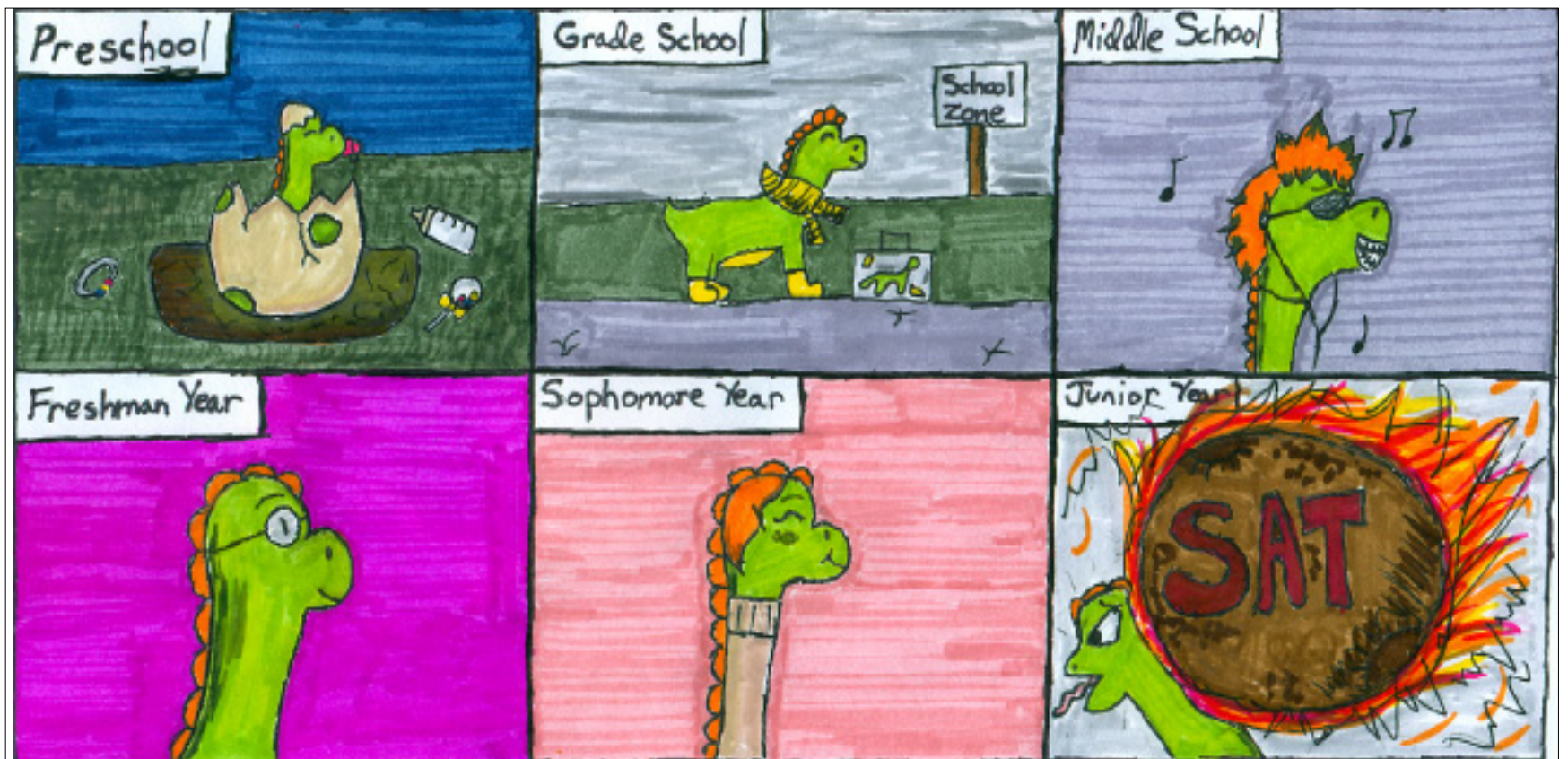
Think about it. For a student involved in sports and other extra-curricular activities, time can be set aside to prep for SAT, but if the work is not for a class for which they are receiving credit, most will not see it as a priority. After all, it is difficult enough to complete all the work required by credited classes.

Without someone there to push them and encourage them most students will not prepare, especially underclassmen who see the test as in their distant future. Instead, they will focus on things they enjoy or more immediate classroom tests that require their attention. The majority of students will not study voluntarily and choose to go into the test blind.

Since the test is multiple-choice, some who go in without any prep will get a better score than those who study in advance. For those who have studied, no test score seems to be satisfactory, but the SAT is available for individual retakes. Unfortunately, it is not free. The only free test that is offered is the one through the school. After that, anybody wanting to improve is on their own.

This year, Illinois requires all ninth and tenth graders to take the PSATs, a test said to help "better prepare" students for the big one. Most students who took it last year felt PSAT wasn't as difficult as the teacher made it appear to be. So does it really prepare students or is it simply another state-mandated test?

We believe that steps should be taken to methodically prepare students from the time they enter high school for PSAT and SAT. While a separate class is the best idea if that can't be done, teachers need to break up the skills and information that students will need and include it in their classes the way that students will see it on the tests.



It'll hit before you know it!!!

Cartoon by Madeleine DeNeal.

"I think it would be a very good class especially when we don't have enough practice as it is."
 -junior Vivian Fuerback

"I think an SAT prep class would be beneficial because it would help us get ready for the test."
 -sophomore Kerrigan Payne

"For me I don't think it would help, but for other students I think it would be very beneficial, they would have more time to prepare and more of an understanding."
 -junior Jake Spurlin

"I feel like it would help certain students, but I feel like others would take advantage of it and use the period to goof off."
 -junior Autumn Harrawood

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Cracking the codes

BOMBDIGGITY

Book It

Deciphering our decades

By Selina Wang, CPS Editor

Slang is used by all kinds of people the world over, and it changes with each new generation of people.

Substitute teacher Steve Vinyard graduated Harrisburg High School in 1975.

"Some slang that I remember hearing and saying would be going south to shoot potato bugs, knee-high to a grasshopper, and we are in tall cotton, said Vinyard. "Some baseball and football slang terms would include can o'corn, throwing aspirin tablets, and he got the snot beat out of him."

Can o'corn meant a ball that was easy to catch, while throwing aspirin tablets meant a fast pitch. When someone said that a person got the snot out of him, it meant he got beat up.

Principal Scott Dewar and assistant principal John Crabb had their teen years in the '80s.

"The word 'like' was used a lot. People always ended their sentences in the word like," Crabb said.

Though proficient in the slang of his own era, Crabb admits that he can have trouble decoding the slang of today's teens.

"I don't quite understand today's slang even though I currently have teenagers. It seems that with today's slang one word could have thirty different meanings," Crabb said. "I feel as there is a ton of miscommunication between today's teens due to today's slang."

Local FNP, Elizabeth Eversmann had her teen years in the 90s. Eversmann graduated from Harrisburg High school in 1995.

Slang well known to Eversmann included "Whatever, talk to the hand, not, all that and a bag of chips, you go, girl, and 'sup."

Eversmann spent a lot of her teen years hanging out with her friends and cruising around town during her free time.

"I think (today's slang is) silly, but adults thought our slang was silly. I think every generation thinks their kids' slang is silly," Eversmann said.

"(Saying) whatever got me in trouble every time I said it to my parents," Eversmann said. "Now when I hear my kids say it, I totally get why it made my parents so mad. Once, after National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation came out, I told my dad it was a bit nippy outside and got in trouble for that, (too)."

"IM GOING SOUTH TO SHOOT POTATOE BUGS, MY MOTHER SAID IT A LOT BUT IT MEANS TO GO ON VACATION," STEVE VINYARD SAID.



"THE STUDENTS HERE ARE RAD," SAID JOHN CRABB.



"I WOULD HOLD MY HAND UP AND WHATEVER," SAID ELIZABETH EVERSMAANN



Unlock the talk

Sara Wanglar, feature editor

Over the past decade many things have come and gone, from technological advancements to societal norms to language. Over the past decade, 100 or more words have been either given new meaning or been added to the dictionary according to Best Life.

According to Merriam Webster, slang by definition means "a type of language that consists of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal, are more common in speech than writing, and are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people."

Words like stan, period and woke have been given new meanings in the last few years. "Stan" can now mean being a superfan of something. "Period" is a phrase used to make a point or stress the factualness of a statement. "Woke" can now mean socially aware or educated.

Not only do existing words get new meanings, but new words have officially been added to the dictionary. One of the more notable new words is Instagram, the popular social media app that was introduced in 2010. Along with the new app came words like photobomb and selfie.

Another relatively new word that has its roots in social media, "meme," originates from the Greek word mimea meaning that which is imitated.

In 2005, Youtube was launched, and the creation of ASMR, gaming instructions, music, and unboxing videos were born. With the release of Youtube came the words Youtuber, clickbait, and vlogger.

Youtuber is a word to describe someone who makes videos on Youtube for a living, while clickbait means a fake or exaggerated thumbnail used to "bait" the watcher to click on the video.

"Slang is often referred to as an encryption, or a secret code," New York Times photographer Dan Zarella explains. Slang words are often just born from a trend or hot topic, and most slang terms are developed from an existing word or phrase.

Tea, a drink, now gets understood as gossip or secret information. Tea can also be used to agree. Say someone says something that is very true or relatable, the proper response is "Tea."

Slang sometimes develops as an insult to an action or personality. Shade can now be used to express hatred or acts of negativity. When someone is being negative toward someone or something one could say they were throwing shade or being shady.

One thing is certain, slang will continue to change and evolve as each new generation comes of age.



1970s

Psych

What you'd say when fooling someone.

Book it

To leave somewhere quickly.



1980s

Bombdiggity

Describing something as very good.

Scarf

To eat something very quickly.



1990s

Dip

A way to say you are leaving.

Bones or Beans

What someone would call money.



2000s

Word

A way of saying you agree with something.

Dope

A way of describing something. It means cool.



2010s

Extra

How you would define someone who is crazy.

Shook

A way of saying you are shocked by something.

Stewart, girls' basketball continue successful season

Haley Sullivan, Sports editor.

With a record of 23-2 as of post date, the girls' basketball team has high hopes to be a tough competitor in the postseason.

The team is utilizing their successes to reach goals, according to senior Mya King.

"We are all currently working diligently to get ready for the postseason," senior Lauren McDaniel said. "Right now, our biggest goal for this point in the season is to keep having small successes throughout each game. Each small success builds up, then taking advantage of any slip-ups from our opponents helps us reach a win. We're taking it one game at a time and pushing to meet our goals in the postseason."

Mental toughness works as the main contributor to the success of the team, according to King.

"I think we have the potential to do really well in the postseason, considering how well we have done in the regular season so far," King said. "All of our in-game successes have helped us to be mentally ready for the next challenge to come. We are a really mentally strong team, which is important when we face tough competition. I think our mental strength is gonna be a big advantage for us in postseason games."

According to McDaniel, the team's biggest goal is to make this season as memorable as possible, both on the court and in their friendships.

"It's sad to think that this is our last season all playing together," senior Lexi Williams said. "We have played together since we were little, so it will be a really weird feeling to give all of that up. A lot of us still have softball season together, but for many of us, this is it. I think if we keep playing with heart, we can make our last season one to be proud of."

King goes on to explain that being focused and giving their all is their game plan to ride out the remainder of the season.

"Going all out, all game long is what we have strived to do all season," King said. "Keeping that attitude is gonna push us to keep playing to the best of our abilities. Staying focused on the game before we start playing gives us the upper hand against other teams. It's almost like you can win the game before it even starts, with the right attitude."

Bowlers prep for post-season

Madison McClusky, news editor

Bowling team has had success so far this season.

The team works to improve on everything possible to help them do their best during the matches

"We practice 1-2 hours each day," senior Josh Smith said. "We all focus really hard to work out anything that could be detrimental for our game."

For Smith, there are specifics he plans to work on. "I always strive to fix my silly errors while bowling such as not kicking my feet up in the air," Smith said. "I have been in bowling since I was around 9. I was also apart of the little leagues for bowling. I'm proud of our team for all the hard work that each and every team member has put in. Our hard work is starting to pay off."

If possible Smith plans to participate in bowling at Southeastern Illinois College.

"I really hope I get a scholarship for SIC in bowling and I also hope to bowl on the college team," Smith said. "I chose SIC due to how I will be close to home and I wanted to spend some more time with my little sister."

Freshman Abbie Graham believes the girls have a shot at regionals.

"The season overall has been really good," Graham said. "So far is really fun and I've learned so much about the game itself. My teammates are really nice and bring each other up if we get down on ourselves. I think we will do pretty good at regionals if we stick with it and do our best."

Not only has the team as a whole had accomplishments, but individuals also.

"My biggest accomplishment for this season was probably getting a 226 and getting a couple of 200 games," Graham said.

According to junior Vivian Fuerback, improvement has not only to do with practice but her



Photos by Clay Bringham.

(Top) Seniors Mya King and Lydia Miller go in for a rebound in a recent game against the West Frankfort Lady Redbirds.

(Bottom) Seniors Mya King and Summer Sanders prepare to play back as safety while Miller prepares to shoot free throws.

coach as well.

"I've improved greatly," Fuerback said. "My coach Barry McDermott has helped so much with giving me pep talks and just being a great teacher overall." If possible Fuerback also plans to participate in bowling in college.

"I plan to possibly play in college, only if I get a scholarship but I'm not sure if that's happening or not," Fuerback said.

As for the team, Fuerback believes there has been a great amount of improvement since the start of the season.

"We have a pretty majority amount of wins and losses but overall we have all gotten so much better since the beginning," Fuerback said.



Freshman Evan McDermott tied for fourth in the highest series at the Carterville Invite.

Three up, three down Girls' b-ball coach sets records in recent seasons

Haley Sullivan, sports editor



With a career record of 189-80, girls' basketball coach Jake Stewart has proved to be a recognized talented over his nine-year coaching career.

Over 100 of his wins have been contributed to by this year's senior group, with a record of 101-17 over the last three and a half seasons. In addition to an impressive win-loss ratio, Stewart has been named IBCA Coach of the Year four times in 2014, 2017, 2018 and 2019, as well as SICA Coach of the Year in both 2017 and 2018.

Stewart attributes his success to his athletes, former players and coaching staff, stating that they contribute to the success of the program just as much as he does.

"I can't say enough about my former players, current players and the assistant coaches we have had here," Stewart said. "So many people play a role in a successful program. It's not just me; it's everyone involved that plays a role. I appreciate them all and hope we can keep this thing moving forward because it has been a lot of fun."

Despite Stewart's modesty, many of his athletes attribute their personal accomplishments and the development of their talent to Stewart's abilities as a coach.

"Stew has helped me to build on my skills and to be the athlete I am today," senior Essence Sanders said. "Coach Stew has helped us all to be closer as a team and showed us what it is really like to love the game. I think his coaching is the reason we are as successful as we are."

Stewart has dedicated much of his time to the basketball program, spending long hours building his team, despite challenges that may come along with that.

"It's hard to put a number on [the hours spent on basketball], but between playing games, practicing, watching film and preparing, I would say we spend a ton of time on basketball each week," Stewart said. "That's not what makes it fun for me though. It's not just getting off a bus and going to play a game. It's the time put in between games going over what you need to do better and how to take away another team's strengths. That's what takes up the most time and the best part about coaching basketball."

Aside from the long hours Stewart spends preparing for each game, he also spends much of his time building a strong family dynamic throughout his roster.

"He dedicates so much of his time creating plays, studying our games and pointing out what we need to improve and watching other teams play so we can have a game plan come game day," Harrisburg alum Madeline Rider said. "He creates a bond with his players that is unbreakable. He always says 'Family Forever' and that is exactly what we are: a family."

Though Stewart is well known for his successful coaching approaches on the basketball court, Harrisburg alum Karsyn Davis says that many life lessons have been learned under his wing as well.

"As a player, he has always pushed us to be the best we can be," Davis said. "He brings out the competitive drive in all of us and believes that we can win every single game so we never settle for anything less, but he also pushes us to be better people as well. During basketball season, he always sits us down and tells us that, since we are such a successful program, all eyes are on us in every gym we walk into. He makes sure we represent our town and our school properly. He just really showed a lot of us that people are always watching and our actions are seen, even when we think they are not."



Wrestling team shows growth this season

Madison McClusky, news editor

Success has reigned for the wrestling team so far this season with their 12-4 record.

Senior Tucker Bryant took first place in the Lawrence County Invite Dec. 7. "It really felt great placing first in the first tournament of the year because it puts my mind where it needs to be and gives me the confidence for the rest of the year," Bryant said.

Additionally, Bryant went on to wrestle against Conner Miller from Glenwood who was ranked second in the state this last year.

"Wrestling the guy ranked second in the state really showed me what it is going to take to make it to state this year," Bryant said. "It also showed me where I need to be conditioning wise."

Bryant believes the team has a high chance of success in the following years. "We have a very talented team this year and if they all will just stick with it and work harder every day, they will have a very good season next year as well," Bryant said.

Along with the success experienced by the most experienced, freshman Keaton Reid has had success in his first wrestling season.

"My first season has been pretty good. I've learned a lot about the sport and made a lot of new friends that have helped me along the way," Reid said. "I feel good about getting second in my first JV match, but there's still a ton of room for improvement, and I've got a lot more to learn."

While conditioning has paid off in terms of stamina, Reid says techniques are still an issue.

"I think I've got to get my endurance up to where I don't get so worn out during matches, but I've still got a lot to learn and improve on," Reid said. "I definitely have things I need to focus on to help myself improve."

Going along with the line of success freshman Chase Sullivan received a second-place medal at the Carmi and Anna Jonesboro JV tournament.

"Placing as a freshman, especially second, definitely makes me more motivated," Sullivan said. "I would have liked to get first but second is still a huge accomplishment to me."

Sullivan plans to continue his wrestling career through his next three years of high school.

"I want to try to get better every year, and maybe make it to state," Sullivan said. "I hope that most of my teammates attend state as well. We have the potential to make it super far this year, and if the guys who are not graduating this year continues for the rest of high school, our chances become even higher."



Photos by Hannah Reid.

(Top) Junior Brandon Banks attempts to pin his opponent in a recent matchup at Carbondale Community High School.

(Bottom) Sophomore Blake Stacey raises his hand in victory after winning a recent match at Carbondale Com-



Photo by Madison McClusky.

Junior Ben Brombaugh passes the ball out from the top of the key to begin running a play in a junior varsity matchup against the West Frankfort Redbirds.

Boys' basketball struggles

Hannah Reid, op-ed editor

Thriving throughout their season, the boys' basketball team has improved and progressed each game, according to senior Brannnden Watson.

"We've been learning something new and improving each game and we've grown not only as individuals but as a team too," Watson said. "We have been working to improve on our passing and shot selection too."

The boys' basketball record is 4-10, but the team is better than the scores show and expectations are high, according to junior Jesse Lawler.

"We want to improve on finishing our games and learning how to win," Lawler said. "There are high expectations for the rest of the season to improve and make it as far as we can."

Continuing to improve, the team has also gotten closer and have gained better communication skills, according to Watson. The team has also been growing and getting better every game according to Lawler.

"We're getting better every game and everyone is equally valuable, and that's what makes us a team

because we all work together on and off the court," Lawler said.

Although everyone on the team holds an important and equal role, the member that holds the best scores is senior Will Gibbs, according to Watson.

"Everyone is valuable in their own way," Gibbs said. "Everyone on this team contributes in some way and we should always play five as one."

Gibbs went on to say that the team is striving to work more as a unit, rather than five individual athletes. In despite of the teamwork the boys are planning to improve upon, they all hold high expectations to improve as individuals.

"I would say for me being a senior to always try to find ways to be a better leader and connect with my teammates," Gibbs said. "We spend a lot of time with each other through basketball and even outside of basketball and I take it as my responsibility to keep everything going."

The main goal is to be a respected team by others and to be a team that isn't just overlooked, with a chance at regionals, according to Gibbs and Lawler.

"I expect us to continue to get better and take some strides and maybe even beat some teams who may have beaten us earlier in the year now that we have gained some experience," Gibbs said.



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Cheer finishes competition season with first, third place titles

Haley Sullivan, sports editor

With a first-place finish at a recent ICCA Benton Invitational competition, the cheerleading team has worked throughout the summer, as well as football and basketball seasons to prepare for competitions.

According to senior Kara Futch, competition cheer is easily distinguishable from cheering for other sports, which makes it a favorite for many members of the cheer team.

“Competition season differs a lot from basketball and football cheer in quite a few different ways,” Futch said. “Where we have several basketball games throughout the week and football games each Friday, we don’t really have a constant season like that for competition cheer. Cheer competitions are so much different than cheering for the boys because we spend a lot of hours on preparing a routine to be judged on, which is stressful compared to easier sideline chants and stunts that we use for football and basketball games.”

According to Futch, the higher intensity of routines performed in front of judges allows for excitement in competition cheerleading.

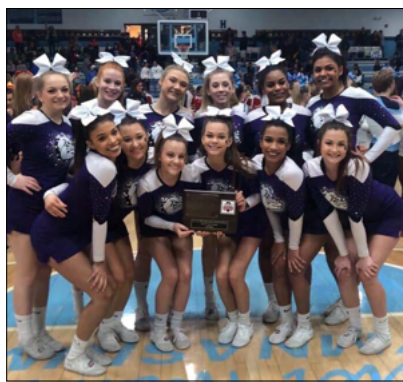
“Because there’s significantly more space and we are performing on mats, we can do more difficult stunts,” junior Bella Topps said. “We work hard on perfecting our competition stunts in the offseason, so getting to perform them and doing it well is a big payoff since we can’t always do the same stunts at football or basketball games.”

According to senior Maycee Hester, cheer competitions have provided a bonding experience for many of the members of the cheer squad over the past few seasons.

“One of my favorite parts about cheer is definitely all the friendships I have made with all of the girls on the squad this season,” Hester said. “I have cheered with a lot of these same girls since junior high school, so we have all gotten really close over the years and even through this season too. I have made some of my best friends through cheer. We’re such a close team so I think that helps us to perform to our best as well.”

Because the cheer squad has created a close bond through competitions, they plan to utilize this to better prepare themselves for seasons to come.

“We didn’t quite finish where we wanted to in comp season, but we know what to work on so we can come back and place higher next year,” Topps said. “I think we did really well this year and I am so proud of all the girls, but we can definitely improve and get more titles next year.”



Photos by provided.

The team placed first in the ICCA Benton Invitational, as well as a third place finish in the small varsity competitive cheer division at an ICCA Invitational in Pinckneyville, which qualified them to compete at the ICCA State Championship in Springfield.

Trap shooting grows in popularity, especially among teens

Hannah Reid, op-ed editor

Trap shooting has been around for quite some time but is now becoming a rising sport according to an article from the “Wide Open Spaces” website. Stating that trap shooting might be America’s fastest growing sport, the article mentions how the number of students that shoot trap has quadrupled in the past few years.

With junior Jake Spurlin taking interest in this sport, he claims that, if the high school were to have a team, it would be beneficial to students interested.

“We don’t have a trap team, sadly, but if we did I think we could get somewhere,” Spurlin said. “If we had the same members we had last year for the shoot we would have high outlooks.”

The advice he would give to shooters is to be confident and practice their stance with pride.

“Practice and keep practicing until they feel confident in their shots and their stance when shooting,” said Spurlin. “They should take their time, but not too long

to where the clay is too far out to shoot.”

Trap shooting is enjoyable and gives the opportunity to make new friends, hang out with old ones, and just shoot guns according to sophomore Blake Stacey.

“The opportunity to get out of school and shoot was really fun, it got me to the point where I really like to shoot skeet now,” Stacey said.

If interested in the trap team, practice is the key to perfecting shooting skills, according to Stacey.

“Some advice I would give to first time shooters is to practice as much as you can if you are really interested in being on the trap team,” Stacey said.

Spurlin also mentioned that the mental side of shooting is just as important as the physical side and gave his thoughts on the importance of knowing the gun that’s being handled.

“It’s a mental game for sure. If you miss the first few shots you’re gonna start to get upset and you’re not going to feel good about your shot,” Spurlin said. “You

have to slow down, calm down, and go from there and it’s mainly all about your experience and if you know how your gun is going to shoot. If you go out and use a new gun you’ve had little time using you’re going to mess up until you figure out how the gun is shooting and if you’re used to a certain choke tube and it’s changed to a different one, you’re not going to be ready for how the shot patten is shooting.”

The best part about shooting is hitting a hard shot and successfully continuing to shoot harder shots, according to freshman Chase Sulivan.

“I enjoy the feeling of hitting a hard shot and honestly it’s just been a fun time and I’ve gotten to meet new people too,” Sullivan said. “I think I have learned a lot more about shooting through these tournaments. I mostly shoot through hunting, and trap shooting is a completely different ballgame. It’s definitely been a cool experience to have and has made me a better shooter.”



Seniors Essence Sanders (left) and Mya King (right) sign their National Letters of Intent. Both will continue their softball careers at Southeastern Illinois College for coach Maggie Calcaterra.

Federal firefighter aids in Australian wildfire crisis

Sara Wangler, feature editor

Australia's wildfire epidemic ignited Dec. 7, 2019. Since then, 6 million acres of land have been torched.

As these devastating fires create havoc, thousands of volunteers—citizens and firefighters—have participated in fighting the flames, including Tyler VanOrmer, a 25-year firefighter veteran and 1991 Harrisburg graduate. VanOrmer studied in South Wales and is a federal fire zone manager in Virginia.

For the past six weeks, VanOrmer has been fighting the fires terrorizing Australia. With that comes safety worries from friends and family.

Gail VanOrmer, Tyler's mother, told WSIL "I saw this picture of the firemen in their truck, in the yellow garb, and the flames were coming over the truck, and quite frankly, I got a little hysterical."

"No matter what, worry will always be present," G. VanOrmer shared with WSIL.

In the midst of all of the chaos and potential threats hope and victories are still there according to VanOrmer.

"There's plenty positive, we've saved numerous houses and communities. There's only so much you can do though," said T. VanOrmer said in an interview with WSIL. "There's no end to this until it rains. It's going to have to. It's so big now that there's just no way they're going to be able to put it out until rain comes."

According to The New York Times, animals and families have been forced to flee or remain trapped, and the effects of the fire have ended the lives of 28 people and left 2,000 people homeless.

Millions of dollars have been donated for relief efforts from various organizations and celebrities according to reports by Vox.

The effects have been global according to the New York Times. Smoke clouded the skies of New Zealand and reached parts of South America. According to BBC News, the smoke will take a trip around the Earth. This smoke pollution has hazed the skies of major cities, and South Africa and New Zealand experience dangerous air quality and red colored fog in major cities.

As of now, koalas are said to be endangered. Many photos of injured koalas in casts, animal hospitals and in the arms of volunteers and rescuers have gone viral, and kangaroos covered in ash and soot flood social media. Environments have been destroyed, and thousands of acres of land have burned to the ground according to the New York Times.

Water pollution is another obstacle that the Australian people are facing. According to National Geographic all of the debris and ash from the fires have polluted the shore harming the coral reefs more than they already are. The polluted water taints drinking water, and it harms coastal ecosystems and freshwater environments that support the iconic platypuses.

The increasing heat is also causing problems for wildlife and residents according to National Geographic. Australia's flying foxes are in serious danger due to the extreme heat. Loss of shady protection will expose the animals to predators and harsher climate.

College degree option

Recent grad finds work as pharmacy technician

Selina Wang, feature editor

Brenden Mitchell currently works in the pharmacy department as a pharmacy technician at Kroger.

Mitchell graduated from Harrisburg High School last year (2019).

Being a pharmacy technician "Didn't require any college, I just needed a high school diploma," Mitchell said.

According to Money US News, "Pharmacy Technicians made a median salary of \$31,750 in 2017. The best-paid 25 percent made \$38,540 that year, while the lowest-paid 25 percent made \$25,900."

A typical work day "involves typing prescriptions, counting the pills for customers and dispensing the prescription to the patients," Mitchell said.

The U.S. Department of Labor reports that "73% work in retail pharmacies, such as drug stores or grocery stores. While 18% work in hospitals. With 9% work in other facilities, such as outpatient clinics or mail order pharmacies."

Mitchell is currently attending college at Southeastern Illinois College while working. "My favorite part of this job is helping patients get the right medication they need," Mitchell said.

According to MidWest Technical Institution, "pharmacy technicians can take on specialized roles, depending on their interests, like compounding, which involves creating customized medications for customers with additional needs that are not met by standard pharmaceuticals.

The Kroger Co. operates nearly 2,200 retail Pharmacies in 37 states.

"My least favorite part about my job is having to deal with the insurance part," said Mitchell.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that, while all other occupations are projected to grow 7%, the employment of pharmacy technicians in the U.S. will grow by 12% between 2016 and 2026.

"I started out working in the delicatessen department at Kroger and asked if I could move to the pharmacy to see if I liked it," Mitchell said.

Mitchell has worked as a pharmacy technician for about six months.

"I recommend this job to anyone but you will need to have a good amount of focus and math skills on your side," Mitchell said.

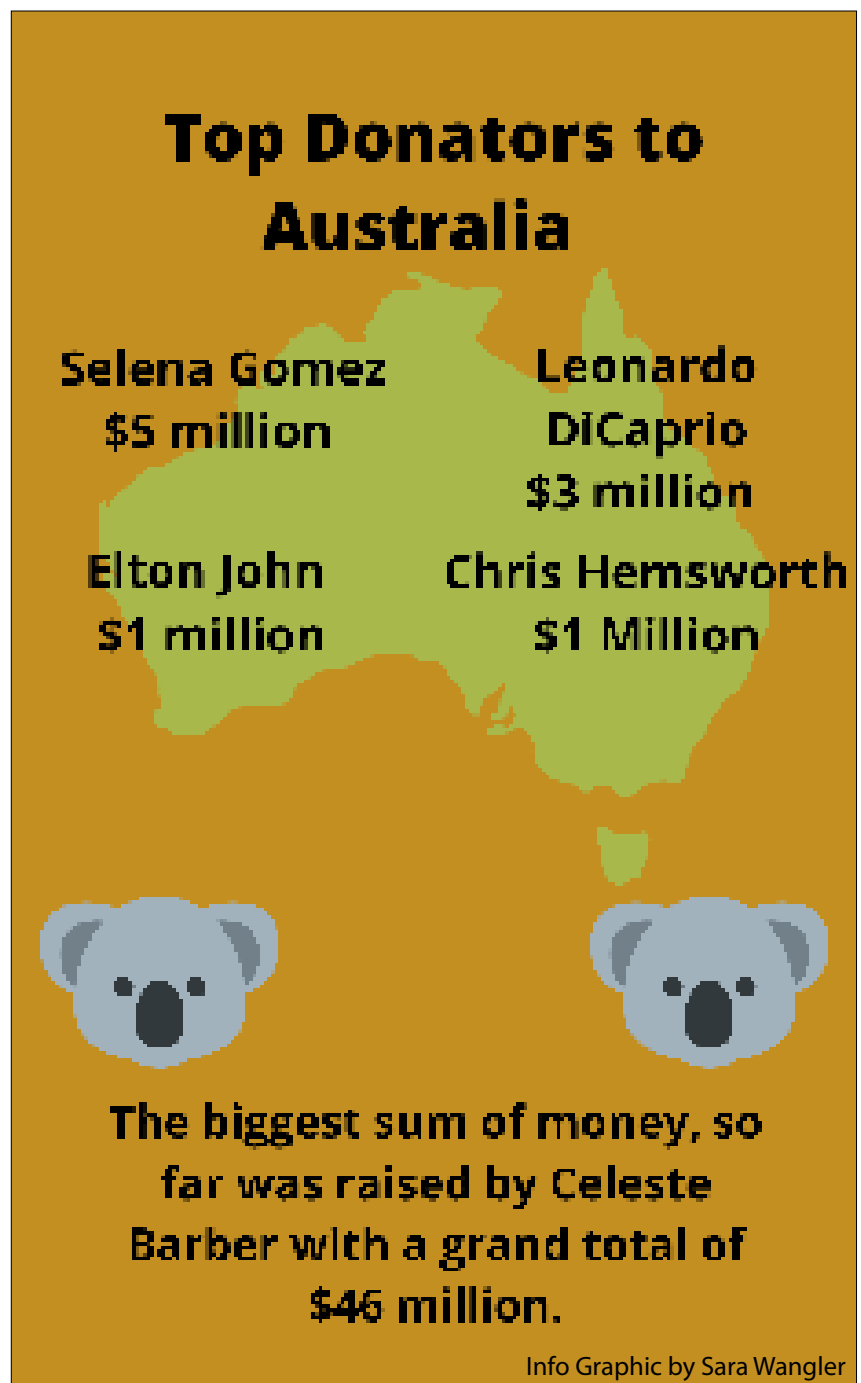


Photo by Sara Wangler.

Kroger employee Teresa Trail works in the Kroger Pharmacy.

Student gets a role in state competition

Sara Wangler, feature editor

Junior Rayvn Gauch is only 16, but she has an impressive number of theatrical roles under her belt. With being a junior comes SAT and the dreaded college, but she is unfazed. Gauch does it all—band, speech, theater, singing lessons, and dance lessons fill her schedule. In the midst of her local commitments, Gauch attended Theaterfest this month, performing in a show that featured young actors from all over the state.

“One of the directors from SIC was a director for Theaterfest this year, so (junior) Alyssa Irvin (sophomore) Kirsten Eversmann and I auditioned blind with no expectations,” Gauch said. “These people are the best in the state, and I was totally not expecting to get into the ensemble.”

Ensemble is basically just anything that is not a lead says Gauch.

“At Harrisburg we pretty much have Mrs. (Hannah) Drake doing everything,” said Gauch. “At state there is a choreographer, director, assistant director, and a producer. There are six different people telling you different things at one time. It’s very overwhelming but helpful to have different perspectives. There was always someone doing something different at all times.”

Gauch has been preparing for the role since summer.

“The cast list was released in June, then we went up once every month and spent a weekend at a time,” Gauch said.

The play, “Aida,” although not very well-known is very entertaining according to Gauch.

“It’s about a princess who gets taken away from her family and becomes a slave,” s Gauch said. “She’s ends up falling in love with a Captain who is betrothed to the princess of Egypt. The show is actually really sad. A lot of people die; the prince and princess end up dying.

The show was very dance-heavy, like the spring musical “Newsies,” according to Gauch.

“The whole show was basically dancing. There was a dance number every other scene,” Gauch said.

Gauch performed “Aida” at Theaterfest. Theaterfest is a weekend-long event. Any school in Illinois can get their show adjudicated, and there are around fifteen or twenty spots for shows. Last year, Harrisburg’s drama department performed “Hunchback of Notre Dame” at the event.

Schools can either participate in a showcase or a performance. There are also workshops and professional choreographers that teach on-site dance combos.

This year, ten or twelve drag queens taught make-up lessons Gauch explained.

Hopeful college thespians can also perform for the theater equivalent of a sports recruiter

“Colleges host auditions for different plays and scholarship opportunities,” Gauch

said. “There was a panel of forty-five judges that I performed in front of, and out of the forty-five, I got call backs for twenty-seven of them.”

Drake, being her first director, aided in preparation for Gauch.

“She could only do so much, but she helped me with the whole audition process,” Gauch said. “She helped me prepare my song, and recite my dialogue. But after that, I was really on my own.”

Surprisingly, Gauch’s first show was “Honk” during her sixth grade summer.

“I’ve always sang, but my old school in Vandalia didn’t have a theater program,” Gauch said.

Each performance since then has pushed her to develop her theatrical skills.

“When I played the witch in “Big Fish,” I sang a really vocally challenging song,” Gauch said. “It was really high at the end. Leading up to that, I took vocal lessons for that song specifically.

Out of the many roles Gauch has had, she fancies one in particular.

“I really loved playing Wednesday Addams in ‘Addams’ Family,’” Gauch said. “I think I really related to her the most.”

As far as after high school goes, Gauch has been considering two very different career choices, but her experience at Theaterfest helped her finalize her decision.

“I was torn between theater and child psychology, but after this show, I knew that if I have the talent to do something I should use it,” Gauch said. “I’m hoping and crossing my fingers for New York. One off my call backs was for the New York Film Academy, and [another was] the New York Performing Arts Conservatory.”



Gauch performs in “Aida” at Theaterfest. “It was a great learning experience,” Gauch said.

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