



In a banquet held on Monday, April 29 in Manhattan, the Sunflower Chapter of the National Football Foundation honored Phillipsburg Head Football Coach J.B. Covington with distinguished Don Fambrough Coach of the Year Award.

# The Panther Pause

Student newspaper of  
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While at State Journalism, yearbook staff members juniors Kylie Solida, Kristen Wells, Ashlyn Cole, Lexie Wood and Anahy Sanchez received an All Kansas Yearbook Award from the President of the KSPA Jessica Bowman. To have a little fun before the competitions began, juniors Trent Herrick and Lexi Wood participated in a dance off. Photos by Ava Schemper and Anahy Sanchez.



## Publication staffs bring home first place trophy from KSPA state contest

CHEYENNE MCGILLIVRAY

Senior Editor

On Saturday, May 4, twenty publications students competed at the Kansas Scholastic Press Association state contest at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. These students competed in contests that tested their skills in various publication topics such as photography, design and journalistic writing.

Contest entries were judged by professionals in the journalism field, college professors and current journalism students at Kansas University. Once all of the results were tabulated, Phillipsburg High School had tallied 41 points as a team to capture the 3A Kansas Scholastic Press Association state title.

"I'm extremely proud of the students' efforts in competing. We have been in the top three the last few years, but haven't been able to find ourselves at the very top, so reaching that achievement feels good," Advisor Robin Sides said. "Really, all of the credit goes to the students. They are creative and passionate about what they do and want to achieve success. I'm happy that they were able to perform so well."

Similar to regional competition, students are ranked from first to third and then depending on the quality of the competition, up to three honorable mentions may be given in each category. A total of nine writing competitions and twelve design/carry-in competitions are evaluated.

For the purpose of individual placings, classes 3A and 4A compete in one group. For the purpose of a class winner, results from the individual placings are tallied accord-

ing to the classes. So, all 3A winners' scores are tallied to come up with an overall 3A winner.

"Essentially, students are competing against 3A and 4A schools in each of the individual contests, which makes it that much harder to place. In one competition all of the three to six placings could go to individuals from 4A schools," Sides said.

Fortunately, the Panthers were prepared for tough competition and brought their best to Lawrence. The following placed in their individual competitions, helping to secure an overall team win: junior Kristen Wells placed third in advertising; junior Kylie Solida placed first in outline writing; sophomore Summer Peak received honorable mention in editorial cartoon; junior Anahy Sanchez received honorable mention in headline writing and Design; seniors Ashley Babcock, Kyleigh Russell, Jordyn Wisinger and sophomore Kay Pakkebieb received second in multimedia storytelling; senior Cheyenne McGillivray placed third in news page design; junior Ashlyn Cole received first in online photo gallery; sophomore Meg Keeten placed second in online photo gallery; senior Mya McDonald placed second in sports photography; senior Kyleigh Russell placed third in student life photography; senior Melissa Conn received honorable mention in yearbook layout; Ashley Babcock received honorable mention in yearbook layout; Kylie Solida and Ashlyn Cole received first in yearbook theme and graphics and senior Nikole Huntley and sophomore Abby Roth received honorable mention in yearbook theme and graphics.

## Ford places third in first state forensics competition

CHEYENNE MCGILLIVRAY

Senior Editor

The state forensics team qualifiers traveled to Wichita to participate in state forensics on May 4. Leaving the school after lunch on Friday, the team got to have some down town before the competition began.

"We got to spend time at the mall shopping and afterwards we went to the hotel and relaxed before the big day on Saturday," Sponsor Kim Pakkebieb said.

Pakkebieb's goal was for the students to do their best and feel good about their last performances. Participants as well were hoping for a positive experience.

"I liked going in general and meeting new people. It was stressful sometimes because sometimes rooms get switched so it's a different situation. I expected a lot of competition, so I had to try my best and give it my all and hope for a higher chance of doing very well," sophomore Zoey Dinkel said.

There were eight entries and two entries made it to semi-finals, one being sophomore Zoey Dinkel and Kyleigh Russell who placed seventh place in duet and freshman Jeremy Ford who placed third in pros.

Ford, who participated in state forensics for the first time, enjoyed the environment.

"It was the most fun I've had all year in forensics. The environment was amazing, and I enjoyed being around all of the people. I was nervous at first, but as the day went on, I was more relaxed," Ford said.



Following finals at state forensics, freshman Jeremy Ford celebrates his third place victory in the pros competition. Courtesy Photo.

## Life skills not specifically taught in school can still benefit students

By: ETHAN LEIDIG

REPORTER

Some important skills that can be useful to have later in life are not specifically taught in high school. For instance, the ability to drive a manual transmission vehicle is one of those skills.

Driving a manual vehicle can be useful skills depending on what a person's profession is. This can be a very useful skill that not very many students have, but some need.

Working on a farm can be a job where this skill can be very useful. Many older vehicles and tractors are manual, which usually are used on a farm. Driving a manual can also help a person stay focused on driving due to the vehicle needing to be shifted with the change of ground and motor speed.

Changing lanes with a manual can also be a lot like everyday life, drivers need to look forward to any possible hazards and try to avoid them.

"I learned how to drive a manual last year. My dad taught me how because it is a nice skill to have and can carry over from just driving cars and pickups to driving something else, like a tractor or semi truck," freshman Nick Davis said.

While some people think that the ability to drive a manual is a nice skill to have, others think that not everyone needs to know how to drive a manual.

"Not too long ago my brother taught me how to drive a manual. I could care less whether everyone knows how to drive a manual or not because they may not be put in a situation to where they need to drive one," junior Aaron Lenker said.

Whether a person needs to drive a manual or not, just knowing how to can carry over to many other aspects of one's life like, planning ahead. To some who do farm work, this can be a more useful skill than a person whose job does not depend on driving many different types of vehicles on a daily basis.

**"My dad taught me how because it is a nice skill to have and can carry over from just driving cars and pickups to driving something else, like a tractor or semi truck"**

-freshman Nick Davis



## Are emails a thing of the past?

3,469

By: ETHAN LEIDIG

REPORTER

The school year is almost over and that means getting everything ready for summer. Soon students will be cleaning their lockers and finding many of their lost assignments. Along with cleaning their lockers, many students may need to clean out their email inboxes.

Some students do not clean out their inboxes because there are so many messages that it's too overwhelming to begin. Other students do not even open their inboxes.

"I have 3,514 unread emails on only my school account. I do not check my email because nothing important comes through our emails. Everything that I will need for my classes is on Google classroom so there is no reason to be on my email. At one point last year, I had almost 5,000 unread emails," sophomore Riley Wagner said.

Some people only open their emails to clear their notifications because having notifications pop up bothers them.

"I have 23 unread emails on my school email. I will only open my school email to clear the notifications. I hardly ever open my emails because if something for class is important, the teachers put it on Google classroom. If we had more usable things, like assignments come through our emails, I would check it more often. Sports practice information is the only reason that I check my emails somewhat regularly," junior Trent Herrick said.

Students may not get on their emails often or at all because they feel as though there is nothing important that is shared through their emails anymore. Some let their unread emails notification keep climbing, but some have none.

## Sports Photo Gallery

As spring sports head into the final leg of their seasons, both track and golf have experienced success. Track has experienced several records having been broken and some top placings at meets, while the golf team has placed in the top three in all of their tournaments, thus far.



Senior Ashley Babcock prepares to make her approach during the javelin competition at the Scott City meet on April 16. Babcock has broken all three throwing records this season and now holds the records for the shotput at 40'10," the discus at 119'5" and the javelin at 118'5".

Freshman Abby Babcock pushes herself to the finish line during the 400 meter run at Phillipsburg on April 18. Babcock broke the school record for the 400 meters at the Beloit track meet on April 26 and now holds the school record at 60.16.



At the Phillipsburg meet on April 18, senior Jeremiah Minkler takes the hand off from sophomore Kagan Keeten in the 4x100 meter relay. The team placed fourth in the competition with a time of 47.55.



Assessing the angle for his putt, sophomore Ty Sides prepares to finish out the hole at the Phillipsburg meet on May 6. Sides shot an 82 on the day to place twelfth. The team finished in first with a 4-man score of 314.



Taking a practice swing, junior Tyler Martin prepares to hit his second shot to the green at the home meet on May 6. Martin shot a 77 on the day to finish eighth on the day.

Photos by Meg Keeten, Ava Schemper, Kylie Solida, Mya McDonald and Ashley Babcock

## Laptops are Expensive; Yet Students Still Want Them

SUMMER PEAK

Reporter

From worksheets to presentations, most students are accustomed to using their school issued iPads for most every class in which they're enrolled. Phillipsburg's school district issued the first iPads to students over seven years ago in 2012, and students have been using them ever since.

Choosing the type of electronics for students was a team decision between administrators from all levels: elementary to high school. The team decided to go with Mac iPads after researching and finding that Mac is more education friendly.

However, some students still wish they could all have a different--more expensive--option.

"I feel like [laptops] would benefit [student] education, like when they go onto college and have to have a laptop," senior Logan Solida said.

Solida said that when she first got her yearbook laptop-- back in her sophomore year-- that she had no idea how to type, which can be an especially crucial skill for graduating students to have.

In most colleges, students are required to use laptops to take notes or to do their homework on; therefore, students are expected to be able to type at a certain level. Furthermore, if those students don't meet those expectations, then they will have to either learn how to type in their own time on top of all their class assignments or find another, more complicated way of doing things that still may not work with their professor's classroom work.

Superintendent Mike Gower's response to students who share the same opinion as Solida is that he has to think about more than just the high school students, he has to think about the 325 district as a whole.

"I wouldn't disagree with someone who says,

'hey I can do more with my laptop and it's better for me.' I wouldn't disagree with that for certain individuals, but I've got to look at it as the whole group," Gower said.

Both Gower and Bowman agree that it would be nice for students to be able to type on keyboards, but they both also understand that it's simply too expensive to actually make that sort of wish a reality.

"It'd be really nice for these [students] to have [laptops with] keyboards so they can actually type, but it still comes down to you can buy 3-4 iPads for the price of one laptop," Bowman said.

However, something that many students-- and possibly teachers-- don't know is that there are actually a whole set of Bluetooth keyboards available for teachers to check out for any of their classes in Technology Advisor Darin Moon's office, which could help stop the issue that was expressed about typing skills.

Although, some students don't actually feel as though the iPads are problematic at all. In fact, quite a few actually prefer the iPads over their laptops.

"I can type on [the iPad] more and actually touch it, but like on [the laptop] it's just the keyboard," sophomore Ava Schemper said.

Schemper feels as though she can do as much and more on her iPad versus her laptop; like type on the screen, zoom in with her fingers farther than the laptop screen can, take notes for geometry and overall just be more interactive with it.

Nevertheless, whether someone would rather use an iPad over a laptop or vice-versa for their school work, it seems that the 325 district will most likely not get laptops for every student because it would way too expensive.

"I WOULDN'T DISAGREE WITH SOMEONE WHO SAYS, 'HEY I CAN DO MORE WITH MY LAPTOP AND IT'S BETTER FOR ME.' I WOULDN'T DISAGREE WITH THAT FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS, BUT I'VE GOT TO LOOK AT IT AS THE WHOLE GROUP,"

## Students Earn Cash Over Summer Break

MEGAN STAPEL

Reporter

While some students are busy with work during the school year, so many more work opportunities open up during the summer months.

A summer internship, like past years, has been offered for students ages 16 and up through college. A variety of jobs have many students taking advantage of the opportunity given. Between getting familiar with the hospital or memorizing coffee orders, there is a job option for many.

"I feel great being chosen for one of the hospital internships. It is a great experience and I hope to learn a lot in the coming months. I chose to take advantage of this opportunity because I'm hoping to go to medical school in the future and I want to come back to Phillipsburg. I think if I know a little bit about the hospital now, it will help me in the future when I want to work there once again," junior Jillian Bohl said.

As summer internships may be the talk, some students are taking new jobs or continuing with previous jobs such as waitress, babysitter or a combination of two jobs or more.

"I have been babysitting every Monday and Tuesday. I have also been working at Willers every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday! I am trying to save up enough money to buy a car and learn responsibilities of being an adult. I want to accomplish getting a raise and doing my best; in

fact, I've been working at Willers since May 2, and I got a \$0.75 raise on May 5! I think younger people should start looking for jobs because, they have to learn responsibilities of growing up, being an adult and living out in the real world. It shows that you are willing to work and that others can do a good job and can be successful," freshman AJ VanLoenen said.

Being a high school student is much more than juggling academics and athletics when being employed is factor. Summer is approaching fast and along with summer come many job opportunities.

**Junior Kylie Solida making a drink at her job, Home Town Grounds. Photo by Logan Solida.**



## Student Opinions On Controversial Topics



### Climate Change--

--Junior Dallas Miller; "Yeah it's real; I mean it's probably over exaggerated but to a point, I think it's definitely true."

--Sophomore Annie Weishaar; "I don't really think anything of it, I don't really feel like it's happening or not happening. I feel like to an extent it is happening, but not to the extent that people say it is."

### Gun Control



--Sophomore Cody Blew; "It's stupid; it's disarming law-abiding citizens while letting criminals keep guns because criminals don't follow laws, and I think that people who support gun control are corrupt."

--Junior Jessica Ehm; "I think that gun control is reasonable but at the same time like the second amendment."

### Abortion

--Sophomore Alexis Rudd; "Morally, I think it's wrong but I don't think we should make it illegal because then people will then just find unsafe ways to get abortions."

--Freshman Kyra Flavin; "I'm pro-choice because I feel like there's so many reasons a woman can get an abortion, and I think it's her choice to get it. And I think a woman should never be forced to get an abortion or not get an abortion."

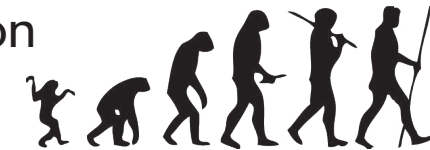
### Vaccines



--Freshman Gracie Jessup; "I think they're okay for certain things. [I think you should immunize your kids] because it can prevent certain things."

--Freshman Chris Watt; "[You should immunize your kids] so they don't die and so they don't get old diseases that already have a cure. [Parents who don't vaccinate their kids,] they're stupid. Why would you not spend the money to make sure your kids are healthy?"

### Evolution



--Senior Nikole Huntley; "I feel like we were made by a God-- especially the God--and I feel as though evolution, while it was based off science, is partially true in a sense because God created the world and is currently evolving."

--Junior Alex Moismen; "I say that we evolved. There's been like some species and other animals that have shown intelligence in them and stuff."

### Capital Punishment

--Senior Ian Dewitt; "I'm for it because I don't see any point in people sitting in jail and taking tax payers money when they could just be shot and taken care of."

--Senior Jaret Shelton; "I agree with it because if you've done something bad enough to even have it considered then I think we should have it."

### "Star" Opinions

--Junior Cole Wenzl; "I don't have any opinions."

--Freshman Brock Buresh "Do you have any opinions?" "Nope."

--Junior Nick Beckman; "I have no voiceable opinions."