



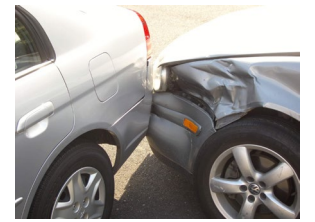
Student newspaper of
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the panther pause

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A Look Inside

Check out some student misadventures in driving on page 3.



November 8, 2019



ETHAN LEIDIG

Editor

On Wednesday, October 16, FCCLA hosted their annual color run. This year's color run focus brought awareness to Alzheimer's and dementia.

Hosting the color run created many responsibilities.

"Some of the responsibilities included mapping the streets, touching base with the city to make sure that we could block off certain streets, ordering color, coordinating with the schools' principals to make sure that this day would work for everyone and having the health class research and make posters," FCCLA sponsor Mrs. Deb Weishaar said.

The FCCLA could not do all of the work on their own. Many local businesses including Phillips County Health Systems, the Rehab unit, law enforcement and the fire fighters partnered with FCCLA to put on the color run.

The idea of a color run was presented to the FCCLA officers a few years ago, and they thought that it would be something fun that the students would enjoy. The FCCLA officers decided that they would host a color run and choose something to bring awareness to every year.

"We are hoping that the students will learn that exercise can be fun and you can talk to your friends and be social and not be sweating hard and still get in a good workout," Weishaar said.

The route was approximately two miles starting and ending at the high school. The students went to the middle school, where the middle school students joined them. From the middle school, the students traveled to the elementary school where the elementary students were lined up to throw color on the runners.

"I thought that the color run was a great way to raise awareness for a good cause. My favorite part was being able to run with my friends, but the color powder made it tough to breathe. I learned certain aspects of Alzheimer's and what I could do to help someone with Alzheimer's, like just paying attention, keeping them company and being there for them," sophomore Joel Ford said.



Getting his dog involved in the action, PE teacher JB Covington participates in the color run on October 16. All students and staff were required to participate and some involved their pets and young children to add to the experience. Photo by Kylie Solida

Volleyball team celebrates Sub-State Championship



Celebrating their sub-state championship, the volleyball team gathers to lift the trophy. The Panthers defeated Scott City in the championship to advance to the state tournament in Hutchinson on Friday, November 1. The Panthers went 1-2 in pool play at state and finished their season 30-10. See page 5 for all the fall sports season wrap ups. Photo by Robin Sides

McKee workshop warns against coveting "likes"

GRACIE JESSUP

Reporter

Working towards emphasizing more positivity and kindness, Jonathon McKee, author and public speaker, presented information about the bullying and the effects of social media at the Huck Boyd Community Center on October 24.

Students from the high school, middle school and Logan attended McKee's presentation at 9 am. McKee later presented to Thunder Ridge and Northern Valley schools at 1:30 and again to parents at 7:00 pm.

McKee started his journey of a public speaker with his own website containing youth ministry articles. He wanted everyone to have access to any ministerial articles they desired. After he posted enough articles, he began getting hundreds of views.

McKee has had much experience with teens and has talked to many about how they feel about their status on social media. He has found that around 60% of people care about their followers and likes.

During the presentation McKee revealed that he too worried about "likes" when he began his first social media adventure.

Students also agreed that accumulating "likes" is important. "Yes and no. If it's a good picture. It has to be a lot of likes. If it doesn't get a lot of likes, it must not be a good picture. You have to know if it was worth posting," sophomore Ishia Calhoun said.

McKee advised students against setting their social media statuses on public just to get more followers. He retold stories of several students who had unknowingly met predators online because of privacy settings. These stories made people think about their own settings.

"It made me think about people I have on Instagram, and it made me rethink what I send to people. And don't just give random people my number," Calhoun said.

Social media can be a dangerous way to get status and can potentially end up

ruining a persons' mental and physical health. With proper cautions, however, McKee states could be positive and safe without bullying or fake followers.

Seniors named Kansas Honor Scholars



Kansas Honor Scholars were Megan Stapel, Lexie Wood, Conlee Huginin, Tyler Martin, Kylie Solida, Jenna Hoover and Emily Schneider.

Since it is Spooky Season, here are some paranormal stories experienced by students both in and out of the classroom.

Spooky Season

Tales of paranormal



MEREDITH JACOBS

Reporter

SENIOR TRENT HERRICK

“One day my friends and I went to an old creepy silo. While we were leaving, a large, dark figure pointed towards the exit, so I yelled at my friends to drive. Later that night my dogs were barking out the window, I went and looked out and that same shadow figure was standing in my yard pointing towards the silo!”

JUNIOR RILEY WAGNER

“From past experiences, I know there is a ghost in my house. So to test my theory, I left the lights on in my kitchen and wrote on a white board “Can you turn the lights off?” Later when I came home “yes” was written on the white board and the lights were off.”

FRESHMAN LUKE HOOVER

“So, it was July 23 this summer and I was streaming on twitch, which is usually what I do. It was about noon when I thought I heard my name; I was home alone though so that’s impossible. A few minutes later, my garage door just FLEW open. I’ve never seen anything move so fast in my life. Then it just shut. About a minute later, three of the cupboard doors flew open and a plate fell out. I went and checked it, and as soon as I got to the doors, they slammed shut again. So I went back to streaming thinking it was the wind. I checked the weather just to make sure, and come to find out we had no wind. Then, about an hour after that, the TV in the living room randomly turned on. At this, I was freaking out wondering what is going on. So, I told my stream about it and they said I should keep the doors locked and find some way to keep my cupboards closed. After I did all of that, none of the things that had happened before, happened again.”

SOPHOMORE SOPHIE IMM

“I have a lot of sleep paralysis, and more then once I’ve heard people talking in my house when no one else was home...”

JUNIOR EVEA ARMENT

“I moved into the house that I live in now when I was two-years-old. I was playing Barbies in my room and my mom heard me talking to someone. She asked who I was talking to, thinking I was just playing, and I told her I was talking to Jerry. Come to find out, Jerry was my grandpa’s best friend who died two years before I was born.”

Tales of the classroom crypt

ETHAN LEIDIG

Editor

SENIOR EMILY SCHNEIDER

“I was helping with the MCL forensics meet junior year. When Kylie Saville and I went downstairs to clean up the music room from the events held down there, she knew I was terrified of the dark. She thought it would be hilarious to shut off the lights located on the other end of the door. She ran to the door and I followed screaming bloody murder. When I thought I was saying stop Kylie, I was just blabbering out weird things. When we went upstairs, we asked people if they heard. No one heard a thing.”

JUNIOR LAIKE IMM

“Freshman year in English class, Gabe Lamb didn’t want to be in school that day. So he got up walked over to the water bottle table, grabbed the stapler and stapled his hand—I don’t know how you can forget that—I was scared and worried, I wanted my mom.”

AG TEACHER MARVIN FEHLMAN

“A kid got hit in the head with a sledge hammer. The student was bending down holding pipe and the hammer bounced off the pipe and hit his head.”

FRESHMAN HISTORY TEACHER BEN SWENSON

“A student was taking her final and got sick and projectile vomited and made it to the trash can. Since it was a final, her mom made her come back to school and finish the test. You can’t forget something like that.”

Misadventures in Driving

New drivers or seasoned drivers--both have been known to have driving mishaps. Students and staff reveal their driving dilemmas

GRACIE JESSUP

Reporter



Teacher Mr. JB Covington

"I had just graduated from high school. After shopping at a store, I backed my car across the street illegally. In the process, I backed into a parked car. I received a ticket for illegal backing."



Junior Nathaniel Huntley

"My slide got stuck under my gas pedal and then hit my best friend's mother's car in their drive way."

Senior Trent Herrick

"I was driving down the road and Conlee Hugunin popped out of the ditch. Out of defense, I hit the gas causing my tail end to spin around and I hit Conlee with my truck. I still have the dents from him."



Sophomore Theo Keese

"Perfect record, clean slate, nothing I can think of... except, so the first thing I did was I was pulling into the drive and had just opened the garage door with my garage door clicker. The garage door opened, but the door wasn't all the way up. I hit the top of my truck with the bottom of the garage door. The second time, I opened the wrong garage door. Not realizing this, I backed into the same garage door as before. And the last time, I forgot to put the truck in park, and I reached over for my bookbag and my truck hit the house."



Teacher Mrs. Vesta Still

"I was eastbound and a gentleman ran a stop sign heading south. I hit the car at the passenger front wheel well as it crossed the intersection. This caused us both to spin and collide back bumpers. My car was totaled, and I ended up with a broken ankle. One of my students called the ambulance."

Merit test offers juniors a scholarship opportunity

JENNA HOOVER

Reporter

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is an independent, non-profit organization that recognizes and honors the academically talented students of the United States. NMSC holds an annual academic competition for a chance to receive college scholarships.

Being acknowledged for having good grades is an accomplishment on its own; however, having the chance to take the Merit Test can lead to helpful scholarships and recognition for the best of the best students.

"If students score high enough to become a finalist, they can go to whatever school they choose and don't have to pay a dime. Even the ivy league schools like Harvard, Yale and Princeton are available. I believe a major benefit from it is also great practice for the ACT," Counselor Joe Buresh said.

Juniors had a chance to compete by taking the Preliminary SAT (PSAT)/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQT). The top 18 students out of the 2021 class took the two-hour test on October 16, 2019. Students were eligible to take the Merit Test if they were academically involved.

Students that were able to take the test were charged with a cover fee of \$17 to take care of the cost of their test booklets. If students score high enough, they can qualify to receive thousands of dollars worth of scholarships.

This test resembles the ACT and SAT by testing four subjects and having a time limit on each one. NMSC have required students to be tested in English, reading comprehension, math with a calculator and math without a calculator.

"I took the test to check my knowledge and see how prepared for the ACT I am," junior Ava Schemper said. "I feel like the test gave me a good idea about what to expect."

Taking the National Merit Test can be beneficial for students as they get ready to take other high stress tests. While students used this opportunity to prepare for the ACT, they will have to wait until January to get their scores back.

College career planning conference helps students plan for future

SUMMER PEAK

Editor

On October 23, PHS, Smith Center, Stockton and Thunder Ridge seniors—and some juniors—had the opportunity to talk to and learn more about 34 potential colleges located in the Kansas area at a college planning conference held in the Newlin Gym.

There are several conferences like the one Phillipsburg is a part of, but the one Phillipsburg is a part of has been rotating between five high schools for over 30 years. The other four schools are Smith Center, Kensington, Stockton and Osborne.

Students spent from 9-10:30am perusing the Newlin Gym asking the college representatives questions and learning more about the different colleges.

"I saw a lot more colleges [at the conference] than I thought there were in this area. I thought there was only like five, so it was really interesting to see all the different [colleges]," senior Jessica Ehm said.

Many other areas with similar conferences do the same type of rotation, only their conference dates tend to be on other days because several colleges tend to go to several conferences.

Most of these different schools will also send both their juniors and seniors. A practice many people in Phillipsburg would also like to do.

"I'm a believer in planning ahead because otherwise, if you plan to late, it's a mess," Ehm said. "So, I believe AT LEAST sophomores should get to go."

Councilor Joe Buresh agrees with Ehm and even says that he thinks things are moving in a direction that will allow at least juniors to attend the college planning conference, which will help students prepare for their future by showing them that they have more options than they might think.

"I'M A BELIEVER IN PLANNING AHEAD BECAUSE OTHERWISE, IF YOU PLAN TO LATE, IT'S A MESS," EHM SAID. "SO, I BELIEVE AT LEAST SOPHOMORES SHOULD GET TO GO."

Entertainment in the Younger Generations

SUMMER PEAK

Editor

Entertainment changes drastically for every new generation.

For the Baby Boomer generation, scrolling through Facebook and sharing Minion memes with their family that make fun of the younger generations for struggling to make their way through the incredibly difficult road paved for them by said older generation has become the norm.

Millennials binge Netflix for hours to distract themselves from the financial crisis the boomers scrutinized Millennials for and the overwhelming depression and anxiety Millennials suffer because of their finances.

And finally for the latest generation, Gen Z—also known as Zoomers—entertainment is looking at hundreds of decipherable memes and watching hours of streams or posting streams of themselves on the internet.

Although streaming is not just limited to Gen Z, most consumers of streams tend

to be of the younger Gen Z/Millennial age group.

Streaming is where a person films something and puts it online for others to watch and comment on live.

Streams can consist of several different topics such as gaming, art, make-up, sports, vlogs, reviews or education. According to a recent PHS survey, the most-watched topics are gaming-related streams (29 votes out of 79) and sporting events (25 out of 79).

Streaming can be done on multiple different platforms such as Twitch, YouTube, Ustream, Mixer, Vimeo, Instagram and a host other platforms.

Out of 79 responses to the survey, the top three streaming platforms that students and teachers use are 1- YouTube with 63 votes, 2- Twitch with 16 votes, and 3-Mixer with 5 votes.

Freshman streamer and stream consumer Luke Hoover says that Twitch is the only place he really ever watches streams because other platforms like YouTube don't have as good of quality.

Hoover says that over the summer he watched streams all day everyday and streamed as much as possible.

But why would someone want to watch other people perform activities that they could do themselves?

According to sophomore streamer Anthony Haas, a streamer might be able to help people with their own projects, like building things or getting better at video games.

"If I don't know how to build something, then I can look it up and watch someone else do it," Haas said.

People also watch streams so they don't miss out on a sports game when they can't be there in person. This works vice versa too, meaning people who stream these events are aiming at the audience of people who can't be at the events in person.

The reasons why people stream can be more varied than why people watch streams. For example, Hoover streams to be able to express emotions he otherwise wouldn't express in person. He expresses

these emotions to friends he's made online, another thing that streaming can cause—a social life.

While most people think that the internet causes people to become a recluse who doesn't know how to have a face-to-face conversation, a lot of times the internet actually causes a person to become more social by giving them the opportunity to meet people they would never have had the chance to without the internet.

But Haas agrees that in other situations, the internet can definitely make a person less social, it's all about how the specific person goes about using the internet.

Streamers also just like the idea that people enjoy watching them and that they can make some people happy by doing something as simple as playing video games or vlogging about their day.

So no matter what or why someone finds entertaining, whether that be sharing Minion memes on Facebook or watching streams of people playing video games, as long as it brings them joy, it doesn't matter the type of entertainment.

Why do you watch streams/Why do you stream yourself?



"THE AVERAGE STREAMER" BY COLE WENZL

Fall sports season comes to a close

GRACIE JESSUP

Reporter



Huddling around the coaches, the football gets the game plan for their final matchup against Lyons. Photo by Gracie Jessup



Striding out, senior Abbey Hoover sets her pace for the regional race at Norton on October 26. Hoover placed 13th at regionals and advanced to the state tournament. Photo by David King



Attacking a serve, junior Jacie Roth competes at the state tournament in Kansas City on October 18. Roth placed tenth overall. Photo by Megan Stapel



Freshman Heather Schemper and junior Kay Pakkier team up to put the block on a Cheney opponent. The Panthers finished 1-2 in their pool at the state tournament. Photo by Robin Sides

The football team concluded their season on Friday, November 1 at Lyons. The team ended their season with a 44-7 victory over the Lions.

Though the season was full of injury and illness, and the Panthers experienced a 3-6 season, the adversity did give the younger players the experience they will need moving forward.

Coach J.B. Covington said that the team learned a valuable lesson about trust this season.

“I would say just being able trust each other through the hard times we had [was an improvement]. It was a learning process, and it took some time,” Covington said.

Cross country finished their season on Sat., November 2 as senior Abby Hoover competed in the 3A state meet in Lawrence.

Hoover returned to Rim Rock Farms for the second time in her high school career. Hoover placed 14th at state and set a career personal record. Sophomore Sam Pinkerton of Logan also returned to state in Wamego. Pinkerton placed 18th and also set a career personal record.

“We had a strong group of senior leaders this year with Abbey Hoover, Nicholas Beckman, Trent Herrick and Jacob Mahathey. This leadership combined with teammates that were driven to work hard and push each other resulted in everyone improving throughout the year,” head coach David King said.

This year’s tennis season ended at the state tennis meet in Kansas City on October 18-19.

Junior Jacie Roth compete in the number one singles division and juniors Zoey Dinkel and Kaycee Russell competed in the doubles division.

Roth placed 10th place. The state team finished in 13th place with 6 points. The final overall record for the tennis team was 236-151.

Several younger players experienced varsity action this season, which will develop their skills for next year according to Coach Donna Jarvis.

“We had a lot of young kids who had to step up and play varsity this year, and it will help prepare us better in the future,” Jarvis said.

Panther volleyball concluded its season on Friday, November 1 at the 3A State tournament in Hutchinson.

After several years of *nearly* qualifying, the Panthers were able to overcome that hurdle when they defeated Scott City in the sub-state finals.

The Panthers went 1-2 in pool play on Fri., November 1 with a win against Burlington and losses to Beloit and Cheney.

The Panthers placed third in their pool and ended their season with a 30-10 record.

The volleyball team had a successful regular season and were able to “stick together” all the way to the state tournament.

A day in the life of...student athletes of PHS

Megan Stapel
Jake Sisson
Emmie Kenney
Nick Beckman

MEREDITH JACOBS AND JENNA HOOVER
Reporters

