

Crown Point High School Crown Point, IN @InklingsCPHS
May 2022 Vol. 86 Issue 6

INK
L·I·N·G·S

Taking the Next Step



T.O.C

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[NEWS]

- 04 ONE LAST TIME
- 06 BEHIND THE SCENES

[OPINION]

- 08 EDITORIAL AND PRO/CON

[FEATURE]

- 10 CELEBRATING SENIORS

[SPORTS]

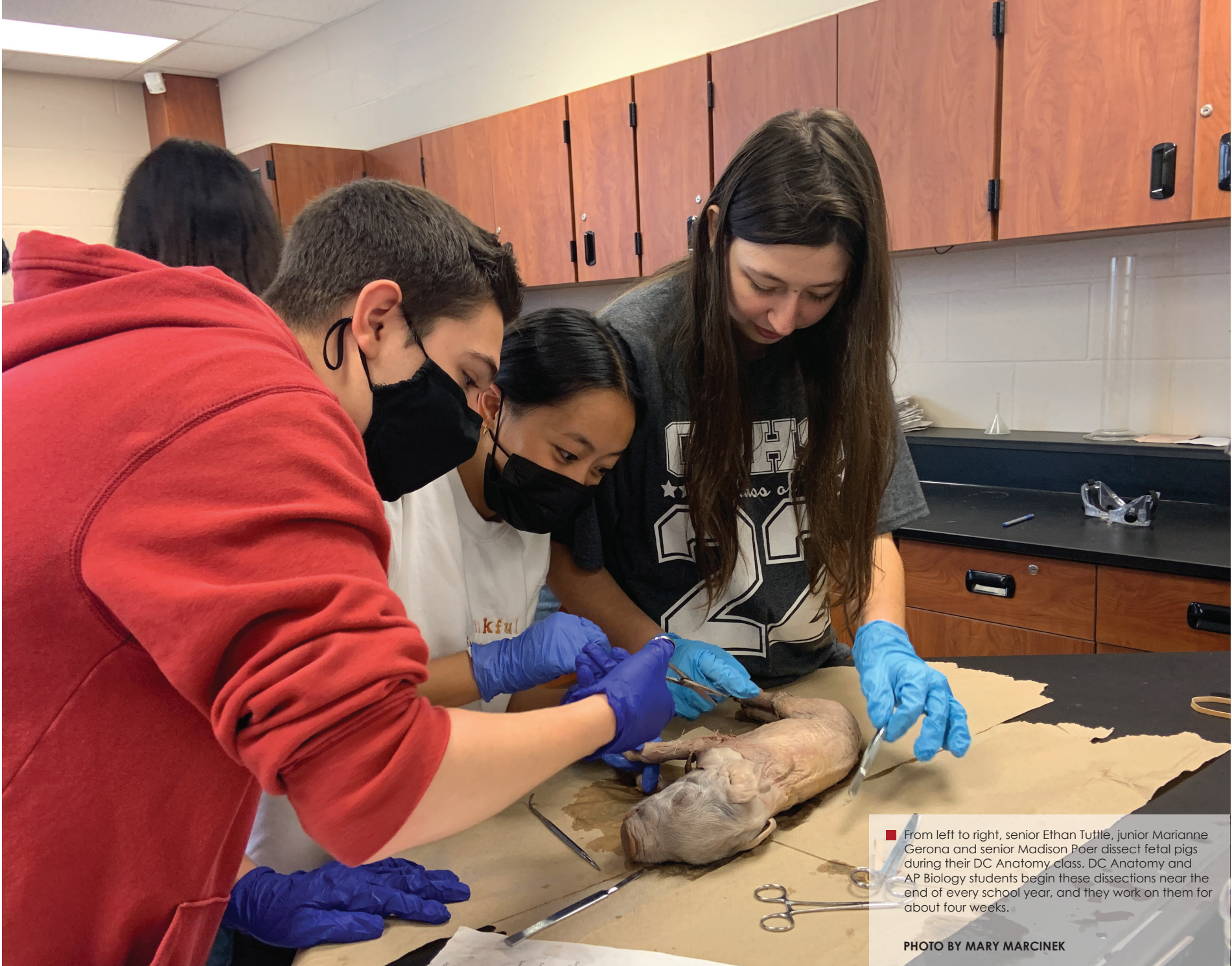
- 12 SOFTBALL, BASEBALL AND GIRLS TRACK
- 14 SPORTS SHORTS

[ENTERTAINMENT]

- 16 “TURNING RED” AND “MOON KNIGHT” REVIEWS

[PEOPLE]

- 18 ELLA MATTHYSSE



■ From left to right, senior Ethan Tuttle, junior Marianne Gerona and senior Madison Poer dissect fetal pigs during their DC Anatomy class. DC Anatomy and AP Biology students begin these dissections near the end of every school year, and they work on them for about four weeks.

PHOTO BY MARY MARCINEK



1500 S. Main St. Crown Point, IN 46307
219-663-4885 ex. 11349
fax 219-662-5663
inklings@cps.k12.in.us
online: www2.cps.k12.in.us/inklings

Crown Point High School, IN
Vol. 86 Issue 6- May 2022

Inklings is a student publication created by the newspaper and advanced journalism students and electronically distributed to students, faculty and staff of Crown Point High School. Opinions do not necessarily reflect those of CPHS faculty, staff or administration.

Letters-to-the-editor are welcomed provided they are signed and submitted one week prior to publication and do not contain personal attacks. Inklings reserves the right to edit for space, clarity and legal and ethical concerns.

Advertising is subject to applicable rates available by contacting Inklings.

Inklings has been recognized as an Indiana High School Press Association Hoosier Star, National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker, Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold and Silver Crown and Quill and Scroll George H. Gallup publication.

co-editors-in-chief

Rosalie Degenhart
Abigail Godsen
assistant editors
Aubrey Banks
Livy Helmuth
Mary Marcinek
sports editor
Samuel Brewer

staff

Kaitlyn Chandler
Gillian Gatley
Joshua Hedges
Ariel Moore
Zoey Slavena
artist
Hayden Coles
adviser
Julie Elston

COVER PHOTO BY GILLIAN GATLEY

THINK AHEAD

Upcoming dates and events

May 24

All City Orchestra Concert

The All City Orchestra Concerts will be in the CPHS auditorium. The first concert will begin at 6:15 p.m., and the second will begin at 7:30 p.m.

May 30

Memorial Day

There will be no school on the last Monday of the school year.

May 31

Final Exams

Periods one, three and six have their designated final exams this day.

June 1

Final Exams

Periods four and five have their designated final exams this day.

June 2

Final Exams

Periods two and seven have their designated final exams on this day.

June 2

Final student day

This day marks the last student day for the 2021-2022 school year.

June 3

Final teacher day

This day marks the last teacher day for the 2021-2022 school year.

June 7

Graduation

Graduation will start at 6 p.m. on the CPHS football field. The rain date for graduation is June 8.



■ Photo features Corporation Media Coordinator Julie Woodburn who has worked in the corporation for 33 years and woodshop teacher Ed Topp who has taught at CPHS for 41 years. Not pictured is orchestra director Tom Reed (pictured below) who has taught at CPHS for the last eight years.

PHOTO BY ABIGAIL GODSEN

One Last Time

Retiring staff recount their time in education

BY ABIGAIL GODSEN [co-editor-in-chief]
MARY MARCINEK [assistant editor]

Now that it is the end of the school year, many of us will be moving onto bigger and better things as seniors graduate and move into the next chapter of their lives. Not only seniors, but some of the Crown Point High School staff are also graduating in a sense as they are retiring after this year.

One of these staff members is Corporation Media Coordinator Julie Woodburn. Woodburn has been involved with the corporation for over 30 years and has gotten to work with a wide variety of people during this time.

“I started at Crown Point High School in 1989 as the high school Media Specialist. I worked here for 18 years, and, at that time, when I started at Crown Point, we still had the card catalog. I worked with kids and teachers; thousands and thousands of kids over those 18 years. Then I moved to Taft and worked there for five years,” Woodburn said. “The last 10 years I have been the Corporation Media Coordinator, and I oversee all the school libraries in the corporation. It’s a total of 33 years I have worked for the corporation.”

Woodburn started working for libraries from a young age and continued to pursue her love for libraries into her professional career.

“I started at the public library at the age of 15, and I shelved books as a page there. I kind of worked my way up and ran the circulation department and the technical services department,” Woodburn said. “Af-

ter I got my teaching license, I thought, ‘Gee I really like libraries, and I would really like to continue my education,’ so I got my masters in Library Science. From there I was able to get my job here.”

“I always felt that, in this job, we do what we do because we love kids. I felt like, hoped, that I could make a difference in a kid’s life, maybe treat them extra kindly.”

- Corporation Media Coordinator
Julie Woodburn

When you work in a library, a lot of what you do is working with kids and adults, helping them any way you can. According to Woodburn, this is one of her favorite parts.

“The things I have enjoyed most about working here, and at the public library, is that I love to work with people, and I love to help people. The library is kind of a service organization where you’re here to serve everyone and help people,” Woodburn said.

When you have worked with as many people as

Woodburn has, you will find that some of these people and interactions stick with you. It may not be what you expect to come out of the job, but it makes an impact all the same.

“I always felt that, in this job, we do what we do because we love kids. I felt like, hoped, that I could make a difference in a kid’s life, maybe treat them extra kindly. I remember one time where one of the students, he just didn’t have a lot of money for clothes. He was here at the high school and his clothes were kind of tattered, and a couple of us got together and bought him a new outfit. We even bought him shoes and a new belt, the whole works. That kid’s face just lit up, and he was so proud when he had that new outfit,” Woodburn said. “Totally off base with what libraries are all about, but that’s what I do; I care about kids. I want them to succeed and be happy.”

Another teacher who will be retiring this year is orchestra director Tom Reed. Reed was raised in Crown Point and will be finishing his career in teaching here as well.

“I grew up in Crown Point. I was a student at Eisenhower Elementary, I went to Taft, then Crown Point High School. I’ve been working at the high school for eight years. Prior to that I had several years at Taft and Wheeler Middle Schools. I feel fortunate that I’ve been able to work on stringed instruments and band instruments,” Reed said.

Initially, he made a home for himself at the middle schools, but eight years ago he switched to teaching at the high school.

“When I first began teaching, I thought the best

place for me to be was at a junior high. That’s where I felt like I belonged. It’s where I wanted to be, and I did that for many years. I enjoyed it and had a really great time. When the opportunity came to switch to high school, I thought maybe it was the time to try this. I’ve been working here for eight years. We have a really good team of teachers here on this side of the building,” Reed said.

Recently, the orchestra had the opportunity to compete at the ISSMA State Competition. This experience was a full circle experience for Reed.

“One of the highlights of my career was being at the state finals with our wonderful orchestra and conducting them. It just does not get any better than that,” Reed said. “To be in the state finals was one of the most exciting experiences of my life. It’s something that I’ve always had in my bucket list and it’s one of those things that I’ve always wanted, and with this group this year, everything just came together and it happened.”

Now that he is retiring, Reed reminisces about what he has learned in his years as a teacher.

“The best thing I think I can walk away from here with is just the sense of ‘relax, calm down, don’t be so uptight.’ It really does help and make a difference. I can approach other students, adults alike, and communicate without becoming hostile with each other. I think that’s one of the things that’s really developed in me as a person over the years. I’m a lot more patient than I once was,” Reed said. “I light up the minute I see students. Immediately, interaction begins, and I have fun with the kids, constantly. To me, that’s what draws me into teaching and education: that I can inter-

act with the students and adults as well.”

The third teacher who will be retiring is Woodshop teacher Ed Topp. He has been working here for the last 41 years teaching a variety of different courses over that time.

“I light up the minute I see students. Immediately, Interactions begin, and I have fun with the kids, constantly. To me, that’s what draws me into teaching and education: that I can interact with the students and adults as

- orchestra director
Tom Reed

“I started teaching at CPHS beginning with the 1981-82 school year after graduating from Purdue University. I’ve taught several different courses over the years. I started out teaching Woodshop, taught Basic Electricity and Residential Wiring for a few years, then a shift to Construction Technology, next a few years in Vocational Cabinetmaking, my favorite, a couple of years teaching a manufacturing class and then finally the construction classes as they are offered today,” Topp said.

Like Reed, teaching at the high school was not his first choice. Despite this, he has had the opportunity to work with many students over the years and teach them about his passions.

“To be honest, I never once had a thought of becoming a teacher. I went through college and graduated in the middle of a recession. There weren’t a lot of jobs out there at the time. I went through the education courses just as a plan B if I couldn’t find a job in industry,” Topp said. “I believe God has a plan for your life, and I feel that this was his plan for me. I think it worked out pretty well. I got to work construction jobs in the summer, build a lot of cabinets and furniture for people and got to pass down my skills to the next generation.”

Topp may not have worked with as many students as some teachers, but he has still learned a few things from his time teaching.

“To know that you don’t have to be perfect as a teacher. If you don’t know the answer to a question, just be honest and say ‘I don’t know, but I’ll try to find out.’ If you make a mistake, say I’m sorry; just be real. I think people appreciate you for it,” Topp said. “Not that many students here even know who I am, but, the ones that do, I hope that they think I am fair, that I have a good work ethic and, above all else, that I had their best interest at heart.”

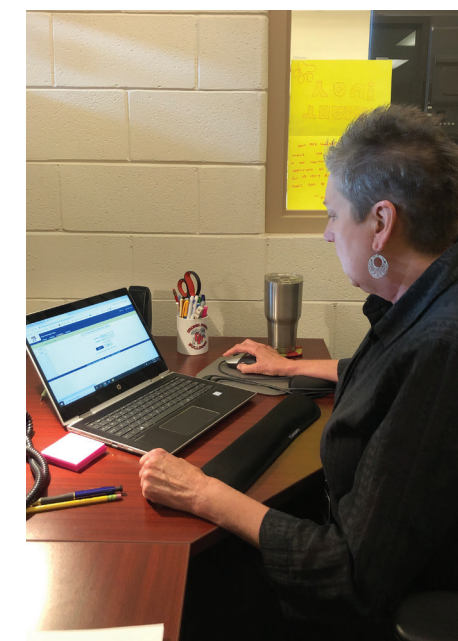
For those who are looking to go into teaching, Topp had this advice to share.

“Work on having patience. It is a virtue that you are going to need a lot of. Also, remember to always have a plan B,” Topp said.



■ Orchestra director Tom Reed gives a parting goodbye at his retirement concert on May 13. Reed has spent his career working with the bands and orchestras, and he celebrates his departure with his students.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JACK DARLINGTON



■ Corporation Media Coordinator Julie Woodburn looks through a catalog at her desk at the Crown Point High School learning commons. Part of her job is working with the 10 schools in the school corporation to manage their libraries.

PHOTO BY ABIGAIL GODSEN



■ Woodshop teacher Ed Topp helps one of his students while they work on making a dresser. Topp has been teaching for 41 years, and he has had the opportunity to pass on his carpentry skills to many student.

PHOTO BY ABIGAIL GODSEN



■ Superintendent Todd Terrill and engineering students, from left to right, seniors Billy McCall, Christian Rosenwinkel and Drayke Hermanson demonstrate the Liberty Leg. The Liberty Leg was featured in the “Super Things” episode that highlighted the Engineering Design and Development class at CPHS.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY BROOKE ALLEN

Behind the Scenes

YouTube series “Super Things” highlights co-curricular activities around CPCSC, hosted by Superintendent Todd Terrill

BY ROSALIE DEGENHART [co-editor-in-chief]
JOSHUA HEDGES [reporter]

Highlighting the strengths of the Crown Point Community School Corporation is something superintendent Todd Terrill is no stranger to. As of February, Terrill has hosted four “Super Things” videos from around the corporation, one being unreleased. “Super Things” is a video series published on YouTube that highlights the various co-curricular activities at each school in the district. In these videos, Terrill travels to a school and immerses himself in the activity. The principal, teacher and students are interviewed on the activity, educating viewers on the hidden treasures that make up the CPCSC.

““Super Things” really came up when I first came to the district. As I was talking with the board they were like, ‘we feel like there are so many really good things happening, but we just don’t even share them.’ (We wanted) to focus on the many great things that happen (in the school district), but so often we only hear about the negatives or the obvious athletic awards or if there’s a play. We get more into the nitty gritty of what happens everyday in the school buildings and what really sets Crown Point aside from other districts,” Terrill said.

Director of Communications Brooke Allen plays a pivotal role in arranging the “Super Things” interviews and filming. The inspiration for each video ei-

ther comes from the principals or from the teachers.

“I rely pretty heavily on the principals to keep me informed, but teachers often reach out themselves,” Allen said. “Mr. Leblanc had emailed me some pictures of his engineering class working on something, and I said, ‘that’s amazing.’ They work on the same project all year and actually come up with an item. That is how I got the idea for the high school. Ideas as they come in. Focusing on more of the curricular, more of the day to day, kind people focused, stories.”

The most recent video featured engineering teacher Matthew Leblanc and his students, who, as part of the curriculum, have been working on a year-long project.

“It was super exciting,” said Leblanc. “Our engineering class is kinda new. This is only the third year we’ve done it, but two years were during COVID-19, which kinda messed everything up. It was nice to have them come down, recognize what the kids are doing and give them an opportunity to see what our fourth year capstone class we offer for engineering is.”

Leblanc explains how the idea for the Liberty Leg, which was featured in “Super Things,” was developed.

“The way that this class works is the students think about some problem they want to solve. This year, a lot of my kids are on crutches,” Leblanc said. “That was a problem that was personal to them, and they said ‘well there has to be a better way,’ basically.”

Allen was amazed by the project aspect of the class, inspiring her to feature them in the series. According to Allen, the unique part of “Super Things” is the student initiative and the passion they show when talking about their activity.

“What makes this series unique is that we’re not just going in and filming what’s happening. We real-

ly try to have the students become the teacher in the video to show what they do and to not just film from a distance but to (see them) really get involved in what activity they do,” Allen said.

Terrill notices this passion when interviewing the students on the series. For him, seeing the students get comfortable behind the camera is his favorite part of filming the series, especially when it allows the students to open up.

“We were at Eisenhower, which hasn’t been released yet, but they do a coffee cart with Best Buddies. When those kids got to the point where they were just talking with each other and seeing the Best Buddies interacting, that was so cool to see that,” Terrill said. “At the high school, to see those guys get so passionate about this brace that they were creating, how they accessorized it, but, beyond that, the research they had put into it (is amazing). It is kind of that ‘ah ha’ moment for the kids, to get them past that point where they just let it go and just start talking about what they do is the coolest thing I’ve seen.”

Terrill and Allen hope to publish three to four more episodes this year, and they will continue publishing into the summer. Next year, their goal is to publish one video from every school building. Terrill describes what he hopes the viewers learn from the series.

“I really hope that they get that there are so many great things happening at our schools. I hope that they get that personal perspective of what happens in our buildings and it gives them an insight into, ‘I had no idea that was going on there,’” Terrill said. “It’s not just about math or English, not that it shouldn’t be, but there’s a whole other side of educating a whole child and helping them get where they need to be. Especially with having a high school of 3,000 students, it’s about how do you not get lost?”



■ From left to right, third grade teacher Jennifer Ciocchina, Terrill and sponsor Deb Smith stand with the Bulldog Buddies’ coffee cart at Eisenhower Elementary School. This episode of “Super Things” has not yet been released.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY BROOKE ALLEN



3 episodes of “Super Things” have been published so far this year

1. **Ukuleles** at Solon Robinson Elementary School

2. **Engineering Design and Development** at Crown Point High School

3. **One School, One Book** at Timothy Ball Elementary School

Speak UP

Student opinions on relevant topics

How do you approach change in your life?

"I approach change step by step, depending on what it is. I just take it day by day. If it's a big change, I would try to adapt to what the change is."

- junior
Samantha Nelson

"I just like to jump into things. I don't really like to plan things out. I guess you could say I would rather jump towards it than wait it out."

- senior
Alex Skrabala

"I'm actually terrible with change. I usually get super stressed and cry whenever there is change. I'll try to do things that make me happy to stop being stressed."

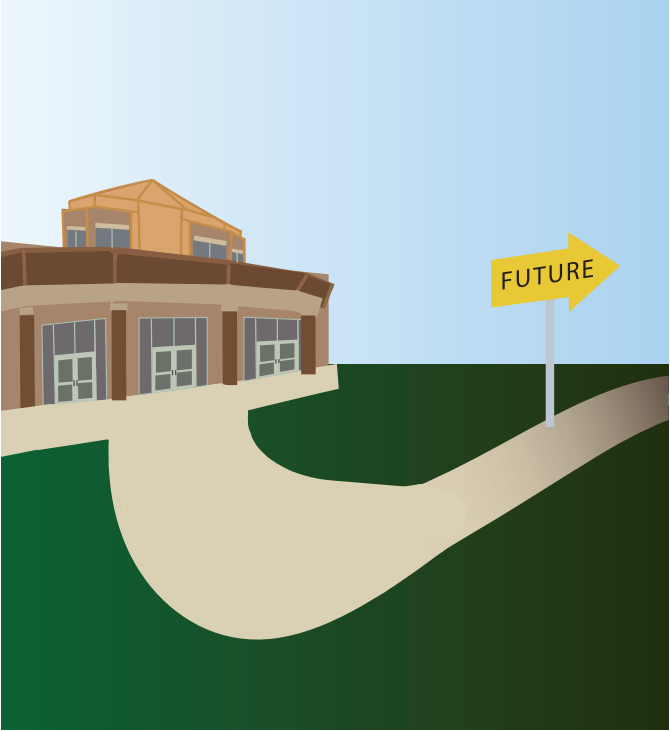
- junior
Mary Sanders

"I had to approach the change properly when I moved from Colombia. I had to get used to those changes, and now that I am better, I don't stress about it anymore."

- junior
Cristian Prato

"When I approach change in my life, especially when it's something big, I think about what I am doing now, and what will be affected by that change."

- senior
Chancellor Teibel



CARTOON BY KAITLYN CHANDLER

Editorial

Change can be a difficult but inevitable part of life, taking time to reflect can make transition easier

With the end of the school year coming to a close, there are many of us who will be entering a new chapter in our lives. From the seniors who will be starting their post-secondary plans to school staff who will be retiring, there are many changes happening right now and even more to come. Even though change can be scary, these new experiences help us grow as individuals.

Adapting to change means going out of our comfort zone. It's breaking a routine that we've known for years, or immersing ourselves in a whole new environment. Change is difficult to fathom, but, with the right people by our sides, we can get through it.

Taking the time to reflect on past experiences can allow for a seamless transition into change. Recognizing past mistakes and learning from them helps us pave our own paths to a better future for ourselves and others. What is not efficient, however, is dwelling on things you wished you had or an occurrence you wish had unfolded differently. This can result in a vicious cycle of regret and overthinking, but it doesn't have to be this way.

One of the first things is to change your frame of mind. This could be a three step process: one, consider if you are distorting the situation. Are you making it seem worse than it actually is or seeing the situation as black and white? Two, consider the facts of the situation. Are your thoughts realistic? Three, be kind to yourself. The last several years have taken a toll on us, so give yourself some grace so that you can enter this next chapter of your life with a clear head.

Change can be difficult and accepting it can be even harder, but taking a moment to acknowledge the struggle can make the shift easier. Keeping a consistent routine, setting goals or even making a checklist are small actions that can help us cope with change. Small actions can make a big impact when we feel that too many things are shifting in our lives all at once.

Remember, we can't control the outside forces that make change happen, but we can always control how we react to a situation. Although change can be intimidating, being there for ourselves first can help ease the burden. Take the time to reflect on the past, but also know that the future holds a host of opportunities waiting for you to take. Change is an inevitable part of being alive, but we do not have to do it alone.

Column

The things I have learned while being in high school and tips to help you survive it too

BY AUBREY BANKS [assistant editor]



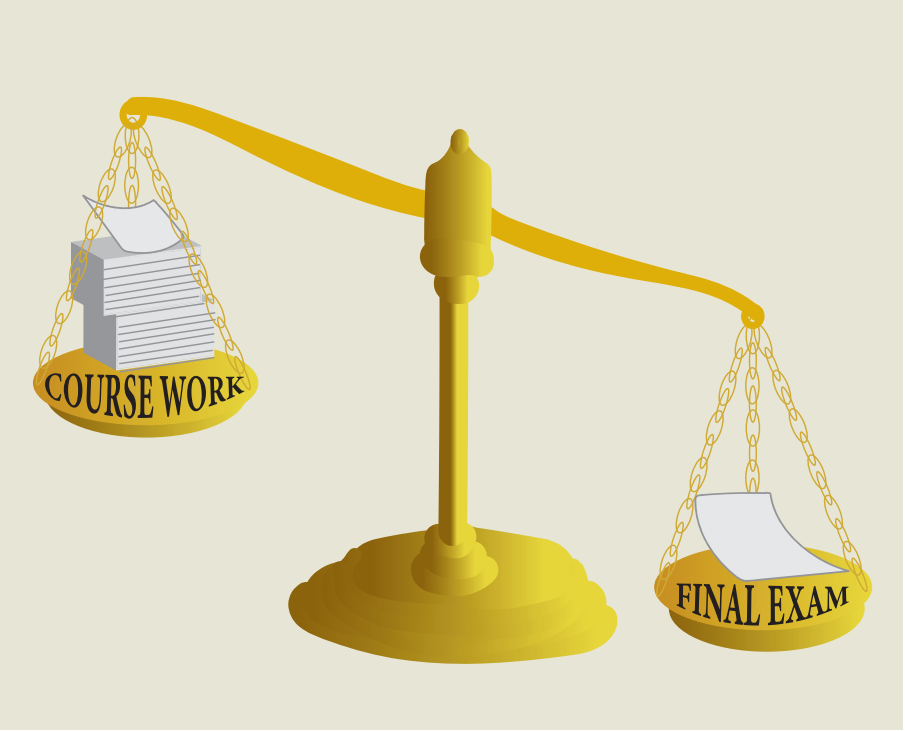
As the school year comes to an end, there are many things I wish I knew back in freshman year that would have helped me prepare for my last year of high school. While no one could predict what kinds of events we went through, it would have been helpful to know these tips before my senior year.

I've learned that life is unpredictable, and some events will impact you for a long time. Whether this event is a bad break-up or having a friend group split up, it can change one's mindset or entire outlook on life. It's important to learn, however, that these events will pass, and one has to be able to push through it. It's a part of life, and it's hard to go through, but I quickly learned that time will pass and make it easier as the year goes on.

I've learned that it's completely fine to take a mental health day once in a while because life, in general, can be too much at times. It's important for grades to stay up, but missing one day won't completely ruin the entire school year. Mental health is just as important as grades, which is something I'm extremely glad I learned during my senior year.

The last and most helpful thing I've learned is to not compare yourselves to other people. As I come closer to being a high school graduate, I realized that comparing myself to other people is pointless, and I should just focus on myself and what I want to do in the future. Everyone moves at a different pace, so it's useless to try to compete with one another in terms of the future plans, grades, lifestyles and personality. Don't focus on what other people are doing. Focus on the future and what it may bring.

Looking back at what I've learned and experienced throughout my high school years, I know I have grown as a person. Through all the events, it doesn't take away anything that makes me, me. I know I've grown from these experiences, and I will take those valuable lessons with me as I go through life. Though everyone has a different experience, our differences are what make us shine and show who we truly are.



CARTOON BY KAITLYN CHANDLER

Should you be required to take a final if you have an A in a class?

Pro:

Final exams encourage memory retention and material proficiency

BY JOSHUA HEDGES [reporter]

Final exams help to ensure students have retained knowledge from their classes and that they can use it proficiently without guidance.

A key part in a student's progress through any course is their understanding of past and present course topics. Class work and unit activities can help advance this understanding, but the test at the end of each unit clarifies to the teacher, parents and student the student's ability to apply what was taught. This is the same with any final exam just on a larger scale.

A student may have an A in a course from class work, but can teachers always be certain that such a student has remembered the major points from the entire semester or even the whole school year? We all forget a few things after starting a course, and final exams not only encourage us to relearn forgotten material through review but also to refine it.

Con:

Students with an A have already proven their material comprehension

BY ARIEL MOORE [reporter]

It shouldn't be required to take a final for a class when the person has an A in it. It takes a lot of effort to get an A in a class especially when it's a harder class such as AP Psychology or AP Literature.

People who have achieved an A have already proved to their teachers that they understand the material. As such it shouldn't be required to prove for a second time that they have earned their grade. Worrying about a final for a class where students already understand the material can add stress where there shouldn't be.

With one or more exams that students don't have to worry about, students can spend more time studying for classes that they have lower grades in. With the opportunity to spend more time on weaker subjects, overall grades can improve with the added attention the classes could get.

IN THEIR VIEW

"I feel like if it's a core class then, even if you have an A, you should still take the final. You have to remember it when you go to school."

- senior
Emma Bahr

"I don't believe we should. You worked hard for the A and now you have to take a test just to prove that you have an A."

- senior
Alyssa Perea

Column

Normalize being in multiple activities in high school, stop stereotyping diverse extracurriculars

BY ROSALIE DEGENHART [co-editor-in-chief]



Caps and gowns have been distributed, the post-secondary plans wall is filling up and AP exams are finally over. These events arriving so abruptly has made me realize that my last year of high school

is coming to an end.

As we enter these new chapters of our lives, it is important for us to reflect on our high school experiences. The vast amount of co-curricular and extracurricular activities offered at Crown Point High School allowed us to explore different opportunities, opportunities even out of our comfort zone.

However, through these last four years, I've noticed a stigma around students being associated with more than one activity. Athletes view thespians as being weird or overdramatic, and thespians view athletes as being exclusive or cliquey. Why is that? Why are there so many preconceived expectations about how different student groups view one another?

I've been lucky enough to be both an athlete and thespian in high school, and I have been welcomed and supported by both groups. Yet, I've also noticed the flaws associated with each group, which is something I can openly admit.

I am not discrediting anyone's negative experiences in these activities because everyone's experiences are different. People find what works for them through trial and error, but for those who did find a family in an athletic atmosphere or on stage should not be humiliated for their choices.

The concentration it takes to play the cello in Indianapolis at thestate finals is the same concentration that I use when I'm on the tennis court. The intense focus I have when hitting a forehand shot is the same focus I use when perfecting choreography for a show.

I hope everyone found an activity in high school that they truly enjoyed because this was the time to discover where our passions lie. In this next life chapter, I hope we appreciate each other for our differences and overlapping passions.

Celebrating Seniors



■ Seniors play a game of wipeout during the Friday Night Lights event on May 13. Other activities that this event included face painting, rock wall climbing, raffles, bouncy houses and many more.

PHOTO BY ROSALIE DEGENHART

Class of 2022 enjoys camaraderie, experiences, accomplishments as high school years wrap up

BY KAITLYN CHANDLER [reporter]

After two years of COVID-19 and a year still recovering, the school is celebrating the end of the school year and the success of the seniors.

Crown Point High School hosted the Crown Point Community Foundation scholarship night on Thursday, May 5, where over 80 scholarships were gifted to CPHS seniors. However, one of these scholarships is particularly special. The Dean and Barbara White scholarship is awarded to one girl and one boy, one majoring in business and one majoring in a medical-related field. The scholarship is full ride to an Indiana state sponsored university. The scholarship was awarded this year to seniors Charles Hagerman and Gillian Gatley. Hagerman will be attending Indiana University to study finance, and Gatley will be

“It (the class of 2022) is a group of people who are selfless, willing and positive in so many different aspects of their upbringing from middle school to now. They have evolved the Bulldog legacy.”

- math teacher
Brett Thompson

attending Purdue University to study kinesiology. Hagerman shares his appreciation for this scholarship.

“It means a lot to me because it means that someone is recognizing my accomplishments. It’s nice to get something from the community that I plan to help back,” Hagerman said.

Hagerman also discusses what his plans are for after high school and how he is going to use his scholarship.

“I am going between a few (plans) at the moment. I am getting a degree in finance and my backup plan is to teach either math or business,” Hagerman said.

The Cum Laude Ceremony held on March 23 was another celebration of senior’s achievements. Seniors who were recognized for their academic achievements received their stoles to wear at graduation. Not only this, but four Summa Cum Laude students had

the ability to read their letter of appreciation for their favorite teacher to the audience that night.

Math teacher Brett Thompson shares his thoughts on the experience of getting recognized by his student, Daniel Sibincic, during the ceremony.

“Writing it is special, I have had it happen before, but having somebody read it in front of hundreds of people and you’re there, I almost went kind of numb. You’re having a soul-to-soul with me while everyone is a witness to it. It was something you can’t truly, fully prepare your mind for. It’s something that I will celebrate and remember,” Thompson said.

According to Thompson, it is extremely important for students to be recognized for their academic achievements.

“I think it is important to recognize the times when we put effort, blood, sweat and tears into something. If it is academics, for sure it should be recognized, the same way we do with athletics and the same way we do with BCO (band, choir and orchestra). If you put yourself out there and you push yourself, that is something that is worthwhile,” Thompson said.

Since he transferred from Taft Middle School to CPHS, Thompson had the special opportunity to teach kids from when they were in middle school to now, as seniors. Thompson shares his thoughts on this special circumstance and how this group of seniors has affected him.

“I don’t think it is just as simple as saying that I have taught the same students from middle school to high school, just because of the specific group that they are,” Thompson said. “I could have had a really bad group, and I could have followed them and that could have been kind of disastrous, but because it was the group that I followed specifically, that is what made it so special and worthwhile. It (the class of 2022) is a group of people who are selfless, willing and positive in so many different aspects of their upbringing from middle school to now. They have evolved the Bulldog legacy. To take it from what it was and to spin it forward is what made it so special.”

The Senior Friday Night Lights was held on May 12 in the football field as a last get together for all of the seniors.

Guidance counselor Ami Marcinek played a role



■ Senior Joey Phillips receives Crown Point Community Foundation scholarship. Over 80 scholarships were given this night.

PHOTO BY KAITLYN DUFFY

in planning and directing the Senior Friday Night Lights event. Marcinek discusses why it is important for seniors to have this night and why they decided to continue doing this event.

“The kids really liked it and it was really fun, so we decided that we need to keep doing this. I think it’s important for them to have their own event that is just for them. It’s one last time to get together. It’s great that they have friends and connections in other classes, but what’s kind of cool is it’s our last thing we do as a class,” Marcinek said.

According to Marcinek, the event was a lot different last year. Next year, the event will be run by the guidance department with the help of clubs.

“Last year it was put together by the prom com-

mittee and a lot of parents. This year, and moving forward, the guidance department and the cure club took this on and then we have 15 or 16 clubs also helping put this together,” Marcinek said.

With senior events piling up at the end of the year, seniors are beginning to reflect on the past four years they experienced at CPHS. Senior Imani Cuevas shares her favorite memory from high school.

“One of my favorite memories from high school is when we did our dancing unit in Spanish. We all went into the hallway and did random little dances,” Cuevas said.

Senior Zachary Bodamer shares how his high school career coming to end has allowed him to reflect on his experiences.

“My friends and I all went out, and we had one big dinner together to go over memories with each other,” Bodamer said.

When discussing memories from high school, it is also important to acknowledge challenges and what was learned from the experience. Senior Emma Parker shares her biggest challenge that she experienced throughout high school.

“Learning how to prioritize different things. Learning that your mental health comes before everything else and, even though there’s a lot of stuff going on, sometimes you just have to let yourself take a break from it all,” Parker said.

Cuevas shares the advice she would give to her freshman self.

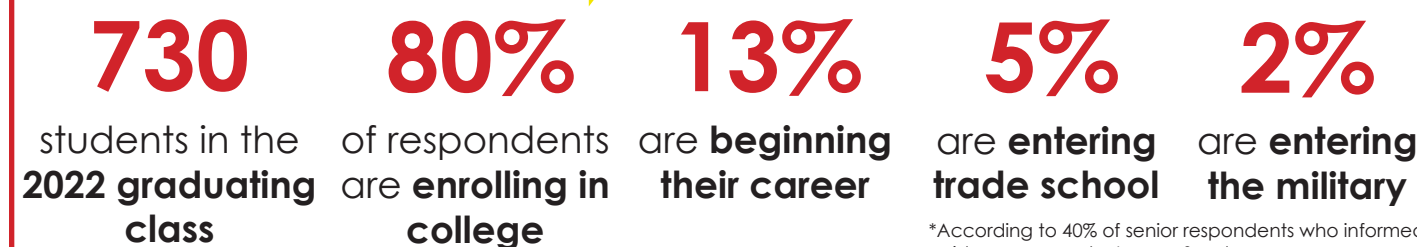
“I think that I would tell myself to just calm down, it’s fine, life will go on and it will pass,” Cuevas said.

With graduation just around the corner, Thompson shares his appreciation for getting the opportunity to speak at graduation after being voted for by his students.

“It means everything. When you teach, you don’t think about how many A’s you can get, you don’t think about numbers and grades, you think about the connections and the relationships you build. I think speaking is a reflection of how well of an established connection or relationship there was throughout the time that I was able to be with the class of 2022, and now we get to ride off into the sunset with it,” Thompson said.

Rising Stars

The **Class of 2022’s** plans after graduation according to the Post-Secondary Wall of Fame



*According to 40% of senior respondents who informed guidance counselor Lauren Sandor



Pursuit of Progress

BY GILLIAN GATLEY [reporter]

With the end of the year approaching rapidly, sports are nearing the end of their seasons and transitioning into their postseason prep as well. For the softball team, their sectional matches fall in the later half of May.

With those postseason games coming up, head coach Angela Richwalski recounts how the team has faced some hard opponents and learned from their previous games in order to make progress for the transition.

“We have had some opportunities to play some tough opponents and see our weaknesses. By playing those tough opponents, we’ve had a chance to make adjustments and prepare for a tough postseason. We’ve been able to overcome some tight spots in games and prove to ourselves, as a team, that we are capable of coming back from just about anything,” Richwalski said.

According to junior Audrey Wroble, the team didn’t just have to face hard opponents, but also faced divisions within the team due to most of the girls never having played together before.

“I feel like at the start of the season we all didn’t really know each other too well and there were some disagreements but I feel like now we’re all louder in the dugout and able to pick each other up more than we were in the beginning of the season,” Wroble said.

The girls have since refined their game to achieve 16 wins so far in the regular season. Richwalski out-

lines how the team intends to improve on their successes and make more adjustments to their game.

“We are constantly in pursuit of progress. There is always something we can do better. We will benefit from continuing to learn how to make in-game adjustments more quickly,” Richwalski said.

In the spirit of constantly making progress, Wroble emphasizes the importance in learning the right balance between hitting, defense and improving to make both stronger.

“It kind of goes back and forth, some days our hitting might be very strong and our defense might be a little shaky, but sometimes our defense is really strong but we’re not really hitting,” Wroble said. “There’s a balance in there.”

Along with presenting a strong front with defense and hitting, senior Jamie Manojlovic recalls the work the team has put in to lift up their pitching and make the game work in their favor in terms of conducting plays.

“We’ve worked hard throughout the season so that our pitchers do less work on the mound, and to make easy plays look even easier,” Manojlovic said.

With the work being done to make the team better overall, Richwalski stresses the importance in finalizing the fundamentals and applying these skills to not just play the game, but instead use them to create opportunities and create a higher level of comprehension.

“We’ve been working a lot on some of the finer elements, like aggressive base running, working pitch

counts both offensively and defensively and having the confidence to create opportunities,” Richwalski said. “While we are still making some mistakes, we’ve come a very long way and the players are starting to really take ownership of many of those elements and learning to not only play the game, but truly understand that game at the next level.”

Manojlovic not only wants the best outcome for post season, but also highlights how she also wants the team to have fun playing.

“I just want us to end our season on the highest note possible. Of course I want to win state, but really I just want to have fun,” Manojlovic said.

As the team moves out of their regular season and start to prepare for postseason games, Wroble outlines her hopes and expectations for the upcoming games.

“I’m just hoping we’re able to hang, I know we can,” Wroble said. “As a team we just need to believe in that because sometimes we all get in our head so much that it takes over our mind and takes over our game so we just need to be able to contain ourselves.”

Richwalski also points out that the team still has a few conference games left and that the team's main focus is to improve.

“We’ve got some big conference games left,” Richwalski said. “The most important component of every game is making sure we are getting better every step of the way.”

The team plays their first sectional game on May 24 against Hobart.

BY GILLIAN GATLEY [reporter]

As the baseball team enters the home stretch of the regular season and moves into the postseason, the team is looking into the fundamentals in order to perfect their game.

In order to do this, head coach Steve Strayer highlights specific skills such as pitching and defensive tactics the team needs to hone as they prepare to finish their regular season and continue on into the postseason.

“We need to work on our pitching location and we have to be able to locate our off-speed pitches,” Strayer said. “Defensively we have to be a little bit more consistent, we have lapses where we make unnecessary errors and then with our hitting we take too many fast balls for strikes and sometimes we go out of the zone.”

Strayer is not the only one that is focused on improving pitching. Senior Gabe Stout recalls his work during the offseason to improve his pitching and velocity in order to develop his skills further for the season.

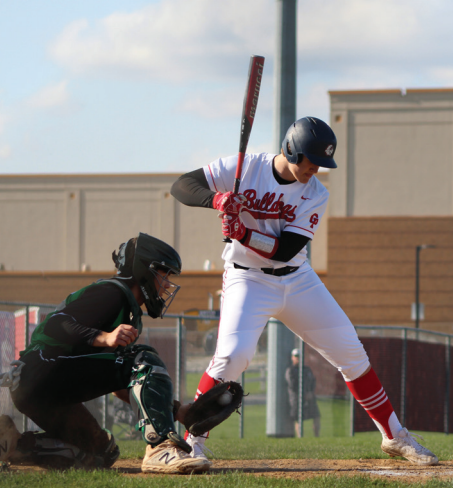
“A lot of my training in the offseason is velocity training, trying to build twitchy muscles and being ready to increase my velocity,” Stout said. “I’ve been throwing the same pitches for a while, I developed a slider this year that has been working a little bit.”

With being so late in the season, the team has had some time to get used to playing with each other and learn to work as a team. Due to this, senior Eric Santaguida emphasizes how teamwork is elevating the talent present.

“We’ve always had the talent and the athletes on the team, we’ve always had the pieces but as of lately the more we play together and use our talent the bet-

ter we are,” Santaguida said.

With that talent being utilized and the teamwork present, Stout stresses that the team plays better when all the players are on the same page and working together.



Senior Ryan Hannan watches a ball go by against Valpo on April 26. The team lost 4-0.
PHOTO BY EMILEE LUCHT

“Us guys, when we play for each other and we play as a team, it makes us better individually. We don’t have to focus on individual performance, we just have to focus on playing with each other, playing as a team and when we do that we’re at our best,” Stout said.

As the guys worked on discovering the rhythm of the team, Strayer took notice of those stepping up to lead the team and how they influenced the other players on the team.

Girls track takes second at sectionals, some prepare for regionals

BY GILLIAN GATLEY [reporter]

As the girls track team comes out of sectionals, they recount the success they have had during their regular season and outline what will allow them to continue that success into postseason meets. The team ended their regular season on May 10, finishing sixth at the DAC meet.

One of the team’s best showing was at Princess Relays where the team placed fourth out of 15 teams and the shuttle hurdle relay team of junior Charlotte Annes, senior Rhena Kiger, senior Makayla Neal and senior Katie Koryczan set a school and meet record with a time of 1.06.27.

According to head coach Joe O’Connell, the girls have had their sights set on this record for a while and even came close to breaking it at previous meets.

“Last year they came fairly close to it,” O’Connell said. “They have kind of had that set in their head

for about a full year now that when they came back it was something they were going to go after. They came very close at the Chesterton relays, they were in the 1.07’s, and it was pretty neat for them to break that record.”

Not only has there been a good showing by the returning members but there have also been a few stand out underclassmen according to O’Connell.

“We’re pretty young in general, we do have a few seniors that are doing really well for us, but I think our team in general is fairly young. It’s exciting to see what they can do for the next few years,” O’Connell said.

Freshman Emerson Stamper emphasizes how the upperclassmen this year have influenced her throughout the season.

“It’s really nice to be in high school because you have upperclassmen who can teach you and help you prepare for those bigger meets and you get to run

“Gabe Stout is a pretty good leader and the juniors seem to be stepping up to perform a little bit better than they have been. The ones that didn’t have any experience last year are starting to understand what it means to play varsity baseball,” Strayer said.

With Strayer identifying Stout as a key leader for the team, Stout emphasizes that not only does he try to lead others on the team but he also takes responsibility for his own game, as do many of the other players.

“For a lot of the guys, the way we look at it, is to be a leader of yourself because you have to be able to lead yourself before you can lead others. I feel like a lot of our guys, especially the starters and a lot of the non starters too, know that you have a role to play, you’re a leader of yourself and that ultimately allows you to be a leader of the team as well,” Stout said.

With the team nearing the transition between regular season and postseason, Santaguida stresses how challenging the season is with being mentally ready for the difficult games to come.

“Being in the game mentally still, it’s kind of a hard thing to do toward the end of the season because the season is almost done. I’ve been to all these practices and sometimes it’s hard to keep going,” Santaguida said.

Santaguida isn’t the only one that feels as though the end of the season is rough mentally. According to Stout the team had a tough few weeks but bounced back for the last few games of the regular season.

“We’ve gone through a little bit of a rough patch these last couple weeks but we’re back on track now,” Stout said. “We’ve got a really good sectional draw so if we keep this momentum going into the end of this season, going into sectionals, we’ll be pretty set.”

The team plays next on May 21 at the Indy Classic at Indianapolis North Central.

alongside really great athletes,” Stamper said.

With the team making the switch into postseason, Stamper recalls the difference between the beginning of the year compared to where they are now as teammates and athletes.

“I think that from preseason to now, everyone is just closer as a team and we look forward to cheering each other on,” Stamper said.

As the intensity of meets increases, Stamper highlights the importance of working hard at practices and preparing in the right way for the big meets the team has coming up.

“I started the year off strong so I’m trying to end it strong,” Stamper said. “Really focusing on every single workout that I do, not slacking off on anything, and putting intention behind every workout and every practice because practice is where you win.”

The regional meet is on Tuesday May 24 at Portage.

SPORTS
SHORTS

Boys Golf ■ Girls Tennis ■ Boys Track ■
Moments of the Month

Boys Track places third
at sectionals after fifth
place at conference

BY SAMUEL BREWER [sports editor]

As the regular season for boys track comes to an end, the postseason also comes. The team ended their regular season at the DAC meet, where they finished fifth.

According to head coach Nick Bruno, the team dealt with injuries but persevered through the meet.

“I am happy with our performance. (Senior) Jason Kostick got hurt in the 100 trials, which took him out of three events for us. Our alternates stepped up and did the best they could do for the team. Everyone was focused and performed to the best of their ability,” Bruno said.

Bruno recognized that the team’s sectional posed a challenge, but was still determined to perform to the best of the team’s ability.

“We have a tough sectional with Merrillville and Lake Central who have already beat us this season. The ultimate goal is to win a sectional championship. If we don’t reach that goal, we are looking to place top three as a team and get as many athletes through to the regional as possible,” Bruno said.

The team ended up placing third in sectionals. Both Lake Central and Merrillville came before Crown Point.

In preparation for the postseason, senior sprinter Michael Atwood had a lot to work on. Atwood believes that the team has worked hard to find the success they are looking for.

“We have been doing more intense workouts and getting coached up with every aspect of our races. We have also been working on the little things like technique in our blocks,” Atwood said.

For senior Jeremy Brown, finding success this postseason is a top priority for himself and the team.

“I feel like we all want this and would love to win



■ Sophomore Nate Kalk runs hurdles in a meet against Michigan City. Kalk would go on to place second in the 300 meter hurdles at sectionals.

PHOTO BY CAITLYN OSIKA

this as a team, especially the seniors,” Brown said.

Atwood is especially invested in the 100-meter relay, where his hopes go beyond just sectionals.

“I really would like to go far this post season especially in the four by one. We have been working hard for it and I think we deserve to go to state,” Atwood said.

His team placed third, cementing them a spot at regionals.

“Our relay got third right behind Merrillville and Lake Central and we qualified for regionals which is awesome,” Atwood said.

Those who qualified for regionals will compete at the regional meet on Thursday, May 26 at Valpo.

MOMENTS
■ OF THE ■
MONTH

■ **5-16** Girls tennis **beats Andrean 5-0**. This made their regular season record 11-1 before sectionals.

■ **5-2** The IHSAA released a YouTube video announcing two new sanctioned sports: **Girls Wrestling and Boys Volleyball**. Two days later Crown Point sent out a form to students asking if they would be interested in participating.

■ **4-21** Jessica Carrothers signed to play basketball for Butler University. She had previously been committed to IUPUI before decommitting and signing with the Bulldogs.

■ **5-4** Ryan Radanovich threw a no-hitter against Merrillville. Rananovich threw six strikeouts, helping the team to a 10-0 victory.

Girls tennis ends regular season 11-1, undefeated in
conference, prepares to deal with pressures of sectionals

BY SAMUEL BREWER [sports editor]



■ Senior Gina Chiarella prepares to hit a ball against LaPorte on senior night. The team won 4-1.

PHOTO BY PAIGE HALUSKA

For the girl’s tennis team, the sectional tournament is quickly approaching. Throughout the regular season, the team went undefeated in conference play. Head coach Brian Elston has been happy with the DAC success.

“I think we’re doing really well in the conference. One of the things you worry about is if they have confidence in themselves, and it looks like because of what we’ve done in the non conference season, it has really helped us in conference,” Elston said.

When it comes to having any sort of undefeated run, the pressure can make some teams fold, but according to junior Alex Baron, the team knows how to approach each and every game.

“There is some pressure because you have to win three out of the two matches and you know that it could always possibly come down to your match. It is a little bit of pressure but I don’t think it’s enough to hinder our performance,” Baron said.

According to Elston, the team’s depth allows a little mental slack.

“Right now I think they feel pretty good about themselves, in that, if they struggle for a day that the rest of the lineup still has the same confidence. So if they are struggling for a time, somebody else can come and help pick them up,” Elston said.

Happy with her improvement over the season is senior Gina Chiarella, who believes her mental strength has greatly improved.

“I think I’ve made a big improvement from last year and especially my freshman year because I find

myself not being nervous at all, even in the most stressful matches and the most important ones,” Chiarella said.

A major part of this success, according to Chiarella, is to focus on enjoying the time she has playing tennis.

“I think it’s more important to have fun while doing well. It is important to go far but I think it’s more important to have memories and think back while I actually have a lot of fun,” Chiarella said.

With sectionals ongoing, pressures can intensify. Elston pushes the idea that the team’s experience over the season will help them cope with the new challenge.

“It doesn’t matter whether the team is as good as you or better than you or worse than you, there’s always gonna be fans or something like that or some situation comes up. Nerves are way ramped up in sectionals and so if you’ve been uncomfortable through the season and you’ve gone through it a few times you’re gonna be used to it,” Elston said.

For Baron, the chance to get to play with her sister this year makes the experience something special to her.

“It makes it more fun. Obviously we’re competitive but the practices are two and a half hours long. Instead of just sitting there during breaks, me and Ana will do dances together or dance around in the corner and have our inside jokes. It makes everything more fun,” Baron said.

After beating Illiana Christian and Kankakee Valley for the first and second day of sectionals, the team will next play in the sectional finals on Friday, May 20 against Lake Central.

Boys golf builds team chemistry as regular season continues

BY SAMUEL BREWER [sports editor]

As the season continues, the boys golf team continues to improve. The team has put up some impressive numbers, facing some of the toughest competition in the state, according to head coach Ryan Bishop.

“So far we’ve played very well, finishing third in the first tournament only losing to the first and second ranked teams in the state and recently we came second,” Bishop said.

While golf is seen as an individual sport, sophomore Luke Sargent adds upon how the team aspect is often overlooked.

“Just like any other sport, it is very important for the team to work well together. If one person is having an off-day, then everyone else needs to step up a little bit to ensure the team wins,” Sargent said.

Bishop believes the team needs to work on this crucial aspect of the sport.

“I would have to say that we do have chemistry but I would like to see much more. Right now it’s more

“I feel that the team has progressed well over the course of the season. Team chemistry is rising and we are starting to play for each other.”

- sophomore
Luke Sargent

“I think the team needs to improve on playing for each other. As I said, we are starting to see that happen. Everyone is a great player individually, but in order for the team to succeed, we need to play for each other,” Sargent said.

Even with the problem the team has been facing, Sargent believes the team is making big strides in terms of improvement.

“I feel that the team has progressed well over the course of the season. Team chemistry is rising and we are starting to play for each other. It is fun to see,” Sargent said.

Some of that progression may be due to the time they spend together off the fairway. Sargent explains how the team works together.

“Outside of school, the team gets along very well. They hang out and play together outside of school and practice,” Sargent said.

The team’s next match will be on May 20 against LaPorte and Valparaiso at home. They will play in the sectional tournament on June 3. The match will take place at Palmeria Golf Course.

segregated groups than more of a team as a whole sadly. But as time goes on in the season I believe it will change. I believe it is so important and essential for the team to work well together,” Bishop said. Sargent feels similarly.

“Moon Knight” introduces new Marvel hero with complex plot and beautiful imagery

BY LIVY HELMUTH [assistant editor]

Phase Four of the Marvel Cinematic Universe indulges in magic, mythology and the multiverse. A mysterious past, an unlikely friendship and Egyptian Gods seeking destruction, “Moon Knight” is an excellent introduction into Marvel’s next phase. A year after Marvel’s first straight to Disney+ release, “Moon Knight” ranks as one of Marvel’s greatest out of its new phase.

Stephen Grant and Marc Spector (Oscar Issac) are two personalities that share the same body. After discovering the existence of Marc, Stephen is thrust into an unfamiliar world with new supernatural abilities. The two embark on a journey of high stakes and of self discovery through Egyptian mythology.

The imagery and visuality is beautiful and unique. The series is predominantly set in Egypt, and the cinematography lovingly embraces the social and cultural landscape. Moon Knight’s suit is incredibly well designed and perfectly emulates his

abilities. Various gods from Egyptian mythology, such as Khonshu (Murray Abraham) and Ammit (Saba Mubarak) help and hinder Marc and Steven. Both voice actors make their characters very memorable and recognizable.

Steven and Marc communicate with each other through their reflection, which is creatively showcased throughout the series. They both serve as each other’s voice of reason, and as they gain more control over their situation, they learn to alternate control on command. Oscar Issac masterfully acts as both Stephen and Marc and flawlessly exemplifies their struggle to gain control of both their shared body and their individual lives. The detail that is put into each and every element is wonderful to watch, and the foreshadowing is masterfully abundant.

One of the most notable aspects of “Moon Knight” is the complexity of its plot. Watching the first episode gives a similar experience to watching the first episode of “WandaVision,” as it subverts and distorts several stereotypes of Marvel’s classic superhero formula. Some viewers may be confused by the shifting perspectives of the main



character. However, these scenes are intentionally bizarre in order to exemplify Stephen and Marc’s jumbled mental state.

Similarly to how Iron Man, Captain America and many more Marvel characters were made from lesser known comic book superheros into household names, “Moon Knight” is another of Marvel’s successful attempts at popularizing a not widely known character.

Best of the B.E.S.T

BY JOSHUA HEDGES [reporter]

Best App



Nextdoor is a social media app pertaining to neighborhoods around yours. See what everyone is complaining about or what lost dogs are still looking for their owner.

Best Follow



Value Select is a YouTube song writer and sketch channel with a focus on relatable comedy. I would compare his content to the likes of Weird Al with its fast pace and exaggerated manner.

Best Coin



The Susan B. Anthony dollar coin has subjectively the most patriotic imagery out of all U.S. coins. Not only does the face have one of the few women on U.S. currency, but it also depicts the nation’s national bird on the moon with North America in view.



“Turning Red” portrays struggle of growing up in nostalgic, 2002 setting

BY ARIEL MOORE [reporter]

Pixar’s “Turning Red” is a very charming depiction of life in the 2000s and portrays the struggles of being a teenager growing up with strict parents.

“Turning Red” does a great job of keeping audiences entertained by showing the inner struggles of both the main character Meilin Lee and her mother. Meilin Lee has to figure out how to express herself without letting her mother down. While her mother, Ming, has to come to terms with the fact that her daughter is growing up and isn’t her precious little girl anymore.

The concept of solving mother-daughter relationship problems throughout the course of the story isn’t all that new. In movies such as “Brave,” “Freaky Friday,” and just about any Disney Princess movie, this trope is showcased. “Turning Red” doesn’t do anything particularly special in the film that separates itself from films with a similar standing, but it’s enjoyable because the characters themselves are funny, cool and caring. The art is beautiful and the animation is amazing. The time period of which the movie takes place also adds a reminiscing factor for those whose youthful days have long passed.

The film is a blast from the past for those who grew up in the 90s-2000s era. Many characteristics of the film take on the trends from the time.

This is to be expected since the film takes place in 2002 Toronto, Canada. The famous boy band in “Turning Red,” 4-Town, takes on the heart and soul of the many boy bands of the time. The music is funky and catchy and very reminiscent of the times.

Along with music, the film also displays the technology of the time, such as the ever so loved Tomagachi and Nokia phone. There’s also references to the pop culture of the time. With the growing love of anime during that period, it’s only natural that it makes an appearance in the film. Towards the end of the film all of Meilin’s Aunts do the signature sailor scout pose. This moment was a favorite of mine. Another little detail that may not have been noticed is the color scheme of the main group parallels the Sailor Scouts. It’s small details such as these that really make the film such a great watch for all ages.

For the kids still in school and those who have long graduated, the film takes us to that time of our lives when we were seeking independence. No matter the time period we were born in, we all had a time in our lives when we were still unable to drive ourselves around, pay for our own things and had to rely on our parents despite wanting to prove how adult we were at 11, 12 or 13. Watching the main characters struggle with their own independence in the same way are aspects that make the film so lovable and entertaining.

P.L.A.Y.I.N.G FAVORITES

Big Daddy’s Pizza

The school’s pizza is some of the most delicious tasting pizza in existence. Regardless of what toppings are on it, Big Daddy’s Pizza excels in providing an amazing taste sensation. Graduating seniors will reminisce on it for years to come.



Warm Weather

Warm weather is one of the best parts of the turn of the seasons. Now that it is warm out we can spend more time outdoors and get some sunshine. It can brighten your mood and make mundane tasks more enjoyable.

WE’RE SO O.V.E.R

Crazy School Temperature Fluctuations

In second hour it is a sauna and then by fourth hour it is a meat locker. The temperature from room to room can be drastically different and even from class period to class period, which can be very distracting.



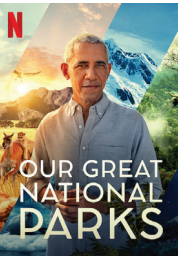
Metal Water Bottles

Metal water bottles are very loud and disruptive in school. When they fall it resounds through the entire room. They also can be difficult to clean because you can’t really see the inside.

IN Review

“Our Great National Parks” soothes and educates viewers about protecting wildlife

BY KAITLYN CHANDLER [reporter]



The nature documentary, “Our Great National Park,” is the best way to relax and unwind after a long day. This informative series shows the everyday lives of nature’s most spectacular species and creatures, featuring enchanting scenery from biomes all over the world.

With Barack Obama’s soothing voice narrating the documentary, viewers can relax while also learning about the importance of protecting wildlife and endangered species.

“Heartstopper” tells heart warming story about love and self discovery in adolescence

BY ABIGAIL GODSEN [co-editor-in-chief]



A mini-series on Netflix based on the Webtoon of the same name, “Heartstopper” tells the heart warming story of our two leads, Nick and Charlie as they navigate school and young love. The show itself is so sweet, and takes a more realistic approach to teen romance and sexuality. It is overall a feel good show that takes a deeper look at the struggles to find your sexuality in a world that isn’t always so supportive.

Sakura KJ Sushi and Hibachi Steakhouse opens with authentic food and atmosphere

BY MARY MARCINEK [assistant editor]

The long awaited opening of Sakura KJ Sushi and Hibachi Steakhouse has arrived. Ever since it had been announced in summer of 2021 that this restaurant would be replacing the venue of Great Harvest Bread Co. on the Crown Point Square, people of all ages have been eager to try their authentic Japanese cuisine.

The interior of the restaurant has been transformed into an upbeat and modern facility. Colorful lights and vibrant signs contrast with beautiful cherry blossom accents and art pieces to create a truly unique environment.

Sakura KJ offers a menu with a wide variety of traditional and novel dishes. From hibachi grill entrees, to soups and salads, to a mouth-watering sweet list, there are options for every customer.

On my visit to Sakura KJ, I ordered the Tiger Roll from the House Special Rolls menu and the Hollywood Roll from the Maki Rolls menu. The Tiger Roll consisted of eel, cucumber and crab stick inside, topped with avocado, crunch, scallion and eel sauce. To describe this dish in one word: delicious. I expected to like the roll, but I was



surprised to find how much I loved it. It was a great experience to try something I’ve never had before and discover it as a new favorite dish. The Hollywood Roll was also excellent, made with crabmeat, cream cheese, cucumber and avocado. It resembled more of a typical roll in comparison to the gourmet-styled Tiger Roll, but it was very tasty nevertheless. Maki rolls are a great option at Sakura KJ for those looking for more of a casual and inexpensive meal.

Overall, Sakura KJ is a restaurant I would highly recommend visiting. With a wide variety of dishes and reasonable prices, it’s a great option for a unique lunch, dinner or snack in town.

Making Waves

Student raises money for clean water in Africa and Haiti

BY AUBREY BANKS [assistant editor]

Many people around the world don't have access to the basic necessity of clean water. Senior Ella Matthisse decided to take matters into her own hands by selling bracelets for a chance to bring clean water to communities throughout Africa and Haiti.

In order to raise money for people who don't have access to clean water, senior Ella Matthisse sells bracelets to fund the construction of reservoirs.

"I started selling bracelets around March. I've been doing it for a few months. So far, I've been able to raise \$1,200, which is really great for the cause. That amount is able to fund one whole natural reservoir, which is able to help one whole village made out of 200-300 people. The remaining money will go towards putting another reservoir in another village," Matthisse said.

Matthisse explains why she decided to sell bracelets for people in Africa and Haiti.

"For my senior project this year, I did a research project over clean water and accessibility because a few years ago I went to Haiti and I noticed that people weren't drinking clean water. They would drink from the same water that they were bathing in. I was shocked to see that because it's not a problem here, and that's where my passion began," Matthisse said.

To fully take action in helping people get access to clean water, Matthisse presented her research to administrators and teachers at the school.

"I wanted to do this for my research project just to learn about it because I knew it was a problem, but I didn't know all about the statistics," Matthisse said. "I learned that 2 billion people currently don't have access to clean water. I showed my presentation to some administrators and teachers, and they encouraged me to continue to do something about it so I decided to sell these bracelets and raise money to help put a well in or a natural reservoir that I could use the

money for."

Matthisse acknowledges that, while she can't fix the entire problem, she can start by bringing awareness to the issue, and to bring in more support.

"It's easy to learn the facts, but then you wonder how you are going to make a difference about it," Matthisse said. "Obviously, I can't fix the whole problem, but it's a start, having people realize that one of the leading causes of death around the world is that people don't have clean water. That is the reason why there needs to be more awareness about it. Also, just seeing the support I've gained from people from Crown Point and how excited they are to see a difference being made."

"Obviously, I can't fix the whole problem, but it's a start, having people realize that one of the leading causes of death around the world is that people don't have clean water."

- senior
Ella Matthisse

In order to bring awareness, Matthisse has done a lot with promoting her bracelets around the school and community.

"I've done a lot of social media posts that have spread the word about the bracelets, and also my friends have spread the word about it as well. CPTV has done a segment on this, and the Dog Radio in the morning has also talked about it before," Matthisse said.

Matthisse explains that she also works with an organization that hires people in Ethiopia.

"We found this organization who we have a personal connection with, and he goes to Ethiopia, which is in East Africa, and he puts in natural reservoirs where the water will come down the mountain and goes into the reservoir where it gets filtered so that people can come down and collect water from there," Matthisse said. "It's really cool because not only can it help 200-300 people in a village, it also allows the people to get sustainable clean water and prevent them from dying from the water that they are drinking that wouldn't be clean."

One of Matthisse's goals is to spread awareness about the issue, while also giving children in Africa and Haiti a chance to get a good education.

"Even though I already gained a lot of money for the reservoir, another goal would be to keep raising awareness and hopefully be able to travel to Africa and Haiti one day and see how it's helping people with my own two eyes," Matthisse said. "It would be amazing to see its effect in person. I feel like it's a big cycle. Some kids that are younger than us will travel miles a day to get dirty water, which is wrong. If they have access to clean water, then they would be able to go to school on time and gain skills to get a good education instead of spending all that time to get dirty water that will kill them. They will be able to go to school and be able to start working and making a difference in their village."

Matthisse hopes to have a greater impact on people by traveling to Africa or Haiti and educating them in the future.

"I hope someday I can help work for a nonprofit organization or be able to travel to Africa or Haiti and help make a difference and help people be able to live sustainable lives and live longer lives," Matthisse said. "I also want to be able to educate them. I hope to become a future educator as well, so if they would mean traveling and teaching at a school, or whatever else. I'm open to anything, but I hope I can make an impact on people."

■ Senior Ella Matthisse displays bracelets sold for \$2 to fund reservoirs in Africa and Haiti. "1:5" signifies that one in every five people are currently struggling to find clean water around the world.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ELLA MATTHISSE



■ On the left, a village in Africa gets their water from a well, which is also used as bathing and drinking water. Around 200 - 300 people in the village share the same well.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ELLA MATTHISSE

■ On the right, a new natural reservoir is built so the village can have clean drinking water. So far, one natural reservoir has been built, but there are plans to build more for other villages in the future.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ELLA MATTHISSE



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KAPTUR NOWACZYK

Sophomore

Q: What is something interesting about you?

A: I'm a self made thousandaire. I sell stuff off of eBay. I saw it off of TikTok. It makes a lot of money right now because everybody buys stuff off of eBay and Facebook marketplace.

Q: What activities are you involved in?

A: I wrestle.

Q: What are your summer plans?

A: I wanna go on a boat, be on my boat a lot, wrestle and do a lot of reselling on marketplace and eBay.

Q: What things do you sell?

A: I sold shoes, lawn chairs, literally anything. I'll go on this website where I can buy things in bulk, and I'll do a listing off eBay, but, yeah I've sold lawn chairs, shoes and scuba equipment.

Q: What are you looking forward to most in your junior year?

A: Wrestling. I think I'm pretty good at it. I want to get on the podium at state. You have to win the ticket round at the semistate, which is the placement round, so you have to win to get to the placement round. State is a two day tournament.



What Do You **THINK?**

What are your goals this summer?

"I would love to hang out with my friends and not have to worry about school."

junior Victoria Blachut

"I'm going to Disney the second week of June, Michigan the third week of June and then I'm working the rest of the summer."

senior Sam Gaiser

"I'm doing the summer show for CPHS theater, I will be completing summer gym and I will be going to summer camp."

freshman Raquel Ruffin

"I will be catching up on sleep and not stressing out about school."

junior Nathaniel Coronado

"I plan to go camping a lot throughout the summer."

freshman Bryce Zamojsky

"My plans for the summer are to go to work and then go to Florida at some point."

junior Maggie Cicero