



Team Michlig Takes Down Team Gress in Alumni Battle

By: Hanna Seidl

The Newman Catholic High School gymnasium was filled with familiar faces and friendly competition Saturday evening, January 7. The first annual Newman alumni basketball game was held to raise money for the Class of 2024.

The basketball game involved two teams led by Newman alumni and current staff members Paul Michlig, Class of 1996, and Jeff Gress, Class of 1995. Both Mr. Michlig and Mr. Gress contacted former Newman basketball players that they thought would be interested in playing in the game and started creating their rosters.

Anthony Noll, junior class advisor, said he thinks that friendly competition is important for people of all ages.

"I think the rivalry between Mr. Gress and Mr. Michlig [made] the game very exciting," Mr. Noll said. "It brings together former players and fans to support the school."

(Continued on page 6)



Cade Kimball (left) tries to shut down Brody Lemke's drive to the hoop. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)

Peppermint Dance Returns to Newman Gymnasium

By: Kaylee List

Newman Catholic High School held its annual Peppermint dance Saturday evening, January 14. The dance was held in the gymnasium at the school. This year's theme was "A Night at the Masquerade."

"I thought Peppermint was a success this year," said Suzanne Meyers, a Peppermint committee advisor.

Students paid \$25 for tickets, which were sold during lunch by the committee. Because the committee had a short window to plan the dance this year, they decided to hold it at the school and offer light refreshments instead of a plated dinner.

"I thought it was nice that we were able to eat on our own," said committee member Ava Sukanen.

Peppermint was organized by students and staff members. The planners included Ms. Fech, Ms. *(Continued on page 4)*



Lily Shields (back, from left), Evie Bates, Danisa Zenk, Lexi Gliniecki, Mallory Rozwadowski, Sidney Galang; Ashley Jankowski (front), Addison Puent, Lillian Bodenheimer, Molly Merrill, and Mel Severson pose for a photo. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)



The Red Hat

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History of The Red Hat

The Red Hat was founded February 6, 1951 by Bishop John P. Treacy and the first class of Newman Catholic High School. Originally the name of the yearbook, *The Red Hat* became the name for Newman's newspaper. The newspaper was published every month.

The Red Hat ran on-and-off for 55 years but released its last edition in 2006 due to lack of interest. From 2010-2012 there was an attempt to restart a version of *The Red Hat* in an online "blog" form but proved unsustainable due to a lack of interest.

In September 2020, *The Red Hat* was reinstated as a digital newspaper, combining both the traditional newspaper and modern blog styles from the past and released nine editions during the school year. A dedicated student staff continued the paper during the 2021-2022 school year, publishing eight editions.

The Red Hat strives to revive the spirit of Newman Catholic High School, bringing school pride and tradition back to the student body.

Psychology Class Offered as Second Semester Elective

By: Ava Sukanen

A unique psychology class is drawing in a variety of students who are eager to take a closer look at psychological disorders and mental processes. The course is being offered second semester at Newman Catholic High School by social studies teacher Ryan Moore and is open to all high school students.

Psychology student Molly Lang said she is excited to learn more about how people think and hopes to take away a lot of valuable lessons from the class.

"I'd like to be able to look at life from a different perspective," she said.

She said she hopes that taking this class will help her pursue a possible career as a detective.

"I think psychology will really help me learn peoples' minds better, learning about why people do the things they do," she said.

Junior student Alexis Repinski said she is eagerly anticipating when the class will go over psychological disorders later in the semester. (*Continued on page 5*)



Students attend their first week of psychology class with Mr. Moore.

Balk-Yaatenen Poses Triple Threat in Music Department

By: Molly Lang

Sophomore Camryn Balk-Yaatenen has loved singing and being a part of music ever since she was little. Last year, she decided to join three music classes at Newman Catholic High School. She is now in band, choir, and jazz band. She said she enjoys the learning experience of being in all three classes.

In choir, Camryn is a soprano, which means she sings the highest parts of songs. She also enjoys singing mezzo soprano parts. She started taking singing seriously last year when she started taking voice lessons.

In band, she plays a few different instruments, including, flute, piccolo, and piano.

"The reason I take all the classes is because I love music," Camryn said.



Camryn Balk-Yaatenen prepares to perform during a pep rally.

(Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)

During her 8th grade year, middle and high school choir teacher Patricia Rougeot wanted Camryn to join the mass choir, and she convinced her. Mrs. Rougeot said she noticed immediately how talented Camryn is and took her to

do singing lessons one on one during her study halls.

"Camryn has been doing voice lessons, so her training and skill is years beyond the average student," Mrs. Rougeot said.

Ginnie Mootz, band instructor, said that the Newman community is very blessed to have Camryn here due to her extraordinary talents.

"The first word that comes to mind when I think of Camryn is talent," Mrs. Mootz said. "The second one is dedicated."

Camryn is also involved in theater and has done three shows. Her next show will be a SpongeBob performance in March. She's had singing and dancing solos while performing. She said she loves performing and always has because she loves to see smiles on peoples' faces and know she put the smile there.

Catholic Schools Week Continues; Bishop To Visit Thursday

Catholic Schools Week began Saturday, January 28 and will continue through the week. Catholic Schools Week occurs every year at the end of January

and is a time to celebrate the power of a Catholic education and the value it provides to young people. Staff at Newman Catholic Middle and High School have planned a busy week filled

with a variety of activities for students. Be sure to check out the next edition for photos and articles covering Catholic Schools Week!

Monday, January 30 – Friday, February 3 Schedule of Events

Monday

Dress: Favorite athletic jersey, shirt, etc. and jeans
Activity: Guest speakers from the Community Outreach Task Force
Sandi Kelch & Amanda Ladecki

Tuesday

Dress: Comfy Day
Activity: Minute to Win It Games

Wednesday

Dress: Spirit Day and jeans
Activity: Bowling (separate events for middle and high schools)

Thursday

Dress: Dress your best
Activity: All school Mass with Bishop Callahan

Friday

Dress: Decades Day
Activity: Bingo (separate events for middle and high schools)

From the Editor's Desk

Students: Do you have a photo of a school activity that you'd like to see in the next edition of *The Red Hat*? Email it to 24hseidl@newman.k12.wi.us or theredhat@newman.k12.wi.us.

Masquerade Theme Makes for a Magical Night

(From page 1) Vardon, Mrs. Meyers, and student representatives from each grade. Peppermint planning was several months' worth of work. The committee met roughly every two weeks during community period in preparation for the dance.

"I think the Peppermint committee did a great job putting it together," said Ava Sukanen, a member of the Peppermint committee.

Jill Mabry took students' photographs as they arrived at the dance. A link was sent to parents and all high school students. If anyone was not able to access their photos, please contact Ms. Fech.

Many of the students who attended said that they

would prefer a different venue, but they said they enjoyed being able to eat on their own before the dance.

"I want to go to an outside venue for something new and different," Ava Sukanen said.

The committee is now working on planning for Prom, which will be held in April.



Juniors Matthew Meyer, Ava Sukanen, Hanna Seidl, Molly Lang, and Adam Krasowski pose for a photo. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)



Seniors Natalie Townsend, Kari Severson, and Natalie Brenner attend the Peppermint dance. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)

Physics Students Launch into New Territory

By: Kaylee List

In early December, high school science teacher Jon Smith's physics class used catapults that they made themselves to launch tennis balls in hopes of knocking down a cardboard wall. Mr. Smith cut wood he had at home into one-inch strips. The students' goal was to create a catapult with enough (Continued on page 8)

Wausau Elks Lodge Holding Essay Contest Opportunity

The Wausau Elks Lodge is sponsoring a United States Constitution Contest for any graduating high school senior. The contest consists of a multiple choice exam with 40 questions. There is also an essay question which is scored only in the event of a tie on the objective portion.

The Wausau Lodge has committed \$1,200 in scholarship money to the contest. The first place winner will receive \$600, the second place winner will receive \$400, and the third place winner will receive \$200. The first place winner will be eligible to compete at the state level where an additional \$26,500 will be awarded.

The competition will be held at the Wausau Lodge on the corner of Fifth and Scott Streets in downtown Wausau Sunday, March 5 at 1 p.m. No pre-registration is required.

If interested, see Mr. Hoffmann for more information.

Students Take Interest in Psychology Second Semester

(From page 2) “I love learning about psychological disorders,” she said. “I’ve loved it ever since I was little, and I just want to learn more about it.”

Alexis said she plans on pursuing a career in clinical psychology or profiling and hopes to continue taking psychology classes in college.

“I also want to take sociology too, and psychology can help me with that,” Alexis said.

Mr. Moore has taught psychology the past two years here at Newman, and he is looking forward to teaching it again this year.

He said he appreciates the flexibility of the subject and how many ways it can be applied to each individual’s life.

“Anything can be talked about in the context of psychology,” Mr. Moore said. “It’s about who we are as people and how we feel and how

we process emotions and how our brain helps us do that.”

Mr. Moore stresses the importance of teaching psychology to learn more about mental health, especially in today’s society.

“I think it’s extremely important to study psychology now in this moment where finally the barriers, or at least the stigma of mental health, is being broken down,” Mr. Moore said.

He said he is also appreciative of the fact that there are more open discussions now about what the “norm” really is surrounding mental health.

“We can talk about mental health issues and the way our brain functions, and the fact that our brains all function differently and that we are not all neurotypical or normal,” he said. “People that are neurodivergent are not the outlier.”

Mr. Moore also finds it important that his students understand that the class is only meant to gain an understanding of psychological processes and disorders.

“This is not a class that is going to teach you how to diagnose someone; that’s not your job,” Mr. Moore said. “If you see these things it is your job to help someone find help, or to get help yourself.”

Most of all, Mr. Moore said he hopes his students will be able to walk away from his class with something that they can apply to their own life.

“The biggest thing I hope my students take away from psychology is words to express what they are dealing with,” Mr. Moore said. “I hope they have, by the time the class is over, things in their mental toolbox to deal with whatever they come up against in life.”

Newman Gives Back

The Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin held a blood drive Friday, January 20 at Newman Catholic High School. The blood bank received 25 donations from students, staff, and even a parent.

Those who donated will receive a comfy day Monday, February 6.

The Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin is a community blood center providing life-saving blood products to hospitals and patients in six counties, including Marathon, Langlade, Portage, Taylor, Wood, and Columbia.

For more information on the Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin, give them a call at 715-842-0761 or visit their website at <https://www.bcnwi.org>.

Second Semester Kicks Off

By: Samuel Nelson

Many teachers at Newman Catholic High School said they are sad to have to end their first semester classes but are excited to see what the second semester brings. New classes provide teachers a chance to cover new material, and, in some cases, teach entirely new classes.

Many students said they like the classes they’ve picked for the second semester because they are laid back and similar to their classes from the first semester.

Other students, like junior Hailey Tlusty, said they like the classes they chose for the second semester because all of them are really challenging, and they like a challenge.

Many students at Newman said that all of their teachers are great, and they keep students engaged and focused on the lesson that they’re teaching.

“I love the teachers because they go right in depth and make the lessons easy to understand,” said junior Jed Blum.

Newman Alumni Return to Their Home Court

(From page 1) The score was very close for most of the game, but in the end, Team Michlig pulled ahead to a victory.

Although Mr. Michlig enjoyed seeing his team win, he said he thinks that reuniting alumni is what the night was about.

“It’s all about seeing some alumni come back into the building and have a little fun,” Mr. Michlig said. “We get to talk a little smack and raise money as we do it.”

Mr. Gress said he enjoyed seeing all of the alumni that came to play for his team.

“We are going to show them

how basketball should be played and take care of business on the court,” Mr. Gress said before the game. “The coolest part will be seeing all these guys.”

Josh Watson, Class of 2015, was invited to play for Team Michlig. He said he thought it was a great idea to get an alumni event going.

“It was a competitive game and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves,” he said. “It was a good way to reconnect with old friends and teammates.”

Josh played basketball for Newman all four years of high school (continued on page 7)



Josh Watson (Team Michlig) waves to the crowd during team introductions.
(Photographs provided by Jill Mabry)



Team Michlig and Team Gress come together after the alumni basketball game.

Alumni Game Is Successful Fundraiser for Class of 2024

From page 6) and said that it was nice to be back.

“It felt very nostalgic to be out on the court with old friends and playing in front of the crowd,” he said. “It was fun to hear your name announced and the cheering crowd when you made a basket.”

Another Newman alumni, Nick Thoreson, also from the Class of 2015, played for Team Gress.

“It was great to get back on the court with coaches and former teammates, many of whom I hadn’t seen in a long time,” he said. “The only bad part was how quickly I was reminded that I was not in

shape to be running up and down the court.”

Mr. Noll brought up the idea for the fundraiser to the junior class, and they started planning the event in November.

Junior Ava Sukanen said they wanted to do an alumni event because Newman alumni tend to stay close to their classmates even after graduation.

They are close because they were already a tight knit community in school, so a lot of them have kept connections,” Ava said.

The junior class worked closely with Athletic Director Joe Ackermann, the Advancement Office, and the Booster Club in preparation for the event.



Nick Thoreson protects the ball after a rebound. (Photographs provided by Jill Mabry)

The event included concessions, raffle door prizes, and 50/50 raffles, all run by students from the junior class.

Local talk show host and sports announcer Chad Holmes attended the event and provided the play-by-play during the game.

In total, the junior class raised \$2,500. The money will be put towards their senior class trip and other important high school events.

The Class of 2024 hopes to organize the second annual Newman alumni basketball event next year.



Mr. Michlig gives a pep talk to his team in between quarters.



Tyla McMullen (left) and Kati Goetsch embrace one another.

Math League Competitors Head to Stevens Point

Members of the Newman Catholic High School Math League Team will compete at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Wednesday, February 1. Students in geometry, algebra 2, or advanced math are able to compete by taking a test in their category.

Four students can compete in each category. There are three competitions throughout the year,

and each test is worth 100 points. The top three scores from each category are added to the total team score.

Members of the Newman Catholic High School Math League Team are freshman Addison Puent, sophomores Kaitlyn Barich, Nolyn Lindner, Chuexeng Lo, Owen Reeves, juniors Wasanodae Johnson, Adam Krasowski, Alexis Repinski, Hailey Tlusty, and seniors Natalie Brenner, Wyatt Gasper, and Kari Severson.

Catapult Activity Puts Physics Lesson to Practical Use

(From page 4) launch power to knock over a wall made of cardboard. The students had to create their own designs. The physics students were able to use the internet for inspiration with the building of their catapult. The students worked in groups of two or three once a week



Maria Christophersen (left) and Ava Sobolewski drill wheels into their catapult. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)

during November and December. It became a small competition between the classmates in the physics class.

“The catapults have a lot of elements of physics that related to our lessons in regard to force,” Mr. Smith said.

Mr. Smith said he plans to continue doing more hands-on work with all his classes to keep students interested. At Newman, it is essential that hands-on work is incorporated in the classroom. Hands-on work allows teachers to tie what they’ve learned into future lessons.

“When you teach, it’s important to have stories to reference back to,” Mr. Smith said.

The catapult lesson taught the students the application of Newton’s laws of force and projectile motion. Mr. Smith said that he often references the catapult lesson to give examples of the classwork.

The students found the project to be very time-consuming. The catapult project made the students appreciate physics class. The physics students learned how to use woodworking tools while creating their catapult. Some of the students found that using the woodworking tools was difficult.

“The project gave a practical aspect of learning physics,” Tomi Odeyemi said.

Girls Basketball Looks For Strong Finish to Regular Season

By: Paige Guld

The Newman Catholic High School varsity girls basketball team is closing in on the end of their regular season and has had many close and exciting games so far.

“It’s honestly sad the season is almost over,” said senior Maggie Wulf. “I’m only going to be tying up those laces for a couple more games.”

With only six games left before the postseason, as of January 31, the girls have a record of 9-11.

Senior Sidney Galang gave some advice to underclassmen and incoming freshmen.

“Enjoy your time, it goes by really fast,” she said.

This year, seven new freshmen were joined the team. Being an underclassmen, it can be scary joining a new team, but the freshman said the team did a great job of welcoming them.

“Team meals have made us all more comfortable with the upperclassmen,” freshman Molly Merrill said.

Even off the court, the team does little things to bring everyone together.

“Carpooling with them has let us (Continued on page 9)



Evie Bates plays defense in game against the Edgar Wildcats Thursday, January 12. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)

Newman Girls Basketball Prepares for the Postseason

(From page 8) get to know each other better, and there is always lots of fun,” freshman Mallory Rozwadowski said.

Luke Knoedler is in his second year of coaching at Newman, and it has been his most successful year yet. With five days in the gym a week, the team is practicing hard.

“Going into the second part of the season, we need to keep improving as a team and working hard to play our best basketball of the season,” Coach Knoedler said. “Our goal is to earn a higher seed than last year and host an opening regional playoff game in the Newman gym.”

The team focuses a lot on leadership and shaping the underclassmen.

“Good leadership is something we



Sidney Galang drives to the hoop against Edgar. (Photographs provided by Jill Mabry)

preach to all of our players and comes in many forms for individuals,” Coach Knoedler said. “Our senior captains have been asked to accept the challenge of

leading. We have a promising and improving youth program with many opportunities ahead.”

Maggie Wulf said it’s important to have a team that gets along, both on and off the court.

“Stick [together] as a team,” she said. “If you stick together all the way through, senior year will be very fun. Having that team chemistry is key to success.”

Remaining Schedule:

Thursday, February 2 @ Rib Lake

Tuesday, February 7 @ Marathon

Thursday, February 9 vs. Prentice

Monday, February 13 @ Bowler

Tuesday, February 14 @ Goodman-Pembine

Thursday, February 16 @ Stratford

*The WIAA Girls Tournament begins Tuesday, February 21

Mr. Smith Offers Intro to Engineering in Second Semester

By: Owen Sullivan

Newman Catholic High School has incorporated a new elective called Intro to Engineering into its course offerings. This class is being offered because it was requested by multiple students and is open to anyone.

This new class is taught by teacher Jon Smith. Mr. Smith has an extensive background in construction and takes a keen interest in engineering based activities.

With this class, Mr. Smith said he hopes his students learn basic engineering terms, technology, and mathematics to be better versed if they choose to pursue engineering.

Senior Thomas Bates said he was

very optimistic about the class.

“I am very eager to learn about the basic principles of engineering and the mathematics behind it,” he said.

Mr. Smith said he has big plans for the class, including a bridge project where they will build a bridge out of popsicle sticks and glue. To simulate the real world, Mr. Smith will give each group a budget and timeframe to complete the project.

Each popsicle stick and certain amount of glue will be labeled with a price. Senior

Matt Hamilton said he is excited for this project.

“I’m looking forward to the bridge building because it’s something that interests me,” he said.

Mr. Smith said he hopes that this activity gives students a realistic look into the life of an engineer.



Efforts Renewed To Enforce Dress Code

By: Ashley Jankowski

An announcement was made Tuesday morning, January 17, letting students know the dress code would be strictly enforced, causing a stir among the student body. They

were informed detentions would be handed out going forward for anyone not in compliance with the dress code.

Paul (Continued on page 10)

Mrs. Zollpriester Aids Alumni & Advancement Office

By: Eva Espinoza-Alamazar

Alexandra Zollpriester is the newest member of the District Office at Newman Catholic Schools where she works in the Alumni and Advancement Office. Mrs. Zollpriester is the Alumni and Advancement assistant where she handles deposits, credit card statements, mailing lists, and annual funds, among a variety of other tasks.

Before working at Newman, Mrs. Zollpriester worked for the Wausau School District as the administrative assistant at the WAVES virtual charter school as well as the receptionist at Wausau West High School.

I wanted to come to Newman because my daughter started daycare at Saint Therese and I really enjoy the community over there," she said.



Alexandra Zollpriester works in the Alumni and Advancement Office at Newman.

"We're Catholic, and I wanted to stay in that school system and education."

Mrs. Zollpriester coached figure skating for both Timberline and the Mosinee Silverblades for 13 years. Although she has stepped away from it this year, she still enjoys helping out by coaching a wide range of students from 3

up to 21.

"I did it all growing up [figure skating], since I was three years old," Mrs. Zollpriester said.

Mrs. Zollpriester shared some advice for current high school students.

"Enjoy your time here," she said. "High school goes so fast, and sometimes you can get hung up in the drama and whatever else, but just enjoy your time in high school because when it's over, it's over, and then you become an adult. Life can be tricky."

Mrs. Zollpriester said her favorite part about working at Newman is the people.

"I like the people, and how small of a community it is," she said. "I used to work for the Wausau School District which is very big, so it's nice to come here and have a smaller group of individuals and team members."

Middle, High School Students Reminded To Be Mindful of Attire

(From page 11) Michlig, dean of students, wanted to remind everyone what the requirements are for the dress code.

"The detentions come in when people don't listen and aren't being respectful," he said. "There is a standard here at Newman, whether it be dress code, on the athletic field, or after school activities."

Mr. Michlig said transitioning to uniforms would be the strictest way of handling the dress code. There has been an ongoing debate amongst faculty about whether or not to go to uniforms.

"Dress code is mainly put in place

for safety, but we also want to dress for success and look sharp here at Newman Catholic High School," Mr. Michlig said.

Students Evie Bates and Adam Krasowski said they are for uniforms because students would look sharp, and it would be easier to get ready in the morning.

"The dress code is well put together and definitely is geared toward student success," Adam said.

"However, I feel we need to call to mind its effectiveness.

If we are going to have a dress code that people don't follow, then

we need to change the dress code to compromise with the student body, or we need uniforms."

The full dress code can be found on the school website at <https://tinyurl.com/ajpuyjvp>.

Most common dress code mistakes

- ***Wearing hoodies on Mass days***
- ***Non-Newman logos being too big***
- ***Coats worn during school***

Boys Basketball Starts Off the Season Strong

By: Jackson Pfender

Coach Jeff Waldvogel started his first season with the Cardinals this year and is on a hot streak heading into the second half of the season.

“As we enter the second half of the season, my hope for the team is that they continue to grow as individuals and as a team, while having fun doing so,” he said.

Coach Waldvogel is very hard on his team and has high expectations.

“The team is experienced, talented and ready to face the challenges ahead,” Coach Waldvogel said.

The Newman Catholic boys basketball team is led by a group of experienced seniors, including Mason Prey and Eli Gustafson. These seniors have been through many ups and downs, including a coaching change in the transition from their junior to senior year.

With high expectations at the start of the season for the Cardinals, Coach Waldvogel has led the team to an impressive 14-2 record as of January 30.

As the second half of the season approaches, those same expectations remain.

“We really need to dial it in to secure our chances at a conference title, so we can hopefully take our run to the Kohl Center,” senior Eli Gustafson said.

The team hopes to make it all the way to the state tournament, which is held in Madison each year. “Our ultimate goal as a team is to compete in the state tournament,” Coach Waldvogel said.



Members of the varsity boys basketball team are Isaac Seidel (back, from left), Mason Prey, Liam McCarty, Eli Gustafson, Conner Krach, Coach Jeff Waldvogel; Aiden Spychalla (front), Jackson Pfender, Thomas Bates, Antony Hoffer, Matthew Hamilton, and Lucas Pfiffner. (Photograph provided by Newman Catholic Athletic Department)

Remaining Schedule:

Thursday, February 2 - vs. Chequamegon

Friday, February 3 - @ Rib Lake

Friday, February 10 - vs. Prentice

Saturday, February 11 - Platteville @ JustAGame Fieldhouse (Wisconsin Dells)

Tuesday, February 14 - @ Columbus

Friday, February 17 - @ Marathon

Saturday, February 18 - @ Stoughton

Thursday, February 23 - @ Stratford

*The WIAA Boys Tournament begins Tuesday, March 3

Sr. Carolyn Honored as A Pioneer for Women's Sports



Newman Catholic Schools celebrated 50 years of girls basketball Thursday, January 12, honoring the program's pioneer. Sister Carolyn Bronk. Sr. Carolyn started the girl's athletics program. At the time she started at Newman, there were no official competitive girls sports at the school. In the beginning, there was no funding available to pay coaches, so Sr. Carolyn assumed the role, coaching basketball, tennis, volleyball, and track and field. Girls sports have experienced many years of success at Newman Catholic High School thanks to her dedication. Senior Captains Sidney Galang (left) and Maggie Wulf presented Sr. Carolyn with a signed basketball to show their appreciation. (Photograph provided by Jill Mabry)