

EYE OF THE GALE

2021—2022

VOLUME 1



Winning Tradition

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Front Row: Brianna Allman, Lillian Wright, Bella Hershey, Carter Schorr.

Middle Row: Jaxon Delong, Alexis Fleshman.

Back Row: Trinity Kiger, Sydney Vanover, Abby Rushin, Ethan Masten, Laura Overby, Tiffany Ford II, Nick Wolfe, Peyton Scarbro.



2021 - 2022 LHS Eye of the Gale Staff



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Success Continues For the Gales

LHS boys cross country run to state

By C. Schorr, *Sports Beat* Editor

The Lancaster boys varsity cross country team won the OCC championship in dominating fashion. In the district meet, the varsity team of Kaiden Lanoy, Trevor Lanoy, Isaiah Lanoy, Colton Thress, Kaleb Stull, Jacob Koenig, and Adam Criser placed second out of thirteen teams, which qualified them for the regional meet.

The Gales went on to place third in the region which propelled them to the state championship where they finished their season by placing 9th in the state meet. They finished the regular season winning 6 of 7 invitational meets and defeating all but one of 91 teams.

Head Coach Jeff Koksall expressed that he believes this team is special.

"The 2021 team is very talented, but young and inexperienced in some respects," said Koksall.

"It can be frustrating at times, but the guys are getting stronger and improving steadily. This has the potential to be a very satisfying season."

Senior Kaleb Stull has been one of the leaders for the varsity group this season.

"My senior year has been a roller coaster, some days it's really easy and other days it's tough to keep up with everything going on in all the activities," stated Stull.

"This year is way more



2021 Boys Cross Country Team. Photo Courtesy of Koksall.

competitive than it has ever been before."

When asked what he will miss the most from his high school athletic experience he said,

"I will miss the coaching and my teammates. I've been in the program since my freshman year and you really do grow attached to the people you compete with," said Stull.

The Gales varsity group had many highlights this season, but the future looks equally as bright

for younger Gales. In the 9th-10th grade race at the Midwest Meet of Champions the first five runners to cross the finish line were all Gales.

"Our 'second seven' continues to improve and would be the varsity team at most other high schools," stated Koksall.

"The 1-2-3-4-5 sweep by this group at the Midwest Meet of Champions was awesome to watch!"

Lancaster had to fight through some adversity as well this season.

"The weather conditions have been difficult for all distance runners. The heat and humidity impacted our results and can be demotivating to some athletes," Koksall expressed.

"Covid illness and potential quarantines con-



Varsity Runners at Midwest Meet of Champions.
Photo Courtesy of Koksall.

tinue to be a risk we must manage.”

Coach Koksals has been the head coach for the Gales for 26 years.

“It is very satisfying to guide teams, providing opportunities for guys to improve, succeed and grow as young men...to support our athletes as they advance as far as their abilities will take them, including state, regional and national level competition,” Koksals said.

Assistant Coach David Comer who has been coaching cross country for four years explained what his coaching experience has meant to him.

“What has meant the most to me about being a coach is what a lot of teachers say about teaching, I

get a chance to ‘touch the future’ I hope in some way that I have made a positive influence on some of you guys that you will take with you and do the same,” said Comer.

“Every person, no matter if you run a 5 minute mile or a 10 minute mile in a race, feels that hurt and pain. All of the guys continue to amaze me every day with their willingness and drive to succeed not only in racing but in life.”

Up-and-coming sophomore Evan Rice battled injuries in his freshman year but has taken a big step in his second year as a runner.

“This year has been a real game changer for me. I have just broken through a major mental barrier. I

have gone from a middle range JV runner to a high JV and low varsity runner,” said Rice.

Evan Rice has learned a lot from the seniors and coaches this season.

“I have learned from my coaches that there are multiple ways and strategies to running a race. I have also learned a couple of things from my senior athletes, leadership during practice and in the race is very important to competing at our best.”

The 2021 season has continued the tradition of winning and will be one to remember for the Lancaster Gales Boys’ Cross Country team in the future.



Starting Stretch at Three Chreeks Invitational. Photo Courtesy of Koksals.



***Congratulations to the
LHS 2021 - 2022
Boys’ Cross Country team!
Way to be relentless!***

Gales Tales

Raising Cain at Lancaster High School New Animals and Veterinary Science Teacher

By J. DeLong, *Gales Tales* Editor

A new teacher, Lauren Cain, has taken over the Animal and Veterinary Science position at LHS. With her experience in teaching college classes, Cain brings a fresh perspective to the program. According to her it was sort of an accident that Cain found herself in a new career.

"Actually I wasn't looking to teach, it was a friend who contacted me about this opening and said it would be a great opportunity," she said.

Students are really glad that Cain took the chance and are happy that she is raising the program to new heights.

"Ever since we got Cain, the program has taken a turn for the better. Not only has Cain made an impact on the class, but on FFA, as well. This year we have over 25 members, whereas last year we had only a few," said LHS junior and president of the LHS FFA chapter, Bailey Senften.

Junior Mackenzie Dennis said that Cain is very organized with the animals they care for at school.

"She's understanding and helpful and it truly brightens my day to be able to care for and help the animals and learn about the animal industry," said Dennis.

"I love learning about how to care for different animals," said LHS junior, Allie Jurecki.

"We are working on choosing an animal-based job and investigating it."

Despite being new to secondary education, Cain has real world experience in animal science. Her

background includes a bachelor's degree in Meat Processing and Animals Science, and a master's degree in Animal Welfare which deals with the mental, emotional and physical health of animals.

"Ms. Cain brings a wealth of knowledge in the animal science industry with experience teaching at college level," said Scott Burre, principal of LHS.

The Associate Principal of the LHS Career Technical program, Caroline Davis, said Cain is a great addition to the LHS faculty because she has a passion for the course and wants to share that passion with students.

"Her experience as a vet tech and adjunct instructor at Columbus State made her a great candidate and we were so glad she applied and she was hired," said Davis.

Although Cain said she has life-long experience working with children and animals, ironically, she did not grow up with a family pet.

"Animals are just amazing loving creatures that really move people emotionally. We are so lucky we get to share our lives with animals, and I believe it is so important to care for them to the best of our ability."

"I would like students and staff to know that I have goats. Just kidding. Well, only sort of - I really am pretty obsessed with my goats!"
-Lauren Cain



New Animals Science and Veterinary teacher Lauren Cain and Elmer the dog.



LHS Juniors Allie Jurecki and Mackenzie Dennis.



LHS junior and president of the LHS FFA chapter, Bailey Senften.

Check It Out!

New LHS librarian makes a push for printed books

By S. Vanover, *Community Editor*

Look for new changes to the old library because Lancaster High School has a new librarian. Maria McDaniel, who has been with Lancaster City Schools for more than twenty years, wants to dust off the shelves and reboot the library. Due to COVID, the library was not being used fully by the student population for almost two years. Now more of a media center, McDaniel wants to encourage students to start checking out books again.

"I think the library actually needs to go a little bit backwards and start pushing the physical book. Technology doesn't need to be pushed anymore. It used to be that a big part of a librarian's job was to get technology integrated into everyday classwork - that we accomplished now we have to make sure we are getting books back in," said McDaniel.



LHS students Brayden Larson, Dylan Carsey, Kennedy Ross, and Amber Dosier.



LHS students Elena White, Lydia Serra, Katrina Costanzo, and Lily Palmer.

McDaniel said that her experience at LHS so far has been great and the students and staff have been welcoming and friendly. Her favorite part about the library being open to the public now is that students are excited to check out books again.

"Nothing gives me more pleasure than a kid coming into the library and asking 'Can we get books this year?' and me being able to say yes," McDaniel said.

The LHS library is more than just a place you can check out books. It is a working and collaborative environment. The English Lab, Math Lab, AP study hall, and credit recovery all use the library throughout the day.

Senior Lydia Serra said the

library has been a positive place this school year.

"The library has been a great asset for me this year as it has given me a space to focus and get my homework done," she said.

LHS junior Kennedy Ross said the stations layed out in the library make it user-friendly and she likes that the AP study hall is held there.

"The library is a very safe and comfortable space. It's quiet enough to be able to do any activities needed, but you have the opportunity to collaborate with your peers," she said.



Mrs. Maria McDaniel, LHS Librarian.

Junior Dylan Carsey agreed with Ross and said that the library provides a peaceful atmosphere, provides a quiet space, tutoring for English and math, and more.

"The library has impacted me positively because I do not typically have a quiet place to do school work at

my home," said Carsey.

"Given the heavy workload junior year has bestowed upon me, I am always thankful for the extra time to get ahead on my assignments."

McDaniel hopes that all students will take advantage of the library services, especially checking out books to read.

A Man and His Camera

LHS student's journey toward success

By A. Rushin, *Editor in Chief*

Craig Carpenter, the man behind the camera of the Lancaster High School broadcasting and Gales Wrap team, has been editing, and working with video effects for the last five years. His love first arose from creating content as a hobby.

Being as talented as he is, Scott Burke, the LHS broadcasting instructor believes that Carpenter has a future in directing or editing.

"You have to have a passion for film and video to make it in this field, and I think Craig definitely has that passion," Burke says.

One of his most famous pieces of art took place during the 2020-2021 school year when students were stuck being taught over zoom classes because of Covid-19 quarantine.

"Zoom quarantine was a rough time for many people," stated Carpenter, "One day I suddenly thought, what if I could make the meetings a little more fun?"

He used Zoom to create clones of himself who did various things in the background of his videos using Zoom's virtual background feature.

"I took to



Craig Carpenter's "Lights, Camera, Save!," competition cover photo. Photo courtesy of Carpenter.

Tik Tok to show it off and found the love did not stop," said Carpenter.

One of Carpenter's teachers, Clay Hartzler, an Algebra II teacher at LHS said Carpenter is very talented at creating videos.

"Craig helps to make people want to be engaged," Hartzler said,

"It's because of this that I know Craig doesn't just excel at cinematography," Hartzler stated, "rather that he excels at captivating an audience."

Carpenter also entered into competitions where he won cash

prizes; his first being a nationwide competition called "Lights, Camera, Save!," in which students created a short, informative video about finances.

His initial attempt, Carpenter placed first locally and won a \$250 cash prize. In his second, he asked all of his friends and family to come together and vote on his video.

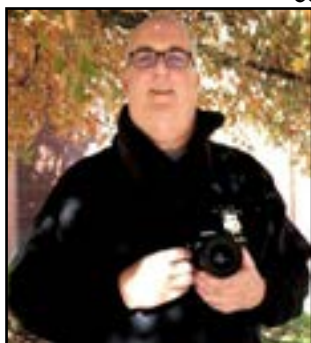
"With the combined effort of friends, family, and the school, my video managed to move all the way up until the final round with a mind-boggling \$5,000 prize on the line," Carpenter said.

Carpenter placed second nationally and won a \$2,000 prize.

Despite his successes and the attention, Carpenter is able to stay humble and continue doing what he loves to do.

"My goal has always been to entertain where entertainment is needed, and to keep on improving

through each project I tackle," Craig stated, "I was, and still am, just a kid who tries to make films with his phone camera and a decent computer in his basement."



Teacher Scott Burke. Photo courtesy of Burke.



Craig Carpenter. Photo courtesy of Carpenter.



Teacher Clay Hartzler. Photo courtesy of Hartzler.

Well Rounded and Drawing Attention

Talent and hard work leads to success

By L. Overby, *Editorial Editor*

Sometimes teenagers don't get enough credit. Eye of the Gale is making an effort to spotlight high school students who display outstanding talents and are role models for others. LHS junior Hannah Sheets is a good example.

Sheets has played tennis since fifth grade, and has been playing Varsity since her freshman year, and even with COVID restrictions, she shows that hard work pays off during the toughest of times. Sheets leads her team as captain and has the leadership skills to guide by example and to listen and learn from her teammates.

Head tennis coach, Gary Elick, has worked with Sheets since the fifth grade. After more hard work, Sheets and her tennis partner, Gracyn Gagni, finally served their long opponent, Picker-

ington Central.

"We fought so hard that night, and won in three sets! That was the highlight of my season, seeing our hard work paying off in that very moment," Sheets said.



Hannah Sheets' Artwork at the Emerging Artists Exhibition at CCAD. Photo Courtesy of Sheets.

"We were named first-team all-league honors in our OCC," Sheets said.

"She realizes that the most important parts of being human are the bonds you form with others, Elick said.

There is much more to Sheets' accomplishments and she demonstrates her talent in other ways. While off the court, Sheets shows her artistic side with music and drawing.

"I have been drawing for as long as I can remember, I never really thought of it as a passion until more recently. I have pursued it

with many different mediums such as writing, singing, and theatre," Sheets said.

Drawing is her favorite activity to share with others. As an artist, Sheets has inspirations and influences for her work.

"I look up to many talented artists such as Ramón Nuñez, Jen Zee, Ethan Becker, and Ian Worthington," Sheets stated.

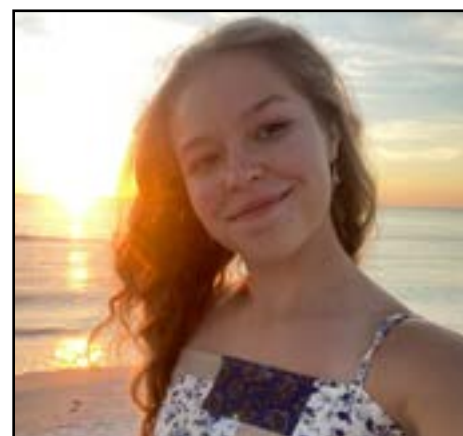
"Hayao Miyazaki's Studio Ghibli films are also a big inspiration of mine,"

Ever wonder how students like her are able to accomplish all that they do? Sheets has some good advice for students to balance school and activities.

"Never give up whatever you are working towards. Don't let the struggles you are enduring now stop you from what you want to achieve in the future."



Gary Elick and Hannah Sheets. Photo courtesy of Sheets.



LHS junior Hannah Sheets. Photo courtesy of Sheets.

Round and Round and Round, Again

School bus issues causing chaos

By T. Kiger, *Art Editor*

The wheels on the bus go round and round and round again. The words to the familiar children's song have taken on new meaning this school year as Lancaster City Schools has felt the negative impact of the nationwide school bus driver shortage. In Ohio, 90% of the state's 585 districts that provide school bus transportation have been impacted by the driver shortage and nearly 4% of the 15,000 daily routes carrying 750,000 students have been canceled this year, according to Doug Palmer, transportation consultant for Ohio School Boards Association (Cleveland.com 2021).

Nathan Hale, the Lancaster City School District Superintendent, said the district is trying to find a solution to the problem.

"We have had to change routes daily and in some cases made permanent changes to our routing within the district. We've increased our advertising for open positions, increased hourly wages

for full time and substitute drivers."

LHS freshmen Maggie and Marlena Davis said they are very frustrated with the problem.

"It's annoying. We have to sit three in a seat and sometimes the bus is so crowded, we have to wait for the second wave. One morning,



School busses make several rounds of routes due to a shortage of bus drivers.

we waited two hours for the bus to pick us up and missed some of our classes," said Marlena Davis.

"It's too loud on the bus and the student behavior is obnoxious," said

"It's a hardship on all of us and it's very stressful, and many bus drivers just don't feel appreciated."

- Cherie Fitz

Maggie Davis.

Kip Slater, LCS Transportation Supervisor, said the shortage of bus drivers also affects parents' work schedules, disrupts students' routines, babysitter drop off and pick up times, teachers, principals, and overall create unwanted stress for those who have to ensure the kids get to school."

As far as student behavior on the busses, Slater said the bus is an extension of the classroom, and the same rules apply."

"Drivers want to keep their kids safe and enforcing the rules on the bus does that."

Slater went on to say that the pandemic situation has exacerbated the bus driver shortage.

"COVID added a whole other aspect to being able to recruit, train and maintain bus drivers. COVID changed not only the world, but it changed the working world. The real issue is being able to hold on to those new drivers in a competitive job market."



LCS Superintendent
Nathan Hale.



Kip Slater
LCS Transportation
Supervisor.



LHS Freshmen
Maggie and
Marlena Davis.

But Cherie Fitz, who has been driving a school bus for 14 years, the last four with LCS, said that there is more to the problem.

“It’s a hardship on all of us and it’s very stressful, and many bus drivers just don’t feel appreciated.”

Another LCS bus driver, Mark Williams agrees with Fitz.

“It’s not really just about the pandemic. Drivers get tired and quit.”



LCS Bus Driver
Cherie Fitz.



LCS Bus Driver
Mark Williams.

Unpredictable and Uncertain

The times, they are a-changing

By N. Wolfe, Co-Communications editor

Crime rates are increasing. Coronavirus is still a threat. Businesses are facing a shortage of workers. These are just a few issues Ohio is experiencing. What do people expect will change in 2022 and beyond?

“I have no idea what will happen with Coronavirus. But I will say this about the state of businesses in 2022. . . until we as a country stop giving handouts for no work, including within our own homes with parenting and in education, we will continue to see businesses struggle to find workers. It’s time we start rewarding hard work rather than no work,” said Jared Stewart, a teacher at Thomas Ewing Middle School.

Others think that the world of business will also be different.

“I think that the business world will be forever changed. Many of the cor-

porate type jobs which used to occupy space in countless high rise buildings across the United States, will never fully return to this way of doing business,” said Jonathan VanLinge, Graduation and Workforce Development Coordinator at Lancaster High School.

“Similarly, many retail and food service businesses have found ways to replace their traditional practices, and reliance on apps and online ordering have now become the fabric of our consumer economy,” he said.



Image courtesy of Google Images.

“I feel that in 2022 we will see more focus on finding and training employees who are able to work and connect with clients and customers through alternate means as well as the broadening of the use of apps in lieu of actual persons in industries which can incorporate them successfully,” said VanLinge.

On a definite positive note, Teri Craiglow, LCS Office Manager Human Resources recognized that the future is unpredictable.

“I don’t know what’s going to happen in 2022, but I think it’s important to be flexible and maintain a positive attitude in our ever changing world,” she said.



Jonathan Van Linge



Teri Craiglow



Jared Stewart

The Beauty of Heritage

Traditions should be considered a healthy habit

By A. Rushin, *Editor in Chief*

Traditions can be found all over the world. They weave time together, allowing people to retain and pass down cultural beliefs, spiritual beliefs, and family's moral values. They also help people to create stronger bonds and connections, which is a key to happiness in human beings.

"Regardless of the setting, traditions are important because they connect you with your history and celebrate the memory of the generations that came before you," stated Doug Rittmeyer, counselor at Lancaster High School.

Holidays are one of the most important times for traditions to be celebrated; Thanksgiving feasts, Mardi Gras festivities, the Fourth of July being celebrated with fireworks, Groundhog Day and lights around a christmas tree are all traditions that have been celebrated for hundreds of years.

"Whether it is Fourth of July, Juneteenth, or New Years, traditions will help you connect with the

day or season, each other, and your past," Rittmeyer said.

According to VeryWell Family, traditions create a connection for children that comes from feeling like they are part of something unique and extraordinary.

Haley Walker, a senior at LHS, believes that traditions have an undeniable impact on children because they create positive memories with family that could last a lifetime.

"Every christmas my family opens presents at our house, watch a christmas movie and then go to our grandmas. We open presents while eating food and visiting with family," stated Walker, "it teaches a sense of community."

Kids who live in homes where family traditions are practiced are confident and resilient. In the



Photo courtesy of Google images.

face of whatever goes wrong in their life, they have family traditions to hold on to, said Science-Kiddo.

Senior Branson Lee agreed and stated that traditions are important for families because they allow family members to have fun together with no other family conflict.

"We go on trips and have family get-togethers where we all have fun," Lee said. "It has a positive impact on my nieces and nephews because they get to see what a real, happy family looks like with no other distractions."

Children find comfort and security when things are predictable and consistent; so, family traditions can contribute to a child's self-esteem and enhance their well-being (VeryWell Family).

"Having traditions is a good practice," Rittmeyer said, "when you have a strong connection with those around you, you have a stable emotional foundation and a safe place in which to express your thoughts and feelings, your hopes and dreams, love and gratitude."



LHS senior Haley Walker. Photo courtesy of Walker.



LHS senior Branson Lee. Photo courtesy of Lee.



Doug Rittmeyer, counselor at LHS.. Photo courtesy of LHS website.

Dentophobia

The inconvenient “tooth”

By A. Rushin, *Editor in Chief*

Anxiety toward the dentist is not unusual; in fact, many people feel anxious about going, whether it's routine or a procedure. Researchers at ScienceDirect have found that dental anxiety usually begins from childhood, leading to 75-80% of people carrying it through most of their lives.

Jennifer Lape, Doctor of Dental Surgery at Gentle Dental Care and 1998 graduate of LHS, has witnessed this fear personally.

“I think many people are scared to go to the dentist based on a traumatic experience at the dentist at some point in their past,” Dr. Lape stated, “I have specifically observed more fear in adults in the 50+ age group. Many had some bad childhood experiences often involving no use of anesthetic.”

A study done by Mayo Clinic says that good oral health, such as daily flossing and brushing, keep bacteria under control; however, without proper care, bacteria can reach levels that might lead to oral

infection, such as tooth decay and gum disease.

Fear does not have to stem from trauma, though, sometimes the dentist just causes anxiety because of discomfort, worry that something will need fixed, or the environment itself.

“It's an anxiety inducing thing - basically the setup of any dentist I've ever gone to isn't a relaxing experience,” said twenty year-old Maddie Nutter, Sophomore at Kent State University.

According to a study by Pediatric Dental Specialists, parents or guardians who are also afraid of dentists can pass that fear to their children; so, it's important to make people feel comfortable and at ease when they first begin going.

“For me, it is important to talk to patients about their fear and what exactly caused it. By understanding the cause, I can then talk to them about what we will do differently and how they can stop me if they



Art by Trinity Kiger.

need to,” stated Dr. Lape, “Giving some control of the situation back to the patients helps lessen the fear. I also just try to be kind and have compassion.”

A huge part of being a good dentist is the ability to make patients comfortable, regardless what work they need done and how scary it can be. With the proper care, attention, and trust, children are able to overcome their fear of the dentist.

“As a kid I was scared of dentists, but I don't really care now,” said Brayden Williams, a senior at Fairfield Career Center.

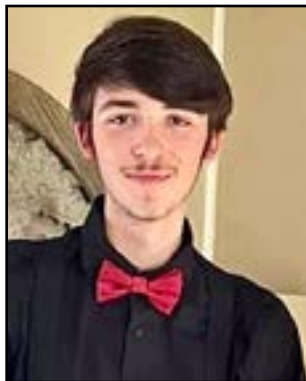
“Now that I'm older I realize that they go to college for it, so why be scared? I trust them,” said Williams.

According to a survey published by Study Finds, three in ten millennials only brush their teeth once a day and some admitted to going two or three days on average without brushing; yet, 56% express fear or anxiety over losing their teeth.

“If patients know you care and are trying to do everything you can to make it a positive experience for them, it helps,” Dr. Lape said.



Jennifer Lape, Doctor of Dental Surgery at Gentle Dental. Photo courtesy of Carrie Campbell.



Brayden Williams, senior at Fairfield Career Center. Photo courtesy of Williams.



Maddie Nutter, sophomore at Kent State University. Photo courtesy of Nutter.

Lady Gales Strive for Greatness

LHS girls cross country run tough all season long

By C. Schorr, *Sports Beat* Editor

The Lancaster girls varsity team ran an impressive race as they placed second in the OCC this season. In the district meet, the Lady Gales placed fifth and qualified for the regional meet. Runners included Amarissa Kerns, Liberty Sexton, Kailyn Lanoy, Riley Spangler, Ava Holbrook, Mackenzie Metz, and Zaylor Muck.

Head Coach Teresa Tripp has been coaching for nineteen years. She said the athlete have stepped up when needed.

"We have really pulled together this season. We have had many ladies work between varsity and JV spots. They have been willing to step up when we needed them to."

The Lady Gales also faced many challenges throughout the season.

"We have faced several challenges with illness and injury. This has really pushed the team to work together for the greater good of the team," said Tripp.

Next season the Lady Gales would like to make a championship run and compete in the state meet.

"We would like to contend for the OCC Championship and make a run for the state meet. We will continue to build a positive team culture and pursue greatness both on the course and off," said Tripp.

Senior Amarissa Kerns earned

1st team ALL-OCC honors this season as well as other awards.

"At our OCC league meet, I ran a time of 20:16 and placed 6th to earn 1st team ALL-OCC honors. This led me to become Fairfield Medical

Galadyk praised Annabelle Whitacre for her improvement this season.

"Annabelle came into the season with a negative outlook on cross country. She enjoyed it and wanted

to be there, but she did not believe in herself. The first month or so, she was not able to run a full mile without stopping to walk. Despite this, she continued to work hard and make huge

improvements," said Galadyk.

Sophomore Sarah Woo has had many highs and lows this season.

"I had a really rough season. My first race was great, I felt so strong and competitive, however, after that race, I developed shin splints and got really discouraged."

Woo then set a new personal record at the Backwoods Invitational.

"I set a new two-mile PR and I was so proud of myself, that race really helped me because it was a reminder that I could do it."

Sarah will focus on keeping a strong mentality throughout the next season.

"Next year I really just want to keep a strong mentality and not limit myself to what I think I can do. That's my goal every season because you have to maintain that strong mentality in order to be a good runner."



LHS 2021-2022 Girls' Cross Country Team.

Center Athlete of the Week."

Kerns described the challenges this season.

"I think we have struggled a little this year to stay mentally in it. Running can be seen as easy but running at the intensity and length that we do is incredibly challenging not only physically but mentally as well."

Kerns will always remember and miss her coaches and teammates.

"For many of us, the team is a second family. I've never seen a team with the team atmosphere we have," she said.

Assistant Coach Dianna Galadyk has been coaching cross country at LHS for eight years.

"I hope to not only guide them to be exceptional athletes, but also to be exceptional members of society," said Galadyk.

Maximum Effort Required

New LHS football coach audibles his gameplan

By Nick Wolfe, *Communications Director*

There is something to be said for tradition and new Lancaster High School head football coach Brian Schoonover wants to capitalize on the solid foundation already established. Following his debut year as head coach, Schoonover reflected on the recent season and his athletes.

"The best part of this team, for me, was they are great people. Every day they showed up to get better and they did. Everytime we pushed them they answered the call. I'm very grateful I was able to be a part of it," Schoonover said.

LHS senior and one of the captains of the varsity football team Sam Fink, said having a new coach was exciting and encouraged him to work hard.

"This season just had so much more excitement about it with a new high-energy coach getting us excited for the season, and covid restrictions were down so fans were able to come to all games, it was just a great season with a great team."

Jackson Burke, a 10th grade

quarterback and linebacker thinks it was a change that needed to happen.

"Coach Schoonover was the change Lancaster football needed and he makes football fun for everyone."

LHS sophomore, Dylan Bird, thinks Schoonover is an important part of the program.

"Coach Schoonover brings intensity and a drive to get better every day. He also makes practice fun and has a great personality. I look forward to the next few years and improvement to the team with him as our coach," added Bird.

Schoonover's first year as head coach was not as successful as he had hoped, but the Golden Gales faced a whirlwind of challenges during the season.

Some highlights of the football season included the teams first win against Olentangy. Schoonover was very impressed by Ajay Locke's performance; having to play both sides of the game so late in the year.

"I think our first win against Olentangy was a great night for the



LHS Head Football Coach Brian Schoonover.
Photo courtesy of Lancaster Eagle Gazette.

guys. We played well in all three facets of the game and were able to come out on top. Beating Newark in the 100th game played in the series was also a great night," explained Schoonover.

LHS senior, Riley Poston, who's been playing football since 6th grade, said he will miss putting on the gold helmet and running out on Fulton. He remarked on his last season under the guidance of a new coach.

"This season was different because we were more together as a team and actually had a bond and the energy was more positive and it was just a fun time," Poston said.

Junior Jack Brandenburger said

that he and the team are excited to begin preparing for next season.

"Coach Schoonover is a great person to have on the field and I'm looking forward to having him coach us in the weight room in the off season," he said.



LHS senior Sam Finck.
Photo courtesy of Finck.



LHS senior Riley Poston.
Photo courtesy of Poston.



Varsity teammates Jackson Burke, Jack Brandenburger, Dylan Bird.

All Heart - All Game - All Season

Gales volleyball team scores at OCC

By B. Allman, Staff Writer

Lancaster High School's volleyball team took second place in the Ohio Capital Conference. They also placed second at the Shaner-Wohrer and third at the Wayne Roller tournament finishing with fourteen wins and five losses. To top it off, senior Campbell Noland

reached two thousand assists, and now holds the LHS school record.

LHS senior, Ansley Baker, says, "The highlights of the season were getting second in the OCC and beating Teays Valley at home to win the sectional championship."

Overall, head coach Heather Ingram said the team established a strong team unity.

"We are a group of thirteen girls, and sometimes this can cause some friction, but they remain loyal to each other on the court," Ingram said.

The girls created solid bonds which allowed for strong teamwork.

"The team dynamic was very



2021-22 girls volleyball team. Photo courtesy of LHS Instagram.

strong. We had a lot of leadership with having eight seniors on the team," Baker said.

"They get along great, and support each other," said Ingram.

As a team, some athletes say that problems are bound to happen on the court, but how the team handles

ultimately helps on the court.

"I have also learned that being a team and being cooperative is the key to success," she said.

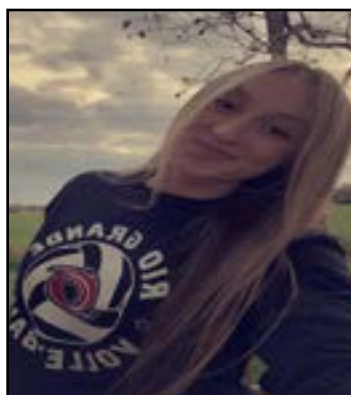
Next season will bring new challenges to the volleyball team as nine varsity players are graduating.

"I really need the younger players to step up. They will be filling very important roles," she said.

Baker, being one of the nine, says she will be continuing to play in college at West Virginia State University. "I'm excited for my first season as a college athlete," she said.

Being a Gales volleyball player is about more than just playing volleyball on the court. It is about bonding, making friends, and sharing lifelong experiences with the people you learn to trust.

LHS senior Zada Sharp, said, "My teammates and my coaches mean everything to me."



LHS senior Zada Sharp. Photo courtesy of LHS Twitter.

the problems is what really matters most.

"The challenge of the season was overcoming covid and dealing with adversity during the situation," Baker said.

LHS junior, Sydney Humbert, believes getting along off the court



LHS junior Sydney Humbert. Photo courtesy of Humbert.



LHS senior Ansley Baker. Photo courtesy of Baker.

LHS Girls' Soccer Kickin' It

Lady Gales brought the thunder this season

By L. Wright, Co-Photography Editor

The Lancaster High School girls soccer team finished off the season by breaking records for the first time in years and placing the highest that a Lancaster team has ever placed in the OCC. These girls had a packed season. Overall, the Lady Gales record was nine wins, six losses, and tied two games during the season and earned second place in the OCC-Buckeye Division.

"The season was very successful. Wins and losses aside, we developed as players, coaches and people. When confronted with adversity, we were able to take a breath and adjust to the situation. What is taken from sports should be able to be applied to everyday life. That is a truer measure of success," said head coach Brian Griffin.

In addition to a great team achievement, several athletes stood out.

"Olivia George was our leading goal scorer. Our offensive leaders were Olivia, Carmen Morris, Lily Palmer and Kara Weaver. They worked for each other and created a majority of our goals. Our defense was led by Maddie Green, who was a four-year starter. Maddie brought a wealth of experience and steadiness to our defense. She is always calm and collected," stated assistant coach, Kent Conklin.

"Sophia Martin and Avery Westbrook did an outstanding job in goal for us this year. They pro-

duced many big saves. Emmalee Do and Peyton Wilson deserve a lot of credit for their behind the scenes work," he said.

Sophomore Elena White and senior Carmen Morris dressed up in ninja gear at one of the games in which the Lady Gales were dominating.



LHS 2021-2022 Lady Gales Soccer Team.

"Our team was winning by so much that the coach took us out so the other girls could go in. So Carmen and I took this opportunity to mess around and decided to get dressed in our teenage mutant ninja gear to cheer on the team," said White.

Morris said this season has meant a lot to her and she will miss playing high school soccer.

"I'm pretty sad about it being my last year of high school soccer because I loved the atmosphere at soccer and I've really enjoyed getting to play soccer with some of my best friends," said Morris.

The team came across many obstacles but pushed to overcome the challenges and worked on their

team dynamics to persevere.

"The biggest challenge this team faced was making the girls soccer program and our culture what we wanted it to be. COVID and previous teams have had a negative effect on girls soccer," Conklin said.

The coaches play a huge role in affecting the team's game face.

"Coaching means having a positive influence on the lives of players and watching them transfer what was learned in sport to life outside of soccer is a great reward," said Griffin.

Conklin looks forward to the next season.

"The challenge for the next team is to keep things headed in the right direction. We will need to continue to learn about each other," said Conklin.

With an overlook of a terrific season and an even better one to come, the lady gales season has come to an end.



Morris and White get ninja'd up.
Photo courtesy of Conklin.

Deflected Season

LHS boys soccer team reset for next year

By L. Wright, Co-Photography editor

The Lancaster High School boys soccer team missed their goal of achieving a stellar season. They faced many challenges and struggled against some difficult opponents. Now they are striving to overcome these obstacles re-set for the next season.

Though they didn't have a winning season this year, Head Coach Graham Roan has confidence the improvement will continue in the next season, the team plans to continue to push to be better and ready for the next year.

"We had a few games that we should have won this year that did not go our way. We are also looking to improve our first touch and knowledge of the game," stated Roan.

"We play a pretty difficult schedule throughout the season, so

knocks and bruises are a way of life for the guys on the team. We have a difficult task of finding the balance of recovering after a tough game

we got a good win against Central Crossing," Roan said.

"We also saw improvement from a number of guys this year, which puts us on the right track for next year."

Rader and senior varsity player, Isaac Pallini, say they will miss the team and playing for the high school.

"The challenges I faced in high school sports changed my outlook on my high-school sporting career as every moment of frustration, pain, and hardship was worth it to me," Rader said.

"I feel sad that I won't be able to play with my friends and teammates again," Pallini stated, "But I am thankful for the opportunity I've had over the last four years to play on the team."

Despite a lack luster season, the team has high hopes for next year. New goals have been set.



LHS 2021-2022 Boys' soccer team.
Photo courtesy of the team website.

and practicing hard to prepare for the next tough game," said Roan.

"Soccer can be a difficult game. It requires a great deal of thinking and dedication."

LHS senior Andrew Rader reflected on his last season of high school soccer.

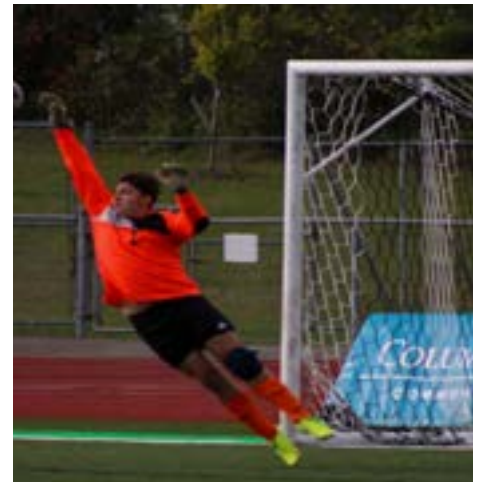
"Overall the men's soccer team struggled a lot this year to find success, but it's that struggle that I know I will miss the most," stated Rader.

One of the highlights of the season for the team was Senior Day. With practice everyday and a completely loaded schedule, a break every now and then is a good thing where athletes can be acknowledged for their accomplishments.

"Senior Day was an awesome highlight to the season. We were able to recognize our seniors, and



Rader in action on the field.
Photo Courtesy of Rader.



Pallini shows off his saving skills. Photo courtesy of Pallini.

The Best Season by Par

Patience on the green proved guaranteed progression

By A. Rushin, *Editor in Chief*

The Lancaster High Schools girls golf team defeated eighteen teams on their schedule including winning five dual matches and scoring a low score of 205 against Highland High School, making this year the most overall wins since 2017.

This season's scoring directly points to the team's relationship and the patience learned from Coach Thomas Stedman who is in his 23rd year of coaching girls golf.

"The team's dynamic is amazing, the group of girls and Stedman, are people you want to be around," junior at LHS, Kara Weaver said.

"They make you feel super welcomed, they are supportive, and some of the funniest people you'll meet."

Senior standout, Aria Griggs, has been competitively playing golf since fifth grade.

"This season was by far the best season not only because it's the best I have played, but because this year's team was more like a family," Griggs stated.

"Aria posted

an 88 at our second OCC tournament match which was our stand-out round for the year," Stedman said.

"I have learned from Coach Stedman that no matter how much you practice and how good you play

it can always go the other way, not to let it affect you and keep playing the best you can," Griggs stated

"It has taught me a lot of patience and how to keep my emotions under control."

A key factor in a good game of golf seems to be the virtue of patience; although hard to obtain, everybody is capable of practicing it.

"In golf, the challenge is yourself," Stedman said.

"Golf taught me how to be patient, that things can always get better even if it doesn't seem like it," said freshman Aubrie Bibler.

"I'm so happy I got to be a part of the team this year, it definitely has made the transition from junior high to high school so much easier

knowing they have my back if anything happens!"

"Every past and new year I learn something new about patience, dedication, grit and togetherness from my girls," stated Stedman.



Lancaster High School girls golf team.
Photo courtesy of Coach Stedman.

"Her consistency off the tee really shone through this year as she was honorable mention in our OCC Ohio Division group."

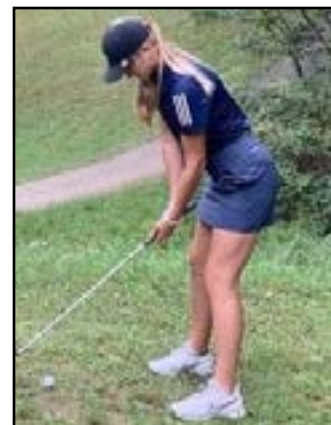
To be a great golfer, Stedman believes that avoiding frustration with the game, finding positives in the play and developing consistency is key.



LHS senior Aria Griggs.
Photo courtesy of Griggs.



Coach Thomas Stedman and LHS junior Kara Weaver. Photo courtesy of Weaver.



LHS freshman Aubrie Bibler. Photo courtesy of Bibler.

Staying on Course

The overcoming of adversity and adaptation to change

By A. Rushin, *Editor in Chief*

The Lancaster High School boys golf team excelled at the Bob Darwin Classic where they shot a season low of 314, had three players shoot in the 70s and shot a five year low of 326 at the Sectional Tournament with one player advancing to the District Tournament with a 77.

"We have all of our practices and matches at the Lancaster Country Club. Unfortunately, the Lancaster CC was sold," said Luke Truex, varsity golf coach of five years, "we are extremely thankful to Valley View Golf Club for allowing us to practice and complete our season there."

Despite the unexpected relocation, the boys adapted well and played the best that they could.

"This season compared to last was drastically better. As a team we played better overall and kept pushing each other to shoot better scores," stated FCA senior Issac Reif, "having no seniors last year helped us to all grow together going into this season."

Reif has been playing golf since he was a toddler and this season,



2021-22 Lancaster High School boys' golf team.

Photo courtesy of Senften.

he met a goal he always hoped he would. after placing third at sectionals.

"These past years I've put more time into practice than I ever have and it really showed this season," Reif said, "I am proud of making it to districts. It was something I had always wanted to do and being able to have it happen senior year was awesome."

Reif became the second player Truex has had in his coaching career who advanced to the District Tournament as an individual.



LHS junior Riley Senften. Photo courtesy of Senften.



Coach Luke Truex. Photo courtesy of the Lancaster High School website.



FCA senior Isaac Reif. Photo courtesy of Reif.

Senior Harrison Allen and Junior Riley Senften both shot 74's with Allen making First Team OCC and Riley Senften making Second Team OCC this year "I am proud that I have been able to break my previous season best of 82 several times," Senften stated,

"Next year, I hope to average scores in the 70's and make it to districts."

"This year was such a grind and I felt thankful for every time I got to be on the course," said Reif, "the golf course is one of my happy places, I'm gonna miss it."

Reif will continue to play golf in college but he will be missed by boys as he moves on to his next chapter.

"The senior athletes have taught me that no goal is impossible, but you must be willing to put in the work," Senften said.

"The best part of coaching is seeing the boys respond to adversity and grow in confidence throughout the year," said Truex, "so proud of the legacy they are leaving behind."

LHS Girls' Tennis Serves the Competition

Team shows they've got game

By P. Scarbro, Co-Communications Director

The Lancaster High School Girls' Tennis team experienced a lot of action on the courts this year racking up a number of accomplishments. The team finished with a record of 15-9.



2021-22 LHS Girls Tennis.

Photo courtesy of Mullins.

Four players made First Team in the Ohio Capital Conference; junior Hanna Sheets and sophomore Gracyn Gagne at First Doubles and sophomore Andi Green and senior Sarah Mullins at Second Doubles.

LHS senior Sarah Mullins, an All OCC Scholar Athlete said one of the best experiences she has had was playing with her partner, Gracie Stewart.

"Being doubles partners is a bonding experience unlike any other. I'm going to miss getting to play my heart out on the court while having fun with her," she said.

Mullins and Stewart finished second place at the Walkins Doubles Tournament. Mullins said that this was a great experience.

"Even though we didn't get first, Gracie and I played some of the best matches we played all season," she said.

"It was an amazing experience to see all of our hard work paying off and dominating on the court with her."

LHS senior Mallory Thomas added to the team's accomplish-

ments by finishing with a 17-4 record during the regular season. Thomas said this was the highlight of her season.

Thomas qualified for district in both her sophomore and junior seasons, but came up one match short of qualifying her senior year. She said that qualifying for districts will be her greatest memory of her high school career.

"I was extremely happy and excited to be able to go to districts as a sophomore and it was so cool to be able to play and watch some of the best players in central Ohio as well as the entire state," she said.

The key to Thomas' athletic success, she said, is working hard and believing in one's self.

"In tennis, you're all alone out on the court which means there's nowhere for you to hide. If you put in the work, you'll get good results, and if you don't put in the work, you won't," she said.

"Believing in yourself is also super important too because

tennis is such a mental game. Even if you're a significantly better player than your opponent but you're less confident, you'll more than likely lose, so it's super important to have a strong mental game" said Thom-

as.

Reflecting on the season, Elick praised all of the tennis players.

"All 24 of our players, whether varsity or JV, had their own outstanding moments this season. It's hard to single out just a few players when everyone worked hard throughout the season."

"I think our balance of strength on our team will be our biggest asset next year. What we need to improve on next season is our mental approach to the game" Elick said.



Sarah Mullins and Gracyn Gagne.
Photo Courtesy of Sarah Mullins.

LHS Field Hockey Takes a Hit

Winning attitudes keep players positive

By T. Ford II, *staff writer*



2021 – 2022 LHS Varsity field hockey team.

The Lancaster High School girls field hockey team has been through a lot this season. Between injuries, seniors hanging up their jerseys, and people needing to quarantine, they've been in a tight spot. Despite this, the team has continued to stay positive and those who were injured helped by encouraging their team from the sidelines.

"I spent a majority of my time cheering on my team from the sidelines because of a heart abnormality they accidentally found from my physical," said senior Jada Sharp. Fortunately, Sharp had a change of luck.

"After a handful of tests they found that it was not going to be

dangerous for me so I was blessed to be able to play the last five games of my season."

The team doesn't just have positivity going for them. They also work well together and are always open to improving. Senior Audrey Knight loves the way her teammates interact.

"Dynamically the team was good; we worked well together, always tried to stay optimistic, were committed to the game, and were open in our communication if there were any problems," Knight said.

But there's always room for improvement. Allie Locke, a sophomore at LHS, believes this season didn't accurately represent the potential of her team.

"Our statistics at the end of the season did not represent how well we improved throughout the season," stated Locke.

"We focused every day to improve our hustle and effort at practice and games. This year's senior night was hard to watch."

Locke also expressed that she's a little worried about this year's

seniors leaving.

"It was hard to realize that they were graduating this year. The seniors this year have helped me a lot in field hockey."

Head coach Allison Kinniard said she is feeling excited to show the team's improvement next season.

"Next season we will be young again but will have a lot more experience than we did this season."

Although the past season wasn't as successful as the team had hoped, they recognized the value of continuously encouraging their teammates, especially the underclassmen, which really shows good sportsmanship.



LHS senior Audrey Knight. Photo courtesy of Knight.



LHS Field Hockey team huddles up at a game. Photo courtesy of Locke.

Lord of The Rings Prequel

TV series slotted for 2022 release

By E. Masten, *Entertainment Editor*

A new Lord of The Rings prequel by Amazon has recently finished filming. Information including writers, directors, actors, and much more has been released over the three years since it was announced, building both suspense and excitement for Middle Earth fans.

Eager Lord of the Rings fans will still have to wait nine long months to see the first episode. The season is set to premier on September 2, 2022. Fans may be wondering what the characters be like, and whether the beloved wizard Gandalf makes an appearance.

Canal Winchester resident, Matt Dwyer hopes the new series will live up to the mystical level of the original books.

"With a glut of nostalgia re-makes and reboots in Hollywood, I hope Amazon does it's due diligence in staying true to the source material of Tolkien's original books," said Dwyer.

The setting takes place during the second age, thousands of years before The Hobbit and Lord of The Rings which take place in the third age and include the Misty Mountains, the Shire, the Island Kingdom of Numenor, and the elf capital of Lindon

(theonering.com). With a budget of \$450 million, the first season is reportedly the most expensive first season of television ever produced. The show has been approved for a

and I would rather have it later and it be super good than having it now and it just is ok," he said.

Two directors confirmed so far for the series are Swedish-French director Charlotte Brandstrom of The Witcher, and Spanish director J.A. Bayona of Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom. The writers behind the series are confirmed to be J.D. Payne of Star Trek: Beyond, and Jungle Cruise, and Patrick McKay also of Jungle Cruise.

"They both wrote Jungle Cruise and I wasn't a

huge fan of it. I hope that they put together a more serious and less cheesy show" said Carlucci.

Techradar.com reports that at least 39 actors have been casted and at least one familiar character, Galadriel will appear as a much younger elf.

Rogers said his expectations for the series are high.

"Honestly, this is the first time hearing about the show and I'm excited about it. There's not much known about the time period so it all depends if it flows into the main story."



The only released frame of the upcoming Lord of the Rings TV series debuting on Amazon Prime in 2022. Photo courtesy of BBS.

minimum of five seasons, each with eight to ten episodes (Esquire).

LHS senior Gage Carlucci, another Lord of The Rings fan is eager to see the new LOTR series.

"I wish it would come out right now but I understand why the release date is as far away as it is,



Matt Dwyer.
Photo courtesy of Dwyer.



Gage Carlucci.
Photo courtesy of Carlucci.

Squid Game Plays With Important Topics

Netflix hit new TV show touches on necessary themes

By L. Overby, *Editorial Editor*

Squid Game reminds everyday people of the effects of capitalism on the working class. These topics and the show all together are heavy and raw with its execution. Children as young as six are watching Squid Game, even with its TV-MA rating according to The Guardian.

Rachael Culver, a senior at LHS explains plot of Squid Game.

"Squid Game is a TV show about many people in South Korea who are suffering and desperate to get out of debt. They enter a competition full of deceiving children's games which turn out to be deadly," she said.

Squid Game elaborates on topics such as sexual assault, debt, gang violence, the elite, and poverty.

One of the main characters includes Number 067, Kang Sae-Byeok, a North Korean defector who joins the Squid Game to earn

enough money to bring her family together. Another character, Number 001, Oh Il-nam begins as an innocent old man, but is later

at LHS took a liking to 067 and 001.

"I found myself becoming very attached to players 001 and 067 and was so nervous while watching the show and hoping nothing bad would happen to them," Said Castle.

"My favorite character was Ali, because he showed innocence. He teaches that it is okay to be genuine, but to never let that kindness make you easily

manipulated," Culver said.

"I don't think that children should be exposed to this show because it can be graphic at times," Culver said.

"Its not fair for controversy to spark from children watching a show that's not for them," Castle said.

People have different opinions on Squid Game's content and how life is portrayed in the show, but nonetheless it has left a major impact on audiences.



Netflix's popular TV series, Squid Games.
Photo courtesy of Google Images.

revealed as the mastermind behind the games. Number 199, Ali Abdul, a Pakistani migrant worker in South Korea is exploited as a victim.

Emma Parsley, a junior at LHS was fascinated with one of the female characters.

"Kang Sae-Byeok's backstory and character development is amazing and you emotionally stick with her until the end," Parsley said.

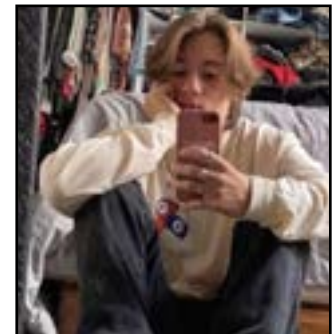
Cameron Castle, a sophomore



Photo of Rachael Culver.
Courtesy of Culver.



Junior Emma Parsley.
Photo courtesy of Parsley.



LHS sophomore Cameron Castle.
Photo courtesy of Castle.

Grateful Dead Fans Alive Again

Dead and Company Tour met with excitement

By E. Masten, *Entertainment Editor*

Dead and Company recently played in the Cincinnati Ohio Riverbend Music Center in September of this year. The concert was met with some mixed, but ultimately pleased reactions. Some COVID precautions were taken as fans were required to show vaccination cards upon entry.

"The energy was crazy, the music was loud and sounded great, and it was an overall awesome first concert," Quincy Lehman, a student at Lancaster High School said.



Quincy Lehman.
Courtesy of
Lehman.

Michael Stagner of gratefulweb.com said, "The band seemed to dial in with each other's playing more with each song, and while the first set was composed of shorter songs without much jamming, their versions of Loose Lucy, Mr. Charlie, and Looks Like Rain were all well received, well played, and excellent additions to the setlist."

Dead and Company, or Dead & Co. is the subsidiary 'Grateful Dead' group with John Mayer formed in 2015 long after Jerry Garcia's passing. Garcia was the frontman, and leading creative force of the Grateful Dead, who's role was taken over by successful



Dead and Company on stage. Courtesy of citybeat.com.

solo rock guitarist John Mayer when Dead & Co. formed.

Long-time DeadHead, Kendra Smith said, "I think those are some BIG shoes to fill. John Mayer is very talented but I don't think I can compare him to Jerry Garcia. He fits in well with Dead and Company though and I really do love his voice."

"The energy was crazy, the music was loud and sounded great, and it was an overall awesome first concert."
- Quincy Lehman

Another long-time DeadHead, Matthew Ward said, "John Mayer has tapped into Jerry Garcia's circling blues heavy licks. He gets it but expands on it without making the songs too Blues jammy which is a risk because he is a blues player."

On COVID concert going, Ward said "Since they had precautions to get in it made it feel a little safer. Although it was a little too packed

for my taste."

Smith, also on COVID concerts, said, "I'm so happy concerts are happening again. The virtual shows are great but it's not the same as being there in person."

Surrounding Dead & Co. concerts is a large group of vendors known as 'Shakedown Street,' or simply, 'Shakedown' that sells Dead merchandise, tie-dye apparel, accessories, and other goods in that vein.

On Shakedown, Smith said, "You never know what you're going to find or see in the lot and that's what makes it so great. I love the fan art and the overall feel of knowing that these things were made by fans and that purchasing it helps them in their travels. As someone who makes art myself, I can appreciate that. I always value the interactions I have with the artists and treasures found in the lot."



Kendra Smith, right, and Zac Schoonover, left, at the concert. Courtesy of Smith.

Stagner also on Shakedown said, "You could almost feel a palpable passing of the torch from parents to their children as they proudly guided them down the rows of vendors, welcoming them into the sweaty, tie dyed and sunburnt world of a summer tour."

Dear Freshmen

How to survive in high school

By I. Hershey, *Print and Website layout editor*

The freshman class this year has had a hard time getting used to their first year in high school due to COVID and adapting to high school in an untraditional way. Making a successful transition from middle school into high school can be difficult behaviorally and academically. Research by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln show that behavior problems, suspensions and expulsions are higher in ninth grade than any other high school grade level.

Eye of the Gale sought out advice from teachers and upperclassmen to help the newbies get a grip on how to conduct themselves in high school.

One senior who has experienced the stress and anxiety of being a newbie in high school shared some words of wisdom.

"Some advice I have for the freshman would be to join some extracurricular activities! The biggest thing for my growth over the last four years has been being involved. I've grown up and I made friends who were older than me that helped me stay grounded," says senior at LHS, Emily Lundy.

Staying motivated to participate in class and stay current on assignments can be challenging. Senior Jo-

nah Hoffmann-Weitsman said looking toward future goals helped him succeed during his high school career.

"The biggest piece of advice that I would give to the freshman class is to use your future aspirations for motivation in the present," said senior at LHS, Jonah Hoffmann-Weitsman.

While in high school, making friends and communicating effectively with teachers can be very helpful. LHS teacher Mr. Stedman reflected on the importance of making connections with others.

"My advice would be to take the time to develop healthy relationships with your classmates and your teachers," said Stedman.

"Classes and information will come and go, but the friendships that you can develop and nurture during these four years at LHS will most certainly outlast anything that you may learn"

Strategies such as using individual folders for each course, using a calendar, setting reminders, and



consistently checking their school email accounts will help freshmen stay organized.

"Without looking at the big picture, schoolwork can seem mundane and pointless. By focusing on future goals, it can provide reason to behave well and work hard," said senior Jonah Hoffmann-Weitsmann.

Overall, high school has its ups and downs, but freshman can make the most out of it by following

school rules, behaving in a mature fashion, getting involved in clubs and sports, making friends, and bonding with teachers.

Get going, freshmen! It's time to

Gale-up.



Emily Lundy, LHS senior
Photo courtesy of Lundy.



LHS teacher Mr. Stedman
Photo courtesy of Stedman.



LHS senior Jonah Hoffmann-Weitsmann
Courtesy of Hoffmann-Weitsmann.

Following the Stars

Fans fight for celebrities' issues

By A. Fleshman

The boy band, Why Don't We, recently accused their manager of mental and financial abuse and their fans are showing support for them on social media. Not too long ago Britney Spears' fans were up in arms protesting in the streets to support the celebrity in her court battle to dissolve her conservatorship.

Spears credited her fans for "saving" her life. The question is, why do fans care what happens to celebrities in their private lives?

LHS freshman Riley Bubeck said that she thinks people care about celebrities like Spears because their music makes them feel as though the singer-songwriter understands what they themselves could be going through.

"They learn who people are through music and care about them as a person mostly because of how they make them feel," said Bubeck.

Another freshman, Allie Thompson agrees.

"People on social media feel like they know celebrities since some celebrities post everything that happens in their life. People who spend a lot of time on social media know a bunch of information about



A Britney Spears fan protests in favor of her financial freedom. Photo courtesy of Google Images.

these celebrities," she said.

"People all around the world unintentionally tend to create a parasocial relationship with famous singers and entertainers when they feel that they can relate to them in a specific way that makes them feel mentally and emotionally secure," according to Vicky Brooks of York College of Pennsylvania (2021).

So when fans can communicate with celebrities by posting com-

media her disgust with the legal system, many fans expressed their emotional support for her.

"Many people care about the Britney Spears situation because a human is being dictated over their life," said Mrs. Marsh, a student teacher in the art department at Lancaster High School.

During Spears' court trials #freebritney surfaced on Tiktok and accumulated over two billion views. Many people under the hashtag created conspiracy theories about the conservatorship and questioned what else Spears may be experiencing unknown to her fanbase.

"They see how celebrities have the same life problems and emotions as we do and they connect to

the celebrity as they would a regular person," said Bubeck.

On the flipside, some people deliberately avoid

becoming emotionally attached to a celebrity.

"I don't care about their personal life because it takes too much time, it's weird and not interesting to me," said freshman Jayauna Latham.



LHS freshman Riley Bubeck. Photo courtesy of Bubeck.



Mrs. Marsh, student teacher at LHS.



LHS freshman Allison Thompson.



LHS freshman Jayauna Latham. Photo courtesy of Latham.



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