

The



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Fenton Welcomes Five New Members to Board of Ed

By Emily Patterson

Five new Board of Education members have been elected and seated on the Fenton High School District 100 school board. The election, which took place early in April, resulted in the newly-elected Board members Patty Jalowiec, Mary Ann Payton-Howell, Oronzo Peconio, Juliet Rago, and Jacci Ramirez joining Laura Wassinger and Paul Wedemann, two holdover members from the previous Board of Education.

The election was preceded in one of the largest board meetings seen in recent years in over a decade in District 100, the main topic of which was a new contract for superintendent-to-be James Ongtengco.

As well, many community members were surprised to see Fenton staff canvassing neighborhoods in support of the new candidates weeks before the election.

English teacher Patrick Escobedo was one of the staff supporters of the new board members and said that he found it important to campaign "because the teachers at the school want to partner and collaborate with all of the stakeholder groups involved in educating [students]. We wanted to help the then-candidates for the school board spread their message that they were also committed to communicating and working everyone involved with the educational process for the betterment of Fenton students and the Bensenville and Wood Dale communities."

In the wake of the election, Escobedo said that he is "excited for

[the new board members] and grateful for their willingness to serve."

At the April 24th Board of Education meeting, the previous Board turned over responsibility to the new members who were then sworn into service. Former Board President Mary Ribando was not in attendance at the meeting. After the new board members were sworn in, an election among the board members was held for the positions of president, vice president, and secretary. After much deliberation and several rescinded votes and denied nominations, Oronzo Peconio was named president, Paul Wedemann was named vice president, and Patty Jalowiec was named secretary.

After the nominations, Peconio made a statement thanking his runningmates and committing to working "as a team for the good of the

students, the community, taxpayers, administration, and everybody else."

This was a statement that Escobedo was particularly in support of.

"The new board members have expressed interest in communicating and collaborating with students, parents, staff members, and administrators to do the important work of providing the best education we can to our students," said Escobedo.

"I am super-excited for the opportunity to work more collaboratively with everyone. I think the different perspectives the board wants to incorporate will bring creativity and vitality to the challenges and opportunities facing Fenton."

Fenton Education Association president and science teacher Mike

Laudermith read a statement and said, "The faculty of Fenton High School look forward to starting a new relationship with the BOE, working with you over the coming years to set district improvement goals, improve communication among parents, staff, and community members, and create even more opportunities for our students to achieve."

Peconio finished the meeting by saying, "Fenton has embarked on a new...endeavor...I'm looking forward to working with all of you... So let's work together, and we're going to have a better Fenton, a better studentship, and also a better community."

Newly-seated board member Jacci Ramirez may prove to be a familiar face to students and the community. She is a retired bus driver who worked at Fenton for 18 years and for Bensenville School District 2 for 10 years.

She says she is looking forward to "working together and being a positive board of education member to serve in the best interests of students, the community, teachers, and support staff."

Juliet Rago, another newly-elected member, has a daughter who is currently a senior, a son who is a sophomore, and a son who will come to Fenton in two years.

She says, "I would like each student at Fenton to have the best learning environment possible. Whatever I can do as a school board member to make that possible is my goal. To that end, I will work alongside administration, students, faculty, community members, and my fellow board members."



Back row left to right: L. Wassinger, P. Wedemann, J. Rago & P. Jalowiec
Front row left to right: M. Payton-Howell, O. Peconio & J. Ramirez

Photo courtesy of Carol Smith

Inside This Issue

Fenton's New School Song.....2

Senior Photo Opinion.....2

Editors Say Goodbye.....3

Fenton's New School Song.....3

Fenton's Finest Banquet.....4

Baseball Successes.....5

Boys' Tennis.....6

"What are you excited for as you graduate high school?"

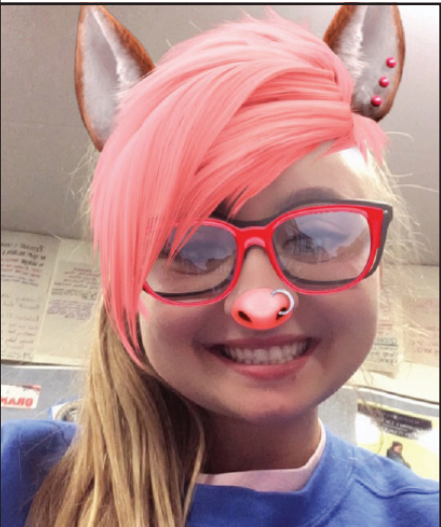
By Emily Patterson



Andres Barrigas-Castillo: "Being able to party on the weekends"



Kacper Malysa: "Sleep."



Carli Benn:
"Meeting new people and having more free time than I ever did in high school."



Melissa Reyes:
"I'm excited to spend more time with my family since school really limited the time I got to see my parents with their busy schedules."

Choir Commissions School Song

By Gabrielle Molinaro

A school song should encompass the image of a helping community that is united and unique. A school song should highlight the individuality of each student. That is exactly what our new song does!

"We Are Bison Pride" is a song composed by Douglas Orlyk, the choral director at Blackhawk Middle School who also works on Fenton musicals. Fenton was given a grant to create this piece, so choir director Serey Williams sent out a Google Form to the choir students over summer break. Everyone contributed to the making of the song by sending in their own thoughts and opinions on what should be included in the song.

After asking Williams how she felt when the grant was approved, she said, "I applied for the grant last spring. I was very excited to hear that the Bensenville Arts Council had approved it." Williams could not have said it better when asked to comment on why she wanted the students involved in the making of the song when she said, "From the origination of the idea to have a school song commissioned I wanted the students to be a part of the process. FHS belongs to the students, and I wanted the song to reflect that. It was so amazing to hear all of the ideas that the students came up with."

For many, this school is definitely a comfortable environment where students can grow and learn with one another. So, of course when asking Williams what message everyone should take away from the song, she told me, "I think the biggest message is that of Bison Pride and the sense of community that the students feel." In the song the lyrics tell us "We are Bison Pride, we're a community of you and me."

If you are interested in hearing the new school song performed live for the first time, come to the choir's spring concert, May 8th at 7:00 PM.

2017 Prom Promises to be "Met Gala Extravaganza"

By Zoe Wilkens

Designer couture, flashing cameras, and a red carpet experience; this opportunity to live the celebrity life for a night and bask in the world of high fashion will only be experienced at Fenton's Met Gala Prom. Prom is always seen as something seniors go to, but it's not exclusive to only being a senior event. This year on May 13, both juniors and seniors will gather at the Avalon Banquets for a Met Gala extravaganza.

There will be photographers, paparazzi, red carpet backdrops, and an overall red carpet arrival to greet the guests as they walk in. To add to the high life experience there will be gourmet foods, sophisticated scenery aspects, and an exquisite dessert table. Of course it wouldn't be complete without the music and this year there will be a DJ including lasers, intense speakers, and a variety of lighting effects, along with the music everyone loves chosen by the students! This year's 2017 Fenton Met Gala Prom will be a good one for the books and we hope to see you there!

Class of '17 Donates Path With Hopes for Additions

By Gerardo Garcia

By now everyone has noticed the new brick pathway in the senior courtyard. The pathway was made over the course of spring break, mostly by student volunteers who became very familiar with different kinds of shovels and bending with their knees.

The pathway was part of the senior gift from the class of 2017. Senior class advisor Ranjana Rajendran said, "We knew that seniors every year give a gift to the school, so our goal was to present a garden to the school. Unfortunately, because of the construction that had happened, we couldn't start on our pathway until this year."

During the planning, Rajendran and the senior student council decided that "the pathway would be the best use of our money because that kind of starts the whole process. If any other organizations want to, they could put something in the courtyard and make it an actual functional space for learning as well as for being in nature."

Rajendran also said, "I want to give a shout out to Anye White who's on council but he did a lot of the organizing for the event. He did a great job of making sure that the event was managed successfully."

Whyte said that during the project, "We just have some more work to do, we've got a lot of work accomplished very quickly, especially with the help of the class of 2017 and everyone else who volunteered."

Rajendran also commented, "I was blown away with the amount of work that students were willing to do for this. I didn't realize how much work it was gonna be, then the fact that students actually stepped up was very inspiring for me as a teacher."

As far as the future of the courtyard and the pathway, Whyte said, "We're hoping that the future classes add on to this pathway. Maybe add a garden or add trees. We have some leftover money so maybe we could contribute some plants, some trees, maybe one or two.... Before the end of the year and we talked to the other classes about it so they have the whole year to decide if this is something that they're interested in. We really encouraged it. We can make the community and the school a very nice welcoming environment."



Photo courtesy of Stephanie Jackson

Garcia Says Goodbye



By Gerardo Garcia

To start, I've had a lot of fun with *The Signal*. *Signal* was one of the first things that I did at Fenton that helped me grow as a person. It pushed me to go to a lot of the school events I usually wouldn't go to, interview teachers and students I hadn't met before, and allowed me to work on my writing. It helped me be proud to put my name on it. Of course there are so many other experiences that I wouldn't trade for anything: choir, musical, STUNT, football, track, wrestling and a lot of other stuff I never got to try. It's cliché, but all these things allowed me to develop into the person I am now

and am still working on becoming. I'm proud of all I could accomplish, and I'm even grateful for all my mistakes and failures. I'm extremely grateful for mentors like Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Valente, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Porter, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Kos, and so many others. As well as coaches and teachers, I'm grateful for my friends and teammates; they too helped me value toughness, dedication, humility and confidence.

I have few regrets about Fenton, and most of them were instances where I just didn't take advantage of things sooner and didn't try hard enough. There are really a lot of opportunities here in school and in life in general, and I'd urge everyone to seek them out and take advantage of as many as you can.

To our succeeding editors: good luck and happy reporting. I wish my friends and classmates happiness and success beyond their highest expectations. I wish the teachers and staff of Fenton long and joyful lives as they continue to educate and mold students of our generation and more to come. With luck, we'll parallel their wisdom and success, and pay their mentorship forward.

This has been Gerardo Garcia reporting from Fenton High School. Bison pride on three...

Chicago White Metal Casting Donates to Technology Department

By Paul Garcia

Mr. Eric Treiber, CEO of Chicago White Metal Casting Inc, is now a well-known figure to Fenton because of his large contributions to the Applied Technology courses. His past donations of both a new 3D printer and laser cutter, worth a combined value of about \$13,000, are being well used in the classroom to teach students about industry and to offer interest in possible careers in such fields. "It's increased student interest, it's increased student responsiveness," explains Applied Technology teacher, Mr. Nelson.

Even after his large donations to the classroom, Treiber felt that he wanted to contribute outside of the classroom as well. In an effort to support the school's aspiring STEM workers, Treiber has decided to give a hand by offering up to four students each a scholarship on the behalf of Chicago White Metal Casting.

Any senior who has completed coursework in the Applied Technology curriculum is eligible and can apply to receive a scholarship worth a total value of \$4,000.

Treiber does not want to stop there, though. In the spirit of generosity, he will also allow five Fenton students to participate in a paid summer internship at the Chicago White Metal location in Bensenville. An intern participating in this opportunity will be able to experience multiple aspects of the manufacturing process. This experience will allow students to receive a head start in their possible manufacturing related career.

The actions of Treiber come straight from the heart with the intentions of helping the neighboring community that is Fenton High School.

"He's just been incredibly helpful and he's a busy man. He's got a lot on his plate, so to take the time out for us is humbling," said Nelson.

Patterson's Parting Words



By Emily Patterson

I still remember the first time I walked into Fenton. It was 8th grade night, and I knew next to no one, and while wandering around the tables of activities, I found *The Signal*. I never thought I would get into the newspaper, and even while writing book and movie reviews and the short articles that I stuck to my freshman year, I never imagined that I would become as involved as I am, much less become co-editor. But here I am no more than four years later, and I couldn't be any happier.

My life at Fenton has been defined by all of the activities that I've been in, including but not limited to *The Signal*, *Kaleidoscope*, NHS, choir, theatre, and a brief stint on the math team (thanks for believing in me, Mr. Porter). If I wanted to thank everyone who made my time at Fenton special, this article would be too long for the paper. So a quick sum up of thank you's that don't even begin to cover all of the people that have made my time at Fenton amazing: Mrs. Brown, for everything you do for everyone; Mr. Welsh and Mrs. Georgakis for guiding me; Dr. Kingsfield for being

a literal ray of sunshine; Ms. Velez for helping literally everyone; Ms. Lemm for being amazing and keeping *The Signal* going; Mr. Escobedo for helping me dive into Fenton head first; Mrs. Williams for your constant support; Dr. Mussman for being awesome; Mr. Mitchell for everything; my wonderful friends for being the perfect people that all of you are; the NHS exec crew for a fun end to the year; and of course Mrs. Jackson, for being the amazing leader of *The Signal*, making all of this possible, and giving me so much support and so many wonderful opportunities over the years.

To anyone who's not very active in extracurriculars: join something. Anything. Everything. Get involved and maybe push your limits a little too far, but have fun and meet people and do the things you love. No matter what you're doing, if you love it then it's worth it, no matter what anyone says. And to anyone who has even an ounce of passion for writing or photography or cartooning, my best advice to you: JOIN THE SIGNAL. If it isn't the best decision of your life, you don't have to stay. But I can guarantee that it will definitely be the best decision of your life.

I'm so proud of all of the writers and photographers and cartoonists that have worked on *The Signal* the past four years. All of the work that all of you put in is beyond impressive, and it's been an honor to be one of your editors. For next year's editors: I'm so insanely proud of you guys beyond the expression of words. I can't wait to come back next year and see what you guys churn out.

I already can't wait to come back home to Bison Country.

Hey we made it!

Congratulations class of 2019.

WOOHOO!

But I still don't know what I'm doing.

What'd the buffalo say to his son when he left for college?

Bison!

WOOT! WE DID IT! (...and then comes college)

Comic by Mariel Eloppe

Seniors Honored at Fenton's Finest Luncheon

By Malien Tingpalpong

On April 7th, Fenton's Finest seniors were honored at a formal luncheon hosted by the Ghanimah family. The event took place at the Empress Banquets in Addison. As guest speakers, four students from Cornell University vocalized their individual college experiences, one of which was Fenton alumni, Abraham Ghanimah.

The Ghanimah family founded the organization LEAD4Youth. This organization encourages leadership in today's teenagers. Mr. Fares Ghanimah and Mrs. Noe Ghanimah also gave inspiring speeches filled with powerful words. As of 2015, the Ghanimah family has reinterpreted what it means to be a leader. In 2014, they awarded a scholarship to a Fenton senior. However, the event now recognizes multiple seniors. The Ghanimah family now sponsors the entire luncheon event, allowing hard-working seniors proper acknowledgement.

When presenting to Fenton's Finest, Mr. Ghanimah said, "When you LEAD, don't leave anyone behind; when you EXCEL, don't step on other people's dreams; when you ACHIEVE your goals and dreams, do it with integrity and honor; and when you DEDICATE yourself, make sure it's for serving others and being selfless."

Fenton's Finest includes seniors who have been selected by our principal and faculty members. They are recognized based on their service towards the community, pride towards our school, and involvement in athletic and academic activities. By recognizing

students that represent our school, other students are encouraged to strive for higher expectations. The importance of a supportive learning community is crucial to the education and experiences of our peers. Even though seniors were recognized for their individual accomplishments, connection and school unity brings them together.

One of Fenton's Finest, senior Piotr Maciolek, claims that, "Being a part of Fenton's Finest...is kind of like

being a part of a huge fruitful apple tree. It means that I will always strive to better myself so that I may better the lives of others."

When asked about Fenton's impact on him, Dominic Panicola concludes, "Fenton truly made me come out of my shell and will always have a special place in my heart."

As Nina Rauzi puts it, "To be a part of Fenton's Finest was such an honor and it is something I will never forget... A big thank you to

my teachers, directors, friends, and family who have helped make this year so wonderful."

The overall tone of the event was bittersweet. As seniors empty their lockers, and say farewell to teachers, friends, family, and the halls of Fenton, many are thrilled to leave this place after four years, for the future holds so much promise for the Class of 2017. However, other students feel the bitter ending of high school grasp at their hearts.

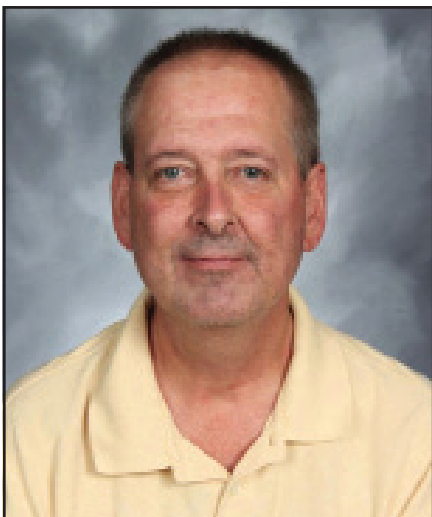


Photo courtesy of Carol Smith

Students, Staff Remember Teacher, Friend Paul Witkus

By Gerardo Garcia

Former Fenton teacher, Paul Witkus, taught business education for more than twenty years. Witkus passed away at the age of 55 on Sunday, March 19. The school was saddened to hear of Witkus' passing, but even if you didn't know him, the memories of his time at Fenton



make it obvious he was an interesting friend and a unique teacher who was far from ordinary.

Business teacher, Rich Wiess, worked with Witkus for eleven years.

Wiess said, "He had a good sense of humor, very down to earth. He kind of had an infectious laugh, whenever he laughed kind of made me laugh. Witkus always kept things kind of jovial, kept our department in good spirits."

Greg Lehmann was a good friend of Witkus and worked with him in the Business Education department since Witkus started at Fenton.

"We'd golf together, we've gone out together, I've gone to the zoo with him and his family. I knew his mother, I knew his brothers, I knew his wife, I knew his kids," said Lehmann.

"He was a devoted father, loved his kids, loved his students. He enjoyed teaching very much... He had a great laugh, he was pretty

witty when it came to humor. He was a good part of our department."

Witkus was described as a good golfer, a passionate fisherman and a great cook. Lehmann remembers Witkus teaching him how to make blackened catfish. Math teacher Jim Siple remembers his "Wicked BLTs," as well as when Witkus treated the department to a heap of fried bacon.

Lehmann also said, "His death was unexpected... his mother asked Rick [Johnson] and I to do the eulogy, and that was my first eulogy, and it was probably the most difficult thing I've ever done."

It was obvious the staff at Fenton had lost much more than a colleague. Witkus also left a huge impression on all of his students.

Senior Joe Andrews said, "I just had Witkus for one year, my sophomore year for sports marketing... What struck me the most about Witkus was that he always treated kids as adults. There

was never any junk with him, never any babying, and that meant a lot as a sophomore, because coming in from junior high, your hand is literally held every step of the way. To have a teacher that treated you like adults was just really important, he was also just a fun guy... He almost never took himself serious in class, you can appreciate a teacher like that. There was a lot of funny stuff that he would do, but he was just a fun guy over all."

Senior, Tim Wolf, had Witkus as a freshman for World of Business. Wolf said, "He treated us like adults, he kept it like the business world but didn't take anything way too serious... He was always good with jokes. I loved his saying at the end of the day, 'Don't do drugs, get high on life.'"

As Andrews said, Witkus' memory will not fade from Fenton.

"He'll definitely be missed," former business teacher and current substitute teacher Tom Jeske said.

Musical *Emma!* Provided Unique Fun at Each Show

By Emily Patterson

Fenton's Spring Musical has come and gone once again! *Emma! A Pop Musical* debuted at the annual Spring Assembly, and students and faculty alike were wowed by the actors performances of "Chapel of Love," "Man, I Feel Like a Woman," "King of Anything," and "Heartbreaker."

The momentum that the musical collected during the assembly performances combined with the students' months of hard work in rehearsals culminated to a weekend of successful performances that ran from April 20th to the 22nd.

This year's spring musical was interesting, as no two shows were alike. The three main female roles were double-cast, with senior

Nina Rauzi and sophomore Monika Nevarez playing Emma, senior Lauren Buena and junior Madeleine Subach playing Harriett, and senior Gabriella Rago and sophomore Danielle Smith playing Jane.

Each girl performed two of the four shows and the girls were mixed so that no three were ever on stage for more than one night.

This made for an incredible experience in which someone who went to see the show on Friday night saw a completely different dynamic between characters and actors than someone who saw the senior matinee on Saturday morning.

This show was one like no other, and as a senior that has participated in the musicals at Fenton



Photo by Jessica Jalowiec

all four years, I know that this is an experience that I'll never forget.

Next year's musical will be Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In the Heights*.

The fall play will be *Metamorphoses*, and the freshman play will be *The Odyssey*.

Fenton Baseball Team Forges Bonds - Strives to Improve

By Rina Focht

The Fenton boys' varsity baseball team is off to a great start this year. With a team made up of 11 seniors and 5 juniors, there is an inseparable bond between the team. The majority of this year's team has been playing together since they were little boys on the tee ball team.

Senior Joey Eltmen says, "They are honestly like brothers to me."

Just a few weeks ago the team took an overnight trip to Galesburg, Illinois. They were able to play two games but also spend time together. In between their games, they had plenty of time to bond with each other in order to make their game stronger.

Eltmen says, "We all know how much we can do. We want to push each other, and strive to be the best team we are capable of being."

The team next year will be completely different. The current sophomores have big shoes to fill. Not only has this varsity team been led by this group of guys for two years now, but they are also the guys who have helped contribute to the team's current traditions.

Marcus Astorga, a current sophomore and a future varsity member says, "I am very excited to see how far we have come going into next year. I am excited about the chemistry we have now, and what will continue to build."

Not only are all grade level baseball teams supportive of each other, they have created a brotherly relationship because of the countless hours they have sent together at practice.

As the season goes on, the boys just want to simply grow as players. Senior Garrett Focht says, "We not only want to improve our record, we just want to do what is best for the team as a whole."

He explains some of the players are choosing to play baseball in college, which is why they want to "show support for our teammates, we want to be able to do whatever we can to help each other love the sport."

All of the varsity home games are held at Redmond Park in Bensenville, unlike JV and freshmen that take place at Fenton.

Girls' Track Team Continues Tradition of Victory

By Karsen Idelman

Fenton Girl's Track is a team made up of fifty-six freshman, sophomore, junior and senior girls who run, jump and throw their way to multiple wins throughout their spring season.

Their most recent win, The Bison Invitational, was Friday, April 21. The team hosted girls track from Elk Grove, Streamwood, Trinity, Elgin, Taft, and Nazareth. It was the team's Senior Night and head coach of ten years, Coach Kekstadt felt

that it being Senior Night motivated the team. "I felt that if the team was focused on the Senior/Homecoming night during the Bison Invitational we would do well. Some of our girls were not 100% so we rested them in some of the events. We used our depth to earn more points than the other six schools. It takes effort and time to know what the other schools have as far as athletic talent. Figuring out how other teams are going to try and score with that talent will prevent surprises during the meet. I don't like

surprises."

Fenton's team has a long standing tradition of winning the Bison Invitational. The team is very proud. "It's so amazing that we won the bison invite. It's been a tradition since I've been here that we win this invite and it's great that we're able to uphold it. We did it for each other and that's the best part. We constantly work hard at practice and finally watched it come into play at this meet," said Junior runner, Trisha Butz.

Not only the Fenton's team pull ahead of the six other schools, the largest deficit being 116 points, they have had success throughout the season. Many of the girls, and coaches alike, feel as if track is a family. The girls feel comfortable with each other and they are always welcoming new members.

First year teammate, Oliwia Bochnacka, added, "Trying new things and being able to do that with friends is the best part about track. Although this was my first year I felt very welcomed and right away was excited to try events that I have never done before such as high jump which I really love! So glad I joined this year!"

Coach Kekstadt stressed this sentiment. "The consistent commitment to excellence the team has shown everyday in practice is why the track and field family has had success. Fifty six girls are arriving to practice on-time, striving to do their best under challenging circumstances.. It is an inspirational team. I am very proud to be part of the track and field family at Fenton High School."



Photo courtesy of Hanna Matuszewski

Renegades Hockey Wins State Game at United Center

By Zoe Wilkens

At the start of every sports season no matter what sport it is, knowing the outcome of the season is never crystal clear. However this year the Renegades hockey team proved a long term goal to everyone that was surreal. On March 14th the Varsity team coached by Matt Benton and Joseph Fijak, won a semi-final game that would bring the Renegades to the play the state game at the United Center just a few days later.

Fenton senior Joey Simoncelli on the team says, "that's when the fan section really came alive," and Fenton senior Joey Eltman on the team says, "the feeling was indescribable. We proved everyone including ourselves that we can and will do this."

Flash forward days later was March 17th, a day most would know as St. Patrick's Day; however, that day meant something completely different for the Renegades. At 9:15 p.m. inside the United Center, close to 10,000 fans were ready to watch the Renegades

face Glenbard in the combined school division championship.

"Stepping on the United Center ice where some of the greats played, I couldn't tell you the feeling even if I tried!" Eltman reminisces.

"It was surreal and impossible to explain. It just felt like we were meant to be there in that moment. I got the chills the entire warm up and I'll never forget the feeling," recalls Simoncelli.

No matter what the outcome of the game was going to be the fans and family members of the Renegades knew they'd be satisfied and proud but the players pushed even harder with a final score of a 4 - 1 win. When the buzzer sounded at the end of the 3rd period the Renegades 2016-2017 Varsity hockey team had made history.

The big question throughout all of this was: what was different this year than all the other years that ended producing a state winning team? It was beyond good talent

that made them legendary. A team with not only skills, but camaraderie, passion, teamwork, and ambition were the components to this year's group of players being successful. At the start of the season the boys knew there was a spark.

Eltman said, "We had a talented group of guys that wanted to win, especially our seniors. It was also coupled with the heart everyone put onto the ice along with the chemistry that was built almost instantaneously at the beginning of the season. We were a family, we were on the same page with everything, and it became a season for the ages."

The Renegades were on fire sweeping every team with an undefeated record the first half of the season. However, like there is in anything in life, there were dips along the way. After a senior night game loss the team knew they had to re-evaluate and recollect.

"Sometimes our egos did get the best of us and we were put into holes that

took a lot of digging to get out of," reflects Eltman.

It may have been a loss to the winning streak but it was no loss for the overall success of the Renegades.

"Although it was a turning point in our season, we were on fire the rest of the year. The loss motivates us," said Simoncelli.

Wednesday, May 3rd, the Renegades were invited by Tom Cullerton to the state capital, Springfield to celebrate their state championship win with the Illinois State House of Representatives.

As for the Fenton seniors, after high school, Joey Simoncelli hopes to continue playing hockey at Central Michigan University and Joey Eltman is still weighing his opportunities. Fenton will miss seeing them play on their home ice at the Edge at John St. We wish both of the Joeys the best of luck after high school and throughout their careers. No matter what though they have left a legend behind that will never be forgotten.

Tennis Conference Approaches

By Julia Gainski

So far the 2017 boys' tennis season is looking promising as a result of the massive dedication and improvement of the players. The team has made tremendous accomplishments, beating Maine West for the first time in several years.

Fenton tied for first at the District 88 Classic at Willowbrook, easily making this the best victory of the season.

Coach Peterson said, "This is one of the deepest teams Fenton has ever had, which is why I see at least one state qualifier this year."

Surely, the roots of their triumph has stemmed from more focused practices and passion running high as many players consistently put in longer hours and tend to their weaknesses. In addition, the team came in third at the Saxon Invite, making an impressive achievement for Fenton in a long time. On that note, first doubles, senior, Joe Andrews, and sophomore, Jeff Andrews, are cruising through the season with a 16 to 3 record so far.

Joe Andrews remarks, "It's been a fun four years not just because of the sport, but because of the guys I've played with. There's never a dull moment even though our spectators would beg to differ...."

Upcoming events in the season include conference on May 13 and sectionals on May 19 at Timothy Christian.



Photo by Julia Gainski

Badminton Strives to Succeed

By Belem Oseguera

Smash! The Badminton girls have been going strong and giving their best since the beginning of the season in the month of March. Although they haven't had many wins they still continue to push and strive to succeed. Varsity player Sammen Naseer has been on the team for two years and she loves it.

"The season has been filled with a mixture of both wins and losses, but the losses do not discourage us," says Naseer.

She is a sophomore and joined the team because she loves the competitive feel and she just enjoys the thrill of the game.

Shivani Patel a JV player on the team says that she joined because she "wanted to get the feel of another sport and just go through a new experience."

So far, Shivani has been enjoying the season and her teammates have been very accepting and supportive.

"The teammates are great and push everyone to do their best in our matches."

Shivani Patel isn't the only member to switch to Badminton to try out the sport.

Keondrea Vassel says "switching to Badminton for my spring sport has been the best decision I've made all year."

After the loss of Fernando Sanchez the Badminton team decided they wanted to help. The team held a bake sale as a fundraiser and were able to give \$320 to Fernando Sanchez's family.



Photo courtesy of Sheeza Anwar