

PERFORMING ARTS

music groups work on winter performances

writer **valentina urbez** photo credit madison otter
designer **emirah balser**

The performing minds have set up the year with expectations of greatness. Performances across the groups in choir, orchestra and band thus far are said to have begun stronger than previous years, backed up by directors and alumni.

Community engagement is equally important to the craft as the actual practicing itself. The PopArts Day of Giving was held Oct. 14 where musicians and theater performers grouped together in the community and rallied funds to keep their programs flourishing.

“I can tell that they are actually listening to each other, and they are really feeling the music on a different level than years before,” Choir Director Cherie Brooks said.

“I actually like the Day of Giving. It’s hard getting up so early to be there, but once I’m with my friends and in uniform it’s really fun,” senior baritone and violinist Roma Yadav said.

Performance by itself is a powerful skill the students carry, but the audience and community are what give it the life it needs to continue.

As Choir Director Cherie Brooks first noticed, the upperclassman choir, the Choraliers found its voice very early on.

“I can tell that they are actually listening to each other, and they are really feeling the music on a different level than years before,” Brooks said.

It’s expected for the music ensembles to find the strength in their sound as the year goes by

and they perform at more events and competitions. Coming in as a developed choir signals how well they might do in concerts and possibly contest.

“I was honestly really surprised we sounded so good for the fall concert. There’s usually a lot more work to do,” junior soprano Jess Hodgkiss said.

The passion found in music second semester relies on a one through five number scale. Different levels of performance in band, orchestra and choir spend the year honing their skills in hopes of getting an excellent rating.

“Right now we’re starting really early with our district competition pieces. It’s way in January, but I want them to be ready for it, Orchestra Director Lori Cornett said. “On top of that they’re juggling lots of impressive pieces for the year, and we have fun things planned.” The students have come in more prepared than ever to blow their community and judges away throughout the year.

The band also finished performances strong at the end of football season and is now focusing on that infamous light show. The marching band’s Friday Night Lights will take audiences around the world Nov. 16 to Nov. 19. Thursday through Saturday at 7pm and a Sunday

“On top of that they’re juggling lots of impressive pieces for the year, and we have fun things planned,” Orchestra Director Lori Cornett said.



The Orange Man Group perform during the fall choir concert.



The Varsity Singers perform the fall choir concert on Oct. 16.

FORT ORANGE

changes to the fort in the past year

writer **peyton johnson**
designer **mia harrington** photo credits **emily zimpfer**

Over the summer and continuing into the school year, Fort Orange, the school merchandising store, has made some improvements. Open during all lunch periods, The Fort offers students the opportunity to buy snacks, school apparel, drinks and special shirts made for special occasions for students.

The Fort has been around since the high school opened in 2008 and made some minor changes between then and now. The Fort is typically run by Junior and Senior Marketing classes with the aid of Business Teacher and Adviser Teresa Gellebeck.

“The Fort has been here since the school opened I believe, but Gellenbeck took it over two years ago,

so there’s been some changes since then,” senior Sierra Toot said.

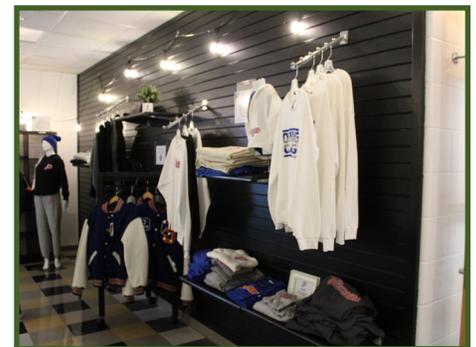
On the inside of the store, some changes include new furniture, new items such as coffee, a new layout and newly painted walls. These renovations should help The Fort with its sales and an increase in the number of students who enter the student store.

“Overall, our sales have increased dramatically. We’re on track to do even more this year and get more students in here to make it a more positive space in the school,” Toot said.

Because many students at Orange are saving up for college or for personal desires, new solutions could also be introduced to The Fort. Discounts on

clothing sold would be a major effort.

“The thing I would change in The Fort is to have some discounts. We all are high school students who just want some school spirit. We aren’t trying to spend \$50 on a hoodie,” junior Jacob Roffman said.



New apparel designed by DECA students in Fort Orange.

MIDTERM PREVIEW

reasons for different midterm formats

writer **valentina urbaez**
designer **mia harrington**

The measure of hundreds of individual students’ progress throughout a semester is difficult to calculate. Two times out of the year, teachers are tasked with taking all the different needs of students and finding how much they’ve learned through the brunt of a test or project. The subject matter is what changes study habits and math cannot be measured like English.

Where there isn’t a need to get creative, setting students up for success typically means using the tools they’ve practiced with all semester. Geometry and AP Pre Calc Teacher Matthew Rutherford maintains a midterm of approximately 50 questions.

“I feel it is an effective way to assess the students because it is similar to the way we have assessed the students throughout the semester,” Rutherford said.

Where testing lines blur is when certain humanities call for an essay or project to showcase the work done over the semester.

“It’s hard to have to test so many students with one set of questions, when they’re all on individual levels of learning,” CP 9 and CP 12 English Teacher Elizabeth Stringer said. “Plus, it’s English and when I have them do their final writing, I can see what needs work.”

Testing doesn’t necessarily have to be rigid. Taking into account the changes in the way students learn, new methods may slowly integrate

themselves into different curriculums.

“I’ve changed from a paper and pencil test, to a Schoology test over the past two years,” Rutherford said.

The performing arts also have a tendency to finish their semester by bringing music to their community in times of high stress.

“We always try to have our Hallelujah Chorus performance at the Polaris Mall before winter break. It’s our way of doing a flash mob and we’re typically given great reviews by the shoppers,” Choir Director Cherie Brooks said. “Not only that but it also qualifies as the singers’ final for the semester.”

NEW CLUBS

opportunities for students to grow

writer **izzy willson** photo credit **Sanjana Putrevu**
designer **emirah balser**

High school life is about being social and active with one's school. One of the best ways to do that is by joining some school-organized clubs. The high school has a wide variety of student-run clubs including some newer clubs such as: Girls on the Go, OOHS Medical Union, Pickleball Club and many more to come.

Clubs are a great way to meet new people, help the community or offer creative ways to fill time. There are hundreds of clubs that could meet anyone's wants and needs. Mealshare Mission and OOHS Animal Welfare Society (OOHS AWS) are examples of new clubs that give back to the community.

"Our goal for the future for this club is to have fundraisers for charities through tournaments along with prizes for winning teams," junior Leader of Pickleball Club Graham Burnett said.

If students feel strong about investing a passion of theirs, they can get involved in a club that will help build skills in certain career paths. The Student Medical Union is one of the many new clubs that offers that.

Its purpose is to create opportunities for students interested in pursuing medical career. These opportunities include but aren't limited to, clinical shadowing, internship information, professional speakers and medical themed activities.

"I was mainly influenced by the fact that I personally wished there was a place I could go in the school to learn about medical practices and find opportunities for shadowing," junior Club leader of the Student Medical Union Zion Clifton said.

Advertising is one of the biggest struggles for newer clubs with established clubs getting more recognition than newer ones. It's important to do some research and dig deeper for clubs that interest students when searching for one to join.

"One of my goals is growing the club. At the moment, there's only about 20 people, and most of them are juniors," junior Club leader of Girls on the Go Dua Rahim said. "I want the club to be open for every grade which it is, but not many people know about it right now."

Clubs are also a great way to help with mental health and develop social skills. If students are typically shy, meetings can help them open up more and give opportunities to talk to people they haven't met. Newer clubs such as [The Swifties, Henna Club, New Frontiers, Culinary Cuisine Club and Palestine Culture Club] are all clubs people join to do hobbies they love and be social with friends.

"We hope people can take away that they made friends and got a chance to go out and play pickle ball whenever they could," Burnett said.

Being part of a club family is a great high school experience.



Students view a teacher's presentation during a Speech and Debate Club meeting.

Whether students want the chance to do something they love with their friends, learn something with the help of others or be involved in their community, the high school provides many different clubs for everyone's preferences.

A few new clubs at OOHS

1. Girls on the Go
2. OOHS Medical Union
3. Pickleball Club
4. Swifties Club
5. Mealshare Mission
6. OOHS Animal Welfare Society (OOHS AWS)



Students interact at a Debate Club meeting

FALL SPORTS FINALE a season for many to remember

writer **marshall medley**
designer **emma barnhart**

photos by **ava mejia and abby roebuck**

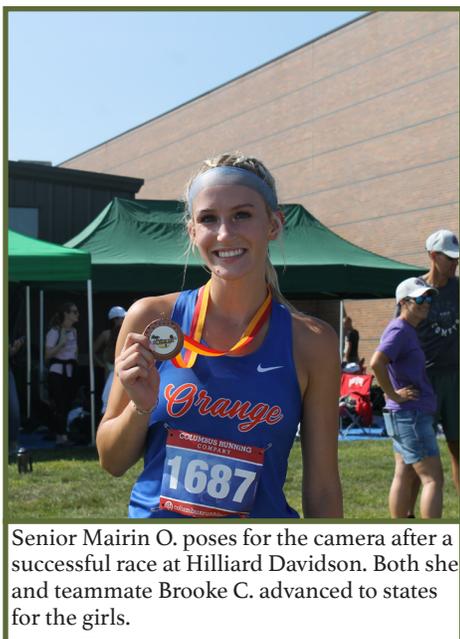
As fall season comes to an end, so do fall sports. The high school has had a great fall season with many sports advancing in the playoffs.

Boys soccer advanced to the district semifinals where it suffered a 3-2 overtime loss to Worthington Kilbourne. The Pioneers previously beat Columbus West and Licking Heights 8-0 in the first two rounds.

The boys finished with a record of 8-5-6. A big moment for the Pioneers was a 1-0 win against Dublin Coffman where the boys were playing down a man. Seniors Carson Cutler and Carter Musgrove were awarded All-OCC first team for their hard work. Senior Drew Neville and junior Landon King were awarded All-OCC second team.

Girls soccer advanced to the district finals, where it lost 1-0 to Dublin Jerome in overtime. The girls previously beat Central Crossing, 8-0, Whetstone, 9-0, and Westerville North, 5-1 in the tournament.

"We had a good record, and we were



Senior Mairin O. poses for the camera after a successful race at Hilliard Davidson. Both she and teammate Brooke C. advanced to states for the girls.



Junior Avery R. sets up for a forehand in a match against Hilliard Bradley. She was the only player to advance to states this year.

a fourth seed for the tournament," Coastal Carolina soccer commit and senior Lauryn Barringer said. "We lost a couple hard games, but we also had some really recognizable games as well."

The girls finished with a record of 16-4-1. A highlight was beating their rival Olentangy, 6-1. Senior Lauryn Barringer and junior Alexis Knisley were awarded All-OCC first team, and All State second team. Senior Maryn Zavislak was awarded All-OCC second team.

The football team lost in the first round of the playoffs against a very good Centerville team. Although it lost 6-23, the game was close until the fourth quarter.

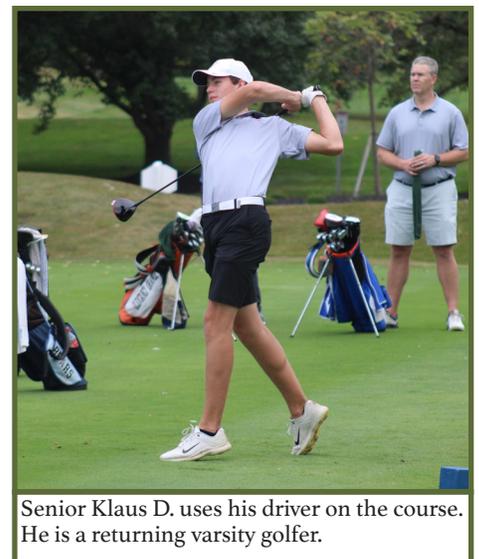
A highlight of the football team's season was a win against Dublin Coffman. "We were underdogs coming into the game, and it was 21-0 to start the second quarter," senior offensive lineman Owen Klein said. "It was the best offensive game I've ever seen our team play, and we averaged seven yards a rush."

The team finished the season 4-7 and was fourth in their conference. Levi Davis, Brock Fisher and Treyten Schoroeder were all awarded All-OCC first team. Kayden Arsalane, Alex Deschane and Will Musgrove all were awarded All-OCC second team. Head coach Zebb Schroeder has stepped down from his role for next year.

The volleyball team fell to Kings in the state finals on Nov. 11 at Wright State University, therefore finishing second in the tournament. It swept Dublin Scioto and won three sets against Pickerington Central in the past two rounds.

"The best part of the season was sweeping Scioto who was undefeated in the regional finals," senior Gonzaga commit Maddie Cugino said. "There's nothing I would change; this is exactly how I wanted our season to go."

The team finished its season with a record of 25-3. A highlight of the season was beating rival Olentangy Liberty at home and away. Senior Lily Barron finished All Ohio first team, and senior Maddie Cugino was first team All Ohio. Head Coach Katie Duy won the Ohio coaches achievement award.



Senior Klaus D. uses his driver on the course. He is a returning varsity golfer.

COLLEGE APPS

application season causes student stress

writer **shiv majmudar** photo credits **mia harrington**

designer **mia harrington**

It's no secret that college applications are on the mind of high school students. After all, it's a process that plays a role in one's future. But getting into Harvard or Stanford requires more than meets the eye. With holistic admissions, which consider factors other than academic, the chances of getting in are lower than ever for most students.

Students nowadays overload on extra curriculars, sports, and volunteer hours. Holistic admissions have the intention of helping admissions officers see true character and intelligence in applicants, but the reality is the opposite. It sparks an

endless race to get the most accolades, classes and volunteer hours onto your resume as possible. This does not indicate character or intelligence. Very few of these things are done with thought or meaning. And it leads to students being unhappy.



College admissions cause students to do more than they should, leading to stress and anxiety. 9.4 percent of children 3-17 have anxiety, according to a 2019 study by the CDC. That number is only increasing.

The inefficiency, congestion and hyper-competitiveness of the process are traits that can be fixed. A rejection from a college shouldn't be personal. Admissions nowadays are seen as reflections on a student personally. Applying to college shouldn't be a confessional writing accompanied by test scores, fed to someone in an admission's office who doesn't find you as interesting as some other person from New York.

The college application process is broken across the country. With anxiety and depression levels only rising, it is clear that some aspects of the college applications process need to be rethought, for the better of the students.

GETTING PEP

the value of pep rallies

writer **emily zimpfer** photo credits **mia harrington**

designer **mia harrington**

When hearing there's an upcoming pep rally, many students get annoyed and plan to skip it. But who can blame them? After all, the pep rallies are filled with bored kids with the urge to go home and a couple of non-interactive activities. The decline in interest of pep rallies from the student body has become apparent.

Pep rallies are one of few opportunities to have everyone in the school involved, so it is essential that everyone shows up with high spirit. If schools can get students to be actively involved with it, pep rallies can be memorable and fun.

Pep rallies are an essential part of the high school experience. Students should be thankful that the community is unified. Members should embrace their privilege by

showing their support and attending school events.

The main problem of the boring pep rallies is the uninterested attitudes of pep rallies. Some students left before the pep rally started which resulted in the switch of the schedule, making the event after third period, which was a good implementation. However, the ones who do attend are likely to not participate in the few games.

The pep rally on Oct. 13 implemented a fun activity that involved the student body and not just a few players. Volunteers played musical chairs, but when the music stopped, they had to find a specific object in which everyone helped find. This was a great example of a good game, and it was apparent that most

people enjoyed it.

Since the pep rallies aren't that frequent, the pep rally committee should promote it. This promotion can be done by putting banners across the school and posting on the school spirit Instagram, Pioneer Pit, to announce contests. Although this promotion won't ensure high spirits from everyone, it'll at least make the event seem like a bigger deal.



Seniors Brayden B. and Janhavi K. singing.

The Frontier

THANKSGIVING

Foods and Traditions Word Search

designer **madeline riley**

L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	V	K	N	G	G
M	S	C	O	R	E	B	M	E	V	O	N	P
J	D	K	J	H	M	O	K	R	V	I	U	I
Y	B	R	N	Y	L	I	M	A	F	M	M	L
D	E	I	P	A	F	G	S	F	P	O	W	G
F	S	K	K	V	H	Q	U	K	E	C	N	R
F	I	C	R	T	X	T	I	D	V	A	B	I
U	Z	Y	X	U	S	N	M	T	V	T	S	M
G	L	L	A	B	T	O	O	F	I	Z	L	T

Feast Football November
Pie Pilgrim Pumpkin
Stuffing Thankful Thanks
Turkey Family

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH & PIONEER PRIDE BARS

OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Lucas Frye
Olivia Ruehlen
Brennan Kesler
Ava Ongaro
Joseph Delmonico
Kaden Cline
Madelyn Patton
Jaiana Burrell
Lila Urbanic

PRIDE BARS

Cameron Graham
Emily Campbell
Cole Nolan
Lincoln Gage-Redmond
Olivia Olson
Alex Fomba
Madison Notter
Carter Meija
Edward Hachwa
Isabel Wilson