



PINE-RICHLAND RAMPAGE



THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2024 NO 11

"DELIVERING HIGH SCHOOL NEWS...ONE PAGE AT A TIME."

Behind the **Badge**: *Learn about our SRO, Officer Brad*

ADDISON BARNES DESIGN EDITOR

In the halls of Pine-Richland High School, there's a familiar face that students have come to know: his name is Officer Brad, the school resource officer (SRO) and though his seriousness demeanor may come off as scary, once students talk to him, they just might realize that is not the case.

Officer Brad said he knew he wanted to be a police officer at a young age.

He said, "I have always been on the right side of right and wrong."

So it's not shocking that he applied to a police academy after college.

During his 11 years in law enforcement, he has had many different positions in the field. His first assignment was a part-time police officer at Frazier Township, which was a very eventful job. The first case he was ever involved in was a massive serial robbery where the thief stole thousands of dollars worth of perfume. Once he was caught, the amount of perfume stolen ended up being around \$40,000.

However, Officer Brad's scariest case was when he worked for the City of Pittsburgh Police. He and his partner stumbled upon a drug swap and didn't realize the people involved were shooting at him until he heard the car in front of him getting hit.

After working in the city for several years, he was hired by Northern Regional Police. During his time as a patrol officer, he received specialized training from the FBI and the Secret Service to become a mobile device forensic examiner.

Time passed and he also got the opportunity to be part of the North Hills SWAT team, but right after his phone forensic training he was also asked if he wanted to take the position of SRO at PRHS. Officer Brad was torn between the two positions, but he took the job after talking to his wife.



Officer Brad



Officer Brad & The Journalism Class

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Interview with Mr. Hobaugh

Meet the Student Teacher We'll Never Forget

MARIANNA ZAHORCHAK STAFF WRITER



Mr. Hobaugh

Mr. Hobaugh is a 2019 Mars High School graduate who is currently attending and will soon graduate from college at Duquesne University in the hopes of entering the teaching field. To graduate, Hobaugh had to complete nine semesters at Duquesne and a student-teaching internship here at Pine-Richland High School. Hobaugh assisted in leading lessons for Mr. Rupert's US History 19th Century class and Mr. Florijan's first period and

ninth period Honors Themes in World History classes. Although he was only here for a short time, he made a huge impact on students' learning experiences.

Mr. Hobaugh was the ninth period's savior: a bearer of Quizlet flashcards sent from above. He was our refuge in times of confusion, lending an ear to hear of our befuddlement. Our class had a wonderful relationship with Hobaugh; before starting our daily lesson, we'd almost always discuss silly stories from Hobaugh's youth or simply banter over our weekends together. While ice-breakers like these may typically fall upon unwilling victims, our class always made the most of these discussions, allowing us to have fun with them. Talking to the class in the casual way Hobaugh did helped foster a fun, relaxed environment where students weren't afraid to speak up and provide their input on a matter.

I and many others will miss Hobaugh dearly, but he'll always be here in our memories. To make sure he's remembered, and as a tribute to how amazing he is, I decided to throw an impromptu interview at him in the final 15 minutes of his last day here at PR. Here's how it went.

Q&A

What have you learned most from student teaching?

"How to be a teacher that teaches or makes things in a way that can be useful to everyone regardless of learning style."

What was your favorite part of student teaching?

"The interactions with students. It was fun getting to know all the different personalities and everyone's likes and dislikes. I had this image of teaching and it turned out to be a lot different than I expected."

Where do you plan to go next in your career?

I plan to pursue a career in teaching, most likely in the history field. During the time this interview was conducted, one of my peers asked Hobaugh if he would like to teach in Alaska, and to my surprise, he said "teaching in Alaska would be sweet."

What made you decide to go into this field?

"Many people in my family are teachers. My dad's a teacher, both of my grandpas were teachers, my aunt and uncle were teachers.... I just love history; I think it's one of the most important subjects if not *the* most important one."

What will you miss the most about this experience?

"The routine and Mr. Florijan and Mr. Rupert. At first the routine was hard to adjust to because there isn't a strict schedule in college, but now I'm used to it and even enjoy it a little."

What exactly was the process of getting this internship?

"Duquesne organized it for all the student teachers. It's a requirement to go into the field. I got to pick the top five schools where I wanted to go, but I wasn't allowed to pick Mars since I was a student there. PR was my first choice since it was close by, then Seneca, NA, Hampton, and North Hills."

How are you feeling about your student experience being over?

"It's bittersweet, for sure. All I've really known is being a student, so it's cool to take the next step, but also... kinda sad."

Is college better than high school? Why or why not?

"Yes and no. College is the start of you being on your own. You have less work because you have less classes. I have six classes a week: three on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and three on Tuesday and Thursday. I do miss seeing friends every day, but I made new friends in college."

Do you plan on moving far away?

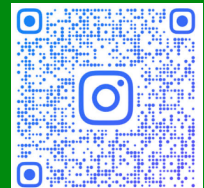
"Teaching in Alaska in Alaska would be sweet." I've considering moving there or to somewhere in Europe. I've traveled to many places including Canada and the Bahamas; if given a choice I would like to move somewhere new."

Moment you'll never forget?

"The first and last day and the progress made along the way."

As a final farewell, Hobaugh said, "I want to thank all of the students, Mr. Florijan, Mr. Rupert, and the rest of the staff at Pine-Richland for a great four months. It's been fun and I've learned a lot. I'll never forget it."

We made an Instagram! Scan the QR code or follow us
@pinerichlandrampage .





Meet Señora Hahn: One of PR's Beloved Spanish Teachers

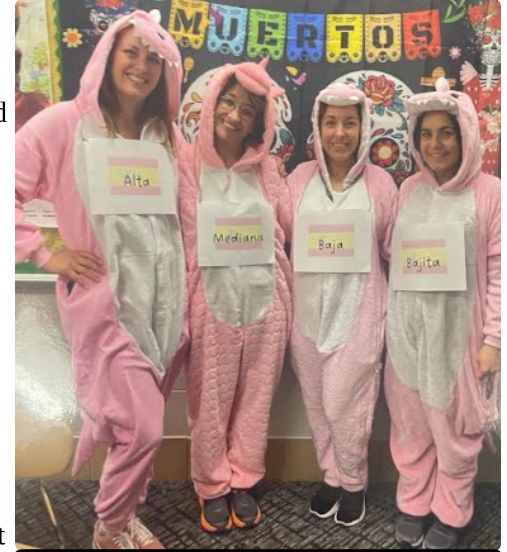
IZZY BANJAK STAFF WRITER

Senora Hahn is a Spanish teacher here at Pine-Richland and has been for the past 10 years. She teaches Spanish 1, Spanish 4, and Honors Spanish 4. Hahn said she chose to teach Spanish because she enjoys the language and now she has the opportunity to speak it often.

During her high school years, Senora attended the Linworth Alternative Program at Thomas Worthington High School in Columbus, Ohio. This program was to focus on the arts and experiential learning. Hahn was very busy in high school because of all the extracurricular activities she chose to involve herself in. She did competitive gymnastics until her sophomore year then switched to the school gymnastics team, while also being in NHS and she even did the school musical for a year, in which she had a dance number. Once high school was over Hahn attended a small liberal arts school in Ohio called Bluffton College. During her time there she was on the dance team for 2 years and in the Spanish club.

Senora Hahn's life outside of school is quite hectic and soccer-filled because of her 3 daughters. Hahn has twin daughters that will graduate this year and a daughter in her sophomore year. All 3 girls play soccer for their school and 2 of them are on a club soccer team called Northern Steel.

Senora also has 3 pets: a Yorkie/poodle mix named Buckeye, a German Shepard/poodle mix named Evzone, and a cat named Chico. When Hahn wants time to herself she enjoys



Senora Hahn on far right with the rest of the Spanish teachers

“I was drawn to the strength of the community and the complexity and depth of the language department at the school.”-Senora Hahn

“The students and families make the school what it is. Also, the support from the staff and my coworkers is invaluable.” -Senora Hahn

reading, cooking, and baking. Her top reads are “Little Women” and “All the Light We Cannot See.” She also likes to bake her family sweet treats such as cookies and cakes. Hahn has been teaching for many years, she started as a substitute teacher for a few years then taught at Aliquippa school district before making her final move to PR. She has also expressed how she has loved getting to know her new students this year and hearing all about their extracurricular activities like sports and clubs. She loves to hear her students talk in Spanish and assigns partner work and group work, and she encourages her students to speak in the language as much as possible.

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The RAMPAGE is published every month. Be sure to look for new issues online every two weeks and in print once a month!

<https://www.pinerichland.org>



Q&A with Gym Teacher Mr. Koss: *Get the Facts Fast*

MADDY HOMER STAFF WRITER

Mr.Koss is a familiar face around PR, being that he is the middle/high school gym/health teacher and is one of the track coaches, but have you ever wondered who Mr. Koss actually is? Lucky for you I have the answers for you.



Mr. Koss

How long have you been working at Pine-Richland?

"I was blessed to get a job here 24 years ago."

Who or what influenced you to want to be a gym teacher?

"Ever since I was little, I liked to organize kids and play games outdoors. I came to realize in college that my passion for wanting to help people take better care of their overall health was a perfect fit for me in my health & PE classes. I believe it is what God made me to do as a profession."

What is the best part of your job?

"Knowing that some students will be positively impacted the rest of their lives by things they have learned in class."

What is the main thing you want your students to take away from you?

"That there is no one like them on the planet. They are created and uniquely designed for great things with special gifts and talents to be used for others. Just like a puzzle piece being used to complete the puzzle. Without them the picture is left incomplete and nobody can take their place."

What are some of your hobbies? What do you do in your spare time?

"Most of my time is spent with my family (wife and 4 kids) playing board games and lots of outdoor activities. I am also a youth leader in a local church."

What is a piece of advice you would give students about "surviving" high school?

"Do the simple things well. For example, putting away your phone by 8:00 or 9:00 pm to get good sleep. If you are tired in school it makes everything harder."

What is your favorite unit to teach?

"Pickleball has always been my favorite at PR."

What is your favorite sport to play? To watch?

"I like playing many sports but one of my favorite outdoor sports to play is disc golf. Indoors would be basketball and pickleball."

Where did you go to college? Major? Minor?

"IUP: Bachelor in Health & Physical Education,
Montana State University: Master in Health and Human Development"

The Rampage is a student-created publication of Pine-Richland High School, 700 Warrendale Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044. The newsroom is room 221.

The RAMPAGE is available online every Thursday under the High School Resources Tab. It is written by students, for students, and will make every attempt to report all school-related news. We welcome freelance submissions, suggestions, comments, and story ideas from students and staff. Since this is a student publication, we realize we make mistakes. We encourage readers to report mistakes to the staff writers, and you may win a prize if you locate any/all mistakes.

Teacher: Mrs. Harshman



Pine-Richland's One and Only Mr. Devinney

Get to know more about this amazing teacher

ELLA BARKLEY STAFF WRITER

If there's one thing that Mr. Devinney loves about Pine-Richland School District, it would be the students. He is blessed and grateful to have the opportunity to come to work every day to teach and work with such wonderful students. Mr. Devinney is fortunate to have been at Pine-Richland for 28 years and has been teaching for almost 30 years. But what made Mr. Devinney want to become a teacher in the first place? He began working at a law firm as an intern after getting into law school. After working there for about a year, he realized the level of work and intensity that was needed to be a lawyer as well as having an incredible mentor who helped and guided him through the world of law. This is when he decided to take a break from law and get a Master's in Education just like his mentor did. This is where his inspiration came from and now Mr. Devinney hasn't looked back and loves what he does.

At the high school, Mr. Devinney has the opportunity to teach three different classes which include 11th grade Honors US History, Principles of Law, and Introduction to Economics. These classes are open to upperclassmen, so if you're reading this as an underclassman, sign up for these classes as they are extremely enjoyable and interesting. With this being said, Mr. Devinney went to Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and double majored in pre-law and History and minored in psychology. He definitely had his hands full, but it paid off in the end. Although law and government were his first choice when choosing a career path, his passion for working with young people and incorporating the ideas worked out well when he became a teacher at the high school level.



Bruce Springsteen

big Italian guy: pretty much any Italian food whether it is his mom's or the Pleasure Bar/Lounge in Bloomfield located in downtown Pittsburgh. When he's interested in staying in and watching a good show or movie, his favorites include *Columbo* and *The Searchers*. He can always count on those to bring a smile to his face. If Mr. Devinney could choose a historical figure to have dinner with, he would select both Winston Churchill and Malcolm X. He thinks that it would definitely be an entertaining and intriguing discussion with both of them at dinner.



Whether you've had Mr. Devinney as a teacher before, or you've never met him, let this be a time to learn more about him. He's a very favorable guy who loves to see students succeed inside and outside of the classroom. And if you think that the students at Pine-Richland are the only ones who are excited for summer to come, don't let that fool you. When Mr. Devinney was asked to describe himself in three words, his response was, "Ready for summer." So if you see him in the hall or happen to pass room 18, make sure to stop in and say hello.



Frank Sinatra

Outside of the school day, Mr. Devinney enjoys traveling as well as attending live music concerts. He also happens to be eclectic in music with being open to listening to all types of genres. But if he had to choose two artists to listen to for the rest of his life, it would have to be Frank Sinatra and Bruce Springsteen. When it comes to food, Mr. Devinney is a

WHO DO YOU WANT
THE RAMPAGE STAFF
TO INTERVIEW
NEXT? EMAIL A
STAFF WRITER TO
SUGGEST A
TEACHER.



Meet Mr. Caric: *Learn more about the Greatest Gifted Teacher*

BROOKE DEEGAN STAFF WRITER



Mr. Caric and his wife

Mr. Caric is, without a doubt, one of the most excellent and deservedly beloved teachers here at PR. His unwavering kindness, wit, humor, and endless support inspires each of his students to push themselves to be the absolute best that they can be and simultaneously assures them that they are enough regardless of what they may do or think. As the Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) teacher, Mr. Caric works with a handful of gifted children from day to day, guiding them and helping them to hone their skills, as well as providing them with the enrichment they need. While he may not teach an actual class, his impact on the community is just as prevalently profound as any other ordinary teacher's, for he assists so many students in finding themselves and their passions, which is one of the most beautifully complex and unique feats that one can undertake.

Despite essentially being born for his wonderfully intriguing profession, going into the field of education was not always on Caric's radar. In fact, for a while, he had practically no idea what his calling was. It wasn't until college that he heard it lucidly ring for the first time after an exceptional professor had unexpectedly enlightened him.

"I had an incredible teacher named Mr. Anderson at CCAC, and he taught Secondary Education. At that point, I had no idea what I wanted to do. Everyone told me to take his class because he was such a great guy, and I took it, and they were right. It was his class that made me realize I had a passion for teaching."

After this crystalline breakthrough of his, Caric had his heart set on getting into the field of education. He attended Slippery Rock University in order to obtain his Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Social Studies Education, and, a few

years later, earned his Master's of Education in School Leadership Administration from George Mason University. He resided and worked diligently in Virginia as a teacher for a period of time before returning to Pennsylvania and arriving at this very district.

"When I moved back from Virginia with my wife, I needed a job, and so I applied here. At first, I was a substitute teacher in German, English, and Theater. Eventually, I had the opportunity to work as a Social Studies teacher for a year, and then they hired me full time as a Gifted Educator."

And what a fantastic educator he is. There is never a moment of his day when he is not giving his job and his students less than one hundred percent of his utmost care and attention, which is immensely valued and appreciated by all. As he fills out copious amounts of paperwork and attends a plethora of meetings (oftentimes GIEPs, which he has nearly 65 of per year), he still has the time to listen to his students and offer up a seemingly infinite amount of comforting advice and support to them when they require it the most. His genuine adoration for his career and the people whom he gets to work with is consistently abundantly evident, and certainly does not go unnoticed within the PR community.

"All of my students have different gifts and talents that I get to support in so many different ways. Every day I get to practice new skills and learn new things alongside them all, while also supporting them as they grow more and more each year into very successful people."

In addition to being a GATE teacher, Mr. Caric is also the sponsor and coach of the school's Mock Trial team. He teaches his students the important skills of leadership as he guides them to become blossoming young lawyers and helps them learn about the ways in which law and the courtroom works.

"When I first started teaching here, the school didn't have a Mock Trial coach, and a lot of the students I had interacted with in GATE were on the Mock Trial team. They convinced me to do it, and here we are. I have loved it ever since."

When asked what the most rewarding aspect of his job was, he proceeded to say that it was, well, everything, which makes all the sense in the world. After all, Mr. Caric is one of the most gracious and loving people there is, so it doesn't come as a surprise that every last bit of his job is his favorite part.

Continued..



PR TEACHERS PAGE 7



“I’d say that the most rewarding part of my job is... everything, really. I’m a very social person, so getting to interact with students who are so interested in learning and watching as they grow into such bright, successful people is so neat for me. I love it.”

As Caric continues to trail the track of Gifted Education at PR, he, of course, has many hopes and goals in store for himself and his students, both present and future.

“I want to keep watching my students become who they are going to be for the rest of their lives, and continue to be able to help them get to that place. It is the best thing in the world for me to get an email from a former student and hear what they are doing... I can’t wait to get more of those. It is so amazing when people become the best versions of themselves once they leave, and knowing that I was a part of that is just incredible.”

Mr. Caric is one of the greatest teachers, let alone people, you will ever come across. His careful dedication to his students and his career inspires everyone around him in every possible manner. He creates a secure, magnificent environment for those who know him, and he is a most remarkable support system. On behalf of all of his students, we love and appreciate Mr. Caric, and hope that he knows that.

“Mr. Caric has never failed to put a smile on my face; from Mock Trial to casual interactions in the hall, he is always uplifting, hilarious, and kind. I know that when I’m talking to him, he truly cares about what I have to say.”
- Sanika Das

“Mr. Caric is an excellent resource and a fantastic person who is always there when you need him, whether it be with a project due next period or just chatting about your day.”
- Adam Proctor

“I love that Mr. Caric’s room is a safe space at school. I know that I can always go down (if needed) at any time. He’s always there to listen to rants, offer support, and give advice, which I love and really appreciate.”
- Elizabeth Liebe

“Mr. Caric is very welcoming to everyone in the GATE room and is a thoughtful listener. He wants the best for his students and acknowledges their growth. I am so grateful for him.”
- Ella Yanni

“Mr. Caric is one of the most optimistic and understanding teachers I know. He is a great leader, has the best sense of humor, and there is never a dull moment when he is around.”
- Deeya Nayyar

“Mr. Caric is so fun to be around and always makes the GATE room interesting.”
- Logan Keegan

“Mr. Caric is really witty and insightful. Every conversation with him is a thrilling adventure.”
- Thomas DeVito

Mackenzie Roy wins the J-100 AFJROTC Character-in-Leadership Scholarship



Four years of 100% paid tuition at any university, or crosstown partner, with an AFROTC detachment
A \$10,000 per-year allowance for university-owned/on-campus housing
An annual book stipend, and a monthly cadet stipend. CONGRATULATIONS, MACKENZIE!



Ms. Shorr: *Get To Know PR's New History Teacher*

ELLA DAVIS STAFF WRITER



Ms. Shorr

What are some of your favorite movies?

"I love all the Star Wars movies." She also loves watching scary movies. One of her favorite horror movies is "Shutter." We can all agree that Ms. Shorr has excellent taste in movies!

What are your favorite activities to do outside of teaching?

Ms. Shorr loves Salsa dancing! She has been doing it for a long time and it has been one of her favorite hobbies ever since she started. She also loves Volleyball and she has even coached her team. Traveling is also something that she enjoys and she has been to so many different countries and places.

What kind of music do you listen to? Are there any specific bands or artists that you listen to?

Ms. Shorr loves pop-punk and rock music! Her favorite bands are New Found Glory and Matchbox Twenty.

What is your favorite lesson/period to teach in History?

Even though she teaches American History, she said, "I love the French Revolution."

What advice would you give students?

Shorr would tell students to stop worrying about what other people think about them because they probably aren't thinking about them in the first place. People are more worried about themselves than they are about you. Everyone should stop worrying so much and just enjoy life!

What is the coolest place that you have traveled to?

One of Ms. Shorr's many passions is traveling. She has traveled to so many different places, but her favorite trip was to Peru because of the cultural aspect. "The culture in Peru is so different from America." It was so interesting for her to see how they live life there compared to here in America. Another one of her favorite trips was to Ireland. She also plans to go on many trips in the future.

How is teaching at PR compared to teaching at other schools?

Ms. Shorr loves teaching at PR because there is "a higher focus on academic performance." She also feels that students who express themselves more are silly and show their true personalities. She also said she loved the previous schools where she has taught.

How would you describe your personality?

The main word she would use to describe herself is eclectic. She feels that her personality is a different mixture of traits. She would also describe herself as caring and funny.

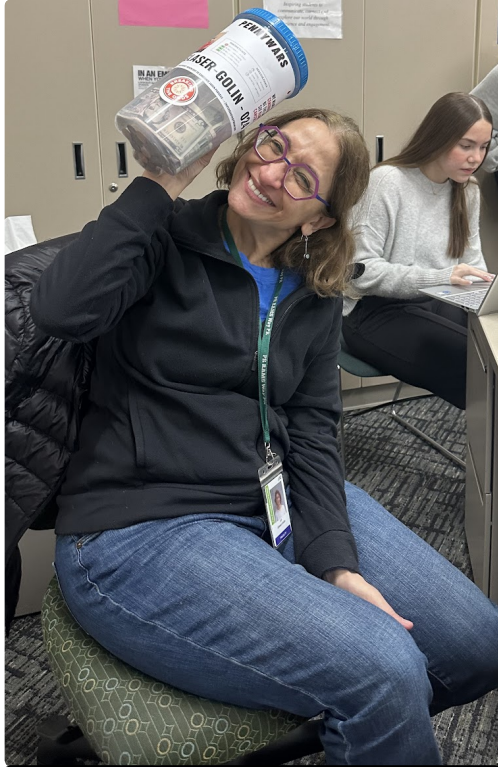
What is the best part of your job?

Ms. Shorr feels that the relationships that she has formed with students are the best part of her job. "I get to be an adult that isn't a family member but still has an influence in their life." She loves that students come to her when they need advice and she loves getting to know her students.



Meet Señora Glaser: A Multilingual Marvel

ANARELLA PENA STAFF WRITER



Señora Glaser

In the bustling halls of Pine-Richland High School, one teacher stands out for her command of languages and her remarkable journey and unforgettable experiences. Meet Lilliana Glaser-Golin, affectionately known as Lil. Señora Glaser's story is one of resilience, adventure, and a touch of serendipity. Born in Argentina, she went through continents, landing in Spain at the young age of 9.

Her teaching style reflects her rich tapestry of experiences. Incorporating gestures, stories, and even dances like the Macarena, Señora immerses her students in the language and culture she teaches. But her journey hasn't been without its share of obstacles. Señora is one of the most fun teachers in the building; her class is not only about teaching but about getting involved. I can assure you as a student of hers, it's impossible not to laugh in her class. Beyond her linguistic prowess, Señora's zest for life shines through anecdotes like meeting the former king of Spain while skiing and her son's unique "Spanglish" dialect. Her classroom is not just a space for learning but a gateway to understanding and appreciating the world beyond our borders. It's a classroom that invites anyone with a different or a not-so-common culture to feel welcomed and understood. For the AP Spanish students out there like myself, she makes the class feel chaotic in a good way, reading us kids' books in Spanish, or dancing when the computer doesn't work. She always has a new anecdote, like the one time she had to stay home for a day because she broke her tooth with a

pretzel! Yes, you got it right, **WITH A PRETZEL.** That was the highlight of her month. All the students in her classes were worried about her, then randomly she came back the next day.

"Oh! I just broke my tooth with a pretzel, nothing to worry about." -Señora Glaser

She is someone out of this world.

Despite facing setbacks like temporary blindness after a garage mishap, where she accidentally poured a bucket full of gasoline in her face, Señora's indomitable spirit and sense of humor never wavered. She's not just a teacher; she's a mentor, a storyteller, and a cultural ambassador, enriching the lives of her students with each lesson. She gets involved with every student she's in class with, always cracking jokes and making you feel like she's your friend. Not just a teacher but someone you will remember your whole life.

Glaser has been teaching at Pine-Richland High School for the past 29 years. We should celebrate more often the life and work of Lilliana Glaser-Golin, a true multilingual marvel whose passion for languages and life itself leaves a persistent mark on all who have the privilege of knowing her.



Señora Glaser & Anarella Pena



This Summer: Here's what to look forward to

ELLA BARKLEY STAFF WRITER

It's come to the point in the year where everybody feels so helpless. February is almost over, it's cold outside, it feels like the sun never comes out anymore, and the start of the second semester has practically already overtaken you. As much as you may love the snow, you are over it and just want to feel the sun rays on your back with not a thought in sight about the workload of school. You think "Geez, why can I never catch a break?" but then another three tests have been added to your week, you're working after school till 9, practice starts up next week and your parents keep nagging you to keep up with the chores around the house. What you need is for summer to roll around again. Everything always seems so much easier to do when it's nice outside and you aren't crunched for time every school night when trying to get the recommended 8 hours of sleep every night.

For a quick moment, take some time to think about the past couple of summers. Instead of trying to plan around a full 7 hour school day, you had practically the entire day to plan. You were able to go to bed or wake up at any time of the day. The sun was up from 6 am till almost 9 pm. For the upperclassmen, you were able to drive to hang out with your friends or just to pick up some food. You had a lot more flexibility with your job hours which led to making more money. And for the high schoolers with older siblings in college, you can see them more often and spend quality time doing things you may not have been able to do if you had tons of homework or hours of practice. And on top of all of this, you can go on fun vacations with your friends and family. Whether it is a couple-hour drive to Virginia Beach, a flight down to Florida, or an exotic trip to Europe, memories were made and time flew faster than ever before.

Practically anyone would want to go back to sitting on the beach with your cousins with a UV of 10, ice cream in hand and the sound of seagulls flying past you with no clouds in sight. You think to yourself, "I would live this life every day if I could."

So in case you are feeling this exact way right now, here are some activities and things to look forward to this summer. Yes, it's important to live in the present, but summer is too good not to pass up looking forward to. First things first are going swimming either in

the pool or in the ocean. It's not every day where you get to go swimming, so taking advantage of it is something you'll want to do. Another feel-good activity is driving while the sun is setting and listening to music while your hair is blowing in the wind. If you haven't done that before, I highly recommend it. When your favorite artist comes to town, make it a point to see them in concert. It's not every day that you get to experience live music in the summer heat of downtown Pittsburgh. This may seem simple, but go out and get some food from a food truck. So many restaurants might have food trucks that you just aren't aware of. It's something different and unique from your typical restaurant. Carnivals are

a perfect place to go and find so many different types of food while also playing games and riding roller coasters. And if you're lucky enough, you can find a Ferris wheel there to see the sunset from the top of it.

Think about it: good times are coming. So enjoy the school year now and soon enough June will come around and you'll feel more relieved than ever.



(from left to right) Juniors Nicolina Phillips, Ava Means, Rylee Ulanowicz, and Ella Barkley at the Butler Fair last summer

PENNY WARS COMPETITION: The 2024 Penny Wars continue to raise money for Blood Cancer. This is a reminder to continue to donate today through March 20th. 1 penny is equal to 1 point, while silver coins can be used to sabotage other Homerooms. The three homerooms that raise the most points will get breakfast during an upcoming activity period.



“Senioritis” Too Soon: PR Juniors Struggle to Find Motivation

CALLE HENNE STAFF WRITER

“Senioritis” is a term often used to describe students who are struggling to get through their last year of high school, but as the 2nd half of the year begins, juniors at PR are starting to find themselves in that same situation. Junior year is notoriously the hardest year of high school because of the stress with beginning the college search and focusing on grades, especially with AP classes. The stress can come from a build up of a busy schedule, priorities, and lack of interest.

Junior Kylie Schneck said, “There is a lot of work that goes into preparing for college, and I’d rather just not do the work and be in college already. Though I feel like I have more freedom this year being able to drive and pick pretty much whatever classes I’d like, I feel like I want to move forward and skip the school part of high school.”

Through the college application process, students’ applications don’t only include their academic transcripts, but also their extracurricular activities. Schneck is also extremely involved outside of school as a field hockey player, basketball player, student government vice president of class of 2025, National Honor Society member, girls lacrosse manager, and trumpet player in the band.



Junior Kylie Schneck

Abbey Skripac, a junior, is the president of Sci-Girls, participates in orchestra, is a member of National Honor Society and key club, and is on the PR softball team, as well as a second travel team. She said, “I lack motivation towards school because of stress and getting all my work done. I am participating in lots of extracurriculars so I don’t have lots of time to finish homework or study. My activities exhaust me, so I don’t want to finish my work by the time I get home.”



Junior Abbey Skripac (Middle) with 2 senior friends

Another junior, Illy Aggelou, has her schedule packed with CHS business calculus, Honors Physics, Honors English 11, Honors French 3, and AP US History. Along with school, Aggelou is on the PR softball team and a second travel team, and is also in student government.

Aggelou said, “Sometimes after being at school all day, the last thing I want to do is come home and study more. In comparison to the feeling of “senioritis,” the way I feel is similar in the sense that I’m just trying to make it to the end of something- whether that be the end of the quarter, the semester, or year.”

With still a year and a half to go, new strategies are a necessity. “I’m trying to make studying more of a habit than a chore. Changing the way I think about school and homework hopefully will keep me more motivated during the second half of the year,” said Aggelou.



Junior Illy Aggelou

Come spring, Aggelou and Skripac will both be in full swing with their softball season. Therefore, their focus may start to shift to their sport opposed to their academics, so Skripac’s goal is to quit procrastinating and get ahead on her work- that way she doesn’t fall behind while balancing softball and school. Schneck, who is finishing up her basketball season and will move into managing the lacrosse team in the spring, has her focus on college. “To get through the second half of junior year, I’ll remind myself that I have to work hard to make sure I get into the college(s) I would like to go to and take breaks when I need them,” she said.

Junior year is a test of perseverance, struggle, and finding ways to stay on top. Always remember that things have to get harder before they get easier, and at the end of junior year, you can feel the satisfaction of pushing through.



Meet Me at Noon

By Ella Barkley, Kate Iams, Aurelia Landis, Lauren Marsilio

Hudson takes a deep breath before saying, “Fine. I’ll try to sneak out.”

The atmosphere in the room turns to excitement and joy, as the other three friends jump up and down and hug Hudson. “I’ll help you plan your escape. You’re not going to regret this.” Ivy exclaims.

Tony grins. “Look at you being spontaneous and sneaky Huds.” Rory smiles at his remark. “I guess it’s a go? Ivy, what do you think we should do?”

“You know my mom watches me like a hawk. She’s gonna find out.” Hudson sighs.

Ivy perks up. “That’s why we are all going to tell our parents different excuses. You just have an extra obstacle. You didn’t think I already thought this through?”

“Just relax, it’s going to be fine.” says Tony

“Here’s what we are going to do.” Ivy starts.

Rory rolls her eyes. “Here we go again. Let’s hear this plan of yours.”

“Tony: Tell your mom you’re going to buy more designer items and you’ll be there awhile. We all know that’s not too far-fetched.” Ivy says.

He laughs, “You know me so well, Ivy. She’d buy it. It’s technically not a lie if I buy that new Gucci jacket I’ve been looking at while we are gone.”

“Rory: Tell your dad you got a gig playing at a restaurant and you don’t wanna pass up this opportunity.” Ivy demands.

“Not a bad idea. He may question it, but if I pull the Mom card he’d buy it. And it would give me a few hours.” Rory agrees.

“Hudson: I’ll pick you up at 11:45 tomorrow morning. All of you, go home and pack bags, clothes for any weather or occasion, and Hudson, for the love of God, pack deodorant. In the morning, make sure your bags are ready and meet me behind the Gas & Go at noon. We can get snacks and pop because I know Hudson needs his Powerade.” Ivy cackles. “Huds, turn off Life 360. Maybe just delete it completely. Since your parents have sensors on the doors, use that window on your first floor bathroom to get out. There’s no screen. They are at work right?”

Hudson nods.

“Wow Ivy, that’s actually a solid idea!” Rory cheers.

“I already call shotgun!” Tony shouts, “I can’t crease my new Dior shoes.”

“You’re ridiculous. I guess it’s me and Hudson in the back because I can’t be trusted behind the wheel. Ivy, would you do the honors of driving us?” Rory says.

“You know I would.” Ivy smirks as she stands up, grabs the last piece of pizza, and heads toward the door. “See you all tomorrow,” she remarks.

See you next
week for Chapter
Four!

SPRING MUSICAL: Mark your calendars! This year's spring musical Mamma Mia! will have shows at 7:30 pm on March 15th, 16th, and 22nd. There will be a show at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm on Saturday, March 23rd, with a free Senior Citizen show at 4:00 pm on Thursday, March 14th. Tickets are on sale now!