



PINE-RICHLAND RAMPAGE

THURSDAY MAY 23RD, 2024 ^{NO} 22
"DELIVERING HIGH SCHOOL NEWS...
ONE PAGE AT A TIME."



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

<https://www.pinerichland.org/Page/5624>

In This Issue:

- Favorite Vacations
- Disney Trip Pictures
- Summer Break

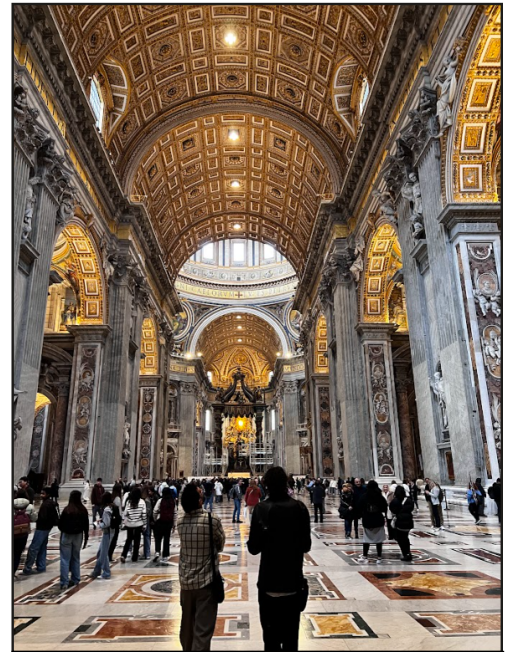
See Rome & Athens Through the Eyes of JROTC Cadets: *Nations Rich with Culture*

MARIANNA ZAHORCHAK STAFF WRITER

Imagine yourself strolling down the alley of an open-air market in a nation far away. You turn to your right and see the intricately-carved designs of different pieces at a nearby woodshop. Traders call out to you offering authentic olive oil. Along your stroll in the sunny 60-degree weather, you decide to stop at a restaurant where you taste the finest food you've ever had.

On February 28, 83 members of the PRHS AFJROTC program experienced just that on their 8-day trip to Rome and Athens. While on the fun but educational trip, the group visited many historical monuments and locations such as Pompeii, as well as the looming mountain that destroyed it: Mount Vesuvius. Additionally, they visited Delphi, the Parthenon on Acropolis, the Colosseum, St. Peter's Church, Apollo's Temple, the Papal Palace where they saw Leonardo Da Vinci's paintings, and more. The students learned about the historical background of the places they visited from multiple insightful tour guides. **CONTINUED...**

Sophomore Zo Bednar and freshman Josh Hornyak said it was fascinating to see the ancient areas, specifically the 2000-year-old mountains at Pompeii. Sophomore Dominic Martini enjoyed the group's time in Athens the most because there were "so many cool markets and unique districts."



Saint Peter's Church: Photo by sophomore Blake Danik



THURSDAY
MAY 23

HIGH: 80
LOW: 58



FRIDAY
MAY 24

HIGH: 82
LOW: 61



SATURDAY
MAY 25

HIGH: 80
LOW: 56

WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT
MAY 23 - MAY 29

SUNDAY
MAY 26

HIGH: 78
LOW: 59



MONDAY
MAY 27

HIGH: 71
LOW: 58



TUESDAY
MAY 28

HIGH: 72
LOW: 54



WEDNESDAY
MAY 29

HIGH: 68
LOW: 53



VACATION PAGE 2



In addition, sophomore Tim Ha made sure to mention the “simplistic, yet quality spices and seasonings” used in Rome’s authentic Italian pizza.

In our little bubble of American culture, it can be hard to picture living our daily lives any other way. And while American culture is heavily exported to other nations, the unique traditions of foreign nations are still alive and thriving. Students were shocked by the difference in Roman and Athenian culture. Life in general moves at a much slower pace in these cities as citizens enjoy taking time to slow down and live in the moment. According to Bednar, Romans and Athenians see the true value in quality over quantity.

“We were all very hungry, so we went to this restaurant, but we had to wait 30 minutes for the waiters to come out and

take our order. It was definitely worth it, though,” Bednar said, reminiscing over the delectable food that was eventually served to the group.

Ha agreed with Bednar’s statement.

“There was a certain quality in the air. When we walked through alleys, doors were always left invitingly open,” Ha said.

The native citizens were friendly in other ways, too. Most were eager to practice their English skills, although they did appreciate tourists’ attempts to speak their native languages.

Overall, the trip was a success and fostered the creation of many memories for JROTC cadets to remember for years to come. If you’re interested in going on an international trip like this one, you may want to consider joining JROTC! Trips like this happen every other year in the program. Where do you think they’ll go next?



Apollo's Temple in Delphi, Greece: Photo by Chief Gasparetto



Mountains in Delphi, photo provided by JROTC photographer sophomore Blake Danik



Whole group photo at the Colosseum, photo provided by Chief Gasparetto



VACATIONS PAGE 3



Universal Parks



Universal Parks



Junior Anarella Pena with Despicable me character Vector



The Minions Bakery

**ALL PHOTOS
PROVIDED BY
ANARELLA
PENNA**

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.

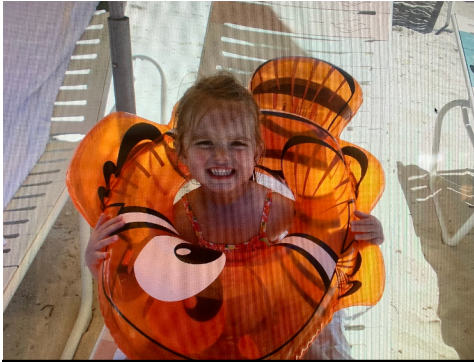


VACATION PAGE 4



Hilton Head Island, South Carolina: 17 Times and Counting

ELLA BARKLEY STAFF WRITER



Ella (Age 4) at Hilton Head Island

This vacation spot that holds a special place in my heart for a variety of reasons. Every summer since I've been born I have traveled down to South Carolina to spend a week with my family in Hilton Head Island. So if you're counting how many years that would be and you guessed seventeen, then you would be correct. That might seem like an absurd amount of times to travel to the same



Sunrise at Hilton Head Island

place every year, but for me I wouldn't want it any other way. So you've probably heard of this special place. It's a favorite among Pine-Richland students. Hilton Head has so much to offer for being such a small island where it only stretches 5 miles wide and 12 miles long. The amount of things to do, eat, watch, and try out with your family on this island is insane. And every time I go back, it always surprises me that I find more and more new things to do which is one of the reasons I love it so much and don't get that feeling of bore going each year.

Starting off strong, Hilton Head is home to tons of athletic activities. Not only can you do land activities, but there are more than enough water related activities such as parasailing, kayaking, or even jet skiing. For the most part, the island is pretty flat which allows you to do so many things, but most importantly bike riding. Everywhere you look, you'll most likely see someone on a bike whether it is on the beach, near the houses, or various trails throughout the island. Along with the popular bike riding, pickle ball has become the newest and popular attraction for people of all ages. From sunrise till sunset, there's always games going on. Hilton Head also holds the PGA tour at the golf course in Harbour Town certain



Ella and her sister at Hilton Head Island (2024)

years which makes it a very popular destination. But that's just one of the 30 golf courses available to people on the island. If you want to make your time at Hilton Head worth your while, then there are definitely some destination spots on the island where you will get the full experience. Along with hanging

by the beach, you'll want to visit Harbour Town in Sea Pines. This is where you can climb the iconic lighthouse and look out to the amazing view of the Atlantic Ocean. There is tons of shopping to do along with live music every night while eating dinner at one of the many restaurant options they have. A very well known and favored spot to visit would be the Salty Dog Cafe. Waterfront restaurants that specialize in seafood and when you leave make sure to stop by the Salty Dog Cafe T-shirt shop to grab a souvenir. So whether you've been over ten times in your life or have never gone before and are looking for a fun vacation spot this summer with your family, I highly recommend this spot. There's a reason that people love it so much and continue to go back every year just like me. This place represents my childhood and all the wonderful memories that have been created. It's become my family's spot and I wouldn't want it any other way.



DISNEY TRIP PAGE 5



Freshman Sofia Dent and Alessia Miller

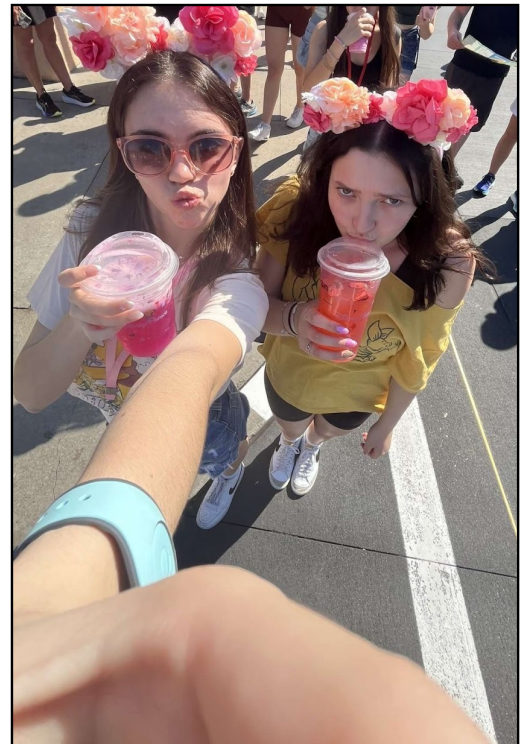


Freshman Bree Arthur, Samantha Augustine, Isabelle Crocco



Sophomore Addilyn Nichols with her brother Ryland Nichols in Disney World

ALL
PHOTOS
PROVIDED
BY
MADISON
HOMER



Freshman Sofia Dent, Samantha Augustine



My Spring Break Vacation: Negril, Jamaica

IZZY BANJAK STAFF WRITER 27ebanjak64@prrams.org

This spring break my family and I went to **Negril, Jamaica** for the second time. The trip there is relatively long and exhausting, but this time it was even worse. We first flew to Baltimore which was a short flight and had no issues but then we had our connecting flight to Jamaica. It was super rainy so we weren't able to take off and had to sit in the airplane for over an hour then when it was finally time to take off we had to switch planes cause something was wrong with ours. So, by the time we took off we were 2 hours behind and had to rearrange the taxi time to take us to the resort. Once we finally got to Jamaica we had to drive almost 2 hours to Negril, which was where our all inclusive was. Then we finally got to the front desk to check in and we were told our room would not be ready until tomorrow so we had to stay in a room that didn't have enough beds for all of us.

After the whole catastrophe of traveling I woke up the next day to the sounds of waves crashing on the beach and the bright sun shining through the balcony. The rest of the trip was amazing, the UV was always high and it didn't rain once.



View of the Beach from Izzy's Hotel Room

Most of my day time was spent reading multiple books on the beach or playing volleyball with some girls I met. At night we went to lots of nice restaurants along the beach or in the resort and afterwards they always had parties that we could go to. Even though it was a total train wreck getting there I think it was worth it for a week of beach time.

Rampage Newspaper Staff Writers:

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The RAMPAGE is published every week.



DISNEY TRIP PAGE 7



Senior Avyuhkta Nagrath. Junior Brian Ock

ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JOEY DELIE



Flower Garden in Epcot



Seniors Nathan Bang, Luke Ridgeway, Tamonosh Karkthikeyan, Yash Shah, Liam Francis, Avyukta Nagrath



Disney's Cinderella Castle



VACATION PAGE 8



Paradise On Earth: My Favorite Family Tradition

ELLA DAVIS STAFF WRITER

Every year on the first day of summer, my family packs our bags and heads for the small island across the bay of North Carolina. With my dog happily sticking his head out the window to smell the fresh, salty air we cross the bridge and make our way past the beautiful beach houses until we get to our town, Carolla. We arrive at our gorgeous, yellow sound-front home and wait for my cousins and grandparents to arrive. Once everyone is reunited, we all enjoy dinner together and watch the sunset to mark the first night of our vacation. The rest of our time is spent going to the glorious beach and swimming in the ocean for hours upon hours each day—it never ever gets old. In the morning, everyone bikes to a smoothie bar and bookstore to start the day off perfectly.

Nothing beats waking up to the tranquil waves of the sound and smell of pancakes coming from the kitchen upstairs.

After biking and enjoying a delicious breakfast, everyone packs up, lathers sunscreen, and hops in the golf-cart to get to the beach as early as possible.

My cousins and I have a tradition where we grab our skateboards and hop in the golf cart to drive around during the sunset through all of the beach houses.

We hold onto our skateboards and some of us hop off of the golf cart to skate alongside it.



Ella Davis with her cousins and her brother

Each day is filled with laughter, adventure, and relaxation and it has truly become our second home during the summer. Words can't even perfectly describe the perfection of this trip. Life at the Outer Banks is so much happier and more peaceful and it is my absolute favorite place in the entire world.



Ella and her cousins Parasailing



A view of the beach from Ella's vacation home



MVP Race at an End: *Did Nikola Jokic deserve a third time award?*

JACK HADLEY STAFF WRITER

After a historic 2023-2024 NBA season, the MVP award—which was up for debate the whole year on who it should go to was awarded to Nikola Jokić, commonly known as **Joker**. This is Joker's third time winning this award, putting him in an elite category as only the ninth player ever to do so. But did he deserve this award?

Before we dive into the other contenders let's give the Joker his flowers because he really did have a special season. Putting up averages of 26.4 points, 12.4 rebounds, and 9 assists a game while playing 79 games this year. His team also saw a lot of success this year having 57 wins to 25 losses. He was also a very efficient scorer shooting 58.3% from the field but his game still has weaknesses: most notably his lack of defense.

If this award didn't go to Jokić, who would it have gone to? Many players had historic seasons this year such as Giannis Antetokounmpo, Jayson Tatum, and LeBron James. But there were really only two players who challenged Jokić, this being Luka Dončić and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander.

Let's start with who I personally would have given the award to, Luka Dončić. Luka averaged 33.9 points, 9.2 rebounds, and 9.8 assists a game. Before this year no player has ever averaged even 31, 9, and 9 for a whole season. His 33.9 points per game were also enough to lead the league in scoring while his 9.8 assists a game was a close second.

Another all-time season came from Shai Gilgeous-Alexander. SGA became only the third guard ever, the other two being Micheal Jordan and Stephen Curry, to average over 30 points a game while shooting over 50%. While not only being great offensively, Shai also shines where the other two lack: defensively.

He led the NBA in steals while guarding often the opponent's best player. Not only were his stats, but he also led his team to the best record in the west, which the other two also play in, this was a huge jump from last year when his team finished with a losing record.

Regardless of who won I think as fans we can just appreciate how many all-time greats this generation of basketball has.



Nikola Jokić



Luka Dončić



Shai Gilgeous-Alexander



Ready for Summer: *Feeling Done with School? Me Too*

IZZY BANJAK STAFF WRITER

27ebanjak64@prrams.org

I may be only a freshman, but oh how I am so ready for summer and to leave high school behind for three months. I genuinely don't think I've been this done with school before, mentally; I can never seem to focus, I have absolutely no motivation for anything school related, and I can never seem to wake up on time. Is this some sort of freshman slump? I can barely bring myself to write this article. But this is a problem: it's finals and Keystones season, and I need to pass my English and Biology Keystone. Even though I know the importance of these big tests, I still can't bring myself to study. My procrastination is 5 times worse than it was at the beginning of the school year, and I don't know why. I have never felt so out of it before and I don't know how to fix it. Is this what senioritis feels like? Or that weird "Sophomore Slump" thing I've seen all over TikTok? Maybe I've created a "Freshman Slump." Either way, I seriously do not think I've ever been this tired. Since when is the fourth quarter the hardest? Maybe I'm just having a few bad weeks...but I'm still so over school. I'm hoping that I'm able to study well enough to do well on my finals though. I definitely think I did super well on the English Keystone, but I'm good at English. The Biology Keystone is a whole other story that I definitely need to study for. Hopefully this "Freshman Slump" goes away in time.

Let the countdown to summer begin! Only 7 more days of school remain! Stay Strong!

PICK UP YOUR YEARBOOK IN ROOM 221 OR 217 OR AFTER SCHOOL.

NOT TOO LATE TO PURCHASE A YEARBOOK:

\$80 CASH

SEE MRS. HARSHMAN

SENIOR DINNER DANCE: Attention Seniors. The Senior Dinner Dance will be held Friday May, 31st on the Gateway Clipper. Tickets sales are closed. Be sure to bring extra money to pay for parking in Station Square on May 31st. If anyone has questions they can contact Dr. Sipe or Mr. Pollock.



PICTURES PAGE 11



Pine-Richland Through the Lense of a Camera: A Pine-Richland Wrap-up



A view of the Ram Cage at Sunset



Students after the Students Vs. Staff Basketball game



A view of the Stadium



Walking to school in the dead of winter



A picture taken of the PR Girls Soccer team during a game

**ALL PHOTOS
PROVIDED BY
ELLA
BARKLEY**



School sun rise



Two Members of PR Girls Soccer on the Field



School sun rise by tennis court

PR LOCAL NEWS:

PICKELBALL TOURNAMENT: Attention Pickleball lovers! The Student Government Class of 2025 is hosting their second annual Pickleball Tournament Friday May 24th at 2:45 PM. Grab a partner and join us in raising money for Children's Hospital. Scan the QR code on the flyers posted around the building. Entries are 5 dollars per person and sign-ups will be held during all lunch periods today through Tuesday, May 21st. Tournament winners will be announced and awarded gift cards, so bring the competition!

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS: Attention juniors enrolled in next year's AP Literature & Composition for 12th grade, there will be an informational meeting after school on Wednesday, May 29th in Global Studies until 3:30. Please mark your calendars so that you can attend this mandatory meeting. A make-up meeting is scheduled for Thursday morning, May 30 in Global Studies from 7:10 to 7:40. You must attend one of these meetings. See Mrs. Fink in room 206 if you have questions.

BOOK DRIVE: Pine Township Youth Council is hosting a Book Drive at the high school until Friday, May 31st. All books collected will be donated to the UPMC Children's Family Care Connection Center.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Open gyms will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 5pm to 6pm in the high school gym. Sessions are open to all rising 7th through 12th grade girls.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Open gyms will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 3pm to 5:30pm in the high school gym. Sessions are open to all boys in grades 7 through 11. Bring a basketball!

BASEBALL: This past Tuesday night, the Rams lost to North Allegheny by a score of 5 to 4 in the WPIAL 6A semifinals. The loss ends the season for the team.

**DON'T MISS THE LAST ISSUE
OF THE RAMPAGE NEXT WEEK,
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO
SENIORS!**