

Issue 15 RAMPAGE

March 20, 2025

**THIS YEAR'S PROM
THEME IS HOLLYWOOD
NIGHT! TICKETS WILL
BE ON SALE APRIL 3
THROUGH APRIL 9, IN
THE PINE-RICHLAND
HIGH SCHOOL FRONT
LOBBY BEFORE SCHOOL.**

CAST OF 42ND STREET TAKES FINAL BOW SPRING MUSICAL WRAPS UP

Delivering high
school news...one
page at a time!
Pine-Richland High
School



**"Joining the musical was stepping into
a family, where the magic of the show
was only matched by the incredible
people who brought it to life."**

-Senior Vaughn Spencer

Photo by Brandon Pierce



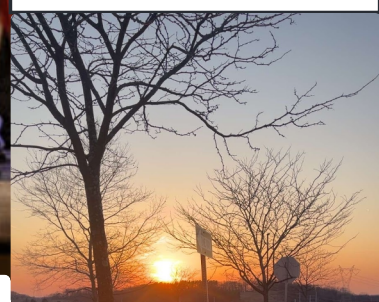
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Student Life

The 4th Quarter

What To Expect During the Last Nine Weeks

SOPHIA KERNS STAFF WRITER

As the third quarter ends, the fourth quarter begins. That means we are almost done with the 2024-2025 school year. But, we cannot start thinking about summer yet. There are still some major events that happen during the 4th quarter. Here is a look into what you need to know as we enter the last nine weeks.

There are quite a few days off during the 4th quarter. Our first break is in April for Spring Break. We have off the week of April 13th and return to school on Monday, April 21st. Our next day off falls on Friday, May 2nd. This is a Teacher In-Service day. The final day off of the year will be on Monday, May 26th. This day off is for Memorial Day. The last day of school will be June 6th for 9-11th grade. Seniors will have their last day of school on May 30th.

May and June have a lot of important dates to remember. Prom will take place on Saturday, May 10th for Juniors and Seniors. Graduation will take place the day after school ends on Friday, June 7th.

Students will also be taking Keystones at the end of the 4th quarter. This testing will take place during the weeks of May 11th and May 18th. Finals are also going to be during this quarter. Make sure that you are getting enough sleep before tests and try your best. The school year is almost over, but make sure to keep your head in the game. We still have nine weeks to go. I wish everyone luck in the final quarter.



QR Code to the
Pine-Richland calendar on
the district website

PR Student Spotlight

A Look into the Life of Senior Braylee Rowe

KATE IAMS STAFF WRITER

Where are you planning to go to college, and what is your major?

I am planning to go to Ohio University, and major in Physical therapy.

Are you more extroverted or introverted, and why?

I am more extroverted, because I am outgoing and not shy. I also like hanging out with friends.

Do you work anywhere?

Yes, I work at Giant Eagle Market District in Wexford.

What is your favorite place to eat, and why?

Texas Roadhouse because their food is actually amazing. I love their rolls with butter.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go, and why?

Hawaii, because I have always wanted to go there since I was a kid, and I heard so many good things about all the islands.

What is your favorite food?

Chicken.

Would you rather live in a city or at a beach?

I would rather live on a beach, because it is much more calm and relaxing than living in a city. I am more of a beach person than a city person.

What is your favorite memory from high school so far?

My favorite memory is definitely Friday night football games. It is so fun to get ready with your friends and all go to the game, then hang out after.

How are you feeling about graduating in a couple months, are you excited?

I am excited and nervous to graduate in a couple months. I am excited to be done with high school, and be in a new environment, and meet new people. I am nervous about all the changes coming.



Senior Braylee Rowe

Student Life

Photos by Mr. Caric



CONGRATULATIONS MOCK TRIAL!

For the first time in PR history, the mock trial team is heading to the state competition in Harrisburg March 28-29!

(left to right) Seniors June McCune, Ian Hurt, Junior Deeya Nayyar, Seniors Eliza Lazzaro, Jillian Uzelac, and Anna Karmanos Senior Willian Tamburri, Junior Sanika Das, Senior JoJo Barbiaux, Junior Brooke Deegan, Seniors Nedda Immen, and Ava Muster.

4 Quotes for Quarter 4

Staying Motivated At The End Of The Year

ISABELLE HOPPE STAFF WRITER

“Success is a decision.” The end of the year comes a natural decline in motivation, so this is the time when your decisions are the most important. You can choose to end the year on a high note and let all of the hard work you’ve already done pay off, or you can get too relaxed and possibly compromise the grades you’ve acquired over the quarters. However, if you’ve had a rough third quarter, or maybe even a rough year altogether, there is still time. You can make the choice to turn your year around by being prepared for your finals and really emphasizing your quarter grades.

“There is no ‘right time’, there is just time and what you choose to do with it.” This one is for all the people that think it is too late to turn their year around. It is never too late to make an effort and put your grades first. It can seem overwhelming to start at this point in the year, but late is better than never and you can absolutely make a difference in your overall grade by locking in now.

“Push yourself now, because one day, your hard work will be the foundation of your success.” The work you do now not only prepares you for your future, but also sets up habits that can be essential to your success. Working hard now, when the weather is getting warm, the year is ending, and summer is right around the corner, teaches you to do your best work even when there are things pulling you in different directions. Regardless of whether or not you decide to take the college route, these skills are what set you up to thrive no matter the path.

“A bad semester or one bad grade won’t define your future.” As much as grades *are* important, there is too much pressure to be perfect for the sake of your future and more specifically, colleges. Some people work as hard as they possibly can in a class, yet still get a B or C in the end. While this is discouraging, it is not the end all be all. One class will not be the determining factor of anything, the whole is always worth more than the sum of its parts.

Student Life

Mrs. Bruno Earns Rob Zellers Award for Excellence in Arts Education A Tribute To 30 Years Of Hard Work

ISABELLE HOPPE STAFF WRITER

On February 17, the prestigious Rob Zellers Award for Excellence in Arts Education was bestowed upon one of our own: English and Theater teacher Mrs. Bruno. This is not only a huge achievement for her, but also for the district, as it is a reflection of Mrs. Bruno's work through the performance of her students.

"This means so much because we have so many working in the arts and this is not just a reflection of me, but of all the students that have walked through my door, entrusted me with their creative process, and have now made arts their life from Broadway to Bard," she said.

This is an award presented annually to a teacher that the selection committee feels embodies an inspiring spirit, and someone that has truly impacted the arts.

"I had no idea I was even up for it. I answered the phone one day and when she told me I sat there with my mouth open for what felt like 30 seconds, until I asked her to repeat herself because I just couldn't believe it."

It is not often that individuals are recognized in education, so this is nothing short of rewarding. Mrs. Bruno was able to give a speech at the Shakespeare competition that Pine-Richland students John Folino and Jillian Uzelac competed and took home first place. She kept it relatively brief and put all the emphasis on what she believed this award was truly about: her students. She even adds a nod to Shakespeare at the end.

"Shakespeare invites us to experience life, love, and poetry, and performance. May we all strive to create a meaningful verse."

Seton Hill University-Juniors Immersive Arts Day Event:

Date- March 22, 2025

EQT Energize Your Education Scholarship Program:

Deadline- March 25, 2025

Citizen Bank Scholarship: Deadline- March 31, 2025

Epilepsy Foundation of Western Pennsylvania three \$1,500 seven \$1,000 scholarships: Deadline- April 7, 2025

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation 2025

Landmarks Scholarship Award: Deadline- April 15, 2025

Pittsburgh Italian Scholarship Fund: Deadline- April 15, 2025

2025 North Hills Ebony Women Norma Jean Duncan Ware Scholarship: Deadline- April 3, 2025

PMHF Community Service Scholarship: Deadline- April 25, 2025

Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of

Commerce Foundation Scholarship: Deadline- April 30, 2025

Three Rivers Desk and Derrick Club scholarships: Deadline- June 30, 2025



*Jillian Uzelac, Mrs. Bruno, and John Folino
Photos by Mrs. Bruno*



Photos by Mrs. Bruno

Sports

Steelers are Looking Different: Free Agency Moves Update

SHOME RAO STAFF WRITER

It's now the off season in the NFL, and teams are making moves to benefit them the most. Our Pittsburgh Steelers are one of the more weaker teams that need to change things around, and they are. With two round-one exits in the past two seasons, the Steelers need to look for a real playoff push in the fall.

The biggest move so far was getting rid of our strong backup quarterback, Justin Fields. Traded to the New York Jets, he's now paired up with his college teammate Garrett Wilson. It was nice having Fields on the team, he was a great backup and helped the team out in tough situations, but unfortunately his contract was too expensive, so he was let go. As of right now, the quarterback situation on Pittsburgh is pretty lackluster.

With the return of Mason Rudolph and the recruitment of Skye Moore, the Steelers need a proper starter. Their options are really only between re-signing Russell Wilson, signing free agent Aaron Rodgers, or drafting a rookie quarterback. Hopefully in the next few weeks the right choice is made, because the boys in black look great on offense due to one specific move.

Star wide receiver from the Seattle Seahawks recently signed a 4-year, \$132 million contract with Pittsburgh. This move was great because we really needed a strong option down the field other than George Pickens. Many say this may be the deadliest receiver duo, as both are known to get into scuffles with defenders.

Other moves on offense include trading our main runningback Najee Harris to the Los Angeles Chargers. Despite his strong performances



Darius Slay (left) and DK Metcalf (right) with Steelers Head Coach Mike Tomlin (middle)

the past few seasons, he never really impacted each game much. This likely means we will draft a runningback in April, and the options look nice.

Over to the defense, lots of additions have been made, the most important being at the cornerback position. Former Eagles captain and SuperBowl champion Darius Slay signed a 1-year, \$10 million contract to lead our defense next season. This definitely helps, despite his old age, because our secondary is in needing a strong leader that can play strong and humble.

Overall the Steelers may not have a very strong season in the fall, but they may be able to do better than last year. Still, many moves are yet to be made, so we really never know what could happen.

Photos by @pramssoftball



The softball team had a successful spring training trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee!

There were 3 varsity games and 3 JV games, which ended in 6 wins for PR!

37 runs were scored in the 3 games for varsity!

Spring Collection

Warmer Weather

How To Embrace The Sun's Rays

AVA BARSON STAFF WRITER

As we track our way through the month of March, it is clear that the weather is beginning to change. The week of March 9 had a low of 60 with the highs going all the way to 70. On top of that most days of the week seemed to be sunny with no rain. So how can we embrace this change?

Since it is now warmer outside that means it's comfortable to go on walks again. A popular location for walking is

North Park because of its paths that take you around the lake. You can bring a friend with you or even a pet. I recently took my dog on a walk through the park and it felt freeing to not be stuck in the cold anymore. Maybe even hit up Kool Kones for some ice cream as a reward.

Now that the weather is permitting, maybe it's time to clean the car. All through the winter the salt on the ground has been splashing on the cars so it's finally time to clean the cars. Not only can you clean the outside, you can take the opportunity to clean the inside of the car. Maybe even start some interior designing to make your car more unique to you.

Everybody knows that reading is beneficial for you and your vocabulary. So why not try reading outside? Having the sun shining on you while you read can be more relaxing than it may seem. Same idea for other activities like if you have homework you need to do or want to do some painting. If you are feeling social you can have a picnic outside with some friends or even break out the bikes again. Take a nice relaxing bike ride around the neighborhood. Or gather your friends and play games like volleyball, soccer, etc. Pine Community Park is a great location where you can play ball with your friends. They have sand volleyball courts and baseball fields you can play on.

Although it is not summer yet, the warmth is starting to arrive. It can be relaxing and rewarding going outside during times like these so embrace it. No one wants to be stuck inside all day especially after the rough, snowy winter we just had. So get out there and enjoy the sun, but don't forget your sunscreen.



Why Do We Celebrate April Fool's Day?

A Look into the History

VIENNA RESTELLI STAFF WRITER

Celebrated every first of April is April Fools' Day — a day full of fun and harmless pranks to those you're close with. But how did such a unique holiday come to be? Why April 1st and not some other day? To truly form an answer to these questions, we must take a look at the holiday's origins and history, which includes the switching of calendars, the history of pranks, and much more.

According to *History.com*, April Fools' may have dated back to 1582, when France had switched calendars from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. This confused many people as they used to celebrate the new year on April 1st, but with the new Gregorian calendar, it was January 1st. The previous day they once celebrated as the new year became a day full of pranks and jokes. According to *Library Of Congress.gov*, a French term, "poisson d'avril," is the name of a person pranked on April Fools' Day. It translates to "April fish," and is from a 1508 poem by Eloy D'Amerval.

April Fools' didn't really start to spread until the 18th century in Britain. It was a two-day event. On day one, people were sent on meaningless errands, otherwise known as "hunting the gowk," *gowk* meaning cuckoo bird/fool. On day two, people would put fake tails on each other or "kick me" signs; this was also known as Tailie Day. According to *TODAY.com*, we pull pranks because of the basic human desire to be mischievous. It's also not much of a shock that we prefer being the ones pulling the pranks than getting pranked ourselves. So, if you plan on pranking someone this April Fools' Day, make sure to keep it harmless and watch out for pranks that may be thrown your way!



Serialized Novel

Blood of the Covenant

His sprint slows to a stop. Henry's heart beats out of his chest as he watches Julius' running figure grow smaller and smaller as he progresses down the tunnel. From behind the wooden door, a hooded figure emerges.

"Henry! Why did you stop chasing him! He is going to tell the king!"

"Don't worry, good Sir. He will return to us," says Henry, watching Julius escape.

"And what makes you so certain?" questioned the hooded man.

"I know his heart. I know that he will return."

15 YEARS EARLIER

The clouds presented an oppressive grey ceiling over the heads of Camelot. Stone walls surrounded the city, high and unforgiving. The sun seemed to struggle through the thick grim sky, seemingly never able to break through. Unless you were born rich, your lives were shadowed from the start. Walking through the marketplace, Henry moved quickly, with one hand reaching out, clinging to the stiff, struggling body of his little brother.

"Stay close," whispered Henry, his voice attempting cheerfulness but somehow still exhibiting remnants of terror.

The market was not a civil place. The king's soldiers patrolled vigilantly— powerful hands eager to unsheath their sword. The townspeople reeked of hunger yet the market air smelled of bread and wine. Oh how Elias would cry and cry and cry. His eyes wide with hope— His eyes wide with hunger. In Henry's palm Elias' grip tightened.

"Can we get some bread? I haven't eaten in days," said Elias.

"Elias, you know we can't afford it. Please— Please just keep walking."

"I— I'm sorry brother I can't g—"

The voice of his brother faded to silence as his body moved slowly towards the ground. The steady clank of the heavy boots echoed through the market. Henry looked down to his brother who now layed on the brick, his hand still grasping Henry's.

"Stay here Elias. I'll find you something to eat."

Henry moved fast. Just a few feet away, Henry watched as the breadmaker set down a fresh loaf on the corner of the table. Henry did not second-guess himself, there was no time. Waiting for the breadmaker to turn his gaze he lunged to the table, ripping off a chunk of warm bread.

"Eat," Henry urged his brother.

Elias' lips parted but he struggled to lift the bread into his mouth.

Marching out from the tunnel proceeding the market, two of the King's soldiers appeared.

"Halt boy!" yelled one of the soldiers "Drop the bread!"

Henry pulled the hunk of bread from his brother's weak grip and set it gently on the ground.

"If he does not eat right now he will die!" Henry shouted, picking up the bread and holding it out to his brother. The soldiers laughed arrogantly.

"A thief is a thief, no matter how hungry,"

Before Henry could blink, he felt a sharp pain high up in his ribs— the blow of the soldier's boot. Then another— and another. The other soldier stood by and kicked the chunk of bread away from the child's reach. Henry pulled his body over his brothers, his fingers trembling as he reached for Elias's hand. When he did find his hand, it laid limp between his fingers.

The sound of the soldiers' laughter echoed between Henry's ears.

"No," Henry whispered, shaking Elias, his cheeks shimmering under the combination of tears and sweat. "No!" Henry cried out.

"Elias! I'm sorry! I'm so sorry! Please just wake up!"

Henry pushed Elias's eyes open but the light had already left. Even then his eyes still seemed to look up at him with a gentle manner, a sort of trusting innocence. Laying on the brick floor of the marketplace, his head resting on the empty chest of his brothers, he was alone now. Across the marketplace, a young boy watched silently. His boney ribs poked through the holes in his ragged shirt, however his eyes were not focused on the bread that lay right in front of his feet, kicked by the soldier. His eyes focused on the brothers. Picking up the bread he walked towards Henry, lying in the middle of the marketplace.

"Here," the boy's voice shakes as he speaks "For you."

Stunned, Henry jolted his head up, his eyes now focused on the boy in front of him. The boy placed the bread in Henry's open hand, closing his fingers tightly over it for security. As the boy stood up to leave Henry stopped him.

"Wait!" He said weakly.

"Why did you help me? I don't even know your name!"

The boy halted, turning to reveal a soft smile as he looked back at Henry.

"Julius— That's my name."

"Thank you! Thank you, Julius." Henry watched the young boy's back admirably as he walked away.

PRESENT DAY

A wave of relief washed over Henry when Julius finally vanished into the dark. Henry swallowed hard. His gaze still focused on the empty light in which Julius had been running into. He knew Julius would come back. Not because he was forced to— Not because he feared being hunted down. Alone at the mouth of the tunnel, Henry waited for the return of his friend— the return of his brother. Under his breath he whispered: "Blood of the covenant— is thicker than water of the womb."

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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; you may win a prize if you locate any/all mistakes.

Got news or want to be interviewed by our staff?
DM the Rampage on Instagram! @pinerichlandrampage



INSPIRED HEARTS AND HANDS
& PRHS STUDENT GOVERNMENT

FOOD DRIVE

MARCH 6-20
Collection Location: Room 415
(before school and between classes)

ONE LUCKY PARTICIPANT WILL WIN ACCESS TO THE RAMS WAY PARKING SPOT!

MOST REQUESTED ITEMS:

CANNED VEGGIES & FRUIT	JELLY	PASTA/RICE SIDES	PASTA AND SAUCE	INSTANT POTATOES
PEANUT BUTTER	STUFFING	CANNED SOUP	GRANOLA BARS	FRUIT SNACKS
CEREAL	PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP	TUNA	CANNED CHICKEN	ALDI GIFTCARD
BROWNIE OR CAKE MIXES	MAC & CHEESE			

Dear Readers,

In this issue the musical cast takes their final bow. Our staff brings student and teacher spotlights along with what is around the corner...spring! We hope you enjoy and it is our honor to keep you up to date with your Pine-Richland community!

Sincerely,
June McCune and Anna
Karmanos
Editors-In-Chief