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SENIORS



Pike High School  
5401 W. 71st St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46268

# PIKE NEWS SENIOR ISSUE

May 2025



## THE TIMES ARE CHANGING

By Ashly Guzman

As the Class of 2025 prepares to toss their caps into the air, senior Julissa Avendando reflects on her high school experience, a journey full of ups, downs and valuable lessons learned.

"If I could do something differently," Julissa said, "I would've actually done my work on time instead of procrastinating. That really held me back." Like many students, time management was a struggle, and Julissa admits that procrastination is one of her biggest regrets.

Her high school experience has been anything but predictable. "It started off good," she said. "Then it got bad, and now it's been okay. It's been a bit of a roller coaster." From the excitement of freshman year to the pressure of senior deadlines, Julissa has faced both personal and academic challenges.

One turning point in her journey was joining Pike Preparatory Academy (PPA), a program designed to help seniors catch up on credits and stay on track for graduation. With smaller classes and more focused support, PPA gave Julissa the structure and



Members of the boys volleyball team include AJ Fleurant, Andre Brown, Myles Taylor, Demarion Taylor, Ade Salau, Desmond Ryle, PP Moo, Firroune Ouanguye, Cannupa Hokshina, Quidachay Bautista, Dean Moxam, Jaedyn Snorten, Brycen Rodriguez, Allan Colindres Gonzalez, Myles Jones, Onike Beladja, Summer Eaton, Coach Rillian Dennis, Kammie Bellamy, Jayla Dabney, Coach Rebecca Mimms. PP M00/courtesy photo

encouragement she needed to finish strong.

Over the past year, the school itself has undergone a noticeable transformation. Seniors polled said that they believed the administration tried to integrate more activities and spirit into the school. Students began

participating more, and school spirit was on the rise. For the first time in a long time, a pep rally was held to recognize student achievement. The energy in the building shifted, and students started to feel more included and celebrated.

After starting as just a club last

year, the boys volleyball team officially formed and began competing for the first time. Led by a group of dedicated seniors, what started as casual games turned into real matches. Their hard work and leadership helped bring a new sport into the school's athletic program, giving students another way to get involved and show school pride.

"Some girls from the volleyball team kinda became our coaches," PP Moo, captain of the team, said. "There were challenges, but we kept playing even if we weren't winning, we still did the best we could."

The class of 2025 celebrated committing to sports teams and colleges, earning certifications in career classes, being part of a nationally-recognized robotics team and participating in state music recognitions.

As graduation approaches, seniors look back not just at the grades and assignments, but at the growth they've made.

It is a reminder that high school isn't just about academics. It's about resilience, change and creating memories that will last long after the final bell rings.



# NEVAEH COMPTON TURNS PASSION INTO A BUSINESS

By Fernanda Moreno-Casas

What started as a childhood memory has blossomed into a growing business for a young entrepreneur who discovered her talent and passion for braiding hair.

"I used to watch my mom braid my hair all the time," senior Nevaeh Compton said. "Eventually, I just thought, 'Why not learn to do it myself?'"

That simple idea sparked a journey. After practicing on her own hair, she began offering her services to others and soon realized it could be more than just a hobby; it could be a source of income.

"I liked doing it, I was good at it and I could make money while helping people feel pretty. So why not?" she said.

With the support of her mom and godmother, she launched her business and began promoting her work on social media.

"I have a hair page where I post my work," she explained. "Once people start reposting your content, it grows. You gain followers, clients, and visibility. I also created a website where people can book appointments."

Running a business isn't always easy. On tough days, she takes a

break to reset.

"I give myself a day or two to breathe and reorganize. It helps get things back in order," she said.

Through braiding, she's learned valuable lessons like how to manage money and how to be more understanding of other people's lives and time. Balancing school and her business has also taught her discipline.

"I made a schedule where no one can book during school hours," said Nevaeh. "I focus on school during the day, then do hair after. It's about staying organized."

Operating her business hasn't changed how she views school, but it has shaped her future goals.

"School helps because more people find out I do hair," she said. "I want to keep braiding in the future, even if I eventually choose another career. It's something I'll always love."

She's most proud of the relationships she's built with her clients and how far she's come since she started.

"In a few years, I will definitely see my business booming with more clientele, and hopefully doing bigger things in the hair industry," she said.

She has some advice for others trying start their own business.



PROVIDED BY/NEVAEH COMPTON

Her answer was firm as she said, "Don't give up. Don't let anyone tell you your work isn't good enough. If your prices reflect your worth, stand

by them. It's your business, your money, your life. If you believe in it, you can do anything you set your mind to."

## PRECISION & PASSION: MELVA'S LUXURY NAILS

By Fernanda Moreno-Casas



PROVIDED BY MELVA MINOR

While many students spent quarantine binging Netflix or scrolling through TikTok, senior Melva Minor found herself building a business. What started as a way to pass time during COVID lockdown turned into Melva's Luxury Nails, a growing business with a loyal client base and nearly five years of success.

"When I was at home 24/7 and had nothing to do, I started practicing nails on my mom and sisters," Melva said. "They always supported me and even helped me buy my first supplies."

Now, Melva uses Instagram (@melvas\_luxury\_nails) to promote her work, book clients, and showcase her artwork. Even on hard days, she finds ways to stay balanced and professional.

"I always take at least a 30-minute break between clients to gather my thoughts and emotions. I want to give each person the best service possible," she said.

Balancing a business, school, and sports hasn't been easy.

"It's hard to manage three big parts of my life all at once," she admitted. Melva's solution to her problem was a color-coded calendar that keeps her schedule organized and manageable.

Melva has not only learned how to

do nails from running her business but she also learned a lot of things for her daily life, including how to manage stress and let go of perfectionism.

"I used to stress myself out over the smallest design details," she said. "But I've learned not to put pressure on myself when it's not needed."

Her experience has also shifted her future plans. "I always thought I wanted to go to college," she said, "but now I realize that cosmetology school is the right path for me. I want to get my nail license and expand my business even more."

Looking ahead, Melva envisions a packed schedule and her own custom-built nail shed, where she can take clients back-to-back.

Some advice Melva gave to people trying to start a business is, "Don't listen to negative talk. Believe in yourself. You're the only one who truly knows what you're capable of."

As Melva prepares to graduate, she reflects on herself and how far she's come.

"I thought I'd stop after the first year. Now I'm going on five years. I'm proud of myself for sticking with it," she said.



# THE LAST LAP



*May in Indiana means racing and graduation. Seniors are on a dash to the finish line*

**"My car was a gift from my wonderful mom."  
James Allison**



**"My car was the result of all of my work and how far I have made it."  
Paulino Reyes-Uribe**



**"As for my car...had work pays off."  
Tommy Diaz**



**"Hard work can get you what you want."  
David Akinfisoeye**



**"I just worked really hard to be able to have my car."  
Erick Perez**



**THE SENIORS WILL BE AT THE FINISH LINE ON MAY 29 AT THE STATE FAIRGROUNDS. FINALS ARE MAY 20-22.**



# STAR SENIORS

IN  
PERFORMING  
ARTS



**DAMETRIUS  
LATHAM**



Dametrious Latham has been in the Pike theatre department for two years, finishing in one of the advanced classes, 3PT. His love for meeting new people with shared interests and all the support he has received has led him to want to pursue performance, and he wants other students to get out of their comfort zones and just go for it. Theater Teacher Kris Owens said Dametrius is dependable and gets what he needs done. "He's always in attendance and he's always got a good attitude and gets along with others well," Owens said.

FERNANDA MORENO CASAS/PHOTO

**ABBY BARNETT**

Abby Barnett has dedicated her years in both middle and high school to the Pike band department, even being featured in the jazz and symphony orchestras. Her favorite part of the performing arts was getting to see the resurgence post COVID and the support she has received from others. She believes the community she has seen makes all the time spent practicing and performing worthwhile in her art. Aaron Burkhart, one of the band directors and department chair, said that Abby is one of the best musician he's ever taught and he's sad to see her go but happy with her growth.



CHLOE LEE/ PHOTO

**EXANDER GADDIE**



JAMIE DEAKYNE/ PHOTO

Exander Gaddie has been involved in the band department throughout middle and high school. He loves seeing and experiencing the music with other musicians and watching how they can perceive different pieces. Getting to express himself on stage has really helped him step to become more confident. For any students wanting to learn music, he recommends learning in chunks and to become articulate because it can help you in the long run. Band Director Aaron Burkhart said that Exander is an overachieving student and he is happy seeing just how much Xander gets involved in the performing arts.

**MALAYA MCCLURE**

Malaya McClure has been involved in Mystiques and Pike Players throughout high school. She expressed her love for the performing arts and the overwhelming support she has reciprocated. For her younger self and underclassmen, she wants them to stop doubting themselves because "You never know what you can achieve until you try," she said. Performing Arts Teacher Sarah Vilensky said that Malaya has been given an incredible voice saying, "It has been wonderful to see her learn to use it. It's been nice finding things to show off her talents."

PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE MOORESVILLE YEARBOOK STAFF/  
USED WITH PERMISSION



**MATTHIAS SMITH**

Matthias Smith has been shining on stage in Encores since his freshman year. His favorite things about show choir include meeting new people, eating new foods, and all the traveling that the choirs get to do together.

KYNADI CHANDLER/ PHOTO





"The Lemonade Heist" is a play about two police officers interrogating three suspects who stole from a girls' lemonade stand. FERNANDA MORENO-CASAS/photo



"Four Floors Down" is about three women and a male coming out from different nights out who are trapped in an elevator. FERNANDA MORENO-CASAS/photo



"The Perfect Day" was about a wedding that goes wrong. PRESTONE BIMBA/photo

# TAKING A BOW AT FINAL ACTS

Memories are made to last and the class of 2025 wants to leave an act to remember. With six different plays and 11 different directors, the event took place May 6.

By Ashly Guzman and Jamie DeakYne

Seniors were given the opportunity to turn their creative ideas into fully-staged plays in a project designed just for them.

They present their work at the tradition Final Acts Tuesday May 6 in the Pike Performing Arts Center.

With no formal class time set aside, it was up to each senior to develop their story, cast it, direct it and bring it to life. It was a chance for students to take full ownership of their creativity, and those who participated didn't hold back.

Only seniors were allowed to write, cast, and direct the plays, but they had the freedom to choose actors from any grade. As a result, freshmen, sophomores and juniors comprised much of the cast, providing underclassmen a chance to take part in something meaningful while learning from their senior leaders. A few seniors even joined the cast, balancing both acting and directing.

The first day production was "The Perfect Day," written and directed by senior Dametrius Latham. The play tells the story of a wedding that quickly unravels into a series of unfortunate events. Inspired by the movie *What Men Want*, Dametrius drew from a scene involving a woman whose behavior sparked his curiosity and shaped the core idea of his script. The play mixed humor and chaos, offering the audience a wild ride through a day that was anything but perfect.

Another memorable production was "Four Floors Down," written by senior Arie in collaboration with her partner Tyla. Their play focused on four women who, after returning from very different nights out, end up stuck together in an elevator. As the story unfolds, the women begin to share, and try to find a way out. Arie explained that the idea came to her randomly, but once it stuck she and Tyla spent about two weeks crafting the dialogue and shaping the charac-

ters. The play combined humor, tension, and heartfelt moments, showing the power of storytelling even in a simple setting.

Each senior took a different approach, but all showed strong leadership and vision as they worked with their cast members, held rehearsals, and directed each scene just how they imagined it. They were responsible for everything from casting and blocking to giving feedback and managing performance.

This senior play project turned into more a celebration of the class's creativity, teamwork, and talent. It also created a lasting memory, both for the seniors who led the way and for the underclassmen who got to be part of something new and exciting.

As the curtain closed on each play, the audience was left not only entertained, but also impressed by what these young directors accomplished on their own time. It was clear that the Class of 2025 is ready to take the stage wherever life leads them next.

## FOUR FLOORS DOWN

Written and Directed by Arie Downey & Tyla Livingston

## SCHOOL SPIRIT 2

Written and Directed by Zaynab Gazwani & Kaz Grabianowski

## THE WOMAN WITHIN

Written and Directed by Nakiya Barnett, Kenah Fox, and Malaya McClure

## THE LEMONADE HEIST

Written and Directed by Darleni Alam Moreno

## A PROMISE, UNBROKEN

Written and Directed by Cache Johnson & Summer Snedeker-Cole

## THE PERFECT DAY

Written and Directed by Dametrius Latham



"A Promise Unbroken" is a play about a mom who tried to overcome her childhood to give her own children a better life. FERNANDA MORENO-CASAS/photo



"School Spirit 2" is a play about two best friends who go to an abandoned, haunted school. FERNANDA MORENO-CASAS/photo



"The Woman Within" explores various double standards women are faced with in life. FERNANDA MORENO-CASAS/photo



# TEACHER

## Shout Outs



"Mrs. Blakey because she always makes class so much fun for her students and encourages them to learn."  
Na'Khya Edwards



"Mr. Wakefield! Coolest teacher who was good at explaining things, but he was also very funny. He was also a good listener and very understanding."  
Casson Cooley



Ms. Bryant mainly because I had her for so long, and she put things in ways that help make sense - more than just math but also life."  
Keyasha Cizmank



"Ms. Taylor, I feel like I can talk to her about anything, and she has also helped me get through some problems in my life that I wouldn't have been able to understand without her. Even though I don't see her as consistently as other people, she's definitely been my favorite teacher of all with everything she's helped me with."  
Kamille Spence

# SETTING HER SIGHTS HIGH

By Deborah Kpadeh

As the school year is about to come to an end, seniors are applying for college scholarships. One of the many seniors who applied was awarded money is Katie Deakyne.

Katie's dream is to be a lawyer; because of that, she needs more money for college. Katie applied for the NFL professional athletes scholarship for the amount of \$3,000, and got accepted. She was thrilled about the wonderful news.

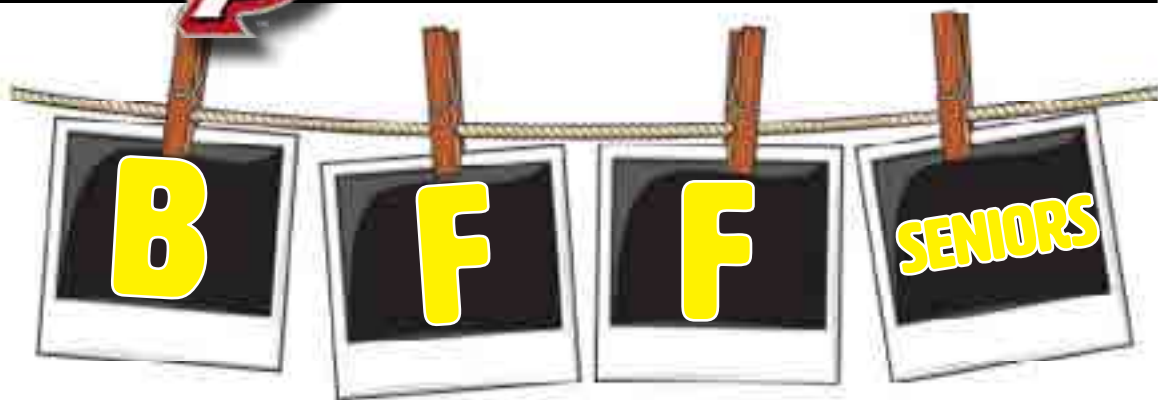
"I felt very successful and that all my hard work in and out of the classroom had been important. I also felt so special for being the only girl in Indianapolis to get it," she said.

Although the scholarship money seems small to pay for her college career, Katie's parents are helping her pay for her four years of college. They have been saving up money for her since she was born. This just gives her more opportunities to do what she wants with life. She said the reason she applied for college is to experience college life and get a higher education at the same time.

"I applied for college to experience the fun college has, to push myself to higher education, and to see how far my knowledge could take me," DeaKyne said.

She's not done; she plans to apply for more scholarships with the mindset of getting accepted. All of this is for her to be a Women's rights lawyer for single moms.

See more about Katie's Scholarships on page 15.



Auryn Marata and Daylene Morales have been friends for six years. "Together we are OJ," Daylene said.



Reana Williams and Ciara Lee have been friends for 10 years. "Long lost sisters," Reana said.



Orlita Belandje and Orneloger DeDeaux met their freshman year.



Aakya Guzman and Fermana Moreno-Casas met their freshman year in journalism class and then were in yearbook together for three years.

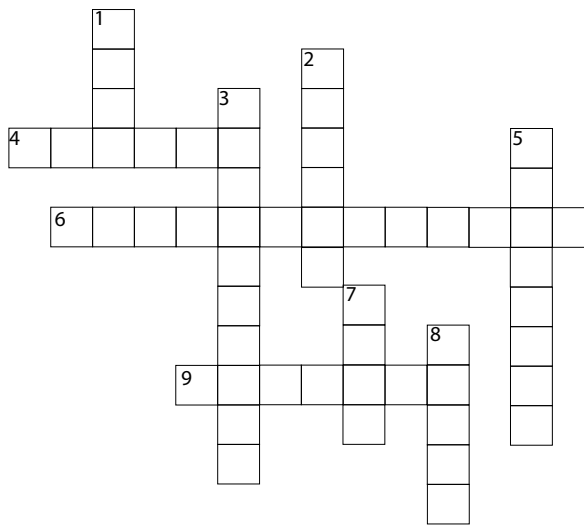


Abdoul Boko, David Akinfayo, and Joshua Adebawone become close their senior year.



Kyla Mason and Amanda Figueroa has been friends for 13 years. "Been through thick and thin," Kyla said.

# THE FINAL PIECE



### Across

- 4. Top of the high school food chain
- 6. Graduates with the highest GPA crown
- 9. Paper proof you made it through

### Down

- 1. You wear this with a cap during graduation
- 2. Often written, sometimes cried through, always remembered
- 3. The big walk in a cap and gown
- 5. Where memories (and bad haircuts) live forever
- 7. Formal night with dancing, dresses, and awkward pictures
- 8. Late to class, again...

# REPETITION & RHYTHM

## Senior aims for nationals

By Campbell Manahan

Gripping the handles tight, Jack Garvin whips around the thick padded horse with ferocious speed. He is paying close attention to where his feet are. The details are everything to a gymnast. One slightly wrong move can affect an entire competition.

He continues to whip around. He hears the music beat drop with every move. It helps him focus on when to switch skillsets. Sweat drips down from his face as he is about to hit the dismount. He sticks the landing and bows. Then he walks over to his coach.

Garvin, a senior gymnast, has been training for the nationals meet May 8-10, in Houston.

Six days a week Garvin makes the drive to Fishers, Indiana in order to practice at his gym, Interactive. He knows that consistency is the key to long term gymnastics success, so even when he feels unmotivated, he always show up for practice.

His coaches preach consistency in performance but also consistency mentally.

"Let's try to think more positively about a skill. If you fail, don't be down on yourself, stay focused," Garvin said.

The mental aspect of sports can be daunting, especially for young athletes. Garvin tries to just focus on the routine every day and not dwell on any poor performances.

The practices are five hours a day six days a week. This schedule keeps Garvin extremely busy, but also extremely engaged. The day starts with running and stretching. Garvin does this while chatting with his friends. After warming up, Garvin's coaches talk to him about the agenda for the day and how to stay focused.

Because consistency is so important, he has high goals.

"I have no choice but to put in the work," he said. He doesn't just have aspirations to compete in high school, he wants to go further. His mother, father (Pike High School Teacher Lance Garvin) and sister

are all collegiate athletes, and he would like to join them. He's also just not ready to give up on this sport quite yet.

"In a club it is you and your best friends hanging out and competing. The older guys go off to college so you just assume that it's the next step,"



LANCE GARVIN/photo used with permission

***"In a club it is you and your best friends hanging out and competing. The older guys go off to college so you just assume that it's the next step."***

**JACK GARVIN**

Garvin said.

Garvin has several offers to compete in college and will exert his right to do so.

During this practice, Garvin is working on pommel horse and high bars. Pommel horse is first. He gets up on the blocks for his 30-second routine. He places his fingers on the handles. He pushes down on the ground and vaults on top of the horse.

His hands keeping him in the air, he whips around the horse in circles. He feels his elbow click and steps off of the horse. His elbow has been clicking for a while now. He has a ligament injury in his elbow similar to the Tommy John injury. The doctors told him that he can still compete but will need surgery. He decided to push the surgery back so that he can compete the rest of the season.

"So I went to the doctors, and they said I know your problem and we can take you in for surgery but you'll have to stop competing for a bit," Garvin said.

The decision to push back the surgery was an easy one for Garvin.

Garvin also has had some back problems with a bad disk that is reaching the spinal cord. He has another surgery scheduled for this injury as well.

Despite all this, Garvin is set on competing at nationals.

Garvin gets ready for a second try at his pommel routine. He gets on the horse and whips around. His mind is focusing on the location of his feet, a trick he uses to make sure he is doing it correctly. The song changes beats as he switches hand placements.

He spins at high speeds around and around and around.

His elbow clicks. Ten seconds have passed.

He shifts his hands and continues flying around the handles. Fifteen seconds have passed. He still feels

the popping but stays focused on his feet.

He is ready to dismount. The dismount is crucial for a successful score.

He sticks the landing. He bows and walks over to his coach. His coach converses with him about how to improve and then Garvin goes again... and again... and again.



# STAYING IN MOTION

By Ashly Guzman

Playing one sport can be tough, but for Precious Ogonleye, handling three is just part of her everyday routine. She's played soccer, basketball, and tennis during her high school years, starting first with soccer.

"What made me want to try all these sports was to stay in shape," Ogonleye said. "And my mom used to play sports in school too, so she really inspired me."

Out of all the sports she's played, tennis stands out as her favorite.

"Not a lot of people know how to play tennis, so it's kind of a flex," she joked.

Balancing three sports, school, and a job isn't easy.

"Every season there's a new sport, and I have to balance it out with school and work, so I really have no free time," she explained. But even with the busy schedule, she stays motivated. "It kinda became a routine, so you get used to it."

Last year, Precious dealt with a concussion while playing soccer. "I just wanted to get better and get back in the game," she said. That determination helped her recover and continue doing what she loves. Through all the ups and downs, sports have taught her how to stay healthy and focused.

Her biggest supporter is her mom.

"She understands what I go through since she played sports too," Ogonleye shared.

Though she doesn't have any special pre-game



Precious Ogonleye warms up for her match against Ben Davis April 18. Photo by April Moss

rituals, she always keeps a positive mindset. "Always have fun, even if you're losing. At least lose knowing you tried your best," she said.

For students thinking about playing multiple sports, Precious has some simple but powerful advice: "Don't give up, and enjoy your time in it, because all four years go by fast."

**"DON'T GIVE UP, AND ENJOY YOUR TIME IN IT BECAUSE ALL FOUR YEARS GO BY FAST."  
PRECIOUS OGNLEYE**

## SIGNING OFF: SENIOR COMMIT TO PLAY COLLEGIATE SPORTS



On April 22, 2025, Pike High School celebrated College Signing Day as seven football players committed to continue their academic and athletic careers at the collegiate level. Logan Young, Pierce Collins, Ife Adeoba, Dejaun Elliott, Chase Shurn, Julian Ward, and Dohnavin Ward wear their college shirts as they sign.  
COURTESY OF PIKE ATHLETICS.



On May 2, 2025, Pike High School celebrated David Lewis as he signed his letter of intent to play tennis at Anderson University. David's dedication and hard work on and off the court have led him to this exciting next chapter.  
COURTESY OF PIKE ATHLETICS.

Manny Akpadija committed to wrestle at Marion University after being awarded a \$40,000 scholarship.  
ANTHONY RANELOPEZ/photo



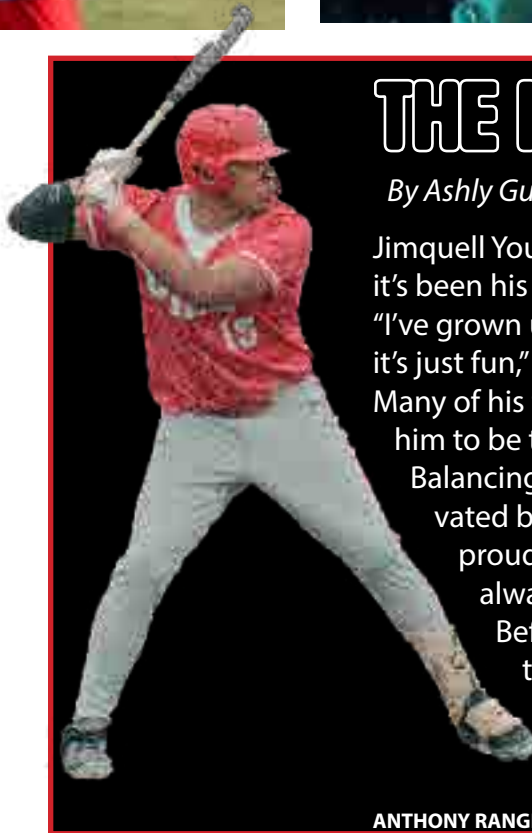
2



1



3



# THE HEART OF THE GAME

By Ashly Guzman

Jimquell Young started playing baseball at just 6 years old, and it's been his passion ever since.

"I've grown up with it. Once you really understand the game, it's just fun," he said.

Many of his teammates said without hesitation they consider him to be the MVP of the team.

Balancing school and sports isn't easy, but he stays motivated by thinking about his future and making his family proud. Even when they can't be at the games, they always check in to see how he did.

Before each game, Jimquell heads to the locker room to get his mind right.

"If you feel good, you play good," he said. For him, baseball isn't just a game but a way of life.

ANTHONY RANGEL-LOPEZ/photo



4



5

**1** Campbell Manahan, Isaac Morris, Leonado Huynh, Abram Drlich and Molly Gordon  
SUBMITTED PHOTO

**2** Kadja Mensah and Ivan Acuna  
ANTHONY RANGEL-LOPEZ/photo

**3** Tia Miles  
ANTHONY RANGEL-LOPEZ/photo

**4** Astrid Vicente-Marroquin  
ANTHONY RANGEL-LOPEZ/photo

**5** Melva Minor  
ADRIA NELSON/photo



# Senior Art Studio



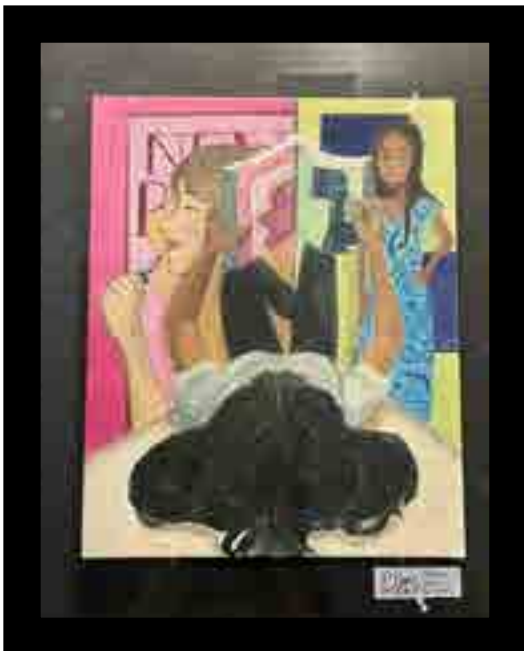
**CARSON BEDWELL**  
**"THE WITNESS"**  
AP STUDIO



**ARIEL AGUILAR-POLITO**  
**"DEAD!"**  
AP STUDIO



**AMENAN KOUADIO**  
**"OCEAN OF DREAMS"**  
AP STUDIO



**KELSEY LOPEZ-ARTEAGA**  
**"MAGAZINE"**  
AP STUDIO



**ROYLAND NGUYEN**  
**"BOTTLE + VASE"**  
CERAMICS



**AYSHA BLANE**  
**"HAIR"**  
AP STUDIO



**KAZ GRABIANOWSKI**  
**"MY DEER FRIEND"**  
PAINTING 4



**AIAYNA NEAL**  
DIGITAL ARTS  
PHOTOGRAPHY



**AYSHA BLANE**  
JEWELRY  
WOOD



**AZRIEL BURNEY**  
JEWELRY  
POP ART



# SCHOLARSHIPS/HONORS NIGHT

Local Scholarships, Awards and Special Honors. The following local scholarships and honors presented on Senior Honors Night, held on Monday, May 12, 2025.

**Pike Township Educational Foundation Scholarships**  
Pike Alumni Association  
**Scholarship**  
Abram Drlich

**Stanford Kegl Achievement Scholarship**  
Alice Chen

**STEM Magic Scholarship**  
Adegbakinro Ajibola

**Clarence C. Wood Scholarship**  
Emmanuel Akpadija

**William M. Hawkins, III (Tre') Book Award**  
Damonte Shoffner

**Hallmark of Excellence Scholarship**  
Allison Oajaca

**Maggie Harry Memorial Scholarship**  
Zoe Scheuer

**Michael K. Guest Scholarship**  
Ezekiel Gornik

**Serving the World Scholarship**  
Jennifer Ezenwelu  
Abidat Akinlawon

**Overcoming Obstacles Scholarship**  
Rao Ali Wasim

**Plan to Succeed Scholarship**  
Alpha Diallo

**Reaching for Success Scholarship**  
David Akinfisoeye

**Shukla Family Scholarship**  
Jazmyn Solis

**Coach Alan Darner Memorial Scholarship**  
Kathryn DeaKyne

**Voight Family Scholarship**  
Summer Snedeker-Cole

**Siegel Family Scholarship**  
Oghenetega Harte

**Honoring the Amazing Pike Educators Scholarship**  
Na'Khiya Edwards

**Dr. Nathaniel Jones Future Educator Scholarship**  
Abigail Barnett

**Walter Moll Memorial Scholarship**  
David Akinfisoeye

**Michael Thibault Culinary Arts Scholarship**  
Austin Johnson

**Ann Teter Loomis FACS Award**  
Lauren Dennis

**Charles W. Harvey, Jr. Community Safety Award**  
Kywaun Wood

**Chuck L. Stuart Loyalty Award**  
Zoey Nowlin

**Jack H. Monninger Art Award**  
Aysha Blane

**Jodi MacDonald Memorial Scholarship**  
Brooklyn Taylor

**Taylor M. Owens Scholarship**  
Layla Dennis

**Richard H. Crosser Memorial Scholarship**  
Annette Owolabi

**Ann Grissom-Wilkins Scholarship**  
Ivan Acuna

**Collett Family Scholarship**  
David Lewis

**Moving Forward Scholarship**  
Jazmyn Solis, Layla Dennis, Janae Clinton, Madelyn Moser, James Allison, Rao Ali Wasim, David Akinfisoeye, Abram Drlich

**International Baccalaureate Scholarship**  
Kaila Hill

**Pike Preparatory Academy Scholarship**  
De'Aveon Trotter  
Geoffrey Lockett  
Eric Tabique

**Local Scholarships Awarded Realizing Your Dreams Scholarship**  
Rao Imam Ali Wasim

**Mr. Larry G. Galyen Scholarship**  
Jennifer Ezenwelu

**Dr. Nathaniel Jones Scholarship**  
Adegbakinro Ajibola  
Annette Owolabi

**Dr. Ruth W. Woods Scholarship**  
Destinee Lowery

**Weldon Morgan Music Scholarship**  
Abigail Barnett

**Pike Lions Club Scholarship**  
Kathryn DeaKyne

**Guion Creek Next Big Thing Scholarship**  
Annette Owolabi  
Arie Downey

**Fishback Creek Explorers of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship**  
Zoe Scheuer

**Allison Transmission Corporate Scholarship**  
Ivan Acuna  
Sage Richardson  
Zoe Scheuer

**Indiana High School Dance Team Association (IHSDTA)**  
Kamille Spence

**Indianapolis Professional Association Achievement Awards**  
Anthony Broaddus

Kamille Spence

**Great Gatsby Prom Scholarship**  
Jennifer Ezenwelu  
Jamyla Bailey

**JEANS Staff Award**  
Joshua Adebawore, Adegbainro Ajibola, Abidat Akinlawon, Emmanuel Akpadija, Dayon Bell, Jonathan Bokish, Alice Chen, Abram Drlich, J'Leecia Ganaway, David Lewis, Bryce Owens, Jose Padilla, Valeria Rivera, Chase Shurn

**Departmental and Career/STEM Center Awards**  
**Art**  
Aysha Blane

**Business and IT**  
Adegbakinro Ifeoluwa Ajibola: Computer Science  
Alice Chen: Business Admin.

**English**  
A'aniyah McGordon: College Prep  
Erin Horton: Dual Credit  
Hannah Pham: AP Lit & Comp

**Journalism**  
Maxine Stevens Award: Michelle Santiago-Salazar

Diana Hadley Honor Roll: Anthony Rangel-Lopez  
Fernanda Moreno-Casas

**Family and Consumer Sciences**  
Leah Moran

**Math**  
Sage Richardson

**Performing Arts**  
Abigail Barnett

**Physical Education**  
Abram Drlich

**Science**  
Wendy Cruz-Garcia: Biology  
Alice Chen: Chemistry  
Clinton Sims, Jr: Enviro Science  
Lucas Pennington: Physics  
Sage Ricardson: Engineering  
Jonathan Bokish: AgroSciences

**Social Studies**  
Emmanuel Akpadija: Economics  
Serena Smith: Government  
Abram Drlich: History  
Kamille Spence: Social Studies

**World Language**  
Susan Lopez-Najarro: French  
J'Leecia Ganaway: Spanish  
Renata Alarcon: ENL

**Radio & TV Broadcasting**  
Azriel Burney

**Health Science**  
Layla Dennis

**Cosmetology**  
Vanessa Sotelo

**Criminal Justice**  
Yolie Panuncio Verde

**Culinary Arts and Hospitality**  
Kiyani Knox-Dawksin

**Industrial Automation**  
Agustin Garcia Miranda

**Underground Utilities (USIC)**  
J'Leecia Ganaway



# THROWBACK FILES: CLASS OF 2025 EDITION

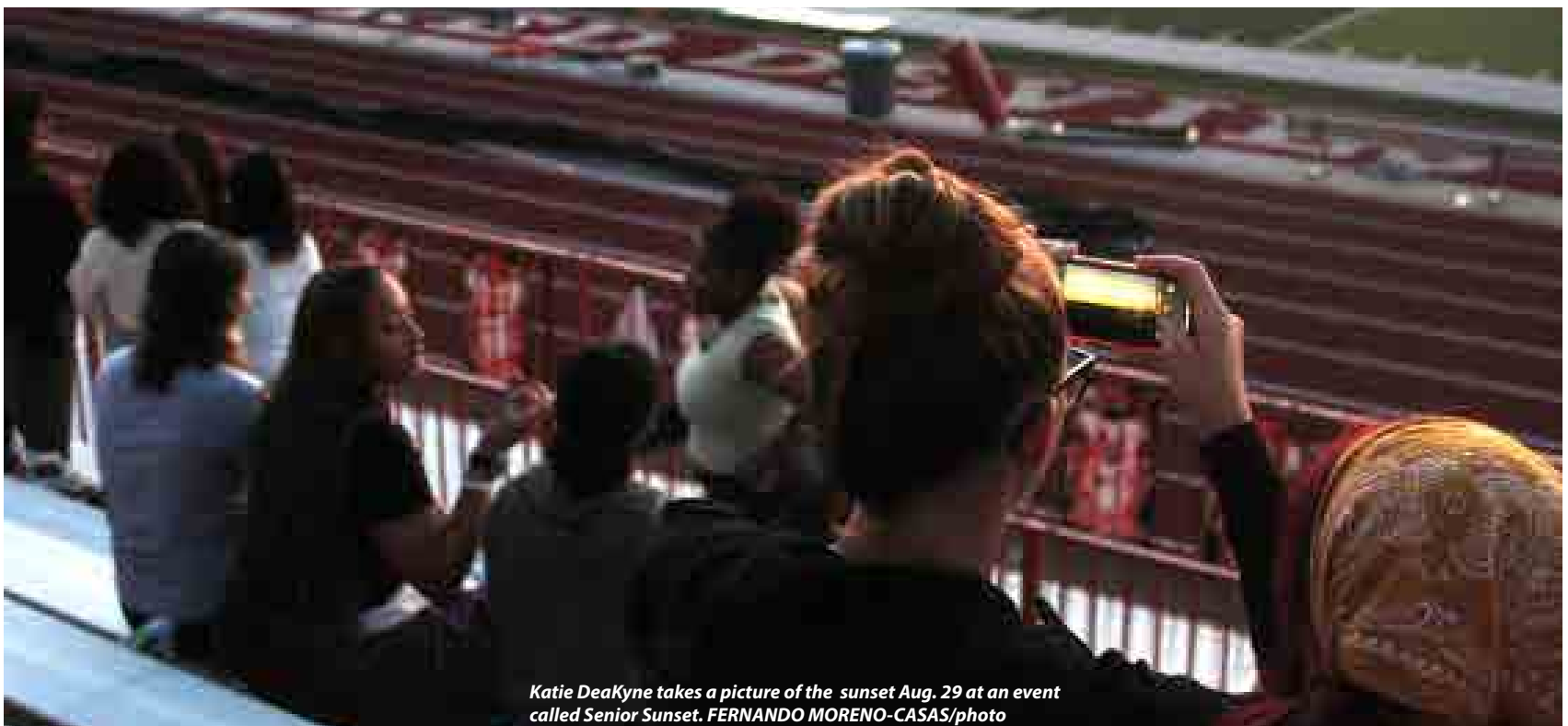




# CLASS OF 2025 WORD SEARCH

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

- FUTURE
- DIPLOMA
- RDTV
- YEARBOOK
- MILITARY
- NEWSPAPER
- MEMORIES
- HONORS
- SENIORSUNSET
- GPA
- SPIRITWEEK
- SENIORITIS
- COLLEGE
- FINALS
- ADULTS
- CAREER
- SUCCESS
- NOSTALGIA
- GOWN
- CAP
- ACADEMIC
- PROM
- FRIENDS



Katie DeaKyne takes a picture of the sunset Aug. 29 at an event called Senior Sunset. FERNANDO MORENO-CASAS/photo



**MADELYN MOSER**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Statistician or Actuary, plans to major in Mathematics at Purdue University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Lauren Hannah. "She sparked my love for math by making class fun and ensuring we had the support we needed to succeed. Her encouragement not only made me enjoy math but

also inspired me to pursue it in the future. Her support boosted my confidence and helped me grow into the person I strive to be."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "The AP Bio field trip to the zoo in spring 2024 was an unforgettable experience. Walking around with my friends and seeing all the active animals—especially the red panda—made it even more enjoyable. We also took a train ride around the zoo, and at one point, while sheltering from the rain under an overhang in the orangutan enclosure, one of my friends played his flute for us, making the moment even more special."



**ZOE SCHEUER**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future An-imatronics Engineer, plans to major in Mechanical Engineering at Northwestern University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Angela Campbell. "She was my teacher for three years, and her class was just as enjoyable as I had heard. She introduced me to technical design, a field I now plan

to study in college. More than just a teacher, Mrs. Campbell was a constant source of encouragement and support throughout high school. Whenever school became challenging, I knew I could turn to her for guidance and reassurance."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:**

"Our marching band's Chicago trip during our 'This Golden Moment' season. The night we performed was freezing cold, but it was still one of the most enjoyable ones. For me, it was a trip to celebrate the four years I had spent with the band and the friends I made in it."



**JOHANA CAMPOS-RAMIREZ**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Neurologist who plans to major in Neuroscience at Indiana University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Kevin Hoblik. "He is deeply committed to both his subject and his students. He has single-handedly turned his classroom into a safe and supportive space."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "When my friends planned a surprise birthday party for me in Mr. Hoblik's classroom. It's a gesture I really appreciate to this day, but most importantly, it's a reminder of how lucky I am to have people like them in my life."



**DAVID LEWIS**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Security Expert, he plans to continue his studies at Anderson University, where he will major in Cybersecurity.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Aaron Burkart. "He served as a role model through his strong work ethic, effective communication, respect, and expertise."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Receiving a 100 on that Calc test with Scott Dunlevy."



**ANTHONY BROADDUS**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Nuclear Physicist, he plans to continue his studies at Butler University, where he will major in Physics and Music.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Leslie Sitzman. "She helped me realize my interest in science."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Recording our honors bio project in Ninth grade."



**HANNAH PHAM**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Computer Scientist, she plans to continue her studies at Purdue University this fall.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Catherine Schlebecker. "She is always kind, understanding, and inclusive. She encourages creativity in our work and provides thoughtful feedback and suggestions. Beyond that, her warmth and positivity make the classroom a fun, relaxing, and welcoming space for everyone."



**ADEGBAKINRO AJIBOLA**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Computer Scientist who selected

**HONORED TEACHER:** Rogetta McCann-Mitchell. "Ms. Mitchell made it possible for me to join Girls Who Code. She went above and beyond to ensure we felt comfortable. She encouraged us to participate in the annual Girls Who Code challenge, marking my first national competition. Though we didn't win, I'm

proud of what we achieved in such a short time. Especially considering we started as strangers."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "The first High School Black History convocation in 2023. It was my first convocation, and I was truly amazed by the celebration of Black beauty, intelligence, and excellence."



**EWAN DUNLEVY**

**FUTURE PLANS:** He plans to major in Education at Purdue University

**HONORED TEACHER:** Angela Campbell. "She was my teacher for three years, and her class was just as enjoyable as I had heard. She introduced me to technical design, a field I now plan to study in college. More than just a teacher, Mrs. Campbell was a constant source of encouragement and support throughout high school. Whenever school became challenging, I knew I could turn to her for guidance and reassurance."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:**

"Our marching band's Chicago trip during our 'This Golden Moment' season. The night we performed was freezing cold, but it was still one of the most enjoyable ones. For me, it was a trip to celebrate the four years I had spent with the band and the friends I made in it."



**ABRAM DRLICH**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Aspiring Producer who plans to major in Film & Video Production at Indiana University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Coach Charles Grace. "He has guided me throughout my late high school career in becoming true to myself and helping others along the way."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Improving as a Boys Swim Team member to win both of our relays in the county championship meet."



**OLUWAJUWONLO ADEYIOLU**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Cybersecurity Analyst, he plans to major in Computer Science at Purdue University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Leiwana Taylor. "I haven't had Mrs. Taylor since my first semester of freshman year, but her fun, interactive teaching made her class unforgettable. She kept me engaged in a subject I struggled with and created a supportive environment where we connected. Because of that, I still visit her classroom almost every day."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Playing in the Bloomington Invite was exciting, but the best part was spending time at the hotel with my teammates, Nelson and Micah. The trip brought us closer and reminded me how much I value the friendships and experiences soccer has given me."



**BRYAN KNIPE**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Physics at Georgetown University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Danielle Vohland "She kept me in the IB program."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Doing nothing in my 5th period: IB TOK (International Baccalaureate Theory of Knowledge) class."



**KAILA HILL**

**FUTURE PLANS:** a future Book Editor, she plans to major in English at Delaware State.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Crystal Helt. "She has continuously pushed me to expand my understanding of the world and the type of person I want to be. I am immensely grateful for her guidance throughout these 4 years."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Halloween 2024."



**DARLY GARCIA-FLORES**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Computer Engineer, she plans to continue her studies at Purdue University.

**HONORED TEACHER:** Steven Lattimore. "He helps his students truly think about their future and the type of people they want to become."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "All the moments I got to spend with my soccer teammates and friends."



**PROFILES COMPLIED BY SARAH DORSEY. THE TOP 30 WAS RECOGNIZED AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY MAY 4.**



**KIYANI KNOX-DAWKINS**

**FUTURE PLANS:** a future Entrepreneur, she plans to major in Business Administration at Indiana State University.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Shannon Taylor. "She always supported and encouraged me, even during my toughest times. She never let me give up on myself and inspired me to make a positive impact on others."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Going to Ohio for three days to a show choir competition as a crew member junior year."



**DIEGO CUELLO**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Astronomy at Butler University.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Aaron Burkhart. "Because of him, band has become one of the least stressful and most enjoyable classes during my four years here."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "IB pitch-ins where everyone brought food to share."



**ALICE CHEN**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Optometrist, she plans to major in Chemistry at Indiana University.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Lauren Hannah. "She made me the cheerful person I am today. Without her, I would have never learned how to express myself to others or how to reach my true potential. I never hesitate to go to her classroom when I am in need of someone to lean on, when I can't fix my own problem, or when I would just like some advice."



**ALLISON OAJACA VALDEZ**

**FUTURE PLANS:** a future Architect, she plans to continue her studies at the University of Cincinnati.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Crystal Helt. "I've known her since freshman year, and she's the most caring, dedicated teacher I've ever met. She genuinely supports her students, and her encouragement has helped me when I needed it most."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "At the end of AP Art History, we held an art auction, trying to 'buy' as many artworks as possible. We shared food and enjoyed the company of others who loved and appreciated art—it was such a fun experience!"



**ABIDAT AKINLAWON**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Immigration Lawyer, she plans to attend Indiana University, majoring in Political Science.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Meghan Blakey. "She was more than a teacher—she was a friend and mentor. Her classroom was a safe, supportive space where she challenged and inspired me to go beyond my limits. Always reliable and ready to listen, she was there when I needed her. I'm deeply grateful for her support over the past four years."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** Senior Sunrise.

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Ms. Hannah's reaction when I gave her a birthday card during my sophomore year with some of her current students, past students, and co-worker signatures. I was really happy being able to return the positive energy back to her as she does to all of her students."



**KAMILLE SPENCE**

**FUTURE PLANS:** She plans to major in Psychology at the University of Miami.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Leiwana Taylor. "Ms. Taylor was one of my best teachers and a huge support in my life. I could talk to her about anything, and our bond remained strong even after she stopped being my teacher. She inspired me to be both a better student and a better person."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Dressing up for all of the homecoming spirit weeks."



**CARTER BROOKS**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University, Fort Wayne.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Justin Smith. "Mr. Smith created a safe, enjoyable learning environment and gave me the tools to succeed in high school. I always enjoyed his class and have many fond memories while finding my footing there."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "The Cardboard Regatta race in Intro to Engineering. I had a lot of fun working with my group and seeing our hard work put to the test in competition."



**EZEKIEL GORNIK**

**FUTURE PLANS:** An aspiring Music Technician and Guitar Builder, he plans to major in Mechanical Engineering Technology at Purdue University.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Benjamin Porter. "He has been my Cross Country and Track coach for a few years now, always bringing enthusiasm for running and his students. His passion for the sport and dedication to supporting runners make him one of the best coaches I've had in high school."

**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Cross Country sectionals team dinner my sophomore year."



**JACK NEWBERG**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Mechanical Engineering at the University of Cincinnati.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Robb Awe. "He made senior year much less of a burden, and we had a lot of fun times in his class."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Watching movies in the planetarium and IB pitch-ins."



**SAGE RICHARDSON**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Engineering at Purdue University  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Michelle Ulmer. "Her teaching style made me feel more comfortable engaging with others."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** The Cardboard Regatta.



**TYLA LIVINGSTON**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Pediatric Neurologist, she plans to study Biology at the University of Houston.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Kris Owens. "because of his creative teaching and the knowledge he has shared with us. His unique methods made learning exciting, inspiring me to think outside the box—not just in theatre, but in life."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Opening night of the plays I've been a part of. The sense of community we build together and witnessing the entire journey—from the first rehearsal to the final performance has always been incredibly special to me."



**KEVIN HERNANDEZ HERNANDEZ**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Entrepreneur, he plans to continue his studies at Butler University, where he will double major in Entrepreneurship & Corporate Innovation and Marketing.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Angela Bolotin. "She was always in a good mood and valued the importance of learning. She showed me that approaching anything with passion can make a real impact on those around you, and that mindset has stuck with me."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Winning numerous Pike Boys Soccer championships, specifically advancing to sectionals."



**CHRISTOPHER SOLIS-VENANCIO**

**FUTURE PLANS:** Health Sciences at Indiana University, Indianapolis, in preparation for his career as a Physician Assistant.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Leiwana Taylor. "Mrs. Taylor was the first teacher at Pike I truly connected with. During my first two years, I saw how kind and genuine she was. She created a positive, interactive classroom where even games were fun and competitive. Over the years, she has remained someone I turn to for advice or just to talk."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Sharing laughs and memorable moments with my friends during passing periods."

## SUPURB SCHOLARSHIPS:



Juwon Adeyolu and Julian Contreras received the Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship from Meridian Hills Country Club. Established in 1930, this scholarship covers full tuition and housing costs for up to 4 years and has an estimated value of \$125,000. Juwon will be attending Purdue University and majoring in Computer Science. Julian will be attending Indiana University and majoring in Business Management. Courtesy of Principal Wolley



Marvin Bankhead, who received a full tuition scholarship to the University of Indianapolis, is pictured with his mother, father, and Principal Wolley. Marvin plans to major in Mechanical Engineering.

Courtesy of Principal Wolley



Chase Shurn and Katie Deakyne were presented with the YMCA's Monster Meeting Scholarship April 26. Katie was the first-place winner, and Chase was the 2nd runner up. Katie plans to attend the University of Cincinnati to earn her bachelor's degree in Social Work with a minor in Gender Chase will major in psychology at Wabash College. Katie was also recently awarded the NFL Players Association's Professional Athletes Foundation Scholarship Award. The scholarship was awarded to one female and one male student in the city. Eligible students were required to be athletes with a 4.0+ GPA, who demonstrated a dedication to academics, athletics, community service, and school involvement.

Compiled by Sarah Dorsey; Photo courtesy of Lisa Deakyne



**AMENAN KOUADIO**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Architect and Interior Designer, she plans to continue her studies at Ball State University, where she will major in Architecture.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** David Seward. "He encouraged me to invest time in my passion, which is Art."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Going to the Addams Family Musical at Pike High School my freshman year with my mom."

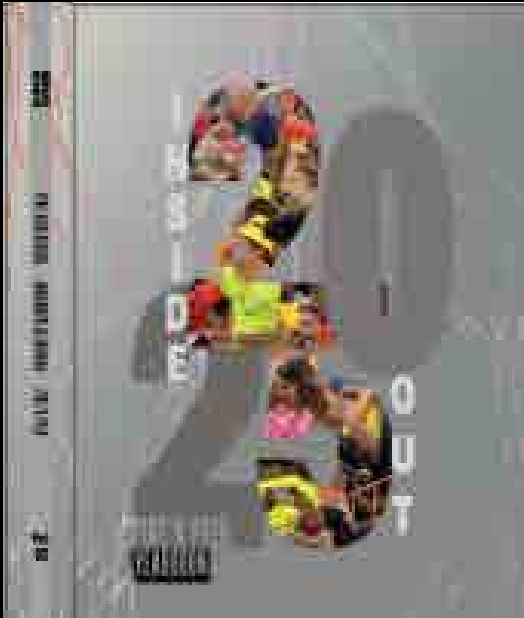


**J'LEECIA GANAWAY**

**FUTURE PLANS:** A future Physical Therapist, she plans to major in Exercise Science at Indiana University.  
**HONORED TEACHER:** Leiwana Taylor. "She is very encouraging, always spoke highly of me, and always pushed me to challenge myself."  
**FAVORITE MEMORY:** "Missing class to go to college visits."



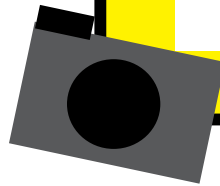
**DON'T MISS THE MEMORIES**



**EXTRA YEARBOOKS MAY BE PURCHASED FOR \$80 IN F102 BEGINNING MAY 20 (SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED) THERE ARE ALSO A LIMITED SUPPLY OF PREVIOUS YEARS AVAILABLE. BUY A 2024 YEARBOOK FOR \$60 AND GET EITHER A 2023 OR 2022 YEARBOOK FOR \$40. THAT IS TWO PREVIOUS YEARBOOKS FOR \$100.**

**SENIORS SIGNING OUT**

Official Signing out video, Scan the QR Code! Thank you for those who participated.



**SCAN ME**

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**

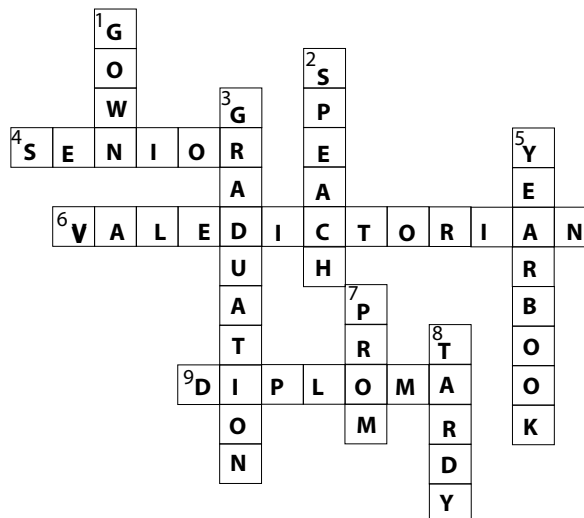
Scan the QR code to access archive articles from other news stories written throughout the year.



**Word Search Answer Key**

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

**THE FINAL PIECE ANSWER KEY**



**Staff Credits:**

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- Kynadi Chandler
- Chloe Lee
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