

The Mizzor

Issue 1
Volume 95
Sept 28, 2007

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Coming up..

Sept 27

V Girls MSAA Tennis HERE
Cross Country HERE

Sept 28

V FB w/ Ulysses HERE

Sept 29

Robotics Kick-off
V VB @ Belle Plaine
JV VB @ Skyline
MSAA Girls Golf @ Ulysses

Oct 1

Teacher's Professional Day
NO SCHOOL

Oct 2

VB (V&JV) @ Ulysses

Oct 3

ASVAB Test in PHS Library
Jostens-Class Rings
Jostens Sr. Announcements

Oct 4

NHS Meeting @ PHS, 7:30
Frosh FB @ Collegiate
Girls Reginal Tennis

Oct 5

V FB @ TMP



Darrell Scott speaking at special assembly. Photo by Eric Kocher

RACHEL'S CHALLENGE A Follow-Up

Sarah Patterson
Ad Manager

Step back and imagine this: bring up a picture of small-town U.S.A. Everything is quiet... then all of a sudden, BOOMING laughter. You look over and see a boy get slammed against a locker for not seeing where "Mr. Popular" was walking, and get in his way: a cardinal sin for the LOSER population. The slam hurts the boy and Mr. Popular and his buddies chum it up. The boy who

is so embarrassed and hurt by this act declares, "You'll be sorry!" Just an "empty" threat no one listens to? Empty or real, the threat just gets him shoved some more. Take the scene again: People running in terror, a gun shot sounds and the lights go out. You hear the screams, foot steps running in fright.

THIS CAN BE PREVENTED!!!!

If people would take the time out of their day and talk to the ignored, that one person who sits alone at lunch, during break before or after school. Strike up a conversation: "How are you doing?," "Got any weekend plans?" If they're new, throw in a "Where are you from?" Surely you can spare that one moment to smile, to say hi, so take the time and make the difference. Who knows? You might even create a life-long friendship out of a moment.

Rachel's Challenge wasn't meant to make you cry; it was meant to make you think. It's simple and definitely something that can be done on a daily basis:

- 1.) Eliminate Prejudice by looking for the best in others
- 2.) Dare to Dream – set goals – keep a journal
- 3.) Choose Your Influences –input determines output
- 4.) Kind Words—small acts of kindness= HUGE impact
- 5.) Start a Chain Reaction with family and friends

It doesn't take much... but it could be life-saving.

Countdown

91 days till the New Year

75 days till Christmas Vacation

32 days till Halloween

53 days till Thanksgiving Vacation



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Dont Tase Me, Bro!

Audry Kisner
Staff Writer

Students across the country were up in arms against campus police recently due to an incident at the University of Florida in which a young man was forced from a building and stunned with a Taser gun.

College student Andrew Meyer caused a disturbance at a speech given by Sen. John Kerry by making many political comments. According to police, they removed Mr. Meyer because his allotted time for questioning had ended, but many others claim that it was due to the content of his question. Included were many risqué comments involving various political leaders and their evident philandering. Several officers approached Mr. Meyer, and pulled him away from the microphone, handcuffing him as they went. Mr. Meyer continued to yell, shouting of injustice and brutality. Once they reached the back of the hall, several officers pulled Mr. Meyer to the ground. After apparently seeing the Taser approaching him, Mr. Meyer shouted to an officer, "What did I do," and, "Don't taze me, Bro!" However, the officer refused to comply.

Students are now fighting for better student rights, and the avoidance of police brutality. As will happen with nearly every event dealing with a controversial event, students have gone to the most effective medium for expression of outrage. Those that have joined in on the Facebook group bandwagon are, of course, arguing with those in other groups.

Several campuses are now reexamining their security policies in efforts to avoid such unpleasant incidences in the future. For some, however, the Taser is not the important part of the story. The fact that the officers kept him from speaking his mind has made this into an issue of censorship. Those in support of the officers have declared that Meyer, who has a record of public pranks and disruptions, is nothing more than an attention-seeking rabble-rouser. Either way, Meyer could have received much worse. In an incident last year at the University of California at Los Angeles, a

BRING GLOBAL WARMING AWARENESS TO PRATT

HIGH

Natanyah Williams
Staff Writer



You may think, "Oh, I don't have to worry about Global Warming now, we're just fine!" Wrong! Global Warming is happening right now, and do you know why? Because we treat our planet like it's invincible, like it's going to be around forever. Well, it's not. We need to recycle. It may be a pain to most people but it's just like throwing a piece of trash away but it's way better for our Mother Earth. Okay, so yeah we may have a recycle bin for bottles. But that's it! I don't understand why we don't have a recycle bin for anything that can be recycled. I'm sure it doesn't cost much to get another recycle bin for paper or other things like that. Another way to help stop Global Warming is instead of just throwing away those Taylor Mart cups why don't we just save them and reuse them. It's cheaper for us and it's better for Earth. I have to admit, I've thrown a Styrofoam cup away every once in a while but Styrofoam is so bad for our planet, think of it like your feeding Global Warming energy so it could grow stronger. Pratt High may not be that big but we can have a big impact on Mother Earth. Help stop Global Warming, recycle anything that can be recycled. Even if it doesn't get too bad in your lifetime, think of your children and your children's children. We have just one Mother Earth; let's not treat it like it's our garbage can.

student who could not produce identification was repeatedly stunned with a Taser gun. The student said he complied with requests to leave, but officers alleged he had made a scene and was inciting others to join his resistance. Like wise, the peaceful nature of Meyer came out as soon as he was beyond the cameras. Once he was away, he became much calmer, and even said to the officers, "I am not mad at you guys, you didn't do anything wrong, you were just trying to do your job." Whether Meyer was truly speaking his mind, or trying to become a martyr is up for dispute, but for now, the issue will be up for the maddening debate that was, in part responsible for its creation.

Roid Rage Hits Hard

Olivia Barber
Staff Writer

Ever felt the pressure to be faster stronger, or quicker for the team? The need to have the "edge" has grown throughout the years from professional athletics to non-athletes, high schoolers, and even middle schools. Statistics have shown that over 44.5 percent of teenagers feel that it would be fairly easy for them to get steroids.

The use of steroids may seem to be an innocent habit that only yields positive benefits, but the truth is they cannot improve an athlete's agility or skill; however, anabolic means building body tissue, and steroids help build muscle tissue and increase body mass while acting like the body's natural male hormone.

Steroids can contribute to serious health problems, even in the smallest doses, and the effects may not be noticed until it's too late.

Adolescents can also become at risk of being dependent on steroids, and those who use them are more likely to become addicted to other drugs and alcohol.

The physical problems from steroids can't go unnoticed: high blood pressure, heart disease, liver damage, cancer, stroke, blood clots, bowel problems, headaches, nausea/vomiting, sleep problems, increased risk of ligament and tendon injuries, severe acne and even baldness. The emotional health problems are just as serious as the physical. Abusing the anabolic drug can lead to aggressive behavior that may result in violence, severe mood swings, hallucinations, paranoia, depression, even panic attacks. Given the long list of dangers and risks for using steroids, every athlete should limit their body-building to eating healthy, exercising, and playing fair.

iPhone Craze

Katie Walters
Co-Editor-in-Chief

iPhones have been the rage since they came out in late June. The iPhone has been all over the news, whether it is about the release or a seventeen year old hacking through it. Apple is going all out with the iPhone, they are releasing it in Europe and Canada in the fourth quarter of 2007 and Asia, New Zealand, and Australia in 2008. On June 29, the day of its release, awaited hundreds of customers outside the Apple stores. Apple announced within the first 30 hours of the release, 270,000 iPhones were sold. An estimation was made that it started at a whopping \$599. However, apparently the sales weren't up to par and the iPhone was reduced by \$200 on September 5. There are many reasons to this, one of them simply being



stepping up the pressure on the wireless competitors. The company also wanted to make the iPhone more affordable for the holidays. Many of the customers who had already purchased the iPhone were not too pleased about this and Apple has offered them a \$100 store credit to them.

On September 10, Apple announced the sell of their one millionth iPhone. They set a goal to capture 1% of the global mobile market and to sell 10 million iPhones by the end of the first full year of the release. Although, at this point it looks unlikely that Apple will succeed in that goal.

Get Informed!

Ana Whitson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Watching the news and listening to the radio isn't the only way to hear about the upcoming presidential elections, being informed is easier now more than ever! MTV and MySpace are pairing up to make it possible for young voters to speak to the candidates. The candidates will be on college campuses across the country, and they're sitting in front of several large screens. From these screens people from all over can ask the candidates questions from MySpaceIM, their cell phones, or through email. Then the candidate's reply live and it is streamed directly onto MTV.com, so everyone around the world can

Kurdish Burns

Cora Dennis
Staff Writer

Looking at the young woman, the doctor is certain these aren't just "cooking" related accidents. These kinds of burns aren't of accidental degree. In a relatively safe corner of Iraq, is the region of Kurdistan. In this prosperous and so-called "safe haven", why are there so many numerous amounts of young women with horrifying burns all over their bodies? 95 cases in the first 6 months in 2007 showed up at the Women's Union of Kurdistan. 95% of the women were under 30 and roughly half of that were between the startling ages of 16 and 21. The big question is, what is going on? Why are all these Kurdish women coming in with these jaw-dropping burns, and all coincidentally are roughly around the same age? A disease, epidemic, phenomena, what? You probably would never guess that the cause for all this is a twisted trend. There is a lot of death and destruction



going on close to where they live, and when somebody is hurt or angry, the popular retort to that emotion is, "I'm going to burn myself!" You may be wondering what was the start of this self-mutilation and why it became a fashion. The locals described that the obsession with fire came from a variety of cultural ties. "Nawroz," which is the Kurdish New Year commemorates the day when Kawa, a folk hero, killed a tyrant named Zohak, and torched the peak of a mountaintop. He let out a cry telling his followers that Kurds celebrate the day by burning tires and with other pyrotechnic displays. "Burning, traditionally, has been the way to die among the Kurdish people," says Yones, the health minister.

be apart of the sessions.

The elections aren't until November 2008, but there's no time like the present! For the kids that are going to be 18 before then, these live interviews could help you make up your mind on who you would like to

see be the next president. Now there's no excuse for not being able to vote!

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MIRROR, MIRROR on the wall...

“If you could bring back one fad from the ‘90’s what would it be?” Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer



“The Grunge look, because I like the punk-rocker look”
-Katie Kocher, fr.



“I would bring back Poke’mon”
-Wes Vasholtz, so.



“Furbies and Tamagotchies?!”
-Marina Dobbs, jr.



Redneck Mullets, Michael Jordan, Hammer Pants, Shaq’s Acting, THRILLER!, Saturday Morning Cartoons, Rock the VOTE, and Vanilla Ice
-Bronson Blasi, sr.



“Grunge Flannel, for shirts and sheets.”
-Mr. Sharp, faculty

Magic 8 Ball



Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer

Will the number of detentions double this year, due to tardies?

Better not tell you now

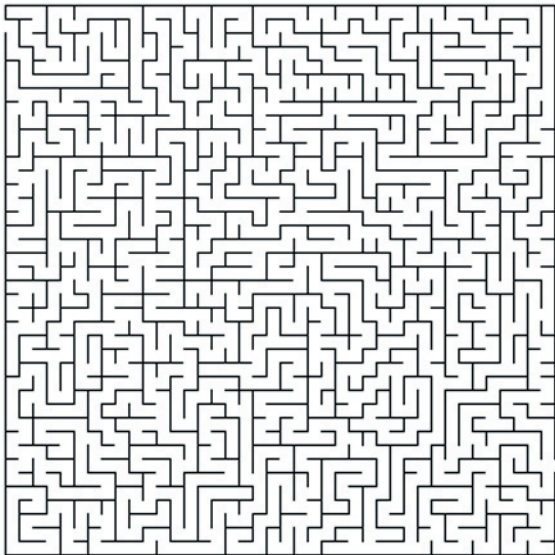
Will the newspaper staff meet its deadlines this year?

My sources say no

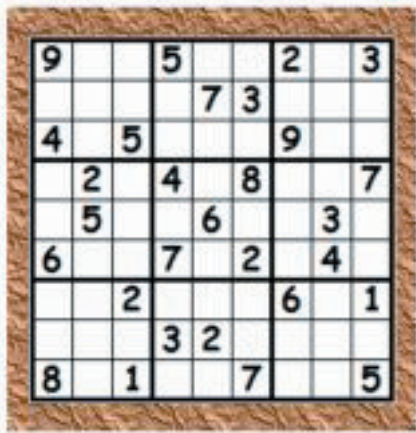
How has your summer been?

My reply is no

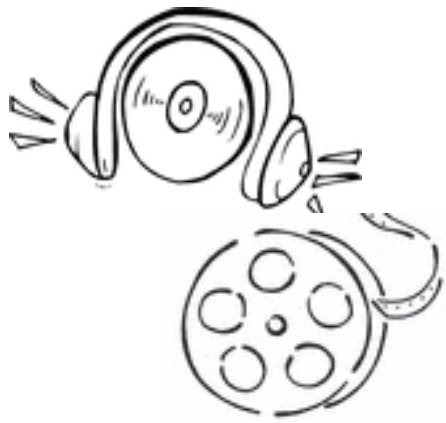
Olivia Barber
Staff Writer



PUZZLE MANIA



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Movie Review

Audrey Kisner
Staff Writer



Now, I know what you're thinking, but *Hairspray* is not just a movie about dancing and singing. There is much more to it than that. The film is about a girl named Tracy Turnblad who, despite appearances is a great dancer. Her biggest dream is to dance on the *Corny Collins* show which, although claiming to have the "Nicest Kids In Town," is terribly segregated, and only allows black people to dance on *Negro Day*. Tracy realizes that she has to choose between living her dream and doing what is right. I thought that the movie was awesome. If you don't like singing and dancing, don't go, but if you do and you want to enjoy some great comedy, go and see the movie. Once you get past the fact that it is a musical, you may enjoy yourself.

Muvvee Review

Super Bad

Kily Shinkle
Staff Writer

First, when watching the commercials one would think this movie would be super bad. Then getting the curiosity to actually watch the movie, now that's another story. This is a magical tale of three boys trying to fulfill their dreams, although inappropriate, very important to them. But all in all this is a completely super-non-bad movie. Its great, it'll keep you laughing till you throw up, or pretty close. Watch it!

Story Time

Ana Whitson

Co-Editor-in-Chief

This Lullaby: Sarah Dessen



Remy Starr is a planner, independent, and doesn't let anyone in her way. For all of her life she has been taking care of her scatterbrain mother and hard-core partier brother. By the time Remy was 18 her mother had gone through three husbands. Seeing her mom go through so many marriages caused her to become cynical about love. She went through boyfriends frequently, and never got emotionally attached to anyone except her three best friends. Her whole world got flipped upside down when she was a car dealership with her mom. A boy just came up to her and said they were meant for each other. From there Remy went through a trying summer, learning to love, handling the changing into a college kid, and finding herself.

THE MUZAK

Review of Classic Album

Hannah Brehm
Staff Writer

Album: *Physical Graffiti*
Song: *Houses of the Holy*
Artist: *Led Zeppelin*

"Houses of the Holy" is a song by English rock band *Led Zeppelin* from its 1975 album, *Physical Graffiti*. "Houses of the Holy" is a rock song, heavy on bass, and thanks to *Jimmy Page* and his awesome guitar, totally rocks! In singing the lyrics "Let me take you to the movies, can I take you to the show?", it reminds me when my friend asked me to go with him to the movies.

According to www.wikipedia.org, the song is a tribute to *Led Zeppelin* concerts, with the "Houses of the Holy" referring to the arenas and auditoriums in which the band performed. Despite this, the song was never played live. Although the name of the song is "Houses of the Holy", the track does not appear on the earlier-released album *Houses of the Holy*. It was supposed to be the title track of that album but was removed when the band decided it wouldn't fit. Even though the "Houses of the Holy" wasn't on the *Houses of the Holy* album, it was deemed good enough to be on *Physical Graffiti*.

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Don't you just
HATE that?

Katie Walters
Co-Editor-In-Chief

1. When you're alone in the bathroom and out of all the stalls, someone chooses the one right beside you, even if it is the only stall where the door actually shuts.
2. You're driving right behind this old person that is going like 12 mph, yet they obviously don't know what it means when they're being tailed.
3. Cliches. Examples: "Yeah, I'll totally call you!" "Hey, we need to hang out this weekend!"
4. When you're standing in line at a check out stand and the person in front of you has a ton of coupons.
5. When somebody is rambling on about a subject that you have no interest in whatsoever, so you make it apparent that you're clearly not paying attention, but they don't get the clue.

Natanyha and Cora's Fashion Tips

Natanyah Williams
Cora Denis
Staff Writers

Heelys shoes. A new fashion statement, or the most childish thing to come to Pratt High? These new shoes, made for children, have wheels on the sole of the shoe so when you press backwards you can wheel yourself around. At the football game on September 4 there were at least five elementary school children with Heelys. Why do we wear these shoes when we are in high school? We have no idea, but what we do know is that it is a big fashion no-no. Mr. Kocher said, "They look fun but the students need to know when they are appropriate." Naomi Williams, jr. said, "In my opinion they can wear whatever they want but I wouldn't wear them in public." Heelys aren't just unfashionable; they are not safe as well. If you are "wheeling" yourself down the hallway, at one point or another, you are going to fall and possibly hurt either yourself or another student. We aren't very sure why or who started this new "trend" at Pratt High, but it got old. Really quick.

Did you know...

-Most elephants weigh less than the tongue of a blue whale

-In Turkey during the 16th and 17th century, anyone who was caught drinking coffee was put to death

-A sneeze can travel as fast as 100 mph

-More people are killed by donkeys than in plane crashes annually



This Day in History...

Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer

1368 - Pope Liberius dies

1755 - John Marshall, US Chief Justice, born

1896 - F. Scott Fitzgerald,

American author born
1948 - Honda Motor Company is founded

1990 - Great White spot on Saturn was observed

2007 - *Heroes* begins its second season



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HOW TO FENG SHUI YOUR LOCKER, ROOM, AND LIFE

Hayely Henry
Staff Writer

"When your room is clean you can go out!" yells your mom on a Friday night. So you run around your room stuffing clothes under your bed, in your dresser, and (my specialty) in the closet, because you only have five minutes until your ride gets to your house. and who wants to keep a car full of friends waiting?

This seems to be an ongoing pattern for many teenagers. Continuing this pattern for a couple of weeks can really start a build-up. A build-up of what you ask yourself?

Well . . . Mold, cobwebs, and dirty dishes . . . no clutter! Is that what you want? If so, then Feng shui may be the answer you are looking for.

Feng Shui (pronounced Feng as in Funy-uns and Shui as in Shh-uaaa) is the Chinese practice of encouraging positive energy and blocking/removing negative energy.

The first step in feng shui is to get rid of all your clutter. When I say clutter, I mean all the clutters from the pile of old magazines under your bed surrounded in cobwebs, to the stack of dirty dishes that have LAST WEEK'S

remains of Your Great Grandma's secret meatloaf recipe. After your space is clutter-free, make a map of the area you want to improve.

Figure out which way north is and mark it on your map. If the section of the room you are feng shui-ing is located in the North, Northeast, or Northwest part of the room, Then you should see an improvement in your Education, Career, or travel plans. If you are improving a section in the East or West part of your room, then you should see an improvement in your creativity or health. If you seek to improve

your Fame, Wealth, or Relationships, Then you should Feng Shui the South, Southeast, or southwest sections of your room.

So remember, the next time your mom Yells that you can not go out until you clean your room, because of Feng shui you will be able to sit back, relax and worry about more important things. Yes, important Things like How does your hair look, or how your really cute, short skirt is going to make it past your parents' tight fashion radar on the way out of the house.



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In the Next Issue...

- Homecoming
- Pic Your Match
- New school construction
- Sports wrap up
- New staff and students

Tennis season looks hopeful

Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer

The Tennis Team is off to a great start this year. On September 8th, doubles took second and singles took fourth at home.

The Varsity team is made up of six players, Katie Walters, sr., Jessica Voss, jr., Kiley Shinkle, sr., Emma Schrack, sr., Andrea Clarkson, soph., and Hannah Loftus sr. They have had a good season so far, and to qualify for the League Championship, all they have to do is beat Larned.

The JV team consists of three freshman, one sophomore, two juniors, and one senior. They have been improving and learning, and a lot of them are beginners.

Andrea Clarkson said, "We're gettin' it done by getting up at 6:45 to run our complexes." They are looking forward to a prosperous year, so get out and support our girls on the court!!!



Below; Cody Mieris, sr.; Parker Huitt, sr.; Trey Langford, sr. run onto field. Photo by Eric Kocher

Mean Green Wins!

Cora Dennis
Staff Writer

The football team has started the year with high hopes for a promising season. In an unfortunate loss to Chapman the Greenbacks didn't give up, but ended up 2 points down; 26-28. The next week, the Greenbacks jetted to Scott City with eager, and fought till the end. Scott City won, but did not crush the Greenback's spirit; the next week they were determined to improve. That next week came their astounding comeback. They demolished Nickerson 50 to 0. The following Friday PHS traveled to Larned to face off against the Indians. With the help of a very "colorful" crown, the Greenbacks annihilated LHS 68-6. Go Greenbacks!

Girls Golf

Hayley Henry
Staff Writer

Don't be 'Bogied' out, because the Pratt High School girls golf team is back! The girls opened up with a bang at Nickerson followed by Medicine Lodge, Pratt, Cheney, and their tournament today in Hoisington. This year the team is led by captains Madison Stalcup and Sarah Mason. At the last tournament in Cheney, Sarah Mason shot a 94 for 18 holes placing 9th in 38 mph gusting winds. Three freshman attended this tournament with wonderful outcomes. Coach Conn's goals for the season are to place three girls at a tournament or place third as a team. The girls golf team has high aspirations in their in future.



Right; Paige McDermitt, sr.; Heather Goertz, sr.; Michelle Strohl, sr., at Soap Bowl Photo by Eric Kocher.

"Running Riot"

Eric Kocher
Photography Editor

It's fall, and the Pratt High Cross Country team has gotten into the swing of things. The runners have withstood ruthless 7-mile runs and cold, 6:00 a.m. practices, and it's now starting to pay off. The boys' team is led by junior Paul Harris, who ran a blistering 17 minute and 14 second 5-kilometer race at Hoisington. Harris placed first in the junior/senior race and helped propel the team to a 3rd place finish. He is also sporting a 5th place finish at the Wellington Invitational and a 4th place finish at Chaparral. The girls, on the other hand, are a different story. Plagued by injuries even before the season started, head coach Kathy Hitz's girls team doesn't have enough people to field a full varsity team, which eliminates them from any team competitions this year. But that isn't stopping Ana Whitson, sr. She is bringing 4 years of track and cross country experience to the team, and is undoubtedly the leader of this team. Pratt has their home meet at Sixth Street Park on Thursday at 3:00.

Chemistry aids in Improvements

Katie Walters
Editor-in-Chief

The Volleyball team has had an exceptional kick off to this year's season, in spite of the four and ten game count. In several of the matches they fell short by just a couple points.

After being asked how the season has gone so far, head coach VandenHoek replied, "All teams are improving as we go through the season. Specifically at the varsity level, I am very pleased with our improvement and level of competitiveness. I am very proud of the girls."

Monica Hostetler, sr. co-captain, was asked what she thought of the team this year, and she said, "We have the team chemistry which we lacked last year. We have been able to try a variety of new attacks because we work so well together."

After being asked for predictions for the ending season, Heather Goertz, also sr. co-captain, said, "I'm hoping as the year goes on we are going to start pulling off the close games and win them. I'm seeing improvement already so by the end of the year we will be a super team."

The team has noticeably improved and is expected to do great things by the end of the season.

