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Coming up..

Oct 26

No School

Oct 27

State XC and VB

Oct 30

Bi-District FB

Oct 31

FCCLA Fall Leadership

Nov 1

NHS Meeting @ 7:30

Nov 3

Regional FB

Nov 8

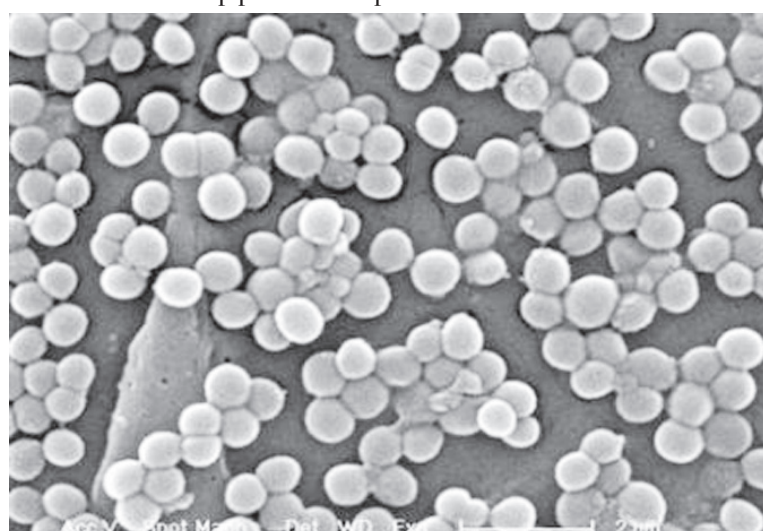
XC and VB Banquet

Nov 10

PHS Game Night
PHS Musical



Sam Amato, PHS custodian, cleans and disinfects doorknobs and many other surfaces to help prevent the spread of illness.



Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus

MRSA SuperBug: Super Threat or Super Hype?

Sarah Patterson
Ad Manager

A 17-year-old Virginia girl is dead from a drug-resistant strain of staph bacteria and Virginia schools are in sanitizing mode to stop the spread of the infection. On Wednesday, Oct. 17 all twenty-one school buildings in Bedford County were closed for cleaning after students grew alarmed over sanitary concerns.

The staph-causing organism is named MRSA, an acronym for Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus. Its more sensational name is the Superbug, so-called for its resistance to know antibiotics.

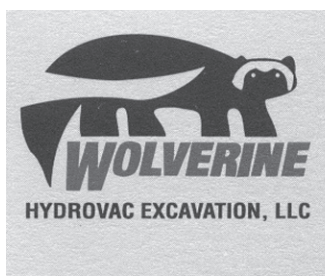
With the potential to claim more lives than HIV/AIDS, the bacteria is carried on the skin and in the airways of healthy people then spread by skin-to-skin contact. Healthy individuals are often simply carriers and are not sickened by the infection. The infection is more common in people who have open wounds or weakened immune systems and has been especially prevalent in hospitals.

This death is not the only one; another 17-year-old Virginia boy was also diagnosed with the infection and later died. More cases include a five reported infections in a high school football team in Tampa, Florida, two infected Connecticut students, and an Atlanta, Georgia boy hospitalized with the staph infection. A Washington, D.C. student was deemed non-contagious and was allowed to return to class.

There are possibly thousands of cases just like these throughout the states, some not reported or identified as MRSA.

Is all this a reason to panic? Absolutely not, according to the Center for Disease Control. It is a growing problem that needs attention, but instead of contributing to a widespread panic, the CDC offers these protective and preventative steps:

1. Practice good hygiene by keeping your hands clean by washing with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer and showering immediately after exercise.
2. Cover any skin trauma such as abrasions or cuts with a clean, dry bandage until healed.
3. Avoid sharing personal items like towels, razors or any item that comes in contact with the skin. Use a barrier of clothing or a clean towel between your skin and shared equipment such as weight-training benches.
4. Maintain a clean environment by disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces that contact the skin.



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Secretary/Treasurer

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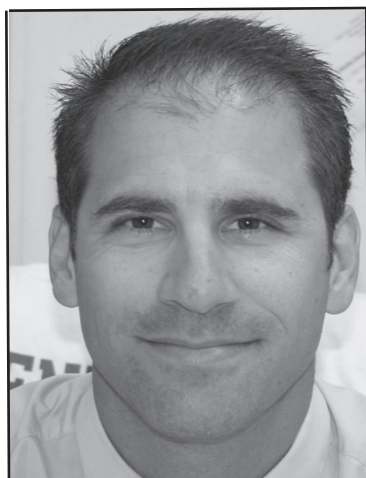
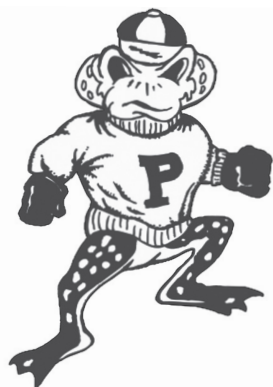
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New Students & Staff

2

Welcome to Pratt High



Mr. Blankenship

Steve C. Blankenship was born in Medicine Lodge, Kansas. He grew up in Pratt and attended Pratt High School. He graduated in 1985. He lived in California, where he met his wife Kirsten Blankenship. She works at Haskins as a 2nd grade teacher. They have two children, 10 year old Courtney and 6 year old Caden. Mr. Blankenship's vision of the new Pratt High School is "The new school will be nothing without the wonderful students and staff. The [new] school will help prepare the students for the best future possible."



Mrs. Kilpatrick (Left)

While growing up in Hutchinson, Kansas Glenda Kilpatrick graduated from Butler High School in 1966. Taking a job at Pratt High School fulfilled Mrs. Kilpatrick's desire to work in a small community. She became a faculty member of Pratt High School. In her spare-time she is the Minister of Music at the church she attends. She enjoys spending time with her eight children and sixteen grandchildren.

Alexander Mackenzie Chase (Right)

Grade/Age: Junior/16 In your free time you..Play Guitar & Write

Zodiac Sign: Scorpio the Scorpion



James Eugene Lanham (Left)

Favorite Color: Blue If you could have Super Powers....SuperStrength Fav. Activity: Bull Riding Grade/Age: Senior/18

Romon Ortega (Right)

Favorite T.V. Show: CSI: Miami Age: 15 Siblings...1 Brother-Arturo Hometown: Liberal



Ashley Kilpatrick(Left)

Favorite Band: Three Days Grace Hometown: Hutchinson Grade: Freshman Favorite Book: Twilight by Stephanie Meyer

Tiffany Lanay Cox(Right)

Siblings: 3 Brothers, 1 Sister Favorite Class: Music Hobbies: Singing and Basketball Grade: Freshman

Next time...

Mr. Scheideman, David Nickelson, Kahmi Crocker-Rinke, Alfredo Moron/Munoz, Travis Bursom, Elvis Hodzic

CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT

Ana Whitson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The term "Cruel and Unusual Punishment," makes one think of the Constitution. It means that unreasonable punishment for the crime is unacceptable. This is exactly what Joe Clarence Smith is claiming has happened to him.

Smith was convicted to murdering two teenage girls. He was sentenced to death 30 YEARS ago. His first sentencing was set aside due to "Constitutional error," back in 1979. The next year he was sentenced to death. This happened once again in 1999, from "ineffective assistance of counsel." He was again put on death row in 2004. Now, he's fighting back, saying this is cruel and unusual punishment to put him to death after 30 of being on death row.

He brought his case to the Supreme Court and the only two justices that took an interest were Justice Stephen G. Breyer and Justice John Paul Stevens. They are the only ones who think Smith has a reasonable case against the state of Arizona.

Justice Clarence Thomas said, "...I am unaware of any support in the American constitutional tradition or in this Court's precedent for the proposition that a defendant can avoid himself of the panoply of appellate and collateral procedures and the complain when his execution is delayed..."

LOCKED UP

Katie Walters
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The night of the BET Awards probably didn't go out as planned for rapper, T.I. He was nominated for nine awards, more than any other artist that night, and was scheduled to perform, "You Know What It Is." Instead Wclef Jean covered his song, and comedienne Kat Williams, impersonated him.

Saturday the 13th T.I. was arrested in a downtown parking lot at a shopping center in Atlanta. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms had started an undercover operation since October 2nd when they had got word of an individual seeking machine guns without registering them. The individual turned out to be one of T.I.'s bodyguards, who was arrested on October 10th after purchasing three machine guns, two silencers, and a pistol. The bodyguard claimed it was under T.I.'s orders, which became apparent after the bodyguard came in contact with T.I. Friday, at which time T.I. made it clear he wanted to meet up Saturday afternoon.

The police searched his Atlanta home and found six guns in a cupboard, five of which were loaded. Three other firearms were found in his vehicle. The bodyguard confessed that T.I. has given him cash to buy a total of nine weapons on four occasions.

Surprisingly enough, T.I. already has a criminal record. In 1998, T.I. was convicted of a violation of the Georgia Controlled Substance Act and was given seven years probation. T.I. now faces charges of possession of firearms by a convicted felon.

DEADLY LIPSTICK

Natanyah Williams
Staff Writer



You wake up in the morning, crawl out of bed and get dressed for school or work. You are running late but right before you head out the door you grab your tube of lipstick. On the way to work you put on a fresh coat of the bright red lipstick. It's helps boosts your confidence and plus you look great! No one would have ever thought that your bright red lipstick could be deadly.

Twenty of 33 brand-name lipsticks had detectable levels of lead in the tests, according to the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics. The levels of lead found by the cosmetics group in the lipsticks – ranging from 0.03 part per million to 0.65 part per million – have the potential to increase risks of health hazards, said a professor of environmental epidemiology at Harvard University.

The campaign called on cosmetics companies to test their products for lead and to require suppliers to guarantee that raw materials are lead-free.

DEATH IN THE RACES

Sarah Patterson
Ad Manager

The Chicago Marathon took place Sunday October 7th with a serious water shortage and ghastly temperatures it is no surprise that someone collapsed at the marathon. Organizers of the marathon say that runners who got to the water first were being wasteful and were wetting their bodies down as well as drinking this has never been a problem in the past. A 35 year-old man from Michigan who had a heart problem died from heat exhaustion and a lot of people went to the hospital to ensure that they would be ok.

Organizers closed the race after just three and a half hours although several people

Below: Parker Huitt, sr., Ribbert



Yoga Gone Awry



Cora Dennis
Staff Writer

Yoga. It's your getaway, your exit from your oh-so-stressful life. You come to relinquish and forget about your problems. Or maybe not; maybe that "pop" you just heard might make you want to rethink this fad.

That very thing happened to Amy Toosley when she went to her regular yoga class. The "pop" resulted with her hamstring muscle being pulled. The immense pain was unbearable at the moment, and worsened as the day went on. She claims that even a year later it still hurts.

You think, "Oh, one case, no big deal, right?" Wrong. Over the past three years 13,000 Americans have been hospitalized for yoga-related accidents.

The most common misconceptions about yoga are people thinking that they can't possibly harm themselves doing their pretzel-like moves and that everyone can do it. Most of those injuries are sustained by "baby boomers" that haven't yet realized that their bodies aren't as limber as they used to be, and that don't stretch out before hand.

On the other side of the spectrum, people view yoga as a peaceful ritual. The reality is that no matter the age, or the technique, yoga is not the most reasonable way to get fit.

Some food for thought--according to the American Council on Exercise, a national non-profit organization with certified instructors, research shows that yoga produces absolutely no improvement in cardiovascular health. Contrary to popular belief, it's not the scene way to lose weight, either. The most popular style of yoga burns off fewer calories than there are in about 3 Oreos. Of course, it does relieve you of your stress, but fails give you the muscular strength to prevent or help with osteoporosis.

So, in conclusion, if your all-time goal is to have that perfect body we see splattered on our favorite magazines, yoga is not your best choice.

THE Pratt Tribune



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Keith Lippoldt, Publisher

Office 620-672-5511
Fax 620-672-5514
publisher@pratttribune.com

www.pratttribune.com
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Knocked Up

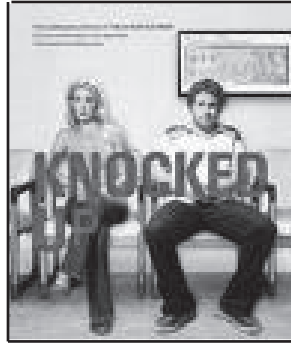
Audrey Kisner
Staff Writer

By now, several of you will have seen this one, but oh, well. If you have already seen it, watch it again. *Knocked Up* is about a guy named Ben who meets a girl named Allison at a club. They become very intoxicated, and weeks later, it turns out that Allison is pregnant.

Ben, who is very immature and irresponsible, decides that he should, at the very least, accompany her to the doctor. As would be expected, he falls for her, but she doesn't think he is responsible enough.

For anyone squeamish, I advise you to shut your eyes and don't open them again for about a minute after you hear the word "crowning."

I give it a 4 out of 5 for people over the age of 17. This movie is rated "R"



Music Review

Hannah Brehm
Staff Writer

Song: Follow
Album: We Are Not Alone
Artist: Breaking Benjamin

Great guitar, a good drumbeat, and vivid lyrics can all be found in "Follow," a song by Breaking Benjamin. The band originated in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. According to Wikipedia, starting with the release of *Saturate* in 2001, Breaking Benjamin has sold over 300,000 copies to date.

Certain lyrics really stand out in this song "You know my name, you know my face, you'd know my heart if you knew your place." The members of Breaking Benjamin are: Benjamin Burnley on vocals and rhythm guitar, Aaron Fink on lead guitar; Mark Klepaski on Bass; and Chad Szeliga on drums.

Pucker Up!

Hayley Henry
Staff Writer

Fall sports are coming to an end, the days are getting shorter, and the morning are starting to feel like somebody put the world in an icebox. What does this mean? Coats, hats, and glove time? No...LIP GLOSS!

My number one pet peeve of winter is the lack of moisture in the air. If any of you are like me, then I have the moisture to please your lips. Blistex: Complete Moisture is my lip gloss of choice because it hydrates, protects, and soothes your lips. Blistex: Complete Moisture has added moisture (which no other lip gloss I have tired has).

When the lip gloss touches your lips, you can tell the difference between Blistex and some plain jane lip gloss. Blistex: Complete Moisture has sun protectivte ingredients in it. Those ingedients help with skin cancer, skin aging, and many other harmful affects of the sun. When winter rolls around this year and your lips start to chap and burn from lack of moisture, you'll know which lip gloss to roll out to Wal-Mart and pick up: Blistex: Complete Moisture.

This Day in History...

Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer

1618-Sir Walter Raleigh was beheaded for conspiring against King James 1 of Englad.

1886-Ticker-tape parade was invented in NYC when the Statue of Liberty was dedicated.

1969-The first ever computer-to-computer link is established on ARPANET, the precursor to the Internet.

1998-Space Shuttle blasts off with 77 yr old John Glen on board

2004-Osama bin Laden first admits direct responsibility for 9-11.

The Bookshelf

Anelise Whitson
Co-Editor-in-Cheif

In the book *Brown-Eyed Girl* by Virginia Swift, Sally Alder is the main character. Sally, a professor at UCLA, is woman with a rough past. She was once a hardcore drinker, rock'n'roll guitarist, and girl that kicked up dust. But, that was a long time ago, and Sally had grown up and matured. Her old nickname, Mustang Sally, didn't fit her very well anymore. Now, Sally has been offered a job at the University of Wyoming as Dungwoodie Distinguished Chair in American Women's History. This was just a fancy title for the job of living in the now deceased Meg Dungwoodie's house to recover some papers. Sally had the position to live in the Dungwoodies estate and write a biography of her. Sally's past is catching up to her when she moves back to her hometown to write this book, and now more than ever Sally wishes she hadn't taken on this job.



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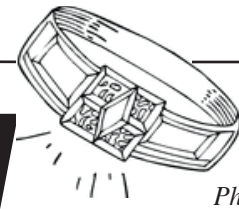
HAT DAY



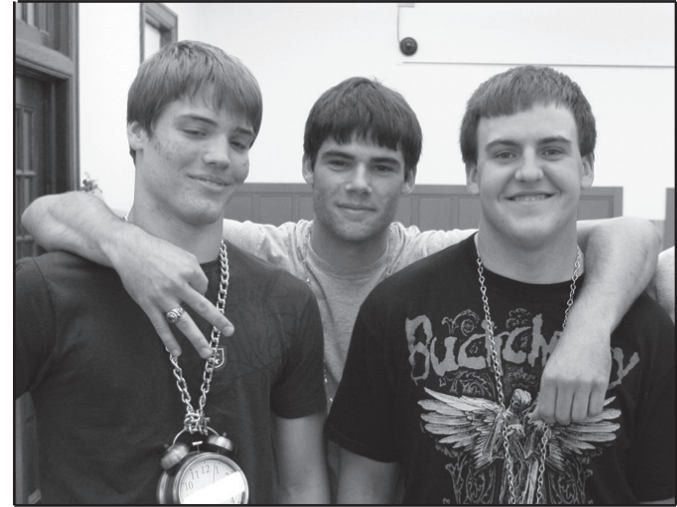
Right: Kyler Ritzman, so.
Zach Pixler, jr., Jake King, sr.,
Chase McCormick, jr.



Bling Day



Photos by Mr. Kahmeyer



Below right: A group of freshman students on fictional character day.



Fictional Character Day

Above: Stephanie Voss, so., Jessica Voss, jr., Jake Strecker, jr., Jarid Rojas, sr., Nathen Kaltenbach, jr., Chase McCormick, jr.
Right: Sarah Haste, sr., Maverick Petz, jr.



ROCKSTAR DAY

Below: Group of students crowded around Mr. Kocher on Rockstar Day.
Right: Zach Touchstone, sr., Paul Harris, jr.



Banners



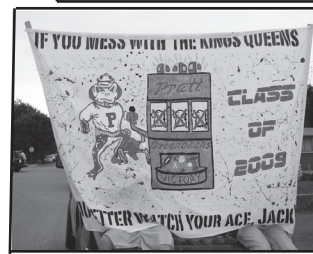
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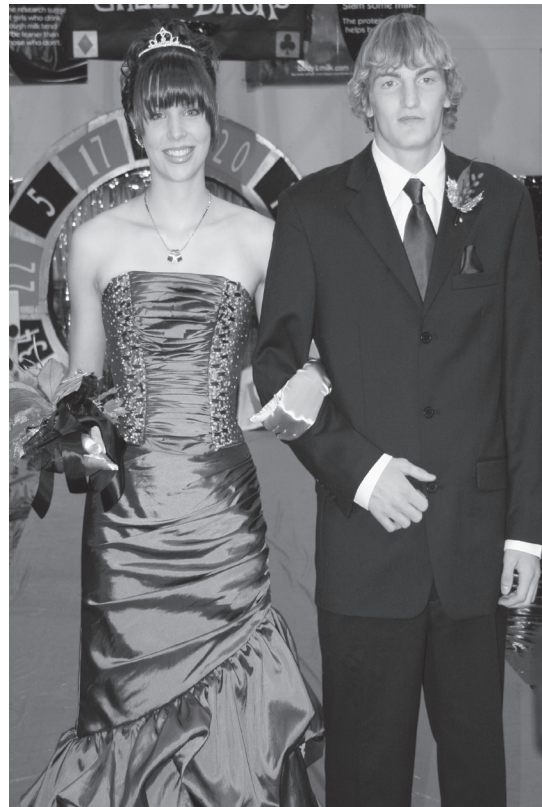


PHS FALL HOMECOMING 2007

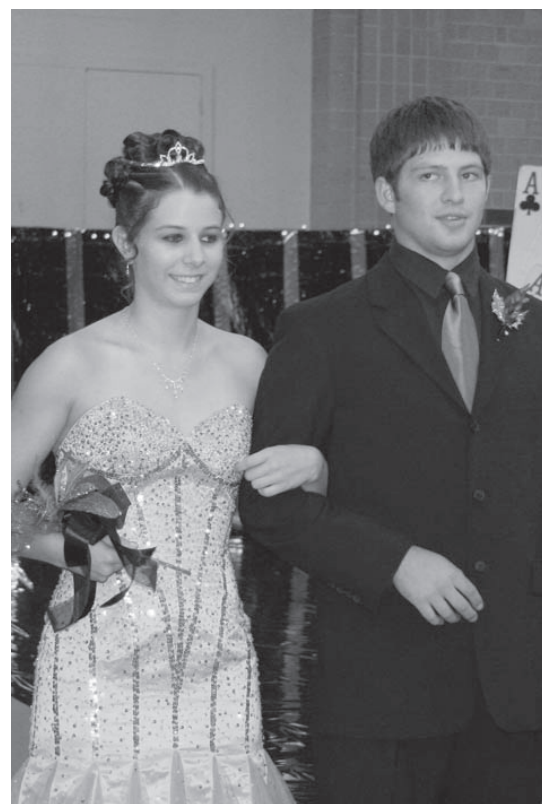
VIVA LAS GREENBACKS



Queen Heather Goertz and King Candidate Weston Goyen



Queen candidate Heather Himmelwright and King Parker Huitt



Queen Candidate Paige McDermitt and King Candidate and Trey Langford



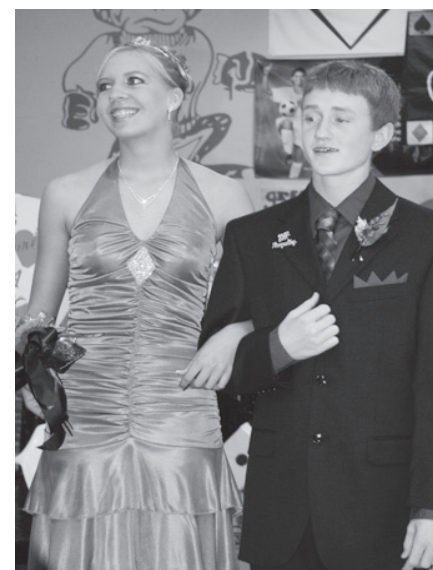
(Above) Fall Homecoming Queen 2007 Heather Goertz and King Parker Huitt get together to take pictures after the announcement.



Junior Attendant Courtney Reh and Escort Bryce Kreihble



Sophomore Attendant Lindsey Mitchell and Escort Luke Southard



Freshman Attendant Kaylee Adelhardt



Flower Girl Kally Kay Oneyear and Crown Bearer Garret Arthur Oneyear

1. The Band, Karli Jackson, Tyler Besser, and Cody Inslee perform 'Face Down' by the Red Jumpsuit Apparatus 2. Emcees Micheal Quinn and Bronson Blasi 3. The Pratt High Singers, Wilson Worden, Audrey Kisner, Raymond Williams and Catherine Schotte perform 'Seasons of Love.' 4. Patyon Whitfield and Hannah Page perform 'When You're Gone,' by Avril Lavigne. 5. Eric Kocher plays the guitar with The Band while performing 'Face Down.' 6. The Pratt High Cheerleaders performing 'Radio Dance.' 7. Community Queen and King, Carol and Don Blankenship. 8. Football Seniors, Cody Meireis, Jeff Lynch and Keegan Reed perform their own interpretation of 'YMCA.'



“Mirror Mirror on the wall...”

What is the most difficult word in the English language for you to pronounce?



“Anthiethisis”
Ellie Eastes, fr.



“Feminine”
Andrea Clarkson, so.



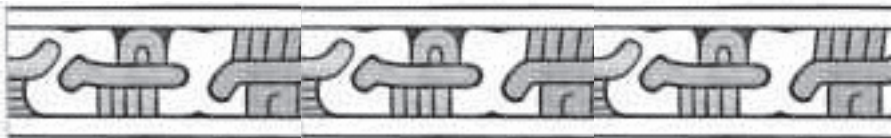
“Chrysanthemum”
Wilson Worden



“Fun, my years at PHS
have ripped it from my vo-
caulary” John Rowland. sr.



“Mayonnaise” Mr. Landry,
faculty



Cora and Natanyah’s Fashion Guide

Cora Dennis and Natanyah Williams
Staff Writers

Don’t You Just HATE That?

Katie Walters
Co-Editor-in-Cheif

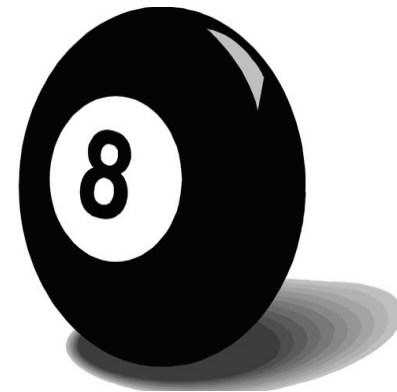


1. People that constantly feel the need to state common sense.
2. When somebody asks you if you have heard something and you tell him/her no, then they say “Oh, never mind,” and change the subject.
3. People who talk trash on your boyfriend/girlfriend, but when you break up, they’re the first ones in line to get a date.
4. New kids that tell you how cool they were at their old school.
5. People who look off your papers and get a better score somehow.

Yay! It’s getting colder and colder each day, which means--layers! Layering clothing is something everybody, including men, can do during the cold, harsh winter. Just because you’re shaking like crazy doesn’t mean you can’t look good while doing so!

Some things you can mix and match together are coats, long-sleeved shirts, sweaters, scarves, boots, leggings, and jeans! And guess what has come back from the 80’s? Leg warmers.

Yes, it’s true, when you think nothing from the 80’s will ever come back, does. You can get nearly any color to complement or match any of your outfit creations this fall and winter. And don’t forget, kids, when you buy a “fur” coat, be sure it’s fake. We all love fur but it’s better when it’s fake rather than real. Have a comfy, warm and “layery” winter!



Elisabeth Short
Staff Writer

What are you going to be for Halloween 8-Ball?
- Very Doubtful

Did you enjoy Homecoming the year?
- Without a Doubt

Will the school still look like a prison when it’s finished, fences, bricks, and all?
- You May Rely On It

Mirror Staff 07-08

Co-Editors-in-Cheif

Katie Walters and Ana Whitson

Photography Editor

Eric Kocher

Copy Editor

Eric Kocher

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Elisabeth Short
Audrey Kisner
Hannah Brehm

Olivia Baraber
Hayley Henry
Kiley Shinkle

Heap of the Month

Kiley Shinkle and Olivia Barber
Staff Writers

Samantha Ward

• Do you like your truck? No, not really.

• How long has it been in your family? Since I was 5 years old.

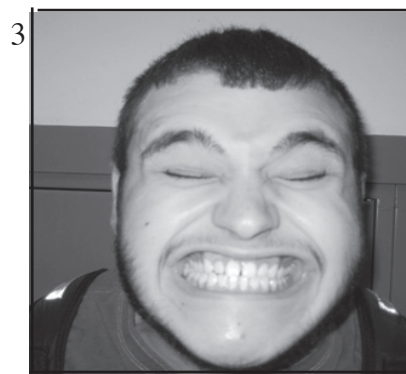
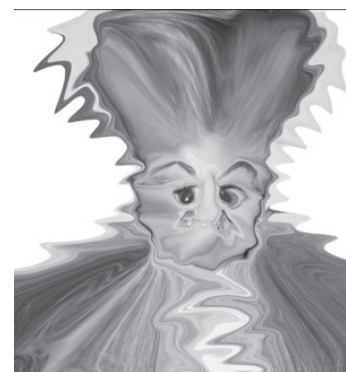
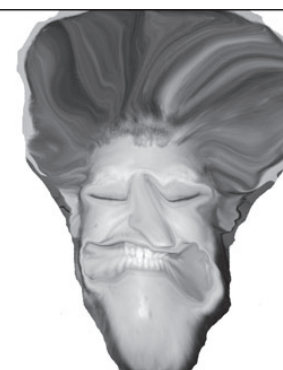
• Do you want a new car/truck, what kind? YES! Anything that isn't rusted would be nice!



Go Big Green!



1. Ashton Neumann, so
2. Brock Pierce, jr.
3. Matt Gould, sr.
4. Gates Shrack, fr.



Pick Your Match

Olivia Barber and Kiley Shinkle
Staff Writers

HORRORSCOPES

Eric Kocher
Photography Editor

Scorpio (10/23 – 11/21)

If you receive a box from the Iraqi government labeled “Sweet Pickles,” don’t open it. It’s most likely anthrax. If you receive a box labeled “Anthrax,” it’s just an ordinary box of pickles.

Sagittarius (11/22 – 12/21)

In 25 years, you will become a famous anchor on an upstanding Swedish news network. You will then vomit while recording live, and quickly become the 17th most watched video on YouTube.

Capricorn (12/22 – 1/19)

If you catch a burglar in the act of stealing your stuff, ask him/her to have a cup of coffee with you. It might just be a really big misunderstanding.

Aquarius (1/20 – 2/18)

When you decide to kill your ex-best friend in his home with a katana, make sure you go to the right house...

Pisces (2/19 – 3/20)

Sponge baths are generally best when you are NOT in an airplane lavatory.

Aries (3/21 – 4/19)

If, for some odd reason, you decide to decapitate a live duck, make sure you don’t do it in a Minnesota hotel. They take those kinds of things VERY seriously up there.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20)

Drugs are bad, mkay?

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21)

Don’t try to smuggle endangered iguanas into the U.S. in a prosthetic leg. Trust me, it’s better this way.

Cancer (6/22 – 7/22)

Hitting your future husband/wife over the head with an onion is not a very effective way to kill him/her.

Leo (7/23 – 8/22)

Dressing up as Catwoman will not allow you to possess illegal drugs. You could try, but it won’t work.



Virgo (8/23 – 9/22)

Begin contemplating every possible meaning of the phrase “silent as the grave.” I don’t think it’ll help you, but it’ll be funny to see what you can come up with.

Libra (9/23 – 10/22)

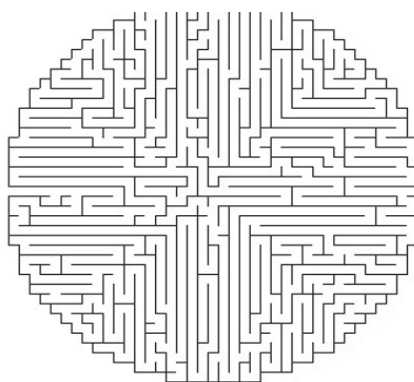
Hahahahahahaha! Wow, it’s going to suck to be you!

Countdown

Cora Dennis
Staff Writer

- 6 days till Halloween
- 26 days till Thanksgiving break
- 58 days till Christmas Break
- 62 days til Christmas
- 69 days til the New Year

Olivia Barber



9	6	5		15
	7			28
			8	16
			4	13
				17
21	20	6	27	20

PUZZLE MANIA

6			1			5		
						3	7	9
	9	4	2					
		5				8		3
	4						9	
9		7				6		
					6	2	3	
1	3	8						
		6			8			7

Math Puzzle Instructions

1. Try to fill in the missing numbers
2. The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 9
3. The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right
4. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom
5. The diagonal lines add up to the totals on the right



DID YOU KNOW...

Kiley Shinkle
Staff Writer

- People spend about two weeks of their lives at traffic lights.
- The ant, when intoxicated, will always fall over to its right side.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- Most lipstick contains fish scales.
- Americans ate eight million more orders of french fries and almost six million more hamburgers this year compared to last.
- The rat has been called the world's most destructive mammal - other than man.

Featured Website

www.randomshirts.com

Hayley Henry
Staff Writer

Randomshirts.com is not just known for having random shirts, but for having shirts with some political, environmental, or just plain funny statements.

For those of you who LOVE to make a statement with your attire this site is for you. The website started out by selling thrift store shirts, but then realized that its own "original" designs sold just as well, and were a lot less work.

The company's mission statement is "To impact the world through business by generating money for those in need," so not only will you be buying an awesomely-cheap shirt, you'll be supporting non-profit organizations with projects that benefit the Earth! (Yay!) Go check this site out and dress yourself for "Random" success.

How to be the Happiest Person Everrrrr!

Hayley Henry
Staff Writer

"Ok Heyyyyyyy!!!," yells your friend in an upbeat voice walking down the hall. "How's it going?" You start to get suspicious because it is first hour on a Monday morning and your friend is acting like they just drank 12 cups of coffee. You reply to both of these remarks with "What is going on with you today?" Your friend says, "Well...I've been working on my level of happiness!" This scenario is not typical at Pratt High School, but it could be if you follow these simple steps. According to *Top7Business* there are 7 steps to happiness.

The first step is accepting the fact that **you** deserve to be happy. The messages that you think in life determine the direction your life is going. If you do not think you should be happy, then you should not. You control your thoughts, so if they are positive, then you are positive. The second step in achieving happiness is accepting who you are. If you cannot accept yourself -the good, bad, and ugly- then how do you expect to be happy?

The third step in achieving that morning happy face is being comfortable at where you are. I don't mean your location, but where you are in the present (clear as mud, huh?). You don't have a clue what is happening tomorrow, so enjoy where you are at today.

The fourth step is appreciate your life! Appreciate all the aspects of your life that make you who you are. Whether it is coming home to that nice *Halo 3* after school, or the fact that you save your friend a spot in the ever-growing lunch line, appreciate the fact that you're alive and well. Asking for help is step five. Many of us lack in this area because we do not want to burden others. Although when people ask you for help, you dig right in. Don't you think they would do that in turn for you? The sixth step is performing acts of kindness. When you do something nice for some else that takes your mind off yourself and makes it easier for you to step back and see how life really is. The seventh and final step is do something that will move you forward. Make a plan and put the power back in your hands. If you follow these 7 simple steps, you'll be the one yell "Heyyyyyyy!!!!," instead of your friend!

TOP 10!..

Worst Spirit Days Ever

Sarah Patterson

Audrey Kisner

Staff Writers

1. Salad Day --- dress up like parts of a salad. (This one actually happened)
2. Mime Day --- Imagine learning about the battle of Bull Run in Mime GO MR. DEPEW!
3. Interpretive Dance Day --- Tell me how you really feel through Dance!
4. Dress Normal Day --- act natural.
5. Tourist Day ---- You can't even earn points
6. Circus Day ---- Do you know how many people in our school are afraid of clowns?
7. Early Start Day--- 7:30 classes anyone?
8. Plagues of Egypt Day --- Death to the first born ECT....
9. Janitor Day --- Instead of the janitor cleaning up after you, you clean up after the janitor.
10. Red Black and White Day--- Go Kingman! (we're just kidding but show some backward school spirit mess with some heads and root for the other team!)

