

# The Blue Streak

## SPORTS

### Wrestling Season Wrap Up

This year, the 2019 PCHS wrestling team had an exceptional season. They finished the season with a record of 13-10. They took eight members to regionals in Anna Jonesboro. That weekend, Ryder Parson was the sole wrestler to move on to State in Champaign. On February 14-15 he competed and made history by being the first member from Pinckneyville to win a match at state in nine years. Another achievement for the season was the team taking home third at the Argenta tournament. Overall, it was an amazing season for our PCHS wrestling team.

### Boys Basketball

Pinckneyville basketball came to an end when Alton Marquette took and held a strong lead over the Panthers. The Panthers beat Johnston City in the first round of regionals to advance on to face Anna Jonesboro. After winning the Regional championship, the Panthers moved into the sectional to face Alton Marquette. After a long struggle, the Panthers were unable to take a lead. Losing the first round of sectionals 60-34, the Panthers also lose seniors Dylan Hougland and Kelton Linze. Overall, the Panther basketball team had a wonderful season that made PCHS extremely proud!

### Girls Soccer

Soccer is still a new addition to PCHS' athletics program, and we are so excited about it! Macy Epplin, a middle defender, is very passionate about soccer so we sat down with her to discuss the upcoming season. She said that she is most excited about the new talent they have on the team since it has *doubled* in size since last year. The coach, Jay Ray, knows soccer like a second nature. Epplin also stated, "I think we will have a good season because of all the work we put in at practice. I think that we are improving every time we practice. We will be a solid team. I like how well we bond together. We all work hard and push each other to be better." The PCHS Girls Soccer team kicks off their season against Mater-Dei at home on March 14th. Schedules and team information can be found on [pinckneyvilleathletics.org](http://pinckneyvilleathletics.org).

## Baseball

Mr. Segelhorst coaches boy's baseball and also teaches in the science department at PCHS. We spoke with Coach Segs about the upcoming season. He told us that he had ten seniors graduate last year, which was a blow to their team, and he has five seniors this year. He said that he will have a younger team of players, which calls for more practice. He also noted that, "with this younger team everybody is going to have to work, and that nothing will come easy." One of Mr. Segelhorst's hopes for the season is that the player's love of the game continues to grow. He doesn't like to set a number of certain wins as a goal; instead, he likes to see the team grow and work toward their own goals that they set themselves. The Panthers start off the season on March 13 against Mt. Vernon at home. Information on this year's baseball season can be found on [pinckneyvilleathletics.org](http://pinckneyvilleathletics.org).

## PCHS Track

Tod Rushing is the PCHS track coach. He believes that this is a team sport, even if you don't do well. He said that there will always be a chance in the individual races. His goal for this season is to win conference, and to get as many people to track state as possible and to continue to break records in as many events as possible. Coach Rushing excitedly stated that Dalton Kitchen will be able to step up to the challenge and beat the school record for shot put. He also believes that Stetson Lappin will be able to beat the record for 300 meter hurdles. He believes that the track team will continue to do great even after losing eight seniors last year. All around, this year's season will be full of excitement and teamwork as we cheer for our PCHS track team throughout the year. Their opening meet is in Nashville on March 28. Full schedules are posted on [pinckneyvilleathletics.org](http://pinckneyvilleathletics.org).

## Softball

As winter sports come to an end, softball starts up for a new season. This year's team has 22 players. Like many utility players, senior Taylor Witges is not only pitching for the Lady Panthers, she can also play left field when needed. "Playing more traditional softball will be a main focus for the team this year," Coach Allen Engelhardt says, "more bunting and stealing bases this year as well." Last year's team did not have to bunt or steal as many bases because the line up was stacked. Over all, the Lady Panthers had 53 home runs last season. "Losing the seniors last year will be difficult and the team will be inexperienced, but this team has great potential to go far in the postseason." The first game for the softball team is Wednesday, March 13 at home against Waltonville. The schedule for the Lady Panthers is available at [pantherathletics.org](http://pantherathletics.org).

# Staff Biographies - Special Education

## Mr. Weatherford

Mr. Weatherford began teaching in 2000, he decided to go into teaching because he “enjoyed working with all students to help assist them to become successful young Americans where they have the opportunity to follow whatever dream or career path they choose.” His favorite classes he had participated in were Industrial Shop Classes.

## Mr. Vancil

Mr. Vancil began teaching in 1990 due to his desire to make a difference in the world. When asked about his favorite class he said he loved learning about history.

## Mrs. Patterson

Mrs. Patterson began teaching in 2002 and went in to teaching thanks to her high school English teacher, Herman Albers, who “taught me to love learning” and her previous superintendent, Sandra Jerrels. Mrs. Patterson says that going into teaching was, “the best career decision that I have ever made.”

## Mrs. Cannon

Mrs. Cannon went to high school in West Frankfort. she lived there from the time she was 3 until she got married at 20 and moved to Pinckneyville. Her first college experience was at John A. Logan where she and got an associate degree in Business Data Processing.

After receiving her associates degree, she changed her major and transferred to SIUC to become a special education teacher. She started teaching at PCHS in February 1995 and has been here ever since. She says she doesn't plan on leaving.

Mrs. Cannon knew that she wanted to be a teacher like her own high school math teacher. To treat all of the students the same and help anyone when they needed it. She says she loves her job and she can't imagine doing anything else.

## Art Club Spruces Up the Pinckneyville Santa

This winter the PCHS art teacher, Mrs. McCann noticed the Pinckneyville Santa who stands in front of the courthouse every Christmas was a little beaten down. Which is to be expected considering it has been standing in our town square every winter since 1954. So thus the PCHS art club's next project was born. For the next few weeks they would paint after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays until he was finished. Before anything else, you need to know some of the history about our town's Santa told by PCHS's superintendent, Mr. Hagene:

"Santa was a gift from a local businessman named Carl Marlow who owned a paint store in town. The construction was completed by PCHS Industrial Arts teacher Glen Hamilton and his classes. Mr. Marlow painted each section in the back of his store after business hours and when it was assembled it was perfect. It was the first time anyone had seen the project in its entirety.

Santa made his first appearance on the courthouse lawn in 1954 and has been a fixture during the Christmas season ever since. With the traffic volume in town it is hard not to imagine that the numbers of times he has been seen has to be over 1 million views.

There are stories about him beginning his tour on the north side of the courthouse but was move to the south side to shelter him from the strong north winds that actually took him down one year"

PCHS Art Club members who helped with this project:

Mariah Woodside  
Darrian Harris  
Kaylaha Adams  
Lindsey Geffers  
Madison Geffers  
Tamara Castleberry  
Heaven Mack  
Abi Loos  
Emma Brehm  
Sara Waggoner  
Asia Colegrove  
Matthew Brown  
Cheyenne Yocum  
Cheyenne Hofmeister  
Amia Brodbeck  
Gavin Ramey  
Donnie Fosnock II



## *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*

This year's Music Maker's performance of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* will be one for the books! The performances will take place March 14-16. Tickets are available in the district office at the high school. Editor Kayla Alms sat down with Dylln Palmer to discuss the upcoming musical.

The secondary lead character, portrayed by Dylln Palmer (Jr.), is Dom Claude Frollo. He is the Archdeacon, or head priest, of Notre Dame, in Paris. His role is the antagonist in which he keeps Quasimodo as a "willing" hostage in the bell tower of Notre Dame and seeks to have Esmeralda as his gypsy mistress or she will have to be sent to her death.

When asked about the opinion about his character, he said, "I feel that Frollo is someone who is just horribly evil, and tries to justify his actions through his own righteousness." He also said that the core message is the phrase, "What makes a monster and what makes a man?" Which means, how and when does one decide whether they will have human decency or will they be a monster? Each character has a moment in the musical where they decide which side they will be on, whether it be an ensemble part or a lead role. This musical is truly about being kind to the most unfortunate. It will certainly be a tear-jerker, so bring your tissues when you come out to see it!

## Student Survey

What are you Most excited for this Spring?



Jenna Opp: For school to be out!



Jacob Clark: Warmer weather!



Daniel Garavalia: Track season!



Jade Riley: Post Prom!



Derek Rohlfig: Spring Break!



Destiny Alvis: To Get Out Of School!





Lexie Hirsch: Prom!



Logan Lindner: Spring Break!