

The Kaw Tracker

Halloween Dance Popular

By Alexandria Parnell

Halloween is the one night a year when everyone can be whoever they want to be. The students at Perry Lecompton High School are *always* excited for the yearly Halloween dance. In preparation for the dance, there were many fundraisers such as the pie feed during Homecoming and the pizza trailer at home football games. Mrs. Johnson says, "The Halloween Dance is a fundraiser itself." After all the fundraising, the International Club has raised around \$500. At 7:30pm on Friday, October 30th, students all flocked to the PLHS commons, in full costume, to dance the night away. Costume contests were held for several categories. The categories and winners are as pictured...

Best Couple



Rhiannon and Michael Mallonee

Best Friends



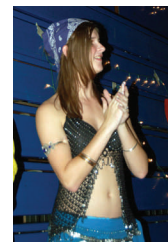
Mason O'Trimble and Ben Piene

Scariest



Nate Green

Most Retro



Linda Gleason

Biggest Loser



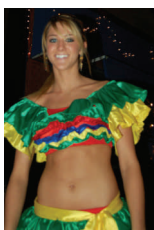
Shelby Politte

Money-in-da-bank



Kourtney Foley

Judge's Surprise



Haylee Harden

Movie Star



Brad Phillips

LOL!



Megan Johnson

Red Ribbon Week Celebrated at PLHS

By McKenzie Christman

During the week of October 26th, through the 30th, students of Perry-Lecompton celebrated Red Ribbon Week. In the high school, the club SADD, which stands for Students Against Destructive Decisions, sponsored Red Ribbon Week. The club included the students in this to help them realize the problems and the consequences that drugs and alcohol can cause.

In an interview with the President of SADD, Shelby Dunavin, she explained

it in further detail how the club involved the students. "We rewarded the students."

During seminar every day that week, the students were rewarded with a piece of candy. Shelby also said that different announcements about the consequences of drugs and alcohol were made during the morning announcements.

Red Ribbon week as been around for many years now, and SADD continues the tradition by rewarding the students and involving them in this event.

"It's good for the students to know the problems drugs and alcohol can

cause." Shelby explained.

Shelby continued to talk about how this week is the one week that this subject can be brought to the students' attention, and hopefully will make a difference. Shelby ended her interview with a statement about red ribbon week. "It's great to be drug free!"

Tracker Subscriptions

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Organizations Offer Variety at PLHS

By Riley Shafer

Here at PLHS you will find several clubs to choose from with something for everyone's taste. For example, there is SADD (Students Against Dangerous Decisions). They meet and do various activities throughout the school year to prevent kids or adults from drinking and driving. Mrs. Whitaker is the sponsor of SADD. Shelby Dunavin is the president of SADD and Josey Lust is the vice president.

Another choice for a club would be Skills USA. If you like shop and working with your hands you should join this club. I know they are selling t-shirts and hats to raise money this year. They also rake leaves for a fundraiser; also the Skills club goes to a competition every year. They compete in various activities from wood working to welding. The president is Tucker Pruett and the vice president is Logan Hurd.

If you like to travel, you should join

International Club. They will be traveling to Mexico this summer. See Dr. Johnson about information on that trip. They hosted the Halloween dance to fundraise for the trip. Rhiannon Pearson is the president of International Club.

Do you like the outdoors and wildlife? Biology Club would be for you than. There's already been a canoe trip down the Kansas River and a trip to the Omaha Zoo is in the works. If you are interested in doing any of this, see Mr. Haggard ASAP for more information. The club is free!

If you like performing on stage or even singing. Drama Club is perfect for you. Every year Ms. Ward sponsors a trip to Manhattan to watch a play put on by the students. This year they will be going to the Civic Center. Morgan Brown and Chelsea Jacobson are the presidents for drama club.

If you like to make speeches and are

interested in business, join FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America). Mrs. Dugan is in charge of the club, and Jessica Miller is the president. See them if you want more information.

These are just some of the clubs offered at PLHS, so get out and join which-ever club you want.

It's a great way to learn new information and it's also a perfect way to meet new people. Get out there and join!



*Vice President of SADD,
Josey Lust*



Jordan Madorin and Jacquie Maline rake leaves for FCL

Scholars' Bowl Meets Underway

By Emily Steward

The Perry-Lecompton Scholars Bowl team has two new coaches this year. Ms. Norton is the head coach with Mrs. Whitaker as her co-coach. Both Ms. Norton and Mrs. Whitaker had only good things to say about this year's team. Ms. Norton says the team is very strong, and the older members help the new members prepare.

The JV team consists of Samantha Buchanan, Julie Clement, Anna Seib, and Clara Foster, who's the captain. The Varsity team is made up of Kyle Aldridge, April Blair, Morgan Brown, and is led by Ethan Merritt.

To prepare for a meet, the Scholars Bowl members ask each other questions and practice buzzing in the fastest. The questions are very broad—anything from math to science to literature is fair game. The actual meet can have seven or eight rounds, and all one has to do is buzz in and answer the given question correctly to earn team points. Only three people are needed to compete, but there can be up to five.

The team's first meet just happened recently, and the coaches reported that it went very well. There was also a Junior Varsity tournament on October 27th. Samantha Buchanan says it was fun, and thinks they did very well. Ms. Norton and Mrs. Whitaker are looking for new members, so if you're interested go talk to one of them!

Numerous Scholarships Available

By Jennifer May

From high school to college, the change is huge. Learning to manage money and how to pay for everything can get complicated. So how can you go to college for less? Scholarships are a great place to start.

Local to national, the criteria for each one is different. They can be academic based or can reward an athlete for participation in a sport.

If you're thinking about applying for a scholarship, take a look at the school website. On the right side there is a link to the many different scholarships that are offered to the school. It will also list a few websites that can help you find some great scholarship, just for

you. The most used and best given would be www.fastweb.com. It's a free sign up. Give your email address and complete a few questions and you're set.

The Kaw Tracker is published approximately every three weeks during the school year by the PLHS Journalism Class.

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Juniors, Seniors Take Highland Classes To Get Head Start on College Life

By Danielle Lawrence



The students at Perry Lecompton High School are getting a taste of college life early. Juniors and Seniors get to have the opportunity to begin Highland classes a week or two after the high school starts their classes. This opportunity has been going on for four years now. More and more students are taking this opportunity because of the price of college these days.

There are nine different classes to choose from. Most of these classes are available for both semesters. Some of the classes are provided at Highland while other college classes are offered at PLHS. Classes that are provided at Highland are College Algebra, General Psychology, Public Speaking, and English 101. Painting I, Human Anatomy, Environmental Science, Spanish I, and Micro Applications are the classes provided at the high school.

Most students are taking classes to get a head start in their college career; they enjoy having the opportunity to take college classes.

Morgan Brown says "It's a great experience"

while Melissa Blair says, "It is nice because at Highland you have more freedom with the teachers and classes."

Choosing when to show up for class is one of the freedoms of going to Highland. Students also like the fact that they can be late to a class and not get into trouble for being late. Another freedom most of the students like is they can have food and drinks in class.

Instead of going to the Highland campus, Bailee Daugherty is one student who stays at the high school. She is taking Human Anatomy and is enjoying herself. Ms. Snyder has seen an increase in the number of students taking Highland classes over the years. She believes the reasons for this are to get a head start in their college career and it costs less for them. She has noticed Public Speaking and English 101 are the classes with the most students. The class with the least number of students enrolled is College Algebra.

Right: Students do an experiment in chemistry to make colored flames

Need Advice? Ask Alice!

Alice,

I need some help! My boyfriend and I recently broke up and he keeps changing the story as to why so people will take "his side." We have been friends for a long time and had decided to take the next step, I don't want to lose his friendship but I don't like that he's trying to turn some of my friends against me. What do I do?

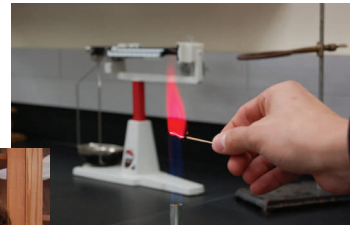
- Concerned ex-girlfriend

Dear Concerned Ex-Girlfriend

This sounds like a problem. Explain to him, or get a friend to explain to him, that just because your relationship didn't work out doesn't mean your friendship can't. Tell him that his behavior is immature, and that if he doesn't wish to keep you as a friend then he still shouldn't go trying to ruin your other friendships. If he truly considers you as a friend, then he will stop his behavior and accept the fact that you two didn't work out as a couple. If he can't, then he wasn't a real friend to begin with.

Sincerely,

Alice



Left: Dalton Carver and Alex Price pay attention to the experiment



Science Classes Schedule

By Galina Kalinkina

People live in an amazing world where there are so many interesting and surprising things. And the best way to learn about this world is through the study of science. Currently PLHS offers classes in biology, chemistry, and physics. While some students may consider them difficult, all agree that the labs and field trips are a lot of fun.

While most field trips occur later in the year, Mr. Haggard's biology classes have already taken a trip to a nearby creek. There they found some interesting animals and plants. That is not only trip Mr. Haggard is planning. In October Biology Club members took a trip canoeing down the Kansas River, and in

November they will be taking a two-day trip to the Omaha zoo in Nebraska. "I just want to show my students more interesting things in our world," Haggard said, "Something about our history, something about our nature. Hope they enjoy it as I do!"

The structure of atoms is currently under study by Chemistry I students while Chemistry II students are working with qualitative analysis and trying to determine the identity of unknown substances.

"By studying atoms you can know our

world better, because everything consists of atoms. That's why it is so important," Coopriider said. It will be more labs in the future in chemistry class.

Physics students under the direction of Ms. Norton began the year studying motion. As part of this study, experiments showing the properties of velocity, acceleration, and kinetic energy have been performed.

And what about future plans?

"After motion we will begin studying Newton's Laws, including labs, of course," Norton said.

Labs

Teachers Enjoy Art

By Danielle Lawrence and Alexandria Parnell

“Art is something created aesthetic and purposeful.” says Mr. Mike Weatherford, the PLHS art teacher currently filling in for Ms. Ashlock. Mr. Weatherford is currently teaching Painting, Drawing and Intro to Art. Bethany Wells works on a drawing

art teacher, says she enjoys teaching both the Middle School and the High School. She says teaching for the high school is fun because she gets to see many of her old students, all grown up. At first she thought she would have trouble re-teaching some of her old students and thinking up of new art projects. But she has overcome this obstacle, and many students are having lots of fun in her class.

She is surprised at the maturity level and responsibility of the students, and of how much some of her former students remembered. Although she likes teaching the high school, she says she can never leave the middle school because it’s her “baby.”



Bethany Wells works on a drawing

Marching Band Follow Up

By Chelsea Jacobson

The Marching Kaws receive an excellent rating at the Baker Marching Festival. After weeks of preparation and only one chance to perform in front of an audience, the Marching Kaws finished on top for the year. After minor weather set-backs at the home football games, the band decided to perform a pre-game show as practice for the Festival. The next week, the Kaws went to Baker and performed splendidly despite the cold weather. Now that Halloween is right around the corner, the band decided to put on a surprise show. The band learned a new drill and two new songs (“Monster Mash” and the “Batman Theme Song”). The color guard learned a whole new drill that involved a number of dance steps and a toss. All around, the show was a hoot and a holler. The band had fun with it and the seniors were featured due to the fact that it was the last regular season performance.

As Marching Band ends, Concert Band begins. It has been decided that the annual Christmas Concert that in the past has involved both the band and the choir, will be cut down to just the choir due to the lack of selection of holiday music for the band. Pep Band is also a big deal for the band. The band plays at every Varsity Basketball game, building up the spirit of the audience and the team.

Singers Stay Busy

By Galina Kalinkina

There are so many activities and electives in PLHS, but for many students singing plays a very important role in their lives. Taking part in the musical and concerts are ways that these students can exhibit their musical skills.

All Singers are in the musical *Back to the 80's*. Also in the musical are half of the women's ensemble members and some choir members. They practice for more than two hours almost every night, learning new songs and dances from the '80's and having a lot of fun. The leads are working hard, learning their lines and practicing their solo songs.

Cameron Shoemaker is playing the role of teacher; his big number is a very famous and popular song by Michael Jackson "Man in the Mirror." Brooks Christman and Breanna Robinson are playing two of the main parts in the musical. Since they are seniors, this is the last musical for them in high school. While the girls in the musical sing the song "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," the boys sing "Footloose" with dancing to go with it.

The dress rehearsal for the musical will be on November 11 and the first show will be the next day. All together there will be three performances on the PLHS theater stage.

On December 13, music students will have their second concert. The first concert was good and met all of Mr. Griggs's expectations. The PLHS Winter Band and Singers Concert will be different from the first one. There will be more songs, including such Christmas songs such as "God Rest You Merry." Also concept choir and singers will sing the funny song "Fruitcake." They will not only sing it, but they will dance too, which is going to be new to the students. "In our Winter Concert we will have not only group songs, but some singers will sing their solos," Mr. Griggs said. "Maybe our Russian student Galina will do a Russian piece."

According to Mr. Griggs his classes are going well, but there are some problems too. Sickness is one of them, especially in singers. Some students miss a lot of lessons and practices, because of illness. Another problem is that students are too busy, They try to do sports, singing and other activities at the same time.



The PLHS marching band performs at the football game

Hobbies

Foley Makes Mark in Competition

By Trent Robb

From guitar playing to shooting moving targets in the air, students at PLHS have quite a knack for displaying excellence. Despite all the great things going on, one student came to mind when thinking about personal accomplishments and responsibility. This student, chosen because of her individual success outside the realm of school, has been interviewed to honor her accomplishments.

Kourtney Foley is a junior at Perry Lecompton High School and though her experiences are just now being recognized, she has quite a history of riding. From the ripe age of two years, Kourtney has been riding horses. At first she rode for the enjoyment of feeling the wind fly through her hair until eventually transforming into a national competitor. Foley's rodeo experience started in the fourth grade where she competed in the barrel and pole races.

When asked about her favorite memory involving her hobby she quickly replied saying "One time when I was about 8 years old while I was riding my horse, I made a mistake and my dad had me repeat the pattern." The part she still laughs about today is that she was so nervous re-trying the run that she had her horse walk through the pattern at a

snail's pace. There is no walking for Kourtney now-a-days though; while competing in big stage rodeos she was offered to be a member of the 08'-09' Bloomer Team. Bloomer is a sponsor that pays a contestant's entry fee to big tournaments and supplies you with products to use at the rodeos.

If you think these facts about Kourtney are extraordinary, wait until you hear her dominating results from the big time tournaments. In 2008, Kourtney was the state runner-up in pole bending and earned a national berth. This season Foley has done even better, placing third in the poles at State and beating over half the top riders in the country at nationals. Still if that's not enough for you, Kourtney also performed a sweep at the huge American Royal Rodeo at Kemper Arena winning both the long and short barrel runs.

With hard work and even more success to come, Kourtney will continue to make PLHS proud and even receive big-time rewards for her excellence. Kansas State University has spoken with her about a potential scholarship offer to attend and be a part of their rodeo team. Many students, not just in Perry Lecompton, but in the entire state of Kansas can learn from Kourtney's commitment both to education and her equine passion.

Band Prepares for Upcoming Events

By Chelsea Jacobson

Excellent ratings are not easy to receive. That's something that the Marching Kaws could definitely tell anyone. After weeks and weeks of preparation, only one performance as a pre-game show at Homecoming and enduring frigid weather, the accomplishment was a well earned one. The last show of the season was a fun one.

The band also decided to put on a special Halloween show in which everyone wore a costume and learned two new pieces. Between pieces, the seniors were recognized and thanked for being in band all four years.

With marching band behind them, the band is now focusing on pep-band and concert band. The annual holiday musical performance is coming up and everyone is busily learning their parts. Pep-band is definitely going to be a fun time this year. While teaching the freshmen the basics of the pieces played in previous years, the upper classmen are excited about the upcoming season and playing their favorite pieces.

"I don't think I'll ever get 'Louie Louie' out of my head." Senior Katie Volle states. The band will be ready for the first basketball game where they will play from beginning of half-time of the Varsity Girls' game to the end of half-time of the boys' game.

Editorial



Brandon Ball uses a computer

By Hayley Miller

Perry – Lecompton High School has now given its students the opportunity to bring their own computers to school, and have internet access. This will benefit the students in many ways. They will be able to work on school assignments and projects without going through the trouble of transferring files from one computer to another, and will not have to deal with slow school computers. This also allows those students who don't have computers at home more time to work on assignments since all the school computers will not be occupied. Some students even have applications on their personal computers that are not compatible with the computers at school. By bring their own computers, they will not have to worry about the complications with compatibility. Hopefully students will not take advantage of this privilege, and will use it to benefit themselves instead.



Left: The drummers in the band pump up the students for a pep rally

Right: The drum line performs at the pep rally



Community Service a Priority to Many

By Allissa Christman

Community service is a big priority to many students at Perry Lecompton High School. As for Shelby Erickson she feels that community service is a good thing for many people. She sometimes takes time out of her day to help out the community. Also helping our school is Tyler Christman. He does community service to help his college transcripts. One thing Tyler does is read to younger students from the school district. For

Jessica Christman and Grace Hupe think that there should be more community service available for students at Perry Lecompton High to participate in. Grace thinks students should be able to help out more around the school like having more recycling projects. Jessica gets involved by giving clothes and other items to charities. This is just a few ways community service has been done at Perry Lecompton High School.

November 2009

Happy Birthday!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Justin Marino	2 Jennifer May Morgan Schiffelbein	3 Darrel Cox	4	5 Trevor Dark Emma Gantz	6	7
8	9 Hannah Fair	10 Austin Sledd	11 April Blair Mellissa Blair Josey Hurd	12	13 Erin Sergeant	14 Ryan Akagi Taylor Akagi Shelby Zacher
15 Emily Schmidt	16	17	18 Allissa Christman Dakoda McDaniel Lindsey Robles	19	20	21
22 Logan Hurd Mary Stewart	23 Mikaela Daniels Isaac Romboldt	24 Jessica Christman Tyler Christman Savannah Hefner	25 Korbe Bohac Ethan Merritt	26	27	28
29 Collin Brown	30 Ashley Miles Skye Wilkins					