

THE RAM PAGE

1st QUARTER EDITION

•DEVELOPING LEADERS ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

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SENIOR & SERVICE SALUTE

By: Riker



[Watch the SC Honor Choir's half-time performance on "Salute to Service" night by clicking here.](#)

I interviewed Ms. Jana Porch, Pep Club sponsor, about the recent Salute to Service/Senior Night. First I asked her when and how the senior players would be honored. The seniors will be honored before the game begins. "They will all line up down on the east end of the field, and then Mr Spriggs will read their information. Then they will come out of their helmets for the crowd", Ms. Porch stated. Next, I asked how the Salute to Service night came about. Mr. Amick came up with the idea to honor them for this game. Other area schools have done this, and with the incident we had on September 26th, we kind of wanted to honor and thank the people that showed up. We also wanted to honor our veterans as well.

Then I asked about the Honor Choir's performance at half-time. "That was my idea. Coach Dannemueller, Mr. Amick, and myself were talking about ways to kind of make this game special, and I mentioned the Honor Choir singing, because we all love when they sing, "God bless The U.S.A.", Ms. Porch explained. Finally, I asked Ms. Porch if there will be other specialty themed nights during the year for other sporting events. She said, "There could be. We could do a basketball one. That could be something I bring up in the future." Initially, the game football was to be delivered on the field by helicopter, but they were all out on call at game time.

Article photo credit- Mr. Schrum

Mr. McClarty Enjoys New Role at SC

By: Bella

I recently sat down and interviewed the new assistant principal, Mr. Joe McClarty. First, I asked, "Where did you previously work, and in what capacity?" He said, "New Madrid County R-1 district. I taught elementary PE for about 11 years, then I went to ISS for about four years along with alternative, and the last six years I was a lifeguard for high school. I worked closely with counselors to identify the students struggling academically by monitoring grades and setting up after school tutoring for students that were failing, or had missing assignments. I then asked Mr. McClarty when this opportunity opened up, what made him interested in applying. "I had been thinking about a change for a while, and love being around kids. I have a connection with Ms. Ort. This spot opened up, and I thought it would be a good fit for me.

Next, I asked, "What do you think about Scott City so far?" Mr. McClarty said, "So far, I really like it. Everyone is very welcoming, and there's a lot of spirit, even if it isn't a game day. You guys really care about your school, and you support one another." My next question was, "What do you like about being an assistant principal?" He said, "Getting to know everybody, and getting to learn everyone's names, and getting to work with all of the wonderful teachers in the high school and middle school; just getting to meet new people and enjoy every day." My final question was, "What are some challenges you face as assistant principal?" He said, "Going back and forth between high school and middle school has probably been the hardest part, and treating everyone fairly."



Mr. McClarty, new middle and high school assistant principal.



MS Football By: Asher

I met up with Coach David Spriggs and spoke with him about the middle school football season. I asked, "What was your favorite moment this season?" He said, "I think the greatest part of this season was finding out that there were 47 middle school kids that were wanting to play and they all stuck with it and we always had a great time at practice. It's just good to see that amount of kids wanting to play football." Then I asked Coach Spriggs, "Which game was your favorite and why?" He said, "Well, I know it's sad to say, but the last game was probably my favorite. Not because I got an ice bath after the game, but because all the kids came up to me and said thank you and that they had a great season and that makes it all worth it." I then asked Coach Spriggs, "How did it feel to win the first game of the season?" He replied, "It felt good because you never know going into that first game how prepared you really are. You practice two weeks against yourself and you don't really do a lot of tackling, so you don't know how that first game is going to go. For the first game to go so well for us was indeed very satisfying." When asked about the record this season, Coach Spriggs stated, "8th grade went 3-2 & 7th grade went 2-1. The 7th grade did not get to play as many games as we wanted, but in middle school that's kind of what happens sometimes. You just have to play the schedule that's given to you." Next, I asked if the team met their goals this season. Coach Spriggs said, "I think so. I think the goals were always that the kids learned something, they had a good time, and they found football to be a passion for them. For a lot of kids to stick with it and have a lot of numbers at the end of the year even though there were not as many games as there should have been, that's the great goal that we had." Then I asked, "What did you enjoy most about coaching middle school football?" Coach Spriggs answered, "The most gratifying thing is getting to know the students in a different type of setting. You see them in the hallway, but when we get on that football field, you can share your emotion with them, tell them what you love, and hopefully they reciprocate that, while also stressing that they are students first, and athletes second. I think putting that into their mind and trying to buy into that is the most enjoyable thing." I then asked who his assistants were this season. Coach Spriggs said, "Mr. Tay Sain was my assistant, and he was my rock. He was always there and he did a great job. He also stated that he had coach Aiden Thompson help out. "He went to our away games and was on the sidelines for the home games. It's great to have such support. We have so many fine men on our team that all work with the coaches." Coach Spriggs concluded.

MS YEARBOOK STAFF ATTENDS WORKSHOP

By: Katelyn

On Wednesday, October 3rd the Scott City middle school publications staff went to Cape Central High school for a workshop put on by Jostens. Staff members participated in a hands-on photography training. Some things they learned about were the different features on the camera, how to change the mode on the camera, how to know what mode to be on if you are in the sun, or in the shade, etc. They had an Oreo cookie challenge outside in the sun to show how much better the photos looked in that lighting and with different backgrounds. Another thing they learned was that you don't need to have an expensive lens to take photos, or a certain brand of camera for sports. There was also a photo contest after the workshop concluded themed, 'Sidelines, & School Spirit'. All eight staff members entered with a photo of their choice, and Scott City won the top three prizes. First place went to Riker Keesee, second place went to Zoie Riordan (for the photo below), and third place went to Katelyn Spies. Mollie Rose, Kendall Northington, and Juliana Knight all received Honorable Mention.



Bella Walton aims for her best shot.

HS Locker Room Renovations

By: Zoic

I touched base with Athletic Director, Mark Dannemueller about last year's sport locker room renovations. The first question I asked was whose idea was it to redo the locker rooms and why. "Mr. Umfleet and myself looked at the locker rooms at the beginning of last year and we felt that we needed to upgrade them, as both locker rooms had broken lockers that were really old," Coach Dannemueller stated. My next question was what the plan was throughout the process. He answered, "Our plan throughout the process was to update our lockers and make sure our athletes had plenty of space/storage for their uniforms and equipment. We wanted our locker rooms to be a place that they were really proud of." Next, I asked when it was decided to do the renovations and when they were completed. He answered, "We decided to do the renovations in July of 2023, and they were completed by the end of October that same year." Then I asked what locker rooms were renovated specifically. Coach D. said, "The locker rooms that were renovated were the girls basketball/volleyball locker room in the high school gym, and the boys basketball locker rooms just outside the high school gym." I asked Coach D. what specific changes were made in the locker rooms. He replied, "We put new wooden lockers with name plates, and in the girls locker room we also had new floors put in. We also installed new dry erase boards." The final question I asked was if everyone was pleased with the renovations. He stated "We are very pleased with the renovations and are proud of what and who they represent."



Newly renovated girls locker room.

Boys & Girls Club Sees Summer Success

By: Julianna

I interviewed our district Boys & Girl Club director, Ms. Jazmin Banks and asked her a few questions about the first ever summer program. The first question I asked her was, "What encouraged the decision to offer this summer program to children?" She responded with, "We really wanted to figure out a way to give parents a safe place for children while at work over summer break." The next question was, "How did the program become a reality?" Ms. Banks said, "We were thinking, how else could we help parents, so we offered a summer camp for six weeks for students in grades K-8th." Next I asked, "Where was the program located?" "The main areas were in the cafeteria and the elementary wing, but we were also able to go into the middle school gym." Ms. Banks replied. Then I asked, "How were kids able to sign up, and how many kids participated?" Ms. Banks responded, "We used an app called Kidlet that we used for registration, and kids from other schools were allowed to participate too. About 60 students participated." Next I asked, "What activities were offered to the students?" Ms. Banks responded, "We went on field trips every week." My final question was, "Did it cost anything, and if so, how much?" Ms. Banks stated, "It was \$50.00 for six weeks for the first child, and \$25 for the second child participating."



Boys & Girls Club participants.

Community Spotlight-Pizza Pro

By: Mollie

On September 25th, I interviewed Alex Ballance who is the owner of the newly reopened Pizza Pro. The first question I asked was, "Why did you choose to bring Pizza Pro back to Scott City?" He responded with, "I had a baby a year ago, and I wanted my wife to be able to stay home with the baby, so I needed to cover her income. I figured since I have lived here since 2016 that I would just open a second location, but I didn't know when or how. The baby kind of encouraged me to do that, so that's when I decided. The next question I asked was, "What is the most ordered pizza?" He said, "Either a regular pepperoni pizza, or a supreme." Next I asked Alex, "When did Pizza Pro officially open back up?" His response was, "July 18th of this year." Then I asked, "How did you manage to reopen it in the same location as before?" He replied, "I frequently looked along Main Street here and all the buildings that were open because half of Main Street is the train tracks and there is only one side of the street that has businesses on it. There are not a lot of open buildings. I saw that the old Pizza Pro building was still there and the guy who was in it at the time was really using only a little bit of the building. I contacted the owner and she said that she just sold it to the guy who owns the pharmacy. I walked in and talked to the guy who owns the pharmacy."



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He felt that it would be good to have another tenant who would utilize the whole building like we do.” Next, I asked, “What are your operating hours?” He responded with, “We are open from 11:00 AM to 9:00 or 10:00 PM. It really just depends on how busy we are, but we are open all days of the week.” Next, I asked, “How many people work at your business?” He replied with, “ I had eight employees when I first opened,, but I only have five right now because some people choose to leave. The five I have right now are really good.” Then I asked about delivery. Alex responded with, “We do deliver! We deliver all the way to the docks by the river, to Kelso, and some of the roads that are way out, but are still considered Scott City.” Finally, I asked, “ What sets Pizza Pro apart from other local pizza options?” Alex’s response was, “Well, for one, we aren’t owned by another corporation, it’s owned by me; a small guy. I also own the Pizza Pro in Marble Hill. We are owned by a person you can meet, not some corporation sitting in an office miles away. The other thing I would say is we make all of our dough, everything is fresh. We cut our own vegetables, our meats are imported of course, but we make all of our dough fresh right here in the building.”

New Teacher Feature-Ms. Conaway

By: Kendyl

For this quarter’s new teacher spotlight, I chose new 5th grade ELA teacher Ms. Heather Conaway to interview. The first thing I asked her was, “What encouraged you to start teaching?” Ms. Conaway said, “I have always enjoyed helping people learn. I’ve always enjoyed helping my little brother when he would come home from school. We had a dry erase board in our basement and we would always go down there and I would act like the teacher.” Next, I asked her, “Why did you want to teach 5th grade ELA?” Ms. Conaway replied, “I enjoy teaching 5th grade ELA because in school English was always one of my favorite subjects to go to. I really enjoy learning about grammar, and making sure that other people learn to use it correctly. I like teaching 5th grade because the kids are still at an age where they like to learn, and they are learning well.” Then I asked, “Do you see yourself teaching for the rest of your life?” Ms. Conaway stated, “I do! I do see myself teaching for the rest of my life.” Next, I asked Ms. Conaway where she attended college. “I went to college at Crowley’s Ridge in Paragould, Arkansas where I played softball and volleyball. Then I asked, “What school would you have taught at if you couldn’t teach here?” Ms. Conaway responded, “I don’t really have a specific other place that I would’ve taught at. I did think about possibly staying in Arkansas whenever I was down there, but I really saw my opportunity to start here, so I did!” Next, I asked Ms. Conaway what her favorite part about teaching is so far. “My favorite part about teaching is watching kids learn, watching the improvements, and getting them to that point where they know that they can do something, and building confidence in themselves.”, Ms. Conaway replied. Next, I asked, “Do you like your students and 5th grade?” “I do! I really enjoy my 5th graders. They are easy to talk to, easy to have fun with, and it’s also fun that they are learning while having fun in the classroom.”, Ms. Conaway stated. Finally, I asked, “Do you have any extra duties?” Ms. Conaway answered, “Yes, I am also the assistant coach for middle and high school girls volleyball, and that is super fun! It makes my days really long, but it’s fun to work with the team and staff in my favorite sport.”



Ms. Heather Conaway poses with some of her 5th grade students for pajama day during Homecoming week.

2024-2025 Publications Staff

Julianna -7th



Kendyl- 7th



Riker- 7th



Asher- 7th



Mollie-8th



Bella -8th



Katelyn-8th



Zoie- 7th

