

THE RAM PAGE

3rd QUARTER EDITION

•DEVELOPING LEADERS ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

• Mar. 10th, 2026

District's APR is Outstanding! By: Ava Q



On January 30th, I interviewed high school principal, Mr. Steven Hendricks. The first question I asked was "What is a school's APR?" Hendricks replied, "A school's APR (Annual Performance Report) is basically how school districts get graded in the state of Missouri. To do that, they take a lot of factors including how we do in testing and assessments, attendance, and other factors inside the school. Then they will put that in a big formula, and give us a score out of hundred." The next question I asked was "Did we have any particular areas that we focused on last year as a district, and how did students and staff help achieve them?" Hendricks replied, "We're always trying to improve MAO scores and EOC scores, but in particular we've been very

focused on the middle and elementary title programs. Increasing reading scores by title teachers, classroom teachers, and everyone else in that building associated with the students looking at that particular data and making plans for them. The title teachers use software and work in person with students to get closer to grade level reading. I think our students do very well on their reading. They show a lot of growth." I asked "Do you think a school's APR will affect school choice in the future?" He replied "Its possible if parents start to look and are concerned about getting a good education. This is one of the tools that can be used." I asked "Will there be a celebration for our good results?" Mr. Hendricks replied, "We kind of already started that process in the news. We have other celebrations planned."

Boys Basketball Sees Rare Double Conf. Tourney Wins By: Abrielle

For the first time in over 20 years, both the JV and Varsity boys basketball teams won the Scott-Mississippi Conference tournament. The first round games were played Saturday, January 31st at Scott City. The JV versed Chaffee and won 49-23. Varsity played against Oak Ridge, and won 85-33. Next up, on Tuesday, February 3rd, at Scott County Central, JV played against Oak Ridge and won 57-32. Varsity also won their game 69-46 against Delta. Later that week on Friday, February 6th, both JV and Varsity won their championship games. Varsity took it home with a 63-39 final over Chaffee. JV also slam dunked it against Kelly with a score of 48-44. In the end, both teams

won the annual tournament for the first time in over 20 years. The Varsity Rams also finished the Christmas Tournament with an impressive 4th place, and both Kaden Lowery and Braedan Walton walked away with all team honors. On Friday, Feb. 13th while playing in Perryville, the Rams picked up the Varsity program's 1000th win against the Pirates. Then on Feb. 14th the Rams played an added game against Sikeston. In an electrifying game in a packed gymnasium, the Rams fell short with a final score of 83-80. Unfortunately, the season ended on Saturday Feb. 20th at West Country where the Rams were defeated by district rival, Woodland.



Junior stand-out, Max Snider makes his way down the court at a home game this season..



Girls Basketball Sees Growth

By: Ava E.

On January 22nd I interviewed Ron Watson, head girls basketball coach. The first question I asked was, "How did the idea of the Memphis game come about?" Ron responded, "We were living over in Kentucky and some of their teams were going over there to play and Coach. D took the boys over two years ago, so we decided to piggy back off of them, and make it an equal thing for the boys and girls. We decided to do it this year, and we are on the fence about it for next year. It's a really good experience for everyone." I then asked him, "How did the Memphis game go for your team?" Ron responded, "It went really well. We played De Soto. They were a good team. We played really well. You never know because you have the long bus ride there, and they don't really give you any time to get ready. You just kinda hop on the floor and get going and it's very rushed. That is really the only negative thing. But we played really well. It was one of our best of the year." Next I asked him, "How did the idea of a game during the school day come about?" Ron stated, "I actually kind of stole that from someone on Facebook. It might have been some other small school, but I saw that they were having it during the day which would boost attendance. Everyone knows girls basketball isn't highly attended like boys games are. It's just a way to get more people here. Admin played a huge part in making this happen by approving everything and allowing all of the classes to attend. The team we're playing against is a winnable game. It's going to be a very competitive game. It should be a really fun game." Next, I asked, "Where does the upcoming conference tournament take place?" Ron stated, "It's kind of weird with all the snow that came in. We are playing tomorrow in the middle school gym. Next I asked, "Are you pleased so far with your first season as head coach of the Lady Rams?" Ron beamed, "I'm extremely pleased. I know it may not seem like that sometimes, but I have very high standards for the girls. I see that they are very talented. I don't think they know how talented they are sometimes. I have to break them down to build them back up type of deal. They have worked their tails off. They are very coachable. The parents have been great, showing lots of support. The girls have gotten better, and that is what I wanted when I took this job. They want to win, be better, and compete. They also want to be great teammates. We are trying to make them good humans for later on in life, and that all starts right now."

Basketball Homecoming

By: Sam

Basketball homecoming took place the week of January 12th through the 16th. Monday was Pajama Day. All the students were dressed up because it's everyone's favorite day. Tuesday was Decades Day where each grade dressed up in a different decade from the 80's - 2000's. Wednesday was Black-Out Day. Thursday was Sports attire day. Everyone wore their favorite jerseys. Friday was Blue and Gold Day. The theme this year was, "There are going to be Some Angry Birds in here Tonight." The freshman representative was Bella Walton. The sophomore representative was Jodie Burger. The junior representative was Miley Schwettman. Our three senior candidates were: Aria Rogers, Alyvia Karrenbrook, and Alexandra Moore. Alyvia Karrenbrook was crowned Queen. The Rams easily defeated the East Prairie Eagles by 50 points. The next evening our homecoming dance took place in the high school cafeteria from 7-9 where a great time was had by all!



Basketball Homecoming Queen, Alyvia escorted by Kayden.

MS Talent Show Shines By: Marley

On January 23rd of 2026, I interviewed middle school ELA teacher, Mrs. Tucker who coordinated the first annual middle school talent show. I started off the interview by asking “When did you come up with the idea of the talent show?” Mrs. Tucker replied, “When Keenan couldn’t perform at the Halloween dance.” I then asked, “How long did it take you to plan the talent show?” Mrs. Tucker said it took way too many hours! Next, I asked, “What was your overall favorite part of the talent show?” Mrs. Tucker replied, “My favorite part was how all the 8th graders really pulled it together!” After that I asked her who helped put it all together to make it happen. She listed Mr. Carter, Mrs. Shiwitz, Ms. Porch and herself. I then inquired, “Will this be an annual event?” Mrs. Tucker told me that she hopes so, but it was very stressful!! I asked Mrs. Tucker what the hardest part was. She answered, “Getting all the auditions set up and ready to go.” After that I asked her how she selected the acts. Mrs. Tucker stated, “The teacher that was judging decided who was ready and who wasn’t.” I asked Mrs. Tucker how she thought it went overall. She told me that she thinks it went great and they received an abundance of great feedback! I then asked her if she would do anything different next time. Mrs. Tucker said, “I would start auditions way earlier than I did.” I asked a couple of students what they thought of the very first middle school talent show. Ava Q said, “I think that my favorite part of the talent show was the 8th grade girls dance . It was amazing!” Then Jinna Martin added “I think the talent show was well put together and Mrs. Tucker did great!”



SC middle school student Keenan, rocks the crowd in the FEMA building.

Volleyball Starts Junior Aces By: Averie

For my quarterly newsletter article, I interviewed Coach Henry about her new volleyball program, Junior Aces. First I asked, “How did the idea for this program come about?” Coach Henry answered, “The idea of Junior Aces came about because we had a lot of 5th graders and younger kids who are getting into the game of volleyball, however; the only opportunity they have to play is at the Sports Plex and stuff, and those teams are not teams that are with a lot of Scott City students. They want to play with their friends to feel more comfortable with the game so we put something together called Junior Aces, where our older girls help teach them. Next, I asked “When will the team play?” Coach Henry stated, “The team will play right before all the home games. They will play about 3:30 (whenever they get dressed and we get the net up). Next, I asked, “Who will help coach this program?” Coach Henry answered, “The high school varsity will help coach the program.” Next, I asked, “What is the goal of this program?” Coach Henry replied, “The goal for this program is for our high school players to be leaders and to be examples and to pass on their skills and knowledge and love for the game to younger athletes so that they, in turn, can get better at volleyball. For my last question I asked, “How many students are participating in this program and what are their grades and ages?” Coach Henry answered, “Currently, I have over 40 girls in middle school between the 7th and 8th graders. I have roughly 20 to 25 girls, and then for 5th and 6th grade I have about 24 so about half of them are 5th and 6th the other half is 7th and 8th.”



Middle school volleyball's, Junior Aces.

PTO Hosts Annual Bingo Event By: Emma

I sat down with PTO president Brandy Lambert about the organization’s annual Black Light bingo fundraising event.. First I asked her, “How long have you been doing this event?” Brandy said, “The first one was in November of 2019.” Next I asked, “When and where is this year’s black light bingo taking place?” Mrs. Lambert responded, “The doors open at 5:30, and Bingo will start at 7 pm. It is at the Elk’s Lodge in Chaffee on Saturday, March 14th. Next I asked Mrs. Brandy what exactly is black light bingo? She explained, “Black Light bingo is fun! All the black lights are going, the music is on, and they have mini games that you can participate in throughout the evening. Then I asked how the proceeds would be used from the event. Mrs. Brandy stated, “Different things at school such as elementary Play Day, MAP picnic for the middle school, and scholarships for the high school. Mrs. Brandy said, “We will also have pulled pork nachos, silent auction, raffles, etc.”

Community Spotlight- Bee's Thrift

By: Jinna

For this quarter's community spotlight, I reached out to Shelby Stroup about her new thrift store in town, Bee's Thrift. I first asked, "What gave you the idea to open this business?" Shelby replied, "I always knew that I wanted to own my own business. I grew up going to Crites Street Consignment, and I always thought the owner looked like she loved her job. When she sold the store, my dad bought it and I begged him to open my own store just like she had." Next, I asked, "Where is it located?" Shelby stated, "My business is located at 415 Crites Street, here in Scott City." My next question was, "Do you have a goal for your business?" Shelby replied, "My goal for this business is to be able to help people in the community. I want to create a place where people can get nice things that they can afford." Next I asked, "How long did it take for you to get the store started?" Shelby said, "It took about four months because of things like construction and inventory." After that I asked, "What are your store's hours?" Shelby replied, "I am open Wednesday through Saturday 10-4pm." Then out of curiosity I asked, "How does the donation process work?" Shelby said, "I tell everyone they are able to drop off donations on the porches, or if I'm there they can bring it inside and I'll determine if things are in good condition to sell." Next I asked, "What are some challenges you face as a small business owner?" Shelby answered, "One of the main challenges I've faced as a small business owner is advertising. It takes a lot of time and money to advertise correctly and get people in the store. Some other challenges are paperwork, finances, and tracking down the right documents for taxes." I then asked, "Are you working by yourself, or do you have help?" Shelby explained, "I run the store on a day to day basis by myself. However, I do get help from my family behind the scenes." Finally, I asked, "What do you enjoy most about this endeavor?" Shelby answered, "What I enjoy most about this business is being able to help and meet people in our community."



SC alum, Shelby Stroup is the owner of Bee's Thrift, formerly known as Crites Street Consignment.

Retiring Teacher Feature - Ms. Kirchner

By: Adriana

On Friday, January 16th I interviewed Ms. Kirchner. I asked, "How long have you been a teacher, and how long have you taught here?" She answered, "I have been a teacher since 2002 and I have taught at Scott City since 2009." Then I asked, "What are your plans after retirement?" She replied, "I plan to play with my grandbabies, and do some of my hobbies." Next I asked, "How many classes have you taught in all?" She said the first four years she taught all subjects for 6th grade, then she went to middle school and taught 7th grade science and math, and then science and math for 9th grade. After that Mrs. Kirchner came to Scott City and taught Physical Science and Biology in high school. Then she moved to the middle school whenever Mrs. Sara Bradshaw left. There she taught a 7th grade class called The 7 Habits, along with 8th grade science, and high school Chemistry. She even taught a Wellness class for 5th grade. Next I asked her "What is the hardest part of being a teacher?" Ms. Kirchner answered, "Probably in the beginning balancing home life and work life." Then I asked her "What are you going to miss most about being a teacher?" Ms. Kirchner replied, "I'll miss everyone I work with, and my current students that I don't get to see graduate and go to high school." My final question was, "What is the best thing about being a teacher?" Ms. Kirchner answered, "Teaching is the very best job, and without teachers we wouldn't get anywhere."



Ms. Kirchner is retiring as a middle and high school Science teacher.

SC Hosts Area Small Bands Festival

By: Leila

On Wednesday, March 4th Scott City hosted an area Small Bands Festival. Ten schools from across the region showcased their hard work and musical talent. It was hosted in Scott City's FEMA building and it was free and open to the public. Scott City middle and high school's bands both got the highest rating you can earn, which was a "1". When asked about the festival, 7th grader Brenden said, "The contest went well." Band director, Mr.

Carter stated, "The day was a great day for our school! We hosted 12 bands and around 300 students that were able to come here and play and work with some great teachers. It is one of my favorite events of the year." High school member, Maylene Cherry added, "The small bands festival was great! It's a really good way to learn more things about music as an individual from another director's perspective. Being competitive is also always a fun time!"

2025-2026 Publications Staff

Leila -7th



Averie- 7th



Samantha- 7th



Marley- 7th



Abrielle-7th



Jinna -8th



Ava E. -8th



Adrianna- 7th



Ava Q- 7th



Emma- 7th



therampage
