

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Tigertalk



**Christmas King
Kevin Perez
and Queen
Rosie Gonzalez**

Inside: Christmas, Sports, Features

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Cheerleaders were one of the many groups participating in the annual Mount Pleasant Christmas Parade held Monday night.

Tigertalk NEWS STAFF

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Staff share Christmas traditions they have with family members

By **KARLA LANDEROS**
Tigertalk Editor

The chill in the air returns, drawing in longer nights, and the need to stay in bed much longer.

Christmas is just around the corner, and just as children await Santa Claus and his sleigh with mountains of gifts, many others look forward for the time off from school and work, opting to relaxing with old traditions.

Three staff members --- Jaton Broach, David Clark and Donna Davis -- shared some of the Christmas traditions they enjoy with their family.

“It’s funny!!! I’ve reached the point in my life where traditions are changing,” English teacher David Clark said.

“Growing up, my family would always go to my grandma’s house for Christmas Eve and then we would go back home so Santa would come. Now, my children have children, and they are starting their own traditions. I think that is the way families are as they expanded.”

Traditions are something most families cherish, and if one day they do fade some the present, they are always fondly remembered. Years can go by and these traditions will always be on someone’s memory.

“I think traditions start when you are young or having young children. As they grow up and start having kids of their own, new traditions start. That’s the way it should be; make the holidays your own,” Clark said.

Clark and his wife have started a new tradition just recently.



Mr. Clark and his wife’s Nativity scene.

“A couple of years ago my wife and I decided to stop putting up a tree and display our Nativity scene instead,” Clark said. “Did we start a tradition....maybe? But who knows, next year may be a tree again.”

“The only thing that hasn’t changed over the years is our faith. It’s not a tradition. It’s not something to be sentimental about. It’s a way of life.....the Reason for the Season!!!!”

Donna Davis mentions how



Ornament decorations in Mrs. Davis’ classroom.

circumstances over the years have contributed to the development of her Christmas traditions.

“Growing up in a large family, as we got older, we opened presents on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day dinner with extended family,” Davis said. “Now my husband and I do pretty much the same; Christmas gifts on ‘Eve’ and we then travel to have a meal with extended family.”

Traditions can last as one tries to keep them alive, and as things continue to change through the years, repeating these activates is a thoughtful gesture.

“As long as my husband and I have been together... About 20 years ago. We will hopefully continue to do them for another 20 or more years,” Davis said when asked how long she has been

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doing these traditions.

English teacher Jaton Broach also adds in about her family traditions during the holidays. The meaning of which bring back and help to create memories.

“(The children get a) New Ornament on Christmas Eve: Each year, my children open up a new ornament on Christmas Eve for our tree,” Broach said.

“The ornaments symbolize something my kids have done for that year. We just got back from a trip to Disney World over Thanksgiving break, so each kid is getting a Disney themed ornament this year.”

Another tradition is receiving Christmas Eve pajamas and treat.

“Each year, my children open up a new pair of pajamas to wear on Christmas Eve,” Broach said. “They are matching and Christmas themed. We then leave out cookies and milk for Santa and carrots for the reindeer and read ‘Twas the Night before Christmas.’”

Broach and her husband have been doing the traditions since 2010. It’s a tradition handed down from when Broach’s husband, Josh, was younger.

“My husband and his sister always got new pajamas on Christmas Eve, so I wanted to keep that tradition going,” Broach said.

“I read about the ornament tradition online and thought it was a great idea. My kids love decorating the tree every year and talking about their ornaments.”

As these traditions stay with each person, they begin to love what they do. Most traditions bring happiness and a sweet reminder of things can be during this peaceful time of the year. One can

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Above, the Broach siblings are pictured with an ornament they received. At bottom are cookies they have sat out for Santa.



only hope they last as long as they can. Broach comments how attached she’s become to her’s.

“I can’t imagine us not having these traditions. Hopefully, they will continue forever,” Broach said.



From left are Helena Rios, Angelica Marino, Rosie Gonzalez, Andrea Beccera, Dalia Calixto, Jennifer Mora, Madora Jemison and Nancy Ibarra.

TAFE students qualify for state

TAFE students recently competed on the local level and eight advanced to state competition.

Andrea Beccera advanced in Children’s Literature and also teamed up with Madora Jemison to qualify for state in Researching Learning Challenges.

Jennifer Mora also advanced in two events. She advanced individually in Lesson Plan and Delivery and also in Teacher Creative Materials. In Public Speaking,

Nancy Ibarra advanced to state. Rosie Gonzalez and Angelica Marino teamed up to advanced in Bulletin Board.

Dalia Calixto qualified for state in Teacher Creative Materials and Helena Rios advanced on by placing in job interview.

The state competition will be held in Arlington in February while nationals will be in the summer in Phoenix.

Choir students have been busy this semester

By JIHSLEINY RIOS
Tigertalk Staff Writer

The choir has put tons of dedication into what they love doing. Choir has been busy this semester with concerts, singing at various community events and competitions

Choir student Eileen Martinez believes singing is a beautiful way to express oneself.

“My favorite thing (about choir) is how expressive one can be with their voice,” Martinez said.

Her musical icon is her mother because her passion for singing is very inspiring. Also she likes Adele.

“She has the voice of a goddess,” Martinez said.

Taylor Elmore was interested in joining choir because she loves to sing and her aunt told her “You should join, its fun!”

Taylor believes that her past self would be proud of her today because she used to have zero confidence in her voice. She said choir has helped her overcome fears of being in front of other people.

“The reason I am in choir is cause I want to get rid of my stage fright,” Elmore said.

Her icon is also Adele. “I love how she can sing



Choir students perform earlier this year.

low and high. Her range is BEAST!”

Alyssa Reynolds enjoys singing and loves to learn more about the art. Some advice she would give to a student that is starting choir is to make sure you really have love for music and it is not an easy regular class.

It is very amazing how you can join an organization and you can immediately feel like you are home. Choir is not only just a group of talented students, it is a family.

Craig picked for Congressional Student Leadership Program

By RAEGAN DAVIS
Tigertalk Co-Editor

Senior Taylor Craig was recently selected for U. S. Representative John Ratcliffe's Congressional Student Leadership Program.

Craig was one of 86 students in Ratcliffe's district who will participate.

"I feel honored to have been chosen for this program and to have the opportunity to interact in politics," Craig said.

The program aims to foster relationships throughout the congressional district, and allow future leaders like Craig to learn different functions of the federal government and a congressional office by working and making contacts with their congressman. "I was chosen by Ratcliffe to be a member," Craig said, "He reviewed our academics and extracurricular activities."

Students like Craig are expected to expand their critical thinking skills by studying the issues facing their communities, and the role that government may or may not have when faced with those different issues.

She will attend four meetings at the district office in Texarkana where she will be joined online with the other dis-



Craig was one of 86 students selected.

tricts, Ratcliffe and guest speakers.

"We ciphered through legislative documents and did research over a topic we thought Governor Ratcliffe should debate over," Craig said.

The program recently did a service project in November aimed at helping local veterans. Fostering respect for active duty mil-

itary and veterans is one of the program's goals.

"We had to take part in a veteran's day program and write an essay over the history and effect of the event," Craig said.

Craig is a member of the high school volleyball team and also part of HOSA. Her mother, Jamie, is a Social Studies teacher at the high school.



Mr. Whitehurst is wrapping up his first semester as CTE director.

New CTE Director Whitehurst has wealth of education experience

By MADORA JEMISON
Tigertalk Co-Editor

Sometimes, you can go back home again.

Mr. Karl Whitehurst, a MPHS graduate, has returned to the school he went to school at and also formerly taught.

Mr. Whitehurst a graduate of Texas A&M-Commerce (formerly East Texas State) is the new CATE (Career and Technology Education).

Whitehurst has obtained two degrees at Commerce, which were a bachelor's degree in Mathematics and a master's degree in Educational Administration in order to coach.

"Originally it was because I wanted to coach and I spent 15 years as a football coach before I started what I am doing now," Whitehurst said.

Overall he has been a part of the educational field for approximately 18 years. He coached in schools such as Rivercrest, Mount Pleasant, Dangerfield, and Mount Vernon. He has also served as an administrator at Mount Vernon.

During his time here at MPHS, Whitehurst's goal is to expand the CTE department in order to make the programs more successful.

"I am working on doing some expansion in the CATE department and working on some of the programs and hopefully making them better," Whitehurst said. "

Advice Whitehurst would provide future administrators would be to build relationships with staff, and students.

Also to always keep yourself available with an open-mind.

"There's a lot of people out there with great ideas and you need to be able to listen to them and think about what they are saying," Whitehurst said. "Not just think that they know all the answers cause they don't."

Becoming an administrator comes with great responsibility.

Administrators learn to rely on others and how to make improvement and change flow smoothly.

"You have to rely on others in order to make things run right," Whitehurst said.

Farewell MPHS --- I will miss you

By MADORA JEMISON
Tigertalk Co-Editor

Freshman year I immediately had an urge to write for the school newspaper-Tigertalk.

Fortunately, my advisor Mr. Whitten took a chance to train and mentor me for the beginning stages of my journalism career.

Towards the end of my freshman year, Mr. Whitten offered me an editor position for my sophomore year so I can soon become the head editor my senior year. I was so ecstatic from the opportunity that I couldn't stop myself from running home to tell my mom.

However, I am sad to inform you that I have to step down from my editor position due to, transferring schools.

Being an editor for the school paper was a dream come true. I enjoyed working with staff members and other editors that have shaped the newspaper for what it is today.

During my time here I have seen the newspaper flourish with writers and readers. As a staff we have strived to succeed the interest of our campus. I am happy to say that it has been a blessing to see our campus take an increasing interest of the paper over the years.

My dream and goal for the paper was to expand and have people ask for more copies. Lately, even weeks after the paper was printed people were coming to me for more copies.



Co-Editor Madora Jemison

I love how our little community is going against society and desire to have a paper copy of the newspaper. Most of all I love entering in a class and hear students have conversations pertaining to the paper. Seeing the paper flourish over my time here just brings a smile to my face.

I loved every second of writing for the newspaper here and all the memories I gained. However, most of all I will miss my friends and all the laughter I will be leaving behind.

I just want to say that I love ya'll and thank you for being great friends I couldn't have asked for anybody else to make wonderful memories with. I know each one of you can become successful just stay strong in the Lord and true to yourself,

and nothing then can stop you.

To the class of 2018 I wish you the best of luck as you continue your journey without me towards graduation. Ya'll are very capable of successes in whatever path you wish to take. I have enjoyed my time with ya'll through the debates, laughter, and tears.

I will not be leaving this campus out of spite but out of love and joy from the years past. I want to personally thank all of you for making the classrooms here light up in spirit.

It has made sitting through lectures a fun experience instead of a dull one. My advice to you is always stay true to yourself and God, because through the obstacles life gives you sometimes that's all you have.

However, through those obstacles if you stick to the right path you will soon find the light at the end of the tunnel. So I pray that each and every single one of you will find that light.

My time here at Mount Pleasant has been eventful and a blessing. I was able to fulfill dreams of positions I could only imagine growing up.

I wish my friends, teachers, and fellow classmates the best of luck. I have loved and enjoyed every minute of my time here, being a friend, co-editor, officer of FCCLA, guard

See Madora, Pg. 9

Luker, Jones are selected

Mr. and Miss MPHS by peers

By DANIELA GUTIERREZ
Tigertalk Staff Writer

This first semester happened really fast, yet we are making memories in MPHS.

Some seniors are not ready to leave high school, while others are already planning their future. This year the seniors selected Zachary Luker and Presley Jones and Mr. and Miss MPHS.

Presley was surprised and honored to be named as the Miss MPHS. She is the MPHS head cheerleader and a member of HOSA and FBLA. Her favorite subject is English. When Presley gets out of high school she plan on going to the University of Mississippi where she will study to be a psychiatrist.

“I am going to miss all of the people I’ve grown up with and cheering on all the sports with my team,” Jones said.

In 20 years, Presley hopes to have a family and a very successful career.

Zach is honored and grateful to be voted as Mr. MPHS.



Luker and Jones were named Mr. and Miss MPHS.

He is in the class president, a member of HOSA and FBLA. His favorite subject is Health Science and math. When Zach gets out of high school he wants to be a flight nurse or a physician

assistant. When Zach leaves school, he is going to miss the relationships he has made with his teacher and classmates. In 20 years, he hopefully will be successful with a blessed family.

Madora from Page 8

member, a member of UIL and most of all friends, classmates, and most of all creating memories that will stay imbedded in my heart.

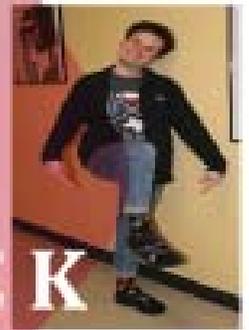
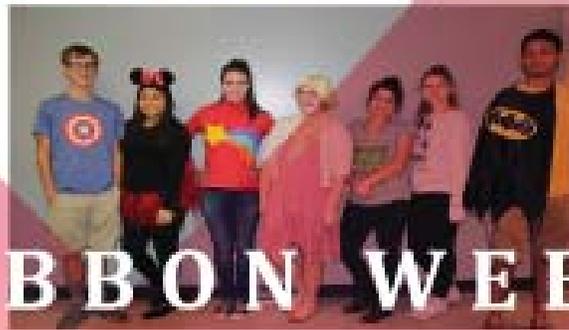
I want to personally thank my mom for never giving up on me and always sticking by me when no one else would. I would also love to thank my educators, but most of all Mr. Whitten and Mrs. Sweeden for marking the beginning stages of my careers.

All these elements is what made going to school here so wonderful. Through the laughter and tears I grew close with my

myself.

Mount Pleasant has shaped me into the women I have become through the programs and people. I won't ever find another high school like this again. Thank ya'll for making memories with me and for that I shall forever cherish them.

A wise man once said, “Either write something worth reading or do something worth sharing.” – Benjamin Franklin



RED RIBBON WEEK



Burns selected DAR Good Citizen

AshLynn Burns was recently selected a DAR Good Citizen. She is a senior at MPHS and the daughter of Todd and Vickie Burns.

Leadership is a characteristic of a good citizen that AshLynn possesses as noted by her participation in athletic training for the past four years where she was awarded the Trainer of the Year Award as a sophomore.

She has also been a four-year member of the Student Council, serving as Treasurer her junior year and President her senior year. In addition, AshLynn is a member of the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and HOSA.

AshLynn was chosen as the Rotary Student of the Month for October and was selected to represent MPHS at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership forum during her sophomore year.

Service to the community is another important quality of a good citizen. AshLynn exemplifies that quality by her service at the local food pantry, Titus County Cares and at her church's annual Thanksgiving dinner for families in the community who might not otherwise have a Thanksgiving meal.

She also contributes to our elementary school programs by helping with Trunk or Treat, Halloween safety, and after school arts and crafts.

AshLynn is an active member of Trinity Baptist Church and serves as a cell group leader for her youth Bible study.

The Martha Laird Chapter



On left Principal Dustin Cook and right AshLynn Burns holding the DAR Good Citizen certificate

of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution sponsors the DAR Good Citizen program in our area. This contest is designed to honor an outstanding young person in a high school's senior class who demonstrates the four qualities of a DAR Good Citizen: Dependability, Service, Leadership, and Patriotism.

Being selected as the MPHS Good Citizen provides AshLynn the opportunity to participate in the scholarship

portion of the program at the local Chapter level.

The scholarship contest consists of two parts. Part I consists of the student describing how she has tried to manifest the qualities of a good citizen. Part II is a patriotic essay administered under the supervision of a faculty member.

Each contest entry is evaluated by independent, non-DAR judges. The winning entry is advanced through state and national levels of judging.

Wildlife class gives students chance to experience outdoors

By MADORA JEMISON
Tigertalk Co-Editor

The wildlife class offers students an opportunity to experience and learn more about the great outdoors and learn the proper way to handle artillery and traps. This marks the second year for the class.

“Students in the wildlife class will have the opportunity to learn and experience forestry, woodland, and wildlife not only in the classroom but also in the acre patch of woods located on the west side of the stadium,” Coach Van Bowen said.

Students learn a variety of things about the outdoors.

Senior Taylor Phillips said, “Learning about all the trees, types of plants, and animals,” is the best part of the class.

Gaining experience in the outdoors isn’t all the wildlife class offers. The students gain their hunter and boater



Students practice their archery skills.

education and a hunting license.

“I have learned to shoot bows, trap hogs, trap moles, and explore the woods,” Senior Christian Ingram said.

Unfortunately there are only 16 spots open in each of the class, therefore they have to turn students away.

“If you enjoy being outside and playing around with dirt and ‘hiking’ then I would ac-

knowledge you to be a part of this class,” Phillips said.

The wildlife class offers more than just improvement in the outdoors but as a person as well.

“All students are welcome and encouraged to take the wildlife class,” Bowen said.

“The more students know about our natural resources the better citizens they will be.”

Stomp Squad keeping the beat

By NICK JACKSON
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Stomp, stomp is when you make all different sounds and beats with your body or surroundings. It’s a pretty popular in dance battles.

It is a very creative way of dancing because it requires to stay on beat and the person can’t lose their rhythm otherwise they would mess up.

Their leader’s name is Ja’Quacy Minter, he is the one that comes up with the routines and shows them the rest of the team. Even though the team only practices once a week they all work very hard to provide entertainment for MPHS.

Some of their routines are original and sometimes they get some from YouTube or other people. Of course each member has that one signature move that they know that would keep the crowd going such as, slowing down each beats or even dancing, which makes Stomp even more enjoyable.

In my opinion, I think Stomp is a great group to be involved in. The group also involves younger members from P.E. Wallace. The Stomp Squad has provided much entertainment since their beginning. They are proud to represent the Tigers and display their talents.





Tigers reach postseason, fall to Scots

Mount Pleasant's football team advanced to the play-offs this season after a slow start.

The Tigers advanced to face the Highland Park at The Star in Frisco, home of the Dallas Cowboys practice facility.

Even though the Tigers came up short, they made many memories this year.



Coach Corey Homer, above left, receives a game ball from Cowboys owner prior to the Tigers playoff game.



Senior superlative awards announced

Congratulations to the following students on being selected senior class favorites by their fellow classmates.

Most Athletic --- Boys (Asheton Brown, JK Lee, Geovany Rocha); Girls: (Morgan Martin, Taidre'ana Wilkerson, Krissa Woods)

Most Talented --- Boys (Juan Castanon, Hayden McBride, Sadrian Olvera); Girls (Andrea Becerra, Ja'letha Heath, Morgan Thurman)

Best Dressed --- Boys: (Zach Luker, Kevin Perez, Issac Torres); Girls (Madison Blalock, Presley Jones, Kayleigh Mayfield)

Best Personality --- Boys: (Austin Dryden, Cullen Marshall, Kobe Matthews) Girls: (Jasmine Balleza, Emily Brown, Rosie Gonzalez)

Friendliest --- Boys (Ben Grissom, Sammy Gonzalez, Adlai Plancarte); Girls (Shakyrá Hutchings, Karina Pena, Yaritza Romero,)

Most School Spirit --- Boys (Holden Davis, Natanael Vilavicencio, Alec Wilson); Girls (Macey Bibbs, Carly Lewis, Erin Winkle)

Best Smile --- Boys: (Jason Alvarado, Tyson Harper, Tate Thompson); Girls: (Jennifer Jaime, Juliana Luster, Daniela Reyes)

Most Changed Since Freshman Year --- Boys (Brandon Brison, Emmanuel Garcia, Pablo Gutierrez,); Girls: (Julia Martinez, Jessica Reyes, Kendel Thompson)

Biggest Flirts --- Boys (Casey Cutler, James Moore and Rigo Zaldivar); Girls: (Brisa Briseno, Kemiyah Howard and Erica Lopez)

Best Friends --- Boys (Casey Cutler-Hayden McBride, Connor Gage-Chandler Currey, Holden Davis-Sadrian Olvera); Girls: (Betsaida Delgado-Karina Pena, Cindy Moreno-Jazmin Martinez, Presley Jones-Katelyn Walden)

Woods, Spann win Wendy's High School Heisman honor

Seniors Krissa Woods and Thomas Spann have been selected by ACT, Inc. as the Wendy's High School Heisman school winners.

Krissa is the daughter of Donald and Amanda Woods. She is a 4-year member of the Varsity Soccer team, where she was selected 2nd team All District during her junior year.

She has also been a member of the Varsity Powerlifting team for 4 years. In addition, she has played Varsity Volleyball for 2 years where she received the Eye of the Tiger Award and Academic All District.

Krissa is a Rotary Student of the Month and has been a Student Council member for the past 8 years.

She is a member of the National Honor Society, HOSA, and National Technical Honor Society, where she serves as secretary.

In addition to her extracurricular activities at school, Krissa has participated in numerous community service events, such as Titus County Cares Food Pantry, Summer Kids Cafe, Clays n More Gun Club, community health fairs, 5k Runs, and the Carter Blood Drive.

Krissa attends First Baptist Church Pittsburg and



From left are Spann, Principal Dustin Cook and Woods.

serves as a cell group leader for a youth bible study group.

Thomas is the son of Alan and Shelaphon Spann. He is a 2-year member of the Varsity football team and has received numerous honors.

He was a member of the 1st team All-District Offensive Line, Offensive Lineman of the Year,

MVP Offensive Lineman at the ETSN Top 100 Prospects of East Texas, and selected to the Dream Team and Super Team by ETSN.

He is a Texas Class of 2017 Top 25 Center ranked by Lonestar Prospects and led the MP Tigers with the most number of knockdowns in 2015.



From left are Brett Doe, Navarro College Assistant Baseball Coach, Matt Podjenski, Navarro College Head Baseball Coach, Connor Gage, mother Susan Gage, sister Hannah Gage and father Barry Gage.

Gage signs baseball scholarship

Senior Connor Gage has signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Navarro Junior College next year.

Connor, the son of Barry and Susan Gage, will be a four year letterman for the Tigers this year and has put up some impressive numbers while playing for the Tigers.

During his high school summer years Connor has played for several teams. He has played for Sean Moulton on Team Rawlings for two years, and mostly recently,

played for the D-Bat Baseball Academy for two years and got a chance to play in The Perfect Game Event as a junior.

“We are super proud of this Mt. Pleasant Tiger and are pleased that he will have the opportunity to move on to play baseball at the college level,” said MPHS Baseball coach Joel Windham.

“We know he will be successful at Navarro and will be a great representative for the MPHS Tigers.”

Tennis students find success on the court

By J'ANTHONY VARGAS
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Tennis players Paulina Muniz and Ronaldo Zuniga both enjoy the sport and representing the Tigers on the court.

The Tennis team advanced to area this year where they faced Highland Park.

Preparing for a match is similar for the both of them. They both practice their best and stay focused for their match.

Playing singles is much better for them. It's better concentration and they don't have to worry about accidentally hitting someone.

Ronaldo says his biggest accomplishment this fall was going to Area. Both prefer the brand Wilson as their racket.



Zuniga and the Tigers advanced to area this year.



Pictured from left: Ashley Heim, Luis Ramirez, Yaritza Romero, Adlai Plancarte, Donte Rosborough, Ben Grissom, Emily Mott, Matthew Shelton, Eryn Armstrong, Michael Skaggs, Christopher Carillo, Joseph Smith, Pablo Gutierrez, Nataly Ruan and MPHS Band Director Dr. Theodus Luckett.

Band students awarded scholarships

It's not only high school athletes who are offered scholarships to play at the college level. After students auditioned before a panel of judges, fourteen Mount Pleasant High School Goin' Gold Band members were offered scholarships to attend the University of Arkansas at Monticello Music Program. The scholarship total: \$396,500

Scholarship were offered to Eryn Armstrong, Christopher Carillo, Ben Grissom, Pablo Gutierrez, Ashley Heim, Emily Mott, Adlai Plancarte, Luis Ramirez, Yaritza Romero, Donte Rosborough, Nataly

Ruan, Matthew Shelton, Michael Skaggs and Joseph Smith.

"I am so proud of these students and what they have accomplished here at MPHS and will accomplish during their last semester with us," said MPHS Band Director Dr. Theodus Luckett.

"They have all contributed to the success of the Goin' Gold Band and we will miss them. I congratulate them on earning scholarships to the University of Arkansas-Monticello. I know they will all be successful in their college careers."

Tennis from Page 15

"I just feel really comfortable with this brand", says Ronaldo.

Representing the Tigers is an honor to them, they say it's a way to get your school recognition and to show what our school is capable of. In my opinion, Ronaldo Zuniga and Paulina Muniz are really good at playing at tennis. I have seen them play up close in person and I can honestly say they are really good players. They show hard work and dedication into their matches and have very good sportsmanship towards other players who play against MPHS.



Muniz prepares to serve



20 Questions with Mrs. Jenkins

By NOAH WALL
Tigertalk Staff Writer

In every issue, Tigertalk features a story on a high school staff member. This issue highlights Ann Jenkins, who teaches calculus classes.

1. What do you like most about your job?

I enjoy the students (most days). There is never a dull moment.

2. Are you happy with your position of teaching?

Yes

3. Why did you want to become a teacher?

It was the job I wanted as a child. As I got older, I learned to value family time. This was the job that would allow me to spend the most time with my family.

4. Did you ever want to do something else in life?

No not really. I briefly considered computer programming and ended up minoring in it.

5. Was teaching your first career choice?

Yes

6. What was the college that you attended?

Tyler Junior College
University of Texas at Tyler – Bachelor of Science in Math

Texas A&M Commerce – Master of Science in Math

7. Why did you choose to teach math?

I first thought about teaching English, but then we started reading literature stories that I never got the point of (sorry English teachers). I needed something more concrete.

8. What all do you teach?

AP Calculus, Dual Credit Pre-Calculus

9. What has been the most interesting thing you have done in your life?

I am basically a dull person. I didn't get married until I



Mrs. Jenkins said Calculus is her favorite subject to teach.

was 32 so I guess the most interesting thing would have been the numerous blind dates I had before I got married.

10. How long have you been a teacher?

This is my 30th year at MPHS.

11. Did you have any other dream that you wished you did?

As far as an occupation goes, I am doing what I dreamed of – teaching, I do want to live a long life and remain healthy both mentally and physically.

12. What all do you do at MP-ISD?

I teach and serve as the math department head. I am also on the NHS faculty council.

13. What is your dream vacation?

I don't really have a particular place in mind. I just want to get away somewhere warm (not hot) and relax.

14. What is the oddest

thing that you have experienced while teaching?

I guess it would have to be having a tape dispenser thrown at me.

15. What are your hobbies?

I like to read. However my son's hobbies have now become my hobbies, so I have learned to have baseball and basketball as hobbies.

16. What is your favorite thing to do?

Spend time with my family.

17. Do you like teaching high school students?

Yes I can't imagine teaching any other age group.

18. If you did not teach what would you do?

Retire

19. What is your favorite type of music?

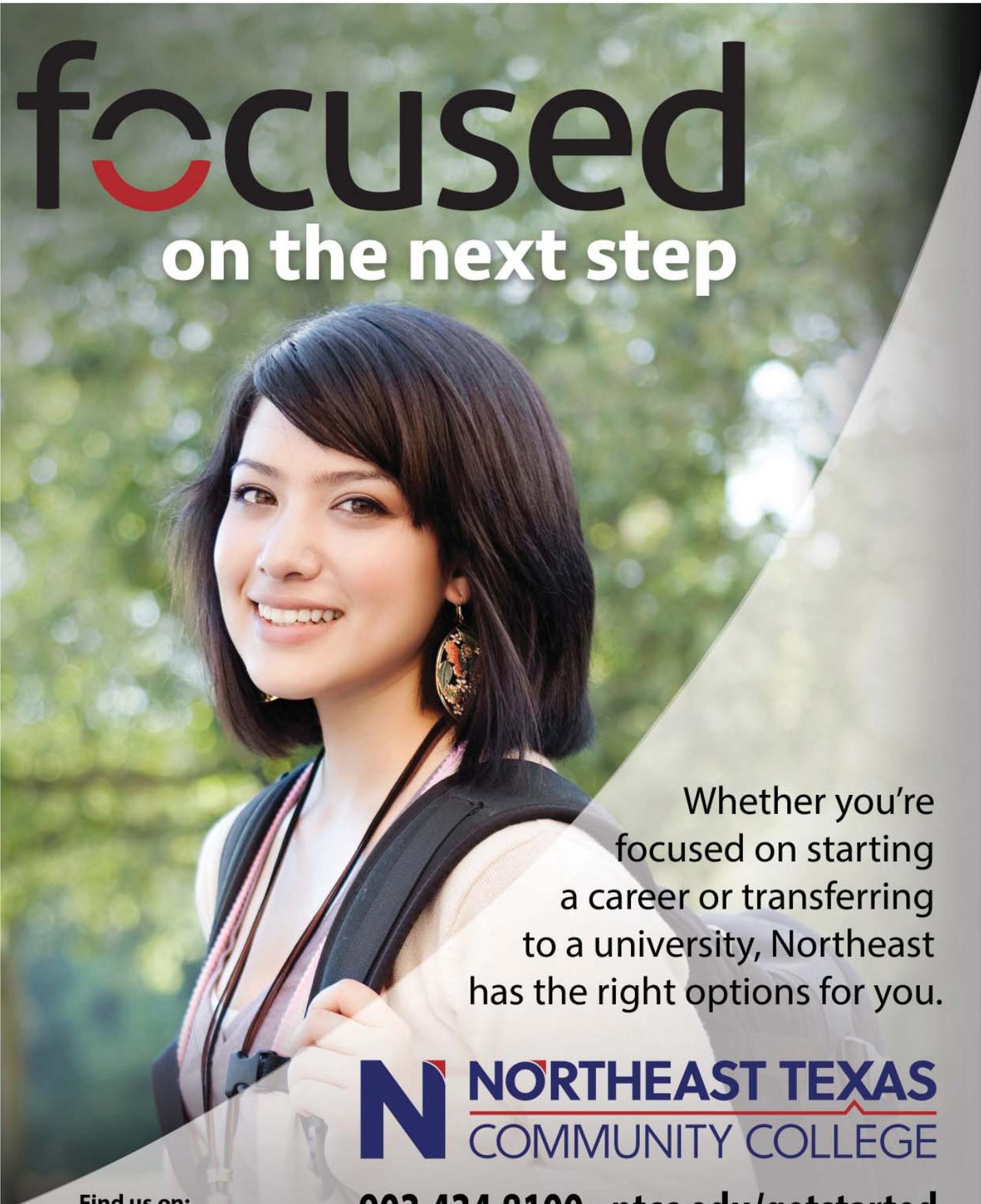
I like a variety. I listen to Christian, Pop and Country. I love the music from the 80's

20. What is your favorite subject in math?

Calculus

focused

on the next step



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Tiger Roar

What is your favorite Christmas memory?

Tiger Roar page by Tigertalk Staff Writer Connor Reese



“The power going out and drinking coffee”
-- **Sadrian Olvera, 12**



“When it snowed on Christmas, and my dad and I went sleighing.”
-- **Allie Norfleet, 12**



“When it snowed on Christmas Day and I played in the snow all day.”
-- **Dylan Ingram, 11**



“When I got the necklace I wanted.”
--- **Keke Craddock, 11**



“Slipping and falling in the snow and breaking my leg.”
-- **Jaquacy Minter, 10**



“When I got a new phone.”
--**Jayla Burns, 10**



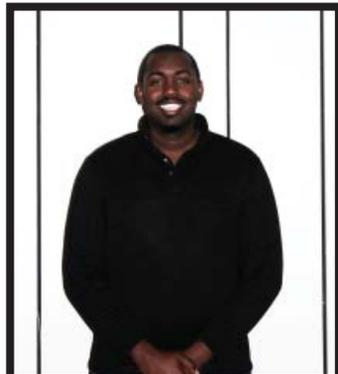
“Getting yelled at for waking up too early.”
-- **Jesse Swafford, 9**



“Christmas at my grandma’s.”
- **Ariel Parr, 9**



“Christmas shopping with my mother as a child.”
--- **Mr. Marty Newman**



“Playing Bad Santa with my family.”
--- **Dr. Theodus Lockett**



“Getting to open a Christmas present the night before and it was an Atari, but we had to watch my father play it.”
--- **Mrs. Sweden**
“My parents used to do the jingle bells outside, and pretend it was Santa,” --- **Chef Jamie Hudman**