

Tigertalk

CTE helps grow tomorrow's leaders



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Freshman Mackenzie Lide has been honored for her exemplary volunteer service with a President's Volunteer Service Award. The award, which recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their country, was granted by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program. MPHS nominated Lide for national honors this fall in recognition of her volunteer service. Lide is a freshman Tiger Doll and enjoys volunteering for Titus County Cares. She is the daughter of Mike and Jennifer Lide.

Tigertalk

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FBLA students show off their awards from area competition.

FBLA qualifies more than 30 for state competition

By **REBECCA YOX**
Tigertalk Co-Editor

More than 30 FBLA students qualified for State in the Area VI FBLA Leadership Conference held at Trinity Valley Community College in Athens.

Nineteen students placed first in their respective events.

They will compete at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Houston on March 7-9. The top four in each event at area advance to state.

"I am extremely pleased with the number of students that advanced to Houston this year," FBLA President Mathew Armstrong said. "It is always great to have representation of any number at the state leadership conference. Having thirty members qualify for state competition is outstanding, and I am proud of the work each of them has put into the projects/events."

Taking first place in their respective events and qualifying for state were Shelby Courreges in Business Calculations, Rebecca Yox in Business Communications, Brent Garrett in Business Law, Nuvia Chavez in Client Service, the team of Annie Le, Erica Salazar and Blanca Antolin in Digital Video Production, Avery Ayers in Electronic Career Portfolio, Grace Whitten in Health Care Administration, the team of Abby Mason, Caroline Rose and Natalie Howard in Hospitality Management, Taylor Hubbs in Introduction to Business Presentation, Rossy Banegas in Introduction to Public Speaking,

Jose Liera in Personal Finance, the team of Ita-ii Luna and Skylee Ford in Public Service Announcement, Tripp Hinton in Public Speaking and Linnea Lindblad in Publication Design.

Second place finishers and also advancing to Houston were Antony Cortez in Entrepreneurship, Rianna Jeffery in Health Care Administration, Aslin Barrientos in Job Interview and Jennifer Leyva in Sports and Entertainment Management.

Third place finishers who qualified for state include the team of Caleb Ball and Connor Brison in Emerging Business Issues, the team of Gaven Fife, Faith Logan and Beth Lockett in Graphic Design, the team of Maria Mendez and Abby Barboza in Hospitality Management and Kylie Hedge in Political Science.

At the Area VI Leadership Conference, Annie Le was selected Who's Who award recipient for Mount Pleasant and Abby Mason was elected Area VI Treasurer.

FBLA has been preparing for State by having work nights every Tuesday since late October.

Those in testing events have already taken their test at the state level which will determine if they advance to nationals.

"I am very proud of our students and their results. All the hard work they have put in over the past few months was rewarded," FBLA Advisor John Whitten said. "I am excited about what lies ahead for our FBLA students."

FCCLA students qualify for state

By ODALYS MACEDO
Tigertalk Staff Writer

FCCLA recently had five students recently qualify for state competition in April. They earned their state trip while competing in Waco.

The team of Alicia Bello, Lizbeth Mejia and Samantha Garcia competed in Life Event Planning. For their project, they planned and organized a baby shower. They came up with a theme, invitations and had to stay within a budget. They placed fifth and advanced to state.

Ashley Rodriguez and Lauren Southerland received bronze medals for their efforts in Education and Training FCS-Assessments. Rodriguez and Southerland will be taking another assessment at the State level in Child Development to extend their professional portfolios.

When asked about their favorite part of completion they both said, "Getting to meet different people from Texas who are passionate about their projects."

Since it is their senior year, they will miss "gathering with FCCLA members getting involved with their community and organizations."

Two teams competed in Culinary Arts. In teams of three, these students pre-



Sutherland and Rodriguez show off their awards.

pared a meal consisting of caprese salad with tomatoes, and toasted baguettes with guacamole topped with sautéed shrimp. For the entrée, the culinary teams prepared sautéed chicken over fettuccini with a basil cream sauce, and for dessert, rocky road mousse. The students competed against 30 other teams from all over the region.

Although they did not advance to state competition, they received \$500 scholarships and gained skills and comradery within the culinary community as a result of their efforts. Team members

included Matt Braudaway, Hunter Tigert, and Angel Reyes, and Andrea Flores, Jaquelin Vazquez, and Tyrese Milton.

"All the competitors and advisors spent countless hours studying and preparing for the competition and the results prove that Mount Pleasant FCCLA is a force to be reckoned with," FCCLA sponsor Aimee Sweeden said. "We are all are excited about the upcoming State competition."

Sponsors are Sweeden, Margaret Bradley, and Chef Kathleen Miller-Hayes.



FCCLA Culinary Arts Team



FCCLA Life Event Planning Team

SkillsUSA advances 12 to state

By **MADIA ARREDONDO**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Electrical Technology students had a successful time at area competition in Waco as 12 advanced to Texas SkillsUSA State in Corpus Christi in April.

Giovanni Hipolito placed first and Jacinto Barboza placed 2nd in Construction Wiring as both advanced to state. The contest requires the students to follow a set of wiring instructions/plans for electrical circuits and conduit bending.

The students have approximately four hours to complete their wiring assignment created by Texas State Technical College Electrical Instructors.

In the Electrical Exhibit competition, 11 students for state. The exhibit must have a notebook that contains the electrical working drawings, detailed description of work done by the students in paragraph form, a write-up with a list of materials, current receipts, any materials donated, steps followed in completing the exhibit, and the students' resumes.

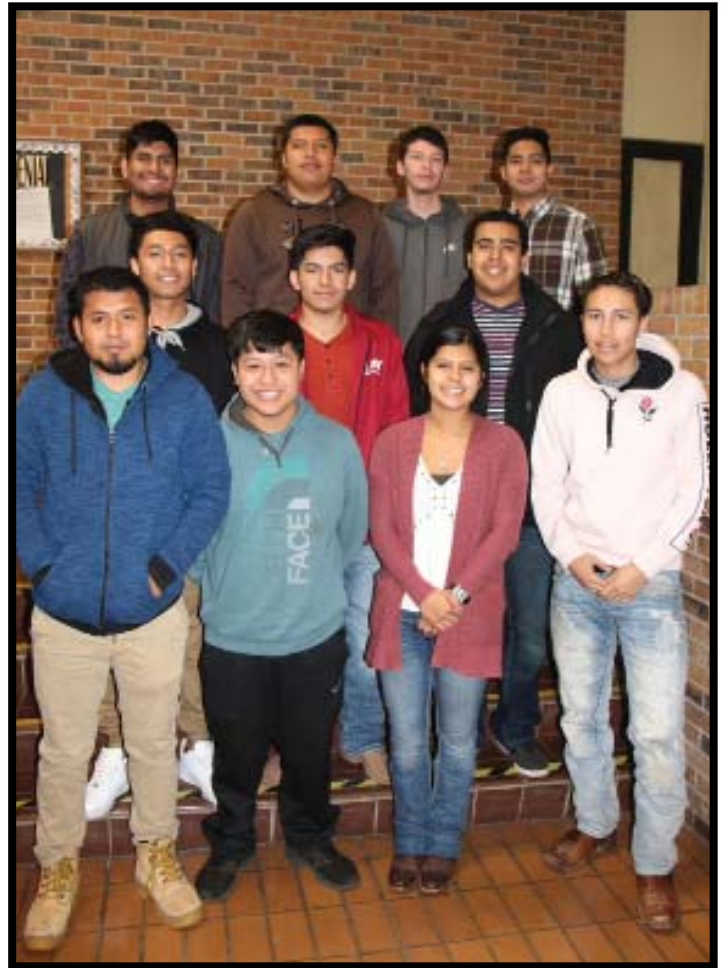
The exhibit must meet the industry standard for creativity and neatness and is judged on the degree of difficulty and must comply with the 2017 National Electrical Code.

In Exhibit A, an Electrical Aerobic Septic System, the team of Aner Baltazar, Jose Flores and Jacinto Barboza scored a 98 and received a Superior Blue Ribbon.

In Exhibit B, an Electrical Residential Home, the team of Fernando Cordova, Katherine Lopez, Ivan Ojendiz, and Jorge Palacios scored a 97 and received a Superior Blue Ribbon.

And in Exhibit C, an Electrical Residential Home with Electrical Service and Solar Panels, the team of Jonathan Vega, Cesar Ramirez, Johnny Esparza, and Armando Almendarez scored a 95 and received a Superior Blue Ribbon.

"It's been an amazing experience knowing that you're putting in work for something great," Katherine Lopez said.



Front row from left are Ojendiz, Barboza, Lopez and Hipolito. Second row from left are Flores, Esparza and Almendarez. Back row from left are Baltazar, Ramirez, Palacios and Cordova. Not pictured is Vega.

She says she is looking forward to seeing the electrical exhibits prosper at state and seeing the boys involved and having fun.

High school Electrical Technology teacher and SkillsUSA Advisor Tim Davis said he excited about his teams advancing to state and their preparation.

"These students put in a lot of extra time and worked very hard to get ready for area competition and I am thrilled that so many are going to State," Davis said.

"They are now focusing on preparing to compete at State against students from across Texas, including students from Career-Tech magnet schools. I know they will be great representatives of MPISD and the Mount Pleasant community."

HOSA students advance to state, provide help at TRMC Health Fair

By KAYLA CUELLAR
Tigertalk Staff Writer

The high school's HOSA: Future Health Professionals chapter competed in HOSA Area 3 Spring Leadership Conference at Plano East High School and had six students advance to state. The conference hosted over 1,800 students from 123 schools.

Sashi Poudel and Tairelle Chong were awarded first place, in Health Education, while Savannah Finigan placed fifth in Home Health Aide and Alyssa Reynolds got fifth place in Medical Law and Ethics

Also advancing to state were Reynolds and Grace Whitten in Outstanding HOSA Chapter and Abby Mason and Paula Flores in Health Care Issues.

The state competition will be held in San Antonio on March 27-30.

HOSA Heart Health Fair

Every year HOSA students volunteer at the TRMC (Titus Regional Medical Center) Heart Health Fair to help educate our community on how to live a healthy life.

"The Health Fair brings heart health awareness to the community, build a patient to doctor relationships, free heart screening and counseling," HOSA advisor Shari Cabell said.

The health fair provides: heart/ stroke risk assessments, blood pressure screenings, diet counseling, CPR demonstrations and healthy cooking demonstrations by a cardiologist.

The heart health fair brings out the student involvement in the community along with the experience of interacting with the public and medical professionals.

The students are able to gain knowledge by witnessing the counseling and guidance given by experts in the field.

"I helped Mrs. Whitten oversee and taught hands on CPR along with EMS" HOSA Secretary Blanca Antolin said.

"I really enjoyed helping others acknowledge and learn the basics of CPR. I loved teaching about compressions to the community as well as refreshing some of the hospital staff's CPR skills."

HOSA Member Mariana Gonzalez said "I liked how everyone was so nice and welcoming also how we were able to get along with others."

See HOSA, Pg. 7



From left are Finigan, Flores, Mason and Reynolds



From left are Whitten and Reynolds



From left are Poudel and Chong



From left are Bernardino, Craft Reynolds, Elmore, Andersson, Valdez, Grant, Bello and Ramirez.

Choir members sing way to state

Twenty-two choir members competed at the Regional UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest at Trinity Baptist Church recently. Eight soloists and one ensemble have advanced to the State contest.

To qualify for the state solo and ensemble contest, a student must score a "1" (the top score) on a Class 1 solo, the most difficult to memorize and perform. Each student performs a cappella (without any instrumental assistance) before a panel of judges.

State solo qualifiers include Amanda An-

dersson, Liz-Anel Bello, Colton Craft, Taylor Elmore, Chloe Garrett, Makayla Grant, Abril Ramirez, and Alyssa Reynolds.

The ensemble of Madelyn Arnold, Osiel Bernardino, Craft, Ramirez, Reynolds, and Samantha Valdez will also advance to state in June. Jashari Inostros received a Superior rating on her Class 2 solo.

The state contest will be held the first week of June at the UT Austin campus and involves around 25,000 vocal, band, and orchestra contestants from across Texas.

HOSA from Page 6

Mariana also participated by helping out on the blood pressure booth.

HOSA member Lizbeth Tavares participated in the heart health fair by working at the blood pressure booth from the people at the heart and vascular center.

"I liked how everyone was so kind and appreciative as we helped people and provided them with information, especially when translating."



HOSA students volunteer at the Health Fair.

FFA students bring home many blue ribbons at San Angelo Show

By JORDAN DICKERSON
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Future Farmers of America students had a great showing recently at the Ag Mechanics Show in San Angelo. Their projects included trailers, smokers and much more.

While in San Angelo, every project earned a blue ribbon. FFA students competing included Clayton Lawler, Triston Ticer, Chase Eddins, Tristen Reynolds, Brian Fields, Hagen Holloway, Rance White, Blake Denson, Garrett Craft, Tayton Reynolds and Taylor Miklos.

Future Farmers of America has had a busy year and gone to multiple competitions and competed.

“We went to San Angelo and Fort Worth and received all blue ribbons,” Rance White said.

FFA has basically wrapped up their year and made it very memorable.

“We met lots of new people and made new friends at the competitions, that was probably one of the most memorable things,” said White.

Other FFA students told us about their most memorable moment.

“When I sold his pig at the county fair,” Josh Fluellen said.

Many goals were set at the beginning of the year for FFA students.

“My goals were to get more involved with FFA and to learn what it is like to be a farmer. The team goals were to have a good year overall and become closer as a family,” Fluellen said.

FFA teaches many lessons. It allows the students to be involved in community events like showing animals in the County Fair.

“It was a great experience I learned a lot and it was very exciting. Getting prepared, I fed my pig several times a day and walked him everyday since he was very small. I had a great experience showing him and I loved every minute of it,” Fluellen said.



From left are Lawler and Ticer



From left are Holloway, White and Denson.



Chase Eddins



Tristen Reynolds



Brian Fields



From left are Craft, Reynolds and Miklos.



From left are Delarosa, Clark and Gonzalez with their art pieces.

Art students going to state in VASE

By TAYLOR DILLARD
Tigertalk Staff Writer

"A painter should begin every canvas with a wash of black, because all things in nature are dark except where exposed by the light"-Leonardo da Vinci.

Art students Mya Clark, Zarahi Delarosa, and Mariana Gonzalez all recently competed in VASE competition and advanced to state.

When asked what the goal for this year's students competing in VASE was, art teacher Laura Kirkland said "my goal is the same every year, I want them to do the best they can."

She is "ecstatic" for the opportunity for her students and even recalls her younger encounters with creating her own art.

"As a child, kids would line up for me to draw them something...usually a cat or a dog", Kirkland said. However, she didn't "take art seriously until college."

Clark, created a piece she titled Tulsa, which is a detailed "southwestern patterned" horse. Her inspiration came from her love for the country so when drawing her piece, she felt it was "very true" to herself.

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Clark has always had a passion for art and it was something she and her grandfather shared together. When she paints, she likes to think of it as if he's still with her."

DelaRosa, named her piece Systematic, which she claims "represents a world or society where everything is constantly in a cycle."

The girl in her painting symbolizes "society as a whole becoming morphed into the systematic lifestyle" that "we are all living." DelaRosa said she has learned how to challenge her art and abilities.

Gonzalez, calls her art piece Mi primo, which captures her little cousin in his early stage of life. For her, art is "a way to express [her]self or a way to relax."

Growing up, Gonzalez loved to draw, but realized her special talent for it in the 7th grade. She as well has learned how to improve her artwork and developed new techniques this season.

"We took 35 students to the regional competition and brought home 29 medals," Kirkland said. "They did an amazing job! I am very proud of how our students did and how well they represented MPHS. Next time we will try to achieve all of us getting medals!"

Debate students qualify for state; four to compete on national level

By REBECCA YOX
Tigertalk Co-Editor

The Speech and Debate Team went to the District UIL Cross Examination Debate Tournament on with one purpose in mind – to qualify for the State Meet. All three teams medaled in the top six.

The duo of freshman Connelly Cowan and sophomore Taryn Thurman took first and captured the District Championship, qualifying them for the State Meet. Cowan received the gavel for Top Speaker of the District, scoring a perfect 90 out of a possible 90 points.

“I was unbelievably proud of Connelly and me, as well as our coach for helping us get there,” Taryn said. “I think it put a pin in all the hard work we had done to get to that point.”

Taking fifth place was the team of freshmen Taylor Hubbs and Roberto Castellano, both first-year debaters. Rounding out the MPHS medals and placing sixth was the team of senior Audrey Courreges and sophomore Ryan Sharp.

“This year was a new challenge,” Debate Coach Cody Morris said. “As everyone knows, Mount Pleasant was put into a new district with the UIL realignment last spring. That meant that we would have to square off against the powerhouse program of Lindale who has produced the State Champion for four years straight. I was extremely proud of my team as they waged through the adversity to take 3 of the top six spots, including a district championship.

“It was even more impressive that of the 6 stu-

See Debate, Pg. 13



Minter



Pinckard



Cowan and Thurman

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The Tiger Dolls display some of the awards they won during competition.

Tiger Dolls enjoying much success so far in their competition season

By HARPER DAVIS
Tigertalk Co-Editor

The Tiger Dolls have had a busy year and have no intention of slowing down anytime soon.

"Our year has been going extremely well," director Jaton Broach said. "We started off with summer practice, then football season, and now we are in competition season. We have our last competition coming up, then line tryouts, spring show, and then will finish out the year with officer and sergeant tryouts."

The Dolls have attended two competitions so far and have done well.

"We came home with numerous awards such as Super Sweepstakes, technique and choreography awards, high point awards, Winners Circle Award, Judges' Choice Award for our purple lyrical routine for Suzanna, Applause Award for pom

choreography, Best in Category awards, Officer Grand Champions, and Team Grand Champions," Broach said.

Competition season is some of the Dolls' favorite time of year.

"I love the adrenaline that comes from performing in front of a set of judges," Head Sergeant Lily Burrows said.

"It's so fun and the feeling when all the hard work pays off is like no other."

Although the Dolls enjoy competition it is a lot of hard work.

"For the last competition, we are still practicing every day and trying to clean the routines even more and make sure our timing matches," Broach said.

"There will be A LOT of drill teams and studio teams at this next competition, so we have to perfect and dance better than ever before."

Galveston is the next and final competition for the Dolls.

"I am so excited for Galveston," First Lieutenant Rylie Hardison said. "I've competed at Galveston every year with Raevin Dance Factory and I can't wait to compete as a Doll!"

After the Galveston competition the Dolls will go straight into line tryouts and Spring Show in full force.

"Our Spring Show theme is Agents of Change: A Tribute to Women," Broach said. "Our music focuses on how women have influenced and changed our world for the good."

Spring Show will be held on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 in the MPHS Auditorium.

Spring Show tickets are \$5 in advance or \$8 at the door and can be purchased from any Tiger Doll beginning on April 1st.



The MPHS Goin' Gold Band had 51 members qualify for state.

51 band members reach state

By OMAR RAMIREZ

Tigertalk Staff Writer

The band had 51 students advance to state, earning first division medals at the UIL Region IV, Solo and Ensemble Contest at First Baptist Church in Sulphur Springs.

The First Division awards they earned represent a superior performance and are the same as a first place-finish.

Over the past three months, these students hard work was spent almost every week practicing long hours, taking on challenging musical selections chosen by their director.

It eventually paid off for the students. They had to perform their piece before a judge, a challenge for any young musician.

"This is the largest group, Mount Pleasant High School has ever had advance to state Solo and Ensemble Contest," Dr. Theo Luckett, Director of Fine Arts and

MPHS Goin' Gold Band Director, said.

The students are expected to perform again at State in early June at Austin.

Qualifying for state are Aachal Amin, Christophjer Araiza, Tommy Arredondo, Manoa Bagsic (8th grader), Isai Baltazar, Jayden Beckham, Jordi Bello, Hannah Bowles (8th grader), Danner Craft, Nestor Cruz, Samuel Dorantes, Maiko Estrada, Alvin Gonzalez, Jimmy Gonzalez, Antarius Howard, Nia Jackson, Jose Martinez, Kayla Mata, Leslie Mayo, Maria Mendez, Alitzel Mendoza, Jair Moreno, David Nava, Erik Ojendis, Marco Orona, Oscar Palacios, Samuel Pearson, David Perez, Kolby Perkins, Frank Pina, Pedro Portillo-Rodriguez, Angel Quistian, Isai Ramirez, Enrique Ramos, Omar Ramirez, Holly Reese, Jihlsleiny Rios, Jordan Rivas, John Gregory Rodriguez Hernandez, Johnathan Segari, Nicholas Segovia, Jeremy Sotelo, Anahi Valente, Cristi Vazquez, Jesus Vazquez, Jerrius Vickers, Hunter Williams, Donovan Young, Rebecca Yox, Sharon Zambrano, and Pedro Zuniga.

Debate from Page 11

dents who competed, there were only one senior, two sophomores and three were freshmen. Cowan and Thurman embody what a champion should be and earned the district championship through years of hard work and dedication. I truly believe that this team has State Champion written all over them."

The State UIL Cross Examination Debate Tournament is March 22-23. Also, more recently, debate competed at the

UIL NSDA District tournament held at NTCC from Feb. 21-23 and had four advance to the national tournament.

In Dramatic Interpretation senior Ja'Quacy Minter took one of the two advancing spots. In U.S. Extemporaneous speaking, Reid Pinckard was also one of the top two speakers. In CX Debate the team of Thurman and Cowan went 5-1 at district to claim the second national qualifying spot. Six team members

earned alternate spots: Courreges, Sharp, Caroline Rose, Isabella Greco, Castellano and Hubbs.

"This year we have seen amazing success," Morris said. "I am so proud of these students. It was a lot of fun to see all the hard work these students have put in, come to fruition. We continue to take steps forward each year and the students at MPHS continue to exceed expectations."

Students pick their favorites in spring-summer questions

By MARIA MENDEZ
& ODALYS MACEDO
Tigertalk Staff Writers

Recently students were surveyed over spring-summer themed questions. These questions varied from what is a dream vacation, the best ice cream to eat, an activity they would do as well as a country they'd visit, and lastly what music festival they would attend.

For their ideal dream vacation, 52.9 percent picked the beach, followed by 21.6 percent picked theme parks, and 11.8 percent would stay home. Lastly 9.8 percent would be at the mountains.

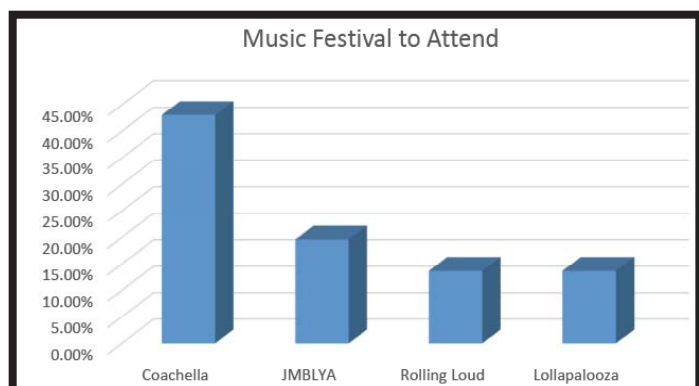
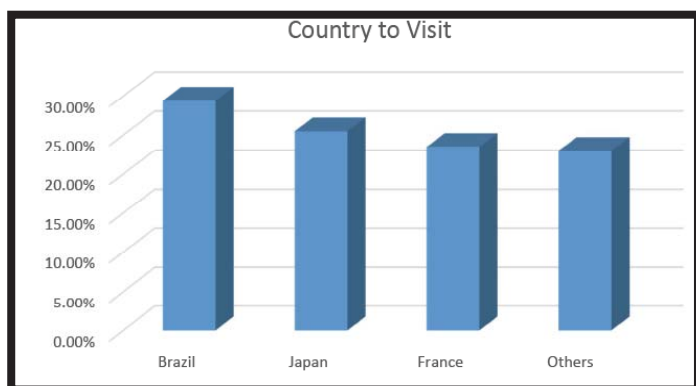
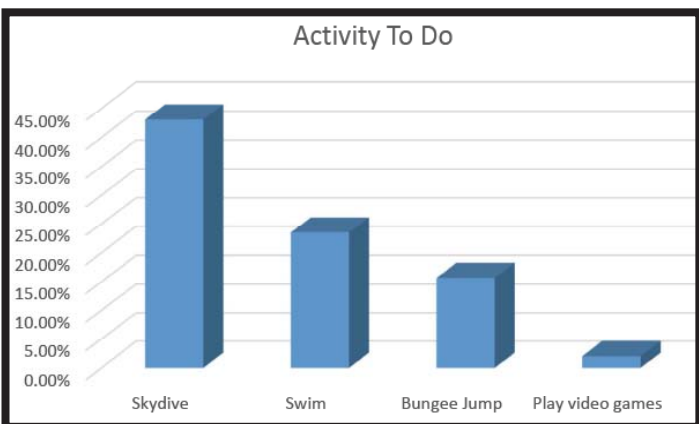
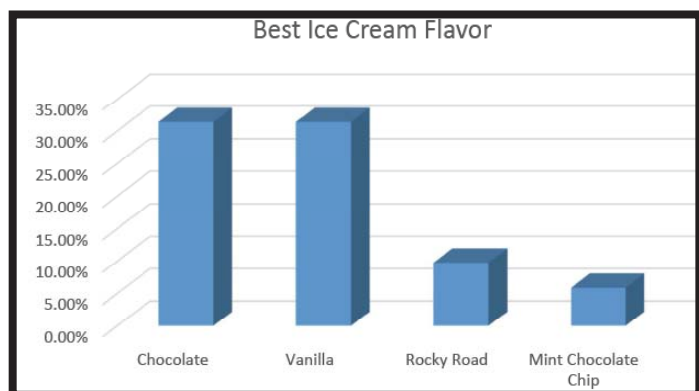
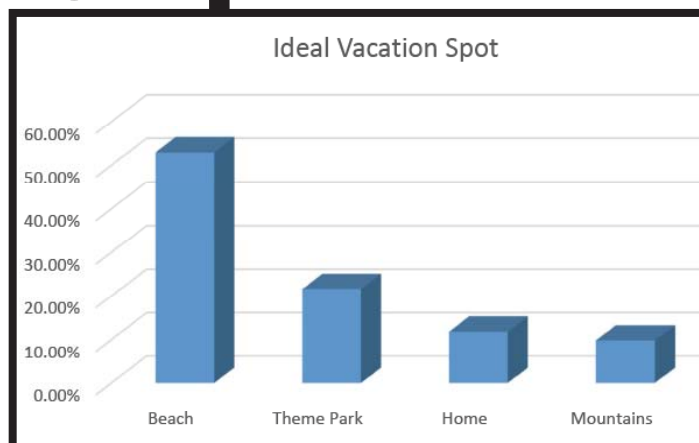
When it came to asking for favorite ice cream flavor it got complicated as two traditional flavors tied for first.

Both vanilla and chocolate received 31.4 percent of the vote. Rocky Road was picked by 9.8 percent, and 26 percent started saying different flavors.

As for an activity they would like to do, the popular vote was skydiving with 43.1 percent, followed by swimming with 23.5 percent, then 15.7 percent went with bungee jumping. The rest of the votes went to a variety of activities.

Brazil got the most votes for a country that students wanted to visit with 29.4 selecting the South American country. Second with 25.5 percent was Japan and third was France with 23.5.

Coachella was an overwhelming choice for a music festival to attend as it received 43.1 percent of the votes. Next highest was JMBLYA with 19.6 percent followed by Lollapalooza and Rolling Loud both at 13.7 percent each.



Four athletes sign scholarships

By **TAYLOR DILLARD**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Football players, Jashon Pogue, Josh Morris, Dorian Ginton and one cross country runner, Matina Ramirez recently signed to further their athletic careers to the collegiate level. All four athletes have done a good job of representing the MPHS athletic program.

Pogue signed with the University of Texas of the Permian Basin located in Odessa, a Division II football school. He is the son of Jason and Krista Pogue.

Morris committed to Friends University, a private school, located in Wichita, Kans. He is the son of Marsha Morris.

Ginton signed to Kilgore College, also known as the Rangers. He is the son of Deanna Williams.

"I am extremely excited for all three of these young men," Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Ritchie Pinckard. said. "Getting the opportunity to play college football in this day and age is a very difficult task to accomplish. It may seem as if scholarships get passed out by the thousands, but there are literally hundreds of thousands of student athletes in our country, which makes this a tremendous achievement for these guys. Each one of these young men played a crucial role on our team and did so each and every week.

"I am glad that they got to see their hard work pay off in the ultimate way. My prayers will continue to go out to them as they embark on what should be the best journey of their lives!"

Ramirez signed with Cottey College located in Nevada, Mo. She has been a member of the cross country team for four years. MPHS wishes the best to these four athletes as they take their career to the next level.



Morris signs with Friends University



Ginton signs with Kilgore College



Ramirez signs with Cottey College



Pogue signs with UT Permian Basin

Lady Tigers gearing up for district

By HARPER DAVIS
Tigertalk Co-Editor

The varsity softball team is back to work preparing for the season.

"We practice every day that there is not a game scheduled," Head Coach Jeremy Tarrant said. "We will cut it down when it gets closer to district play."

The girls have already played some games in preparation for their first district game which is March 19th vs. Lindale at MPHS.

"So far the season hasn't been as successful as planned, but we have been stepping it up and I am confident we will be ready for district," senior Jordan Dickerson said. "As of right now we are standing 8-4 and only plan on improvement."

The team is younger but works well together.

"We have a very talented, but young team that has high goals," senior Averie Ayers said.

"Losing four seniors last year that had main roles really affected us as a team, but we have had juniors and sophomores step up and fill those roles."

The girls practice a lot but they still find time to enjoy it and make it fun.

"The team chemistry is very strong this year," Dickerson said. "We joke around and have fun all the time but as a team we know when it's time to get serious."

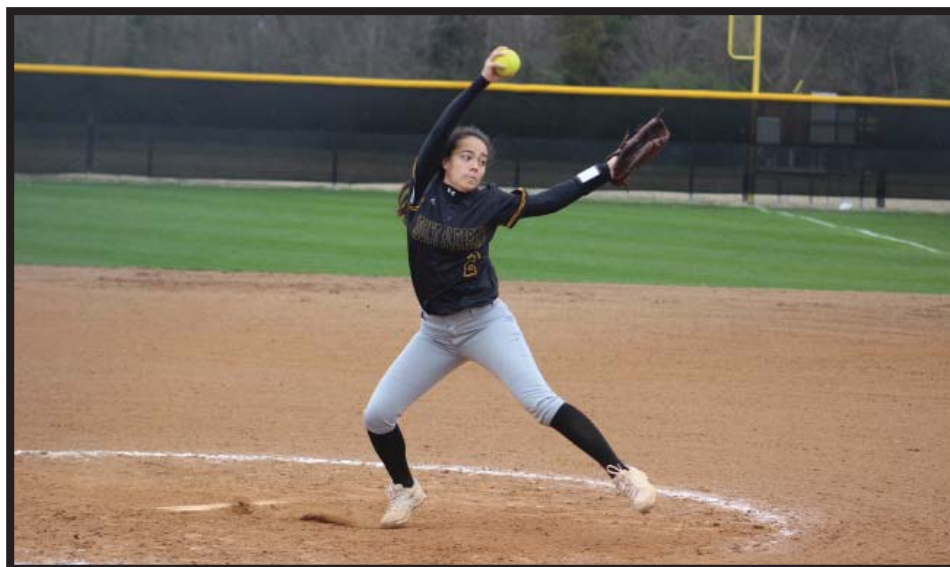
With expectations of a tough district the girls know every move will matter.

"We will have a tougher district than last year," Dickerson said. "Five of the six teams made playoffs last season but I think we will be prepared."

The team has many



Jordan Dickerson



Averie Ayers

strengths.

"We have multiple players who can play several different positions, which allows us to use different combinations of line-ups," Coach Tarrant said.

The girls looking forward to the upcoming season.

"Our team goals are to work together to get as many district wins as possible to make in the playoffs," Ayers said.



Noah Bristow



Kaleb Thompson

Tigers baseball off to a good start

By **JORDAN DICKERSON**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Mount Pleasant Baseball is working hard to prepare for their upcoming season and have done well so far. Right now they are 6-2-1 and only plan to get better as the season goes on.

"It is still really early, so we have a lot of things we need to clean up," Head Coach Drew Conley said. "But overall we have started off playing very well."

The team recently attended a tournament in Mesquite and went 4-0.

The baseball team has set personal and team goals and they are working hard to reach them. "

My goal is to hit four homeruns and the team goal is to make playoffs," Pitcher Kaleb Thompson said.

Other players have set personal goals

they hope to reach.

"My goal is to have a .400 batting average and get all district infielder again," third baseman Noah Bristow said.

Conley said the team is good in some areas but has work to do in others.

"On defense we are very solid in the field and we have the ability to make a big time plays as well," Conley said.

"We need to swing the bat better as a team. We need to get better at knowing the situation and doing your part, if that's moving a runner over, a sacrifice bunt, or just controlling the bat," Conley said.

Every day the team goes out and works to meet their goals and only get stronger.

They work good together and trust in each other to make the plays and do their job on the field.



Alex Guzman



Manuel Rosas

Boys soccer hopes for long playoff run

By MADIA ARREDONDO
Tigertalk Staff Writer

The boys' soccer team has been having a good season so far. After going all the way to the regional championship last season, the Tigers are hoping for another great season.

The team has shown their love and passion for the game every time they have stepped on the field.

The boys have an undefeated streak in district so far and are looking forward to more wins throughout the season as they get ready for the second half of district.

Senior Adam Caamal says he's feeling satisfied and that the team is working hard every day to better themselves.

Captain Alex Guzman said "we've worked on building a stronger mentality and training to improve each day."

Senior Manuel Rosas also says they

have been practicing for long hours and watching film to prepare for their games.

For many years now the boys have done nothing but win games and stay humble.

The boys have been working really hard on and off the field to improve their game.

"The goal is to win as much as we can and get ourselves into the playoffs first. We hope to have a long run, hopefully get further than last year and reach the state tournament," Caamal said.

Guzman said their expectations for this year are to "grow individually, as well as collectively as people, play with passion and focus on the little details."

They hope to go deep in the playoffs once again with their ultimate goal of reaching state.

Girls soccer off to great district start

By MARIA MENDEZ
Tigertalk Staff Writer

This season the soccer girls have been dominating the field. They are on a roll when it comes to the games because they have been practicing really hard to be the best of themselves.

"You play like you practice" and the Lady Tigers have shown this so far.

"We practice Monday-Friday during school and after school, we usually finish practice around 6 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.," senior Dulce Memije said.

Each of the soccer girls have various reasons why they play. They all had a start in soccer different ways, some since a young age and others for a few years now and now they are all part of a great team.

Senior Leslie Villalva said, "I started this sport when I was just 6 years old, running around with 2 braids falling all over the place not knowing a thing on how to play. I was put in soccer for fun, while meeting new friends, unknowingly aware that soccer would turn me into where I am today."

The girls also get support from their family and others were also inspired by family members to play soccer.

"My father played all his life and I've always watched him play. I was daddy's girl, so I wanted to be like my dad," Memije said.

Soccer has been a great experience for the Lady Tigers and has affected their life in numerous ways.

"Soccer has shown me discipline and has made me a leader, a hard worker, determined, and happy," said Villalva.

Soccer has also provided many opportunities in and outside the school and have received many benefits from playing.

Villalva is aware of these benefits and said, "We travel so much which is amazing be-



Dulce Memije

cause we have the opportunity to get noticed by several colleges, now I have several colleges contacting me."

Soccer can be demanding and hard at times, but the Lady Tigers support each other, give it their best and also create many great memories that come from their time together.

"Somedays I would want it to end, to go back in time where we didn't have to stay after school to run millions of laps and be yelled at by a coach who knew we had more in us," Memije said.

While Villalva said, "I really don't have a favorite memory, I enjoy every moment in soccer even if we are running so much that we feel like we are dying. But I could say my favorite memory would be singing competitions on the bus." The Lady Tigers are in for a great season and they are showing that working hard after practices pays off in the field.



Lady Tigers come up just short of reaching state in powerlifting

By DONALD WOODS

Two things were for certain about the Girls Regional Powerlifting Meet in Pine Tree on Thursday Feb. 28, one, tons of weight would be lifted and two, hearts would be broken: for the Lady Tigers although records were broken, a season ended and so did careers.

In the 105 class, Senior Martina Ramirez tied her personal record in the bench but failed to make any new headway against the competition.

Ending the night with a 385 pound total, Ramirez finished her night and her career with an 11th place Regional finish.

In the 123 class, Senior Aslin Barrientos set a new Personal record in Bench and tied her best in Deadlift, but couldn't do enough to catch the 2 leaders.

Finishing the night and her career with a 660 pound total, Barrientos placed 3rd while falling just 20 pounds short of the State Championships.

In the 132 class, Senior Joanna Sandoval received a repersonal record in Bench and was given an opportunity to finish her career lifting at the Regional Meet.

Setting new personal records in Bench and Deadlift, Sandoval set a new Personal record in total weight for the year and finishing in 11th place.

In the 148 class, Sophomore Ashlyn Brooks gained personal records in Squat and deadlift while surpassing her personal record previous total and grabbing a new per-



See Powerlifting, Pg. 21



Powerlifting from Page 22

sonal record of 665 pounds. While finishing just out of the medals in 7th, Brooks was pleased with her effort. "I gave it everything I had, so I am happy."

In the 165 class, Ari "the suit" Gonzalez had a record day in Squats, but failed to finish the night, not accomplishing a lift in the Bench.

Finally, in the 259 class, sophomore Camille Cantu

fell just short of her goal of the State Meet. She finished the night tied for 3rd place, and missing 2nd place by only 10 pounds.

Cantu, although missing her ultimate goal, tied her personal record in squat, set a new personal record in bench and set a new Personal record in deadlift. With a 750 pound total, Cantu will be vying for the top spot

again next year.

An era ends with these seniors, one of hard work, dedication, perseverance, joy and love, but with this amazing sophomore class, and hopefully new recruits this next year, the gauntlet has been thrown down in hopes they will take up this mantle and strive for excellence.

Thank you Lady Tigers for an unforgettable season.

Twenty Questions with Mr. Nolen

By BAILEY SISK
Tigertalk Staff Writer

In each issue of the Tiger Talk, the newspaper staff features a different teacher.

This issue spotlights High School teacher Randy Nolan.

1. How long have you worked at MPHS?

24

2. What subjects have you taught?

Biology, Health Science, Medical Terminology

3. What is something most people do easily but you find very difficult?

Public Speaking

4. If you had to change your name, what would your new name be, and why?

Dak Not sure why, just a cool name I guess.

5. What's the most interesting thing you've read or seen this week?

How a freshman congressman can deter a billion dollar industry from settling in one of the largest cities in the world, preventing thousands of jobs and unprecedented economic growth to an impoverished part of that community.

6. What songs have you completely memorized?

"Gimmie Three Steps"

7. Are you usually early or late?

Early

8. What age do you wish you could permanently be?

21 of course

9. What is something that is considered a lux-



Nolen's favorite costume he ever wore was one of Chewbacca.

ury, but you don't think you could live without?

Close, between car, cell phone, and air conditioning (hot or cold)

10. What's the best Halloween costume you've ever had?

Chewbacca

11. If you could spend a day in someone else's shoes, whose would they be? Why?

F-35 or F-16 pilot for obvious reasons lol.

12. What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given?

The first two years after High School will shape the rest of your life, "Make it count"

13. What college did you attend?

TCU

14. For what are you most grateful today?

My Faith, My Family and all the things that I don't really deserve.

15. What are some of the

best vacations you've had?

Grand Canyon, Snow Skiing in Colorado, Fishing the Gulf and Pacific, Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo.

16. What's the worst hairstyle you've ever had?

Flattop

17. What current trend makes no sense to you?

Man Buns

18. When was the last time you stayed up through the entire night?

Last Saturday night Hunting

19. What's an ideal weekend for you?

Relaxing, Fishing, Hunting, Grilling, Worship on Sundays.

20. Where's the next place on your travel bucket list and why?

Montana, Wyoming, Yellowstone and Mt. Rushmore.



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Tiger Roar

**What is your dream spring
break vacation spot?**

Tiger Roar page by Staff Writers Matthew Armstrong and Bailey Sisk



"Bora Bora"
-- McKinna Wooten, 9



"Hawaii"
-- Devon Smith, 9



"Acapulco"
-- Alejandra Ramirez, 10



"Bora Bora"
--- Baker Peterson, 10



"Hawaii"
-- Omar Ramirez, 11



"Australia"
-- Ally McCrumby, 11



"Splash Kingdom in Canton"
-- Cesar Ramirez, 12



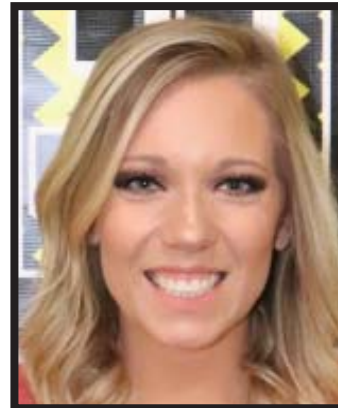
"Bahamas"
-- Litzy Barajas, 12



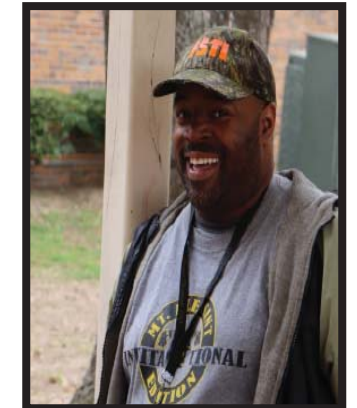
"New York"
--- Ms. Deciga



"Colorado ski slopes"
--- Mr. Blackstone



"Dubai"
--- Ms. Wood



"Hawaii"
--- Arthur Lewis