

Tigertalk

Inside:
New staff
join MPHS

**Homecoming King Cesar Flores
and Queen Gyselle Lozano**

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Students recently got a chance to visit a variety of colleges and universities from around Texas and neighboring states at the annual MPHS College and Career Fair.

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Lozano, Flores crowned homecoming king, queen

By **DESIREE AVILA**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Seniors recently selected Gyselle Lozano and Cesar Flores as this year's homecoming queen and king prior to the Tigers win over Nacogdoches.

Homecoming court members were Yasmin Castaneda, Adriana Orona, Melissa Vasquez, Kendall Walker, Saul Alvarado, Luke Hampton, Samuel Morua and Kyler Smith.

Lozano, 18, is the daughter of Yolanda & Leonel Lozano, who are also her role models.

Gyselle was escorted by dad. She wants to travel the world, and her favorite subject is health science because she likes to learn about the human body and how to treat people.

Lozano's hobbies include watching movies. Her favorite thing to eat is Italian food, and she loves eating at Luigi's. Lozano's involvement with the school includes volleyball, track, HOSA and practicum for medical assistant. Her future plans include getting her basics at NTCC and then transferring to A&M Texarkana and earning a bachelors in kinesiology.

Flores, 17, is the son of Vilma Venegas. He is a member of NHS and the varsity soccer team since his freshman year.

Cesar's role model is his mother because he says "she taught me there's always a way." His hobbies include playing soccer, listening to music and podcasts and fashion. He also wants to travel to Switzerland because of its natural beauty.

Cesar loves shrimp and his favorite place to eat at is 5B Burger in Mount Vernon. His favorite class is government because, he says "it's interesting to know how things work in America." Cesar's plans after high school includes, obtaining his bachelor's degree in sports management to be-



Lozano is escorted by her father.



Flores is escorted by her mother.

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come an athletic director or coach.

Castaneda, 18, is the daughter of Leticia Figueroa and Erik Castaneda. Castaneda was escorted by her mother, who is her role model. She enjoys going out to eat with friends and going shopping. Her favorite food is wings at Buffalo Wild Wings. Castaneda says that her favorite class is Tiger Dolls because she loves being able to dance alongside with her friends.

Yasmin is a member of FCCLA, Tiger Dolls, NTHS and part of the patient care technician program. She plans to attend NTCC to receive her basics, then transfer to a 4 year university to pursue her dreams of becoming a dental hygienist. She would also like to visit Hawaii someday.

Orona is the 17-year-old daughter of Francisco & Rosa Orona. Orona was escorted by brother Marco Orona. Her hobbies include waking up early in the morning to see the latest sneaker drop and Senior Sunday at Starbucks! Adriana is the senior class vice president and member of NHS, NTHS, FBLA, HOSA, varsity soccer and athletic training. Her mother and Athletic Trainers Alex Fellows and Trent Gardner.

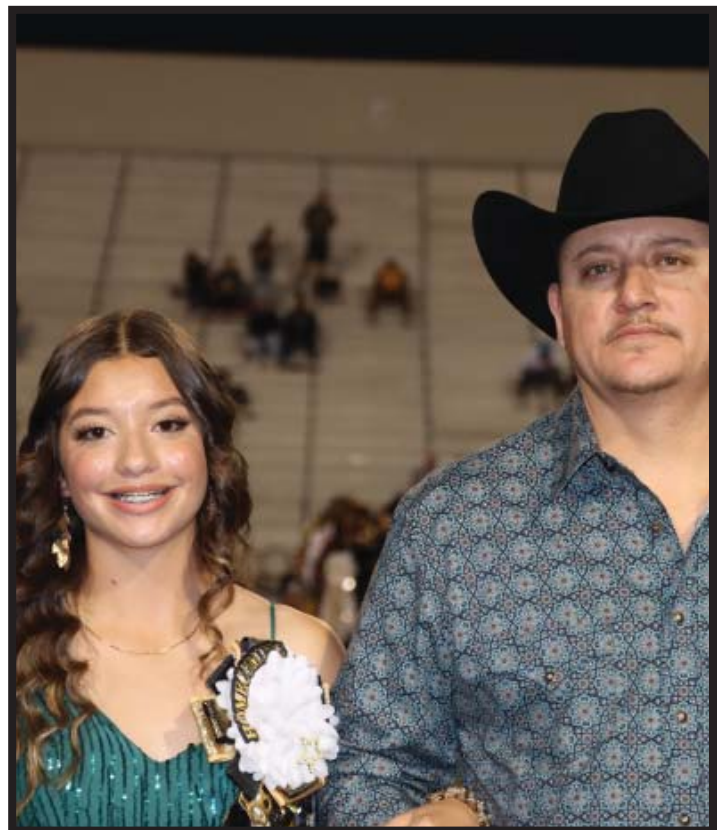
Adriana favorite food is her mom's cooking and favorite place to eat is Round Eye Sushi Guy. Orona's plans after high school include, attending NTCC for two years, then transfer to a university to pursue a master's degree in athletic training.



Yasmine Castaneda



Adriana Orona



Melissa Vasquez

Homecoming from Page 4

Her favorite vacation spot is California and she hopes to visit Greece one day. Her favorite class is Anatomy and Physiology because “it is interesting to me to learn how our body works and heals.”

Vasquez is the 17-year-old daughter of Francisco & Griselda Vazquez and was escorted by her father. Her role model is her dad. Melissa’s hobbies include hanging out with friends and family, and playing soccer. Her favorite food is lasagna and favorite restaurant is Buffalo Wild Wings.

Her favorite class is PCT because she says the class prepares her for the future while making memories with her friends. Melissa is a member of NHS and a NTHS officer. She was also awarded the Algebra 1 academic blanket. Vasquez is also a member of HOSA and the patient care technician program, and is a two-year varsity soccer player. Melissa wants to travel to Italy. Her future plans include attending NTCC for her basics and transferring to UT Tyler to obtain she associates degree in Kinesiology.

Walker is the 18-year-old daughter of Bridgett and Kendrick Walker. She was escorted by her father who was a graduate of MPHS in 1997. Her role model is her mother. Kendall’s hobbies include, spending time with family and going shopping.

Kendal’s favorite class is English, because to her it’s least complex. Her favorite food is pizza and her favorite place to eat is Pizza Hut. Kendall is a two-year member of both NHS and NTHS and a four-year member of the varsity basketball team. She has received Academic All-District honors four years, First Team All-District and Second team All-District Honorable Mention. Kendall’s future plan includes attending Texas Southern University and becoming a Neonatal Respiratory Therapist.

She would like to visit Dubai and Bora Bora.

Alvarado is the 17-year-old son of Saul & Delina Alvarado. He was escorted by his mother. His role model is his older siblings. Saul’s hobbies include running and hanging out with friends. His favorite food is pizza and favorite place to eat at is Texas Roadhouse.

Saul’s favorite class is science, because he says it’s important for his future career. Alvarado is a HOSA officer, NTHS officer, member of the medical assistant program and NHS and runs cross country and track and field.

Alvarado plans to finish his basics at NTCC and transfer to a 4 year university. He would like to visit Florida.

Hampton, 18, is the son of Robby and Carrie Hampton. Hampton was escorted by his mom a 1993 graduate of MPHS. His role model is his parents and Kevin Hart. Hampton’s hobbies includes playing sports and hanging out with friends and family. His favorite place to eat is

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Kendall Walker



Saul Alvarado

Homecoming from Page 5

his grandma's house and loves to eat burgers and tacos.

Luke is involved in basketball, football and baseball at MPHS. Luke plans to go to college to get a business degree. His favorite place to visit is the beach.

Morua, 17, is the son of Victoria Moura and Otonei Jenkins. His hobbies include playing with his nephew and enjoying outdoor activities. He is involved in FFA and TAFE, two organizations that he is passionate about. He is also an offensive lineman of the varsity football team.

His role models are Coach Babaa and Athletic Trainer Alex Fellows. Samuel's favorite class is history because, "there are truths and facts that are undisputed. "I love real nonfiction stories."

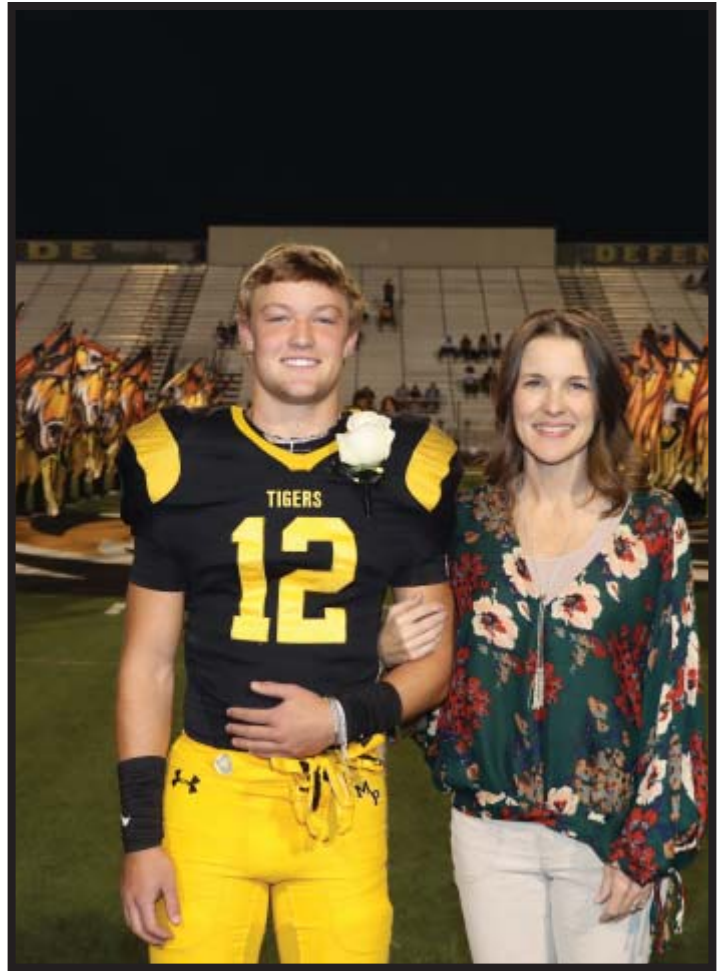
Samuel wants to major in kinesiology and coach football and wants to travel to Fiji and Samoa someday. His favorite food is mango habanero wings and favorite restaurants are Wingstop and Whataburger.

Smith is the 17 year old son of Misty Smith and was escorted by his mother. Kyler plays both football and basketball. His hobbies are playing sports, hanging out with friends, and putting smiles on kids' faces. His role model is his mother.

Kyler plans to go play in college with hopes of being a professional athlete or becoming a teacher/coach. Kyler loves Oreos and loves to eat at Pollo Bueno. His favorite class is culinary because he enjoys cooking and eating.

Kyler plans to visit northern Canada and see the northern lights.

"I want to thank everyone who inspired me to become the person I am today,"Kyler says.



Luke Hampton



Samuel Morua



Kyler Smith

Football sweethearts honored

By MELANIE LOGUE
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Football players selected sweethearts for each team recently. The girls were recognized prior to the homecoming game.

Paris Beard, age 17, is the daughter of Anterius Beard and Demetria Marshall and was named varsity sweetheart. Paris enjoys include sleeping, going out to the gym, and hanging out with friends. Her favorite food is Buffalo wings and favorite place to eat is Wingstop.

Paris is involved in varsity volleyball, basketball and the track team. She has earned Newcomer of the Year, Offensive Player of the Year and District MVP in basketball.

She is also a member of NHS, NTHS, and FCCLA. Her favorite subject is History because she likes to learn about things that happened in the past. Her plans for the future are to go to college and get a nursing degree and play basketball. Her hobbies include sleeping, going to the gym and hanging out with friends.

Ella Cross, 16 and the daughter of Sharla and Casey Cross, was named junior varsity sweetheart. Her mom graduated in 1994 and her dad in 1993 from MPHS. Her role model is her mother and her hobbies include softball along with playing guitar.

Her favorite vacation spot is Maldives and her favorite food is mac-n-cheese. Her favorite place to eat is Chick-Fil-A. Ella is involved in varsity softball and basketball. She has earned Offensive Player of the Year honors in softball and named first team all district in basketball. She earned Academic Blanket honors in Geometry and English II.

Her favorite school subject is Practicum because she gets to learn about her future career. In her future, Ella plans on attending medical



Paris Beard

school and becoming a pediatric surgeon.

Jazlynn Chism is this year's freshmen football sweetheart. She is the daughter of Irene Mata who graduated from MPHS in 2008.

Her school activities include playing soccer which she enjoys along with running. Her role model is Sophia Smith. Her favorite vacation spot is Greece and her favorite food is chicken alfredo. Texas Roadhouse is her favorite place to eat.

Her favorite school subject is History because she gets to learn about the past every day. Jazlynn's plans for the future are to attend college and make it into the USA or Mexico women's soccer league.



Ella Cross



Jazlynn Chism

New staff members join MPHS

By IDANIA CASTANON & NOEMY DORANTES
Tigertalk Staff Writers

The high school staff has ordered a number of new coaches, teachers, counselors, staff members, etc..for this school year.

Malik Babaa is a new freshmen Environmental Systems teacher, football coach, and Co-Offensive Coordinator/Offensive Line coach. This will be his second year teaching and sixth-year coaching.

He coached at many schools such as Texas Wesleyan University, Mansfield Legacy High School, Lubbock Estacado High School and MPHS. He graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a degree in University Studies with an emphasis on science and business.

What he likes best about being at MPHS would be the “very friendly environment, and everyone is extremely helpful. Staff and students alike are supportive of extra-curricular activities and it is awesome to see.”

Babaa has a wife who works in the district’s central office. He also had two younger siblings. Babaa had the opportunity to coach college football as a graduate assistant and said “it was an incredible experience and taught me a ton.”

Taylor Bartlett is a new sophomore Biology teacher. She taught as a first-grade teacher at Chapel Hill ISD. This is her first full year teaching and her first-year teaching in high school. She also received a bachelor's in interdisciplinary at Texas A&M University Texarkana.

Bartlett was originally born and raised in Florida



Babaa

until the age of seven. She and her family then moved to DeKalb before moving to Mount Pleasant when she was 12.

“As an alumni I love that I feel right at home,” Bartlett said, “I get to walk around campus everyday with so many familiar faces and teachers that once taught me. Not only do I love the people that work here but the students as well.”

“So many of these students I have seen grow up around me as I have lived in Mount Pleasant. It is so surreal getting to watch them now as young adults in high school. And lastly, as a huge football fan I can’t forget the Friday night lights. The campus is such an awesome environment on a Friday right before a big game.”

Seth M. Bell is a new football coach (Offensive Coordinator/ QBs) and study hall teacher. Bell has been coaching and teaching in Texas since 2009. He earned his degree from Western Colorado University.

Bell has been married to his wife of 6 years, Julia Bell, and they have three children, Josie, John Trigg and Georgia. He played football in



Bartlett



Bell

college, but he was mostly recruited for wrestling. He was a regional champion and state medalist (5th) in high school.

Bell said while in his 20 that he severely struggled financially, but he finally became debt free in May of 2016 all on his own without borrowing any money.

“I don’t even have a credit card.” Bell said. He is now certified as a personal financial coach so that he can help mentor people to “Win with Money!”

What Bell likes best about working at the high school is “The challenge and excitement that comes with our

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football #FAMILY. I enjoy the kids and working with great coaches.”

Lauren Burns is a new freshman World Geography Honors teacher.

She earned her degree in Social Work from Texas A&M-Commerce. Before becoming a teacher, she worked as an investigator with Child Protective Services for 13 years. Last year, she was a Community In Schools worker at Wallace.

She is married to School Resource Officer Carrington Burns. They have three children Tripp, Blakely and Ricci. Her youngest child is 1 year old and was a complete surprise. She is named after Lauren’s dad Ricky Craig.

Lauren said her co-workers have helped her with the transition to teaching.

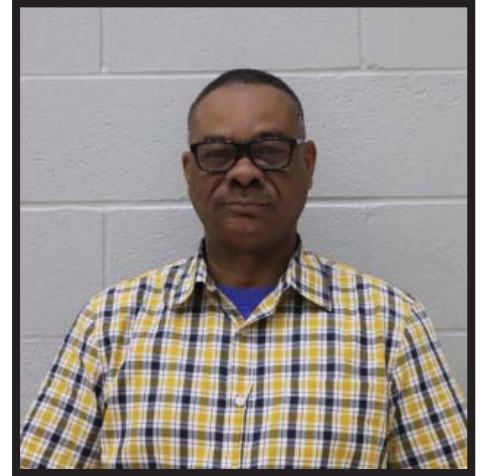
“My co-workers in the history department have been helpful and supportive since this is my first year to teach,” Burns said. “They have definitely made this experience easier, and I don’t believe that the first six weeks would’ve been the same for me if I didn’t have their support.”

Donald Butler is a new P.E. and assistant varsity girls’ basketball coach. He received his degree at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He has five kids and 14 grandchildren, and he has been teaching for 39 years.

“I either attended events or met some of this countries and the world’s most famous public and sports figures,” Butler said. He saw Barack Obama, Michael Jordan, Serena Williams, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. What he likes best about working at MPHS are the students, excellent teachers and the coaching environment.



Burns



Butler



Carrell



Ciuba

Sarah Carrell is a new Principles of Health Science and Medical terminology teacher. She earned her Licensed Vocational Nurse, degree at NTCC. She has been a nurse for 14 years, but this is her first year to teach.

Carrel has four children, three boys and one girl, and one granddaughter. What she likes about working at the high school is “seeing the students I cared for as the school nurse at the Junior High and how much they have grown!”

She also added that she loves being able to bring her experiences into the classroom to share with the students. “I also love the Heath Science department teachers that I work with,” Carrell

said.

Kristy Ciuba is a new head volleyball coach and academic coordinator/special events coordinator. She got her Bachelor of Behavioral Science at Hardin-Simmons University and her Master of Education at Midwestern State University.

Ciuba has been teaching for 14 years, four at Tyler Legacy and 10 at Wichita Falls Rider. An interesting fact about Ciuba is when she was a kid that she won Twinkies for a year in a coloring contest. She hasn’t had a Twinkie since.

Ciuba said “I love the people here. This is the most welcoming community. Everyone has made this move
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so much easier.”

Brandon Colbert is a new freshman skills teacher and assistant baseball coach. He graduated from Northwestern Oklahoma State.

He has two sons, a 2-year-old and a 9-month-old. He said “everyone is super helpful and have answered any questions I have had.”

Kimberly Cox is a new English III teacher. She received her degree at the University of North Texas. She was a journalist and worked at several different newspapers in East Texas. This will also be her first year teaching.

Cox enjoys baking and cooking different cultural cuisines. Among the things she covered as a reporter was a federal raid on a manufacturing plant, with helicopters, federal marshals, and buses to take everyone to prison.

Cox said “I like the students, my fellow teachers and the job itself. It’s difficult but worthwhile.”

Debbie Dalby works in the Counselor’s Office, and she also helps with covering classes for teachers when they need to go to 504 and ARD meetings. She received her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from East Texas State University in Commerce.

She previously taught as a classroom teacher at the Child Development Center for 26 years. Dalby’s son, Jonathan, is a sophomore at MPHS and is active in FFA and baseball. She and her son own and operate a cattle business, after the loss of her husband. This summer she was able to have a “Show Heifer” for the first time.

“Never dreamed we would have a cow under fans,”

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Colbert



Cox



Dalby



Friday-Bautista

Dalby said.

She enjoys that everyone at MPHS is so kind and welcoming.

ShyAnn Friday-Bautista is a new job coach/Paraprofessional Aide. She attended Midland College and at NTCC. She recently got married in October of 2021 to Job Bautista and she said that “it was the most amazing day of my life so far.”

Friday-Bautista loves the atmosphere at MPHS because it is very refreshing compared to past jobs that she used to work at. She also wants to add that she “loves hot wings and cherry coke zero with a passion.”

Jazmin Garcia is a freshman Algebra 1 teacher. She



Garcia

received her degree at Texas A&M Commerce. This will be her first year teaching.

Garcia attended two separate colleges at once when

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she was going for her undergraduate. What she likes the most about MPHS is the support from her colleagues in the math department.

“I’m happy to be teaching at the school where I graduated from,” Garcia said. “Once a tiger, always a tiger!”

Adan Gonzalez is a new Geometry and Pre Calculus teacher. He earned his degree from Texas A&M-Texasarkana. He previously taught fifth grade math for six years at P.E. Wallace.

Gonzalez said he likes that “the teachers are very professional and always willing to lend a hand to new people, like myself.”

David Hunt is a new Tiger Elite teacher. He has been working as a teacher for 29 years and worked as high school Dean of Students and Assistant Head of School for 9 years.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in Education from Iowa State University and his masters in Education Administration from Texas A&M Commerce. Hunt is married with two adult children and two grandchildren. His daughter is Ms. Hunt who also works at the school. What he likes best about working at the high school is “the students, teachers, and the staff,” Hunt said. “The new building is nice too!”

Jeffrey Litke is a new study hall teacher and football defensive coordinator. He earned his degree at the University of Southern Mississippi. He taught for 11 years at Wichita Falls High School and Lubbock Estacado.

Litke has a wife, Lexi Litke, who works as a teacher at Annie Sims and they have three sons, Liam, Lincoln and Lawson. He also lived on the Mississippi Gulf



Gonzalez



Hunt



Litke

Coast during Hurricane Katrina. The thing he likes best about working at the school is the students.

Cortney McCallum is a new teacher in the CTE Department and teaches Health Science, Practicum 1, and Anatomy & Physiology. She attended the Texas A&M University-Commerce where she acquired a Bachelors in Interdisciplinary and an associate’s degree in nursing science.

McCallum is married and has a son and daughter along with dog and cat (that she doesn’t want but showed up). McCallum, who grew up in Hawaii, said the best part of being at MPHS is



McCallum



Mora

“the students and faculty and that this is the “best school ever!”

Jennifer Mora is a new

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Algebra 2 and an AQR (Advanced Quantitative Reasoning) teacher. Mora attended NTCC for 2 years before she transferred to Texas A&M-Commerce where she obtained her bachelor's degree of science in math along with her 7-12 Math Certification. This is Mora's first year teaching overall.

She says she enjoys "the new renovations and working with great colleagues in the math department."

A former MPHS student, Mora was a member of the Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) where she competed and made it to nationals two years in a row.

Mora, who has three older brothers, said she enjoys "working out and spending time with friends and family. I hope to help all my students to become a better version of themselves every day and teach them the knowledge they need to be successful in my class."

Jose Morales is the new Strength Coach. He attended Tarleton State University where he majored in Exercise and Sports Studies. Morales' wife also works for the district.

He has 11 years of experience working previously at Borger, Lubbock and Estacado high schools. He has been part of a staff that has gone 10-0 in the regular season in football. He likes "how friendly everyone is" at MPHS.

April Myers is a new SPED paraprofessional. Myers attended Liberty University where she acquired an Associates of Science and Bachelor of Science degree in Religion.

She also obtained a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry and an MA in Human Services Counseling.

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Morales



Myers



Nelson



Ortega

Myers and her husband Zacharia, have two daughters: Tirzah and Taliah. She served in the Air Force and met her husband on deployment. They have been married for 17 years. She has lived in Germany, Turkey, and Japan and visited several European countries.

Myers has volunteered at different churches in children's ministries. She has also homeschooled for over 12 years, and works at the Boys and Girls Club. She says she enjoys "interacting with the students" and that "every day is different" and full of surprises.

James F. Nelson is the new Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security, and Law Enforcement 1 teacher. Nelson attended Troy University where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, and the University of Saint Francis where he obtained a Master of Arts in Teaching.

Nelson and his wife of 33 years have a son, 29, along with a granddaughter, 11, and grandson, 7.

He retired from the Army after 27 years. He said that "the students and staff" are what he likes the most about

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being at MPHS.

Maggie Ortega is the new freshman school counselor. She attended Texas A&M University-Commerce where she gained a Master of Science in counseling.

Before Ortega became a counselor, she taught at MPJH and served last year as a counselor at Harts Bluff. She says that the best part of being at MPHS is "watching my former students continue to press on and work hard every day to reach their goal of graduating high school."

Ortega quoted Winston Churchill in saying "Success is not final; Failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts."

Steven Rader is a new Agriculture teacher. He studied at Tarleton State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science for Agriculture Services and Development, and minored in Animal Science. He has 13 years of working experience. He states that the best part of being at MPHS is "the family culture and the welcoming attitude of everyone."

Cynthia Reed is the new MPHS Debate, and 8th grade Reading and Language Arts teacher. She attended East Texas State University where she majored in Education.

This is her first year teaching at MPHS, but she has taught for 14 years at Mount Vernon. She says the best part of being at MPHS is the "diversity of students and teachers" and the "welcoming" attitude of everyone. Reed and her husband Greg of 24 years are parents to three children -- Shelby, Jami, and Austin. She loves everything about the outside including her favorite pastime which is mowing the lawn.

Zac Rolf is a new 9th-grade



Rader



Reed



Rolf



Serna

World Geography teacher and assistant baseball and football coach. He attended the University of North Texas where he acquired a Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Events, and Sports Management. Rolf and his fiancé Jordyn Whitney own two dogs whose names are Sadie and Pepper.

Rolf has had 2 years of teaching experience at Grapevine Faith and Tatum. He says that the best part of being at MPHS is "being back in my hometown, getting to see my friends on the weekends, and giving back to this community."

Erica Serna is a new paraprofessional at MPHS. She is

married to Juan G. Serna, and they have 3 children together which are Yessenia Serna, Angel Serna, and Juan G. Serna. This is her first year teaching, but she worked 10 years in customer service for Toys R Us.. She also worked four years as thrift store manager for SAFE-T.

Serna says that the best thing about being at MPHS is the students. "I enjoy getting to know them and seeing the different ways each student learns," Serna said.

Jason Sims is a new coach and Dual Government teacher.

He earned a degree in kinesiology from Midwestern State University. He and his

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Sims

wife Tara have three children -- Olivia, 16, Jonah, 13, and Presleigh, 7.

He has 21 years of teaching and coaching experience at Archer City, Wichita Falls, Quanah and Childress. He said the people at MPHS have been great.

Joel Whitaker is a new 9th grade English teacher. He attended the Texas A&M University in Texarkana. Whitaker is married to Kaitlin and father to 2-year-old Aurora. This is his first year of teaching, however, he was a former



Whitaker

student of MPHS (Class of 2008).

He says "it's good to be back home".

Krissa Woods is the new 9th grade Environmental Systems teacher and assistant volleyball and soccer coach. She attended Louisiana Christian University majoring in Biology.

This is her first year teaching and coaching, but she has worked as a General Assistant for the Women's Soccer team at LCU in the spring of 2022, and in a physical therapy



Woods

clinic in Louisiana. Although athletes only get to play for four years, Woods was able to play soccer at LCU for five years because of COVID-19 allowed students another year of competition. Woods parents are Coach Don Woods and Amanda Woods who works at Vivian Fowler Elementary.

Her siblings are Jonathan Woods and Jaycee Woods. She says the best part of being at MPHS is the "support from the staff and administration" and that she is "able to work at the same school as [her] dad."

Band takes second at AT&T Classic

The MPHS Goin' Gold Band competed in the U.S. Bands AT&T Stadium Classic on Oct. 4 in Arlington. Twenty-two bands from Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas competed in preliminaries and 12 were chosen to march again for final placements.

At the end of the preliminary competition, the Goin' Gold Band made it to finals as the #1 seed receiving first place in overall effect, visual effect, and music. After finals, they placed 2nd overall, just .4 behind first place. They also received Best Visual Effect and Best Colorguard awards for their 2022 show, Cruella.



"I am shocked but not surprised at the achievements of our band students," said MP-1SD Fine Arts Director and Head Band Director, Theodorus Luckett III. "Their sac-

rifices and countless hours to the band program really paid off this week. We would like to thank the entire community of Mount Pleasant for their support."

Johnson, Ball selected All-School Boy and Girl

By JOVANI GARCIA
Tigertalk Staff Writer

The faculty recently selected seniors Camdon Johnson and Reese Ball as the 2022-2023 All-School Boy and Girl. Each year the high school staff selects a senior boy and senior girl who represents the ideals and standards of MPHS. This honor is considered the highest a senior can receive because it is voted by the staff.

Johnson, the son of Landon and Tracie Johnson, is the National Honor Society President, HOSA member, NTHS member, Student Council Member and Student Officer Secretary.

Johnson also is a Small Town & Rural Community Nation recognition recipient and earned blankets in English and U.S. History. He has participated on the varsity baseball, swim and track teams.

His hobbies include baking, singing, working out, reading, painting, cleaning, acrobatics and volunteering.

Johnson is undecided on where he will go to university but plans to go to a 4-year undergrad university then transfer to a medical school, then enlist in the Navy to complete his residency.

“I felt honored to receive this award. Throughout my high school career, the faculty and staff have always been there to assist me with issues I have faced,” Johnson said. “I want to express my gratitude toward you all for allowing me to receive this honor.”



Johnson and Ball

His role models are his grandmothers as they are the most selfless individuals he has ever met.

His favorite food is Spanish rice, his favorite class is Biology because ever since he was a child he has always had a mind geared towards science

Ball, the daughter of Tim and Rebecca Ball, is the President of the Future Business Leaders of America, NHS member, Small Town & Rural Community Nation recognition recipient, Student Council Treasurer, Spanish 3 Academic Blanket winner and participated in varsity swim and golf.

Her hobbies include reading, working out, volunteering and being a caretaker

She is undecided on where

she will go to university but plans to go to a 4-year university to major in English and eventually attend law school.

She said “it means so much to me that I was chosen to represent the ideas and standards of MPHS. I could not have received this great honor without the support from the faculty and staff that I have received over the past 4 years.

Her favorite food is Gigi Hadid’s spicy pasta and her favorite subject is Algebra II because “the topics in this class were extremely versatile and useful to me throughout my high school career.

Her role model is her mother she says “she is the hardest working and kind person I know.”

Olvera, Garcia crowned band beau, sweetheart

By NATHALI ROJAS
Tigertalk Co-Editor

Victor Olvera and Betzaida Garcia were selected band beau and sweetheart by member of the band and color guard. They were honored at the homecoming game.

Victor is the son of Meliton and Bertha Olvera. His hobbies are hanging out with friends and family and his role model is his dad. Victor has plans to become a welder. Victor's favorite vacation spot is Orlando, Fla., his favorite food is Chiles Rellenos and top restaurant is Wingstop.

Victor's favorite class is Forensic Science because he likes learning how criminals are caught with very little evidence.

Betzaida is the daughter of Cirilo and Rodriga Garcia. She is a 4-year member of MPHS color guard. Her hobbies are baking, painting, and hanging out with her friends.

Garcia's role model is her sister, Gisel Garcia. Betzaida future plans are to pursue a career in dental hygiene. She would like to one-day travel to Sydney, Australia. Her favorite food to eat is ice cream and Chipotle is her favorite place to eat. Betzaida favorite class is Health Science because she said Mrs. Hutchings is the best teacher



Olvera and Garcia

STUCO selects 2022-23 officers

MPHS Student Council has selected its officers for the 2022-2023 school year: President Marcella Mata, Vice-President Anthony Orellana, Secretary Hope Powell, Treasurer Reese Ball, and Special Projects Chairpersons Angelina Hernandez and Sophie Greco.

The MPHS Student Council operates a number of community service projects during the year including the annual Veteran's Day program at Wallace Middle School, assisting with Fall Festivals at the elementary schools, and the youth football league.

The MPHS Student Council advisor is Camille Brown.



Front row from left are Ball, Mata and Orellana. Back row from left are Hernandez, Greco and Powell.



Cross country boys take second at district, advance to regionals

By DREW BARKLEY
Tigertalk Contributor

The MPHS cross country teams competed in the District 15-5A district meet recently in Hallsville. The boys' varsity finished second vaulting the team to the regional meet while the girls' varsity finished fourth, just missing the qualification needed. The top three teams in each division along with the top 10 individual runners punched their ticket as the Tigers had three runners qualify individually.

Geovanni Calderon was the top MPHS performer coming in second with a time of 16:52.8. Lee Davis and Gilberth Landaverde also ran strong finishing 4th and 5th respectively with times of 17:01.2 and 17:07.7. Aidyn Botello came in 21st at 18:15.1 while Alex Rivera finished 29th at 18:44. Antonio De la Torre rounded out the team in 31st with a time of 18:59.5 to give the Tigers 61 points.

Longview won the district title with 41 points while Hallsville came in third with 68 points.

The varsity girls were merely four points back of third place Texas High with Briana Gonzales doing everything she could to carry the Lady Tigers to the next round. Gonzales finished 14th with a time of 22:17.4 but it wasn't enough as Mount Pleasant posted 88 points behind



From left are varsity cross country members Davis, Calderon, Botello, Landaverde, Rivera and De la Torre.

district champ Hallsville (16 points), Pine Tree (72 points), and Texas High (84 points).

Dominique Gil was 17th in her debut posting a time of 22:43 followed by a quartet of Lady Tigers. Abigail Retana (21st-23:23.4), Karen Hernandez (22nd-23:25.4), Marlyne Mendez (23rd-23:43.1), and Lizbeth Alvarez (23:43.7) all crossed the line in succession and Jasmine Landaverde (37th-25:02) rounded out the MPHS team.

The JV boys took 6th overall as David Buendia led the way, coming in 15th with a time of 19:45.6. Skylar Guereca finished 35th at 21:38.6 and Oscar Otero came in 41st at 21:51.3.

Other finishers for MPHS were Michael Carrero (44th-22:03.9), Riley Guereca (52nd-22:31.7), Axel Contreras (54th-22:33.4), Saul Alvarado (55th-22:39.5), and Gabriel Garza (62nd-24:37.2).

The JV girls took 3rd overall with Jennifer Luna posting a 6th place finish at 15:40.8. Kaira Leija also finished in the top ten with a 10th place finish at 16:04.2. Other finishers were Audrie Mendoza (24th - 17:41.6), Atalee Gonzalez (29th - 18:27.2), and Serenity Goss (30th - 18:49.9).

The varsity boys competed at the UIL Region II Meet earlier this week.

Getting to know Coach Cluley

By GABRIEL GARZA
Tigertalk Staff Writer

New athletic director and head varsity football coach Joe Cluley has made quite a difference with the culture of the athletic program.

Cluley has strived to bring all athletic programs together with his message of #FAMILY.

He took time out of his schedule to answer some questions.

1. Who and what inspired you to become a football coach?

My dad is who inspired me to become a football coach, I grew up on the sidelines watching him and its what I wanted to do since I can remember

2. What led you to come to Mount Pleasant?

My dad was the head football coach and athletic director here from 1986 through the spring of 1990 – so I had always kept up with MP. I got a call back in November about my interest in the job and it just seemed like the right time. After visiting multiple times and speaking with people MP just felt like home!

3. How long and where have you coached previously?

This is my 16th year coaching – my previous stops were Lubbock Estacado (6 years), Wichita Falls HS (5 years) and Lago Vista (4 years).

4. What is your favorite part about being a coach?

My favorite part is the relationships I am able to build with my players and fellow coaches. Those relationships last a lifetime and is the reason I love my job!

5. What is the most difficult part about being a coach?

The hardest part is you are mostly judged on wins and losses – some of the best coaches I have ever been around haven't won a ton of games, but they have posi-



Cluley speaks with varsity after beating Nacogdoches.

tively effected the kids they coach everyday.

6. How long have you been married? Do you have any children?

I have been married to my wife Courtney for 14 years (15 in January) and we have 2 girls, Kate and MJ and one on the way in March (Olive).

7. What are your goals for MPHS football and the athletic program?

Our goal is to always compete in everything we do as hard as we can, to become better people through athletics, and to build character throughout that process!

8. What sports did you play in high school/college? Where did you graduate from?

I played football and baseball in high school – I was a student assistant football coach at Sam Houston State where I graduated from with my Bachelor of Science Degree in Kinesiology.

9. What is the key to inspiring players to playing to their potential?

I think building the relation-

ship with them and allowing them to see how successful they can truly be. Most kids don't understand the potential inside of them – as coaches our job is to help them not only see it but to reach it!

10. What are some life lessons you have learned as a coach?

I've learned so many life lessons in my 16 years. A few of them are: Never count a kid out, never assume anything, always be honest with kids and coaches, and never worry about the opinion of someone you wouldn't seek advice from.

11. Was coaching always your dream job?

Coaching has always been my dream job. I was so lucky at an early age to know what I wanted to do and even more blessed that I am getting to live that dream out every day!

12. What do you do when you need a break from football?

When I need a break I like to hang out with my wife Courtney and our daughters! I also enjoy hunting and fishing!

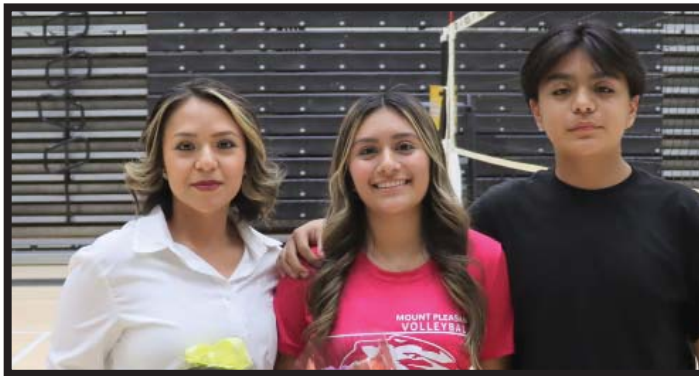
Volleyball team honors seniors



Paris Beard



Gyselle Lozano



Natalie Rodriguez



Morgan Brooks



Jordyn Hargrave



Samantha McClenan



Jenna Cook



Volleyball Seniors

Senior Spotlight-Natalie Crockett

By AUDRIE MENDOZA

Tigertalk Co-Editor

Each issue of Tigertalk spotlights a senior on campus who is involved in numerous activities.

This issue features Natalie Crockett, who excels not only academically but is involved in numerous organizations.

1. What extra-curricular activities are you involved in?

HOSA- Vice President
NHS- Secretary
FBLA- Treasurer
NTHS
UIL Math/Science
Practicum in Health Science:
Medical Assisting

2. What advice do you have for freshmen?

High school feels like it simultaneously lasts 20 years and 2 days, sometimes you'll be having a great time and the next week you can't wait to get out of here. Either way, say yes to things. Go to football games, Meet the Tigers, Tigerfest, the Career Fair, etc. When you look back, the time you allowed yourself to spend with your friends will be your favorite moments.

3. What has been the highlight of your senior year?

I can officially say this now but Taylor Swift dropping her new album will be getting me through college applications.

4. What are you most looking forward to about college

Not having a packed schedule with 8 classes a day + after school activities and morning meetings 5 days a week. Also getting out and seeing a new place that's not Southwest Arkansas or Northeast Texas.

5. How important are your friendships in high school?

Important. Like I said before, say yes to things. Go eat at Cici's with your friends at 8 pm, you'll wish you had when eventually realize you may not be seeing them as much soon.

6. How has high school prepared you for college?

I feel like high school and dual credit has made me a much



Natalie Crockett

better writer. Even though I want to do STEM, there are still Humanities classes I'll (gladly) have to take for core requirements and I'm grateful I haven't neglected homing in my ability to write a good paper. I'd rather Merriman, Priefert, or Crouch read my bad writing than some mean college professor who won't take the time to help me improve.

7. What are your favorite/least favorite parts of senior year

Senior year is like a love/hate relationship moment because it is fun to experience things for the last time and to get to make a big deal about it. It's also nice to be the oldest in a school. But every last moment is also incredibly bittersweet and it's difficult to not know where you'll end up. I'm also struggling a lot with the decision of whether to leave Texas or stay.

8. What was the hardest part of high school

Physics hands down. Still take it though. Junior year as a whole just sucked though, sometimes I'd have an upwards of 3 tests a day and 5 tests a week, it just felt like I was always stressed out of my mind about some test. Also saying goodbye to the seniors in the classes above you, that was really hard too (miss you forever Connelly)

9. What was your favorite subject

Chemistry. I'm still a little salty I never got to take Chemistry 2. I'm not really sure why I liked it so much, but it was a lot of fun. I also loved APUSH and both dual English classes I've taken. I'm a huge fan of the humanities.

10. If you could start over, what would you do differently?

I'm not sure, I don't really have any regrets. I definitely wouldn't want to start over though, as bittersweet as it is to be graduating, I still want to graduate.

NHS inducts new members

Ten seniors 63 juniors were inducted into the MPHS chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) during a special ceremony on October 17 at the Region VIII Education Service Center. The new members join the 53 returning senior members of the chapter bringing the total membership to 126.

To be inducted into NHS, a student must have earned a weighted cumulative GPA of 5.10 and must meet certain service and character standards, exemplified in behavior and personal conduct both on and off campus. The NHS inducts students who meet the criteria in their junior or senior year during the fall semester.

Officers of the MPHS Chapter are President Camdon Johnson, Vice President Anthony Orellana, Secretary Natalie Crockett, Treasurer Perla Guzman, Parliamentarian Madison Carpenter and Historian Camila Serrano.

The 2022-2023 new members are:

Senior Inductees: Saul Alvarado, Wendy Carrillo, Madison Craig, Luis Garcia, Audrie Mendoza, Nancy Netro, Lolita Solis, Kade Strickland, Melissa Vasquez, and Javier Vazquez.

Junior Inductees: Genesis Aguilar, Joseline Almazan, Hannah Anderson, Mea Banda, Jason Barrientos, Sidney Beles, Shirlyn Cardona, Idania Castanon, Oscar Castellanos, Nathaniel Cates, Nicholas Cates, Madison Cooper, Ella Cross, Caroline Currey, Brianna Davis, Clinton DeBord, Drew Dyke, Jose Escobar, Jarley Esguerra, Marlyn Estrada, John Freeman, Jose Fuentes, Estefani Garcia, Yahir Garcia, Ana Garrett, Briana Gonzales, Cesar Gonzalez, Sophie Greco, Owen Green, Abigail Gutierrez, Angelina Hernandez, Stephanie Hernandez, Morgan Hill, Jillian Jetton, Araceli Landaverde, Erik Liera, Nathaniel Martinez, Rebeca Martinez, Yalit Mata, Kennady Mayben, Amariya Miller, Clayton Miller, Angel Munoz, Annie Munoz, Jeisy Munoz, Zoe New-



Caroline Currey, is welcomed as a new member.



Principal Craig Bailey congratulates Jonathan Turner.

man, McKinsee Oviedo, Joel Palacios, Andrew Perez, Estiven Perez, Cecilia Phan, Fernando Robles, Kiara Rundles, Ethan Sanchez, Allie Sloan, Makayla Spigner, Joseph Tolentino, Jacori Turner, Jonathan Turner, Harrison Wall, Jordan West, Conlee Zachry, and Shpat Zeqaj.

Returning Senior members of the MPHS NHS Chapter are Wendy Alarcon, Manoa Bagsic, Reese Ball, Vanessa Bayna, Paris Beard, Clayton Brison, Merlin Cardona, Madison Carpenter, Chloe Carter, Devin Castaneda, Payton Chism, Jenna Cook, Natalie Crockett, Norma Delgado, Paulina Diaz, Alexandra Estrada, Anna Kate Fisher, Cesar Flores, Alan Garrett, Isabel Gonzales, Maranda Gonzalez, Perla Guzman, Ethan Harbour, Jordyn Hargrave, Karli Jo Hill,

Kylie Humber, Nayeli Jaimes, Camdon Johnson, Jose Lopez, Samantha McClenan, Gracelyn McClendon, Anthony Orellana, Adriana Orona, Madeline Plascencia, Param Poudel, Lizette Ramirez, Mary Reeve, Elijah Rider, Xitlali Rivas, Natalie Rodriguez, Chris Russell, Fernanda Salazar, Briana Sanchez, Camila Serrano, Arenia Tigert, Jose Trejo, Evelyn Valente, Amy Vazquez, Michelle Vazquez, Kendall Walker, Jack Welborn, Caleb Whitten, and I'Yana Williams.

Members of the MPHS National Honor Society Faculty Council are LeAnne Blalock, Gina Crouch, Jerilyn Goolsby, Kristi Houchin, Ann Jenkins, Mandy Jones, Ana Munoz, Maryna Otero, and Larry Russell. The MPHS National Honor Society Advisors are David Clark and Angela Priefert.

Band, colorguard share their memories on organizations

By KATELYN TEJADA
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Some band and color guard members recently shared their experience about being in the two different groups.

Head drum major Sebastian Campos, assistant drum major Shpat Zeqaj, drummer Ilse Ojendis and color guard Co-Captain Yasenia Paloblanco and member Joseline Almazan share their thoughts.

1. What is your favorite part of being in Band or Color Guard?

“Hearing the crowd go wild while performing.” – Shpat

“Being part of a family, and performing in front of a crowd.” – Yasenia

Being able to perform for my community and hearing the crowd applaud after every performance.” --- Sebastian

2. What are your favorite memories of being in Band or Color Guard?

“Performing for the very first time.” – Joseline

“Asking my girlfriend to homecoming in front of the entire band.” – Shpat

3. What do you like best about competitions?

“What I like best about competitions is seeing and meeting other bands.” – Ilse

“To show other towns and cities that there is more to us than a little small town!” – Yasenia

“Competitions give me a thrill and a drive to want to win. I also get to check out other great bands.” -- Sebastian

4. Do you get nervous about performing at football games?

“Sometimes, but once you step onto the field the nerves vanish.” – Joseline

“Not as much as now, when I was a freshman.” – Ilse

5. What motivates you to do your best in Band and Guard?

“My family and friends, but most of all my coach he pushes me to do better every year and challenges me to do better every performance. – Yasenia

“Seeing the way the crowds love the show makes me want to give it my all.” – Shpat

“Dr. Luckett is my main motivator to do well in band and an electric crowd on Friday nights is also a source of motivation for me.” --- Sebastian



MPHS Drum Majors



Yasenia Paloblanco



Snare drummers and tubas

See Band, Pg. 23

Band from Page 22

6. What do you like best about traveling to competitions and games?

“I like stopping at Buc-ee’s so I can buy snacks.” – Ilse

“The funny moments that come along with the late night drives and talks about the most random things with my besties.” – Yasenia

“As a person who loves to travel, I love seeing new cities and towns and getting to bond with my friends.” -- Sebastian

7. How challenging is it to nail a new song or routine?

“It can be a little difficult to nail a new routine, but once you understand it, it’s a lot better.” – Joseline

“It is pretty challenging to learn a new routine in just a couple of days, but that’s what we are here for.” – Yasenia

8. How important are the friendships you made in band and guard?

“Very important and valuable. Once you get to know everyone, you become a part of the guard family.” – Joseline

“The people that are in guard have made a bigger impact in my life than ever before. They are the type of friendships that will last.” – Yasenia

“In marching band, you feel as if you are part of a big family. Many of my friends are pretty near and dear to me.”

9. Why would you recommend somebody joining band or guard?

“I would recommend they join because it is so much more than practicing and performing, it has become almost like a family



Joseline Almazan

to me.” – Shpat

“Overall it’s a great experience to try something new, meet new people and just enjoy the organization.” – Joseline

10. What do you like best about this year’s show?

“I love the personality and show design. From the Bluecoats prop, to the amazing costume design, as well as the music, it is just a masterpiece of a show. Also the impacts of the 2nd and 3rd movements still give me chills.” – Shpat

“I love the theatrical feeling and the amount of love towards the show from the people and the feeling of walking off the field with all the cheers of the fans.” – Yasenia

Choir elects new officers

MPHS Choir has elected officers for the new school year.

They are President Clayton Miller, Vice President Maleah Duenez, Secretary Madison Zepeda, Photographer Harley Martin, and Stage Managers Hope Powell and Kristin Tidwell.

The chorale program is under the direction of Nancy Vines and accompanied by Deanna Warren.

Front row from left are Martin, Duenez, Miller and Zepeda. Back row from left are Kristin Tidwell and Hope Powell.



20 questions with Mrs. Hutchings

By ALAN BARRIENTOS
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Each issue of the Tigertalk, the newspaper staff features a different teacher. This issue puts the spotlight on Mandy Hutchings, who teaches Health Science. The following questions give more insight on Hutchings.

1. What motivated you to become a teacher?

The fame, just kidding, I know it sounds cliché but the students. I enjoy seeing the student grow through the year and my favorite is when they have the “light bulb” moment. Throughout the year, they become my little family and I am sad when I have to say good-bye at the end of the year.

2. How has your experience been as a teacher?

My experience as a teacher has been awesome, I love to educate, I love to see students engaged on the material, watching the critical thinking aspect and then BAM they get it. One of the most rewarding things I can see is see them after they graduate and become whatever they’re going to be and they say I did this because of that one day when.... And remind me about a conversation we had to lead them and educate them.

3. What do you like most about the subject you teach?

Medical Terminology is the language of medicine, it is something that even if you do not go in to medicine as a career, you will use into adulthood. It is a building block to the other subject I teach which is Medical Assisting, I am a Certified Medical Assistant and have had the opportunity to teach Medical Assisting at NTCC and now here at MPHS. I have had so much experi-



Hutchings

ence in the clinic sites and as an educator that I feel allows me to connect with my students and encompass student success in the program.

4. Are you married? How many kids do you have?

I am married, his name is Kelly Hutchings, you may recognize him on campus, he is the Master Plumber for the district.

I have two kids, Zannah, she is at UNT #gomeangreen and will graduate this year with her bachelors in education. Then there is Karson, he is pursuing construction science at Tarleton State University and will graduate in about 3 years. We are all Tiger Alumni, we just won’t talk about the year I graduated. haha

5. Where do you like to go on vacation?

Good question, honestly, I really enjoy my back porch... and I save on gas.

6. What do you like to do during your free time?

Hang out with my family or go see my kids.

7. Do you have a hobby?

Not yet!

8. If you were given 3 wishes, what would you wish?

Awesome question, honestly, I would wish for peace in our world, understanding of each other, and the ability to communicate with everyone. Peace encompasses no strife, understanding helps have knowledge and communication allows for understanding and peace.

9. Do you have pets?

I do, his name is Trooper, and he is a mini Australian Shepherd

10. If you were given one million dollars, how would you spend it?

I would give to my church, pay off my student loans, invest the rest and live off the interest.

11. How long have you been teaching?

I have been teaching at a high school for 3 years and taught at NTCC for 6 years, I currently teach adjunct for the nursing program as well.

12. What college did you attend and what did you major in?

NTCC – Associates of Applied Science, Medical Assisting

Purdue Global University – Bachelors of Healthcare Management

University of North Texas – Masters of Health Service Administration with a focus on Applied Gerontology

13. What do you enjoy most about nursing?

Well, I am not a nurse, I am a Medical Assistant however, I do get to do a lot of the same things a nurse can do, I just do them at a Physicians office instead of the hospital. I enjoy the ability to help people, to change their outcome of their day.

14. What is your favorite book?

The Bible

15. What is your favorite meal?

See Hutchings, Pg. 25

Health science students begin clinical rotations

The Health Science Practicum Classes started clinical rotations this week. Level 1 students are being trained to be Electrocardiogram Technicians (CET) by Cortney McCallum RN, Level 2 students are being trained in Phlebotomy (CPT) and Patient Care Technology (PCT) by Kristi Houchin RN-BSN, and the second group of Level 2 are being trained to be a Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) by Amanda Hutchings MS-HSA, BS, CMA (AAMA).

Thank you to our community physicians and their offices, dentist office, chiropractic office, pharmacy and Titus Regional Medical Center for allowing our students to participate in your healthcare setting and grow with your support.



Hutchings from Page 24

There is a place in Nash, Tx on the way to Texarkana, they have a dish that I love. It is Ginger Salmon on top of sautéed spinach and wasabi risotto.

16. What is your favorite show to watch?

I love to watch many shows, I have an all-time favorite of Friends, but I watched it when you have to wait each week for the next episode.

17. What is the best thing that has happened to you

as a teacher?

Being recognized for the good things, there are days that we are unsure of the student understanding and it makes my heart happy when I get a hug and a thank you.

18. If you could meet anybody from the past, who would it be and why?

I would love to meet my dad's dad, he passed when my dad was 10 and I would love to ask questions about his life.

19. Name a song that describes you and why?

Amanda by Chris Stapleton, well for obvious reasons lol.

20. What do you enjoy most about MPHS?

The family atmosphere, we are all a big family that cares, cries, and laughs together. It is something to be a part of and grow in. I am thankful and blessed to be at MPHS and work in the CTE department with such wonderful people.

2022-23 class officers named



Seniors

President - Madeline Plascencia

Vice President - Adriana Orona

Secretary -- Camdon Johnson

Treasurer -- Taniah Johnson

Juniors

President - Sophie Greco

Vice President - Angelina Hernandez

Secretary -- Amariya Miller

Treasurer -- Jose Fuentes



Sophomores

President - Luke Thurman

Vice President - Diya Desai

Secretary -- Christopher Sorto

Treasurer -- Gopi Amin



Freshmen

President - Ava True Fite

Vice President - Carter Cook

Secretary -- Tony Grant

Treasurer -- Aaliyah Delarosa



Four art students take top honors at Titus County Fair

Students in the Mount Pleasant High School art program entered 41 pieces in the Titus County Fair Fine Arts division. Of those, 29 pieces placed with 4 taking Best of Class honors.

Earning Best Of Class accolades were Stephanie Hernandez for “Her Heritage”, Josue Vega for “Dominating Beast” Natalia Aspeitia for “Carnival Ride” and Silvia Sustaita for “A Mother’s Tears”.

Placing first in their category were Elise Alcibar, Valerie Moss, Nathaniel Cates, Allyssa Latimer, Miriam

Rojas, Daniela Ruiz, Hannah Bowles, and Elena Salinas. Earning second place were Bowles, Jaydy Martinez, Saray DeLaRosa, Litzy Gonzalez, Kami Labutis, Rebecca Martinez, Hayden Tennison, Luis Avilez, Yair Gonzalez, Emilia Marino, and Alyssa Narvaez.

And placing third were Rafael Calderon, Tisha Patel, Diego Ugalde, Ana Bonilla, Ailyen De La Rosa, and Dayanara Pulquero.

The Mount Pleasant High School art program instructor is Laura Kirkland.

Crockett named DAR Good Citizen

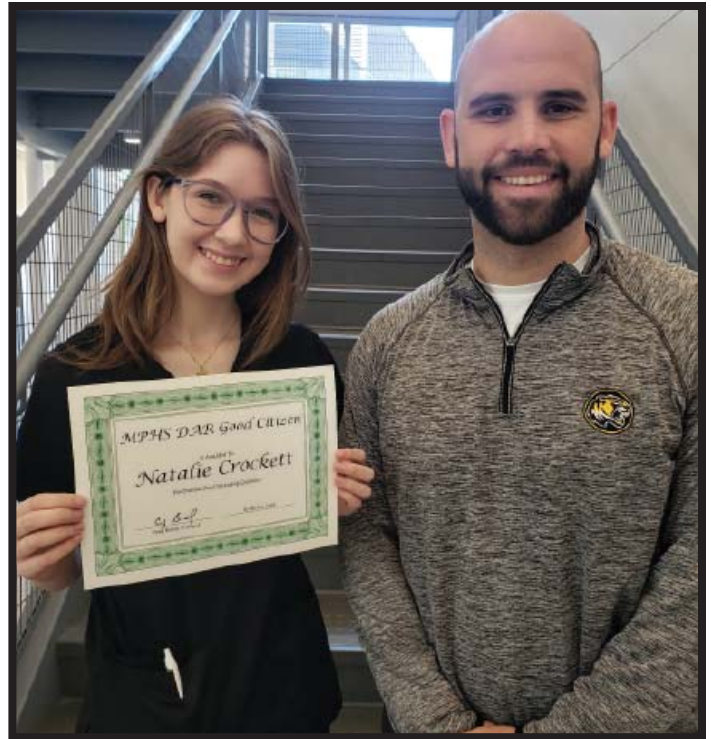
Senior Natalie Crockett, was recently selected as the MPHS Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen.

The Martha Laird Chapter 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.

Crockett has held numerous leadership roles in campus organizations. She is the Secretary of the National Honor Society (NHS), Vice President of Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), and Treasurer of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). She is also a member of the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS), the UIL Academic team, and has participated with the Go in' Gold Band.

In addition to leadership, service to the community is another important characteristic that good citizens possess. Crockett has volunteered with Titus County Cares and has tutored ESL students at MPHS. She also helped create "Project MP SAFE" to teach CPR, Stop the Bleed and First Aid to participants from the Mount Pleasant community, providing classes once a month for businesses and other community groups. She received the United Nations Association of the USA Merit Award for community service during her junior year.

Crockett has earned Academic Blanket Awards for English III and World History. She received a National Rural and Small Town award and National Hispanic Recognition from the College Board National Recognition programs and is an AP Scholar. She has competed at the State level with UIL Math and Science and HOSA, placing 2nd in Health Care Administration, and is a Na-



Crockett and Principal Craig Bailey

tional Qualifier for FBLA, competing in Chicago this past summer. She is undecided on where she will attend college, but is planning to major in Pharmaceutical Science.

Being selected as the MPHS Good Citizen provides Crockett the opportunity to participate in the scholarship portion of the program at the local Chapter level. Each contest entry will be evaluated by independent, non-DAR judges and the winning entry will advance through the state and national levels of judging. She is the daughter of Rob and Mariela Crockett.

Cosmetology selects its 2022-2023 officers

The MPHS Cosmetology program has chosen its officers for the 2022-2023 school year. Leading the group are Senior President Juanita Gutierrez, Senior Vice President Wendy Carrillo, Junior President McKinsee Oviedo, and Junior Vice President Laiklyn Epps.

MPHS Cosmetology is a highly selective, two-year, state licensed 1000-hour program involving the study of hair, skin, nails and their related care. Students study and practice in a salon lab setting using mannequins, classmates, and the general public as clientele for skill development.

The program emphasizes advanced training and techniques in cosmetology in addition to preparing students to take the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation Cosmetology Exam their senior year. Students that pass the state board exam are professional licensed cosmetologists in the state of Texas and can begin working in the industry immediately after graduating from high school. Cosmetology Instructor is Aleshia Rivera.



The 2022-2023 MPHS Cosmetology program officers are ((top row) Wendy Carrillo-Senior Vice President and Juanita Gutierrez-Senior President. (Bottom row) Laiklyn Epps-Junior Vice President and McKinsee Oviedo-Junior President.

FFA students compete at leadership event

The MPHS FFA teams competed at the Longview FFA Leadership Development Event (LDE) invitational competition Oct. 18. Students are practicing for the upcoming district and area competitions in November.

Notably, MPHS FFA members placed 5th in Senior Skills, 6th in Public Relations, 8th in Ag Advocacy, and took 9th, 10th, and 16th places in Spanish Creed. Team members also competed in Job Interview, Radio Broadcasting, Senior Creed, Greenhand Creed, Greenhand Quiz, and Senior Quiz.

“This was a great practice contest to prepare for District and Area competitions,” said FFA advisor, Susie Hearron. “We had 23 students that competed with many that had never competed before.”

The MPHS FFA LDE teams are coached by Hearron, Meagan Raine, Spencer Clark and Steven Rader.



Wendy Carrillo, Nayeli Dominguez and Cynthia Ramirez competed in Spanish Creed.



From left are the Greenhand Quiz Team of Ashley O'Brien, Emily Ventura, Pamela Dominguez and Eufernia Guerrero.



From left are the Public Relations Team are Lincoln Ellis, Raegan Houchin, Genevieve Rubio and Braiden Merryman.



Cheyenne King, Lakyn Fortenberry and Arenia Tigert competed in Ag Advocacy.



Karson Brown competed in Senior Creed Speaking.

FFA EDUCATION DAY



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Tiger Roar

Who is your favorite superhero or villain?

Page by Tigertalk Staff Writer Idania Castanon and Photographer Rocio Herrera



“Iron Man”
-- Yasenia Paloblanco, 12



“Doctor Strange”
-- Ilse Ojendis, 12



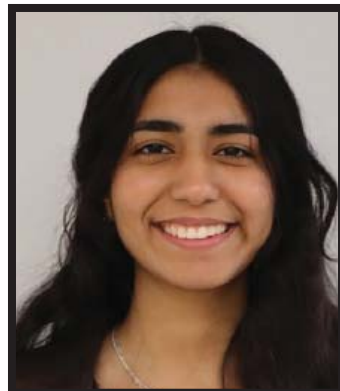
“Storm”
-- Madeline Tumey-Simmons, 12



“Reverse Flash”
--- Madison Thompson, 12



“Wonder Woman”
-- Joseline Almazan, 11



“Flash”
-- Noemy Dorantes, 11



“Black Widow”
-- Angie Hernandez, 11
“Hela”
-- Kiara Rundles, 11



“Hawkeye”
-- Jennifer Pena, 10



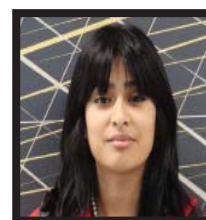
“Buttercup”
--- Brynna Nava, 10



“Raven”
--- Jessica Hang 10



“Superman”
--- Katherine Adame



Alexandra Velez, 9



Alondra Flores, 9



Valerie Colocho, 9



Raymond Sanchez 9

“Spiderman” for all four students