

Tigertalk



PERFECTION!!!

**Girls, boys unbeaten
in regular season**



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FFA members Christo Escalante and Ethan Easley won 1st place at the Area 6 FFA Convention Talent Contest on Feb. 27. They will compete in the Talent Contest representing Area 6 at the 95th State FFA Convention on July 10-14 in Dallas.

Tigertalk

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Perfection:

Varsity boys, girls put together undefeated basketball seasons

By JOHN WHITTEN

Publications Advisor

Oh what a season for the Mount Pleasant varsity boys and girls basketball teams.

In what may be a once in a lifetime event, both teams went through the regular season, including the district portion of their schedule, without losing a game.

Despite facing challenges in tournaments along with opponents both in non-district and district, neither team would be on the losing end of a score during regular season play.

Both teams were led by talented point guards with Paris Beard leading the way for the girls and Payton Chism for the boys. The two seniors were the leaders on the court for the season.

Under the leadership of Coach Tina Carrillo, the No. 5 state-ranked Lady Tigers claimed victories in their first three playoffs games. They opened the playoffs with a huge 82-45 bi-district win over Nacogdoches.

The Lady Tigers followed that game with a 36-26 area win over Crandall and a 52-34 victory in the regional quarterfinals against Huntsville.

The win allowed the Lady Tigers to reach the regional tournament as one of the 16 teams left playing in the state.

The Lady Tigers historic season came to an end at the hands of eventual state champion Frisco Liberty in the regional semifinals by a 41-30 score.

See Basketball, Pg. 4



From left are seniors Jordyn Hargrave, Kendall Walker, Paris Beard, Morgan Brooks and Head Coach Tina Carrillo.



From left are MPHS boys basketball team seniors Taniah Johnson, Kyler Smith, Luke Hampton, Payton Chism, Kelcey Morris, Kevi Heath, Xavier Hills and Evan Shelley.

Basketball from Page 3

Making the tournament was a huge accomplishment for a Lady Tigers program which had never reached that stage before. While the loss ended what had been a perfect season for the Lady Tigers, they can hold their heads high. Their final record of 36-1 will go down as the best in school history.

Highlights included Beard going over the 2,000 point mark for her career and Jordyn Hargrave reaching the 1,000 point mark.

Seniors playing their final game included Beard, Jordyn Hargrave, Kendall Walker and Morgan Brooks.

As for the boys, they too were unbeatable during the regular season and were dominant throughout district.

The number 4 state-ranked Tigers had a great senior backcourt led by Payton Chism and Kelcey Morris, who were instrumental in leading the Tigers all season long.

After going undefeated in the regular season, the Tigers would open the playoffs with a 57-38 win over Porter. That victory propelled the

See Basketball, Pg. 5



Jordyn Hargrave



Ella Cross



Kendall Walker



Paris Beard is honored after scoring her 2,000th career point.



Aziyah Frazier

Basketball from Page 4

Tigers to a match-up with No. 8 Forney in the area round.

In a game that went down to the end, the Tigers missed a three-pointer as time expired coming up just three points short, 56-53. The lone loss on the season dropped the Tigers to 34-1 for the year.

Like the Lady Tigers, the boys var-

sity also set a school record for victories in a season. During their time in high school, their senior class had a record of 118-16 with three district titles and three appearances in the regional tournament. They also went 13-4 in the playoffs over the past four years.

Among the highlights in the year

included Payton Chism surpassing 1,500 points for his career, Morris going over 1,000 and Coach Joey Chism earning his 200th career win.

Six Tigers wrapped up their high school basketball careers. Seniors included Chism, Morris, Kevi Heath, Xavier Hills, Luke Hampton and Kyler Smith.



Payton Chism



Kelcey Morris



Carter Chism



Kyler Smith



Reggie Webster



Luke Hampton

Estrada shares experience in health science program

By IDANIA CASTANON
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Alexandra Estrada is one of the health science students who is involved in the PCT (Patient Care Tech) program. Through her involvement in the program, Estrada has been able to learn many skills to help her as she pursues a career in the medical field.

Estrada took time to share what she has learned the program.

What motivated you to join health science/HOSA?

Since middle school, I always loved to learn about the ways and functions of a human body. I love to help people, so since the beginning, I knew that the health profession journey was meant for me, the only bother was what path to take. Joining health science gave me an opportunity to grow my skills in order to have a successful career.

What is your favorite thing about HOSA?

My favorite thing about HOSA is that during clinicals I get to learn about all the branches of the health profession tree. I love that HOSA gives me an opportunity to experience the pros and cons of each site.

What have you learned through doing clinicals?

Throughout my clinical rotations, I've learned that once stepping foot into the hospital, a new perspective of how to view and treat our patients comes along. We treat our patients like how we would treat our most beloved, no matter in what clinical site. We examine and listen to our patients to ensure their hospitality because every patient is different. From the simplest things to the bigger aspects, every action taken for a patient matter. A patient is an employer's motivation, so we should always approach with a "smile in our voice"

How do clinicals help you?

After each clinical site, they help me realize that there is so much more critically towards each broad aspect of a site. They help me step out of my comfort zone and allow myself to try new things. Clinicals also helped improve my communication and social skills with both workers and patients.

How would you describe HOSA to someone?

An opportunity to enhance your education in the healthcare industry. An organization where students express their health experience towards their community within ac-

Pg. 6 Tigertalk



Alexandra Estrada

tions of leadership, responsibility, ethical, and trustworthy values.

What is the most interesting thing you have seen or got to do through clinicals?

The most interesting thing that I've got to see during clinicals was how an ultrasound technician would prepare and perform an ultrasound on pregnancies, blood vessels, and organs of the body.

What has been your best experience in HOSA?

Every HOSA experience has had a purpose for a person pursuing the medical field. I believe that learning patient care has been the most valuable concept toward my health profession journey. Getting to learn about all the varieties of techniques to ensure a patient's health, such as bed baths, vital signs, blood draws, and any type of clinical procedures, gives me a sense of gratitude, knowing that a patient has...????

How will HOSA help you going forward in life?

HOSA will help me strengthen my weaknesses and move on as a stronger, mental person. It will help me with my leadership and skills for my future health career. But not just in health, these ideas will also im-

See Estrada, Pg. 7

Rider says he has learned valuable clinical knowledge

By ALAN BARRIENTOS

Tigertalk Staff Writer

Senior Eli Rider is one of the many students in the health science program.

He took time to share what his experiences have been like. He is part of the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) program at the high school. Through the program, he has been able to visit various clinical sites.

What motivated you to enter in HOSA?

The Opportunities the organization provided i.e. CMA and PCT

What is your favorite thing of HOSA?

Friends

What have you through doing clinicals?

I've learned valuable people skills and hands on things you can't learn in a classroom

How do clinicals help you?

It helps put to practice everything I've learned these past 4 years

How would you describe HOSA to someone?

Fun, exiting and enriching experience

What is the most interesting thing you have seen or got to do through clinicals?

I was able to see and watch how they use Botox to reduce migraines

What has been your best experience in HOSA?

The car rides to and from competitions with Mrs. Hutchings and my friends.

How will HOSA will help you going forward in life?

I'll carry valuable knowledge and med-



Eli Rider

ical ethics with me that help me dictate how I live and treat others.

What have been your favorite clinical sites and why?

Pain management because you can really see how you can help someone's life

What are your future college/career plans?

I plan on going to Texas A&M and major in Nuclear Engineering with a possible focus in nuclear medicine. I also plan on attending graduates school however I'm not sure what kind.

Estrada from Page 6

pact me as a person.

What have been your favorite clinicals sites and why?

Top three favorite sites:

Radiology – I loved this clinical site because it gave me a perspective of the profession that I want to pursue in the future.

Postpartum – I enjoyed learning & and taking care of patients who had just received surgical procedures

Med surge – The person I shadowed was

amazing. She taught me the basics of patient care and gave me a new view toward the hospitality of patients

What are your future college/career plans?

As a high school senior, my plans after graduation are to attend a 2-year college in Tyler (TJC) and obtain my associates in sonography, ultrasound. I would then continue my studies there since they also offer a bachelor's degree in that category.



FBLA members at area competition.

More than 50 advance to FBLA state

The Mount Pleasant High School chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competed against over 250 students in the Area VI FBLA Leadership Conference on Jan. 30 at the Region 8 Educational Service Center. Of the 61 competitors representing Mount Pleasant High School, MPHS had a very successful day with 53 members qualifying for state, a new school record. Thirty-four individuals earned 1st place in their respective events at the area conference and MPHS placed 1st in 20 of the 31 events they entered.

In addition to competing, MPHS junior, Angelina Hernandez, was elected the FBLA Area VI President with sophomore Gopi Amin named the FBLA Area VI Parliamentarian for 2023-2024.

Students advancing to state, their area placement, and event are as follows:

Broadcast Journalism – Anthony Orellana, Madison Carpenter and Elijah Rider (1st)

Business Calculations – Perla Guzman (2nd), Shirlyn Cardona (4th)

Business Ethics – Harley Martin (1st)

Business Law – Abigail Retana (3rd)

Client Service – Mea Banda (1st)

Computer Applications – Ethan Harbour (2nd)

Cyber Security – Nayla Navarro (1st)

Data Analysis – Joel Palacios, Oscar Castellanos and Andrew Perez (1st)

Database Design and Applications – Param Poudel (2nd)

Digital Video Production – Evelyn Hernandez and Wendy Valdez (2nd)

Future Business Leader – Hope Powell

(2nd)

Graphic Design – Kaira Leija and Jocelyn Marroquin (1st)

Health Care Administration – Natalie Crockett (1st)

Help Desk – Rachel Cato (2nd)

Hospitality and Event Management – Reese Ball, Sophie Greco and Olivia Reed (1st)

Introduction to Business Concepts – Alessandro Greco (1st)

Introduction to Business Presentation – Jessica Hang and Bryanna Nava (4th)

Introduction to FBLA – Xitlaly Sanchez (1st), Kate Ball (2nd)

Introduction to Financial Math – Luke Thurman (1st)

Introduction to Public Speaking – Gopi Amin (1st)

Journalism – Idania Castanon (2nd), Josefine Almazan (3rd), Luis Garcia (4th)

Marketing – Mary Reeve (1st)

Mobile Application Development – Jose Fuentes, Abby Phelan, and Yahaira Pina (1st)

Organizational Leadership – Natalia Aspeitia (1st)

Public Service Announcement – Desiree Avila and Ariana Jones (1st)

Public Speaking – Angelina Hernandez (2nd)

Publication Design – Ilse Ojendis, Yasenia Paloblanco, and Tiffany Rangel (1st)

Securities and Investments – Shpat Zeqaj (1st)

Social Media Strategies – Genesis Aguilar, Estefanie Garcia, and Cecilia Phan (1st)

See FBLA, Page 9

FBLA from Page 8

Website Design – Marcela Mata and Kayla Hernandez (1st)

American Enterprise Project – Javier Vasquez and Madeline Plascencia (automatically qualify for state)

“We had an excellent showing at our area competition as our students rose to the occasion,” said head FBLA Advisor, John Whitten. “I am extremely proud of our students. They have been working after school weekly since October studying test materials, creating presentations and finalizing their speeches. I am excited for our students as they have the opportunity to prepare for state. Students will now begin the process of trying to better their test scores along with improving their presentations and speeches.

“I am excited to see our students have the opportunity to further their success at the state level. We have a great group of FBLA students who embody the spirit of what you would want in a future leader. I am proud to lead such a dedicated group of students who make me proud to be their advisor.”

Advancing students will compete at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Gal-



From left are MPHS FBLA advisor John Whitten, 2023-2024 Area VI President Angelina Hernandez and 2023-24 Area VI Parliamentarian Gopi Amin.

veston on March 22-24, 2023. MPHS FBLA Advisors are John Whitten, Shanta Lockett, and Brian Williams.

Mickens qualifies for state in HOSA

The Mount Pleasant High School chapter of HOSA: Future Health Professionals competed in the Area 3 Spring Leadership Conference on Jan. 13-14 at Allen High School. The conference hosted approximately 1600 students who competed in over 50 events.

Junior Erika Mickens placed 3rd in Medical Art poster and has advanced to State. The Medical Art poster category requires students to create artwork that will stimulate others to explore health care and to communicate this interpretation through the development of a creative, artistic, and informational poster.

Additional MPHS HOSA competitors were Kaylee Connally in Extemporaneous Writing, Arielys Dennise Brito Torres and Isari Gonzalez in Job Seeking Skills, Elijah Rider and Zulma Mejia in Prepared Speaking, Saul Alvarado in Research Poster, Natalie Crockett, Ethan Harbor, and Perla Guzman in Community Awareness Team, Amy Santillan, Ariana Cruz, and Katherine Adame in Health Education Team, and Madeline Plascencia in Medical Art Poster.

Mickens will compete at the Texas HOSA State Leadership Conference on March 28-30 at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock. MPHS HOSA advisors include Kristi



Mickens with her poster.

Houchin, Cortney McCallum, Sarah Carrell, and Mandy Hutchings.



MPHS Band sets school record with 58 state qualifiers.

58 Band members qualify for state

The Goin' Gold Band set a new school record with 58 students earning 62 first division medals at the UIL Region IV Solo and Ensemble Contest and advancing to the State Solo and Ensemble contest to be held in Austin at the end of May.

Students auditioned as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble on Feb. 24 in New Boston.

Soloists qualifying for state include Orion Senence (Trumpet) and Edward Moya (Snare Drum). Zoe Newman (Alto Saxophone) and Mauricio Farias (Tuba) also received division one ratings on their solo performances.

The following ensembles earned a division one rating and have advanced to state: Gisselle Castillo, Suhey Lopez, Zoe Newman, and Shpat Zeqaj (Saxophone Quartet), Bryan Garcia, Karli Hill, Ashley Pena, Bianca Quisitian, Alfredo Santillan, and Tawunny Swanson (Flute Choir),

Hannah Bowles, Jose Fuentes, Juanita Gutierrez, Jazzlyn Juarez, Andrew Perez, Viridiana Portillo, Kaylee Ramos, Araceli Solis, and Christopher Sorto (Clarinet Choir),

Julian Chancellor, Eli Hernandez, and Isaiah Sheppard (Miscellaneous Saxophone Ensemble),

Edgar Arias, Adriel Bagsic, Rachel Cato, Sebastian Contreras, Bruno Deleon, and Isaac Jetton (Brass Sextet), Sebastian Campos, Sandy Farias, Luis Garcia, Nayeli Palacios, Orion Senence, and Juan Serna (Brass Sextet),

Madison Carpenter, Oscar Castellanos, Alex Castro, Angel Farias, Mauricio Farias, and Joel Palacios (Brass Sextet),

Jayden Adame, Dalia Balderas, Jose Romero, Alejandro Rosiles, Tawunny Swanson, and Krislynn Taylor (Percussion Ensemble),

Jamaree Armour, Grace Zittel, Ilse Ojendis, Armando Molina, Natalie Hines, and

Luke Thurman (Percussion Ensemble),

Ethan Carillo, Pedro Castillo, Angel Fernandez, Giselle Perez, Alex Perez, and Francisco Zapata (Percussion Ensemble).

Junior Orion Senence, qualified for state as both a soloist and as part of an ensemble and junior Tawunny Swanson qualified for state as a part of two different ensembles.

Additionally, 10 of the students qualified for state solo and ensemble as eighth-graders including Bryan Garcia, Alfredo Santillan, Isaiah Sheppard, Adriel Bagsic, Sebastian Contreras, Jayden Adame, Dalia Balderas, Jamaree Armour, Natalie Hines, and Pedro Castillo.

The UIL State Solo and Ensemble contest is scheduled for May 27-29 in Austin.

The MPISD band program is under the direction of Dr. Theodus Luckett, Karen Luckett, Jamey Sterrett, Brian Bass, Alicia Hargett, and Sheri Sullivan.

Winter guard competes in Austin

To be among the best, you have to compete with the best. And that is just what the MPHS Varsity and JVA Winter Guards set out to do at the Winter Guard International (WGI) Austin Regional at Glenn High School in Leander on March 4-5.

The competition featured 42 teams in the Scholastic A division with most coming from Central and South Texas. Most of the schools were large 6A programs from the Austin, Houston, and San Antonio area. Both the Varsity and JVA competed in the same classification.

In prelims, the Scholastic A division was divided into four groups called rounds. The 15 highest scoring teams would advance to finals. Varsity placed 2nd in their round and 9th overall to advance to finals as one of only six 5A schools.

All the rest were 6A programs. JVA placed 7th in their round, 25th overall, and were the top scoring JV team in the entire competition, outscoring 14 varsity teams and 3 other JV squads from Hebron, Round Rock, and Georgetown.

MPHS Varsity ultimately placed 10th overall in finals. Varsity and JVA will challenge themselves again at another WGI contest over Spring Break when they travel to Coppell High School for the WGI Dallas Regional.

The Winter Guard teams took first place at Pine Tree, Mansfield, Garland and Justin Northwest earlier this year. They also took second at a competition at Frisco Independence.

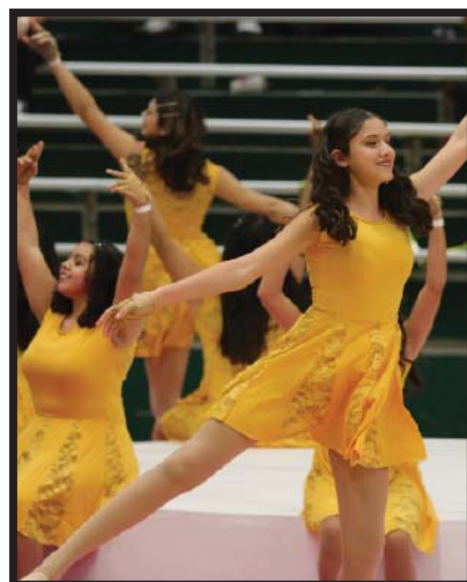
The Mount Pleasant High School Colorguard program is under the direction of Cristian Gomez.



MPHS Varsity Winter Guard members



MPHS Junior Varsity A Winter Guard members



Three football players sign scholarships

Monday, Feb. 6 was a special day for three MPHS football players as they signed National Letters of Intent to play college football.

Tiger seniors Kyler Smith, Kevi Heath and Zay Barksdale all signed to continue their football career with three different Texas colleges.

Smith signed with the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, while Kevi Heath signed with Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and Zay Barksdale signed with North American University in Stafford, which is located in the Houston area.



Zay Barksdale



Kyler Smith



Kevi Heath

Tiger powerlifters reach regionals

After six meets, the Mount Pleasant High School Tiger Powerlifting team has qualified 6 lifters for the Regional meet. MPHS competes in Region 3 Division 1 which encompasses all 5A and 6A high schools in the Northeast Texas area. To qualify for the Regional meet, a lifter must be in the top 12 in their weight class, reach the automatic total for their weight class, or be the one of the top 2 lifters in 5A.

Qualifying for the Regional meet are senior Daniel Garcia and junior Ryder Marshall in the 181 weight class, junior Clayton Miller in the 198 weight class, sophomores Devon Burtness and Jose Gonzalez in the



From left are Ryder Marshall, Daniel Garcia, Jose Gonzalez, Devon Burtness, Clayton Miller
Not pictured Hudson Hampton

220 weight class, and junior Clayton Miller in the 308 weight class. This will be the 2nd trip to Regionals for Miller.

The Regional Meet was at Tyler Legacy High School.

MPHS Powerlifting is coached by Don Woods and Drew Barnard.



From left are Alexandra Martinez, Araceli Landaverde, Nayeli Jaimes, Jasmine Landaverde and McKinsee Oviedo.

Five girl lifters qualify for state

Thirteen individual Lady Tiger Powerlifters arrived at the Regional meet with a singular goal of making it to State.

On the way, they would set multiple records, the first being a school record of five advancing to the State Meet.

Qualifying for the Texas High School Women's Powerlifting Association State meet are:

Senior and 2022 5A State Champion Nayeli Jaimes. In her weight class, Jaimes broke the record for bench (285 lbs.), deadlift (385 lbs.), and overall total (1105 lbs.) to claim the Regional Championship. She is currently ranked #1 in all divisions and will be making her fourth trip to the state meet.

Senior and 2022 State Finalist Alexandra Martinez. In her weight class, Martinez broke the bench record (210 lbs.) and placed 2nd in her weight

class. This will be her second trip to the state meet.

Junior McKinsee Oviedo who qualified for state by reaching the automatic qualifying total. Oviedo placed 4th in her weight class at Regionals and will be making her first trip to the state meet.

Junior Araceli Landaverde who placed 2nd in her weight class. This will be her first trip to State.

Sophomore Jasmine Landaverde who placed 2nd in her weight class. This will be Landaverde's first trip to State and will be extra special as she is making the trip with her sister, Araceli.

Four other Lady Tigers placed in the top 10 in their weight classes including junior Saniya Milton in 6th place, just 10 pounds away from qualifying for state, sophomores Karen Hernandez and Xitlaly Sanchez, each placing 9th in their respective weight

classes, and senior Jenna Cook in 10th place. Senior Audrie Mendoza placed 12th, juniors Zoe Zittel and Jordan West were both 13th, and sophomore Dori Macedo placed 11th.

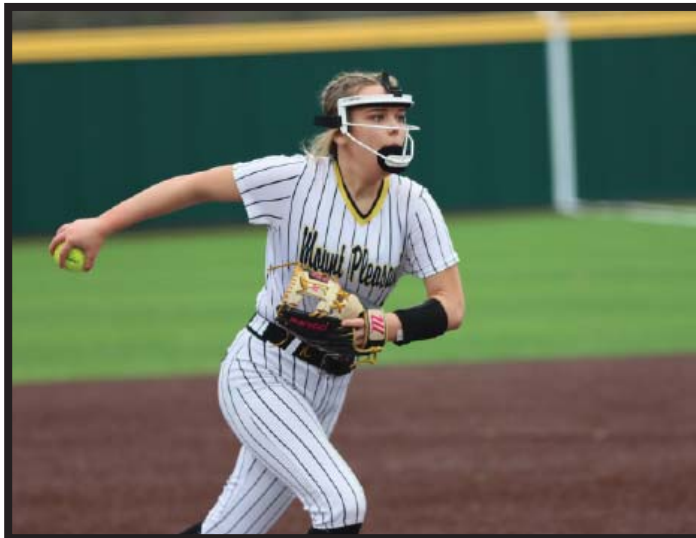
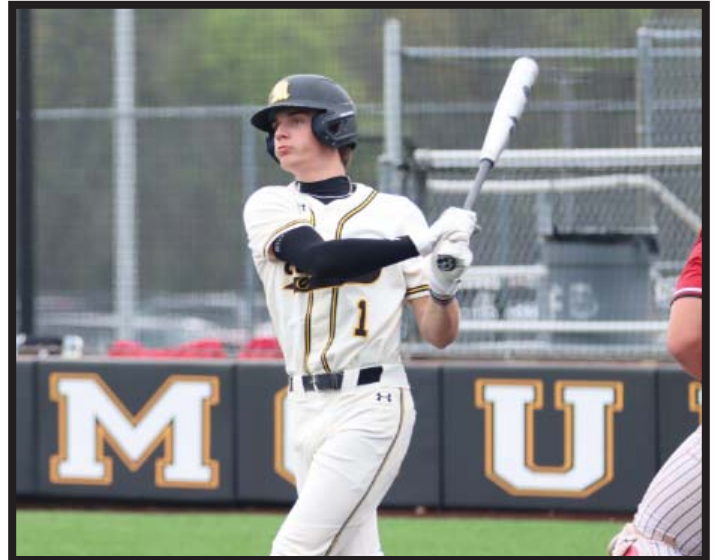
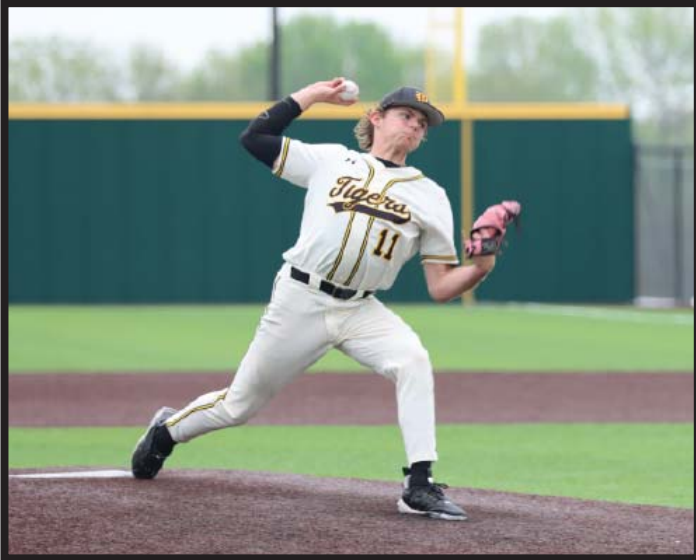
"In all my years coaching powerlifting, I have never had a group of young ladies work as hard as my team this year," said Lady Tiger Powerlifting Coach, Don Woods. "Not to say my past teams didn't work hard, but as a whole, this team has been extraordinarily special. They have shown up to practice without fail and striven to hone their craft to be the best at what they do. I am so proud to be able to say I get to coach these tremendous young ladies."

The Girls Powerlifting State Meet is March 15-18 at the Comerica Center in Frisco. MPHS Powerlifting is coached by Woods and Drew Barnard.

Soccer teams headed to playoffs



Spring sports season underway



Senior Spotlight-Nayeli Jaimes

By AUDRIE MENDOZA
Tigertalk Co-Editor

Each issue of Tigertalk spotlights a senior who has made a difference at Mount Pleasant High School.

This issue of Tigertalk features Nayeli Jaimes, who is headed back to state in powerlifting after winning gold last year.

1. What is your favorite subject?

AP Biology

2. What are the top three things you learned this year?

(1) Be kind; (2) Treat others like you want to be treated; (3) Enjoy the small things

3. What was the most memorable activity from this year?

My last invitational meet for powerlifting

4. What motivates you to put forth your greatest efforts?

When the people I motivate without knowing tell me.

5. What will you miss most about your time at MPHS?

Powerlifting



Jaimes is shown competing in squat at powerlifting meet.

6. How do you intend to use what you have learned in high school to benefit you as you go through life?

Just to learn and have an open mind in everything good or bad.

7. What are your plans after high school?

I plan to go into the Marines and become a K-9 handler.

8. What advice would you have for incoming fresh-

men?

It's not that serious and to focus on your school work.

9. If you could move anywhere in the world, where would you move and why?

I would move to Bali, but in the more calmer parts to feel peace and unbothered.

10. What is one word would you use to describe yourself?

Strong

Lady Tigers golf wins tournament

The Lady Tigers golf team played in the Hallsville Invitational on Feb. 27 and posted one of their best tournament rounds of the season.

The team claimed the tournament championship with a score of 364, shaving 21 strokes off their score of 385 just two weeks prior.

Leading the way for the Lady Tigers was Kylee Strickland placing 1st with a 78 followed by Reese Ball with a 92, Sophie Greco and Olivia Reed both shooting a 97, and Caroline Currey with a 117.

MPHS golf is coached by Benny Blaser.



From left are Olivia Reed, Caroline Currey, Sophie Greco, Kylee Strickland, Reese Ball

Tiger Dolls stand out at competition

The Tiger Dolls attended their final competition of the year at the American Dance/Drill Team Lone Star State Championship at East View High School in Georgetown, on Feb. 25. In total, the Dolls brought home 25 awards including state championships for both the team and officer squad.

The Tiger Doll team earned a Sweepstakes and a Gussie Nell Davis award for having a score of 93 or higher on all three team routines. They were named State Champions in the Large team division for Pom, Lyrical, and Hip Hop. They received Best Overall Gold in Presentation, Precision, and Choreography. And finally, they were crowned the Large Division State Champion Team, placing 6th overall out of all 21 teams in all divisions at the competition.

The Officer squad of Chloe Carter, Anna Kate Fisher, Madison Craig, Madeline Plascencia, and Geni Rubio brought home a Sweepstakes and a Gussie Nell Davis award for having a score of 93 or higher on all three officer routines. They were named the Large division Officer State Champions in Jazz, Lyrical and Hip Hop.

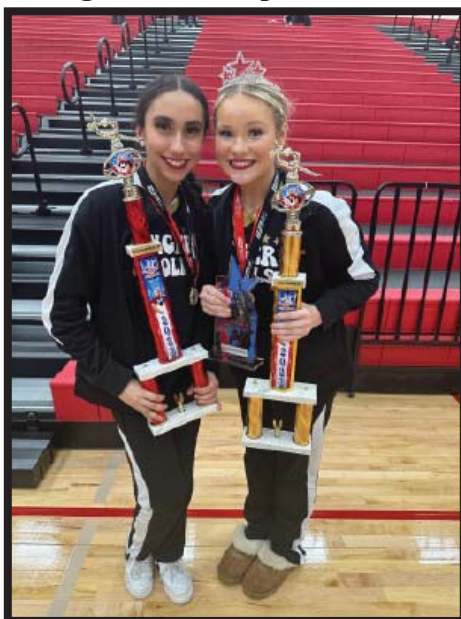
They received Best Overall Platinum in Technique, Presentation, Precision, and Choreography.

And finally, they were named the Large division State Champion officers, earning 3rd Place overall out of all 12 Officer teams in all divisions.

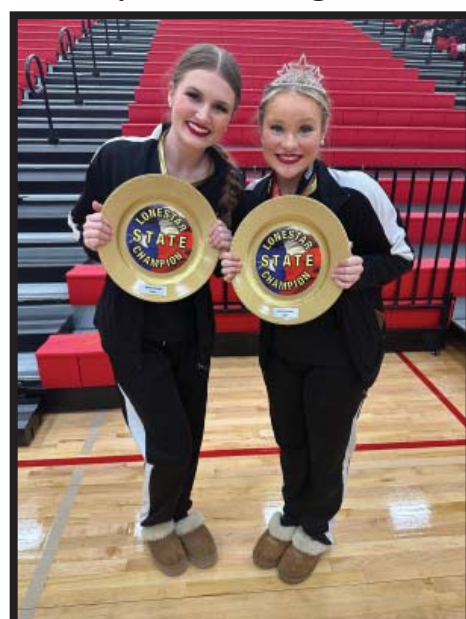
In the individual competitions, senior and Captain, Chloe Carter, was the Solo Champion in the Large Division and made the Solo Winners Circle for having one of the top 3 scores of all 48 middle and high school



Tiger Dolls are pictured with awards they won at Georgetown.



Zepeda and Carter



Fisher and Carter



Tiger Doll officer Rubio, Craig, Carter, Fisher and Plascencia

solos. Freshman Morgan Zepeda's solo placed 2nd in the Large division. In addition, the duet of Carter and Anna Kate Fisher placed 1st out of 8 duets.

The Tiger Dolls will now

turn their attention to try-outs for the 2023-2024 year and their annual spring show scheduled for April 14 and 15. The Tiger Dolls are under the direction of Jatón Broach.

FCCLA students qualify for state

Five members of the MPHS chapter of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) attended the Region III Leadership Conference at the Waco Convention Center on Feb. 16-18. Two members advanced to the state level in Fashion Construction.

Senior Christopher Escobar competed in Fashion Construction, Level 3 (11th & 12th grades), and placed third. Sophomore Melanie Logue competed in Fashion Construction, Level 2 (9th & 10th grades) and also received third place.

In Fashion Construction, students use new materials to construct, in advance, a garment or ensemble that dresses both the upper and lower body of a child or adult. The garment or ensemble must include at least eight fashion construction techniques. Competitors then display the finished product along with appropriate accessories.

Also competing for MPHS was the team of seniors Marcela Mata, Wendy Alarcon, and Javier Vazquez who competed in Focus on Children, an individual or team event, where students plan and conduct a child development project that has a positive impact on children and the community.

MPHS offers Fashion Design I and Fashion Design II for sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students in the program develop an understanding of the fashion industry with an emphasis on design and construction in addition to developing technical knowledge and skills needed for success in the fashion industry.

Students gain an understanding of the laws and regulations within the fashion



Escobar placed third at region competition.



ion industry, identify types and uses of various textiles, interpret labels, and learn basic garment design and construction.

Escobar and Logue will

continue to the State Conference at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas on March 31-April 2. MPHS FCCLA Advisors are Margaret Bradley and Aimee Sweeden.

20 Questions with Mrs. Adams

By **DESIREE AVILA**
Tigertalk Staff Writer

Each issue of the Tigertalk, the newspaper staff features a teacher or staff member on the high school campus.

This issue spotlights Mrs. Amy Adams, who teaches English 3.

1. What is one thing you love about teaching? Why that.

I love the students! I love it when they show interest in learning. I love to see them involved in extracurricular activities and seeing them in their workplaces.

2. What is one thing you enjoy doing other than teaching.

I enjoy spending time with my family.

3. Where do you love to eat? What do like about that place?

I love to eat at Nardello's. It's a nice atmosphere and great food.

4. If you were given a free vacation, where you vacate? Why there?

I would go to Rome. I have always wanted to walk on the Spanish steps at the pizza di spagna.

5. Who is your favorite super hero?

My favorite super hero is Superman.

6. What got you into teaching?

I knew I wanted to be a teacher on my oldest daughters first day of kindergarten. Her teacher asked me to stay and help get the students settled in that morning. I ended up staying until lunch!! I knew I wanted to teach after that day.

7. If you could travel back in time, who would you want to meet?

If I could travel back in time, I would want to meet Edgar Allen Poe. I like his



Adams said her dream vacation would be a trip to Rome.

creepy writings, and he led a very interesting life.

8. If you were given a free ticket to a concert who would you see?

If I was given a free ticket to a concert, I would go see King George - George Strait.

9. What is one thing you love about Mount Pleasant High School?

I love Mount Pleasant High School because I met my husband here when we were students here, and now we work together. I also love that all 3 of my girls graduated from here too!

10. What high school and college did you attend to?

I went to North Texas Community College and A&M Texarkana.

11. What is it like to be a mother of twins?

Being the mother of twins is such a blessing. My girls are amazing, and they keep us laughing all the time. I love being there mom!

12. What describes you using three words?

I am straightforward, practical and sincere.

13. What do you like the most about teaching English?

I love teaching English because I love to share my passion for reading with my students.

14. Do you have any favorite desserts? Why that dessert?

My favorite dessert is cheesecake. It's delicious and I love to make it to.

15. What is your favorite book of all time? Why that book?

My Favorite book of all time is Out of the Dust. It was the first book that I taught when I taught 6th grade.

16. What is your favorite song?

My favorite song is "I Just Died In Your Arms Tonight."

17. If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

I would be a hummingbird, because they are the only bird that can fly backwards, and it was my mom's favorite bird.

18. What is one thing you wish for in life?

I wish to retire someday and travel all over the world with my husband.

19. What is your goal for 2023?

My goal for 2023 is to work out more and eat healthy!

20. If you could be any character from any movie, who would you be and why?

I would be Rocky, because he always wins with humility.

Culinary students cooking up restaurant experiences

By KATELYN TEJADA
Tigertalk Staff Writer

MPHS' culinary program offers students a wide range of ways to learn about working in a restaurant.

From cooking different cuisines to working tables or a cash register, culinary students learn different skills. The students run a restaurant named Tiger Den.

Culinary students Garrett McQueen and Yadeline Perez offer what its like to be a part of the culinary program.

What's your favorite part about being in Culinary?

"The new experience I can experience in my cooking world." – Yadeline Perez

"Seeing our customers love and enjoy our food." – Garrett McQueen

What is the best part about working and cooking with your classmates as a team?

"I learn how to be a member, leader, and helper by gaining experience." – Yadeline Perez

"We all have a great time together and have a lot of fun while helping each other." – Garrett McQueen

What type of cooking method do you like to do the most?

"Personally, I enjoy grilling or cooking where my measurements are not precise, but the cooking has complexity called temperature control." – Yadeline Perez

"My favorite cooking method is baking." – Garrett McQueen

What is your favorite dish/food to make?

"A grill marked steak that is then pan fried in butter and garlic (maybe rosemary) then cooked with a side of Jalapeño peppers and fries or a tossed salad." – Yadeline Perez

"My favorite dish is the Chicken Alfredo we make, and I loved baking all the different kinds of cake." – Garrett McQueen

Are you thinking of pursuing a career in Culinary in the future?

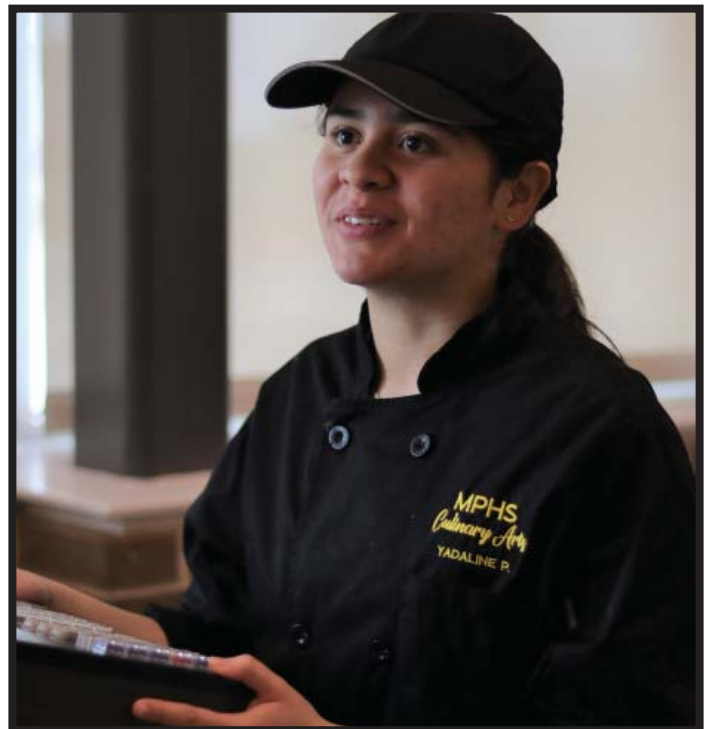
"Yes, I plan to further my experience with college years in culinary, mixology, and culinary business at the Culinary Institute of America." – Yadeline Perez

"Yes, I plan on improving my skills and working on the food industry because eating is a necessity but cooking is an art." – Garrett McQueen

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McQueen works in the kitchen.



Perez is busy working the cash register.

Five advance to SkillsUSA State in Electrical Technology events

MPHS Electrical Technology students competed in the SkillsUSA District competition in February with five advancing to the state contest in April.

In the National Electric Code Testing event, senior Angel Nava placed 1st and senior Humberto Ramirez came in 2nd. For this contest, students are evaluated on their ability to apply and/or reference the appropriate National Electrical Code chapters, articles, and calculations.

In the Construction Wiring competition, MPHS swept the top three spots with senior Brian Ayala placing 1st, junior Eduardo Solis 2nd, and senior Jeremiah Segovia coming in 3rd. Competitors are required to complete a written test, a practical conduit bending exercise, and



MPHS SkillsUSA State advancing competitors from left are Brian Ayala, Angel Nava, Juan Serna, Jeremiah Segovia, Humberto Ramirez, Eduardo Solis and MPHS Electrical Technology instructor Tim Davis.

hands-on installation of a conduit system, cabling system and wiring devices.

And finally, working from drawings and specification sheets, competitors are required to install an electrical system common in most residential and light commercial projects.

In addition, senior Juan

Serna was named a Voting Delegate for District 5 and will be involved in choosing SkillsUSA Leadership for the 2023-2024 year.

The SkillsUSA Texas Leadership and Skills Conference is March 30-April 2 in Corpus Christi. The MPHS Electrical program instructor is Tim Davis.

Choir students earn state trip

Twenty-eight Mount Pleasant High School Choir members competed at the Regional UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest at the Mount Pleasant High School Performing Arts Complex.

Of those, eight earned first division ratings and seven MPHS soloists have advanced to the State contest. To qualify for the state solo and ensemble contest, a student must score a "1" on a Class 1 piece, the most difficult to memorize and perform.

MPHS state solo qualifiers include seniors Litzy Gonzalez and Cheyenne Harrah, juniors Hope Powell, Adan Sargent, Jacolby Turner, and Jacori Turner, and sophomore Kristina Tidwell.



Front row from left are Adan Sargent, Jacolby Turner and Jacori Turner. Back row from left are Hope Powell, Alivia Newman, Litzy Gonzalez, Kristina Tidwell and Cheyenne Harrah.

Sophomore Alivia Newman also received a division 1 on a Class 2 piece.

The state contest will be held on May 27 and 29 in

Austin.

The MPHS Choir is directed by Nancy Vines with accompaniment provided by Deanna Warren.

Art students advance to state

Thirty-six Mount Pleasant High School Art students entered 52 art pieces in the Region 8 Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) competition on Feb. 11 at Chisum High School.

Art pieces were scored as a 4 (Excellent), a 3 (Strong), a 2 (Developing), or a 1 (Emerging). Thirty-nine of the MPHS pieces received gold medals and the highest rating of 4, with 12 pieces scoring 3's.

In order to advance to state, the piece must first earn a rating of 4. All of the 4's in a particular division are then judged a second time and state advancements are awarded based on an allotment, roughly 10% in each division. At the end of the day, five pieces by four MPHS students advanced to the state Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) competition. Only 18 pieces out of 285 in the entire region qualified for state so MPHS students made up over 25% of those advancing.

Earning scores of 4 (Excellent) and moving on to state are junior Stephanie Hernandez for Eternal Youth, sophomore Josue Vega for two pieces titled Cowboys and Tree, and freshmen Valerie Moss for Into the Woods and Cassandra Saavedra for Never Gonna Give You Up.

Gold medalists also earning scores of 4 (Excellent) are Luis Avilez, Ana Bonilla, Hannah Bowles, Rafael Calderon, Judson Colley, Ailyen Delarosa, Yair Gonzalez, Litzy Gonzalez, Evelyn Hernandez, Stephanie Hernandez, Kami Labutis, Allyssa Latimer, Jose Lopez, Jaydy Martinez, Rebeca Martinez, Valerie Moss, Alyssa Narvaez, Ayden Osterdock, Tisha Patel, Dayanara Pulquero, Juan Ramirez, Cassandra Saavedra, Makayla Spigner, Silvia Sustaita, Diego Ugalde, Hayden Tennison, and Jordan West.

Earning scores of 3 (Strong) are Elise Alcibar, Rafael Calderon, Saray Delarosa, Kami Labutis, Jose Lopez, Emilia Marino, Jaydy Martinez, Moises Perez, Miriam Rojas, Diana Vargas, and Daniela Zuniga, with Mollie Luck earning a 2



MPHS VASE students with their projects.



(Developing) for her work.

"This is a special year because we have finally gone back to a normal year of competition," said MPHS art instructor, Laura Kirkland.

"Because of Covid it has been online the past few years. It is really nice to get it back to the way it should be. My students really enjoyed the interaction with the jurors and students from other schools. We took 52 pieces of Artwork and received a total of 44 medals and we

have 5 pieces of artwork going to state. I am tremendously proud of each of these students for having the diligence to put in the hard work and showing up to represent it at VASE. I believe their hard work has paid off!"

The state Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) competition will be held at San Marcos Consolidated High School on April 28-29. The MPHS Art program is under the direction of Laura Kirkland.

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Tiger Roar

Where would you like to visit over Spring Break?

Page by Tigertalk Co-Editor Nathali Rojas and Isaiah Rodarte



"Walmart"
-- William Tumey



"Mexico"
-- Monserrat Lopez



"Mexico"
-- John Cardona



"Dublin, Ireland"
-- Adan Sargent



"Hawaii"
-- Madison Thompson



"Europe"
-- Luis Garcia

"Florida"
-- Mary Reeve



"Paris"
-- Caparis Smith



"Florida"
-- Richard Rodriguez



"Israel"
-- Jovanna Young



"Singapore"
-- Caleb Guerrero



"A nice quiet place in the mountains with trails"
-- Camille Brown