

THE BURROW

The Student Newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High School

Vol. 5, Issue 1

McLeansboro, Illinois

September 2007

German experiences America at HCSH



Jeff Robinson
The Burrow

Many have already realized there is a stranger among us in the halls this fall. Junior Marleen Sandman is a foreign exchange student from Northern Germany.

She is visiting McLeansboro from her hometown of Bielefeld, which is in the territory of Nord Rhein Westfalen, Germany. There, her mother works in an insurance office and her father sells machinery. She is spending her time here with her host family, the Wheeler's, but before she made it to Southern Illinois, she was treated to the sites in New York City.

She was shuttled around the city, where she saw The Empire State Building, The Statue of Liberty and the site of

the Twin Towers, among others. Although she was only in fifth grade and in Northern Germany, she remembers when she heard about the 9/11 Attacks and watching it on TV with her mother. She said she can't imagine the towers being there because now it looks like "just a big field."

According to Sandman, Germany has a public school system that is much different than ours. She said, "In my town there are three schools to choose from." Students are sent to different schools according to their ability level. Sandman's school is a thirteen year program, meaning after this year she will have two more years of high school.

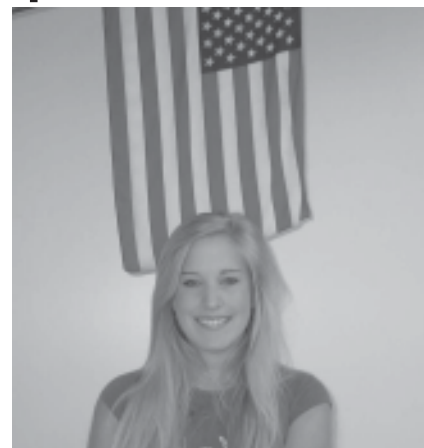
According to her, in Germany, everyone must learn English, even though they don't use it conversationally. In addition to German and English, she also speaks French and Latin. Her plans for after high

school include going to college in Germany to study business, law or medicine.

She likes the school system here because it is "more organized and productive." The thing she likes most about American high school is that we "have more choices than teenagers in Germany" – choices like current events and childcare. Sandman does not find her classes here difficult, but is enjoying them. She also noted that Germany is more advanced in math.

She commented on the students at HCHS saying, "They are very open and friendly." One big difference she has found between her school in Germany and ours is that "everyone is related or knows everyone else," and that our school has sports and more school spirit.

She is intrigued by teen driving privileges here because in her country one is not allowed to drive until they are 18.



Marlene Sandman

Another quark she has found in our area is that we "eat with plastic forks and plates all the time, because in Germany we have to have real plates and forks and learn the manners for dinner," she said laughing.

School library goes high tech



Lucas Adkisson
The Burrow

HCHS/SH have spent countless hours putting barcodes on their books, but, no, they aren't for sale.

Mr. Kirkpatrick and Mrs. Barrow have added the books to a database called iPac, which is hosted and controlled by the Shawnee Library. This database is composed of almost 2 million other titles and includes most of the schools in southern Illinois.

What's the benefit of all this hard work? Well, sporting your own barcode and passcode, you can access any of those books from school or anywhere with Internet access. The book shipments come in every Wednesday, "but we're trying for Friday, too," said Mr. Kirkpatrick. The software that the library uses is called Dynix. It is controlled and distributed by Shawnee. It helps organize



Can we now buy these books?

and record books and even helps with monthly reports.

"I love it! It gives me a lot more time for buying more books," said Mr. Kirkpatrick, librarian.

The library is finally able to keep a full inventory of both the junior and senior high libraries; even though it took a lot of time to glue a barcode on each book in the library – some 20 thousand of them.

Dynix won't only show Mr. Kirkpatrick which books have been checked out, but also what equipment has been loaned to whom and who has used which computers.

"It will make the monthly reports a lot easier," said Mr. Kirkpatrick. Everyone knows that technology is supposed to make life easier. So, for now, iPac and Dynix are doing their jobs.

The Pyramid moves to its own period



Samantha Russell
The Burrow

This year at HCHS, we have to adjust to many changes and one of those is new classes. In recent years, a group of students met with Mrs. Teffertiller and Mrs. Thomas to create our yearbook, and they have done an awesome job. They were known as the Pyramid Staff and it was an after school club dedicated to making our yearbooks.

We've had excellent yearbooks and they are enhanced each year from the one before. This year, instead of having an after school Pyramid Staff, we have an Information Processing class, taught by Mrs. Auten.

Students in this class are excited to have the opportunity to create the 2007-2008 class yearbook, especially since most of them are seniors. The staff consists of Lucas Adkisson, Aribi Auten, Johnny Barrow, Kristin Birkner, Cameron Frey, Ashley Griesemer, Kelli Hopper, Jennifer Rodgers and Samantha

Russell. They are all eager to be in charge of something so important to every student in this high school.

Anyone who knows Mrs. Auten knows that she is extremely nervous about being in charge of something so important, as is everyone else involved. There are a lot of time-consuming activities involved with creating the yearbook. In the past, students had to do everything on their own time to complete the yearbook by deadline, sacrificing time they would have spent on school work, jobs and social activities. Now, students have class time to do most of the work and that is extremely helpful to all of the staff members.

Some argue that the club was better because only the students really eager to be a part of the yearbook would sign up. Those who didn't have the time to spare wouldn't. However, signing up for the class shows the same amount of commitment.

Will this volume of the yearbook be a success? Only time will tell - but the odds are in favor of the change.

Senior high adopts dual-credit courses



Lucas Adkisson
The Burrow

This year, HCSHS added dual-credit classes to the course list. "We're doing it for the opportunity it offers students, but also because it's turned into sort of a fad for schools. Everyone else is doing it, why shouldn't we?" said Mrs. Lueke, guidance counselor.

Dual-credit classes currently offered are Desktop Publishing, English IV/CP and English IV/AP, Drafting I, Land Turf Management/Horticulture Production Management and Computer Programming.

For countless years, students have finished high school proud of finally being able to go to college – a place where they won't have to take an English or math class ever again (unless their major requires it). Yet they arrive only to find that they have to take general studies once they plop themselves into higher education.

"It stinks," said former HCSHS graduate Caleb Adkisson. "If I had been more on the ball I would've taken night classes, or dual-credit classes. That would've been convenient." This seems to be the attitude of many of our alumni.

"I'm glad we have dual-credit classes this year. It's a great opportunity for students and their parents," said Principal,

Mr. Fetcho. "We're working towards having more in the future."

Mrs. Lueke agrees but admits they aren't sure which classes will be dual-credit in the years to come. "But we do hope to have more. They're practically free when compared to the cost of going to college. You just need \$10 for books," said Lueke.

Many students are taking advantage of the opportunity they've been given and many are enjoying the classes. "It's amazing! I love it!" said senior Kristin Birkner, who is now taking English IV/CP.

Junior Sarah Hodge, yet to take a dual-credit class, said it best when she yelled, "It's AWESOME!"

Stories worth skipping to:

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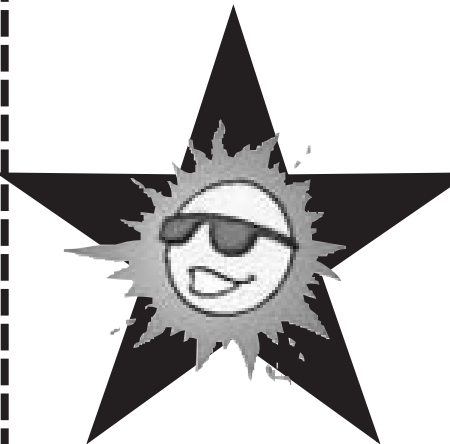
Dear Libby



Libby Cox
The Burrow

Hello everyone! This is junior Libby Cox, and this is my first year writing for The Burrow. When given the opportunity to write my own column in the first issue, I decided to write my own advice column for all your everyday problems. I asked students to submit questions. Here are a couple of questions I received and my advice.

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Dear Libby,
This school has bullies and I don't like how they talk about my friend. It hurts me to see them suffer. Do I stand up for them and leave my other friends or do I go with the crowd?

Sincerely,
Friend

Dear Friend,
Putting people down is a common practice of our fellow students. I am not sure if it makes them feel better or it is just to cover up their own deeper problems. Either way, it is not right to make someone else feel bad, for any reason. You should always stand up for what you believe in, even if that means going against the crowd. These are your friend and you should be there for them. So, what if you lose your popularity from your other "friends?" What is more important? Seeing your friend, hurt or being liked by people who hurt others?

Good Luck,
Libby

Dear Libby,
I like this girl but, I don't know if she likes me. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Confused Heart

Dear Confused Heart,
Don't get stressed out. Love will always find a way. Put yourself out there, and don't be scared to take a risk. If it doesn't work out, then it wasn't meant to be.

Good Luck,
Libby

Dear Libby,
I am being physically and mentally abused by my boyfriend. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Hurt

Dear Hurt,
Any type of abuse is not right. You deserve better. No one should be treated like that. You should get out as soon as you can. It might seem too hard to leave him, but you will be better off in the end. Love shouldn't hurt, physically or mentally. I would advise talking to an adult you trust – maybe a teacher or a counselor. If you don't feel comfortable with that, try calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233). You can also check them out online at www.ndvh.org.

Good Luck,
Libby

Libby's Favorite Bits of Wisdom to a Happy Heart...

- Don't let heartache keep you down.
- There are more fish in the sea.
- Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.
- A broken heart continues to beat, therefore life will go on. ♥

Student council takes charge

Michaela Morlan
The Burrow



It's once again time for Hamilton County Senior High's Student Council to get back into the swing of things. Mrs. Lueke was replaced by Ms. Crain as the Student Council sponsor and the alumni of the council are stepping forward and taking charge.

One of Student Council's biggest events is Homecoming. This year's Homecoming theme is retro 1960s and the song is Pink Floyd's "Wish You Were Here."

"I've been in Stu Co all four years, and I've always liked our decorations. We always try to top the Homecoming decorations from the previous year and I think this year we have definitely accomplished that," Senior and Student Council Vice-President, Rachel Wall said.

Student Council's goal for this Homecoming is for everyone to have a good time. "We love to have a good time and with this year's council, I think we're definitely going to do that. This is my first year, and I already love it," Senior and Student Council Senior Senator, Jayla Stephens said.

Student Council also wants the student body to get excited about the Homecoming football game. During the pep rally, they plan to get the four different classes together and get them rallied up for the game. They will do to the 'Little Red Wagon' chant and the council's biggest event is throwing a pie at the teacher of your choice. The teachers will be Ms. Crain, Mr. Welch, Mr. Guzman and Mr. Johnson.

"It was all Ms. Crain's idea, but we all love it! It's a way to get the students involved. We might even have something up our sleeves for the queen candidates and escorts," Senior and Student Council Secretary, Callan Howton added.

Student Council would love for everyone to attend Homecoming this year and have a great time.

Bret R. Vaughan

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Letter from an editor

Brian Harland
The Burrow



As the days start falling off the school calendar, the Hamilton County Senior High Burrow staff is set to embark on a year of providing the student body with, not only an informing newspaper, but also one that is entertaining to the eye. Both the Advanced Journalism and Journalism I classes have worked hard in putting together a successful publishing of the first issue of The Burrow, but even the professionals need help at times.

While our fingers are busy typing and our mouths are busy interviewing, we often miss the most important things about high school. With only two students returning to The Burrow staff from previous years, the fresh journalists are doing their best to learn the ropes of how a newspaper functions.

Whether new or old to the publishing business, we would like to extend an opportunity to you, the student body, to assist

in the process. If you have a suggestion, request or even just a simple story idea that you would like to know more about, we ask that you, please, not be afraid to suggest your idea to one of us.

The purpose of a high school newspaper is to give the audience the enjoyment of reading something that is personal and familiar. There is no better way to find out what the student body wants than to simply ask the student body. So we ask you to lend us a helping hand and read what you want to read.

THE GOOD



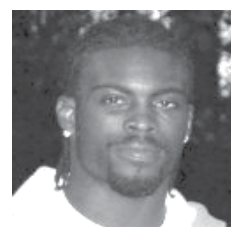
- Fall sports beginning
- School newspaper
- Golf team record

THE BAD



- School starting back up
- No chicken Monday
- Saturday detention
- 1 hour detention


THE UGLY



- Michael Vick
- Iraq War

NEWS

Forget about pork, where's the real white meat?

 **Jacob Harrawood**
The Burrow

Wondering why the food is so different this year? Students ask, "Where is the Salisbury steak?" And their big question – "Where is Chicken Monday?"

Cook, Marilyn Ragan, offered some answers. "We aren't having Chicken Monday now because the weather has been so hot and the kitchen has no air conditioning. I guess people forget we have ovens too, which make it twice as hot."

Sharing the feeling with other HCSHS students, senior Jamie McGovern said, "Chicken Monday gave us a reason to look forward to the beginning of the week."

Ragan said, "Chicken Monday should be here late September or at least early October. So there should be no more worrying, we will have it as soon as it cools down."


After hearing the news of Chicken Monday's return, senior Kyle Ragan said, "Good Deal, I was getting a little worried about our food. I'm pretty pumped that it's coming back."

Senior Tanner Spicuzza said, "Chicken Monday is the best thing since Dungeons N Dragons."

Don't worry everyone ... the poultry is on its way to the tray.



New courts in the making

 **Rachel Wall**
The Burrow

Soon there will be a new addition to Hamilton County, which will benefit the entire community. Two new tennis courts and a new basketball court are being built in the back of the overflow parking lot at Hamilton County Senior High.

These new courts were made possible with the money donated by the Hamilton County Telephone Co-Op, the Jerry Sloan Hand-in-Hand Foundation and many other local businesses, such as People's National Bank.

There has been talk about building these courts for quite some time now but the final decision was not made until the summer of 2006. There were originally supposed to be two basketball courts and four tennis courts but because of cost issues the project was cut in half.

Students are divided on the subject of these new courts. "I, myself, don't play tennis because I haven't had the opportunity but I'll definitely give it a try now that we have new courts," said senior Veronica Shelton. "It will give us something else to do in P.E. also."

Some students, like senior Alicia Schell, have a different opinion about how the money should have been spent. "I think that the tennis courts were a great idea but I also think that the money could have been spent in better ways, such as redoing the track," Schell said.

No matter how you feel about it, the tennis courts (and a basketball court) will soon be completed.


"We are expecting them to be completed around mid-October," said Superintendent Vince Mitchell. Many are excited about the



Seniors Lacy and Erica get ready to play tennis

opportunity to learn to play and to have yet another new addition to Hamilton County.

Parking permits are required

 **Amber Shriver**
The Burrow



This year several new rules have been enforced. One of those rules is that you must have a parking permit to drive to school. The parking permit application process requires students who drive to school to give full authority to the school to search their vehicles.


Earlier this year students complained about having to go through the hassle of filling out the paperwork. So why is that paper work so important? Well, Mr. Scott had some answers.

"We want to know who's parking on the property in case there's a problem with someone's car," says Vice Principal, Mr. Scott. "This (paperwork) will make it easier to keep track of everyone's car."

Cops are allowed to openly search for any drugs or weapons that may be present on school grounds — including the parking lot.

The parking permit restriction is just another attempt of the school system to keep students safer while they are at school.

Clubs offer experiences to last a lifetime

 **Arissa Vineyard**
The Burrow

Don't be one of those students who wonder around on club meeting days. A lot of students don't join a club, but they miss out on the fun. Students can't believe or understand what they can get out of it until they try it. So get involved!

There are many great clubs at HCSH such as FCA, FFA, FBLA, AUTO Club, BETA Club, Hillbilly 4-H, Humanities, and Pep

Club to name a few. The FCCLA and the Spanish Club are two more students can join.

Sophomore Sierra Dearing, vice president of the Spanish Club said, "It is my responsibility to make this club fun and get as much out of it as we can. For all those who have not joined a club, Spanish is for you."

Sophomore Yesinia Gilmore said, "A lot of people are scared to join (Spanish Club) because they think they have to learn how to speak Spanish. But you don't have to speak a bit of Spanish."

In the fall Spanish Club members are going to help the community by raking leaves and in the winter they will shovel snow for the elderly. Also, they are planning to buy toys for children whose families can't afford to buy gifts for Christmas.

The FCCLA is also going to help the community. If students are interested in helping locally this club might be for them. They are currently collecting new or gently used stuffed animals for Project Hope.

Hurry to find a club before the fun starts without you!

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Welcome new teachers to HCSH!

Mr. Guzman



Brittini Blades
The Burrow

Mr. Guzman, who is new to the McLeansboro area, is already making himself right at home. He is the new Spanish I and II teacher. He is also sponsoring the Spanish club, whose fun activities are creating conversation all over the building.

Q: What is your full name?

A: Jose Enrique Guzman Rodriguez

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: Mexico until age 12 and west Chicago (suburb) after that.

Q: Do you have any siblings?

A: 7 sisters and 5 brothers

Q: Do you like having so many siblings?

A: Yes I do.

Q: Where did you go to college, and what did you major in?

A: MacMurrary College, in Jacksonville, IL. I majored in physical education and Spanish.



Q: Where do you live?

A: In Olney except Monday through Thursday I stay at the bed and breakfast.

Q: Where have you previously taught?

A: East Richland High School, Olney IL.

Q: Do you enjoy your job?

A: Yes, very much.

Q: Do you have any kids?

A: San Victor, Audriana and Alicia

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: No

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Soccer and fishing

Mr. Payne



Jeff Robinson
The Burrow

Mr. Payne is a fresh face at Hamilton County. He is teaching electronics, wood shop, drafting and the PSAE class.

Q: Where do you live?

A: Macedonia

Q: Do you have any children?

A: Yes, a little boy and girl.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Raising horses and cattle.

Q: Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

A: No, I wanted to be rich.

Q: Why did you decide to teach?

A: I think it is important to pass on knowledge to the next generation.

Q: Where did you go to college?

A: Murray State



Q: Do you enjoy teaching here?

A: Love it.

Q: Have you ever taught before?

A: Yes, at Charleston, Mo. and Johnson City, IL.

Q: What is your favorite class to teach?

A: Electronics.

Ms. Nottmeyer



Kayla Wellen
The Burrow

Sitting down with Ms. Nottmeyer for a short interview provides some interesting facts about the new math teacher, who teaches foundation math, pre-algebra, algebra and intermediate algebra.

Q: Where did you teach before you came to this school?

A: I was a student teacher at Mattoon High School.

Q: Where did you attend high school?

A: I went to Carlyle High School.

Q: Where did you attend college and what did you major in?

A: I attended Eastern Illinois and went for a mathematics degree.

Q: Where do you live?

A: I live in Mt. Vernon now.

Q: When you were younger, what did you dream of being?

A: I always wanted to be a math teacher.



Q: Do you have any hobbies or hidden talents?

A: I like to play volleyball and I enjoy art. I am also musical; I can play the violin, the piano and the clarinet.

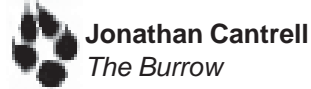
Q: Do you have any pets?

A: One cat named Daisy May.

Q: Do you have any siblings?

A: Yes, one sister named Hope. She just started college. She wants to be an English teacher.

Mrs. Jordan



Jonathan Cantrell
The Burrow

Mrs. Jordan, from Carmi, is teaching English III, English III CP, English IV and Journalism. She has great expectations for her classes and many great ideas for her first year at Hamilton County.

Q: You live in Carmi now, but where were you born?

A: Oakland City, IN.

Q: What can you tell me about your family?

A: I'm married. My husband runs an excavating business. I have a boy named Seth, who is 8-years-old and he's a mess.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: If I'm not at school or grading papers, I like riding my four wheeler, working in my flowerbeds, and reading the pile of magazines I'm behind on. I like a good book, too!

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: Yes. We actually have a zoo. We have a black lab named Clifford, a collie mix named Lucy, and a cat named Gypsy. Seth also has a hamster, a turtle and a fish in his room.



Q: Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

A: No, when I was young I thought I'd be a lawyer because my mother said I was so good at arguing. Actually, in middle school I said I didn't want to be a teacher because so many students are mean to them.

Q: Why did you decide to be a teacher then?

A: Initially, I found that I had a knack for editing. Later I realized it's an excellent job when you have a family because you get the same days off as your children.

Q: Have you ever taught before?

A: Not my own classroom. I did my student teaching in Mt. Vernon, Ind.

Q: Do you like McLeansboro so far?

A: Yes. I really like small towns.

Q: What is your favorite part of the job?

A: When I'm teaching something that students are struggling with and they finally get it. That "Aha Moment" is the best!

Mrs. Rapp



Brittini Blades
The Burrow

Mrs. Rapp, a Dahlgren resident, is a new face in our building this year.

Q: What do you teach?

A: Success study hall

Q: Where did you previously work?

A: The Norris City Annex in Norris City, IL.

Q: Do you enjoy your job?

A: Yes, very much. I really enjoy giving the students the extra help they need to succeed.

Q: Are you married and do you have any kids?

A: Yes, I'm married and I have two sons. J.D. is 12 and Zachary is 9.

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: Yes. Bell is a dog, DC is a cat, and Winnie and Gigi are gerbils.

Q: Do you have any hobbies?

A: I like to read, teach religion and listen to music.



Q: Did you always know you wanted to be a teacher?

A: I knew since I was in high school. During my study hall I helped at the West Side Elementary School with special education students.

Q: Where did you go to college, and what did you major in?

A: I went to SIU-Carbondale and majored in special education.

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Student Profiles



Freshman **Tara Hartley** was born on October 2, 1992. Just out of junior high, her favorite parts of high school are the clubs and "just being in high school is pretty cool," Hartley added. While not at school, you can find Hartley cheering or working at La Palmita. Over the summer, she went to Myrtle Beach, S.C. Hartley's favorite academics this year are art class and class with Mr. Vallowe. She is looking forward to Homecoming and the rest of the year.
Sophomore **Dalton Seals** was born on May 10, 1992.



His favorite part of school would have to be hanging out with his friends. Over the summer, Dalton began working on his first movie, "The Addition," starring the BMX crew. In Seals' spare time, you can find him riding his dirt bike or working on his movie. Academically, his favorite parts of school are Introduction to Biology and Chemistry with Ms. Hall.
Junior **Caleb Miller** was born on May 8, 1990. His favorite



part of high school would have to be seeing all of his friends. This summer Miller went to the Gulf Shores. If he isn't at school, Miller is found either working, riding dirt bikes, or at the golf course practicing his swing. His favorite part of school academically is his BSAA class with Mr. Sloan.
Senior **Cameron Frey** has been a common face around



Hamilton County Senior High for the past four years. She was born on March 13, 1990. Frey's favorite part about high school would have to be the dances; Homecoming and Prom. She's looking forward to her last two dances here at HCSH. This summer Frey went to Los Angeles, Calif. to see her sister. She doesn't play any sports, so you are most likely to find Frey at the city pool life-guarding during the summer or hanging out with friends, family or her boyfriend. Frey's favorite academic parts of high school this year would have to be food class or class with Mr. Johnson.

By: **Michaela Morlan**

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A daughter's outlook



Brittany Brewer
The Burrow

The McLeansboro Fire Department was formed in the summer of 1894. In 1895 the fire department won the Silver Fireman Trumpet from the Rowe Engine Company. They received the award for having the best fire fighting record in Illinois and Indiana. Since then, the fire department has gradually grown and improved.

My dad, Wendell Lowery, and uncle, Jim Morris, (freshman Jackie Morris' father) are both volunteer firefighters for the county department. As daughters of firefighters, we don't like the fact that they risk their lives to save other people. But at the end of the day we understand that they are more than fathers, they are heroes.

Jackie Morris wrote this poem in honor of our fathers.

"My Dad"

*My dad is the best; he saves lives and loves us too...
He makes life great...
But has to run away to help.
As we're sitting down to eat -another call,
He has to leave to save
My dad is gone to help another family
Another house.
As he rushes out, I say to myself,
"Dear God, help him through."
The fire at rage, flames shoot towards the sky,
Another house to die.
My dad comes home,
But not for long,
Another call.
This I cannot help but cry,
As I cry through the prayers, I say again
"Dear God, help him through."
My dad comes home, this time to stay.
And now I'll tell you,
My dad is a firefighter.*

All the firefighters have kids; some of them are grown, and some are still too little to understand. No matter the age, we all have little prayers we say when our dads run to save another family's house.

Veteran firefighter, Leroy Browning, who has been with the department for 37 years, said "We are more of a brotherhood (than a second family). You can't go into a fire without someone to back you up. It's all based on trust. We all want to go and come back together in one piece."

As I take a ride in the fire truck, I realize not only is my dad a hero, but so is every other single firefighter. From those who have died in fires, to those who are still fighting fires everyday. So the next time you see or hear their sirens, say a little prayer. They could save your house or life one day.

HCSH staff members are adjusting to new positions



Luke Bowman
The Burrow

The former junior and senior English and journalism teacher, Mrs. Lueke, has taken on an even bigger job this year. She is our new Guidance Counselor. She took over after Mr. Lapington retired at the end of last school year. Mrs. Lueke said, "There are things I miss in the classroom, like all the faces I don't get to see everyday. But I like my new job too, because I get to do my work here at school and don't have to take any papers home and grade them. Plus I have more time for my kids."
Mr. Winemiller also took on a big job this year. He shifted from a full-time special

education teacher in the junior high to a part-time special education teacher in the junior high and the athletic director. The athletic director schedules all the games athletes get to go and play. It is a very important job that affects all the students. "There is never a dull moment. But I would rather be doing this than teaching," Mr. Winemiller said. "Although it doesn't look like a busy job, there is always something you have to do."

Mrs. Hart is a new addition to the senior high this year. She is an individual aid for freshman Christopher Parkhill. She worked with him in junior high last year, but she finds her job easier in the senior high "because the classes are a little longer than in the junior high," Hart said. "It's easier on me."

PE goes to co-ed this year



Samantha Russell
The Burrow

Most students at HCSH, both past and present, have had single sex PE classes. But this year we have co-education PE, something all will have to adjust to.

There are a lot of different feelings about having both male and female students in PE together. Some students like the idea of having co-ed PE, others don't. Even teachers have different opinions. Coach

Keith Welch will openly express his negative opinion on the idea of co-ed PE. It has nearly doubled the size of certain classes and the mixture of people contributes to immature behavior by some of the students.

Not everything about co-ed PE is negative though. Certain students like being able to see more of their friends in PE, male or female. Even some couples at HCSH got lucky enough to have their significant other in the same class. PE is about physical education; therefore it's not easily made into a social hour. But students have the ability to turn any hour into a social hour. It's a

nice chance to be around people a person is comfortable with.

There's always the chance that some students feel more uncomfortable with the opposite sex in their PE classes, which is the case for several students. This could be the cause of certain students not dressing out during class or not performing as well.

Whatever the reason for the change, whatever our personal feelings on the subject, if they happen to be negative or positive, co-ed PE is here-for the time being at least. And the only thing we can do is make the best out of it.

Scholastic Bowl



Matt Bryson
The Burrow

A set of new faces is preparing for a new year in the Scholastic Bowl realm. Scholastic Bowl sponsor Mrs. Kinder is very excited about the new group.

The junior varsity team is made up entirely of freshmen this year. "The JV team is not hosting any meets this year, yet they are still very important because they will help the players at the Varsity level," Mrs. Kinder said.

Varsity Scholastic Bowl is very challenging. It is so challenging that it is put on television when they go to HI Q. HI Q is a competition between teams from different schools to be named the best of the best.

This year should be a great year for the Scholastic Bowl with having new and fresh members. At the time of reporting, they were still accepting new members. Practices are held on Thursdays at 4 p.m. Interested students are encouraged to speak with Mrs. Kinder or Mr. Johnson.

Students weigh-in on Saturday school



Jonathan Cantrell
The Burrow

How would you feel if you had to go to Saturday school?

Junior Brooke Biggerstaff said she would never be able to wake up and come to school on Saturday, especially at 6 a.m.

Senior Jayla Stephens said it is the most ridiculous idea she has ever heard.

For the most part, students think Saturday School is a waste of time and that it isn't going to change the way they behave.

Saturday school was started as another option in the line of discipline. Vice Principal,

Mr. Scott said, "I am just trying to get kids to understand the way of life, by learning the consequences when you do things wrong."

This isn't the first time Mr. Scott has advocated Saturday school, but it's not only Mr. Scott. Several teachers voted in favor of Saturday school as well.

The primary supervisor of Saturday school will be Mr. Lynch; however others who are available may supervise. There has not been a Saturday school session yet this year, but Mr. Scott said, "There is always at least one."

Junior Molly Hathaway said, "If I ever get assigned Saturday School I will only go

to avoid getting into more trouble." If students do not attend they get suspended.

Sophomore Marcus Jackson said, "Unless it was something serious that I did, I probably would not go to Saturday School."

One thing is clear on this issue; the students do not like the idea of going to school on Saturday. The obvious solution to this dilemma would be for students to not get in trouble to be assigned a Saturday school. But, whether they find the idea bad enough to not get into trouble is yet to be proven.

New driving laws put the brakes on teen driving



Leah Millenbine
The Burrow

MORE LAWS? That's what everybody ages 17 and younger are asking. Soon, there will be stricter laws put on new teen drivers. Governor Rod R. Blagojevich signed an initiative to protect teen drivers: these news laws are now the toughest laws in the nation.

According to the governor's website, Secretary of State Jesse White said, "This law will not only make Illinois' teen driver program one of the strongest in the nation, but more importantly it will save lives."

Governor Blagojevich also said, "As the father of two young girls who will someday be getting behind the wheel for the first time, it gives me a lot of comfort to sign this bill. Driving takes practice and concentration and the consequences of not being fully trained and prepared can be deadly."

Changes made with the new laws as noted on the governor's website include:

* Extended learners permit period from three to nine months.

* Extended nighttime curfew to apply to drivers who are 17 and under (currently applies to 16 and under)

* Moves up the weekday curfew to 10 p.m. from 11 p.m., and from midnight on weekends. Exceptions are made if driving

with an adult, to and from work or school and emergencies.

* Doubles from six to twelve months the time during which a GDL driver, under the age of 18, may carry only one unrelated passenger under the age of 20.

* Allows ticketing for all passengers age 15 to 20 for riding in the car driven by the new driver. (Currently only the driver is ticketed)

* Requires student drivers to complete a full 6 hours of actual, on the street, driving with a certified instructor. Currently up to five of the six hours may be substituted for other educational methods such as computer simulation.

* Requires that new drivers have 6 months of driving violation free with a GDL by that age of 18 before becoming eligible for a full license.

* Establishes tough new sanctions for street racing and strengthens sanctions for repeat violations for any drivers under the age of 21.

Sophomore Kourtney Reyling says, "It's not fair! Everybody who's in driver's ed right now doesn't have to worry about having their permits for nine months, but the younger teenagers just have to deal with it!"

These laws will come into effect on Jan. 1, so enjoy the freedom while you can!

PSAE class offers test training



Mathew Bryson
The Burrow

This year a new class is preparing juniors for the Prairie State Achievement Exam they will take in the spring. The class is simply called PSAE, and it is taught by Mr. Payne,

Ms. Crain and Mrs. Cockrum at different times during the day.

"It is very beneficial for the students. It helps prepare them for the ACT and the Prairie State Exam," said Payne.

Reactions from students were not so positive. "The class is dumb and is too much computer for one person," said Cal Muehlenbein.

Alec Vineyard said, "It is the most pointless class in the world."

New mine could signal change



Lauren Potter
The Burrow

Most people have heard about the possibility of Hamilton County hitting the coal mine. This industry coming here will make a change for the better. Hamilton County isn't known for having much and jobs are in short supply. Hopefully a coal mine will help. So, far the news is good...people are taking the coal mine change greatly and very appreciatively.

Hamilton County doesn't have a very large population and part of it is because the shortage of entertainment and lack of jobs. The coal mine could change that for

the better. Sophomore Kourtney Reyling said "Hopefully this town will get something now and we won't die of boredom." Sophomore Autumn Schram said "I'm excited! I'm ready for a change, a change for the better!"

It's all just a look forward now to see what changes it makes, it may not make much but it's worth a try! Most people around here are ready for teenagers to have something to do. So, let's get it rolling!



THE BURROW

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The Burrow is the student newspaper of Hamilton County Senior High and is produced by the Journalism & Desktop Publishing classes under the instruction of Mrs. April Jordan and Mrs. Lisa Auten.



Foxes say "It's not over yet" Cheerleading IS a sport



The Foxes during their first Friday night home game on a no-huddle drive against the Red Devils. Photo courtesy of Cox Photography.



Leah Millenbine
The Burrow

People have their own opinions on whether cheerleading is a sport or not. The fact that cheerleaders don't tackle each other to the ground trying to get a ball over a line doesn't mean that cheerleaders aren't athletes.

Cheerleaders work just as hard as other athletes. Cheerleading is not a selfish sport. Part of being on a cheerleading squad is appreciating and cheering for fellow athletes (the same athletes who insult cheerleading).

What is the thing that qualifies an activity as a sport? Is it the ball? No. Wrestling is a sport and it doesn't require a ball.

Is it the sweat? NO cheerleaders sweat just as much as other athletes.

Is it the practice? No cheerleading practices are just as intense as many other sport practices.

So what is it?

Cheerleading takes as much dedication and skill as any other sport, sometimes even more. The problem is that other people have no clue what it takes to be a cheerleader. Cheerleaders make cheering look easy. They fly through the air with grace and without fear. They catch their teammates as though they're light as feathers. People do not understand the time and technique it takes to master such skills.

To cheerleaders it is not a game, like football or basketball; it is a way of LIFE!

Cheerleading, like any other sport, teaches important skills such as cooperation. If cheerleaders cannot learn to cooperate with one another their stunts will not work and someone could be severely injured.

What does a "sport" have that cheerleading doesn't? They practice. They have rules. They go through training. They sweat. They fall. They get hurt all the time. They basically dedicate their lives to cheerleading. It appears there is no reason cheerleading should not be considered a real SPORT!



Jacob Harrawood
The Burrow

Although the football season started off in the wrong direction, coaches, players and fans still believe the Foxes can make playoffs. The football team wasn't expecting the season to begin like it did. They lost their first three out of the four games they played.

"We play hard and do our best. Those teams didn't defeat us; we defeated ourselves by some screw-ups," senior Nicholas Wiggins said.

After getting the first win under their belt last week against Christopher, they play the homecoming game against Eldorado and are hoping for a good game and the second victory of the season.

"If we can get our heads up and quit shooting ourselves in the foot like we did

last week, we'll be fine. Our backs are up against a wall right now, but we just have to step up and play consistent," Defensive Coordinator Coach Welch said.

In order to have a chance to make playoffs, the Foxes have to win at least four of their last five games. Last year the Foxes won only three out of the five, but senior starter, Justin Williams said, "Any team with 15 seniors can comeback and make playoffs three times in a row for the first time in school history. We could be 4-0 as easy as we are 1-3.

It's just mental mistakes that are hurting us. The Foxes look to go on a winning streak from here on out. Hopefully Christopher has been and Eldorado will be the games that set off a new outlook for the team.

Another senior starter, Holden Jackson said, "We have all dug ourselves in a hole, but with dedication and hard work, I have no doubt that we will make the playoffs."

Ms. Suchomski



Breanna Brock
The Burrow

The new East Side teacher, Ms. Suchomski, was open with sharing some interesting facts about her and what she's all about.

Q: Where did you attend high school?

A: Champaign, IL at Centennial High School

Q: What college did you attend and how many years did you go?

A: SIU at Carbondale for 5 1/2 years. I received a bachelors and masters degree.

Q: Was a teacher what you originally wanted to become?

A: Yes! Completely! And I love doing what I do!

Q: We all have dreams of what we want to be when we grow up. What did you dream of becoming when you were a kid?

A: Either a teacher or an architect.

Q: What do you do on your free time?

A: I catch up with friends, run, swim and go to Cardinal's games.



Ms. Suchomski

Q: Do you live in Hamilton County?

A: Yes, I do.

Q: What grade do you teach at East Side Elementary?

A: Fourth grade.

Q: Did you teach at a school district before ours?

A: No, I taught at SIUC.

Q: Do you enjoy being the volleyball coach?

A: Yes! It is a great sport and a great group of girls!

Q: Did you play volleyball in high school or college?

A: No, I didn't.

Q: What are you looking forward to most for this season of coaching?

A: Helping girls improve their skills, and winning!!!!

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Annual Fall Fest was fun for all



Libby Cox
The Burrow

Concerts are booked, rides are raising high in the air and local stands are being put together. Fall Festival has returned.

Food is in abundance at the Fall Festival. The square is filled with stands selling a whole variety of foods, ranging from barbeque to tacos. Cotton candy, corn dogs and the popular pickle on a stick are part of the carnival cuisine.

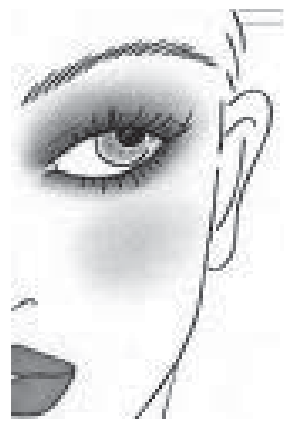
The biggest event of Fall Festival is the Parade. It takes place on Saturday, the last day of the carnival. Every year the parade

has a different theme. Senior Levi Link laughed and said, "I really enjoy stealing candy from little kids!"

The parade consists of political campaign parties, advertising businesses, church groups, marching bands, tractors, horses and more.

"I think of the wonderful smelling aroma of the delicious fattening food," senior Sara Veatch said about what came to mind when thinking of Fall Festival. "I think of carnies and cotton candy," said junior Seth Thomas.

For five decades people have been coming in crowds to the McLeansboro Fall Festival. Maybe it's the conversation, the food, the rides or just the atmosphere of the approaching changing season. Whatever reason it might be, people keep coming back for more.



Wearing makeup — a good or a bad thing?

foundation on the napkin, it's probably time to lighten up!

According to Ladies Home Journal online, "You should find a perfect match foundation, one that matches your skin tone exactly. This gives a more natural look than one that's slightly off, and you're likely to use less of it."

You should always apply your makeup in a bright lighted area, or you'll wind up looking fake as soon as you step outside the door.

One type of makeup that is really popular now is mineral makeup. "Mineral makeup rocks and it's better for your skin," says sophomore Sierra Dearing. Unlike liquid foundation, mineral makeup feels light on your skin. According to Ezine Articles, "Mineral makeup gives you full coverage without the thick, unnatural, pore clogging consequences of traditional liquid foundation."

When it comes to choosing a foundation, less is more.



Amber Shriver
The Burrow

It seems as if style changes every year. New trends come in and old trends go out. But one thing that will always stay the same is the way you wear your foundation. Makeup can be a good thing or a bad thing, depending on how you wear it.

One of the most common mistakes in applying makeup is simply wearing too much. "Wearing too much makeup makes you look cheap," says freshman Corinth French.

Makeup is meant to be natural. It should enhance your best features, not cover up who you really are. If you wipe your mouth off at lunch and it leaves a streak of

Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so every row, and column, and 3x3 box contains every digit 1-9 inclusive.

	2		7	1		5		
	3		2			6	1	7
	5		8			2		
8		2		3				4
6			1	9	8			2
1				6		8		9
		9			4		2	
2	6	4			5		8	
		7		2	1		3	

High school "Nude"-ical



Rachel Wall
The Burrow

According to foxnews.com, the High School Musical phenomenon has reached over 7.7 million people and has earned the title of the most successful Disney original movie ever. The stars of the movie have reached celebrity status and are known all over the world.

Vanessa Anne Hudgens' career has blasted off with the premiere of the High School Musical movies. Many young children look up to her. She plays Gabriella Montez in the hit movies. Her character seems innocent enough, but is Hudgens?

Racy photos of her were recently leaked onto the Internet after she sent them to Nickelodeon-star Drake Bell a couple of years ago. The photos showed her standing in front of a red curtain with nothing on but a pair of underwear.

Hudgens made the following public apology at the beginning of September for the photos. "I am embarrassed over this situation and regret having ever taken these photos. I am thankful for the support of my family."



Hudgens

"I definitely think that she should have made better choices because she is a role model for small children," senior Jennifer Rodgers said. "She has the talent to make it to the top without the racy photos."

Orry Taylor feels differently about the situation. "You can't fault her now for what she did in the past."

Disney debated whether or not to let Hudgens go, but decided to hire her back for High School Musical 3, after realizing that firing Hudgens would result in a ratings decline. Many believe this will have a huge impact on her career – but we will just have to wait for the movie to find out.

New grocer is "priced right" for McLeansboro



Kayla Wellen
The Burrow

People are talking about the new store in town, Tom's Priced Right Foods. The building, which formerly housed Gene-O's and Chet's Market, has underwent a lot of remodeling and the new owners have added new services.

Senior Sara Veatch is an employee at the new store. She said, "It feels like a more professional working environment. All of the employees have a dress code. I think that looks very professional and very organized. Plus, the new store has a bigger selection and is receiving more business."

Those who have been inside the new store seem to be impressed. One may be surprised by how much the store has changed, how organized it is and how many more products they offer compared to previous stores in the same building. People, like English teacher, Mr. Johnson, are also paying attention to the meat department.

Johnson said, "They offer a variety of items that aren't usually available at small town stores." Most McLeansboro residents will find this helpful because they won't have to travel far to get the items they need.

The first thing Johnson noticed was how clean it was and how it resembled a larger supermarket, such as Kroger's. "I was very satisfied with the great selection and the customer service."

Word certainly travels fast in small towns, and so far, the word about Tom's Priced Right Foods is that they are right for McLeansboro.



Freedom Baptist Youth Group

Meets:
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

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free-dom
(fre'dem), n.
1. exemption from an unpleasant condition

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