

THE RAILROADER RUNDOWN

The latest news and updates from Whitehall High School



PHOTO COURTESY OF MS. COMAR

(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) MR. STUTES, MR. SAVIN, MR. BURGESS, MRS. CHECKLA, MR. GOULD, MRS. HALEY, MRS. ERNENWIEN, MR. GALE, & MR. GEBO LINED UP AND READY TO TAKE ON THE SENIORS IN THE FINAL GAME OF THE PEP RALLY.

IN THIS ISSUE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

PEP RALLIES ARE BACK

HOW LONG WILL LUNCHES BE FREE?

IS VIRTUAL LEARNING COMING BACK?

WINTER SELF CARE TIPS

Calling on the Student Body

by Mr. Ethan Burgess

Dear Railroaders,

I'm putting out an "all call" to the student body! What types of fun activities would you like to see here at school? I want to build memories and shared experiences that you all talk about for years to come! I want to build events for the student body and faculty that we all look forward to throughout the school year, but I need your help!

The homecoming week was fun, but I don't want to stop there. I've had some great conversations with Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Etu about some upcoming events,

See **Student Body**, pg. 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS COTTONE

(TOP TO BOTTOM FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) JAYDEN HUGHES, MADI GOULD, BROOKLYNN VANGUILDER, & BRIE EDDY CHEERING ON THEIR JUNIOR TEAM

The Train Never Stops

by Louis Pratt

If there is one thing that students in Whitehall excel at, it is showing their Railroader pride. On Friday, Oct. 22, the annual Pep Rally was held outside on the Jr Sr High School's football field and the sense of Railroader pride was strong. This event was organized by a small group of upperclassmen and principal, Mr. Burgess. Throughout the Pep Rally many events and activities occurred such as dizzy ball, the balloon race, a hilarious pageant, and some soccer games.

Senior, Olivia Whiting, says that the pageant was her favorite experience throughout the whole day. Whiting, along with the rest of the student body, hasn't experienced a pep rally since 2019. This year's pep rally strung together events from past pep rallies, bonfires, and school events.

Whiting said that "everyone enjoyed the pageant that we incorporated from the bonfire". The pageant consisted of eight seniors dressing as a different gender for the student body crowd. Each senior was given the option to answer a personal question or dance. Whiting, who dressed up as a middle school boy, chose to dance to the 2015 hip-hop hit Watch Me by Silento. Whiting said her dance was an accurate representation of middle school boys dancing from her time.

See **Pep Rally**, pg. 3

Student Body

Continued from page 1

but it's your input I want. Here is where my brain is:

- I'd like to bring back the annual dodgeball tournament
- Build an intramurals program
- Add further clubs to the school
- Build an Esports Team
- Have a pep-rally in the spring
- Junior High Dances
- Junior High Specific events
- HS Dances
- Special weekend events
- Special nightly events

Do you have any ideas for a student body/faculty event? The best way to make yourself heard it to see your student government representatives:

President: Louis Pratt
 Vice Pres: Kamryn Baldwin
 Secretary: Dory Gosselin
 Treasurer: Alexis MacLeod

12th Grade Representative:
 Morgan Stevens

11th Grade Representative:
 Braydee Benjamin

10th Grade Representatives: Sam
 Howland & Amber Lafayette

9th Grade Representative: Maya
 Wiskoski

8th Grade Representatives:
 Rhiannon Breault & Lucy Gordon

7th Grade Representative: Mr. B

I want to hear from you, this is your school! Whatever you would like to do, I'm all ears!

Go Railroaders,
 Mr. B

Will lunches continue to be free?

by Aliza Roberts

I think I speak for everybody when I say that the lunch staff go above and beyond to make sure we're all fed and taken care of every lunch period. Here in Whitehall, we are fortunate enough to have good lunches and we have a great lunch staff.

One thing that the student body is wondering is, when will students have to pay for lunch again? How long will lunch be free? I think lunch should have always been free. The case is, since the COVID 19 pandemic, all students were able to eat for free. In April of 2021, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that school lunch will be free during the 2021 - 2022 school year. According to Rachel Tillman, a reporter for Nationwide, "The program will have a 'strong emphasis on providing fruits and vegetables, fluid milk, whole grains, and sensible calorie levels, while allowing schools to serve free meals to all children,' per the USDA." For each meal served, the school will be reimbursed.

This program has helped millions of children throughout the United States during the pandemic. In my opinion, offering free lunch even further into the future will continue to help feed many of our country's hungry children.

Pep Rally

Continued from page 2

Aside from the pep rally many other student-engaging events went on during the week. Junior Ava Ruby, was a constant participant in the spirit days during the week.

"My favorite was 'Merica Monday because I love how everyone came together to show their patriotism" Ruby exclaimed, "everyone got together, got along, and bonded over the spirit week." Ruby, one of the many participants during the week, absolutely loved the participation that was seen.

Even after two years of social isolation, mask-wearing, and virtual learning, something as simple as wearing the same color can bring over 300 people together. The train at Whitehall never stopped, and it never will. After all, when the going gets tough, the tough Railroaders get going.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA



PHOTO COURTESY OF WSWHE BOCES

(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) COMMISSIONER ROSA, LOUIS PRATT, & PRINCIPAL BURGESS

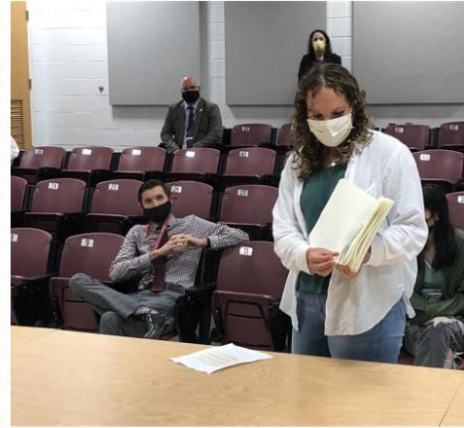


PHOTO COURTESY OF WSWHE BOCES

(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) MR. STUTES WATCHES AS BLAKE BIRD PRESENTS HER FIELD JOURNAL

Chatting with the Commissioner

by Louis Pratt

On October 14th, The New York State Commissioner of Education, Betty Rosa, visited our very own Jr. Sr. High building to view the renovations and repairs made due to the 2020 flooding.

Commissioner Rosa was given a tour of our building courtesy of Principal Burgess and myself, Louis Pratt. Throughout this tour Commissioner Rosa was shown the new art rooms, science labs, the renovated track and football field, and finally the room that previously held our library. The damage done to the library was an issue that Commissioner Rosa was passionate about fixing. The library has been one of the hardest things to repair after the flood due to most of the books being ruined or damaged. The problem that has come along with fixing the library is trying to replace every book that was in it but Commissioner Rosa was willing to help do what she could.

Aside from getting a tour of the school, Commissioner Rosa was visited by students Blake Bird, May Wang, Noah DeSantis, and Brooke Benjamin to chat about the phenomenal opportunities offered at our school and the success of the schedule change.

Senior Brooke Benjamin, had the chance to talk with Commissioner Rosa about dual credit classes and what the Whitehall Central School District has done for her. Benjamin

see **COMMISSIONER**, pg. 13

Back to Virtual?

by Aliza Roberts

Some questions floating around in our building right now are: Should we prepare for a shutdown? Are we going to close down and go back to virtual schooling? If we do end up going virtual, then how would we manage it? Would it be the same as last time? The entire student body wants to know if we should be preparing in case we were told that we have to return to online.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA

The sad case is, a majority of our peers are constantly being sent out for weeks upon weeks for quarantine. Google Meets need to be made available to those who are quarantined. It is not easy for students to learn when they are not in person where a teacher is more available to explain material and assignments.

I briefly had a conversation with our Dean of Students, Mrs. Lindberg, about the topic. Lindberg said, “The only way we would be going hybrid is if our bus drivers were out. If we lose our bus drivers we can’t just let anybody drive for us; they have to meet certain expectations and pass certain tests to be a bus driver. If that did happen (not that it's going too and they have enough bus drivers) but if it did then the kids without transportation would have to be given the option to go virtual.”

Lindberg explained to me that there would still be school open and people would be welcome to attend if they had a ride, but another question is, would they? Would enough students actually attend school everyday if we went virtual again? The last option is going hybrid, this seems to be the absolute last resort. Nobody would benefit from sitting home on a computer the entire day.

Want to stay updated?

Follow us on Insta @TheRailroaderRundown

New Music in November

by Morgan Stevens

Several well-known artists/music groups have released new music in November, including Adele, Taylor Swift, ABBA, etc.

One of the most highly anticipated album releases of late 2021 is Adele's '30'. Adele released a single from the new album, 'Easy On Me', on October 15th, which dominated Global Charts. Adele's most recent album release was '25', which was released on November 20th, 2015. Since the release of '30' on November 19th, 2021, multiple songs from the album have reached several millions streams on streaming services including Spotify, Youtube, and Apple Music.

Another highly anticipated album release of November was ABBA's 'Voyage', which was released on November 4th, 2021. 'Voyage' was ABBA's first album of new music in 40 years, following their release 'The Visitors' in November of 1981. Since the release of their new album, 'Voyage' was No. 1 in album charts in 18 countries. The album reached 1 million copies sold in the first week, and received more than 190 million streams.

Additionally, Taylor Swift released 'Red (Taylor's Version)' on November 12th, 2021. This album was a re-recorded album by Taylor Swift, who has been releasing several re-recorded albums recently, in effort to gain ownership over her music. The new versions of her albums have sounded slightly different from the originals, with some extended songs and added lyrics. 'Red (Taylor's Version)' charted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 albums chart dated Nov. 27.

More artists/music groups who have released new music this month include Mitski, Beach House, Charli XCX, Little Mix, K.Flay, Beyoncé, etc.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMPLEX

"30", ADELE'S NEWEST ALBUM

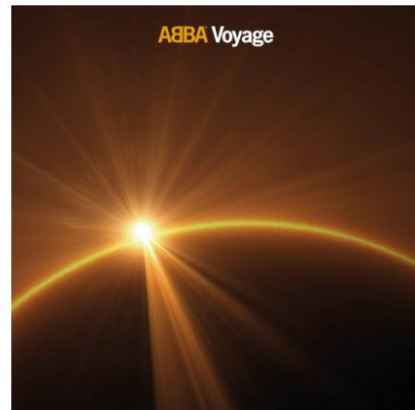


PHOTO COURTESY OF STEREOGUM

"VOYAGE", ABBA'S NEWEST ALBUM



PHOTO COURTESY OF USA TODAY

**"RED (TAYLOR'S VERSION)",
TAYLOR SWIFT'S NEWEST ALBUM**

Movie Review: Marvel Studios Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings

by Christina Pitts

The movie “Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings” starts off by showing a kid and his mom making a dragon. It doesn’t seem important at the time but it gets better. Then it shows a man named Shawn and his girl space friend doing their job which is being a valet. It shows a really cool car that goes fast and just shows how their friendship is overall.

But then they switch up the normal with crazy. Shawn goes on this train and he kicks some major tail and then finds out it was from his dad. And he kind of freaked and then figured out they were going after his sister. So he goes to his sister and tries to warn her but she doesn’t listen until it was too late and then they meet their dad again after a while and he tells the two that he’s hearing their mother, who died, and she’s talking to him behind her village’s gates. Shawn finds this crazy and he refuses to go with them which ends up making him get locked away by his dad. But then he meets Trevor, who was the terrorist from “Iron Man 2”. He had this weird fluffy beheaded thing from Shawn’s mother’s village and they end up going there and finding their aunt and being told the story about the dragon protector and they got their own scales just in time for their dad to swoop in and ruin the day. He starts just walking through this whole big fight scene and kicks Shawn’s tail and makes him go flying into the ocean and then goes and starts breaking open the evil gate which held soul sucking evil things. It shows Shawn getting deep into the water talking to his mom but then she says the family needs him so air bubbles come up and he starts to come alive! Well, he ends up riding the protector dragon into the air and basically kicks his dad’s tail using the same magic as his mother which was super cool but not in time because the dark thing comes out. So the dark thing grabs his dad and a cute moment happens where they look at each other and his dad gives him these 10 rings, which were found out to be powers of God, and his dad dies. Shawn then starts fighting the dark thing with the dragon, almost loses his sister, and then... I won’t spoil it for you!

Overall the movie was good but I think they shouldn’t have made so many people die. The editing and acting was so good! I really loved that they added Trevor because he added comic relief. I also really liked how they tied it in with the other movies including “The Eternals”. I hope you enjoy the movie as much as I did!



PHOTO COURTESY OF IGN

West Releases Donda

by Ethan Farley

Music is a big part of my life. Everyday I listen to music when I do things. When I'm going to school or when I'm showering, doing homework or cleaning my room. Music is something that has helped me through a lot of things in my life. One of my favorite artists is Kanye West. That's why I was so happy when he released his newest album titled Donda.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REALHYPEGH

The album has been teased for over a year by Kanye which made his fans excited for its release if it ever came. When it was released on August 29th all his fans were ecstatic. The album was 27 songs long and was almost 2 hours in run time which is pretty much unheard of length for albums these days. On November 14th, almost 2 months after Donda released, he came out with the deluxe version which was 32 songs and 2 hours and 11 minutes of runtime. Kanye named his album after his late mother who passed in 2007. Kanye's album touches on his current family and talks about his relationship problems with his wife. He talks about his mother and the lessons she taught him and all the stuff she did for him when he was younger.

Methods to Making Friends

by Aidan MacLeod

Making friends in school can definitely be a challenge, but it doesn't have to be. There are many different methods to make friends in school. One of the best that I can think of is through class participation. Now in some classes this may seem difficult, but everyone has gym class which I think is the easiest one to do it in. Now sometimes this can be hard if your class doesn't participate but if they do all you really have to do is spark up a conversation with someone. Like if you hear someone talking about football and you really like football, then you could easily add into that conversation which could lead to you making a new friend. Another easy way to make new friends is by sitting with different people at lunch. I have done this many times and made many new friends out of it. Whenever I see

see **MAKING FRIENDS**, pg. 13

Sea Bunnies

by Kaylie Myers-McGraw

You may think that sea creatures aren't all that cute, especially slugs. However, there is a species of slugs that lives in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Japan and in the waters surrounding the Philippines that are particularly adorable. These slugs are very small, on average they don't get bigger than an inch. These slugs are called Sea Bunnies



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SCIENCE TIMES

because of their round and fluffy features. These tiny little sea rabbits are not actually fluffy like dogs or cats, their fur is actually a bunch of tiny rods. These rods can sometimes be black, causing their fur to appear speckled. These bunnies are called bunnies because they not only have little round bodies, but little ears as well. These bunnies' ears are called rhinophores, which is an organ that aids sea slugs in sensing chemicals in the water and detecting current changes. They're also fuzzy, not for petting of course, but to help them cover more surface area when they're sensing changes in the water. Fun fact about these creatures, they are hermaphrodites, meaning they can produce sperm and eggs, however they cannot reproduce on their own. These bunnies are often yellow with black specks or sometimes greenish, these colors are used to warn predators that they are poisonous. These bunnies have a lifespan of a few months to a year. And sadly, you cannot pet these bunnies, no matter how cute and fluffy they look.

Mummification

by Chloe Sprague

One of the most prominent archaeological discoveries was King Tutukahman's tomb. The people involved in the discovery of King Tut were a team of scientists. The head of the team was British archaeologist Howard Carter. Carter and the group of archaeologists had gone down to a cave for research. The archaeologists had discovered not only the body of King Tut but also all of the valuables that Tut had with him in life. The group had discovered a hidden chamber within the tomb of King Tut. King Tut was discovered in The Valley Of The Kings in Egypt on November 4, 1922. His body was found mummified and in a sarcophagus. King Tutukaheman's possible cause of death was revealed by a process called genetic fingerprinting. The result came back as jungle fever or contamination of the body. Mummification is the process of embalming a deceased body and wrapping the body in linen and other soft materials. There are a lot of cloth layers involved with wrapping the embalmed body. The procedure involves the priest and the embalmers who are preserving the body for the afterlife that the Egyptians believe in. The discovery of his body allowed for new developments in science, history and archaeology.

#SaveOurWildlife

by Kaylie Myers-McGraw

It is surprisingly true that due to the destruction of the tropical rainforests many animals such as Orangoutangs, Tigers and Javan Rhinoceros are in danger of losing their habitats. The destruction of tropical rainforests across the world will result in the animals that live there to soon become endangered, known by future generations as historical nonfiction.

Some of the beautiful 80,000 acres of nature we're losing everyday is home to many plants and animals from wild large cats, snakes, frogs and the Koompassia excelsa trees. It is important to save the plants and habitats in the tropical rainforest as it is to save the animals that live there. The loss of these plants and trees not only affects the animals that live on them but humans and the ecosystem too.

In the future it is possible for new diseases and viruses to affect people and animals. Trees and plants are well known for being used as main ingredients in most of the new medicines. With the loss of these plants brings the loss of possible future cures and medicines for evolving or new diseases. It is known that only a small amount of rainforest plants have been tested for possible medicinal uses. Because of this we may never know or find cures to seemingly incurable diseases and viruses.

see **Rainforests**, pg. 18

COVID-19 isn't the only pandemic...

by Chloe Sprague

The difference between an epidemic and pandemic is that a pandemic affects everyone around the globe and an epidemic impacts only one community of people. A recent pandemic is the COVID-19 virus. But, pandemics have a place in history, too. The Bubonic Plague, aka Black Death, had influenced Europeans throughout the 1300s. It is an infection that spreads through contaminated pests and rats. The Bubonic Plague affected not only Europe, but also Asia and even America. The reason for the Black Death was because of the poor conditions on the boats that were transporting the people to America.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

PICTURED ABOVE IS AN ORANGOUTANG WHOSE HABITAT IS BEING DESTROYED

Winter Self-Care

by Kylee Covey

As the seasons change and the days end earlier people tend to experience seasonal depression. This seasonal depression can cause people to ignore their needs and often forget to take care of themselves. Seasonal depression can affect anyone. It normally occurs during climate change and daylight saving time. Continue reading for tips to ease seasonal depression.

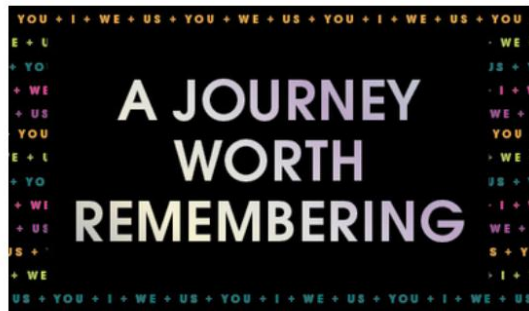
Tip #1 Get your mind ready in the Fall- Prepare your mind for seasonal change. Psychologist Kim Burgess says to “set yourself up for the winter season by starting in the fall season – doing enjoyable activities, initiating friend group chats and outings, choosing fun hobbies, and engaging in clubs or community service”. Actively participating in these activities ahead of time can set you in a better mood instead of trying in the winter months.

Tip #2 Write in a Journal- The beginning of the year is the best time to begin journaling your thoughts. This can help you keep inventory on your mental state. You can write down things you don't feel safe telling other people. It provides a place for you to dump your feelings, personal thoughts, process and reflect, and clear your mind.

Tip #3 Talk To Your Doctor/Go to Therapy- Seasonal depression is a form of mental illness. You can practice self care everyday, but that won't get rid of depression. Talking to your doctor or therapist can help you in your mental health journey.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA



BUY YOUR YEARBOOK

Jostens

Don't Procrastinate!

by Aidan MacLeod

Keeping up on work can be very difficult in-school especially during these times. Covid has brought a drop to a lot of students' grades which isn't ideal, but there are ways to raise them back up to where they used to be. My number one tip for keeping good grades is to always get your work in on time. Now sometimes this can be difficult but if you span out your work each night it's pretty simple. If you get an assignment Monday and it's due Friday, don't wait till Thursday night and try to rush it because you may not always get it done. Instead you should do a little bit of work each night, that way you will get your work done on time and without the frustration of rushing it the night before. Another tip I have is to ask your teachers questions if you don't understand the topics. A lot of students fear doing this, I even used to but there is no reason to fear asking questions. Teachers love it when you ask questions because it shows you are trying to learn and understand the content. And also don't be afraid to ask for an extension on stuff every once in a while if you forget. Most teachers won't mind at all as long as you usually get your work in on time. So if you are struggling with keeping your grades high, then maybe you should try some of these tips and see how they work for you.

Safe Driving During the Winter Months

by Kylee Covey

The cold and snowy months are quickly approaching! Snow and ice will be hitting the roads. This can make driving more difficult and dangerous. Keep reading for tips on how to drive safely during the cold season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA

Tip #1 Stay home- Only go out if it's necessary or in cases of emergency. Even if you think you can drive in poor weather conditions, it's better to be safe than sorry!!

See **WINTER DRIVING**, pg. 14



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA

Goal!

by Logan Manney

Soccer can be an enjoyable game for students to play. When I played I was a starting goalie, but unfortunately Whitehall does not have a men's soccer team, yet!

In my experience, I wouldn't really come out of the goal box because we had very good strikers, but we did not have the best defense which made it kind of hard. When I first started, they put me at striker until I decided I would come try out for goalkeeper at an extra practice and from there on I was a goalkeeper. The most goals allowed in a game was around 2 goals.

Sometimes if we were up by multiple goals and I asked to come out of the goalie position because it can get pretty boring. I would be able to come play midfield or striker but that would be very rare. Overall I think goalie was my favorite position in soccer but I also like striking. It is just very tiring and you have to have a lot of stamina and speed as well as foot control with the ball. An important factor of offense is when you have the ball on the side of the field on their side center it to get a better shot for your team but when on defense do not ever cross the goal.

I think the worst part of soccer was when we would play in the cold and I was goalie. Not running around caused me to freeze out there!

Making Friends

Continued from page 8

Someone sitting alone at lunch, I'll go sit with them and spark up a conversation. Most of the time the person will be very thankful that you decided to sit with them and have a conversation with you. Like I said I've done this many times and have made some really good friends out of it. While there are many other ways to make new friends, I have found these ways the easiest and most effective out of the group. So if you're struggling to make friends, just try some of these methods and see how it goes, there is no shame in trying.

Commissioner

Continued from page 4

moved to Whitehall from Lake George in 2019 and will be earning a total of 33 college credits when she graduates this spring. All 33 credits were earned at Whitehall and by earning these credits Benjamin has been enrolled in UAlbany, Suny Adirondack, and Castleton University.

"It was cool to be chosen out of the whole student body to speak with her.." Benjamin told us, "it was neat to meet her and have a group conversation with her and the rest of our student group." Benjamin hopes to become a pilot and attend flight school when she graduates and she says this experience is one that she will truly never forget.

Mets Lose Syndergaard

by Ethan Farley

Baseball is one of my favorite sports and my favorite team to watch is the New York Mets. With Free agency just starting it's important the Mets fill holes in their team. Making the team better just got harder due to the fact they lost one of their best pitchers and longest tenured players, Noah Syndergaard. Syndergaard signed a 1 year contract worth 21 million with the Angels. While he has only played 2 games in the last two years due to injuries, it still hurts the Mets knowing they needed a starting pitcher this year.

It is not all bad for the Mets though. Now that Syndergaard is gone it opens room for younger guys to shine. The Mets had a Rookie Pitcher last year named Tylor Megill who was a bright spot early in the season. This also gives them chances to sign veteran pitchers out of free agency. The Mets have deep pitching depth at the minor league level they could use, but the problem with that is you'll never know how a player will perform at the major league level because it is such a big jump from the minors to the major league. The Mets losing Noah Syndergaard is sad to see for many Met fans but in the long term it could be a good thing.

Winter Driving

Continued from page 12

Tip #2 Drive Slow- Watch and adjust your speed to account for lower traction

Tip #3 Accelerate and decelerate slowly- Apply the gas slowly to regain traction and avoid skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry and take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.

Tip #4- Look Far Ahead- When the roads are covered in snow and ice, they are extremely slippery. Be sure to look ahead while driving to plan and anticipate what you will do next. Driving carefully and safely takes extra concentration.

Tip #5 Fit Winter Tires- A fitting set of snow tires is one of the best things you can have for winter. This will improve your safety margin and ease anxiety. The proper set of tires gives you more traction for snow, ice and slush.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

NOAH SYNDERGAARD PITCHING IN A METS GAME

For the Love of Baseball!

by Logan Manney

I have played baseball since I was very young and I have always found it very fun. I enjoy the sport of baseball because I have always liked how much skill and practice it required.

Almost every throw has to be perfect or it won't be caught and you won't make the play on the runner. You also have to swing at the perfect time to get a decent hit, which makes it all better. I used to play pitcher and first base. My favorite position was first base because as a pitcher, the umpire can get you very frustrated with bad calls against you. This will end up throwing your pitching way off and making you look bad.

When I was even younger I used to play second base which was one of my favorite positions out of all of them. The thrill of getting a double play is what made me love it. As you move up in baseball you will realize that the goal of pitching is no longer getting the ball directly down the middle of the plate but is to catch the corners of the plate and just miss to get them swinging at it for a strike or a bad hit.

However, there are some pitches that get hung over the plate in an attempt at a failed curveball or hanging sinker which will normally be hit for a homerun. I am looking forward to another season of Railroader Baseball this Spring!

Fight breaks out at Lakers game

by Dewey Preece

Recently the Los Angeles Lakers played the Detroit Pistons in Detroit. A fist fight almost broke out between Isaiah Stewart and LeBron James in the last game they played against each other. From my point of view what I believe led to the fight was one of the Pistons players was on the free throw line taking his foul shots. The Lakers were already down in the third quarter when it happened, which leads me to believe LeBron threw an elbow down under the



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOS ANGELES TIMES

REFS BREAKING UP THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE PISTONS AND LAKERS

see **LAKERS FIGHT**, pg. 17



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVA

Let's Go Lakers!

by Dewey Preece

Basketball is one of my favorite hobbies/sports. My favorite team is the Los Angeles Lakers. I enjoy watching them play the game. I went to see them play the Knicks at Madison Square Garden in New York City. My favorite player on the team is LeBron James simply because he is the best all around player to play the game of basketball. He leads number one in all stats in the game. The Lakers have a few other all star caliber players such as Anthony Davis, Russell Westbrook, Dwight Howard, Carmelo Anthony, which are all great players of this generation.

The Lakers current record is 8-6 with this being the beginning of the season. LeBron being out due to a leg injury, is not helping them in any sort of way shape or form. Their offense and defense is awful right now. The Lakers are not playing like a championship team that they need to. With that being said a lot of their starters are out with injuries which is really showing during the games. Even though a lot of their big stars are out they still have plenty left on the bench. The Lakers recently lost to Oklahoma City. Recently they have been straight up getting beat by a team you know is not supposed to win when you have a stacked starting lineup and bench players.

see **BASKETBALL**, pg. 17

The Return of Winter Sports

by Morgan Stevens

The 2021-2022 Varsity and Junior Varsity winter sports season began on Monday, November 15th, with the return of several sports, including Basketball, Bowling, Wrestling, and Basketball Cheer. Followed by modified winter sports beginning on Monday, November 22nd. At the beginning of this year, many winter sports were able to have a condensed season. Some sports were not able to have a season at the beginning of 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions, including wrestling and cheerleading. Due to condensed seasons, varsity winter sports teams were not able to participate in any playoffs/postseason games.

The Boys Basketball Varsity/JV teams will have their first scrimmage on Friday, November 26th against Granville, while the Girls Basketball Varsity/JV teams will have their first scrimmage on Monday, November 29th. Additionally, Varsity Bowling will have their first match on Tuesday, November 30th, while the Varsity/JV wrestling teams will have their first meet on Wednesday, December 1st. All sports schedules for the 2021-2022 sports season will be available on schedule galaxy, found on the Railroaders website.

see **Sports Return**, pg. 17

Basketball

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To see and know the game and know what it's like out there in the spotlight is not bad when you have experience like the Lakers do. The Lakers have the most experienced team right now in the NBA.

Sports Return

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“I'm excited that we were able to have wrestling this year. Numbers are a little low this year but hopefully we can grow a little bit. But I'm excited to see what the season brings.” - Wrestling and Football Coach Gebo

Lakers Fight

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the basket at Isaiah on purpose but Lebron never has been known as a dirty play with that only being his second career ejection. With footage you can see Lebron go to “apologize” immediately after he did it.

Isaiah Stewart was shook by this and was clearly mad and tried to repeatedly attack Lebron. This resulted with a suspension and fine on both of them which I think is very reasonable. More players on the Lakers squad received technical fouls as well for instigating such as Russell Westbrook like when he put his hands up in Isaiah's face indicating he wanted to fight him. Both team benches were mostly involved to break up the fight and de-escalate the tension between the two. Not all players wanted to break it up. At the end of the night the Lakers took the win and sent the Pistons home on their own home court.

**Want to read more breaking news stories?
Stay tuned for January's issue of The Railroader Rundown!**

Rainforest

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In conclusion, it is clear that tropical rainforests should not only be seen as important or in need of saving only because of the animals living there, but also for the plants there. Both living organisms are equally important. We should do our part and protect the species while we can.

How do you spend your holidays?

by Christina Pitts

Everyone's holidays are spent in different ways:

Pre-Thanksgiving, people might gather the night before Thanksgiving and bake pies and prepare for the Thanksgiving dinner. They may choose to set the table for the feast. After the main dinner with all the Thanksgiving fixings and food is put away, some families watch football, play games or take a nap to settle the feast they just devoured to get ready for dessert.

Some Thanksgivings are spent in other ways if you have two sets of parents. You might spend the morning with one parent and have a big breakfast or an early Thanksgiving dinner. Then go to the other parent's house for dinner so you spend equal time with both parents.

Although everyone's situation is different, Thanksgiving means the same to us all: a time to be with family and friends in order to show how much we appreciate what we have in our lives.

Meet Our Team!



Louis Pratt

- Head Editor
- Announcer
- Social Media Manager
- Writer

Kylee Covey

- Head Editor
- Social Media Manager
- Writer



This month's writers also include: **Ethan Farley, Aidan MacLeod, Logan Manney, Kaylie Myers-McGraw, Christina Pitts, Dewey Preece, Aliza Roberts, Chloe Sprague, & Morgan Stevens**

The Railoader Rundown is a one-of-a-kind school newsletter run by Mrs. Short and Head Editors, Louis Pratt and Kylee Covey. Our stories are written by students and are not works of plagiarism.
