

THE STALLION WAY

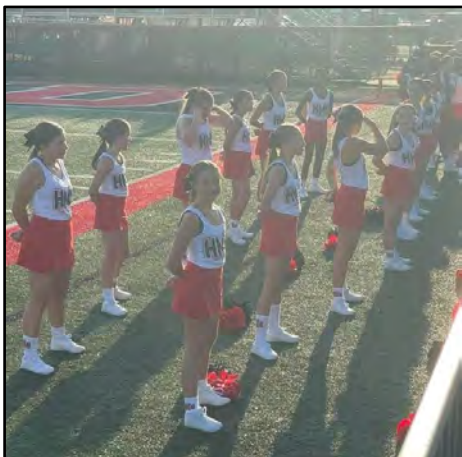
Continuing our rich tradition of excellence by providing an innovative, high-quality education that inspires and empowers students.

MEDIA 7 & 8

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VOLUME 10

Harding Student Athletes Shine this Fall



By Brynn Bowers and Luccianna Petrides

While most students enjoy a new school year so that they can see their friends, many students eagerly await the new school year to participate in fall sports. Harding offers many fall sports for students: football, volleyball, cheering, and cross country. Each will be explored in this article.

Cross Country

The cross-country team has been working hard to improve and is excited to be back in action this fall.

Erica Smith, seventh grade newcomer to the team, shares that she **has a lot of stamina. "I don't have the longest of legs to stride out, but I have a ton of stamina,"** states Smith. **Smith's personal record is 15 minutes and 19 seconds, "and I am looking to improve upon that PR this season,"** adds Smith.

Luccianna Petrides, eighth grade returning team member, is good at **pacing herself. "I am good at knowing when to reserve energy and when to push my hardest,"** states Petrides. **"One area I want to improve upon is how I attack hills."**

Cheering

Harding's team is excited to continue building. While they're excited to cheer on the Stallions at their games—they're most excited for competition season.

Ella Slusser, eighth grader, is excited about the new faces on the team this year. **"Our team's biggest competition is always St. Clairsville, but we're eager to bring some new choreography and tumbling passes to our routines this year,"** adds Slusser.

Avery Zorne, fellow eighth grade teammate, shares that tumbling is the **team's strongest asset. "We have been working on our facials. It sounds silly, but when you're pushing yourself so hard it can sometimes be difficult to remember to smile,"** shares Zorne.

Volleyball

The seventh and eighth grade volleyball teams have been practicing hard. While their seasons have not started as they had desired, the team has come together and celebrated dual wins last week.

Mikah Taylor, eighth grade returner, shares her hopes for the season. **"We're going to be better than last year; we've improved a lot."** Coach Arlesic shares

that communication was a key factor in the latest win. **"They communicated on the court and really went after every ball,"** says Arlesic.

Football

By Aliesha Hendricks

The seventh grade Harding Stallion football team is excited to sport the black and crimson this fall. The seventh graders are playing for the first time as Stallions, and they've been working hard in preparation for the season.

The team has many strengths that they're hoping to capitalize on this season. Angelo Geary, defensive end, **says that the team's depth is a strength. "We have the ability to be able to use more than one player for one position,"** states Geary. **"I'm most looking forward to just getting out and hitting someone,"** adds Geary.

Teammate Carlo Fuscardo adds, **"we're really strong in the backfield."** Fuscardo is most excited to play on Harding's field this season.

Good luck to all of the fall sports teams this season!

Buckeye Land's Best

By Gracie Blackwell, Serenity Smith, and Marcuss Walton
 Returning for a strong marching season, the best middle school band in buckeye land is feeling excited for fall.

Kamiyah Saunders, eighth grade member, says her favorite part of **band is the marching season.** “I was inspired to join the band after seeing the Big Red band play at football games,” adds Saunders.

Similarly, many other students have been inspired by watching the high school—and **they’re looking forward to joining them in a few years.**

Fifth grader Nina Lumpkin shares that she loves band because of the **friendships she has made.** “I love being with my friends,” shares Lumpkin, “and they help to make **band fun.**” Lumpkin joined band to try something new with her friends. “Band is a great way to make new friends, memories, and connections,”

shares Lumpkin.

The middle school band will be marching in the homecoming parade on Friday, and they will be having middle school night in October. During middle school night, the band will get the chance to play alongside the high school at Harding Stadium.

Lastly, you can catch the Stallions performing with the Big Red band during Varsity Show in November. The performances are scheduled for Thursday, November 14 through Saturday, November 16. This performance is always an exciting one for the middle schoolers, and they encourage one and all to come and enjoy this thrilling performance!

Everyone be prepared to be blown away by the band this year, for this year is sure to be a good one. If you see someone in band, tell them good job; **they’re working hard** to put on the best performance they can for you!



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Weather



Saturday
59° 84°



Sunday
59° 84°



Monday
59° 83°

Activities at Harding: Inventionland



By Abby Griffis

Many students look forward to Inventionland when they see it listed as an activity class on their schedule.

Inventionland is an immersive course that allows students to build things with their hands. Kemurah Smith, a student currently in inventionland, **loves to create.** “I am in that class with my friends, and that really helps to make the class more fun,” adds Smith. **Students are able to have this course each year, so many students build upon prior concepts and gradually make more complex inventions**

Smith continues, “the project that I made this year is my favorite creation yet.” Classmate Lamaya Jones states, “I made a project last year that I felt represented me very well. That was **my favorite personal project,**” states Jones. Jones also shares that Ms. Huff, the teacher, makes the class one of her favorites! “I have a good connection with her and it makes the **class more enjoyable,**” adds Jones.

One upcoming project in Inventionland is “**Your Favorite Invention.**” In this assignment, students have to recreate everyday items.



E Sports Plugs In

By Gilbert Poczontek and Alexander Rose

What is “E-Sports”? E-Sports is a competitive gaming club, hence why it has sports in the name. You might be wondering what the E stands for. The **“E” stands for Electronic, so the name simply comes down to “Electronic Sports.”** This, in turn, tells the primary information about which one might inquire.

E-Sports consists of multiplayer competitions within video games, which was a common concept for a long time. It was developed into a **“sport” by around 2000** with the imminent growth of services like YouTube, Twitch, and other similar media. E-Sports was a significant part of the video game industry by the 2010s, with developers designing and funding for E-Sport related events.

E-Sports had become dominantly popular in East Asia, more specifically

around China and South Korea, where they first licensed professional players in 2000. Europe and the American continents are not strangers to E-Sports, however.

According to Mr. Penebaker, one of the two coaches, E-Sports will be starting on the 9th of September. Mr. Penebaker was asked what games students play in E-Sports. He replied, **“Mario-Kart, Minecraft, and Super Smash Bros.”**

Ethan Goff was the leading player last year. This year, Mr. Penebaker mentioned that there was double the number of competitors. In the future, Penebaker hopes **“to expand how many teams Harding has for each game.”**

Last year’s leading scorer shared that the club may have a new location this year. **“We might be moving into the newly built stem section of the high school,”** adds Goff.

New Teachers at Harding

By Cherish Bryant, Nyasia Harris, and Denise Manley
This year, Harding Middle School is excited to welcome several new teachers to the building: Ms. Arlesic, Ms. Ragusa, Ms. Slappy, Ms. Wolfrom, and Dr. Zimmer.

Ms. Slappy is excited to be joining the Harding staff as a Big Red alumnus. **“I love the diverse student population and I am most excited to meet all of the new students,”** says Slappy.

Another Big Red graduate, Ms. Ragusa, is excited to teach science this year. **“Harding has a family feeling,”** states Ragusa. **“Being a leader in the classroom is what I’m most excited about.”**

Ms. Arlesic is another new teacher

this year; however, she has been in the building as a substitute in previous years and is also a Steubenville High School graduate. **“I’m excited to be in my own classroom,”** shares Arlesic. **“The best part of my job is seeing the light bulbs when something clicks for my students.”**

Dr. Zimmer is also new to the staff this year, but she is not new to the crimson and black. Another SHS alum, Zimmer is excited to teach students **new concepts. “It’s been exciting meeting my new students.”**

Last, but not least, Ms. Wolfrom shares that meeting new people has **been the most exciting for her. “I love the new opportunities!”**

Harding students welcome the new teachers and are excited for the year!



Staff Spotlight: Ms. Vostatek

By Nyasia Harris

After 33 years of teaching, Ms. Vostatek has yet to lose her sparkle!

In her fourth year at Harding Middle School, Ms. Vostatek has spent years at the elementary level—where she had the privilege of teaching many of the students that she currently has in class.

When asked about her favorite part of her job, Vostatek stated, “I love watching students be able to understand how to read and write fluently.”

Eighth grader Jayda James shares that Ms. Vostatek is a sweet teacher. “She is really kind hearted and she truly cares for her students,” shares James. “That’s my girl.”

Co-workers share that it is a privilege to work alongside Vostatek. “She was supremely helpful during my first year. She helped me with our **SFA curriculum**,” shares Mrs. Hill, a Harding teacher. “She is an asset to the ELA team and to her students,” adds Hill.

Last year, Vostatek finished the year with a creative Maymester project—composing stories to pair with dinosaur characters. The students’ flexed their skills, and Vostatek made Maymester memorable!

Her message to her former students: “Stay in your own lane; be the one caught doing good and being a role model.”



Harding Humor

Why did the scarecrow win a Nobel Prize?
He was outstanding in his field.



Big Red Football Home Opener

By Nate Spencer and Mark Vain
 During their home opener, Steubenville Big Red took on Archbishop McNicholas. The score was 18-16, with Big Red coming out on top.

Harding Middle School students were in attendance and showed up excited for the new football season. JJ Lamantia, eighth grade student, was in the student section for this game. His favorite part was bringing home the win. “I really like the student section because my friends are all there,” shares Lamantia.

Alina Gentile, fellow eighth grader, was also in attendance. Gentile enjoyed dressing up with classmates like Onnicka Johnson. “I really love getting to get loud with my friends to cheer on Big Red,” shares Gentile.

Harding football player Zyan Poole enjoyed watching the game with teammates. “My friends and I enjoyed watching Big Red get physical and dominate the game,” states Poole.

The crimson and black are back in action at Harding Stadium for the annual homecoming game on Friday. This year, Big Red will play Obama.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 14

VB vs HC, 10am
 8th FB vs South
 7th FB vs Morgantown, 1pm

Monday, September 16

SCS Flag Football Draft, 6pm

Wednesday, September 18

SCS XC @ Brooke, 4:30pm
 8th Grade FB @ Dover, 6pm

September 23-27

Fire Drill Week

Tuesday, October 1

Picture Day
 5th and 6th Grade

Big Red Schedule

9.20	Dover (H)
9.27	Park (A)
10.4	Linsly (H)
10.11	Hurton Hts (H)
10.18	McDowell (H)
10.25	Long Island Lutheran (H)



Artist Spotlight

Annabell Poczontek, Inspired by Ramshackle



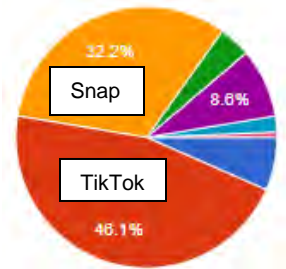
PBIS Recipients for August



Student and Staff Poll

Favorite social media platform?

- Instagram
- TikTok
- Snapchat
- Facebook
- Pinterest
- X
- threads



The Start of Autumn and Daylight Savings

Source: *the Philadelphia Inquirer*

In 2024, the Autumnal Equinox will happen on Sunday, September 22, marking the official start of fall. During an **equinox, which happens twice a year, Earth’s axis reaches a near-perfect balance with the sun**, resulting in nearly equal daylight and nighttime worldwide, according to the National Weather Service. Daylight Saving Time ends on November 3, 2024, when clocks “fall back” one hour--providing more sunlight in the mornings. Some argue that clocks returning to standard time help keep the brain’s 24-hour internal clock, or “circadian rhythm,” in check.

Stallions Speak: School Lunch

By Kristiana Floyd

It’s no secret that many students prefer lunch time to in-class time. At Harding, there are two lunch periods: one for fifth and sixth graders and another period for seventh and eighth graders. During both lunches, the school cafeteria works hard to make nutritious meals for the student body.

I went around asking students about their favorite menu items and

polled students about what they might want to see added to the menu.

Eighth grader Jeremiah Brown loves the chicken strips or nuggets, but he’d love to see nachos added to the menu.

Sam Robinson, another eighth grader, loves the rib sandwich. Robinson would add steak to the menu, if given the chance.

If she could choose one fast food

restaurant to add to the school’s cafeteria, Faith Miller says she would choose Raising Cane’s. “Cane’s has the best chicken and sauce,” exclaimed Miller.

While some kids fantasize about fast food, eighth grader Trey Jeter had only one simple request: more sauce packets for the chicken.

Either way, students are grateful for the hard-working cafeteria staff!

Fifth Grade Adjusts to Middle School Life

By Fernando Lopez Moreno and Dominic Pietro

Becoming a fifth grader is a big adjustment. In Steubenville City Schools, incoming fourth graders come from East Elementary, McKinley STEM, Pugliese West, and Wells Academy. The students merge into one fifth grade community here at Harding Middle School.

Adjusting to middle school life can be trying; however, the fifth-grade students are eager and acclimating well.

Nina Lumpkin likes switching classes most. Classmate DeClan Hritz

shares that the teachers are his favorite.

Two other fifth graders shared their favorite things about Harding. First, Lucas Cook shared that he enjoys switching classes. Then, Mackenzie Peck added that having larger lockers with combinations is an improvement.

Each student shared his or her favorite classes thus far: Lumpkin, Social Studies; Hritz, Health; Cook, Physical Education; and Peck, Orchestra.

Welcome fifth graders. We look forward to seeing what your future holds as Stallions!



Stallions Speak: Upcoming Elections



By Fernando Lopez Moreno and Dominic Pietro

In November, US citizens will vote in the presidential election. Staff and students are speaking out in interviews about this upcoming election.

One major story from this election cycle is that the incumbent president, Joe Biden, has dropped out of the race. In his absence, vice president Kamala Harris is running for president as the democratic nominee. Former president, Donald Trump, is running as the republican nominee.

Many students were surprised to

hear that Biden is no longer running for president. The student body is divided from the current candidate selection. Adam Peeler, fifth grader, shared that if he could vote he would support Trump. "There will be no competition for Trump," shares Peeler confidently.

Fellow classmate Luca Pietro shared similar sentiments. "Trump should win because he would make America great again," says Pietro.

Many students shared enthusiasm for Kamala Harris, noting how historic her presidency would be. She would be the first woman president.