



THE POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT PANTHER PRIDE

September 2007

Volume 3, Issue 10

IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER DATES

- Sept 17
Board Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.
MS Softball and Varsity Softball - Albany (Away) @ 5:30 p.m.
JV Football - Lexington (Home) @ 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball - Hardin (Away) @ 5:30 p.m.
- Sept 18
Varsity Volleyball - Orrick (Home) @ 5:00 p.m.
MS Football - Lawson (Home) @ 6:00 p.m.
- Sept 19
Homecoming Pep Assembly/Bon Fire @ 7:30 p.m.
- Sept 20
MS Softball and Varsity Softball - S. Harrison (Away) @ 5:30 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball - Wellington (Away) @ 5:00 p.m.
- Sept 21
Early Out @ 1:00 p.m.
Homecoming Parade @ 2:30 p.m.
- Sept 22
Carrollton Band Day
Homecoming Dance @ 8:00 p.m.
- Sept 23
FBLA Officer Installation and New Member Induction Ceremony @ 3:00 p.m.
- Sept 24
Jostens - Sophomore Rings @ 11:00 a.m.
JV Football - Braymer (Home) @ 6:00 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball - Norborne (Away) @ 5:30 p.m.
- Sept 25
MS Softball and Varsity Softball - Hamilton (Home) @ 5:30 p.m.
MS Football - Cameron (Away) @ 6:30 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball - Chillicothe (Home) @ 6:00 p.m.
- Sept 27
MS Softball - Cameron (Away) @ 5:30 p.m.
Varsity Softball - Maysville (Home) @ 5:30 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball - Trenton (Home) @ 5:30 p.m.
- Sept 28
Varsity Football - Gallatin (Home) @ 7:00 p.m.
Jostens - Ring Orders Due @ 12:30 p.m.

Counselor's Corner

ACT test will be Dec. 8th final applications are due Nov. 2nd.

Seniors

Some college applications are due on November 1, 2007

Juniors

Polo will reimburse you for the \$30 ACT test fee

Sophomores

Start looking at colleges and universities.

Freshman

Remember this semester's grades are the first you will earn that will be seen by colleges and universities

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND INFORMATION

by Beverly Deis

Elem. Principal

Polo R-VII School District is required to inform parents of certain information they have the right to know, according to The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-11).

Upon request, our district is required to provide to parents in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.
- What baccalaureate degree major the teacher has and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification.

In addition to this information, school districts must also provide to each individual parent:

- Information on the achievement level of the parent's child in each of the state academic assessments as required under NCLB; and
- Timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

If you would like more information about the requirements of NCLB, please contact Beverly Deis at Polo Elementary School.

2007 POLO HOMECOMING

by Abbie Russell

Staff Writer

This year's Homecoming game is going to take place earlier than normal, on September 21st, against the King City Wildkats. The theme is going to be "Game Shows".

Spirit Week Days

Monday - Pajama Day

Tuesday - Jersey/Favorite Sports Team Day

Wednesday - Wacky-Tacky Day

Thursday - Twin Day

Friday - Green and Black Day

School will get out at 1:00 p.m. on Friday and the parade line-up will begin at 1:45 p.m. The parade will start promptly at 2:30 p.m. Following the parade students will be able to get ready for the big game.

If you would like to reserve a spot in the parade please contact Coach Gagnon by phone at (660)354-2524 ex. 127 or by email at cgagnon@polo.k12.

The dance will take place on Saturday, September 22nd at 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Music will be provided by Obmar DJ service from Excelsior Springs. Twinsprings Photography will be available to take pictures.

INFO

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MEET THE PRESS

Joan Ahart

My name is Joan Ahart. I am a Senior, class of 2008. I have been on the Mass Media staff for two years. I am involved in Volleyball, Track, FBLA (secretary), FCCLA, NHS, and Student Council (secretary). I work at Hy-Klas foods in Polo and Hamilton. My hobbies and interests are being with family and friends, and watching movies. I absolutely love Spiderman. My favorites are the color green, New England Patriots, James Franco/Jessica Alba, Panera Bread, and root-beer milk. After graduating I plan to go to college, I don't know what for but it sounds like a good idea. I am a good asset to the 2007-2008 Mass Media staff because I am very artistic and I have a lot of catchy lines.

Josh Duncan

My name is Joshua Duncan and I am a senior at Polo High school. My parents are John and Mary Duncan. I have two older sisters, Shelta Duncan and Carrie Ware, they are both graduates of Polo High school. I am a thirteen year senior but this is my first year in Mass Media. I also am involved in football, basketball and track. I hope to bring excitement to the mass media class and my creative wit to the Panther Pride. I have achieved many goals and awards in my sports career and hope to achieve many more in the future. I hope to carry on my achievements into my college career. A few things I like to do in my spare time are ride four wheelers, hunt, swim, and take it easy. I am excited to bring you the exhilarating and electrifying news of Polo, Mo.

Mitch Huntley

Hello fellow citizens of Polo. My name is Mitch Huntley, from the polo year-book committee. Being as I am now a junior this is my first year in Mass Media. Also I participate in Wrestling, Track, FFA, FBLA, Student council and I am currently Class president for the super cool class of 09'. I really enjoy being involved in activities during the school season such as homecoming, court warming, barn warming, prom, football games, volleyball games, and many other student activities. I have always been interested in writing interesting stories, interviewing people, taking pictures and videotaping so joining Mass Media to me was a great idea. It is my duty and honor to bring to you, all the late breaking investigating news that goes down in the town of Polo. Hope to see you out there.

Kelsi Pile

My name is Kelsi Pile and I am currently a Junior. This is my first year being apart of Mass Media, and I am excited to bring you the latest news every month. I wanted to be apart of Mass Media because I enjoy writing articles and informing others of what's going on around them. I would also like to pursue being a T.V. anchorwoman after high school, so this will be a great learning process also. Besides Mass Media I am also active in softball, basketball, track, student council, FBLA, and I'm currently Vice President for the Junior class. I plan and look forward to informing you of every ounce of news that hits the business room here at Polo High, so read on.

Emily Powers

My name is Emily Powers, I am a senior, and this is my first year in Mass Media. I am involved in volleyball, I am the President of FFA, President of FBLA, Student Council Vice-President, Senior class Secretary, and I am in National Honor Society. Many of you may know me, as your friendly teller from Bank Northwest where I have worked for about a year and a half. I have one sister, Carlie Powers, she is in eighth grade. Some of my hobbies are hanging out with friends, going to movies, cooking, shopping, and being with my family. After school I plan to go to the University of Missouri and major in Political Science. After that I plan to continue on to law school. Throughout the school year I hope I can bring fabulous articles to the paper to keep you reading and informed.

Ashley Strickbine

My name is Ashley Strickbine. I am the daughter of Jason and Shelli Strickbine. I am seventeen years old and a thirteen year senior. I have one brother, Casey who is a sophomore and one sister, Taylor who is a seventh grader. I enjoy reading, hanging with friends and working as a cashier at the local Hy-Klas. In school I am active in the Future Business Leaders of America (four years), Student Council (one year), National Honor Society (two years, historian) and Mass Media (two years.) This year in Mass Media, I plan to push myself creatively and to write more intriguing articles for our readers. After high school, I plan to attend either the College of the Ozarks or Missouri State University. My intended major is the technical field of graphic design. As a graphic designer, I plan to be a page layout creator for a magazine publication. Working as a Mass Media student isn't only fun, but it is also very beneficial to my future career plans!

Saren Thomas

Mushi Mushi! My name is Saren Thomas and I am a senior here at Polo High School. Unlike most kids around here I spent most of my elementary years in Chandler, Arizona and moved to Missouri when I was twelve. Then dare I say, I lived in Braymer for about a year and a half and then moved to Polo in eighth grade. Then I have been here ever since.

I participate in a few extra curricular activities such as Volleyball, Band, FBLA, FCCLA, and 4-H. When I am not doing any of these things you might see me working at the famous Hy-Klas grocery store.

After high school I plan on attending college somewhere in-state. As of now my future occupation might be a dentist, cosmetologist, or some type of designer. I have really enjoyed going to school at Polo. The years I have spent here have been some of the best and most memorable. I am almost done in this chapter of my life with high school and I can't wait to start the next one!

Abbie Russell

I'm Abbie Russell, a senior at Polo this year. Both of my parents graduated from Polo in 1986. Their names are Bill and Christi Russell. I have a younger brother, Tyler, who is a sophomore this year. I'm not in any sports but I do like to go to the games to cheer on the teams. I am in some organizations; Art Club FBLA, NHS, FCCLA, Student Council, and I'm also serving as Student Council and Senior Class president. This is actually my thirteenth year going to Polo, so I have grown up with a lot of my classmates, but this is only my second year as a Mass Media student. Many of you may know me from working at the grocery store, Hy-Klas.

Breakfast with Books



Left: Tyler J listens to Jarod Ball's grandpa as he shares a book during breakfast.



Right: Jordan Rash and Grandma enjoy blueberry muffins as they read a book.



SEPTEMBER 26TH

7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

POLO HIGH SCHOOL GYM

LIVE BAND

7-12th GRADE INVITED

See Andrea Kesler,
Ashley Strickbine or Mr. G for details

Kindergarteners Get Help From 3rd Grade Buddies

by Sherrie Silvey

Teacher

Wednesday, September 5, the Kindergartners invited the 3rd Grade classes to come work with us during Reading. The students used their 3rd Grade "Buddy" to help them read and write the room. The Kindergarten Classes are working on differentiating between "letters", "numbers," and "pictures". The buddies helped the students walk around the room with a "Write On / Wipe Off" journal and find letters to write; as well as numbers.

We certainly are lucky to have such great buddies to help us & we are looking forward to many more "3rd Grade Buddy" visits throughout the year.



National Honor Society Update

by Ashley Strickbine

Staff Writer

Tuesday September 4th was the first late start day of the school year! National Honor Society members met at 10 a.m. to discuss the upcoming year. Sponsor Mrs. Davies supervised the nominations. The new NHS officers are President Kasey Claypole, Vice president Jake Roberts, Secretary Megan Snodgrass, Treasurer Amber Endsley and Reporter/Historian Ashley Strickbine. After the new officers were elected the new President Kasey Claypole took over the meeting. The members discussed hanging the flags for the veterans and the up coming book fair.

Every year the National Honor Society holds a book fair in the library to raise money for our annual community service project. Last year's community service project was helping a family in need around Christmastime. After the community service project, NHS members plan on using the left over money made from the book fair to go on a field trip in the spring.

September 4th was also Field/Water balloon Day. After the meeting that morning NHS members went outside to help with the various events.

Local Aggie Review

by Emily Powers

Staff Writer

Polo FFA students are fired up for a new year in Agriculture. Wednesday August 29th members met in the Ag Shop to discuss upcoming events. Some of the items discussed were chapter dues, grasslands, National Convention, and Fruit Sales. Dues were set at \$25, and need to be paid by October 1st. Grasslands contest is coming up in October. National Convention is at the end of October and many students have already signed up to go. National Convention is held in Indianapolis, Indiana, and fruit sales will start shortly after. After the meeting members headed outside to play duck duck goose, and football. In the meantime Vice President Ryan Barnes, Reporter Jake Roberts, and Junior Mitchell Huntley grilled gourmet cooking franks that everyone enjoyed. There was a good turn out, and everyone had a good time.

Parent Portal News Update

Parents, you should have access to the SIS Parent Portal. If you have applied for access you should have received an e-mail notification of your UserID and Password. If you had access before then use the same information as when you last used the Portal.

If you have lost or failed to receive your login information contact one of the building secretaries for assistance. When you talk to the secretary for a failure to receive make sure to double check that our system has the correct e-mail address.

Thank you for your participation in the Parent Portal Program.

FBLA Leadership Conference

by Joan Ahart

Staff Writer

The 2007-2008 Polo High School FBLA officers consist of President: Emily Powers, Vice President: Kim Webb, Secretary: Joan Ahart, Treasurer: Kasey Claypole, Reporter: Dalton Rardon, and Historian: Katelyn Sanders. Three officers were able to attend the 2007 FBLA Leadership Conference held in Columbia, Missouri. They received extensive leadership training from guest presenters Andrew McCrae and Corey Florency. The officers also sat in on training sessions presented by the 07-08 State Leadership team which prepared them for their local chapter officer duties. The Polo students were also able to network with other FBLA members from across the state and became acquaintances with the FBLA State Parliamentarian, Phillip Arnold from Gallatin. The students were accompanied by local adviser, Lindsey Frerking.

The FBLA chapter has had a successful recruitment since the beginning of school with 17 new student members and 3 professional members joining. Polo will also be the lead chapter for District 19 and will host the District Leadership Conference in February. Some of the 'Outstanding Dates' are October 13, 2007- Worlds of Fun Day, November 9, 2007- Community Center Blood Drive, and November is Prematurity Awareness Month in which FBLA will be promoting the March of Dimes.

Carrollton Band Day Preparation

by Saren Thomas

Staff Writer

The Polo Panther Pride Marching Band is back at it again. Not sparing too much time after the band's Florida trip this summer, they're practicing for street parade in band camp. Training goes well for seventh graders and new students to the band. After band camp time seemed to fly by because it was time for school.

No time has been wasted it appears as the band is already starting to put music and marching together on the street. "The band is doing extremely well for how young and inexperienced the new band members are, but the upper classmen are doing a superb job of teaching and the new members are catching on quick." says Mrs. Limyao the band director. With the hard work and dedication put in by the band members it looks like they could bring home a 1 from Carrollton Band Day. This is a must every year for the Panther Pride Marching Band and families. If you or your family would like to attend the Carrollton Band days it is October 22nd.

2006-2007 Yearbooks
Still Available

Limited Supply for only \$40.00
Contact High School Office

The Following Past Yearbooks
are Available for \$10.00

1995-1996 1997-1998
1998-1999 1999-2000

2005-2006

Contact the High School Office
for your copy

2007 HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Joan Ann Ahart

Joan is the daughter of Clint and Laurie Ahart. While in high school Joan has participated in Volleyball, Varsity Boys Basketball Manager, and Track. She has also been an active member in NHS and FCCLA and serves as the secretary of Student Council and FBLA. Joan's honors include state medalist in 2005 and a state qualifier in 2006. Joan's future plans are to attend Northwest Missouri State University to major in an undecided business degree.

Charles John Boruch

Charlie is the son of Denise and Gary Boruch. While in high school Charlie has participated in Football, Track, and Baseball. He is an active member of FBLA. Charlie's honors include a state medalist in track of 2006. Charlie's future plans are undecided.

Alyssa Gene Lamarr

Alyssa is the daughter of Gene and Marcy Lamarr. While in high school Alyssa has participated as Football and wrestling manager and a track athlete. Alyssa's future plans are to attend Kansas University and study nursing.

Christopher Joe Ake

Christopher is the son of Carol Brandon. While in High school Christopher has participated in Football and Basketball. Christopher's honors include the 2nd grade spelling Bee. Christopher's future plans are to attend Harvard Law School.

Megan Lynn Snodgrass

Megan is the daughter of Dennis and Kim Snodgrass. While in high school Megan has participated in Cheerleading, Basketball, Color Guard, and Track. She has also been an active member in FFA, NHS, and Student Council. Megan's honors include the MSHSAA Award of Excellence and a state qualifier in track of 2005. Megan's future plans are to attend Missouri University and major in Medicine Research.

Joshua Thomas Duncan

Joshua is the son of John and Mary Duncan. While in high school Joshua has participated in Football, Basketball, and Track. He is an active member of FBLA. Joshua's honors include All-Conference in football and two time state track medalist. Joshua's future plans are undecided.



2007 Polo Homecoming Royalty

Front row: Freshmen, Logan Dixon and Nikki Junco.

Middle row: Sophomore, Katelyn Sanders, Juniors, Kelsi Pile and Spencer Snodgrass, and Sophomore, Dalton Rardon.

Back row: Seniors, Josh Duncan, Charlie Boruch, Alyssa LaMarr, CJ Ake, Joan Ahart, and Megan Snodgrass

EUROPE TRIP - 2008

There is a trip to Europe in the summer of 2008 being planned. The minimum number of people; required for the trip to occur is 14. To date we have 10 confirmed. The requirements to go on the trip are, you must have completed your 8th grade year (all subjects passed) and Mr. Sterner must approve your participation. The full cost (minus spending money and lunches) is \$2915.00 The tour will go to Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, France and England. Anyone interested needs to contact Mr. Sterner by October 10, 2007. If there are not enough travelers, the trip will be cancelled.

NEW STAFF ADDITION

by Kelsi Pile

Staff Writer

Ms. Amy Ireland has just joined the faculty at Polo R-7 as a teacher's aid for elementary special education. Before coming to Polo Ms. Ireland has been a substitute for Pre-school through 12th grade. She has also worked as a pre-school teacher aid at the United Methodist Pre-school in Chillicothe. Ms. Ireland graduated from Graceland University with a Bachelor of Arts. She decided to come to Polo R-7 because it would be closer to home, living just West of Braymer. Ms. Ireland is not only a teacher aide, but is also a mom. She has two children, a three year old boy, Cutter, and a four month old daughter, Memphis. We are glad to have this new addition to the faculty and wish Ms. Ireland the best of luck.



The Polo Athletic Booster Club would like to thank the following for their contributions at the Crooked River Golf Tournament

Bank Northwest	Shelter Insurance, Richmond
Polo Vet Services	Richmond Wal-Mart
Day Construction	Jamie Pitman
Hy-Klas foods	J.D. Steel Co. Inc
Northland Family Counseling Service	George Christopher Classic
Bobrenco	Mellon Pitching
Summerville Insurance	Beckett Gas
Jason A. Kanoy	United Country
Dan Parker Construction	Pepsi Cola Bottling
Employee Health Services, Inc	Winners Circle
Greenhill's	Kim White
Caseys	The Keg, Richmond
Signature Marketing, Inc	Blair's Furniture, Richmond
Amersco	Calvert's, Richmond
Michael & Natalie Leamer	Bayer Chemicals
Twin Springs Photography	JP's Total Image
Stonum Insurance	Shear Image
Jig Jag Johnson's Fireworks	Mushroom Patch
Kill Transportation	Richmond Shirkey's Golf Club
Howell Insurance	Golf Discount
Hill Top Grain	Richey Chiropractic Clinic
Anderson Erickson Dairy, Inc	Let me relax you
Polo R-7 School District	Terry Shivers
Polo Booster Club	Kim Snodgrass
Polo Music Booster	David Misel
Pat Sullivan class of 1984	Laurie Ahart
Richmond Farm & Lawn	Betty Vassmer
Aliance Drywall	Rosamay Hufford
Derstlers Lumber	Todd & Lesa Stottlemeyre
Polo Sales and Service	Alan Vassmer
Polo Reality	Sissy Hobbs
North Country Ford Lincoln	Patty Dixon
Midwest Audio & Video	Kim Templeton
Excelsior Springs Quarterback Club	Susan Powers
Orscheln's	Chris McGinley
Linda's Floral, Richmond	Holly Baughman
Panther Drive In	David Misel
Movie Gallery, Richmond	Samara Wormsley

WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER

by Joan Ahart

Staff Writer

Senior, Nikita Stottlemire says, "I went to Branson Missouri for 4 days. It was a crummy weekend with the weather but we got to eat at Lamberts, and play at Silver Dollar City in the rain."

Junior, Phillip Casey says, "I took a trip with my friends to see the 'Yaks' at the Omaha Zoo to see if they really exist. They do not exist at the Omaha Zoo, so I have to go to Albuquerque or something."

Sophomore, Paige Ahart says, "This summer we took our annual family camping trip to 'Louis and Clark National Park' it was so hot, all of the children wanted to go to the park that had no shade, and the only place to swim was a pond that was 4ft. deep and full of goose poop."

Freshman, Logan Dixon says, "All I did this summer was work and hang out with my best friend Alan Vassmer. On my free time I fished."

Polo Student Adventures

by Mitch Huntley

Staff Writer

What do students do for fun? Life around Polo can often be slow and boring but at times students try to get out and make the best of it. Most would think well what would you do that's so exciting in Polo? And the only way to answer that question is to ask some of the Polo School Districts finest.

Starting with Junior Spencer Snodgrass quote, "during the summer I like to dress as a hobo and find any random train and jump on it. Then I like to tour the countryside and see the beauty of the world. It makes me feel free I love it there's nothing like it, no waiting in long lines for tickets or sitting next to smelly people who wont stop talking its just me and mother nature at its finest I feel so free, free as a bird!" Wow, that's some crazy stuff, but just wait and listen to this next crazy story.

One of my personal favorites is told by my good friend Ryan Barnes Polo's Senior Linebacker, stated, "one day Alyssa Lamar, Mitch and myself all went up to a fun little get away place at our farm in Hamilton. There is a five acre lake and we were all swimming having a good time when all of a sudden a monster named Nelson, that Mitch had forewarned us about attacked Alyssa. Instinctively I grabbed my trusty blow dart gun and hit the monster right between the eyes; he immediately went down into the dark murky water of the deep, deep pond. Then to celebrate are victory we all went to the Chinese restaurant in Cameron where we saw Coach Johnson, who challenged us to an eating contest. We were no match."

"As for myself, the craziest adventure I can tell you about involves me, Big Foot, a hammer, and some oranges. To find out that story you will have to ask me personally." These stories may all seem like a tall tale to most people, but they are factual quotes, brought to you by me, from the field, researching, and interviewing down to the finest detail and slightly manipulating it for the readers interests, but only slightly.

"And that's the way I see it."

September History

by Emily Powers

Staff Writer

September is a month full of very interesting history.

On September 2nd 1789 The United States Treasury was formed.

September 8th 1921 Margaret Gorman was crowned the first Miss America in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

September 11th is probably one of the most memorable dates in September. This is the day that the World Trade Centers collapsed after being struck by planes flown by terrorists. It was a very tragic day in America that will never be forgotten.

On September 17th the American Professional Football Association, now known as the NFL, was formed in Canton, Ohio in 1920. Now football is an American tradition, and can be found on most household televisions on Sundays and Monday nights.

On September 25th 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor took her seat as the first female United States Supreme Court Justice.

These are just some fun facts about this month in history!



ABOVE: Polo students enjoy a great summer day at Mitch Huntley's cabin at the lake.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT Mrs. Lori Fickess

by Lana Hufft

Staff Writer

Mrs. Fickess was born on December 24th, 1971 in Camdenton, Missouri near the Lake of the Ozarks. She graduated from Camdenton High School, 25th in a class of 200 students. She received the graduating artist award and participated in and won awards in many local art contests. In high school she ran distance track until her sophomore year, was vice-president and president of the Art Club, a member of the French Club, Chemistry Club, Science Club, and the National Honor Society. During high school she had a part-time job as a Dental Assistant's assistant and was the Duty Manager at Big Shot Amusement Park during the summers before she got married.

Mrs. Fickess received a scholarship to Truman University in Kirksville and attended Truman until she married Mr. Fickess at the end of their sophomore year. When they married they moved to Kearney and she attended William Jewell, while working full time at Hallmark Cards. When their first daughter, Monica was born ten weeks early, she decided to stay home with her for two years. Later, she returned to college and graduated from Missouri Western State College, in St. Joseph with a bachelor's degree in Art Education. While at MWSC, she was on the Dean's list, Presidential Honor Roll and received the Amy Singleton Art Award.

Mrs. Fickess met Mr. Davey Fickess at Truman University the second week of their freshman year. "Mr. Fickess and his roommate Rusty Aubrey, a Polo graduate, wrote their dorm room phone number on my door and my roommates called them. We met Mr. Fickess and Rusty in the lounge of our dorm to play cards and by the end of the evening we had made a date," Mrs. Fickess said. May 23rd will be their fifteenth wedding anniversary. They were married down at the Lake of the Ozarks in a church that Mrs. Fickess' father, a contractor, built. They went on their honeymoon to Galveston Island, Texas. Mrs. Fickess said, "Neither of us had ever been to the beach before and we sunburned so badly we came home a day early!" Now they have three daughters, Monica age twelve, Emily age nine, and Marisa who just turned five.

Every weekday, Mrs. Fickess drives her red Chevy Impala five minutes to get to school. Mrs. Fickess teaches Art 1, Drawing 1&2, Painting 1&2, 7th & 8th grade art, K-6 Art classes, plus independent study students, which is a total of 262 students! "I have always loved art and sharing it with others, teaching just seemed natural. I also come from a family of teachers, my great grandfather was a teacher in a one-room schoolhouse and my mother and sisters are all teachers," said Mrs. Fickess. When she is not teaching she enjoys being a mom, painting, drawing and running when she has the time. She also helps Mr. Fickess on their farm when he needs her. "My future plans are to teach until I become famous," says Mrs. Fickess. "My plans for next year are to help inspire as many students as I can to find the artist within."

Naming the Polo Panther

by Abbie Russell

Staff Writer

"Go Polo Panthers!!" many signs have said, "Let's go green!!" many fans have cheered, but never once did our Mighty Panther's name get brought up. Our panther has represented our school for years but never received a title. The time has come to give our mascot a name.

Students from Polo R-VII have nominated a list of names that will be narrowed down to the top five. The top five names are going to then be posted on our school website (<http://polo.k12.mo.us>) for patrons in the community to vote on. If you would like to take part in this historical event, check out the school website to cast your vote.

The Locker Room

by Mitch Huntley

Staff Writer

Most people know what the Panthers are like at home or on the field, but many wonder just what goes on in the locker room of the Polo Panthers football team. It's game day, emotions are running high, the players all have butterflies in their stomach, along with anxious minds counting down every minute until the time arrives, called game time. Classmates see these feelings throughout the day, but it's the intensity of these feelings in the locker room, minutes before the game that people don't get the chance to witness. As an Athlete, I know from personal experience these mixed emotions that occur before a big event, yet to truly harness the feelings of an athlete at this time you must get their point of view.

Senior quarterback Charlie Boruch says, "I usually try to sit alone or beside a teammate and concentrate on the game. Also I listen to my MP3 player to try and get mentally psyched up for the game."

Senior runningback Josh Duncan stated, "I'm nervous dude! I try to relax and prepare my mind for the game, I like to just simply block everything out and envision running the ball across the goal line."

Senior lineman Lathan Dixon said, "I just try to clear my mind, and focus on nothing but the game. I have a mix of nervousness and excitement at the same time, excited because I get to play in a football game and nervous because I don't want to be the one to screw up."

Over all the feeling is mutual in the locker room. Every player is nervous, excited, anxious, scared, or something more, something you cant quite put your finger on. Every athlete experiences "the feeling" but they just can't put it in words, It's butterflies in the stomach, its nerves, it's anxiousness and excitement, all rolled into one. In the locker room your classmates, your friends, your family, your brothers, your teammates all share this same feeling at the exact same moment and this moment is in the locker room, away from the fans, the opponents, the field, the lights, as one, as a unit, as a team..

"And that's the way I see it"

Polo R-VII Activity Passes

\$50.00 - individuals
OR
\$100.00 - family

Purchase your
activity pass
in the high school
office.

Softball Off to a Rough Start

by Kelsi Pile

Staff Writer

This year marks the first year of softball at the varsity level for Polo High School. Polo has added varsity softball as a sport option because they moved from the Central River Conference into the Grand River Conference which doesn't have volleyball, but has softball. Not ever playing high school softball, Polo hasn't made a name for themselves as a team and is hoping to do so this season. Coach Greg Keith and assistant coach Ryan Horn both tackle the task of coaching the lady panthers for their first season. The team is very young with only two juniors, five sophomores, and four freshmen. "It takes time for a young team to get used to playing at a higher level of competition, says Coach Keith. The caliber of pitchers we're seeing on a daily basis in games are at a higher standard than some of these girls are used to seeing in summer leagues."

"My goals are that we improve each game, that we prepare each day for district competition, and work together as a team, because some of the girls aren't used to playing with each other," states Coach Keith.

On August 23, the lady panthers traveled to North Platte High School for their season opener. The first inning was a rough one for the lady panthers as they made some errors, somewhat due to first game jitters. As the game progressed the Polo lady panthers got into somewhat of a rhythm, but still couldn't make up for the first inning. The lady panthers ended up losing 15-0 but are ready to play hard their next game against Plattsburg.

The Weight Room

by Josh Duncan

Staff Writer

For four summers now the weight room has been open to all Polo High and Middle School students. When we first started this program very few students came to lift. Since then the attendance of the weight room has increased. Coach Kevin Webster, the teacher of middle school history and assistant coach of football and basketball is the weight room trainer. When Coach Webster first came there wasn't a summer weight room program. Now he has made it a priority for all athletes to lift. This summer the weight room was open in the mornings and in the evenings. In the fourth year of this program the attendance was at its high. It takes a lot of dedication to come in every Monday through Thursday during your summer. The ones that did come in and worked hard are just bettering themselves for the upcoming sports season. If you had an attendance of ninety five percent or better the school would count it as a half credit. At the end of the last two summers Coach Webster held a liftathon to help raise money for Polo High schools weight room program. This money has helped buy new weights, a jammer machine and a hip sled. These new improvements have not only helped the appearance of the weight room but have made Polo athletes stronger and more prepared for the upcoming season.

Varsity Volleyball Brings Home 2nd Place

by Saren Thomas

Staff Writer

On August 27th the Polo Varsity Volleyball girls took their two weeks of hard practice to the court in Norborne for the CRC tournament. This is the last year for the CRC tournament due to conference dissolving. With that in mind, the Lady Panthers came out ready for battle. The first match was with Polo's great rival the Braymer Bobcats where the first game jitters lost a match for the Panthers but they came back in the second match with a victory.

Next up, Englewood Christian Academy which was a little tougher than the Lady Panthers would have liked. None the less, they came out with a perfect game.

Immediately after ECA were the Norborne Pirates. In a good game of volleying back and forth Polo once again came out on top. After a night's rest it didn't calm the nerve to win. Back at it, Polo played the Hardin Bulldogs and came out triumphant. When points were tallied it came down to Braymer and Polo for 1st. The team was disappointed by the three point defeat but still proud they came out with second. The coaches are proud and thought the team did excellent in spite of being in second place. So now when the Panthers go to play Bobcats again they will have sparked a flame of revenge.

Softball Comes From Behind

by Kelsi Pile

Staff Writer

On August 30 the lady panthers had their first home game against Tri-county R-7, and were fired up to win after a tough loss at Plattsburg just 2 days before. The Tri-County Mustangs got off to a good start leading the game 11-0 in the bottom of the fourth inning. But the Panthers weren't ready to give up yet, in the next four innings the Panthers played good defense and came ready to the plate to hit. They scored 15 runs, including a home run hit by Alishia Bolling in the next 4 innings winning the game in the bottom of the 7th, 15-14. Other offensive leaders were Madison Misel and Kelsi pile with one RBI and 4 stolen bases each. Also Courtney Farris had two RBI's and Katelyn Sanders with three RBI's.

"As a spectator I could tell the girls never gave up and played their hearts out, which made for an exciting game. I think coming from behind 11-0 was a great confidence builder for the girls," says Sharla Stith.

"I couldn't be more proud of the girls," says Coach Keith, "It's not everyday in softball you see a team come back from being down 11-0 and winning in the bottom of the 7th 15-14. I think with every game comes experience in every way, shape, or form. In the game versus Tri-County we experienced what it's like to never give up and the game's not over until the umpire calls it."

MEET THE FALL PANTHERS



VARSITY SOFTBALL



VARSITY VOLLEYBALL



MIDDLE SCHOOL
FOOTBALL



MIDDLE SCHOOL
SOFTBALL



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

INFORMATION

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| PANTHER PRIDE |

<http://polo.k12.mo.us>

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES CALENDAR AND MENU

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						V-SB Cameron Tournament @ 9:30 a.m.	
2	No School	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Late Start 10:30 Sr. Magazine Sales Elem. Field Days V-VB (A) Lathrop @ 5:30 p.m.	V-SB Union Star Classic @ 4:00 p.m. FBLA Mtg. @ 6:00 p.m.	MS-SB Gallatin (A) 5:30 p.m. V-VB N. Platte (A) @ 5:00 p.m. V-SB Ster (A) @ 6:00 p.m.	V-FB (A) Princeton @ 7:00 p.m.	V-SB Union Star Classic @ 9:00 a.m. MSSB King City @ 9:30-11:00 p.m.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Grandparents Day	JV-FB St. Mary's (A) 6:00 p.m. MS-SB (A) Trenton FCCLA Mtg. 6:30 p.m.	V-VB (A) South Holt @ 5:30 p.m. MS-FB Braymer (H) @ 6:00 p.m.		V-VB (A) Englewood/Braymer @ 5:00 p.m.	V-FB Tarkio (H) @ 7:00 p.m.	V-VB Lathrop Tournament @ 9:00 a.m.	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
	Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. V-SB, MSSB (A) Albany @ 5:30p.m. JV-FB Lexington @ 6:00 p.m. V-VB (A) Hardin @ 5:30 p.m.	V-VB Orrick (H) @ 5:00 p.m. MS-FB Lawson (H) @ 6:00 p.m.	Homecoming Assembly/Boufire @ 7:30 p.m.	V-SB and MS-SB (A) S. Harrison @ 5:30 p.m. V-VB Wellington (H) @ 5:00 p.m.	Early out 1:00 p.m. Parade @ 2:30 p.m. V-FB King City (H) Homecoming @ 7:00 p.m.	Carrollton Band Day Homecoming Dance @ 8-11 p.m.	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
	JV-FB Braymer (H) @ 6:00 p.m. V-VB Norborne (A) @ 5:30p.m. Josten-soph rings @ 11:00 a.m.	V-SB & MS-SB (H) V.S. Hamilton @5:30 p.m. MS-FB (A) Cameron @ 6:30 p.m. V-VB (H) Chillicothe @ 6:00 p.m.		MS-SB Cameron (A) 5:30 p.m. V-SB Maysville (H) 5:30 p.m. JV-VB Trenton (H) 5:30p.m.	V-FB Gallatin (H) 7:00 p.m. Jostens- Order Rings 12:30-1:00 p.m.		
30							

September 2007

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
No School Labor Day	No Breakfast Late Start 10:30 a.m. Turkey on bun, Carrot sticks, Applesauce	Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Pineapple	French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Peaches	Biscuit & Gravy, Fruit Chicken Nugget, California Blend, Mandarin Oranges
10	11	12	13	14
Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Corn dog or Burrito, Pinto Beans, Pears	Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Toast, Fruit Shredded BBQ on Bun, Smile Fries, Pineapple	Hash brown, Sausage Toast, Ham Meatball Sub, Green Beans, Peaches	French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Sweet n' Sour Chicken, Oriental Vegetables, Mandarin Oranges	Sausage Gravy & Biscuit, Fruit Tuna or Bologna Sandwich, Baby Potato Bakers, Jell-o
17	18	19	20	21
Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit King Ranch Chicken, Corn, Pineapple	Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Toast, Fruit Beefy Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Applesauce	Muffin, Ham, Fruit Ravioli, Green Beans, Applesauce	French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Bratwurst on Bun, Baked Beans, Strawberries & Bananas	Sausage Gravy & Biscuit, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, French Fries, Peaches
24	25	26	27	28
Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Nachos, Refried Beans, Pears	Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Toast, Fruit Chicken Pattie on Bun, Green Beans, Jell-o	Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Hot Dog on Bun, Baked Beans, Peaches	French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Pineapple	Sausage gravy & Biscuit, Fruit Fish Sticks, Peas, Applesauce