



# THE

# POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT PANTHER PRIDE

March 2009

Volume 4, Issue 7

## Important March Dates

- Mar 2 Late Start 10:30 am  
District Boys BB @ Santa Fe 4:30 pm
- Mar 3 FFA Judging Day @ Hamilton 8:00 am
- Mar 5 5th/6th Grade BB vs. Braymer
- Mar 6 3rd Quarter Ends
- Mar 9 GRC Academic Meet @ Gallatin 6 pm
- Mar 10 MAP Night 3rd-6th Grade  
MAP/EOC/Scholarship Night 7-12 6 pm
- Mar 11 Area & State FFA Officer Interviews @ Gallatin 6 pm
- Mar 12 8th Grade Visitation  
MS Fall & Winter Sports Reception 6 pm HS Gym
- Mar 13 JH GRC Wrestling @ Stanberry  
MAP Incentive Trip 7-12  
FFA Judging Day @ Brunswick 8 am
- Mar 14 Spring Choir & Jazz Band Show @ Community Ctr.  
(Dinner @ 5 pm & Show @ 6:30 pm)
- Mar 15 Spring Choir & Jazz Band Show @ Community Ctr 2 pm
- Mar 16 GRC Academic Meet @ Hamilton 6 pm  
Literature Festival @ Warrensburg 7 am-5 pm
- Mar 17 BOE Meeting 7 pm  
5th/6th BB vs. Braymer 6 pm
- Mar 18 EARLY OUT 11:30 am  
FFA Area I CDE Workshop @ Savannah 4:30 pm  
Mock MAP/EOC Day
- Mar 19 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break  
FFA Judging Day @ Lathrop 8 am
- Mar 20 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
- Mar 23 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break  
GRC Academic Meet @ Polo 6 pm  
6th Grade BB Tourney @ Hamilton  
5th Grade BB Tourney @ Stet
- Mar 24 Varsity Track @ UCM in Warrensburg 1 pm
- Mar 26 Spring Concert 7-12 6:30 pm  
PAT Mtg 6pm
- Mar 27 FFA, NCMC CDE's @ Trenton 8 am  
HS Winter Sports Banquet 6 pm
- Mar 28 District Solo/Ensemble Contest  
Senior Citizen Prom 5:30-10:00pm in the Multi-Purpose Rm  
Orrick Math Contest 4th-8th  
5th Grade BB @ S. Harrison
- Mar 30 GRC Academic Meet 6 pm @ S. Harrison
- Mar 31 District Ag & FFA CDE's @ Maryville 8 am  
MAP Testing  
Varsity Track @ Richmond 3 pm

## From the Desk of the Elementary Principal

by Mrs. Beverly Deis  
*Elementary Principal*

Students and staff at Polo Elementary have been very busy in past few weeks. Some of the things that have kept us busy include Spirit Week, the NED Character Assembly, the PTO Book Fair, Family Night at the Book Fair, Valentine Parties, County Spelling Bee, preparing for the Math Contest, elementary basketball, and class pictures.

Many more busy weeks are ahead of us as teachers are currently planning activities for MAP Night, which will be held on March 10. Letters will be sent out to parents of students in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 with more information about MAP Night. MAP Night is in conjunction, this year, with Middle School and High School MAP/EOC and scholarship information night. Other upcoming activities include the Missouri Assessment Program Testing (MAP) and Stanford 9 Achievement Tests. I hope everyone has these dates marked on their calendars (March 31, April 1-2, April 6-8, and April 13 - 17). On these days, it is very important for all students to eat a good breakfast and to arrive to school on time. Soon after the MAP and Stanford testing, students in K-6 will be given the spring Gates MacGinitie Reading Assessment. Third quarter grade cards will be sent out on March 12.

Again, I would like to thank all of the parents, guardians, staff members and community members for their support with all of the activities at our school.

## NOTICE OF VACANCY POLO R-VII BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Polo R-VII Board of Education is now taking letters of application to fill a vacant board position. The person that is appointed to fill this vacancy will serve on the board until the April, 2010 school board election, at which time the position shall be filled by election. Applicants must meet the qualifications listed below and submit a letter of application including reasons why you desire to be on the board. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2009 to:

**Polo R-VII School  
Attn: Rochelle Myers, Board Secretary  
300 W. School Street  
Polo, MO 64671**

*Qualifications are:*

**A citizen of the United States, a resident taxpayer of the district who has resided in Missouri for one (1) year and be at least twenty-four (24) years of age.**

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## A Visit from the Military

by Mitch Huntley

Staff Writer

On Tuesday, in the Sixth Grade Class, Tracy Allen visited us from the military. Tracy is Danielle Allen's aunt, and her brother and sister are, Josh and Ashley Allen, who are high school students. She informed us about her duty in the military, and what they do to scan the people who come to the police station.

She brought us some interesting photos and a slideshow on the T.V. It was very fascinating, and she told us about the children there, that received sacks of flour and rice, to help their families. They were so excited to see this, and the clothes and other necessities. All this came from right here in Polo! Some came from churches around here, families, and others. They were very grateful, of course. Tracy also presented Mrs. Rardon's class with an American Flag that had been flown in Afghanistan on Veteran's Day for nine hours and eleven minutes, and a plaque displaying the camp she lived at. These were very generous gifts.

We would like to thank everyone who sent items to the people there, and Tracy for being a great supporter of our country.

Danielle Allen and Aimee Walker  
Sixth Grade-Mrs. Rardon's Class

## Elementary Pat on the Back

by Mrs. Beverly Deis

Elementary Principal

"Pats on the Back" were given to Connie Hogan and Sherrie Silvey at the February Polo R-VII Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Hogan and Mrs. Silvey are the kindergarten teachers for the Polo School. They are the solid rocks providing the foundation for the elementary students. These two teachers always volunteer to help out and they plan "out of the box" activities to be used in the classroom.



## Cheerleading Try-Outs

by Haley Hurd

Staff Writer

The Polo High School Cheerleading try-outs will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:00 pm. The try-outs will be for the Middle School Squad and High School Squad for the 2009-2010 school year. There will be practices for try-outs from 5-7 pm on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> and an optional practice will be held Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 pm. For the try-outs, the girls will learn a cheer, a chant and a simple dance routine. All girls are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Women's History Month

by Haley Hurd

Staff Writer

Women's accomplishments and achievements are celebrated in March. Ever since Klara Zetkin, a German woman, organized the first International Women's Day on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1911, women have been trying to make their mark in history.

There have been many women succeed at this, one of which was Sojourner Truth who delivered her speech "Ain't I a Woman" at a Women's Rights Convention in Akorn, Ohio, in 1851. In 1869, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony organized the National Women's Suffrage Association to fight for women's rights.

After 72 years of fighting, women won the right to vote, the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was added to the United States Constitution. In 1942, about 350,000 women served in the armed forces in World War II. Many more women helped with support services. Congress passed the Equal Rights Amendment in 1972; this gave equal rights to both men and women. The amendment failed due to not many states approving it. In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor became the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. After Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to the Supreme Court, many women have made their impression in history. They were allowed to do this only by continuously fighting for their rights and the persistence of previous generations.

## Patriot's Pen Contest Winners

by Mrs. Denise Erickson

MS Language Arts  
Teacher

The Patriot's Pen Competition is sponsored through the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary Post. Middle school students in Mrs. Erickson's communication arts classes were assigned an essay on "Why America's Veterans Should Be Honored". This event was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary Post 858 from Chillicothe, Missouri. Commander George Laprade, Melvin Littrell, Ed Allender, and Marjorie Murray of VFW Post 858 from Chillicothe presented the essay winners a certificate and check on February 26, 2009. The winners from the seventh grade were: Julianne Wood -first place, Megan Henry-second place, and Megan Rood-third place. Winners from the eighth grade were: Justin Hicks-first place, Taylor Strickbine-second place, and Duncan Parker-third place. Students received checks in the amount of \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place. Congratulation to these students!



Back row: Marjorie Murray, Commander George Laprade, Ed Allender, and Melvin Littrell. Front row: Julianne Wood, Megan Henry, and Megan Rood.



Back row: Marjorie Murray, Commander George Laprade, Ed Allender, and Melvin Littrell. Front row: Justin Hicks, Taylor Strickbine, and Duncan Parker.

## Polo Spelling Bee

by Ashliegh Jones

Staff Writer

The Scripps National Spelling Bee, which was founded in 1925, only had nine contestants. However due to World War II, there was no spelling bee held in 1943, 1944, or 1945. Over the years, there have been 84 champions, 43 girls and 44 boys. The purpose of the Spelling Bee is to increase the vocabulary of students and improve their English, which in turn will help them in the rest of their lives.

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, Polo held the annual spelling bee to determine the four contestants that will continue on to compete in the County spelling bee in Cowgill on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The contestants that participated in the Polo spelling bee were:

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Jorgia Cory  
Brandon Hubbard  
Aerial Eggers

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Andrew Holland  
Tristan Rardon  
Aimee Walker

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Houston Stone  
Loren Wagner  
Kolton Roark

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tony Utt  
Daniel Boruch  
Amy McBee

The Champion of the Polo Spelling Bee was Tristan Rardon. The other contestants that will be competing in the county spelling bee in Cowgill with Tristan are:

**2<sup>nd</sup> place-** Brandon Hubbard

**3<sup>rd</sup> place-** Jorgia Cory

**4<sup>th</sup> place-** Andrew Holland

Come and support your fellow classmates!



Participants of the Spelling Bee wait patiently for their turn to spell.



Tristan Rardon, son of Shane and Jill Rardon, wins the Polo Spelling Bee and advances on to the County Spelling Bee in Cowgill.

## FBLA/FCCLA Week and FBLA Districts

by Kelsi Pile

Staff Writer

Future Business Leaders of America and Family, Career and Community Leaders of America week was the week of February 9-13. The week consisted of

**Monday: Show Your Pride-** Wear your organization shirts.

**Tuesday: Show Me the Money-** Dress in your future career choice.

**Wednesday: Race Into Reading-** Members read to elementary students.

**Thursday: Show me the Love-** Members wear red, also Hush Day, all girls get a heart and are not to talk to the boys. If they do, they must give their heart to the boy they talked to.

**Friday: Show Me the Love:** Members wear red. Hush Day for all boys.

It was a fun week to show your organization pride.

“My favorite day of the week was Friday, Boys Hush Day, because it was fun trying to get the boys to talk to me, although I wasn’t very successful,” said junior FBLA and FCCLA member Karlie Schafer.

Personally, I enjoyed reading to the elementary students. As high school students, we don’t get to interact with the elementary students very often so; it was as if I was going back in time to my own elementary days.

FBLA Districts were Monday February 16<sup>th</sup>, Presidents Day. So instead of sleeping in, like all the other students, FBLA members reported to school by 6:50 a.m. ready to make their way to District 19 FBLA Contest held in Wellington-Napoleon. Although low in numbers, the students still knew that it was going to be fun. The day started off with a guest speaker, Kent Rader. Kent Rader is known as the “World’s Cleanest Comedian and Speaker”. He helps people and associations learn about how laughter matters in reducing stress and how laughter is one of the important foundations quality organizations are built upon.

The rest of the day was filled with interviews, speeches, and even tests. In between competitions, students were able to join in on group activities, play games, and eat in the cafeteria.

“I spent most of my day in the cafeteria, sampling all the food Wellington-Napoleon had to offer,” said senior Alan Vassmer.

“I spent majority of the day playing basketball with Kelsi against some Stanberry boys’ basketball players,” said junior FBLA member Dalton Rardon.

We had several individuals place in various events at Districts. Alan Vassmer placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Business Calculations. Karlie Schafer placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Computer Applications and 1<sup>st</sup> in Word Processing II. The team of Rita Stottlemyre and Paige Ahart created a Digital Video Production about the profession of teaching business and they placed 4<sup>th</sup> in that event. Andra Young placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with her electronic career portfolio. Katelyn Sanders competed in two speaking contests, Impromptu Speaking and Public Speaking II. She placed 5<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, respectively. Kelsi Pile placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Ms. Future Business Leader competition. Carlie Powers competed in Word Processing I and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in this competition. Karlie Schafer earned the opportunity to compete at the State Leadership Conference, by placing 1<sup>st</sup> in Word Processing II, in Columbia on April 19-21.

# POLO R-VII SCHOOL DISTRICT

announces

## KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

April 24<sup>th</sup>

AND

## KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>



Please call the elementary office at (660) 354-2200 to schedule an appointment.

### POLO FBIA

Will be hosting the

### SENIOR CITIZENS PROM

*WILD WEST 2009*

Put on your boots, jeans, and hats and come join us for a FUN-FILLED evening!!

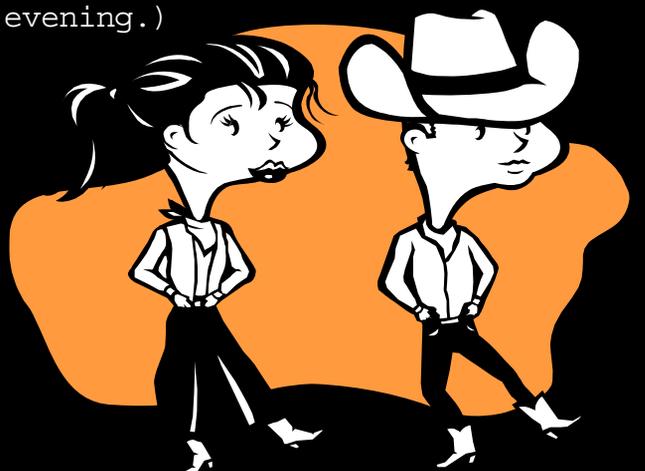
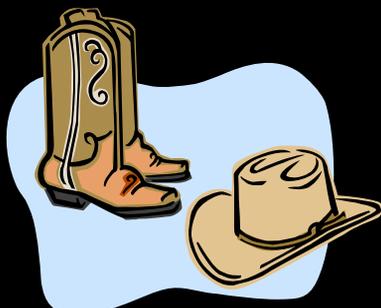
When: Saturday, March 28, 2009

Where: Polo School Multi-Purpose Room

What: Dinner, Dancing, Silent Auction, and Socializing

Cost: Everything is FREE!!!

(Unless you would like to purchase a silent auction item or pictures to remember the evening.)



## Step Up and Stand Out with the FFA

by Alan Vassmer

Staff Writer

February 21-28 was this year's National FFA Week and it revolved around the theme of Step Up, Stand Out, which many feel is way of life among FFA members. It reflects the entire idea of what members strive to do, which is stepping up in order to help others stand out. During Polo's FFA week, members participated by dressing the part for each day of spirit week. Monday was blue and gold day, Tuesday was camouflage day, Wednesday was wacky tacky/hick day, Thursday, which is probably the students favorite day, was drive your tractor to school day, and Friday was the official dress day. The officers also made breakfast for the faculty on Friday. All in all, FFA week turned out to be a very successful week for the Polo FFA Chapter.

In other ag related news, much has happened since the last update. Four members' proficiency awards qualified for state competition in April; these members include Zach Tormey, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Horticultural Production; Spencer Snodgrass, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Beef Production Placement; Mitch Huntley, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Forage Production Placement; and Alan Vassmer, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Ag Processing. Five local FFA members are in the running for the state degree. Those members include Mitch Huntley, Spencer Snodgrass, Kyndra Stith, Kyle Stith, and Alan Vassmer. All five of these members made it through the area screening and they were sent on to be screened and determine if they qualify for the state degree, which is also awarded in April at State Convention. The only other time that Polo has had five state degree recipients was in 1994, when advisor Darren Farmers' class had five members awarded the state degree.

Also contest season is finally beginning with members attending their first contest on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members will travel to Brunswick on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Lathrop on the 19<sup>th</sup>, Trenton on the 27<sup>th</sup>, districts on the 31<sup>st</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup> in Maryville, and finally the members will make their way down to Columbia on April 16-17 for the state contest and convention. Other work that members have been doing includes students in Mr. Farmer's Ag Construction class have began their projects. Kyle Stith has begun to build some gates for his fence, Alan Vassmer is restoring a floor on a gooseneck trailer, and Cody McCrackin is extending the hitch on a boat trailer. Other projects that have been started were the restoring of the boards on a smaller trailer, repairing some feed bunks, and repairing a picnic table. If anyone has any projects that they feel would be good for the students to work on or would like them to work on, please feel free to contact the Ag department.

## Bank Northwest visits 2nd Grade

by Mrs. Gloria Leamer

2nd Grade Teacher

The second grade class is very lucky to have Bank Northwest as our partner in education. Ms. Powers, from Bank Northwest, visited the second grade classroom last week. She read Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday by Judith Voist. Alexander was given \$2.00 by his grandparents and he thought he was rich; however, the money just seemed to slip through his fingers. Because of a few bad decisions, Alexander lost all of his money. Ms. Powers then discussed with the class the responsibility of saving and spending money.

The bank has also given each student a red zipper bag to use for their saving. To help jump start their savings, each student was given 20 shiny nickels. Every student was thrilled to have the gift.

The second grade class is currently saving for the class trip on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. By doing extra jobs around the house, students are earning a little extra money to pay for their trip to Science City at Union Station. Parents have told me that they love the program because their child is asking for more jobs. At different times during the month, students will bring in their savings and count their money to the teacher. Everyone gets extra practice at counting money and learn the responsibility of saving and spending money. We all want to say thank you to Bank Northwest and Ms. Powers.



## Tips from NED

by Mrs. Beverly Deis

Elementary Principal

On Thursday, February 19, students in grades K-6 were absorbed in a character education assembly with yo-yos as the side kick. Eric, the presenter, and NED, the cardboard assistant, discussed topics with students to help them be successful in school. N – never give up, E – Encourage others, and D – Do your best, were the three main focal points of the assembly. The students enjoyed watching Eric do numerous yo-yo tricks while talking about how students should act and behave in school. Ashley Foster, Shelby Copeland, Andrew Sifford, and Mason Misel participated in the assembly too. Students then had the chance to purchase various yo-yos with the help of Skylar Howe and Logan Bowley. This assembly was sponsored by the local PTO.



Pictures to the left: (top) Presenter Eric speaks to the students about ways to be successful in school. (bottom) Elementary students attentively listening to the NED presentation.

## The Love of Wrestling

by Mitch Huntley

Staff Writer

This is a note I found on the missouri wrestling website. I thought it was a great note that completely summed up my love for wrestling and will hopefully give you, the reader, a greater understanding of what wrestling means to me as well as others.

**By: Brad Fischer on Wed Feb 04, 2009 5:32 pm**

In a world of instant gratification, easy payment terms so that you can buy now and pay later... or never. I am profoundly grateful for an institution that teaches young people to discipline their minds and bodies. Wrestling has at its base the need to sacrifice personal desires to attain a final goal. An institution that forces everyone to look deeply into their soul and evaluate what cost they are willing to pay for success. A pursuit, that despite dependence on others for success, failure must be wholly owned by the individual. In wrestling, we teach young men and women to contribute to a community, the team. However, we insist that each member of that team be accountable in lonely single combat with his opposition to gain victory fairly.

We as a nation, have moved from a period of time, like my father's generation 50 years ago, when sports was one of many avenues that young people pursued to learn the most important life lessons like. One of these is a proper work ethic: doing the hard things, doing them well, and taking pride in the labour of your hands. Another is the understanding of the concept of interdependence, that now great achievement is ever achieved completely on ones own, that every great individual success can be traced through many people's help and service. A sense of responsibility, of understanding that the other people you work with can never fully pull you weight so you must pull you own. Perhaps the most important is the law of delayed reward; true success and respect must be earned, and has a high price, as it must if it is to be valued. Part of the reason I coach is that I learned these lessons, not from the same methods as my father did, for my childhood was a life of ease, compared to his. I learned these lessons from the men that took the time to mentor me as coaches. I learned these lessons from my brothers who sweat and bled in practice after practice with me. These men, teammates and coaches always: worked harder than me, disciplined themselves more than me, and inspired me, to try and emulate them, taught me these values. I am forever in their debt.

Society, in placing a high value on convenience, ease, and leisure, have provided the youth of today few avenues to learn these sacred values. Why do I coach wrestling? Because wrestling has the ability to imbue today's young men and women with these values better than any sport I have encountered. We call it an extra-curricular activity, because it does supplement the curriculum of book knowledge with a library, a laboratory of success and failure, a laboratory of sacrifice and reward, a laboratory of self-discipline and responsibility. To wrestle is to step into a refining fire, and emerge hardened, tempered; more useful to yourself and society.

The benefits are proportional to the dedication, even if the rewards are never cast in gold, silver, or bronze.

I will stop now, and beg your pardon, for I could go on till the sun and the moon passed away, and never fully explain my love of this sport.



The four state qualifiers for Polo Wrestling: (left to right): Tyler Scobee, Lance Snodgrass, James Taylor, and Austin Okorn.

## Season Coming to an End

by Kelsi Pile

Staff Writer

This season hasn't been the best for the Lady Panthers. Most would call it a rebuilding year. For some, this is hopefully the beginning of an era and for others this is the end. The Lady Panthers still only have one win under their belt but are looking to finish the season strong hopefully getting a few wins right before district play.

After a tough loss to Gallatin, without head coach Kevin Webster, the Lady Panthers had to face their most hated rivals, the Braymer Bobcats. Most would assume that the rivalry would get the Lady Panthers fired up and ready for a tough fight against the Lady Bobcats, but it did the opposite. The Lady Panthers came out slow and timid, and the game was the Lady Bobcats for the taking. The Lady Panthers came out the second half much more fired up but it was too late they had already defeated themselves by not coming out with the intensity they had in the second half, in the first half.

Next on the schedule for the Lady Panthers were the Princeton Tigers. After a long journey up to Princeton with only half the team, the Lady Panthers came out looking strong and playing some of the best basketball they had played all season. They played solid defense and moved the ball well on offense. Only being down by six at halftime, the other members of the team arrived after playing a full junior varsity basketball game in Gilman City. The second half didn't go as well as the first, and the ladies lost by 30 plus to the Lady Tigers.

The Lady Panthers were in a rut and didn't know what to do to get out of it. It did not help that next they were playing one of the best teams in the Grand River Conference, the South Harrison Bulldogs. The Lady Panthers went into the game thinking they were already defeated. Starters and the first few subs off the bench hardly saw the court the second half, because the lady Panthers were already down and Coach Webster thought it was best to get the other girls some experience. Polo lost by 60 plus this game.

How does a team come back from a 60 plus loss? The Lady Panthers kept going to practice and kept their daily practice routine. Next on the schedule were the Hamilton Lady Hornets; yet another one of the best teams in the Grand River Conference. Not learning from past experiences, the Lady Panthers still went into the game feeling defeated from tip off. It was far from a good game, but the Lady Panthers had learned a few lessons, and kept their head up and kept trucking.

After a tough week of two 50 plus losses, it was finally Courtwarming, where the Lady Panthers would take on the King City Lady Wildcats. The Lady Panthers came out fighting and fought the entire game but didn't have enough gas in the tank to finish it off. They lost by a mere 9 points to King City.

Maysville was their next opponent. The team traveled up north ready to put up a fight and bring home a W. It was a close game the first half. Both teams went on a few runs. But after halftime, Maysville's defense was too much for the Lady Panthers to handle. Mid third quarter, it seemed as though the game was out of reach, and majority of the strictly varsity team didn't see the court after a minute into the fourth quarter. The Lady Panthers lost this one by 20 plus.

As the long season winds down for the Lady Panthers, they are still fighting and looking to finish the season strong. They have three regular season games left including, Worth County at home, then they travel to Lathrop and Winston. District Tournament immediately follows the regular season. This year, the Lady Panther got the seven seed and play the two seed in their district, which are the Orrick Bearcats; who they have previously faced and lost to, but both teams have had majority of the season to improve so the outcome just might change for the Lady Panthers.

## Panthers' Late Season Report

by Spencer Snodgrass

Staff Writer

This basketball season has not gone as well as the Panthers' had hoped. The Panthers are only 1-20, but they play much better than their record shows. The Panthers usually have one bad quarter that they can't fight back from and usually lose games by 5 to 15 points. With so many close games, it seems that the Panthers are getting cheated out of wins.

The first game, since my last article, was against the Braymer Bobcats. Braymer has always been a rivalry game for the Panthers. The game was close throughout the first half, with each team only scoring 18 points in the first two quarters of play. The Panthers kept the game close throughout the third quarter, going into the fourth quarter, but then the game began to go downhill. The Panthers would give up 27 fourth quarter points while only scoring 12 themselves and would lose the game 54-35.

Coming off of a disappointing loss to Braymer, the Panthers were hoping to pick up their first conference win against the Albany Warriors. The Panthers came out cold and gave up 30 first half points while only scoring 20 of their own. Going into the fourth quarter, the Panthers were only down by 7 but that was as close as the game would come. The Panthers would play practically even with the Warriors and lose the game 54-46.

For the next game, the Panthers faced another conference opponent, the Princeton Tigers. The Panthers had two bad defensive quarters, while only scoring double-digit points in one quarter. The Panthers lost another game with the final score being 49-32.

The Panthers next opponent was the South Harrison Bulldogs. The Panthers kept the game close for 3 quarters. Going into the fourth, the Panthers were only down three but throughout the rest of the game the Panthers gave up 17 points, while only scoring 2 of their own. The final score was Polo 35, South Harrison 52.

After a disappointing loss to South Harrison, Polo traveled to Hamilton to play in what they knew would be a tough game. The Panthers remained fairly close to the Hornets throughout the first half but a late first half run and poor second half play put the Panthers into a deep hole that they weren't able to climb out of. The game came to a close with a final score of Polo 26, Hamilton 67.

After the blow-out loss to Hamilton, the Panthers faced Stanberry, which was a very winnable game. The game was close, scoring back and fourth throughout the first three quarters. With some questionable calls being made, Stanberry went on a late run and passed the ball around and made free throws to put the game away. The Panthers lost another close one with the final score being Polo 45, Stanberry 51.

The next game for the Panthers was the Courtwarming game and spirits were high. The Panthers faced King City, which was yet another winnable game. The game, once again, remained close but a couple of bad runs for the Panthers put them in a hole that they were unable to climb out of. The Panthers lost their Courtwarming game by 15 with the final score being Polo 41, King City 56.

For their next game, the Panthers faced the Maysville Wolverines, which has become somewhat of a rivalry game for the Panthers over the last 2 years. The Panthers played fairly well offensively putting up 52 points but had a poor defensive night giving up 67. Another 15 points loss moved the Panthers to 1-18 after a final score of Polo 52, Maysville 67.

In desperate need of a win, the Panthers faced the Worth County Tigers for Senior Night and their last home game. The Panthers went into half-time with a lead but, yet again, played a poor third quarter and fell behind. After falling behind, the Panthers were unable to recover and the final score for the seniors' last home game would be Worth County 55, Polo 47.

In their most recent contest, the Panthers faced the Lathrop Mules. Lathrop and Polo have had good games the last few years and this one was no exception. It was the battle of a one win team in Polo versus a no wins team in Lathrop. Polo was hoping to gain their second win while continuing the Mules' no win season. This game was basically the same game as the Worth County game the previous night. The Panthers' came out flat, took the lead at half-time, and then lost it in the second half. Lathrop would make all of their free-throws to end the game and hold a lead of 65 to Polo's 60.

This season has not gone near as well as most people had hoped for the Panthers. They go to practice everyday and work hard, but it seems that no matter the opponent, the boys always come up short. Hopefully this trend ends for the quickly approaching district play.

## Court/Matwarming Week Events

by Ashliegh Jones

Staff Writer

The Court/Matwarming coronation was held on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> during the Varsity Basketball game against King City. We had so many great candidates it is a wonder that the student body was able to make a decision. The king candidates were Spencer Snodgrass, Tyler Scobee, Mitch Huntley, Cody Drew, Brandon Hurd and Mark Gray. The queen candidates were Brittany Flowers, Adryan Overstreet, Courtney Cawthon, Kelsi Pile, Tiffiney Hufford, and Kaitlyn Taylor. Kelsi and Spencer were crowned at halftime of the boys' game.

The games unfortunately did not go all that well for the evening but the girls managed to put up a good fight, making it a very close game until the end of the fourth quarter. They ended up losing by a mere 12 points with a score of 36-24. The boys also lost their game but not for a lack of effort. The final score had the Panthers losing by 15 points with a score of 56-41.

Spirit week was enjoyed by many. Due to President's Day, we didn't have school on Monday. Spirit week started out with a bang on Tuesday with green and white day. Wednesday we saw peace signs and tie-dye for Hippie Day. Thursday was multicolor day, with everyone trying to wear as many colors as possible. Pajama day was Friday. It is so fun to see the unique personalities of the students and staff come to life on these days.



Above: Court/Matwarming Queen Candidates (front L to R) Kelsi Pile, Tiffiney Hufford, and Adryan Overstreet. (Back Row L to R:) Brittany Flowers, Courtney Cawthon, and Kaitlyn Taylor



Above: Court/Matwarming King Candidates (front L to R) Cody Drew, Mitch Huntley, and Tyler Scobee. (Back Row L to R) Brandon Hurd, Spencer Snodgrass, Mark Gray, and Austin Okorn.



King Spencer Snodgrass and Queen Kelsi Pile were crowned at halftime of the boys basketball game against the King City Wildkats.

## March 2009 Activities Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 *Late Start 10:30 am *District Basketball @ Santa Fe (thru the 7 <sup>th</sup> )	3 *FFA Judging Day @ Hamilton 8:00 am	4	5 *5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade BB vs. Braymer	6 *3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter ends	7
8	9 *GRC Academic Meet 6:00 pm @ Gallatin	10 *MAP Night for 3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> *MAP/EOC/Scholarship Night for 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm	11 *Area & State FFA Officer Interviews @ Gallatin 6:00 pm	12 *8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Visitation (Cowgill, Mirable, Kingston Elementary) *MS Sports Reception Fall & Winter Sports 6:00 pm in HS Gym	13 *JH GRC Wrestling @ Stanberry *MAP Incentive Trip 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> *FFA Judging Day @ Brunswick 8:00 am	14 *Spring Choir & Jazz Band Show @ Community Ctr. (Dinner @ 5 pm & Show @ 6:30 pm)
15 *Spring Choir & Jazz Band Show @ Community Ctr 2 pm	16 *GRC Academic Meet 6:00 pm @ Hamilton *Literature Festival @ Warrensburg 7:00 am-5:00 pm	17 *BOE Mtg 7:00 pm *5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> BB vs. Braymer	18 *FFA Area I CDE Workshop @ Savannah 4:30 pm *Mock MAP/EOC Day	19 *Spring Break – NO SCHOOL *FFA Judging Day @ Lathrop 8:00 am	20 *Spring Break – NO SCHOOL	21
22	23 *Spring Break – NO SCHOOL *GRC Academic Meet 6:00 pm @ Polo *6 <sup>th</sup> Grade BB Tourney @ Hamilton	24 *Varsity Track @ UCM in Warrensburg 1 pm	25 *FFA Contest @ Gallatin 4:30 pm	26 *Spring Concert 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm	27 *FFA, NCMC CDE's @ Trenton 8:00 am	28 *District Solo/Ensemble Choir @ St. Joseph *Senior Citizens Prom 5:30-10:00 pm in Multi *Orrick Math Contest 4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> *5 <sup>th</sup> Grade BB @ S. Harrison
29	30 *GRC Academic Meet 6:00 pm @ S. Harrison	31 *District Ag & FFA CDE's @ Maryville 8:00 am *MAP Testing *Varsity Track @ Richmond 3 pm				

## March 2009 Menu

Menu is subject to change.  
Each meal includes one milk.  
Lemonade and orange juice are available for 30¢.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Late Start-NO BREAKFAST Corndog or Burrito, Corn, Fruit	3 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli with cheese, Fruit	4 Pop Tart, Ham, Fruit Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Fruit	5 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Ravioli, Green Beans, Fruit	6 Biscuit with Sausage Gravy, Fruit Grilled Cheese, Soup, Fruit
9 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Chicken Quesadilla, Corn, Fruit	10 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit BBQ Riblet, Scalloped Potatoes, Fruit	11 Hashbrown, Ham, Toast, Fruit Chili, Carrot Sticks, Fruit	12 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Hamburger on Bun, French Fries, Fruit	13 Biscuit with Sausage Gravy, Fruit Tuna or Bologna, Peas, Fruit
16 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Nachos, Refried Beans, Fruit	17 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Chicken Pattie on Bun, Corn, Fruit	18 Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Hotdog on Bun, Baked Beans, Fruit	19 Donuts, Ham, Fruit Early Out – NO LUNCH	20 NO SCHOOL
23 NO SCHOOL	24 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Taco Stack, Spanish Rice, Fruit	25 Muffin, Ham, Fruit Sweet & Sour Chicken, Broccoli, Fruit	26 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit Pizza, Corn, Fruit	27 Biscuit with Sausage Gravy, Fruit Shrimp or Fish Sticks, Parsley Potatoes, Fruit
30 Cereal, Oatmeal, Toast, Fruit Corndog Nuggets, Baked Beans, Fruit	31 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Chicken Nuggets, Green Beans, Fruit			

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