

# CHIEF

PONTIAC TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



**FRESHMAN  
CAREER FAIR**

PTHS Freshmen head to the annual Career Fair to get a glimpse of what their future could hold!

**FALL SPORTS  
REVIEW**

Get some athletes' takes on how their Fall sports seasons went!

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## LACC ANNUAL EVENT

# CAREER FAIR

By Owen Putnam



Last month, students at PTHS and the surrounding area had the privilege to attend the career fair at the Pontiac armory put on by the LACC. This event is for the current freshmen class and students were able to see and preview the various programs they may enroll in. Not only does the event get to showcase the great programs, but many local businesses get to attend and interact with potential future clients and employees. The purpose of this event isn't necessarily to persuade students to take an LACC course, but rather show them the opportunity they have to prepare themselves for life after high school. Speaking for myself, I never had an interest in the LACC until this year. I am a co-op student which allows me to acquire real life experience in a field I may go into. At our co-op booth, we offered mock interviews to the students as this is a skill they will need to know someday. The students I spoke with were all enjoying themselves. One of the most enjoyable areas for the freshmen was the cosmetology booth. Here, students could get their nails painted, eyebrows waxed, and shoulders massage. There were also many booths for the students to play games and get hands-on experiences.



The career fair is one of the most important trips the freshmen class get to take each year. This event encourages students to start thinking about their future so they can take advantage of the Career Center and get a head start. Speaking for the LACC as a whole, we would like to send a huge thank you to our teachers and all of the local businesses for coming out and supporting the futures of our students at PTHS. This event was not possible without you.

What's your favorite part of Thanksgiving break?



Darian Ferguson



"Just being with my family."



## Indian Pride: Clap-Outs!

One of the best ways that we show our Indian Pride here at PTHS is through our clap-outs, a new tradition that was started about four years ago. Clap-outs are an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to show their support to a student or team who is getting read to compete at the state competition level.

This year, we have already had three clap-outs to celebrate the successes of our fellow Indians. Our first clap-out was to send off sophomore girls golfer Ali Schrock as she left to compete at State golf. Our next clap-out was for our Unified Soccer team as they left to compete in their State Soccer meet. Our most recent clap-out was to celebrate our FFA members who were presenting at their National FFA Convention.

This tradition continues to be a great way for all our Indian Nation to show their pride for each other. Hopefully, we will be clapping-out several more times this year!



Savannah Limberg



"The food!"



Boston DiNardi



"Seeing family from out of town."



# PTHS Music Department Update

By Matthew Birkett

Now that the Marching Band season is over, there's going to be fewer performances for a short time while we work on our Christmas music in both Choir and Band. Congratulations are in order for the Marching Band which received 3rd in class 2A at U of I. On Tuesday November 1, we performed during our *Viva La Musica!* evening. Friday, November 11, was the date of our Veterans Day performances. Don't forget about the madrigal dinners December 5-7 and the Christmas concert December 11.

Tickets are now on sale for the 50th Annual PTHS Madrigal Dinners!

You are cordially invited to the 50th Annual Madrigal Dinners! Be transported to 16th Century England and be the honored guests of Lord and Lady Pontiac! Enjoy the beautiful costumes and castle decorations as you hear wonderful music by our Madrigal and Court Singers as well as our Brass and Recorder ensembles. Experience the joy and revelry of the occasion all while enjoying a delicious, candlelit three course meal!

Whether you are a returning guest or will be visiting Castle Pontiac for the first time, the Pontiac Township High School Madrigal Dinners are the perfect way to begin your Holiday Season!



FOR TICKETS:  
VISIT: THE PTHS FRONT OFFICE  
EMAIL: [jdurbin@pontiac90.org](mailto:jdurbin@pontiac90.org)  
CALL: 815.844.6113 EXT. 231  
WEB: [tickets.pontiacmadrigals.com](http://tickets.pontiacmadrigals.com)

DECEMBER 5TH 6TH AND 7TH  
PONTIAC ELKS LODGE  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM  
DINNER STARTS AT 6:30  
\$28.00 PER TICKET



INDIAN NATION'S

# FALL SPORTS REVIEW

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By Shelby Jennings

As the leaves begin to fall and you feel the air get colder, this means that not only is winter approaching, but fall sports are ending. Throughout the many sports here at PTHS, our teams have had their wins and losses, as well as their fair share of ups and downs. Some of the major successes we have had include golf player Alli Schrock making it into an IHSA state competition, cross country runners from both the girls' and guys' teams competing in their IHSA sectionals competition, and even Tyler Monahan and Griffin Nyi golfing their way into IHSA sectionals! In addition, the girls' tennis team ended this season with an impressive record of .500, one not obtained by their program in years, and the varsity football team ending with a record of 4-5.

While we were not able to bring home medals or trophies in every competition PTHS competed in, the heartfelt support and morale for our teams is continually very strong. Hannah Verdun, a varsity volleyball player described their success as a reflection of the "time, effort, and skills put into the season," giving "100% at practice every single day." Verdun later added, "Although we weren't a state championship team, we had the effort and heart of one." Monahan also praised his team, saying that "during practices there was this feeling of determination pouring off of everyone," and later gives credit to Coach Ritter for how encouraging he always was to help them succeed. Hannah Lee, a varsity cross country runner, shows her pride for fellow runner Sarah Christopher as she competes in IHSA sectionals by cheering her on at the event. Even senior cheerleader Rachael Sypult describes her pride for her fellow cheerleaders as they worked hard all season. While most sports have concluded, varsity swimmer Alli Trainor describes her current feelings by saying, "I think at the moment we've worked so hard so we're kinda tired however" even though they are still looking forward to the upcoming sectionals event.

With all of the success we have had this season for fall sports, there always comes a greater push that we can go even farther next year. This push is backed by the hard work and support that comes with having Indian pride. I look forward to seeing you all surpass the boundaries of success next year!



THE FIRST ANNUAL

# INDIAN SUMMIT

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By Carlie Weaver

On October 7th, Pontiac Township High School hosted the first ever Indian Summit. This is an event where junior high students come from all of the feeder schools and enjoy a day of leadership building. All of the students who came were chosen, or elected, by a coach or teacher. We strived to collect all the leaders in our little corner of Illinois, and I believe we achieved that goal. We had around 35 participants and a large staff. The staff underwent training in all the exercises they were doing that day.

The event started off with some easy ice breaker games like name bingo and a newer version of rock paper scissors. After that we started into our leadership styles activity. Here, the students learned about what kind of a leader they are based off of the choices they would make. This activity involves being patient, listening, and trust. Then, we headed out to the band field and began our challenge activities. Students had to figure out how to cross a bridge with two short boards, get everyone through a giant “spider web,” get across our balance beam, and much more! All of these activities involve thinking, problem solving, trust, and leadership.

After lunch, we split up and visited different nursing homes in Pontiac. While we were there, we played bingo, decorated doors, and crafted with the residents. When we returned back to the school, we went back out the band field for our competition; we wanted to see who could get through our challenge course the fastest. The winners were the Blue Team!

Overall, the day was extremely active and engaging. We’re thankful to have had such a large turnout of amazing, participative leaders. One kid said, “Is there another Indian Summit this year?” Lucas Roe had this to say about the overall event: “It went well. I think the junior high students learned a lot, met new people, and will be more prepared for high school.”





# Mr. Bustle

By Taylor Ritter

Many of you have surely noticed a new face in the halls of the high school Mr. Bustle is our new Assistant Principal here at PTHS and I took some time to ask him a few questions about himself.

## 1. Give us some background information and take a moment to introduce yourself.

*Greetings. My name is Ryan Bustle. I'm 35 years old. I was born and raised in Bloomington-Normal and I'm the oldest of 5-only boy! I'm an ISU grad-GO REDBIRDS. This is my 13th year in education and 8th as an Administrator. My wife and I have been married for 5 years and we have a 2 year old daughter named Layla.*

*When I'm not working I enjoy spending time with my family and will watch almost any sporting event there is to watch.*

## 2. How has your transition to PTHS been?

*My transition to PTHS has been awesome. I quickly learned that PTHS has a lot of great people that make it what it is and that has been fun to get to know all of them. I'm still working on everyone's name but I get better everyday.*

## 3. What do you like most about PTHS?

*What I like most about PTHS are all the different people and personalities that I get to encounter each day. To me, that's what makes a school so great. I can undoubtedly say that I haven't had a boring day since I've started which is what I really enjoy about being here.*

## 4. What made you want to become an Assistant Principal?

*Just like I'm sure a lot of our students are going through or are beginning to think about, when I was in high school (I don't say the name of that high school very loudly now that I'm in Pontiac Indian territory) I had to sit down and think about what career I was really interested in pursuing. The easiest conclusion I came to was that an office job just wasn't for me. I knew what I loved the most was interacting with people. After shadowing at a school as part of one of my classes in college, I quickly realized how awesome it was to have a job where you get to see kids grow from the start of a school year. What other career lets you do that?!*

## 5. At the end of your career, what do you hope the students here will say about you?

*That I was the best dressed Administrator that PTHS has ever seen and Mr. Bohm could learn a thing or two, fashion-wise, from me.*

*In all seriousness, when my career is all done here at PTHS I hope the students say that I was someone who was fair and treated everyone with the same respect I wanted to be treated with. I hope they felt that I was someone that genuinely cared about them*



# Upperclass Acts



## Eric Zega

NAME: Eric Zega

NICKNAMES: Zeggars, Zega Sauce, Z-Dawg

ROLE MODEL(S): Kobe Bryant

ACTIVITIES @ PTHS: Band, Golf, Baseball, Math team, Scholastic Bowl, Spanish club, Tri-M, National Honor Society,

FONDEST MEMORY OF HIGH SCHOOL SO FAR: Winning Regionals with the baseball team

3 MAJOR AREAS OF INTEREST: Math, sports, music

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: Attend ISU and study to become a math teacher

FAVORITE MOVIE: *Remember the Titans*

MOST INSPIRATIONAL SONG: "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus

FAVORITE TEACHER/CLASS: Mr. Krause's Pre-Calculus class

FAVORITE AUTHOR/BOOK: *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown

MOST POSITIVE MOMENT: Being inducted into National Honor Society

PET PEEVES: People walking slow down the wrong side of the hall way

WHAT MY FRIENDS WILL REMEMBER ABOUT ME: My sense of humor

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND \$1,000,000? Pay for college, buy a couple Corvettes, and save the rest

IF YOU WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND, WHAT 3 ITEMS WOULD YOU WANT WITH YOU? My phone, a charger, and water

LAST WORDS OF ADVICE: "Be yourself."

# Upperclass Acts



## Taylor Ritter

NAME: Taylor Ritter

NICKNAMES: Tay, T-Ritt, T

ROLE MODEL(S): My mom and dad

ACTIVITIES @ PTHS: Tennis, Art Club, Science Club, Senior Class President, CAPTAINS, Spanish Club, Student Council, and National Honor Society

FONDEST MEMORY OF HIGH SCHOOL SO FAR: Tennis season all 4 years

3 MAJOR AREAS OF INTEREST: Psychology, Spanish, Tennis

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: Study Psychology with a minor in Spanish at Illinois State University

FAVORITE MOVIE: *Breakfast at Tiffany's*

MOST INSPIRATIONAL SONG: "For Once in My Life" by Stevie Wonder

FAVORITE TEACHER/CLASS: Mr. Vogt, Mr. Ramseyer, and I guess Mr. Ritter (and shout out to Mrs. Pike in Guidance)

FAVORITE AUTHOR/BOOK: *The Phantom of the Opera* by Gaston Leroux

MOST POSITIVE MOMENT: Being royalty for Prom and Homecoming

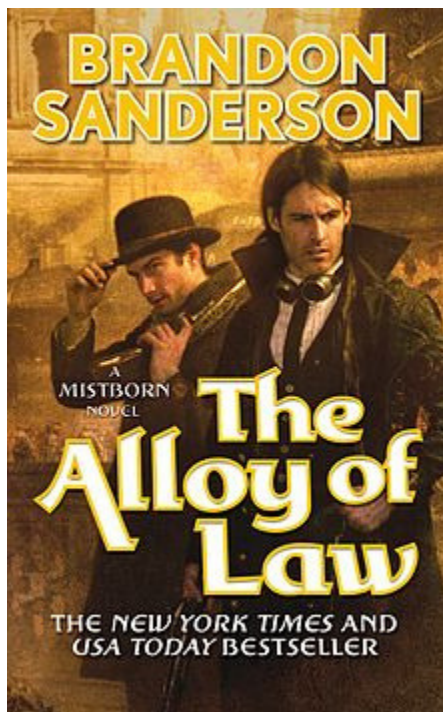
PET PEEVES: When people who don't watch where they are going in the halls and having to repeat myself.

WHAT MY FRIENDS WILL REMEMBER ABOUT ME: My sense of humor and my positivity

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND \$1,000,000? Pay off college, buy my mom a Jaguar convertible, and invest the rest

IF YOU WERE STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND, WHAT 3 ITEMS WOULD YOU WANT WITH YOU? My sister, a T.V, and a lifetime supply of spaghetti

LAST WORDS OF ADVICE: "Leave a little love everywhere you go."



## Review of Brandon Sanderson's *The Alloy of Law*

By Allyson Shoff

Brandon Sanderson's return to the *Mistborn* universe is like stepping into a whole new world of magic and mystery. *The Alloy of Law* takes place hundreds of years after the events of *Mistborn* and feature a whole new set of characters. Wax and his partner Wayne team up with the unlikely ally of Lady Marasi to find and defeat a group of "phantom traders" who are stealing supplies from train cars and women from upper-class families. In order to save his betrothed, Wax must come face to face with an old friend who has since gone to the side of evil. Using powers of Feruchemy and Allomancy, almost nothing can stand in Wax and Wayne's way.

*The Alloy of Law* marks the return to Scadrial and the *Mistborn* universe. While none of the past characters are present, there are very many throwbacks to the times of the first trilogy. Statues of Vin and Elend decorate the city of Elendel, and Sazed has taken his place as Harmony, the deity of one of the sprung up religions. Wax is a similar character to Vin, although there are a lot of differences as well. While *Mistborn* followed the life of a young teenager, Wax is almost forty years old. This gives a different feel to the book since Wax has a lot more experience with noblemen and has had his Allomantic and Feruchemical powers for much longer. Wax's and Vin's choices and drives are very similar. *The Alloy of Law* is more of a steampunk crime

novel while *Mistborn* was a deep fantasy novel featuring the end of the world. This book still featured the amazing writing style I've come to love and expect from Brandon Sanderson as well as plenty of world building and plot to leave room for a few more book in this arc of the *Mistborn* saga.

*The Alloy of Law* is a perfect read for those new or returning to Brandon Sanderson's writing. It presents a perfect start to a separate story from the original *Mistborn* trilogy. I look forward to reading the other books in this story arc. I would recommend *The Alloy of Law* to any readers of Brandon Sanderson who just haven't gotten to it yet. I would also recommend this book to anyone who enjoys steampunk, mystery, for fantasy genres.

# FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF



The  
Critic's  
Corner  
Movie

## Review of *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*

By Carlie Weaver

*Ferris Bueller's Day Off* is about a teenage boy who really just needs a day off from school. Ferris is known by his principal and sister as a troublemaker. Everyone else, however, loves Ferris because he seems like such a good kid. When Ferris calls into school, everyone thinks he's dying, and they raise a bunch of money to pay for his "medical bills." In reality Ferris is out having the greatest day of his life with his best friend and girlfriend.

It's hard to suspect that Ferris Bueller can get away with his shenanigans especially when they include being on a stealing a car, being on a megatron, and singing in a parade. To find out what lands Ferris' sister in jail and to see if Ferris gets away with it, check out *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* on Netflix or DVD. I recommend this movie to any 80's movie or cult classic movie lover. I have seen it at least ten times in the past year!



# Giving

## Thanks(giving)

By Carlie Weaver



When we think of Thanksgiving, turkey, family, and naps come to mind. What exactly makes the “Traditional Thanksgiving?” Well, it involves a lot of work in the kitchen and being with family. To start the day, be sure you’re up soon enough to watch the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade! This year, it starts at 8 AM. This parade has been an American staple for Thanksgiving since it first started in 1924. Then, because there is a lot of food being prepared, head to the kitchen to help whoever is cooking get a jump on the meal. A turkey alone could take 5 to 7 hours! Your help will always be appreciated whether you’re peeling potatoes, washing dishes, or basting the turkey.

About now is when your family and friends should start arriving. Travel is a big part of Thanksgiving because many people drive long distances to spend time with their loved ones. Everyone will probably be hungry, but they won’t want to ruin their appetite. This is when you can break out the light snacks. Typically, my grandma will set out a fruit or vegetable tray or herring and crackers. Always save room for the turkey and stuffing, though, because you’ll eat more than you even realized you could.

While you’re waiting for the dinner to be done, you can go outside and play a friendly game of football or, as my family does, you can sit around the table playing Apples to Apples. No matter what you play, you’re sure to have a good time. Once you hear someone yell, “Dinner!” you had better go wash your hands because you want the dark meat and so do all of your cousins. A traditional Thanksgiving dinner will usually consist of a turkey, rolls, corn, stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, gravy, and pumpkin pie. I hope you’re hungry, because that’s a lot of food! All of that food is the reason why you have to lie down in the living room for a turkey-induced nap. Don’t worry, though, because, once you come to, you can enjoy the leftover turkey as a sandwich as you get ready to say goodbye to your family. Then, you’re free to prepare yourself for the chaos of that night and the next day, Black Friday.

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