

GIRLS BASKETBALL OFF TO A PROMISING START

Written by Ceci Postma



The stage is set for the 2022-2023 Girls' Basketball season. This year Manistee is hosting the district tournament at the end of the season and our girls would love to win it.

The Varsity season began last Monday with a busy week of three games. Our team triumphed over Pine River and Oakridge but fell to Mason County Central and Frankfort (12/05). The stats against Pine River were encouraging, with significantly fewer turnovers made than any game of the varsity team last year. In just watching the girls play for a few minutes, one can tell that they are working well together and are looking at a promising season ahead. WINTER CARNIVAL WEEK

Written by Lauren Judins

WEEK OF THE 12TH:

Door decorating HS Candy Canegrams for sale during lunch

WEEK OF THE 19TH: Monday: PJ day Tuesday: Green/red day, HS band assembly concert Wednesday: Ugly sweater day, assembly

BASKETBALL CONTINUED

It's not just the varsity team starting strong, our Girls' JV basketball team has won all four of their first games. The decision was made to keep all the Freshmen on JV. A lot of these girls have grown up playing on school and travel teams together and it shows. They are a scrappy group- with **Reese Shively's (10)** tenacious defense, **Alayna Edmondson's (9)** three-point shots, and **Ava Mae Fett (9)** working the post-nobody would want to stand in their way.



"I think that the start of the season is way better than last year. The mentality we have this year is all on wanting to win and trying our best in any situation." -**Allison Kelley (12)**

"It's going great. We're [jv] undefeated." - Reese Shively (10)



SPORTS CONTINUED

YOUTH PICKLEBALL

Written by Ceci Postma

Do you enjoy tennis and need a replacement winter activity? Maybe pickleball is for you. Pickleball is an indoor and outdoor racket game in which two teams compete to hit a ball over a net with many added rules. While the rules can be a bit tedious at first, eventually it becomes a fun game to enjoy with friends.

Every Tuesday the Armory Youth project offers pickleball at 3:30 pm. Nets are set up inside and rackets and balls are provided. Music is also a given to keep spirits high even if you are losing terribly. Expert pickleball players from the community are there to give lessons or jump in and play a match with you and your friends. Dinner and snacks are also provided for breaks between games.



On most Tuesdays, you can catch a couple of middle schoolers, a few senior pickle ballers, **Luke Smith (11)** and Caleb Adamski, and a hodgepodge of high schoolers. No matter who shows up it is always a fun time as everyone learns and improves their game! **Mason Robinson (10)** attended for the first time this week and when asked to describe his experience in 3 words he said "Enjoyable, welcoming, and awesome!"

Learn more at the Armory Youth Project website: https://www.armoryyouthproject.com/home

THE FINALITY OF FOOTBALL

Written by Jeffrey Huber

Sports are often celebrated for the wins and good times. A team's success is always appreciated, especially by its fans. However, sometimes the endings are just as, or even more beautiful. This column is specifically about my experience as a senior leaving the field for the last time. An ending to one's career brings a boat of emotions on its own. The senior year for most high school football players is one that includes a journey unlike any other. Especially here in Manistee, we run the same systems from 3rd grade until that senior year.

As that little 3rd grader you look up to the varsity players and teams, and you dream of being in their shoes. As a result, having that dream fulfilled and then taken away feels like a nanosecond of time. The sense of finality is hard. The journey itself is difficult, but rewarding in the end.



Noah Maue (10) Sarah Huber (10) Lauren Mezezke (12) Nicklaus Judkins (11) Maya Bradley (12) Jeffrey Huber (12) Claire Scott (12) Shoutout to the student who found Waldo last week and emailed 23judlau@manistee.org!



SPORTS CONTINUED

FOOTBALL CONTINUED

Written by Jeffrey Huber



Why is the end so emotional? The game itself is a physically demanding sport unlike any other, so relationships and connections made are so real and passionate. Football is a game of getting knocked down and relying on your teammates and coaches to pick you up. Friendships from football are truly different and difficult to put into words. Teammates come from a multitude of backgrounds, but when everyone hits the field there is a comradery like no other. Even the connections with coaches are something unlike anything else. The amount of time and care they put into your development is special. The worst part of the journey, however, is the end, and the realization of these feelings at the end. To the underclassmen/women, try your best to appreciate your teammates in the moment rather than all at the end.

What makes the end of football different? Purely the different level of comradery, and the inability to play the game in its entirety ever again. For other sports, there is always the option for pickup basketball games, tennis matches, adult league baseball/softball, golf, and soccer; but for high school football players, there will never be another opportunity for a full-contact game of football. That was the last time I will ever suit up to play.

Why are football dads so crazy? I finally was able to grasp the reasoning behind football dads being so crazy when I walked off the field for the last time. They are haunted by that exact moment. Dads who stand along the field on the fence are trying to recapture those emotions through their sons/daughters. They will forever be haunted by that night. They will forever remember their high school teammates, most of whom are likely still good friends now.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE INTERVIEW : CHARLOTTE MUELLER

Written by Lauren Mezezke

Question 1: Where are you from?

• I am from Germany

Question 2: Why did you want to come to America?

 I always wanted to learn a different culture and also to see the US in a point of view of someone who is "living" here and not just as a tourist for a week.

Question 3: What activities do you participate in? If any.

• I participated in Volleyball and am currently doing basketball.

Question 4: What's your favorite American food?

• Reeses pieces.

Question 5: What's something you wish to do or experience in America before you leave?

• One of the things I'm excited for is Christmas and if there are any differences then to the one that I'm used to.







THE PIT- THE SIXTH MAN

Written by Libby McCarthy

Have you been to a home basketball game yet this year? Our last year as Chippewas has brought out our school spirit more than ever! Thanks to the 350 Club, we have props for our pit and a light show for our starting line-up. Dress-up themes for the pit are posted on the day of a home game. If you don't see it on Instagram (@m.h.s_pit), ask around. If you find Mattie Garber, she will tell you! Being in the pit and cheering for your school is one of the best parts of basketball season. Just remember, although the chants are fun, make sure to not target individual players, this will result in our pit being taken away!



CHERRIES SWEET SMELLIN STUF

MMHS student Jeramiah Newville and his mother Charity make homemade bath products. They use natural ingredients without all the chemicals of store-bought items and offer a variety of scents and flavors, shapes and colors of:

- bath bombs,
- soap (oatmeal and goats milk),
- lip balm and lip scrub



Interested? Check out their Facebook page at Cherries Sweet Smellin Stuf or email them at charitynewville@yahoo .com!

CADEN VANSICKLE: FIRST TEAM ALL STATE

Written by Jeffrey Huber

Caden Vansickle is a quarterback's best friend. Why is that? Because he is a beast of a lineman. Caden rumbles onto the field and immediately intimidates the other team with his 6'4, 270 lb build. However, even more impressive is the skill that comes along with that size.

By the time most varsity athletes begin their final run as a Senior, they have up to 10+ years of experience in their respective sport. For Caden, however, his venture began late. Caden played football for the first time as a Freshman. He had to overcome the early days of struggling with size and skill. Hours upon hours in the weight room has allowed Caden to become one of, if not the best lineman Manistee has seen. From personal experience I can say that watching Caden grow the last four years is one of the most impressive things I've witnessed.





The size, the skill, the hard work, it all pays off. Caden made the most of his last dance, accumulating a multitude of awards.

- Manistee Lineman Award
 - Muskegon Dream Team
- Traverse City Dream Team
 - 1st team All Region
 - 1st team All Conference

1st team All State



CADEN VANSICKLE CONTINUED

Written by Jeffrey Huber



Achieving 1st team All State will place Caden in the Manistee Athletic Hall of Fame. His legacy may be cemented here in Manistee, but Caden's journey is not finished. Caden will be continuing his athletic and academic career at the collegiate level. He plans to sign to Michigan Tech in March.



STAFF





Lauren Judkins (12) *Editor/Writer* "Treat people with Kindness"



Avery Vaas (11) *Co-Editor/Writer*

"It's the possibility of having a dream come true that makes life interesting." Paulo Coelho



Jaz Madsen (12) *Writer* "You can make up a quote for me" - Jaz







Ceci Postma (11) *Writer* "Don't let the muggles get you down" -Ron Weasley





GUEST WRITERS

JEFFREY HUBER (12)

LIBBY MCCARTHY (11)