

## WHAT'S YOUR PATH?

With college debt continuing to rise, a trade isn't necessarily a trade-off  
p. 6

Cover Photo by Marni Scholl  
Cover Design by Leia DeGeorge

### Also in this issue:

#### **Money vs. Happiness**

What do you prefer, and does it affect your decisions?

p. 4

#### **Teens Need ZZZZZZZS**

Readers sound off on school start time.

p. 7

#### **Disney Starts Streaming**

A new alternative to Netflix goes live this month.

p. 8

#### **Fall Sports Wrap-Up**

It was turn-around time for several teams.

p. 10

## Staff Editorial: College Costs Make a Tough Decision Even Tougher

With the FAFSA deadline just behind us and college acceptance letters starting to arrive, this is the time of year when many seniors choose their next step after high school. This decision isn't easy. Students and their families need to weigh many factors such as tuition costs, scholarships, financial aid, academic programs, distance and a lot more.

For many, the decision about which college to go to (and whether to go at all) comes down to cost. In America today, student debt is a huge obstacle in the way of students achieving their dreams. The cost of college is so high that many presidential candidates have proposed solutions. Meanwhile, opportunities in fields that don't require a college degree (including high-paying skilled trades) continue to expand.

Our staff agrees that college costs too much, forcing many into debt, making a tough choice even more difficult. Everyone deserves a four-year education without being buried in a mountain of debt. In many fields, a degree is a necessity to achieving their goals. For many, college is the foundation of success. As students consider their options, they must decide what is best for them and their future.

Many of us grew up playing *The Game of LIFE*, where the first step is deciding which path to take. Now there's much more at stake as we spin the wheel and make that choice in real life: go to college or start a career?

Maxwell Greta Alanna M.C. Jaida Lydia Leia A  
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### Our Mission

The Jeffersonville High School newspaper, *The Hyphen*, strives to provide a voice for students and to inform the community through accurate, balanced and trustworthy content.

 @TheHyphenNews

## Mo Money, Mo Problems

The student aid application process has a fatal flaw: it presumes if parents CAN help with college costs that they WILL help with college costs

Story by Kristen Jacobs

Page Design by Kristen Jacobs

Thinking about college can be extremely stressful. Not just the anxiety that comes with an unknown future, but something even more nerve wracking... money.

As we all know, seniors or not, college can be very expensive. With scholarships, however, a lot of weight can be taken off your shoulders. But here's the problem, how do you get scholarships if your parents make an above average amount of money? Most of the time, you don't. And I'm sure you're thinking, "Why would you need a scholarship if your parents make a lot of money?" Well, not everyone whose parents make a decent amount of money actually gets help from their parents when it comes to paying for college. That seems to be the situation that a lot of students here at Jeffersonville High School are experiencing.

That little question concerning parent income included in scholarship applications assumes parents will aid financially with college, but that is not always an accurate assumption. Of course, they have scholarships for all different kinds of things that don't require information about your parent's yearly earnings.

If you're a senior, I'm sure you've heard of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This can be a big help, but only if you qualify. Part of the application asks you what your parents' annual income is, which is the dreaded question for those whose parents are well-off.

No one ever complains that their parents "make too much money" until it comes to paying for college.

It practically takes you out of the running for these types of things, and that is

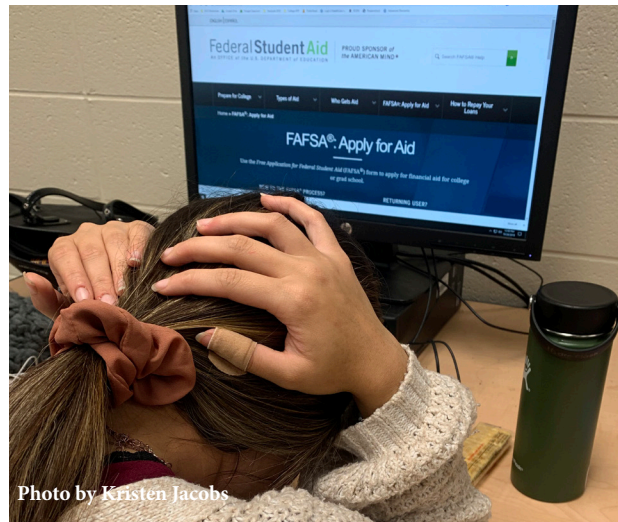
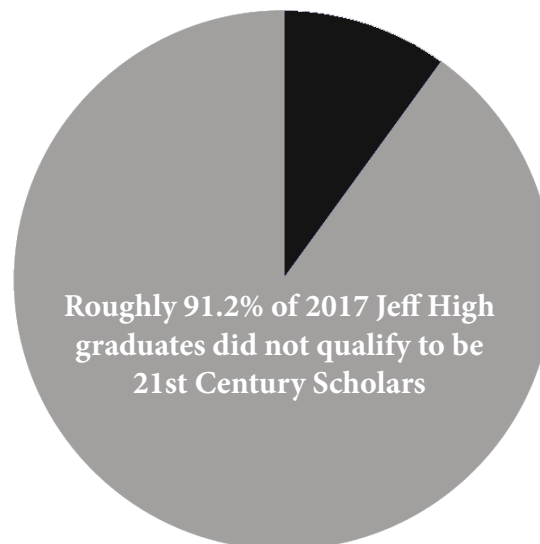


Photo by Kristen Jacobs

**"... not everyone whose parents make a decent amount of money get help from their parents when it comes to paying for college."**



absolutely awful if you're one of those students whose parents aren't contributing.

According to the Indiana Financial Aid and Activity Program Report from the 2013-2014 school year, "...financial need is equal to the cost of tuition and fees minus the expected contribution of the student and his or her family." This sounds great, truly need-based, but I have yet to run into a scholarship application that asks for income as well as how much support you are receiving from your parents financially.

As reported by the 2017 Indiana College Readiness Report, out of the 456 students that graduated from Jeff High in 2017, only 40 of those students were 21st century scholars. The 21st century scholarship program offers Indiana students a chance to get up to four years of fully paid tuition at multiple Indiana colleges. However, this only applies to students whose family income does not exceed \$45,000 (for a family of 4). Who says those parents aren't providing more financial help than parents who make more than that?

People tend to expect that when your parents make a lot of money, you don't have to worry about college debt — but that's not really how it works. Bigger paychecks tend to mean bigger bills. This means that even parents that make a lot of money don't have enough to save for their children's college tuition by the time all the bills have been paid.

What can we do? We could just make college kids rack up more and more student debt over the years, or we could get rid of that sickening question and give scholarships based on actual need, not assumed need.

# What Do You Want More: Money or Happiness?

Career decisions can be influenced by this simple question

Story by Leia DeGeorge

Page Design by Leia DeGeorge

It isn't uncommon to hear the saying, "Money can't buy you happiness." But is this really true? We decided to ask readers of *The Hyphen* what they think. On an Instagram poll with 32 respondents, 25 said they would choose happiness over money, while the other seven chose money.

Some people say for a successful life you need both happiness and money. Stability is not just present in someone's life, one way or the other.

Sophomore Claire Storz said, "I want happiness because that is the only thing money can't buy. I'd rather be poor and happy than rich and sad."

Storz also noted that the whole ordeal is also situational. In fact some people who have an abundance of money can find

happiness through donating to charities, or taking care of a family, adopting, running an organization to help real people, etc.

Money can only get you so many places, when you get to much of it, it can bring out the worst in you and the people you associate with. Once you have everything there is nothing to strive for, nor anything left to get. It can drive you insane knowing that you are just stuck in space, with a life controlled by what is in your bank account without a bit of happiness.

On the other hand, some people say that money does indeed create a sense of happiness. Sophomore Dustin Liston said, "I have a lot of great ideas that can bring others happiness but it requires a lot of money."

With this statement he describes he

wants to help others and that would bring him happiness. Money is something people need to support themselves and others. According to givingusa.org, in 2017 \$390.05 billion was donated in just that year. People who have a lot of money are big contributors to nonprofit organizations. It is said that giving to others will make you more happy, so through donation and assisting others you can bring yourself happiness.

In a life with happiness you could be poor and make the best out of your life. Strive daily to try to get somewhere to better your life. If you live a life where you do not love your job, it always feels like work. If you truly enjoy your job, you will never feel like you are at work a day in your life.



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# RED! WHITE! RED! WHITE!

## We all fight for the Jeff High Spirit Stick – but WHY?

Story by Kaitlyn Monroe

Page Design by Leia DeGeorge

It's homecoming season. You've waited all week and the pep rally is finally here. You are separated by classes. Underclassmen are wearing red and upperclassmen are wearing white. You're screaming back and forth, yelling "RED!" and "WHITE!" at the top of your lungs, all to win the spirit stick. But why is a red cardboard tube worth so much to Jeff High students?

Principal Julie Straight said the answer is simple: "There's pride in fighting for the school together, just showing that spirit and pride for the school." A Jeff High graduate, Straight remembered battling over a spirit stick when she was a student -- although it wasn't the same spirit stick we have now.

The current spirit stick came from Nancy Molnar, a former teacher at Jeff, who made it herself in the early 1990s. She said, "I had new carpet installed in my house. When it was completed, the installer asked if I needed the carpet roll. I looked at it and immediately knew it would work. I sawed the length down to what I knew I could handle at school, yet big enough for students to see. I fluffed up the plastic at the end to appear like something ... perhaps a flame. I placed it on my husband's sawhorses and painted it red, bought the striped ribbon and glued it down on the stick."

Although we don't know exactly when Jeff High students started battling over some form of stick, we do know that a similar tradition has been around for many decades. A 1972 yearbook photo shows students claiming a "spirit jug" at a pep rally.

Straight said that this history and tradition is part of what makes every battle over the spirit stick great. "It brings that bit of nostalgia," she said.



Photo by Araceli Moran-Cruz

**Above: The seniors claimed the spirit stick at this year's fall homecoming pep rally.**

**Below: The 1972 Jeff High yearbook shows a predecessor to the spirit stick: the spirit jug. The caption reads, "J.V. cheerleader, Vanessa Rorrer accepts the spirit jug for the Sophs from varsity cheerleader Bev Brogan."**

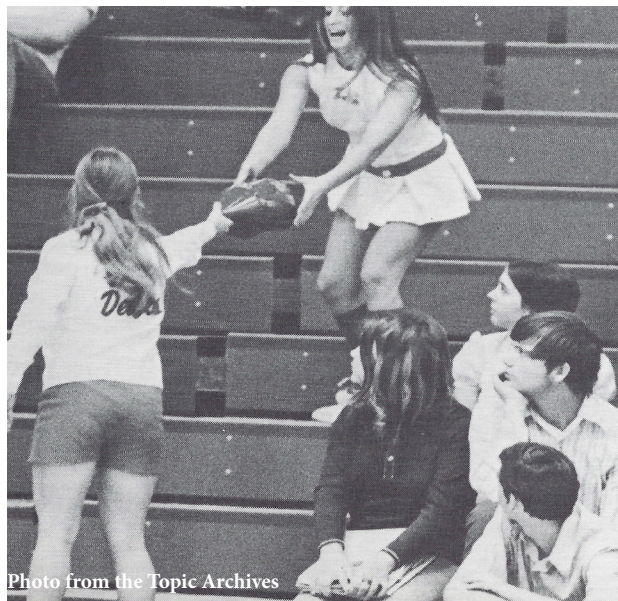


Photo from the Topic Archives

## THE UNDERScore

### The Great Spirit Stick Controversy: Is it Rigged?

To get the answer to this question, we went straight to the source: Principal Julie Straight. She started by pointing out that the seniors don't always win. For instance, at a pep rally last year, the seniors didn't win the spirit stick, which resulted in "outrage and devastation" until they got it back.

"It isn't rigged," she clarified. "But I will say that if it's a coin toss, that nod will go to the seniors. There is something to senior privilege. They have earned that. But ... they have to *earn it.*"

- Researched and Written by Kaitlyn Monroe

Do you have a burning question about Jeff High history or traditions? Ask The Underscore and we'll investigate for you. To submit an idea, talk to a Hyphen staff member or send an email to [jeffhighhyphen@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhighhyphen@gmail.com).

## Is College Needed?

**As tuition continues to rise and the demand for skilled trades continues to grow, students weigh the benefits and costs**

Story by Maxwell Fisher

Page Design by Greta Reel

Most children in school are constantly told the benefits of college and getting a college degree. As generations of children are graduating thinking college is the only option, many jobs are being left open in manufacturing and skilled labor fields. It begs the question, is college the best decision for all students?

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 69.1-percent of 2018 high school graduates attend a college or university. This number has stayed about the same (65 to 70-percent) for almost 15 years.

Many skilled labor employers are seeing the effect, Market Watch's Jefferey Bartash notes that this is the "tightest labor market in decades forcing companies to pay up." Many young people enter the workforce with a bachelor's degree, yet not the technical experience to take on these high paying jobs.

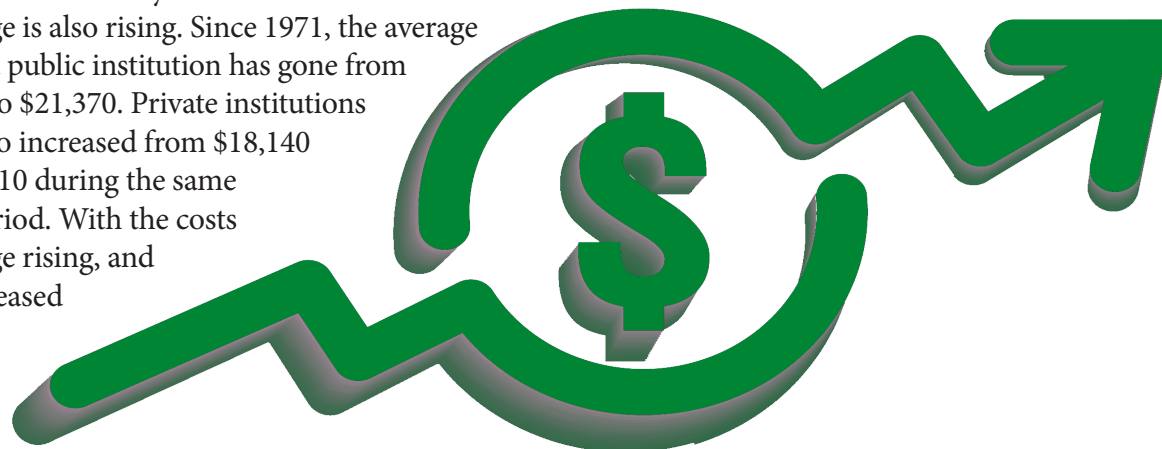
College is also becoming increasingly expensive. According to Nitro College, a college financial service provider, the average student will acquire \$37,172 in student debt. Nitro also states it take on average 19.7 years for student loans to be paid for a four year education. The cost of college is also rising. Since 1971, the average cost of a public institution has gone from \$8,730 to \$21,370. Private institutions have also increased from \$18,140 to \$48,510 during the same time period. With the costs of college rising, and the increased pay for

skilled trades and other careers not requiring a college degree, many high school students are seriously considering whether college is really the best path.

Despite this, college does have its economic benefits. On average, those with a high school degree make about \$712 a week. For those with an associates degree, weekly pay averages \$836. For those with a bachelor's degree, it's \$1,173. Those with even further education range from \$1,400-1,836 weekly on average. So there is clearly an economic advantage to attending college; however, the opportunity cost must be factored in, as well.

Many high schools are putting in place programs to get students on the path to success, even if that path doesn't include college. For example Greater Clark County Schools' adoption of the academies sets up many students up for specific training toward certain careers without a college education.

At Jeffersonville High School and around the country, many are realizing that college isn't always the answer.



## Student Debt Reaches an Unsustainable Level

Story by Greta Reel

From school visits to applications, applying to colleges can be overwhelming. Perhaps the biggest issue? The cost of college and student debt. The tuition and fees for an average in-state four-year college costs approximately \$9,410 a year. In-state four-year private colleges average about \$32,410 per year. The prices are even higher for out-of-state colleges.

According to NBC News, student debt has risen in recent years and is now at \$1.6 trillion nationwide.

Tyler Colyer, a Jeffersonville High School counselor, says that many worry about the cost of college. "The cost of college is a huge concern for many students and families," Colyer said. "Parents and students worry not only about the cost but also how they will afford it now or in the future if student loans are necessary."

According to a report from CNBC.com, 84-percent of students that borrowed loans said that debt has affected their ability to save for retirement. Many people don't pay off their loans until their 40s.

Kyle Sanders, former editor-in-chief of *The Hyphen* and a sophomore at Indiana University Southeast, said that he is concerned about money and that it even influenced his decision about the university he attends.

"I decided to attend a local college to save money and am constantly thinking about how the debt I have will affect me years from now," Sanders said.

Colyer advises students to start early when it comes to paying for college. "Get good grades and work on your standardized test scores because that means money," he said. Colyer pointed out that scholarships are also essential. "Don't write off applying for a scholarship because it's only a few hundred dollars. Every penny counts!"

# School Start Time: Is 7:45 Too Early For Teenagers?

## Students cite sleepiness, safety as reasons for change

Story by Chloey Trinkle

Page Design by Nana Spio

In early November, as the nights get colder and the days get shorter, the sound of an alarm piercing through the darkness early in the morning can be quite alarming. According to [sleepfoundation.org](http://sleepfoundation.org), teenagers need a minimum of 8½ hours of sleep — yet only 15 percent of teenagers get that much.

Some think the solution is to go to bed earlier, but it's not that easy. According to [sleepfoundation.org](http://sleepfoundation.org), teens have a hard time falling asleep anytime before 11 p.m. due to biological sleep patterns.

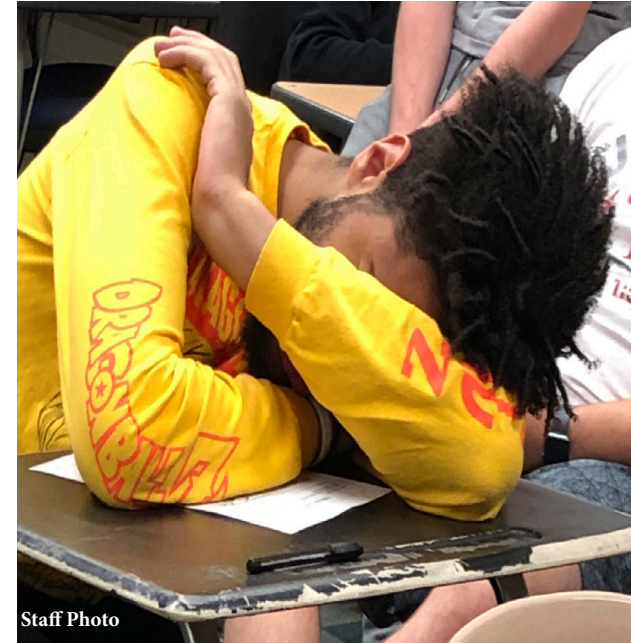
So why do high schools in our district start before elementary schools, which is the opposite of many districts?

According to Greater Clark County Schools superintendent Mark Laughner, “One main reason the district chooses to start high schools before elementary schools is so that older siblings arrive

home at the end of the school day prior to their younger siblings. We serve a lot of working parents and this provides them with additional support in the afternoon.”

Jeffersonville High School sophomore Georgia Martin, who said she wakes up at 5 a.m. to get ready and catch her bus in time, thinks the start time should change. “I hate [the starting time], and I think it should be pushed back an hour,” Martin said. Getting more sleep isn't the only reason. Martin added that her bus stop is a street over from her house, so she worries about her safety walking to the bus stop in the dark.

In spite of the complaints, the school district doesn't plan to push back that alarm clock anytime soon. “The district is not looking to change start/end times in the near future,” Laughner said.



Staff Photo

## Reader Voices: School Start Time

We asked readers of *The Hyphen* to sound off on school start time on our Instagram account, @thehyphennews. We asked, “Should school start earlier or later?”

By a landslide (43-3), readers said they'd rather start later. Here's a sample of what you had to say:

“Students cannot be academically productive at 7:30 in the morning.”

@reece\_radiotv

“I always come tired to school even when I go to sleep early and wake up late.”

@jr60505

“Studies show students' brains start to function at around 9:30-10. Also no student likes to get up early.”

@shay\_the\_derp

“School should start at 9 because students don't get enough sleep with sports going.”

@mj\_obrien23

“I personally find that I work better in the morning.”

@proctor.cant.spell.  
bannanna

“I think school starts at a perfect time and ends at a perfect time.”

@jordan\_lw\_14

# Netflix's Newest Competitor Will Launch November 12

## Disney to shake up entertainment with new streaming service

Story by Nana Spio

Page Design by Nana Spio

There has been a lot of excitement around the world for Disney's new streaming service. The reason Disney's streaming service is going to be beneficial for people is that you're going to be able to watch the shows you want on your own schedule and you're going to be able to binge-watch whole seasons instead of having to wait for them to be released. Yes, you heard it right: Disney is rolling out its own streaming service and it is going to be called Disney Plus.

This new streaming service is going to come out Nov. 12, 2019, in the U.S., Canada, and the Netherlands. The service will only cost \$7 a month and will be accessible to many devices. These devices include Apple TV, iOS, Android, Roku, Xbox One, and PlayStation.

Disney Plus will also have a bundle with Hulu and ESPN Plus, making all three of them cost thirteen dollars a month.

The Disney streaming service is going to have a lot of favorites shows, movies, and documentaries. It is going to include content from Marvel, The Simpsons, Star Wars, National Geographic, and more. This means that the Disney streaming service is going to be the go-to place to watch anything Disney related.

On one hand, the new Disney Plus streaming service is good news for those who might otherwise lose access to their favorite Disney shows that will no longer be on Netflix. Disney will be pulling everything Disney related off Netflix and putting it on the Disney Plus Streaming Service. On the other hand, it is bad news for those who don't want to pay for subscriptions to multiple services.

No matter what, with the amount of content the Disney streaming service is going to be providing, it's likely Netflix and Disney are going to be battling to be the top streaming service for years to come.



Illustration by November Shawler



# JHS Theatre to Present *Alice in Wonderland* November 8-10

Story by Chloey Trinkle

Page Design by Nana Spio and Kristen Jacobs

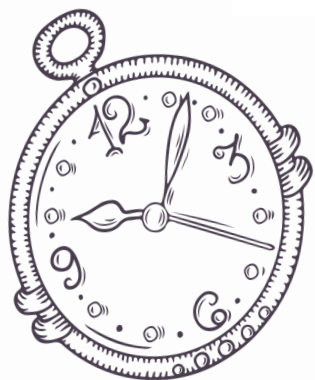
This weekend the Jeffersonville High School Theatre Department will take audiences through the looking glass with three performances of *Alice in Wonderland*, a production based on Lewis Carroll's classic story about dreaming and identity.

Shows will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9. There will also be a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, November 10.

Tickets are \$10 for Jeff High students and senior citizens. The general admission price for others is \$15. The ticket price includes a tea party with the cast after the show.

JHS Theatre director Derrick Ledbetter describes the show as "free-wheeling, highly imaginative and fast-paced."

The show stars Anna Lowe as Alice. Other cast members include Gavin Van Fleet, Joryn Burns, Jesse Crull, Becken Maddox, Madison Conway, Hannah Dickens, Cassie Hawkins, Kennedy Smith, Hailey Hughes, Claire Storz, Abby Napper, Alex Seifert, Katie Dorman, Lydia Church, and Nathaniel Garner.



Submitted Photo

## Entertainment Trivia

By Marni Scholl

1. Which song was on the Billboard Charts for 19 weeks this year?

- a. Senorita - Shawn Mendes and Camila Cabello
- b. Old Town Road - Lil Nas X
- c. Kill This Love - Blackpink
- d. Never Really Over - Katy Perry

2. Which musical is getting a live action remake this year?

- a. Cats
- b. Hamilton
- c. Be More Chill
- d. Dear Evan Hanson

3. Which artist recently released a song called "Small Talk"?

- a. Drake
- b. Taylor Swift
- c. Katy Perry
- d. Halsey

Answers on back page

# Fall Sports Wrap-Up

Story and Page Design by Alanna Groves

## Volleyball

Even before the season started, new head coach Wes Briscoe quickly set out to build a strong team. They started strong with a win over Charlestown, while also facing challenges that tested the strength of a team. "It wasn't really what I expected. As a team we really grew closer," said sophomore Rachel Lowe. Our Lady Devils pulled through, ending the season with a four-game winning streak and the first winning season in recent history for the program.

## Boys Tennis

The Jeff High tennis team owned the courts all season long. With four returning seniors, they won the sectional title once again (the 11th straight and the 24th overall in school history). Several members of the team received conference and state awards for their outstanding performance on the court during the 2019 season. Senior Adam Crawford knows it will take a lot of effort to keep up the winning tradition. "I would recommend to the younger kids coming up to put in a lot of work," he said. "Tennis is one of the hardest sports you can play."

## Girls Golf

Our 21 Lady Devils dominated the season on the golf course. The Lady Devils had many games postponed due to rainy weather conditions, but that didn't hold them back. With 52 wins and 17 losses, they still finished with a winning season. Coach Dusty Corum said the team "had a very successful golf season this year [with] very good overall performance from the girls." Even with a winning season, Junior Baylee Lawler still believes that there is always room for improvement next year.

## Cross Country

The JHS cross country team had to be adaptable this fall as many practices were canceled due to the heat index. Injuries also took a toll on the team. Senior Matthew Leuhart couldn't run in the beginning of the season due to an ankle injury. "The season didn't start off too well because I got injured pretty bad," Leuhart said, "but I came back and was able to make varsity and run at sectionals." Senior Leo Burns received a medal and made it out of sectionals. Our Lady Red Devil runners had some rough competition against Seymour and Silver Creek. They received a lot of personal records, yet still look for more improvement in the future. "I believe if we work hard enough, we can get past sectionals for the next season to come," said junior Kendall Stackhouse.

## Football

After starting off their sectionals with a win, the JHS football team plans to fight for all four quarters tomorrow against Floyd Central in the sectional championship game. The team is pumped up after beating New Albany in the first round of sectionals. Senior Ethan Rogers said, "I feel like our confidence is boosted after the win against New Albany." He added that "this is a big game for all the seniors." Unfortunately one senior will be watching from the sidelines. Running back Isaac Finley won't be playing against Floyd Central due to an ankle injury.

## Boys Soccer

The 2019 season for the JHS soccer team was really successful. A win over Providence gave the boys a boost of confidence going into sectionals. Starting off their sectionals against rival New Albany seemed to be the best challenge, but the boys fell 1-0. "Next year the boys have a really good shot at winning sectionals. I would be really shocked if they don't," said senior Lex Hawkins.

## Girls Soccer

Starting off their season deep with juniors and sophomores, with only three returning seniors, the Lady Devils soccer team worked hard to come together as a team. A tough schedule and weather-related practice cancellations added to their challenges. Senior Bella Bungcayao stated, "This season is bittersweet because it is my last one. I hope next year will be better for all of the girls." The Lady Devils started sectionals strong, with a win against Jennings County, but ended their season with a loss to rival Floyd Central.





Photos by Kyle Tincher, Kyle Rider, Carlos Webb, Yeimi Sanchez Moran, Rachel Lowe and Paige Moore

**Go Red Devils!**

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Since our last issue, Jeffersonville High School lost three valued members of our community. The staff of *The Hyphen* extends our condolences to their family and friends.

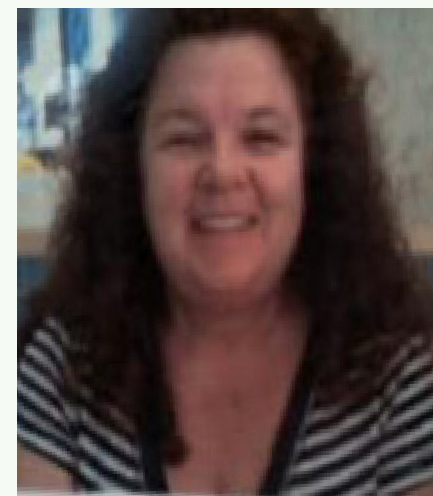
*Trinity Jackson*  
sophomore



*Connor Theriot*  
junior



*Selina Cato*  
cafeteria staff member



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