

THIS ISSUE NEWS

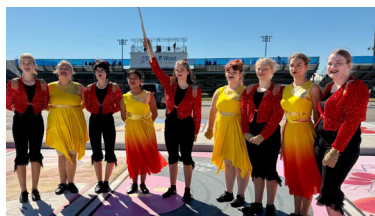


“Radiant Girls” set for the PAC.
SPORTS



IC Cheer Team honors seniors.

FEATURE



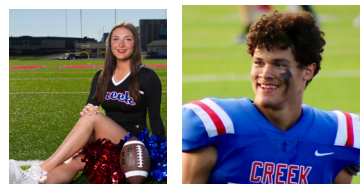
IC marching band advances to State
with El Matador performance.

ENTERTAINMENT



Hacky sack trend attacks ICHS.

OPINION



Kristin Soots and Braxton Edwards
share senior sentiments.

CALENDAR

October/November

- Oct. 22: Powderpuff Football Game @ 6pm
- Oct. 28: PSAT
- Nov. 9: Harlem Wizards in ICHS gym @ 7pm
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day program in ICHS gym @ 9:30 am
- Nov. 25-27: Thanksgiving Break



By: LONDON GOSMAN
and ALLAN PHELPS

CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

Freshmen entering into high school often report that it can be a challenging and extremely different experience. If you ask a freshman at Indian Creek about high school, one thing is clear: the size of the high school compared to the middle school causes not only chaos, but confusion. With more people in the school, halls can become crowded and hard to navigate. Freshman Alex Gosman says, “The hallways are super chaotic with how

many people there are.” Coming from middle school, students aren’t used to such a large school, with classes spread out much further than before. Pair this with the unfamiliar upperclassmen and a roaring loud hallway, and they can get lost in an instant.

Although it can be a challenge, making their way to their classes isn’t the only thing different about high school. There are also many good things that come from the new environment. A lot of freshmen students say that

the high school staff, and more specifically the teachers, are a lot more laid back compared to their middle school counterparts. Freshman Maverick Smith says, “The teachers in the high school are overall just more laid back about things, and in my opinion, a lot better.” Many freshmen report that the teachers they have had this year so far have been some of the best they have ever had.

While the new students seem to really be enjoying the teachers in the building

so far, what do the teachers think about the new students? Teachers seem to have their hands full with the new freshmen class with it being one of the biggest graduating classes that Indian Creek has ever had. English and journalism teacher, Christie Smith says, “They’re definitely very energetic as a class”. Despite the chaos it can cause, teachers are still managing to see the positives in them as well. While they are said to be very energetic and definitely talkative, that can also mean that they are a lot of fun.

ICHS Students Sip Up Locally-Created Creek Nutrition

By: HALIE GRIMES
CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

Creek Nutrition is a new business created by Indian Creek’s Oliver family. They partnered with Warrior Nu-

trition and Hometown Nutrition to bring something similar to the Trafalgar community. Creek Nutrition is planning to open between late September and early October.

Before they officially open their brick and mortar store, Creek Nutrition is at home sports games to give fans an opportunity to try their drinks. At high school football games, they sell themed drinks such as “Touchdown,” “Tribe,” and “Creek Water.”



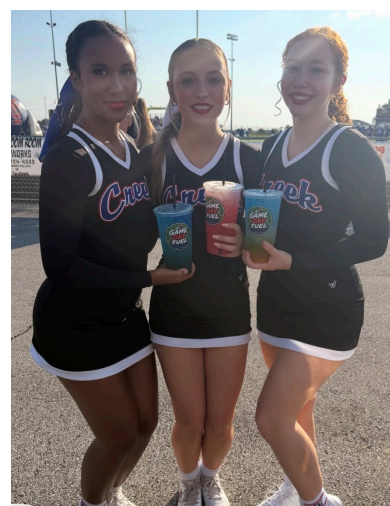
Freshmen Kenzley Emerson and Delaney Fitzpatrick cool off with Game Fuel. Junior Lyla Cash

states, “It is a new oppor-

tunity to try new drinks that are delicious, and I can’t wait for them to open.”

The overall goal is to provide healthier options for the community that are also convenient. Junior Aydia Lambert says, “Creek Nutrition will help me to stay connected with friends and is a closer option for fun drinks”.

Giving back to the community is something that is very important to Creek Nutrition. They are constantly bringing in drinks for teachers before they even open. Every week, coaches get to pick an athlete who worked diligently, and they get rewarded for their dedication by getting a drink and recognition on Creek



Juniors Alaisha Washington, Kinlee Pickerel, and Gwen Dines try out the football-themed flavors.

Nutrition’s social media pages.

Creek Nutrition gives people healthy options for drinks that are not so far away, and they continue to receive positive feedback..

Woodworth Takes New Role as Assistant Principal of ICHS

By: BRAXTON OWENS
CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

Superintendent Dr. Prusiecki said Mrs. Woodworth has been part of the district since 2018 and has continued to take on new challenges and responsibilities during that time, consistently helping to improve the school through her work as an instructional coach, her leadership in Work-Based Learning, and her behind-the-scenes work on school improvement efforts. “I have tremendous respect for her,” Prusiecki said. “She is intelligent, hardworking, creative, consistent, and deeply committed to our school.”

Principal Luke Skobel said



Principal Skobel stands with Vice Principal Woodworth and her family as she is welcomed into her new role.

Woodworth was the person he wanted for the job. He said he already knew her leadership ability, work ethic, and commitment to stu-

dents, and believed she was ready for the next step. “When I thought about who could best serve as my assistant, I wasn’t starting from scratch,” Skobel said. “I already knew her leadership ability, work ethic, and commitment to our students and school.”

Former ICHS Assistant Principal Bill Wallace also praised Woodworth, saying, “She was the person I was rooting for. She is highly qualified and ready to do the job. I feel she will, on day one, do 90% of that job better than I ever

did” and that he left his role “...in capable hands with Mrs. Woodworth. Leaving IC was a very difficult decision for me, but I had an opportunity to ‘move up’ and be a principal. I am very proud of my eight years at Indian Creek.”

Woodworth said she wants her first year to focus on supporting teachers and students, and the school’s continued growth while keeping the positive momentum going at Indian Creek High School. Woodworth will still maintain Wallace’s previous roles, including discipline, state testing, overall safety within our school, and observing teachers.

New Faces Grace IC Halls, Courts, and Classrooms

By: ELLIE SMITH

CREEK CURRENT YEARBOOK EDITOR

As the new school year begins, ICHS welcomes a variety of new teachers and coaches. ICHS also has several staff members taking on new roles at the school.

Mrs. Woodworth is the new assistant principal. She also teaches the Business X100 class. She first came to IC in 2018, and last year Woodworth taught a variety of classes. Woodworth is most excited about working with Principal Skobel and Ms. Hogue on ICHS's new school initiatives to better serve students navigating the new diploma requirements. A fun fact about Woodworth is that she was a Division 1 College Swimmer at Marshall University. She swam free-style and breaststroke. Woodworth met her husband, Ben, an IC alum, in undergrad.

Taking a new role this year, Ms. Flajs is teaching different business classes. Last year, Flajs was the Special Education Classroom Assistant for ICHS. She is excited to get to know the teachers and students better, along with



Aquatic Director/Head Swim Coach, Mr. Rayce

building a class that the students want to be part of. A fun fact about Flajs is that she owned her own business called Hair We Go, LLC.

A new member joining ICHS is Ms. Hogue, who is the Instructional Coach/WBL Coordinator. An instructional coach partners with teachers to strengthen instruction and support professional growth. She is also the WBL coordinator who helps students connect classroom learning to real-world career experiences. Hogue comes to IC from Whiteland where she was the Science Department Chair and taught a vast amount of science classes. A graduate of ICHS, Hogue is most excited to get to know the students



Instructional Coach/Work-Based Learning Supervisor, Ms. Hogue

and staff. A fun fact about Hogue is that she loves to travel and has been to many countries. Her next travel destination will be Grenada.

Another new face around ICHS is Mr. Whitaker, Mrs. Demaree's maternity leave substitute. He teaches show, concert, and jazz choirs. He graduated from Anderson in May. This year, Whitaker is excited for the performances that are happening with the choirs starting with the Fall Concert. A fun fact about Whitaker is that he has performed in 11 musical theatre productions.

Also taking a new role this year is Mrs. Saucier as the mental health counselor. She previously worked at Inidan

Creek from 2011-13, where she worked with both middle and high school students in in-school suspension along with supervising the high school credit recovery online courses. Saucier is happy to be back at ICHS and excited to continue serving students as they explore their life goals. A fun fact about Saucier is that she graduated in from ICHS in 1990, and three of her children also graduated from ICHS.

While ICHS has a lot of new people on the education side, they are also welcoming a new coach this year. Mr. Rayce is the new Aquatic Director and Head Swim Coach. Before he came to Indian Creek, Rayce was the head swim coach at Franklin College. Rayce is most excited to be coaching at the high school level. "The swim team is excited to swim and have a great season," said Rayce. A fun fact about Rayce is that his second-to-last high school swim meet was at Indian Creek.

The Creek is excited to bring in new perspectives and opportunities to the student body this 2026-27 school year.



TURN THE PAGE

By AYDIA LAMBERT
News Editor

Your Voice Matters

Have you ever considered being involved in student council? Is there a change you want to make within our school? You deserve to have a say! In student council, we strive to speak and represent the student body.

This year, a new teacher is sponsoring the council. Ms. Downs is devoted to making sure our ideas and voices are heard and considered. She says, "I'm extremely excited and blessed to have the opportunity to work with our student council. It is full of very bright, hardworking students who are doing their best to leave an impact on the school."

She brings up the impressive success from the HOCO court, which is one of the many important things we are responsible for. "Student Council's most recent victory, with the help of many others, is how much money was raised through HOCO court to donate money for Riley Hospital. This opportunity is sponsored by Student Council and many of our other wonderful students who were competing in HOCO Court raised \$11,800."

Don't worry, that is not the only fundraising we plan to do this year! Downs also mentions that the Student Council is looking forward to another year of great achievements.

As last year's historian, I love playing such a big role in the council. I get to come up with my own poster ideas, and I get creative freedom. I also enjoy being able to share my thoughts on how we can benefit our school.

Each class gets four representatives and other roles. If you want to become more involved, Student Council is worth looking into and a great group to be a part of.

If you are interested in becoming a class representative, reach out to begin campaigning. Don't forget to vote, and catch us at the career fair for more information!

Athletes Love Unified Flag Football at Indian Creek

By: HALIE GRIMES

CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

Many students join unified football as a fun way for all abilities to come together as a team in a positive environment.

Junior Grace Runnebohm states "Flag football is really great because the kids are so amazing to play with and it is worth getting to know everybody." Runebohm also said she made amazing friends and will always be grateful she decided to do the sport.

Junior Maryah Caul

says, "What makes flag football so fun to play is that I get to help the kids with special needs and give them a chance of playing a sport."

Unified football gives a chance for kids with special needs to play in an environment that works for them while also allowing them get help from others if needed.



Unified players joined with varsity and JV football players for a fun game at the pep rally.



Senior Rowan Brunsmann said she enjoys the concession stand because it's a great chance to spend time with her teammates.

Players feel flag football is a great way to meaningfully connect with teammates in an uplifting environment.

College Football Is Finally Back

It had been 227 days since Indiana defeated Miami in their own city on the biggest stage, and the first game of College Football's Week 1. We are now two weeks through the new season and have already had controversial plays, big upsets, and jaw-dropping comebacks.

In Week 1, IU had a huge win to start off their season, beating North Texas by 36 with their new quarterback, Josh Hoover. Then there was a lot of controversy in Ann Arbor as Michigan got one second put back on the clock, and Bryce Underwood launched a 47 yard pass downfield for a buzzer-beating TD by JJ Buchanan.

Week 2 was arguably more crazy, as Ohio State fumbled a huge lead and Oregon got upset by OSU. Texas, facing a huge deficit, didn't give up as they came back from a 20 point lead held by the number one team in the country. Longhorns head coach Steve Sarkisian stayed aggressive as they scored a touchdown and extra point to take the lead with 25 seconds left on Game Day's game of the week. The Ducks, on the other hand, were trying to come back from a shaky start in Week 1 against Boise State, but ended up picking up their first loss to the Cowboys.

ICHS students have also been expressing their excitement for the new season. Junior Nolan Ricketts said, "I am really excited to watch some football, and am grateful that my team BYU has a chance to do some damage this year." Freshman Maverick Smith said this about the Indiana Hoosiers: "I am super excited for this college football season and IU football is going back-to-back." No matter how this season comes to an end, and who is crowned the National Champion, this college football season is going to be one to remember.

IC Cheer Team Honor Seniors and Gets Set to Compete

By: MAKYNZI SOOTS

CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

ICHS's varsity cheer team, led by Coach Jennie Robertson and Assistant Coach Ginger Weisbrod, will be honoring their seniors, competing for the first time in decades, and bringing the spirit to Friday night football games. The seniors are Kristen Soots, Liberty Weisbrod, Kendall Guernsey, and Jania Ramey.

Soots has been cheering for nine years. After high school, Soots' plan is to attend Eastern Illinois to play softball and study communications. She says, "I love cheering because I love my coach Jennie Robertson. She makes me enjoy cheer."

This is Liberty Weisbrod's first year of cheer. She plans to join her family business after graduates.

Kendall Guernsey has



Kristen Soots, Kendall Guernsey, Jania Ramey, and Liberty Weisbrod cheered for six years. Guernsey plans to attend Purdue University for diving and is graduating mid-term.

Jania Ramey has been cheering for eleven years. After high school, she plans to attend college to be a special education teacher.

While the seniors look forward to their final season, the entire team is also preparing for a new experience. For the first time in years, the cheer team will be competing. On November 14, the team will take on the cheer teams in their conference at Tri-West

High School. In order to prepare for the competition, they have dedicated Monday practices to competition prep. The girls run through the cheer sequence they have learned to clean it and make no mistakes.

Although competition is a major focus this season, the team still has an important role to play on Friday nights. The cheerleaders bring spirit to the crowd and student section to keep the energy up, whether the football team is winning or losing. The cheer team does this by doing sidelines, stunting, and performing band dances. The crowd and students section like to join in with chants and

and dress up in the specific theme that is set for that game. Sophomore



One of the highlights for the cheer team is performing under the Friday night lights.

Braves Varsity Football Rolling Going Into Week Four

By: WALKER OLIVER

& HANK SEITZINGER

CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

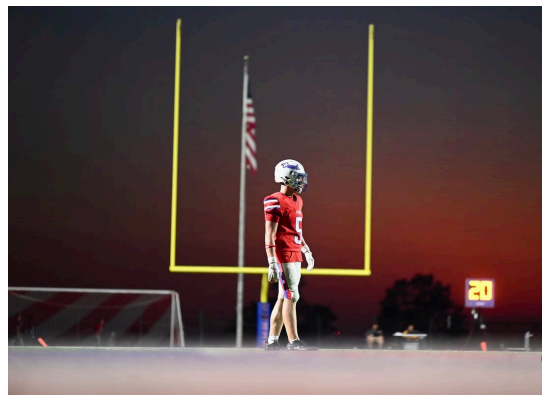
Indian Creek High School's varsity football team recently picked up their third win in a row, giving them an undefeated record of 3-0. The Braves defeated Western 52-7 in week one, Heritage Christian 49-13 on the road in week two, and in week three the Braves defeated county rival Greenwood 35-14.

Braves head coach Max Goodin states, "What I thought went into our 3-0 start was having a great summer, and having a great group of seniors to lead us." The Braves have six more games remaining in the regular season before sectionals. Coach Goodin explains, "Winning these first three games is always great for our

team morale, and this also gives us some momentum going into the rest of the season."

Last season the Braves also recorded a 3-0 start to their season which led to them getting to the first round of regionals before their season ended.

As Goodin explained, there is a great group of seniors leading the team to this undefeated start. Senior linebacker Braxton Edwards



Senior Jaxon Green takes a moment of silence before a Greenwood game full of noise.

is excited about the season, explaining, "The team is determined to go far in the playoffs, and the 3-0 start gives the team the drive to keep this undefeated season going during the regular season."

Senior Drew Pingleton adds, "Scrimmages against tough opponents, working hard, and team Hanner camp for team bonding have been vital parts of the off-season

to be able to have a hot start." With there being six games left before playoffs, the team plans to stay focused on practicing hard so they can keep their momentum rolling. Their main focus right now is their next

game against Monrovia.

On Friday September 11, the Braves traveled to Monrovia to take on the Bulldogs. Here is what Coach Goodin had to say about the upcoming game, "Monrovia is going to want to run the ball a lot and play very hard. We will have to use all of our offensive opportunities to our advantage and stop them from getting big gains of yardage when they run the ball." Edwards also added, "This is a good opportunity for us to give full effort against a hard-working team, and to prepare for this game we have watched multiple games of Monrovia's film."

The Braves are looking forward to continuing to work hard on and off the field to keep their undefeated season rolling.

ICHS Puts Student Safety First with New Hall Passes

By: GRACE HENDERSON, ZURI SCHULTZ, & PAULINA RODRIGUEZ GANDARA

CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

ICHS has a new way to track students' whereabouts. Students now have to sign out on their computer in order to leave the classroom, and teachers must sign them back in upon returning to class. This new addition has caused different opinions.

The majority of students

state that they aren't big fans of the new school hall passes, sharing, "Hall passes negatively affect and waste time," and "It allows teachers to know where students are at all times," and "It helps get less people in the hallway, which allows it to be easier for teachers when they are teaching because there aren't so many students trying to leave the classroom and cause distractions."

Teachers are having more positive thoughts about these new hall passes. Most say that they like knowing where all students are, but some think there is still room for improvement. One teacher said, "It is beneficial in most aspects, but it can be complicated and difficult to navigate through."

Pass creator Mr. Mead says, "I look at it as more of a project considering it took 100 plus hours to create."

All opinions aside, Mead's time and dedication towards creating these hall passes does not go unnoticed and is deeply appreciated at ICHS.

The hall pass system has its pros and cons, but was created to benefit students and staff and to keep students' safety first. For example, in the event of a lockdown or any type of evacuation, the hall pass allows staff to stay informed.

Empowering Story Set to Unfold in the PAC in November

By: AISLYNN SEMON

CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

This fall "Radium Girls" will come alive on stage in the PAC. It's set to take place November 6 at 7pm and November 7 at 2 and 7pm. "Radium Girls," written by D.W. Gregory, stars Grace Fryer, who is played by junior Lilian Spencer, and is based

Seniors Express Mixed Emotions about Their Last School Year

By: OLIVIA DICKEY

& RILEY WADE

CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

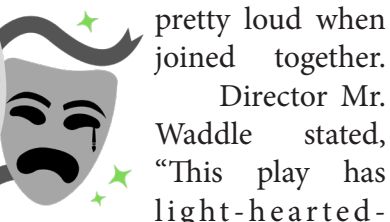
Four Creek seniors expressed mixed emotions about this being their last year.

Enzo Mulinaro said, "I am excited to leave school but

on a true story about painters who got radium poisoning from their work. It's set in the early 1900s. Following the battle between a large corporation vs small voices of girls seeking justice, people see that those small voices can become

also really nervous to be on my own. I love high school football and will be devastated to leave it behind once I graduate."

Paige Allred is happy for this year to be her last, saying, "Although I love my teachers and am sad to leave them be-



pretty loud when joined together. Director Mr. Waddle stated, "This play has light-hearted moments, it has those funny moments, and at its core, it is a drama. And so I think the audience will really enjoy seeing a very true and

hind, I can't wait to see what the future holds for me." Jaykob Gumerson expressed, "I am sad to leave, but very grateful for the memories I made throughout high school, especially football season."

Jaxon Green said, "I loved

Rivalry Game Ends in Huge Conference Win for Indian Creek

By: PATRICK DOWTY
CREEK CURRENT FEATURE EDITOR
BROOKS LARSH
CREEK CURRENT SPORTS EDITOR
& ISAAC SMITH
CREEK CURRENT OPINION EDITOR

Creek vs. Greenwood has been a long-time rivalry, but this year feels a little special. IC hosted Greenwood at home for their chance to beat the Woodmen in back-to-back years for the first time ever. Many Creek players expressed how much this game meant to them and the community. Head Coach Goodin said, "Everytime we play Greenwood, and especially at home, it is a special atmosphere and is a great opportunity to beat a rival neighbor."

Goodin's players said that winning is their number one priority, and all of the pre-game online trash talk just fuels them for Friday under the lights.

Newcomer Lane Smith said, "I know this is my first



PHOTO BY: Sam Dickinson
Seniors Jaykob Gumerson and Jaxon Green strategize with junior Levi McFann.

time playing with Creek in this rivalry, but I feel like I am just as excited as everyone else. We have a great team and I think they know that. Plus this is the first year it's going to be a conference game, so that just gets me fired up."

As local excitement reached a high, it was clear this matchup meant far more than just a gain in the win column. Under the Friday night lights, a packed crowd waited to see if the Braves could finally rewrite the history books against one of their closest neighbors.

Indian Creek's Girls' Soccer

By: KARLIE WERDEN
& RYLYN FRAZIER
CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS
& EVANGELINE SONDERBORG
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

In 2022, the girls' soccer team became a big addition to the athletic program. For the past two years, Coach Robertson has been leading the team. Although the program is fairly new, it has been growing each year.

This year the team has been focusing on trying to improve everyday through practices, games, and team-bonding activities.

A few players weighed in on how they thought the

season is going so far. Midfielder Taylor Ennis stated, "I feel it's a pretty great environment and the team is definitely positive. I'm really excited for it being my first year because I really love playing soccer."

Defensive player Rae-lynn Hilligoss said, "I believe we are doing a lot better than past years. Honestly, we just need to keep working hard every single day and keep our head up no matter what."

Another defensive player Kelsey Campbell voiced, "We are improving every single day but we have

Creek started the game off strong by scoring a TD on the second play with a 50-yard pass to junior receiver Mason Woodke. Greenwood responded with a long drive down the field until the Braves defense was able to come up with a big stop.

After that the Braves started to score drive after drive while the Woodmen were only able to punch one in. But late in the second half with IC leading 28-7, the Woodmen had the ball and were able to drive the ball down the field and score, making it 28-14.

IC was able to punch one more TD in to make the score 35-14. As the clock wound down, it was inevitable the Braves were going to make history beating Greenwood in two straight years.

The crowd erupted with applause when the final whistle blew with players and



PHOTO BY: Sol Stevens
Junior wide receiver Hunter Worley catches a pass from junior QB Evan Clark in the win against conference foe Greenwood.

coaches cheering and students storming the field. All the hype, the disrespectful posts, and the rivalry made it a sweet victory. Senior running-back Drew Pingleton told reporters, "Trash talk fueled our fire, and when we faced adversity, we prevailed."

If any of those Instagram comments got to the players, it didn't show. The hard-fought battle dubbed

the Braves 3-0 once again, and players seem to be more motivated than ever to make this season one to remember. Junior quarterback Evan Clark said, "When the boys are as focused as they were on Friday night, we may be the best team in the state."

It was an impressive win that left Indian Creek football ready to go get many more.

Team Strives for a Great Year on the Field



so much more room to grow as a team and individually. Hopefully, we can end the season with a better record and a good mindset."

Various components go into creating a successful team like having game plans, strategies, positivity, team-

the sidelines and sending it into the box, Rae Hilligoss who has been holding down the defense in the middle, and two underclassman, Karlie Werden and Lia Lindsey who will be tough for years to come."

Robertson expressed his excitement for his team and shared, "We are a lot better than last year, and I would say the product on the field has improved wonders. A good goal is to win our first sectional game. The team and I are excited because of the new teams we will be up against this year."

Sees Stellar Season Ahead



With the new conference debuting in 2025, the Indian Creek Braves have now been crowned as back-to-back HLC Cross Country Champions.

talk about Conference, with new contenders being added to their race. Both Greenwood and Shelbyville have been added to the competition at the Conference race.

The excitement over the Conference race panned out as Indian Creek was crowned champion of the Hoosier Legends Conference for the second straight year.

Smith, who was injured at the time of the race, decided to attempt to run anyway, and gutted out a strong finish to help give Creek the team win. Earning individual All-Conference honors were Hank Seitzinger, who finished in 4th, Isaac Smith in 5th, Atticus Smith, 9th, and Bristol Pappas, 11th.

Towell Becomes Creek Current Executive Editor

By: HALIE GRIMES
CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

In journalism, students can have many roles such as reporters, photographers, and editors. Junior Kaycee Towel was awarded the leading role of executive editor this year.

Towell was in journalism her sophomore year, which is also the first year ICHS students had the opportunity to take the course. Journalism prospered its first year, and Towell joined again for her junior year. Many students saw the dedication that she put into things like the newspaper, yearbook, and the bake sales. Towell



Kaycee Towell, front center, is joined by other Creek Current members at a recent field trip to a Jostens Yearbook Conference.

says, "I loved the class and how much I got to write. Ms. Smith helped me improve my writing skills." She learned a lot and it prepared her for the role she is stepping into this year.

Towell states, "I was expected to be the feature editor like I was last year, so when Ms. Smith told me I was going to be the executive editor, I was very surprised. I'm very excited to learn

Seniors March to More Memories in Final Season

By: KIRA STAUFFER
& JADE RICKETTS
CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

This year's Marching Band show is called El Matador, and the group is led by nine seniors.

Senior Dean McCloud is the drum major. During his time in the marching band he has learned many things: "I have been trying not to think about it honestly, but I know at the last competition I will end up getting emotional. Marching band has taught me more than just marching and playing music. It has taught me to take chances in life as well as being a more confident person overall. My favorite memory from marching band is warming up before every competition; the mix between excitement and anxiousness is close to Christmas Eve."

Senior David Vavul plays the baritone and is a part of a trio. He responds, "I'm just enjoying it and trying to make an impact on the people and program. Hard work and kindness always pay off, not just for you, but for the people around you. My favorite memory is probably making it to state in 2021."

Senior Madison Sheppard plays the snare drum. She states, "It started out feeling overwhelming being a senior, but now I'm just trying to have fun and be with my friends in band, and live it out for my last year. Something big I learned from everyone as a whole is don't let others shape you. Be yourself. My favorite memory so far is getting to know everyone and seeing how far everyone has grown. I cannot wait to see where this season takes us."

Senior Hayden Collins plays bass drum. Fellow senior and teammate, Sheppard, shares that her favorite memories of Collins are "watching her grow as a bass drum player" and "watching her love and passion for marching band grow."

Senior Stevie Perry does color guard and is a soloist for El Matador. She explains, "I'm quite thrilled that it's my last season in marching band, not because I wish for it to be over, but I think it's a great season to end on. Marching band isn't just an



Senior band members celebrate after their preliminary performance in which the group earned a trip to state..

after-school activity; it's a new family. It's such a welcoming community, and there's constant support through the tough times. My favorite memory while in marching band isn't just one, but a collection of memories. I've met countless amazing people at other schools and seen phenomenal performances."

Freshmen marching band members Sophia Schott and Myles Kirkendoll chimed in about senior Cooper Arkins. Kirdendoll said, "He's a very good mallet player."

Schott agreed and added, "He's a good teacher, too." According to freshman member Jake Lawalin, senior bass drummer Kaleb Weaver "is very funny." Sheppard added that Kaleb has a fond love for battery and made it very interesting. She explained that Kaleb "found a second family through marching."

Senior Chloe Cash does color guard. She shared, "I am going to miss this sport and my friends when it's over. However, I am also looking forward to the next step in my

journey. I learned a lot about teamwork and leadership during this sport. I always push myself to do my best. My favorite memories include performing and watching other schools perform."

Senior Hannah Klar is the assistant leader and clarinet leader of marching band. She said that she has enjoyed helping younger kids learn. She has also loved bonding with teammates and making more friends.

Band members shared their thoughts about the seniors. Sophomore Kimber Manchester said, "Hannah Klar is...kind to everyone." Freshman Olivia McCullough replied, "David said giving up is not the answer."

The marching band is like a supportive community where people are kind and always there for each other, even during hard times. They know that their hard work and practice pay off, not just for themselves but for the people around them, too. The team advanced to the ISSMA Scholastic State Finals, which will be held on October 17.



El Matador color guard members are all smiles after receiving the news that they had earned gold distinction and a trip to the state finals.

By: SAM DICKISON
& LONDON GOSMAN
CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS



Freshman Maverick Smith

THAT'S TEA



By EVANGELINE SONDERBURG
Entertainment Editor

Silence in the Chat

When you think of monsters, it's natural to think of the kind you find in books or movies. The type of monsters you think you see in the shadows of the night or the ones who have six eyes and long claws that reach out farther than you can imagine...but that isn't always the case. There are monsters in our world that are far scarier than that. We have monsters who would lure in an innocent being and use them for their own pleasure without thinking twice about how that would affect the other person. Or, even scarier, we have monsters who would sit there and watch it all happen.

When people hear about the Cornell incident, most of the attention goes toward the seven men who were accused, the scrutiny, the punishments, and all the events that happened during those long seven hours. Of course, those things are important. But there is another part of the story that isn't brought up enough: the 50 plus people in that group chat who knew what was happening and still remained silent.

Throughout our life we are taught to avoid hurting others and to keep our hands and harsh words to ourselves. Something that isn't taught enough is to not be a bystander. We often think being a bystander is physically being in the room to witness the event, but that isn't always the case. You can be a witness through a screen, too.

The scariest part of this whole story isn't only about the horrible actions taken upon Jane Doe. It's knowing that there were people who saw it, knew it was wrong, and still kept silent. So, in the end, the question isn't just "Who did it?" or "Why did they do it?" But rather, "Who saw it, and why didn't they speak up?"



By: PATRICK DOWTY
CREEK CURRENT FEATURE EDITOR
& BROOKS LARSH
CREEK CURRENT SPORTS EDITOR

Believe it or not, the famous hacky sack is attacking Indian Creek High School and other schools around the country. In Oregon City, Oregon in the summer of 1972, John Stalberger originally made the hacky sack for rehab after a severe knee injury. Stalberger, a former college football player for Texas, loved his new rehab tool, but especially loved competitions. That's when his friend, Mike Marshall came along and helped create the famous hacky sack the world knows and loves today. Stalberger even continued to chase their dream when Marshall died just one year after creating the first rough draft of this world famous game.

How do the teachers and students feel about the rise of the hacky sack, and how is it impacting the school year?

As many students have agreed, the hacky sack has been rising amongst students all across the high school. Many teachers and students alike feel that the hacky sack is a great replacement for not having phones this school year, as well as a fun thing to do during the passing periods.

Senior Braxton Edwards



Mr. Scott relives his high school days of playing hacky sack.

went as far as saying that "the rise of the hacky sack has been very fun and is great for distracting my mind when I am stressed out."

While students only had positive things to say, many teachers preached that there is a time and a place to play before it gets out of hand. However, business teacher Mr. Scott says that it is "a great game for building student hand-eye coordination, and it brings back memories from when I was in high school and my buddies and I used to play."



Senior Drew Pingleton shows off his top-tier hacky sack skills.

HIDDEN HIVES HONEY



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SACK ATTACK!

Not only were ICHS students and staff interviewed, but the interviewees were also tested on their hacky sack skills and ability. Out of the first seven students and staff, five of them were able to sack, and of those five, three of them were top-tier sackers, including teacher and head basketball coach Scott. Only two people lacked hacky sack ability, but made sure to let the reporters know they were going to practice.

On day two of interviews, eight of eleven students and staff could sack, showing how much our students have absorbed the return of the sack! Standout hacky sackers included seniors Sol Stevens, Mikayla Johnson, and Drew Pingleton.

In the end, the return of the hacky sack at Indian Creek has become a huge hit. What started as a simple medical tool in 1972 is now a great way for students to handle stress and stay active during phone-free school hours. Even though teachers agree there is a time and place to play, the positive feedback and awesome skills shown

by students and staff prove this game is a great addition. As more students practice and improve, the hacky sack will likely stay a popular tradition that keeps the IC school community connected and having fun.

CREEK CURRENT
— OCTOBER'S ISSUE —
A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S INSIDE NEXT MONTH

- BOYS' TENNIS
- GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY
- BOYS' SOCCER
- BRAYDEN MOFFITT
- NFL VS. COLLEGE FOOTBALL
- IC'S HIDDEN SUPERHERO

★ DON'T MISS IT! ★

THE SPOTLIGHT



By KAYCEE TOWELL
Executive Editor

Differing Wages

Women have been in the workforce since the mid 1800's. Then, it was mostly unmarried women, but over the years, women of all different statuses have taken the workforce by storm. So why are women still being paid less than men?

For every dollar a man makes, a woman makes 81 to 85 cents less. Women are underpaid and underdetermined in almost every industry, including the ones that are female-dominated. This isn't because they work less or are less educated; it's simply because of deep-rooted misogyny.

Though women have come a long way, and have fought their way up, they are still being mistreated almost every day. It's isn't only that they're women- age and color also factor into the wage difference. While younger women are paid 95 cents to a man's dollar, women of color are paid 64-65 cents.

The pay gap isn't just unfair; it is also old fashioned. Women have to work full-time jobs and have the exact same hours as men, just to be paid significantly less. Wages of any company shouldn't be determined by gender. They should be determined by rank and skill.

This unfortunately isn't just happening in America. Everywhere you look, everywhere you turn, there is a woman being mistreated because of her gender.

Women have been fighting for equal rights for many years, and we still don't have it. Everytime we get closer to equality, there is a new challenge women have to face. How long is it going to take for women to be paid fairly, to be treated fairly? How many protests do we have to have for people to take us seriously? The wage gap between men and women is just one small battle in an ongoing war.

Indian Creek Students Debate School Morning Start Times

By: HALIE GRIMES
CREEK CURRENT REPORTER

School has many benefits from starting earlier in the day, but also many from starting later. Students' opinions differ relating to their schedules and how busy they are.

Junior Ady Bartle states, "I'd start school thirty minutes later so we have more time in the morning and we would be on time to school."

Starting later allows students to get more sleep and not have to wake up so early. More sleep can help teens become more prepared for the school day and leads to students having a more productive day. Being better prepared can also allow students to be more on time to school and not be tardy.

Similarly to Bartle, Junior Zoe Bartling thinks school should start later so students

can get the recommended eight hours of sleep and get the ability to finish up the work from the night before. Having the morning to finish work can be a life saver when you need to finish work for a hard class that could not get finished the night before because of the need for sleep. For many students sports and other extracurricular activities take up a lot of their time outside of school. Junior

Cecilia Hale says, "I think we should start at 7:30 so that school ends earlier for extracurricular activities to be able to end sooner too so that we have time to go home and do homework without staying up till really late." Practices and games can cause student athletes to get home later in the day and lose out on sleep. Grades are also really important for sports so it can give student athletes more

time to do school work rather than cramming at the last minute.

Students have very mixed opinions on when school should start. It has different benefits depending on the students' schedules outside of school. Student athletes usually prefer to start earlier so they have more time, while students who do not do so many extracurricular activities prefer to start later.

Two IC Seniors Share Memories and Advice with Underclassmen

By: ELLIE SMITH
CREEK CURRENT YEARBOOK EDITOR

People don't realize how fast high school goes by until they are in their last year. Many kids have mixed feelings about going into high school. It can be a scary thought, but it can also be exciting. Making the best out of high school is such a big deal. That's why these seniors are here to help out.

Senior Kristen Soots has a saying that she goes by: "Other people's opinions

do not define your future; you define your future." Some of the best advice Soots got while going into high school was to keep a close circle of friends because it's quality of friends over quantity. One thing Soots would do differently is to not care so much about embarrassing herself when she was an underclassman. Her best memory in high school was pitching a shout out to win conference her sophomore year. If Soots



Senior Kristin Soots



Senior Braxton Edwards

could tell her younger self anything, she would tell her how proud she was of how far she has come. A piece of advice for the freshmen is to not wish to be older, live

in the moment, and enjoy these years because it really does go by fast.

Senior Braxton Edwards has a quote: "Everything happens for a reason."

The best advice Edwards has gotten is to read rooms and understand people. One thing he would change is to take his freshman year more seriously. His best memory is

being invited to his first team hangout.

The best advice Edwards got is: "Don't procrastinate, be known for kindness and be nice to everyone."

His advice to upcoming people is to enjoy every moment, make it count, and treat everyone with respect because the year will be a much better experience.

Embrace and learn from challenges. Make the most of high school - it goes by quicker than expected.

Creek's Clubs Provide Entertainment, Competition, and Community

By: MaKynzi Soots
CREEK CURRENT YEARBOOK EDITOR

ICHS believes in student- and teacher- run clubs to better student leadership, confidence, and responsibility. This year ICHS has many different opportunities for students to get involved in clubs. A few include Faith Found, FFA, Spanish Club, NHS, and Swim Club.

Faith Found is for Christian students who attend ICHS. It takes place on Thursdays during IRP in the fieldhouse gym. Students gather together to learn and give tes-

timonies about God. Sophomore Matalyn Guyer states, "You should join Faith Found because the school needs to learn about God."

Students can also get involved in one of the most successful student-run clubs: FFA. The FFA elects officers, creates agriculture projects, works with livestock, builds equipment, and hosts community events. Members of the FFA compete and earn titles for themselves and each other. Sophomore Brooke Sester, an FFA member says, "Joining FFA helps with your lead-

ership and speaking skills."

Another opportunity that is offered is Spanish Club. Not only do students learn Spanish culture and language, but they also get to try different foods from Spain. Maestra Gunderson says that "The Spanish club is a great fit for any student who is interested in learning more about Spanish culture - like food, music, movies, and more. Students do not need to speak Spanish or be enrolled in a Spanish class to join." This club also takes place during IRP on Thurs-

days just like Faith Found.

Besides clubs that only focus on interest and activities, students also can join the National Honor Society (NHS) to be recognized for academic success, good behavior, and citizenship. The NHS is only available for the upperclassmen (juniors and seniors). Mrs. Koron, NHS advisor, says to join the National Honor Society because, "It is a great way to help the community, it helps build character, and it teaches you how to be a role model!"

Lastly, there is the

Swim Club, which competes against schools in the same division all year round. Cecilia Hale, Zoey Bartling, and Samantha Corey collaboratively state, "Join the Swim Club because you meet a lot of new friends that turn into your family." Swim Club is available to anyone. They don't have to already be on the swim team.

Overall, these clubs allow students to achieve leadership, confidence, and responsibility. IC has many chances for students to experience many student-teacher run clubs.

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By ISAAC SMITH
Opinion Editor

XC Runners Unite
at Nike Twilight

Nike XC Town Twilight is one of the most exciting cross-country races of the year because of its incredible atmosphere, intense competition, and unforgettable experience. Races start around 6pm and the last race begins at 9:45 when it has already been dark for a couple hours. The excitement of seeing hundreds of runners preparing to compete, hearing the crowds cheering, and watching teams support each other makes the event special. The combination of talented athletes and passionate spectators creates an environment that motivates every runner to give their best.

Another reason Nike XC Town Twilight is so exciting is the challenging competition. Runners from different schools and states come together to race against some of the best athletes in the country. Every race is filled with grit, teamwork, and thrilling finishes. Whether someone is competing for a personal record, helping their team, or racing against top competitors, there is always something to fight for. The fast pace and close competition make every mile exciting, especially when runners fly to the finish line.

Finally, Nike XC Town Twilight is more than just a race; it is an experience that brings cross-country runners together. The atmosphere, team spirit, and memories made throughout the event make it stand out from every other race of the season. From warming up with teammates to cheering for friends and crossing the finish line, every moment is memorable. Nike XC Town Twilight is truly one of the most exciting races of the year because it combines competition, community, and the passion that makes cross-country such a great sport.

The Intrusion of
RACISM

By: OLIVIA DICKEY
& RILEY WADE
CREEK CURRENT REPORTERS

The amount of racism in an average high school is very unfortunate and disappointing. Around 31.5% of high school students in America have reported experiencing racism at school. School is already a place many high school students don't enjoy. Going to school and experiencing racism and hatred can make a student disliking school significantly worse. Everybody should be proud of who they are no matter what their heritage is. Nobody should ever feel misplaced or disconnected from their peers because of the color of their skin.

Racism has many different negative effects on people. Starting with the fact that it can cause a dramatic decrease to somebody's self esteem. If someone doesn't feel confident in themselves, then it can be hard to succeed in things. Showing up to school with no confidence

is already setting up for an unsuccessful day. Getting an education is important, and nobody should have to feel self conscious in a place of learning. Some people might say that racism isn't a big issue in schools and that it is not very common. Most people that the Creek Current has heard from think differently. Sophomore Zuri Schulz said, "I hear at least one to two racial slurs here at school. It's sickening." Sophomore Esther Knight stated, "I have experienced racism first hand. It can definitely have a very negative effect on people." Sophomore Enzley Mulinaro said, "I would say I hear at least one racial slur everyday." Even if the amount of racism people experience isn't a lot, there shouldn't be any at all.

Showing up to school everyday with a positive attitude is already enough of a challenge for students. Hearing disrespectful comments and racist things just challenges students even more.

This can eventually lead to some students no longer showing up to school, which can lead to lack of education and lack of success.

Academics are definitely not the only thing that suffers due to racism. Mental health can also take an extreme decline. Without having a steady mental health, many aspects of a person's life can suffer. Racism can lead to so many negative things, which is why it needs to come to a stop.

No student should feel ashamed of who they are. No one's mental health should suffer due to racism. Racism destroys communities and causes long lasting mental health issues. Ending racism requires more than just not being racist. It requires people to be educated and self-reflective. Achieving real equality and fairness requires everyone to confront these problems head on. So how about we come together and build a world where everyone is treated fairly.

FOR THE RECORD



By ADRIANA WEST
Editor-in-Chief

Low Literacy Rates

In 2026, Indiana had an average literacy score of 220 out of 500. All of the United States has an average of 214.16 for adults. Twenty years ago, the average score was 410.5 for reading and literacy. So what caused this decline in literacy? There are many factors that lowered the literacy rate and took out the joy in reading and immersing oneself in a book.

While staying at home for COVID, many fell behind in school, preferring the company of social media. Since students were no longer in school, many weren't being required to read. Additionally, with the development and progression of social media, most students would prefer not to read.

Mrs Davis says, "It is society's own fault because instead of books, we gave them screens." I asked how she thinks this will affect society, and she talked about younger generations becoming more distant and "without books, we will no longer have stories, and without stories, we will continue to grow apart."

We will continue to separate and lose empathy towards others because we will no longer be able to learn about others. Empathy and understanding can be directly correlated to reading because while reading, you feel the character's emotional pain by being able to understand the character's thoughts. Reading stimulates the part of the brain that is in control of empathy, causing an increase in emotional intelligence and stimulating the brain while doing it.

The literacy crisis is at an all-time low, leaving it imperative to bring back better and more fun reading opportunities to spark an interest in the younger generation.

Like previously said, in fifty years, people will have stories, but will they have the capabilities to read them?

By Hank and Walker

Question of The Day at ICHS

Week 1 Jimmy John's or Jersey Mikes?  Jimmy John's ### III 7  Jersey Mikes ### 4	Week 2 Toilet Paper Roll Forwards or Backwards?  Forward ### II 6  Backward ## 3
Week 3 How many holes does a straw have?  2 Holes ### III 9 1 Hole ### III 15	Week 4 Fries or Tater Tots?  Fries ### III 8  Tater Tots ## 3