

THE

CORRESPONDENT

BY DISPATCH

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PHOTO BY: SYDNEY OH

OPENING THE HERSEY HIGH CONVERSATION

BY REBECCA FEATHERSTONE

I'd like to call attention to a very anxiety provoking topic: substance use and abuse at Hersey. Obviously, citizens under the age of 21 are banned from partaking in substance use. However, it is embedded into our culture to party and experiment in our teen years, and movies, books, and TV shows portray high schoolers getting into parties and trouble. According to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, 1 in 8 teenagers abuse an illicit substance. Additionally, 62% of 12th grade students have abused alcohol, and 407,000 teenagers aged 12 to 17 years old met the criteria for Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD) in the last year. The rates of substance use and abuse are rapidly increasing, so there's a clear disconnect between administrative enforcement and the reality of teen lifestyle. It creates this awkward hidden gap where students can't talk about their struggles for fear of repercussions.

I reached out to Hersey's psychologist Sara Rubin considering that substance abuse is a mental health issue, and she deals with students who are reportedly struggling with the problem. Out of all staff, she would have the most experience on this topic. "I think the majority of kids, for one, understand that first, and foremost, it's illegal. But then obviously, there are the increasing numbers of kids who, for whatever reason, don't care, or maybe they are addicted. But I think most kids know it's illegal," said Rubin.

I also asked some students for their perspective on the prevalence of general substance use

at Hersey. "I think it's common for students to experiment with drugs at Hersey. I think vaping, drinking, and weed are the most common," said senior Nicky Hrametz. So there's a perfect example of a disconnect in awareness between administrative and student positions of the prevalence of this issue in our own school.

I questioned both groups if they thought that the school did a good job of enforcing its expectations through discussions, posters, etc. Rubin says, "I know that the punishments and the consequences are very clear. There are certain violations of The Board of Ed, where, if you sell, if you use, it's this punishment. But, to answer your question, no, I don't necessarily think that about what's around the school. I don't think we have a program here that tries to prevent drug use. We have some more retroactive, rather than proactive measures, like for example, if a kid gets caught smoking, their punishment can be lessened if they participate in a free drug and alcohol evaluation at FAIR (Families and Adolescents in Recovery). So we have some, like, post-infraction support, but I really don't see a lot in the way of prevention. Hersey senior Dani Skiko said, "The announcements from Mr. Rogers are less than sufficient in addressing the amount of substances that are consumed by the students – sometimes even at school. It's hard to decide what a more effective regulation of this could be because drug testing students isn't allowed, obviously. But there needs to be a better understanding of the toll it takes on students."

That's clearly concerning. Both perspectives agree that Hersey is not doing its best job to support students struggling with this issue.

How many kids at our own school are struggling then? I asked students if they believe substance abuse/dependence is an issue at our school. "Students are careless at this point. It's definitely common, and it's something that's become normalized to a point of making it a goal; who's the bigger stoner, who gets the craziest drunk at parties, who goes through vapes more in a week, like it's becoming competitive," said Skiko.

From an administrative perspective, Rubin sees this phenomenon's effects as well. "Getting high in the bathroom, or coming to school drunk, or leaving to go to Tony's and get high and come back; in my first couple years here, I just feel like that wasn't a thing, and now it's very frequent. I would say, almost everyday, I'm hearing about someone who got in trouble. I think it's a problem



PHOTOSHOP ARTWORK BY BECCA FEATHERSTONE: PRINCESSES USING ABUSING ALCOHOL

there have been a couple like, OD's where kids are having to be hospitalized because of it. I think the instances are increasing," she said.

Right now, this is an issue. If further support isn't exhibited, students abusing will continue to abuse, and the rate of this issue will continue to increase. Why hasn't the administration done something to redirect how they support students? I asked Rubin if our school could call attention to educating harm reduction instead of sobriety, so that substance abusing students work to a healthy substance use instead.

"At the end of the day Hersey operates within a larger structure, which is namely the law. Even if the school wanted to be like, you know what, I realize that you're not getting support at home, your parents are even condoning or supplying this for you, let's rave around you, and make sure that even though you're using, you're still safe. I don't think we can do that because that is almost like Hersey breaking the law. I think in theory, if you remove this, put it in it's own bubble, yes. Sure, in a different world where there were no laws by which Hersey had to operate, we can support these kids rather than a consequential punitive place. For some kids, I don't think the expectations of staff and parents that they are fully sober is the expectation they have for themselves and even their parents, might even on occasion supply for them. And then, look at that disconnect between staff and law aligning with their kid, it puts the school in a rough spot," said Rubin.

So by law, Hersey is not responsible for providing mental health support for the students that aren't receiving support at home. It's frustrating because it's clear that there is a wiser logical approach to a solution here, but it's legally impossible. So what can Hersey do? Students are responsible for self reporting their struggles to receive help. Is substance abuse stigmatized to the point where they can't reach out for help? Rubin stated, "some students do it to self medicate, some students do it for recreation, some do it and don't think they're addicted or think it's much of

a problem. There can be more discussions to try to lessen stigma, but I think the elephant in the room at the end of the day is that it's illegal. So I don't see how a staff person could condone it for any reason. But I think there could be more discussions. I don't really hear much about prevention mostly after the fact."

This is a growing and serious issue in our school culture. From an administrative/legal standpoint, something has to give. If more strict measures aren't taken towards reducing teens' usage in and out of school, then attention needs to be called to harm reduction, one or the other. Something, for example, would be to require students to receive education on harm reduction or substance abuse treatment if they are caught using. From a teen standpoint, all students care about their health and wellness on different levels. Substance abusing students dismiss the fact, believing in the delusion that the substance is a necessity and that they don't have a problem. At the end of the day, if you are abusing a substance, it's your life and your decision to live the way you want. However, if you allow your pain and struggles to bleed onto those around you, you distance yourself from the help you could receive because people view you as a bad person and begin to lack compassion.

Especially for boys, it is so hard to ask for help, to even address that you might have a problem because boys and men unfortunately are societally conditioned to detach from emotions. Even if you aren't ready to ask for help, you can try to help yourself, or take the first step towards a healthier, less dependent relationship with the substance.

All of you deserve the opportunity to grow if you are struggling with abuse in shameful silence. If you use and don't have problems or meet abuse criteria, props to you. Encourage those around you to implement the same energy you hold. Let's listen to each other and allow our school to have awkward conversations, leave room for people to mess up without reprimand, so we can learn and grow authentically.



PHOTOSHOP ARTWORK BY BECCA FEATHERSTONE: DELUSIONS OF SMOKING



Recently Doja Cat has been on a roll with her collaborations. After her 2014 EP, *Purrr!*, she released three albums within a year and a half from one another. *Amala* was released in 2018, *Hot Pink* was released in 2019, and *Planet Her* was released in 2021. Doja continued being proactive despite the time between albums. Within the few months of 2022 so far, Doja has prospered. She collaborated with Taco Bell for the 2022 Super Bowl, released a cover of *Celebrity Skin*, and collaborated with Tyga on *Freaky Deaky*.

Doja stole the spotlight in the Taco Bell Super Bowl Commercial. The commercial consists of many clowns eating in a school cafeteria while the intercom repeatedly says, "Attention students, the ice cream machine is still broken." Doja then decides to make a change and takes a few of the clowns with her on a ride. After they leave the territory, they transform into baddies. They drive over to Taco Bell while playing *Celebrity Skin* on the radio. Doja was portrayed as a clown but then was modified and portrayed as someone really cool. "I was pretty confused – I mean the part where all the clothes came off. I think they were trying to go for something funny, but it ended up just being confusing, but I liked seeing her [Doja] in it," Sophomore Izzy Frye said. Doja's collaboration was a perfect way to highlight her cover release.

Celebrity Skin was originally released by Hole in 1998 and later revisited by Doja Cat who released her cover prior to the Super Bowl commercial. "I didn't spend all day in the studio recording this cover for @TacoBell's commercial for you not to listen to the full version," Doja tweeted at Courtney Love, the lead vocalist of the band Hole, on Twitter. Doja maintains a pop genre so releasing a rock cover surprised many. "I thought it was really cool because I actually heard the song right when it came out, and I knew the song already. She just finds a way to keep evolving her music without reducing the quality, and she's a very talented singer not only just a rapper," Frye stated.

Almost thirty years later, Doja was able to replicate the original song with only a few changes. "Hers is definitely more modern as she did a lot of vocal changes, and she just made it



more modern, but not in a way that changed it too much," Frye mentioned. "Nothing can beat the original, but this time, it kinda beat the original because it sounded the same, but it was Doja," Sophomore Maya Tagoe expressed. Doja just seems to be able to do it all including collabing with Tyga on *Freaky Deaky*.

Doja has collabed with Tyga previously on her album *Hot Pink* in the song "Juicy". This time around, she kept tensions high, creating suspicion amongst fans regarding her relationship with Tyga. *Freaky Deaky* was a balanced mix of rap and pop, and the video consisted of her and Tyga communicating and their different points of view. "It was okay, I didn't really like Tyga in it, but her music videos are always really cool. So the music video was funny and good, but I didn't like the song very much," Frye said. Keeping with the consistent theme of technoworld that Doja incorporated in *Plant Her*, she also reflected it in the collaboration with Tyga.

Doja has more coming her way. She mentioned on Instagram Live how she wanted to have a two toned album where a section of the album is consistent and the other has a mix of genres and other artists. There is much to look forward to with this one.



HERSEY JUNIORS, DAVID MINNIKOV (LEFT) AND JAKE COHEN (RIGHT) DISCUSS SKATE TRICKS IN THE HERSEY PARKING LOT.

Skating For Dummies

BY: DAVID MINNIKOV & SARA SEAGRAVES

Hersey Dispatch presents to you *Skating For Dummies*. In this skit, David Minnikov and Jake Cohen teach Hersey students the basics of skating while incorporating a fun Hersey twist.

Watch as David and Jake teach how to do multiple skate tricks. The duo start off by explaining how to balance on a skateboard. They then progress to teaching how to do simple kickturns. After that, they elaborate on how to do an ollie (when a skater kicks the tail of the board down while jumping in order to make the board pop into the air). Finally, the last trick that is taught is the pop shuv-it (when a skater makes the board do a 180 degree spin under them).

A special thanks to Sara Seagraves for shooting and editing this story.



180 Ollie



Ollie



Boned Ollie



Kickturn

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BY: DAVID MINNIKOV & SARA SEAGRAVES

IS KANYE WEST OK??

BY TINA KRASNIQI

From friends to lovers to divorced friends – the iconic duo: Kim Kardashian and Kanye West. Kim and Kanye have a long history together as they first met in the early 2000s on the set of a Brandy music video. A few years after they were introduced to one another, the two became friends, and within a few years of their friendship, they developed feelings for each other and started dating in 2011. Fast forward two years later when their first child North was born. The couple finally got married in 2014 leading Kim to her third husband. Their relationship was not perfect like most, but they appeared to be content. Both partners were prospering well in their lives, fully supporting each other. Kim concluded *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*, started SKIMS, attempted to be a lawyer, and was an activist for prison reform. Kanye has released multiple albums, moved to Wyoming, and collabed with GAP and Balenciaga to drop his clothing line. They've both had many professional opportunities. With Kanye's most recent album, *Donda*, he held an event at Soldier Field promoting the release. Kim was there fully supporting him. Things seemed to be great. But with Kanye's recent decision to move to Wyoming and his mental struggles, Kim filed for divorce on February 19th, 2021.

Kanye was having an incredibly rough time accepting the divorce. Within a month after the filing, he changed his contact info and told Kim that if she needed to contact him to do so through his security. He also unfollowed the whole Kardashian family on Twitter. Towards the end of the summer, Kanye held an event at Soldier Field for his new album release *Donda*, which Kim attended in support where she “remarried” him by showing up in a wedding dress and rereading their vows despite their divorce and her current relationship with Pete.

Kanye started overreacting to the divorce once Kim started dating Pete Davidson. He would constantly harass Pete by calling him Skete and started denying the divorce. On December 13, 2021, Kim requested documents to be “legally single” and to be done with this divorce. Kanye

didn't agree and rebutted by buying a house across the street from Kim. He invited himself to Chicago's, Kim's third child, birthday party. The Instagram posts started getting weird; he would post a lot of content and then delete it hours later. It was constant harassment and bizarre posts. Finally, on March 2, 2022, Kim was granted legal permission to change her status to single. “That's not really crazy, that's like the equivalent of going outside of a girl's house with a big boom box like they do in the old movies or throwing a rock at her window to get her attention. I think it's okay. If, I mean, I'm not a father, but if a woman was trying to keep me away from my kids then I would understand the same position that he's in,” Junior Sebastian Jarek said.

Kanye's gestures towards Kim could be seen as chivalry but also abusive. “He is going to extravagant lengths and I don't support that. I think that he should act stronger even though he does have mental health issues,” Junior Andy Waltz stated. Even after Kanye bought the neighboring house, he continued the harassment. “I think it's completely controlling and abusive because you're divorced. You no longer have a say in who she dates and her life, and I understand that she has your children too, but there's no need to treat people like that,” Junior Maya Andrews said. Kanye is taking the divorce to extremes and acting irrational, due, in part, to his mental health disorders.

Kanye was diagnosed with bipolar disorder in 2016, in the middle of their marriage. Kanye has gotten much hate over the years despite his publicness with his diagnosed condition of bipolar disorder. His illness doesn't justify his behaviors but allows for people to be more empathic towards him. According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIH), bipolar disorder is a “mental disorder that causes unusual shifts in mood, energy, activity levels, concentration, and the ability to carry out day-to-day tasks. There are three types of bipolar disorder:” Bipolar 1 Disorder, Bipolar 2 Disorder, Cyclothymic Disorder. Bipolar 1 Disorder consists of manic episodes. Bipolar 2 Disorder

consists of switching between depressive episodes and hypomanic episodes (having extreme energy). Cyclothymic Disorder are periods where you express and switch between depressive symptoms and hypomanic symptoms for two or more years. As a result of his episodes, haters bashed him and said hurtful things such as “take your meds,” “Kanye's crazy,” and so on. Any amount of hatred is painful and not needed.

“I think his bipolar disorder is real. I think people shouldn't treat him that way. I feel like the mainstream media doesn't treat his mental health with respect, and he deserves better,” Waltz stated. As awful as a human is, it can be very frustrating dealing with constant harassment and bullying. Pete Davidson, Kim's boyfriend, also struggles with a mental disorder: borderline personality disorder. NIH states, “Borderline personality disorder is an illness marked by an outgoing pattern of varying moods, self-image, and behavior. These symptoms often result in impulsive actions.” But unlike Kanye, Pete isn't attacked about his mental disorder.

“I genuinely think that the big difference is that Pete Davidson never went out of his way to go and attack Kanye, and I think that Kanye West is using his mental health as an excuse to do crazy things, while Pete Davidson is much calmer about everything going on in his life,” Andrews expressed. Kanye has done many controversial things, and despite his influence, there still is a stigma in today's society. “There's a stigma that one day you're going to be super duper hyper and the next day you're going to be super depressed. And that may be the case for some people, but that's not necessarily a generalization,” Andrews said. People still stereotype mental issues into black or white categories. People hear something once and stick with it until they learn better. But all of this misrepresentation in the media about mental disorders and the way that people live can cause serious damage to a person.

Celebrities are constantly being watched. Our society has created a cancel culture, and if you make one mistake, you're “canceled.” This can put a lot of pressure on celebs to be perfect. “I

know if I had someone outside of my house 24/7, waiting for me to leave, taking pictures of what I was doing, and just overall basically legally stalking me, I would definitely feel some type of way about it. I definitely think it does lead to a lot of depression and mental illnesses like anxiety, but I just think that a lot of the time paparazzi oversteps it,” Jarek said.

Negative attention is still attention and adds to their paycheck. Many celebrities create drama just for the bands. “I feel like opinions on what a celebrity does shouldn't be stated, it should just be facts. Like if someone didn't wear a tie, not someone didn't wear a tie, they are a disgrace. I think they add way too much and start too much drama, which more drama helps them [celebrities],” Waltz said. Not many celebrities express themselves if they don't like the attention. It's a possibility Kanye and Kim are doing all of this to draw attention to their profiles for Kanye's new album release, *Donda 2*.

At last, *Donda 2* is on its way! Kanye made the decision to not release the album on any popular streaming platform resulting in the only access being through leaks. “I don't agree with it because I think that music is something you should share with the world, and it's not necessarily something that only people who can afford it should listen to,” Andrews stated. Many people listen to music through the free feature on many platforms such as Spotify, Apple music, Pandora, etc. Music has many benefits such as processing emotions, building connections, and relieving stress, which is limited with Kanye fans who've been waiting for the album. With Kanye drawing attention to his social media, more people are invested, and more people will purchase to find the leaks.

Mental health will continue to be promoted. Some students who have been Kanye fans for the last seven years agree on how Kanye is crazy despite his mental disorder, and it's not okay to be extreme, especially just for the extra views. Kanye and Kim work very hard and deserve their fame but have a lot of work to do after the *Donda 2* release.



A COLLECTION OF KANYE'S BIZARRE INSTAGRAM POSTS, COURTESY OF KANYE WEST'S INSTAGRAM

THE HOWL PRESENTS:

PRINCIPAL ROGERS PART 2



In the second part of the Principal Rogers podcast, we recapped how first semester went, as well as changes for second semester such as the new RFID ID's, senior prom, and graduation.

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BY: JIA SKRUDLAND & JENNY AN

HERSEY BOYS HOOPS (EP. 6)

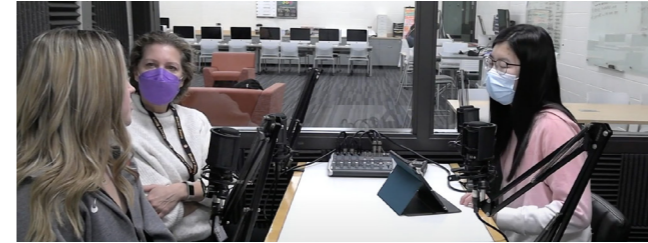


In this episode we sat down with Coach Scott to discuss the past couple of weeks and the upcoming game against Buffalo Grove.

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BY: CONNOR DURKIN & CONNER KREBS

HERSEY GIRLS HOOPS (EP. 8)

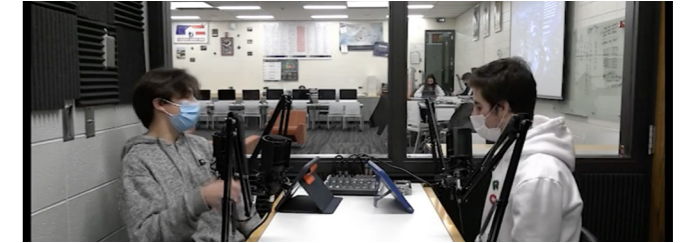


Jia Skrudland ('22) sits down with Coach Fendley and senior Courtney Clayton to reflect on the season, how Courtney persevered through her injuries, and what next year could look like.

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BY: JIA SKRUDLAND

THE FUTURE OF 2022 MOVIES

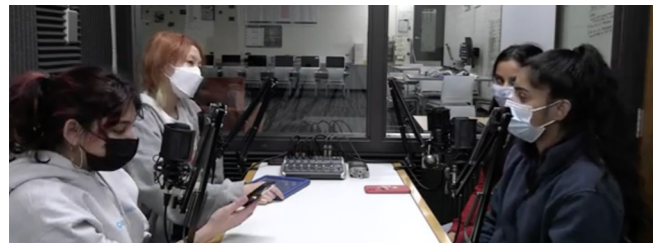


Max Garcia ('22) and Roman Debicki ('24) discuss upcoming 2022 movies and give their opinions on the future of 2022 films after recent news of big films being moved to streaming due to concerns of the pandemic.

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BY: MAX GARCIA & ROMAN DEBICKI

HERSEY STUDENTS REVIEW DIFFERENT CHAIN-STORE JOBS



Hersey seniors Jenny An, Aisha Hernandez, and Soniya Ottayil review the different jobs they work/worked at, along with unemployed senior Annrose Alappatt offering her candid reaction to these jobs.

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BY: JENNY AN

HERSEY'S ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY PODCAST

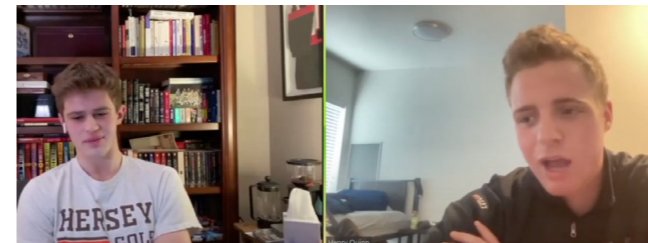


Carys Meier ('23) sat down with orchesis members Kaley Kalata, Kiley Andre, and Nora Fink to discuss their preparation for their February show, the bond they have with their other members, and how orchesis has made an impact on them.

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BY: CARYS MEIER

TEEING OFF EP. 3 (FEAT HENRY QUINN)



In this episode Jake Cohen ('23) sits down with legendary Hersey golfer Henry Quinn ('21). Henry graduated from Hersey last year after posting incredible results on Varsity golf and is now playing D1 golf at the University of Butler. Thank you for tuning in and enjoy.

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BY: JAKE COHEN

HERSEY STUDENTS' FAMILIES IMPACTED BY WAR IN UKRAINE



Zell Kurth ('23) and Tina Krasniqi ('23) sat down with Gil Chmielewski ('23) and Yoanna Georgieva ('23) to discuss the current situation in Ukraine. Their share of eastern European backgrounds contributes to their fears about their distant

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BY: ZELL KURTH & TINA KRASNIQI

HTV PRESENTS:

BOYS BASKETBALL VS MEADOWS



Division rival Rolling Meadows travels to Ken Carter Gymnasium to take on the Hersey Huskies.

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"LES POISSON PRÉTENTIEUX"



Hersey's theater department performs "Les Poisson Prétentieux" in the JHHS Theater. This was not broadcasted live and was recorded and posted for critique purposes only.

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2022 - D214 ROBOT RUMBLE DAY 1



The Robot Rumble is a regional robotics competition, during which robots fight one another until one can no longer function or until two minutes has elapsed.

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BOYS BASKETBALL VS BG



Division rival Buffalo Grove travels to Ken Carter Gymnasium to take on the Hersey Huskies.

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BOYS BASKETBALL VS PALATINE



The Palatine Pirates travel to the Ken Carter Gymnasium to take on the Hersey Huskies in the first round of the IHSA Playoffs.

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2022 - D214 ROBOT RUMBLE DAY 2



The Robot Rumble is a regional robotics competition, during which robots fight one another until one can no longer function or until two minutes has elapsed.

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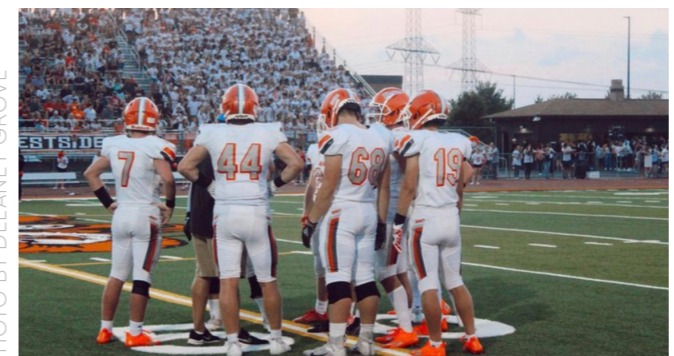
Huskie Football Coach Hands Over Reigns to Tom Nelson

BY KELSEY NEARY

"My high school coaches had a big influence on me," newly hired Husky head coach Tom Nelson said. "I remember how positive he was; I listened to every word he said very intently. So I know whatever I say, whatever I do, however I carry myself, they are gonna follow."

Mark Gunther – current Hersey staff and former football coach – coached Nelson in high school. Gunther, along with former head coach Joe Pardun, have taken turns leading the Husky pack for years. Their style of coaching, sense of culture, and good character is something Nelson isn't planning to change. Nelson has spent a good part of his football career alongside Gunther and Pardun. They have laid the foundation for Hersey's football program, and Nelson's plan is to take what they have created and improve on it. Pardun had prioritized his coaching position for 8 seasons, until he finally decided to switch gears and put his parenting role/position first.

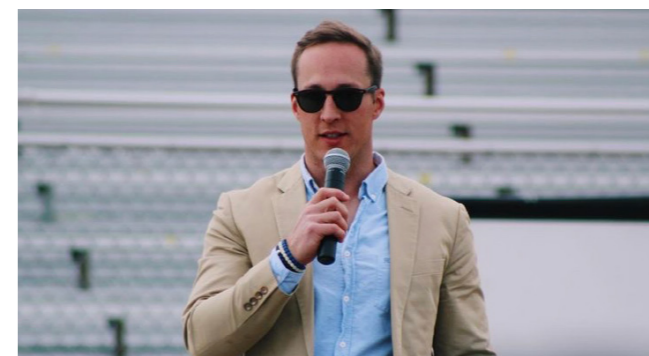
Pardun said, "It was a very tough decision. Coaching is like a home for me, but, at the end of the day, I needed a little more space in my head for my family, for my girls."



HUSKIE DEFENSE HUDDLES BEFORE THE SNAP OF THEIR FIRST GAME OF THEIR 2021 SEASON.

Jack Armstrong, a returning defensive player, spoke on behalf of the team and their thoughts on the change in staff: "When I heard Tom was hired, I was super excited because it [hiring Nelson] was inevitable. He is a great coach with a great football mind and deserved a head coaching job. The whole team is extremely excited for this upcoming year with Tom as our head coach. We were also super excited when Pardun said he was staying on the sideline because he is a great coach who provides a lot of great insights to our defense." Pardun hands the program's head coaching position with extreme confidence to Tom Nelson, who, in his words, is "the smartest football person I know."

After listening to Nelson talk about football, it's clear that there is a focus for next season: culture. He touched on the excitement and anticipation



THE SENIOR CLASS OF 2021 RECEIVES SOME WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM TOM NELSON, AT THE CLOSING OF THEIR SEASON.

for the next season, the student section, the proud parents, the opportunity to compete, and how it's a whole school thing, not just a coach or team thing. Nelson has a large agenda for next year: coaching the Huskies as they face a tough regular season schedule, bearing the responsibility of filling all the shoes of this year's dominant senior class, and working with the team as they adjust to Pardun as an assistant and a new head coach.

Nelson is focusing on the present to prepare for the future: "I'm just worried about what I can do today that will lead to more things tomorrow, and then one day at a time." After all the football talk, Nelson kept coming back to culture.



SENIOR JOSH BONTJE AND SENIOR LEADERS BREAK THROUGH THE FLAG AT A HOME GAME TO KICK OFF THE HERSEY FOOTBALL SEASON.

When Nelson was asked if there are any new changes for the upcoming season, he answered "culturally it will be different." Part of that culture will include bringing back the brown jerseys, and all the returning players are excited to take the field in the brown uniform. With the physical appearance in line, the mental side is in the works.

"Right now we are focused on building a culture, giving expectations and standards. Building them as people, then athletes," Nelson said. Speaking on behalf of the Hersey community, we are excited and ready for the 2022 season.

Girls Basketball Looks To Bounce Back Next Year

BY JIA SKRUDLAND

During summer league play, the girls basketball team finished with a whopping record somewhere along the lines of 3-15- that doesn't install confidence in a team that was ranked #1 in the Class 4A AP polls one season ago.

Summer league, however, isn't the best indication of what the actual season could look like, as rosters aren't fully complete. "For summer league, we didn't have as many people, and we didn't really know who was on the team. It [summer league] was more of just playing together and seeing how we work with each other," senior Valerie Allen said.

Building their chemistry over the course of the season would prove to be an important part of their story. The 2021-2022 roster consisted of two sophomore, four seniors, and the rest consisting of all juniors. On the roster, junior Katy Eidle was the only returning starter, who also happened to be the only one with significant varsity experience, so this was a brand new team for the girls to get acquainted with each other. Going into the season, Coach Fendley had her predictions for the season based on the early summer showings. "In my mind, I'm like, maybe we'll be just right about .500. Maybe we upset someone here and there," Fendley said in the Hersey Girls Hoops Podcast. However, the predictions for the team were the complete opposite.

They started the season with tough matchups against the likes of Mother McAuley and Barrington, going 5-0 to open the season. They would continue the winning streaks all throughout the season with 6-0, 8-0, and another 6-0 run. Their only regular season losses came against Barrington (51-50 in OT), Prospect (50-47), Carmel (46-42), Fenwick (73-37), and Fremd (58-55 in OT). Clearly, the girls went way beyond the .500 mark and surprised teams they played during summer league.

Arguably, their biggest games happened to be played against Prospect with first place stakes in the MSL East and one conflicting theme in both games: chemistry between teammates. When Prospect visited Hersey for its first matchup of the season, Fendley noted that all of the Knights' starters had played together since the feeder days, while her starters had played together for just 12 games. Although they lost 50-47 at home, visiting the Knights at Jean Walker Field House would be a different story. Going into Knight territory, Prospect sat first in the East with Hersey sitting behind them by one game.

With all the crowd noise and some missed calls by the refs, they were able to pull off the win without standout Meghan Mrowicki (who suffered a season ending knee injury a couple games prior) and gain more experience playing with each other during the first two months of the season. Chemistry is what helped determine the outcome of the games. "I think even going back to this summer, the chemistry of recognizing that each kid on a team has things that they're good at and things that they're not as good at [helped the team grow the most]. We were really able to kind of monopolize on the things that we did well as a group and individually and compensate for each other with some of our weaknesses," Fendley said.

In the Regional Finals at Grant on Feb. 18,



THE GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM POSES AFTER A VARSITY B TEAM WIN.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COACH FENDLEY

Lake Zurich upset the Huskies 54-41, ending a promising run in the state series. The Bears also upset Fremd in the Sectional Semifinals, so the win wasn't a fluke. Although they weren't able to accomplish their ultimate goal of winning state, the game provided the underclassmen with a learning curve. "I started the beginning of the year with the expression 'don't sweat the small things.' [Now,] we have to sweat the small stuff because little things make a big difference," Coach Fendley said in response to what she hopes is the biggest takeaway her girls got from the loss. Sophomore Annika Manthy played a huge role for the Huskies this season, and like Coach Fendley, agrees that the little things probably affected the season losses. "The biggest thing was rebounding and just aggressiveness. I think that's something that I need to always bring to every game."

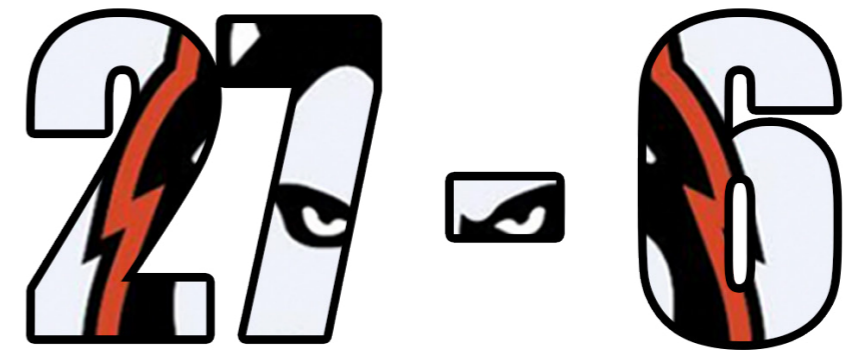
To say the season didn't go the way they wanted it to would be an understatement. The girls finished atop the MSL East with a record of 9-1 (tied with Prospect), tied the school record for number of wins, beat 17 2022 Regional Champions, including class 3A state champion Carmel, and have three D1 bound juniors. After all that has occurred, Fendley's thoughts on the end of the season revolved around just getting to play a full length season after last season's scrambled COVID year. "They [the team] really valued the fact that we got to play and that made everything great. Because even when things didn't go our way, we always had this awareness that we were super lucky to be playing," Fendley said.

With a majority of the team returning, Fendley has confidence in her team to achieve the ultimate goal: "I think our goals will be to set a school record for number of wins - this year we tied it, next year we break it - and end our season at Redbird Arena. I think it would be really hard. There are some good teams in our area, but I



JUNIORS MEGHAN MROWICKI, KATY EIDLE, AND KELSEY NEARY EARNED MSL ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS AND COMMITTED TO CONTINUE THEIR ATHLETICS AT THE D1 LEVEL.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COACH FENDLEY



THE GIRLS' BENCH AND ORANGE CRUSH CELEBRATE A HUSKIE'S BASKET AGAINST PROSPECT ON JANUARY 21ST.

PHOTO BY DELANEY GROVE



ILLINOIS' GATORADE PLAYER OF THE YEAR KATY EIDLE SHOTS A THREE OVER PROSPECT'S KNOTT ON JANUARY 21ST AT JEAN WALKER FIELD HOUSE.

PHOTO BY DELANEY GROVE



COACH FENDLEY'S TEAM HUDDLES TOGETHER DURING A BLOWOUT WIN AT KEN CARTER GYMNASIUM.

PHOTO BY DELANEY GROVE



SOPHOMORE ANNIKA MANTHY RISES UP AGAINST HER DEFENDERS TO SCORE AN EASY TWO.

PHOTO BY DELANEY GROVE

The BG/H/W Hockey Playoffs

BY VICTOR TODOROV



PHOTO BY VICTOR TODOROV

HERSEY SENIOR, STEFAN TUJAROV, AGAINST D155 IN THE PLAYOFFS.



PHOTO BY VICTOR TODOROV

HERSEY SENIOR, MICHEAL TSAGALIS, DEFENDING AGAINST PREP IN THE SEMI-FINALS. BG/H/W WENT ON TO LOSE THAT GAME 4-0.

The BG/H/W JV hockey team's season has finally concluded. The team finished 4th in their division after a long hard fought season. BG/H/W were placed in a 4 team group competition to make the semifinals. BG/H/W had to make top 2 in the group of 4 in order to progress into the semis. The group was a close battle with the 1st, 5th and 7th seeds.

Two of the JV teams assistant captains, Micheal Tsagalis ('22) and Stefan Tujarov ('22) took the time to sit down and talk about the season. The first game was against Lake Forest, the 1st ranked team, and it resulted in a disappointing 4-0 loss. "Once you get into the game, you start playing and we let up one goal and then it was just a domino effect" Tujarov said.

BG/H/W then faced a massive goal difference disadvantage heading into their next game against 5th place D211. An emotional game, BG/H/W corrected their flaws from their first game to earn a 4-0 victory. "The goal difference really caused us to play in desperation mode, so we just went into this knowing we had to score in order to continue" Tujarov said.

Still at a 2 goal deficit, BG/H/W had their final group game against Belvidere. "We had one issue with Belvidere Fury in the past but we corrected and we set it straight and won," Tsagalis ('22) said after a 4-1 win against the Fury.

With that, BG/H/W made the semi-finals and went up against their rivals PREP "It was a lopsided game, refs were pretty much against us, no puck luck, again desperation mode" Tujarov said.

BG/H/W went on to lose to PREP 3-1 and the loss marked the end of the 2021-22 BG/H/W season.



PHOTO BY VICTOR TODOROV

HERSEY SOPHOMORE AND CAPTAIN WIL HICKEY'S EMOTIONS AFTER SCORING A CRUCIAL GOAL TO TAKE THE LEAD AGAINST BELVEDERE AT WEST MEADOWS ICE ARENA.

FOR MORE ON THE STORY
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)

BY: VICTOR TODOROV

Orchesis Seniors Have Their Last Dance

BY LEAH HODSHIRE



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE SOLUM

Hersey's annual Orchesis Show marks the end of the dance company's regular season. In anticipation of the multiple seniors having to say goodbye after four years spent with the other dancers, we sat down with senior dancers, Julia Hemmer, Julia Lens, and Sophia Marroti.

Through the interviews we hear about the close bonds built throughout Orchesis and all the lessons the three learned over their years. With behind the scene of rehearsals all the way to final show night, you experience every aspect of the seniors' emotional final dance together through the 2022 Orchesis Show, Pursuit.

On March 12, the Orchesis Dance Company auditioned for the Illinois State Qualifier at Buffalo Grove High School. Their performance qualified them for the state competition on April 8 at Riverside-Brookfield High School where only 12 teams in the state will compete.



PHOTO BY LEAH HODSHIRE

THE ENTIRE ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY PREPARES FOR ONE FINAL BOW FOLLOWING THEIR LAST PERFORMANCE IN HERSEY'S THEATER.



PHOTO BY LEAH HODSHIRE

THE SILHOUTTES OF THE DANCERS CAN BE SEEN AGAINST THE SOFTLY LIT BACKDROP DURING A REHEARSAL THE WEEK BEFORE THE SHOW.



PHOTO BY LEAH HODSHIRE

HERSEY SENIOR JULIA HEMMER SITS DOWN FOR AN INTERVIEW WHERE SHE DISCUSSED THE DETAILS LEADING UP TO THEIR BIG SHOW.

FOR MORE ON THE STORY
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)

BY: LEAH HODSHIRE

Huskie Photobooth



PHOTO BY ZELL KURTH

LEFT: HERSEY COLOR GUARD PERFORMS AT THE HERSEY COMPETITION FOR THE MIDWEST COLORGUARD CIRCUIT IN THEIR PERFORMANCE OF "DANCING THROUGH THE KEYS" ON MARCH 12

RIGHT: SENIOR VALERIE ALLEN ('21) TIPS OFF AGAINST ELK GROVE'S DUCKMANN ('21) ON JANUARY 28TH IN THE CARTER GYM DURING SENIOR NIGHT



PHOTO BY JIA SKRUDLAND

LEFT: LIZZIE FERRAZZA PERFORMS IN HERSEY'S PRODUCTION OF LES POISSON PRÉTENTIEUX FOR THIS YEAR'S SPRING PLAY

RIGHT: SOPHOMORE MAYA TAGOE PERFORMS AT THE BSU SHOWCASE ON FEB. 28.



PHOTO FROM HERSEY PRODUCTION

PHOTO BY JENNY AN



PHOTO BY SYDNEY OHR



PHOTO BY KELSEY NEARY

HERSEY'S VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM GOES HEAD-TO-HEAD AT THEIR JANUARY 28 GAME AGAINST ROLLING MEAD-

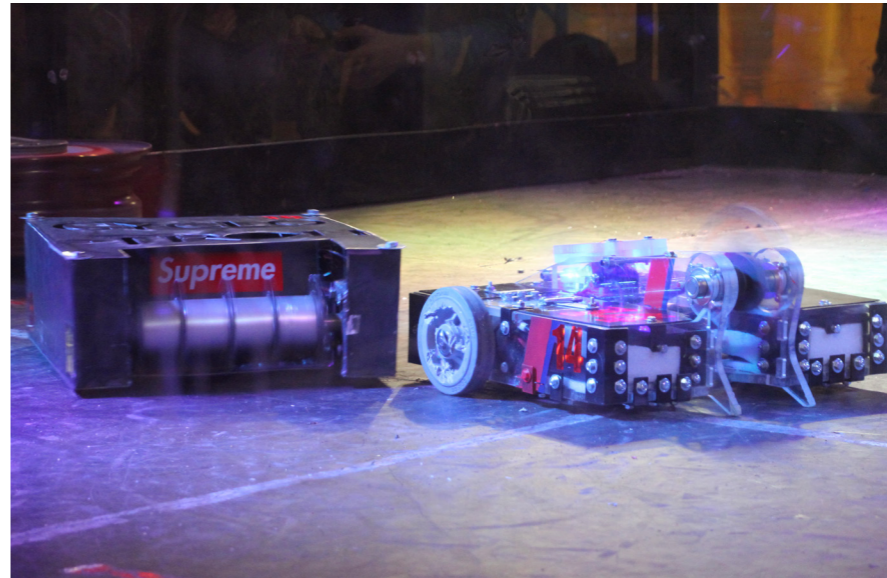


PHOTO BY SARA SEAGRAVES

TOP RIGHT: HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS THE MULTI-CULTURAL MURAL, HAND-PAINTED BY OUR VERY OWN STUDENTS. IT WAS UNVEILED ON MARCH 11 FOR ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS TO VIEW.



PHOTO BY SARA SEAGRAVES

BOTTOM LEFT AND RIGHT: HERSEY HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS THIS YEAR'S ROBOT RUMBLE, A COMPETITION BETWEEN THE ENGINEERING CLASSES OF DISTRICT 214, TAKING PLACE ON FEBRUARY 25



PHOTO BY CHLOE MANOLIS

LEFT: SABRINA NEMCEK ('25) PREPARES FOR HER GIRLS VARSITY GYMNASTICS COMPETITION ON JANUARY 30

RIGHT: JUNIOR JAMES SHAFFER SCORES A WIN AT THE FEBRUARY 13 WRESTLING MATCH



PHOTO BY XANDER BURKE

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