

The Cougar Review

March 2024



Spring Break: Sun, Fun, Winter is Done!

by Chaney Brown

Spring Break is right around the corner! And do you know what that means? Warmer weather, tans, vacations, and the best time to make some of the most memorable memories! During this time, people go on vacations, catch up on sleep, and relax as needed. It allows the chance to unplug and unwind after what could've been a stressful 9 weeks. There are many options available to make a great spring break trip.

People can choose to head to a tropical destination, take an outdoor adventure, or relax and unwind from home. Any of these options is a great way to disconnect yourself and allow time to rest from the excruciating grind from the past 9 weeks. The third quarter isn't for the weak!

Lots of people head down to the beach to relax and soak in the sun for a relaxing vacation. There are endless activities to do on the beach: building sandcastles, playing beach volleyball, deep-sea fishing, parasailing, and jet-skiing; the opportunities are endless! Sometimes, people head off to the mountains for a change of scenery. The views you get in Indiana can't compare to the ones you'd get out west in those mountains. People take this opportunity to camp, hike, and explore wildlife they've never seen before. Some people might not go anywhere, and that can be just as great. They can use this time to see friends and family, get their life back together, or relax in the comfort of their homes. People can spend their time at home reading, catching up on sleep, and taking care of themselves. Any way you spend spring break truly can be great!

Luck of the Irish

by Chaney Brown

St. Patrick's Day occurs every year on March 17th. People whip out their greenest article of clothing to show their St. Patty's Day spirit! It is a day that shows honor to the patron saint of Ireland. People celebrate this day with food, parties, and festivals!

The name St. Patrick comes from a missionary who is said to have brought Christianity over to Ireland. He is a historical legend who has many stories surrounding all he did. He's also the reason shamrocks are associated with this holiday. He was able to banish snakes using a three-leaf shamrock, which also explains the Holy Trinity. Shamrocks are the only things associated with St. Patrick's Day. Other things include leprechauns and rainbows with pots of gold. These things also have their own special meaning. Leprechauns are known to be mischievous little beings that guard the pots of gold at the ends of a rainbow.

The parade and festivals surrounding this holiday are the highlight of it all. Cities from around the world participate to show their Irish pride. These parades are decked out in green, festive music, leprechauns, and gold. The floats are showcased throughout parades with all their Irish decorations.

People take this time to celebrate with friends and family!

Prom 2024: An Evening of Enchantment “Under the Stars”

by GCHS Staff



As spring approaches, excitement is in the air for high school juniors and seniors. This year, the prom committee is thrilled to announce an enchanting evening, "Under the Stars," promising a night filled with glamour, music, and unforgettable memories. The event will be held at Embassy Suites in Noblesville, which will be transformed into a celestial wonderland, allowing attendees to dance and celebrate under a simulated starlit sky.

Ticket Sales: Tickets for this starry night will be available from February 26th through March 21st, priced at \$45 each. To ensure that everyone has a fair chance to attend, there is a purchase limit of two tickets per student. Tickets can be bought through PowerSchool, making it easy and convenient for students to secure their spot at one of the year's most anticipated events. Early purchase is encouraged, as tickets are expected to sell out quickly.

Guest Information: For those wishing to bring a date who does not attend GCHS, guest forms must be completed and submitted by March 14th. Forms can be picked up from the school office and must be filled out in accordance with the guidelines provided.

The "Under the Stars" prom is more than just a dance; it's a milestone event that celebrates the journey and achievements of our students. With meticulous planning and a theme that promises a magical atmosphere, this prom is set to be an unforgettable evening. So, mark your calendars, get your tickets, and prepare to be dazzled under the stars!





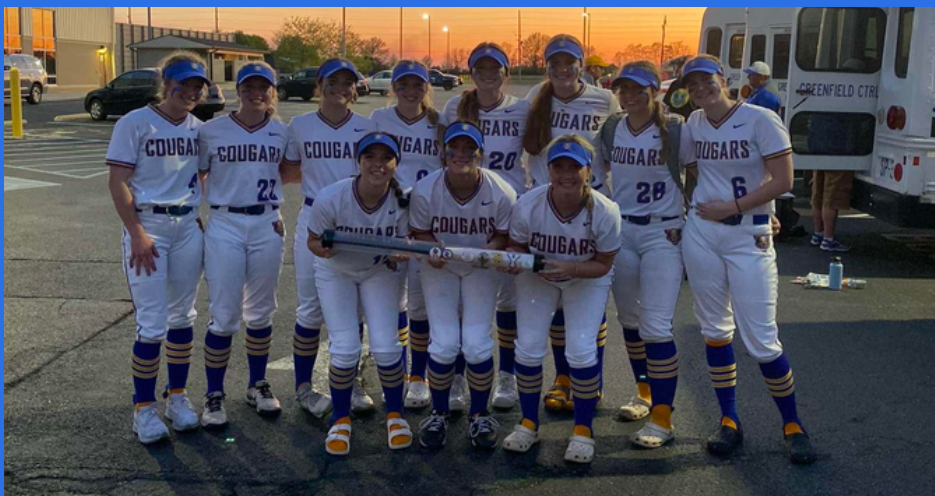
New Coach Up to Bat

by Madison Sonsini

The Greenfield-Central Women's Softball team has high hopes for this upcoming season.

With new coach Gary Roberts coming in, the team is excited to work with him. Junior shortstop Josie White said, "I'm excited about the new coach; I think he'll help us build a better relationship as a team and hopefully help us be more diverse as well." She also wants to become more of a vocal leader for this squad because of her experience and training through her previous varsity seasons and travel softball.

Another important part of the returning varsity team is second baseman Kristen Wineinger. Her favorite part of last season was beating New Pal and getting the conference bat. She is excited about this season and wants to make the team a hardworking and fun environment so they can beat New Pal again. You can see them get started at Zionsville on March 23rd!



2022-2023 Greenfield-Central High School girl's softball team after beating New Pal and receiving the HHC bat.

Pinning their Mark at GC!

by Maddie Sonsini

The Greenfield-Central Men's Wrestling team topped off their season with two state qualifiers. Silas Frye and Jett McGuire made an appearance at Evansville. Frye finished 0-1, and McGuire went 2-2, earning 7th overall. They were led by Head Coach Josh Holden in his 20th year at GC. "I am proud of my team for battling in one of the toughest schedules in Indiana with opponents like Franklin-Central, Roncalli, Hamilton Southeastern, and more.... I do it so they see really good kids before the postseason, so they are ready to wrestle those really good kids." Coach Holden said. Although the team had struggles with injury, different circumstances, and sickness. He always tells his players to worry about now and go wrestle hard and smart on the mat. These wrestlers have learned many valuable lessons this season. "I'm definitely most proud of learning not to let the pressure get to me as much...recently, I've also been a whole lot more patient and gotten better with my timing, and it is showing on the mat," McGuire said. They finished the season with 17 dual wins, Spartan Classic Champions, 2 state qualifiers, and 1 medalist.



Jett McGuire and Silas Frye at New Castle High School after securing their spot in the State Championship Tournament.

Seniors Leading the Pack



By: David Wasson

The Greenfield Track team's season is up and coming. The team has some big goals this year, and with their big senior class, these goals are more than achievable. The team has been working hard and training as far back as November.

When Coach Smith was asked what his goals were for the season, he responded, "Improvement. We have several returning state qualifiers, and we will have several new runners. I would like to see growth and improvement from every athlete on the team. Send all the athletes who made it to state last year back and more athletes this year with at least 3 All-State Performances. We are close to many school records, so I would like to see the 200, 1600, 3200, 4x800, shot put, high jump, long jump, and potentially the 400, 800, and discus records be broken. Win Conference. I also would like to see Vincent Kouao run under 2:07 in the 800." Vincent is a senior for GCHS, and has been committed to the track team. Coach Smith really wants to see Vincent get a letter.

As for expectations on the team, Coach Smith said, "Respect: All athletes at all times will be respectful of coaches, teammates, other athletes, and themselves. Servant Leadership: No one is more important than anyone else. The best way to lead is to be willing to serve others by putting them before yourself. Excellence: Everyone will do their best every single day. They come prepared to work hard and give their best effort on every aspect of practice and races."

Freshman Braylon Mumaugh was asked about his goals and expectations. "I have high goals and expectations this track season. I hope to set many freshman records and hit big personal records this year." When asked about the team environment, Braylon responded, "I have found that we have a welcoming program for it being my first year. The team definitely has good leaders who have been able to help both in and outside of the sport. The team is very accepting and welcoming to incoming runners, which has led to the program being good in recent years."

Senior Kirk Knecht was asked about his goals for the upcoming season. "I am coming into the season as the reigning County and Conference Champion, so I would like to hold onto that title for my senior year. Last year, I finished 6th at the Track and Field State Finals in the long jump. I hope to better my personal best and hopefully have a chance to win. When asked what legacy he wants to leave behind, he responded, "I hope to be able to leave a legacy of a winning culture and a hard-working mentality. This will hopefully carry on for many years, leaving a legacy of GC track success." The interview concluded with him saying, "I wish to inspire them to try to strive for the success that our team has had in recent years. I want them to see the people who are having success and will push themselves to try to be like them."

The Greenfield Track team has many good leaders, with everyone having big goals. They could shock a lot of people this upcoming season.



Left: Coach Aaron Smith is looking forward to the up and coming track season.

Right: Kirk Knecht places 6th in the long jump at Boys Track and Field State.





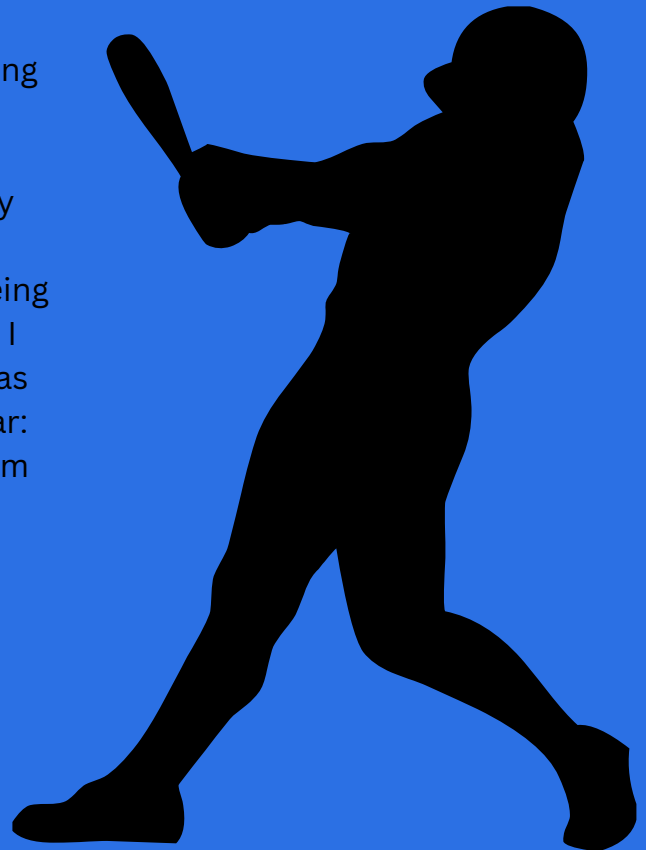
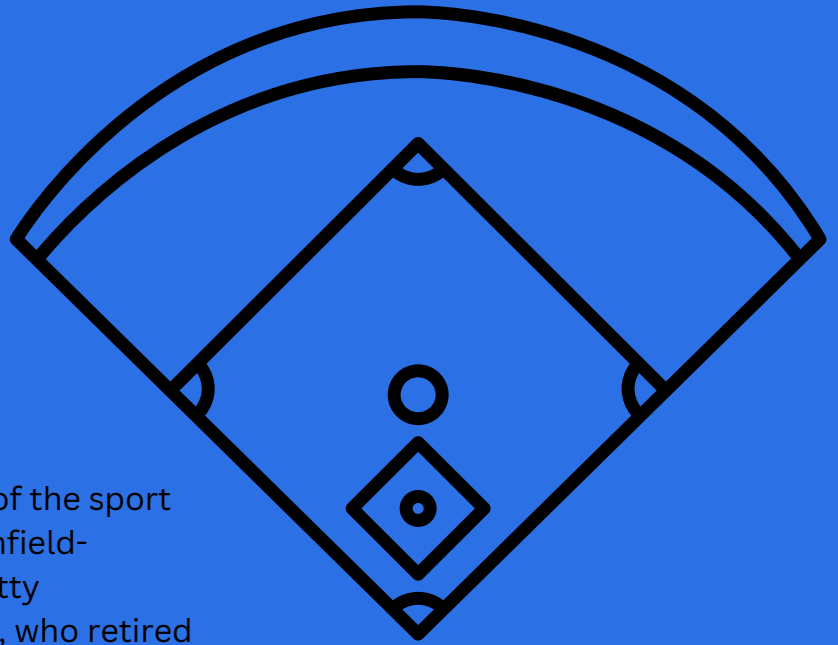
Batter Up: Baseball is Back!

by Addi Herrin

It's almost Spring, which marks the start of the sport we all know and love- baseball. The Greenfield-Central baseball team is coming off a pretty successful season under Coach Mark Vail, who retired after last season.

New coach Mitch Gibson has come in and taken over the Cougars. In an interview with Xavier commit, Greenfield Central's star pitcher, Parker Rhodes, commented on the new head coach. He said, "Having Coach Gibson as the new head coach and him bringing his own coaching staff with him has been quite the adjustment. They have pushed us in many ways we have never experienced before. The thing that I am most impressed about is that with him being a new coach, he has everyone trusting his process. I have not met a single person who doesn't like him as a coach." I also asked Parker about his goal this year: to stay healthy! He wants to be able to help his team out as much as he can!

You can catch the GC baseball team in action on Wednesday, March 27, at Frankton.



Senior Spotlight: Lauren Pfeifer



by Addi Herrin

This month, GCHS is proud to shine the senior spotlight on Lauren Pfeifer, a remarkable student whose dedication and spirit have left an indelible mark on our school community. Lauren's involvement in a plethora of activities showcases her commitment to excellence and leadership.

A key Cheerleading squad member, Lauren has been instrumental in rallying school spirit and supporting our teams with unmatched enthusiasm. Her involvement doesn't stop there; she's also a vital part of the Athletic Leadership Council, where she works to foster a positive culture and mentorship among student-athletes.

Lauren's leadership skills are further highlighted through her active participation in the Student Leadership Academy, where she's engaged in initiatives that promote student engagement and community service. Additionally, her academic prowess is recognized through her membership in the Spanish Honor Society.

Her commitment to making a difference is evident through her involvement in Project Arrow and Legacy, two programs that focus on community service and creating lasting legacies within the school. Lauren's efforts in these initiatives demonstrate her deep care for her community and her desire to leave a positive impact.

Looking towards the future, Lauren has her sights set on Indiana University, where she plans to study Healthcare Management and Policy. Her passion for making a meaningful difference in people's lives is poised to guide her through an inspiring career in healthcare.

Reflecting on her time at GCHS, Lauren's favorite memory is cheering on the undefeated men's basketball team, a testament to her school spirit and the joy she finds in supporting her peers. Her enthusiasm and dedication have not only contributed to the vibrant atmosphere at GCHS but have also inspired others to strive for their best.

Lauren Pfeifer's legacy at GCHS is one of leadership, service, and unwavering school spirit. As she prepares to embark on her next adventure at Indiana University, we have no doubt that she will continue to achieve greatness and positively impact those around her. Lauren, GCHS is cheering you on as you move forward to conquer new challenges and reach new heights. Congratulations on being our Senior Spotlight of the month!



Lauren flies when cheering on the basketball team.



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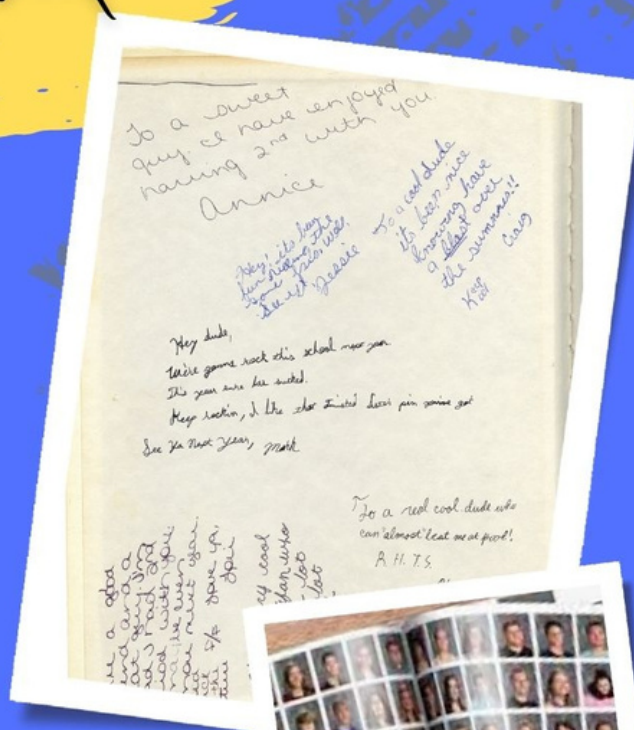
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