



COUGAR REVIEW

NOVEMBER



THANKSGIVING

By Ellie Ketchen



Thanksgiving is celebrated annually on the fourth Thursday of November. Initially, this holiday marked the end of the harvest season, a time to give thanks for the abundance of food and to pray for blessings in the upcoming year. The first Thanksgiving is famously recognized as the Plymouth Feast, which took place in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1621. During a challenging year, the Pilgrims received assistance from Squanto, a Native American, who taught them how to plant crops and harvest effectively. When harvest time arrived, the Pilgrims shared their bounty with Squanto and his tribe, the Wampanoag. This gathering laid the groundwork for a tradition that has evolved into the Thanksgiving we celebrate today.

Juliann Jones, a junior shares her family traditions, "On Thanksgiving the oldest member and youngest make the turkey together, we pour sprite over it to make it crispy. It's super fun!"

Jenna Ballenger, a freshman, shares her Thanksgiving tradition, which includes dinner at her mom's house with her grandma. Her favorite dish is mashed potatoes, and she enjoys playing games with her family during the celebration.

CC Cavaletto, a sophomore, has her own unique traditions. She celebrates Thanksgiving with her dad's family in the morning and visits her nana's house for dinner in the evening. CC enjoys both mashed potatoes and macaroni and cheese, but her favorite part of the celebration is when everyone at the table and expresses what they are thankful for.

Thanksgiving serves as a meaningful reminder to appreciate the good things in life and acknowledge the blessings we have. By sharing stories and traditions, we enrich the celebration and emphasize the importance of gratitude within our communities.



CANDIDATES CLASH

by Oliver Hewson

As we near November, we get closer to one of the most significant times in America: Election Season.

The most important thing voters need to know about each election is just exactly who they are voting into power. Each candidate has their own respective plans and ideas for the future of America.

Photo credit: NPR

As the November 2024 election approaches, Democratic nominee Kamala Harris and Republican nominee Donald Trump are locked in a fierce battle for crucial states and votes. Their campaigns are heating up, with both candidates strategizing to win over prospective voters. Stay tuned as this dynamic race unfolds and shapes the future of our country!

The two major candidates this year are Donald Trump and Kamala Harris, who each clash on a number of topics that plague our country. In order to vote, the students here at Greenfield-Central need to be aware of where the candidates stand on subjects that matter to them.

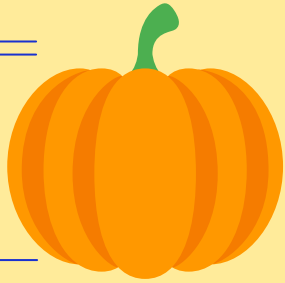
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THANKSGIVING

APPLES OR PUMPKINS

By Sam Sherman



In November, there are plenty of activities to do when the eleventh month comes around. American people typically go to corn mazes, hike, collect leaves, rent cabins, etc. When Thanksgiving arrives, families across the country gather to savor a bountiful feast. Some may have apples, and some may have pumpkins. Americans have debated for years over whether apples or pumpkins are better for autumn.

Starting in the 1800s with Johnny Appleseed, apples have become a staple of American lunch food. According to Britannica.com, around 1800, Appleseed collected apple seeds in Pennsylvania and headed west. The rest is history. Pumpkins surged in popularity in 2003 because of the Starbucks drink the Pumpkin Spice Latte. Invented in 1934, the original drink contained cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, and allspice.

Adam Shields examined several facts supporting each side. Troychariot.org presents these facts supporting pumpkin pie including apple Pie has 43 more grams of sugar and 86 more calories, pumpkins are typically in autumn, pumpkin pie is generally used for dessert, and pumpkin is used in pumpkin spice latte and pumpkin donuts. The facts supporting apple pie, also presented from troychariot.org, include: apples are typically year-round foods, pumpkins get rotten in two weeks, apples have calcium, vitamin c, and potassium, you can go pick apples off trees, and apple cider is generally used the most around autumn.

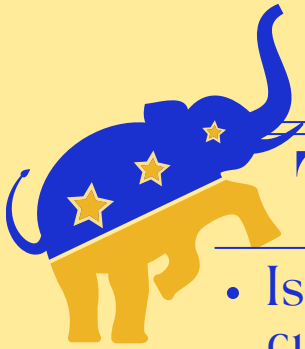
After reviewing this information, Shields directly concluded “You would rather have pumpkin pie during the autumn rather than apple pie, which can be had year-round.” So, he would get pumpkin pie during Thanksgiving because it’s more culturally relevant. Although generally, he’d usually prefer apple pie due to its flavor and texture. He prefers apple cider for both Thanksgiving and year-round.

In conclusion, pumpkins are typically used around autumn and apples are typically used year-round. So, generally speaking, for Thanksgiving it’s likely someone would get pumpkin pie, while any other month, it’s likely someone would get apple pie. Greenfield Central High School presents just one of the perspectives on this topic, although it’s widely popular across the country.



ELECTIONS

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TRUMP

- Is proposing tax cuts for big businesses and the wealthy to spur investment

Inflation/ Economy

- Wants to cut the education department and “let local areas and, frankly, states handle education”

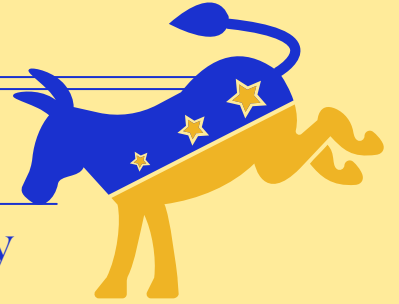
Education

- Has pushed cuts to programs that assist with student loan forgiveness but did suspend interest on student loan payments

Student Loan Debt

- Has called for changes but hasn’t offered a plan. As president, Trump fought to eliminate the ACA, including its regulations on insurers and its subsidies for coverage.

Affordable Care Act



HARRIS

- Highest priority is “bringing down the price of gas and the cost of living”

- Has declared education a “fundamental right” adding that “we will guarantee that right with universal pre-K and debt-free college”

- During her 2019 presidential campaign, she said “I do support debt-free college” and backed income-based repayment for loans.

- Said she’d fight for a future “where we can all afford health care”. Harris has taken aggressive positions in health care in the past, signing onto Sen. Bernie Sanders’ Medicare for all act in 2019

These are some of the key issues that students at GCHS should consider when casting their votes November 5. I



ELECTIONS

VOTING SEASON IN INDIANA: MEET THE CANDIDATES

By: Kaitlyn Jolicoeur

As election day draws near, Indiana is set to elect a new governor following Eric Holcomb’s departure due to term limits. The race for the governorship has become increasingly competitive, with three candidates emerging as strong contenders.

Candidates for Governor:

Jennifer McCormick

Hometown: New Castle

Party: Democratic

Background: Former Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction (2017-2021)

Campaign Start Date: May 4, 2023

Top Priorities: Women’s reproductive rights, education, and the economy

Donald Rainwater

Hometown: Westfield, Indiana

Party: Libertarian

Background: Software Engineer

Campaign Start Date: April 28, 2023

Top Priorities: Addressing property taxes, education, and advocating for taxpayer dollars for economic development

Mike Braun

Hometown: Jasper

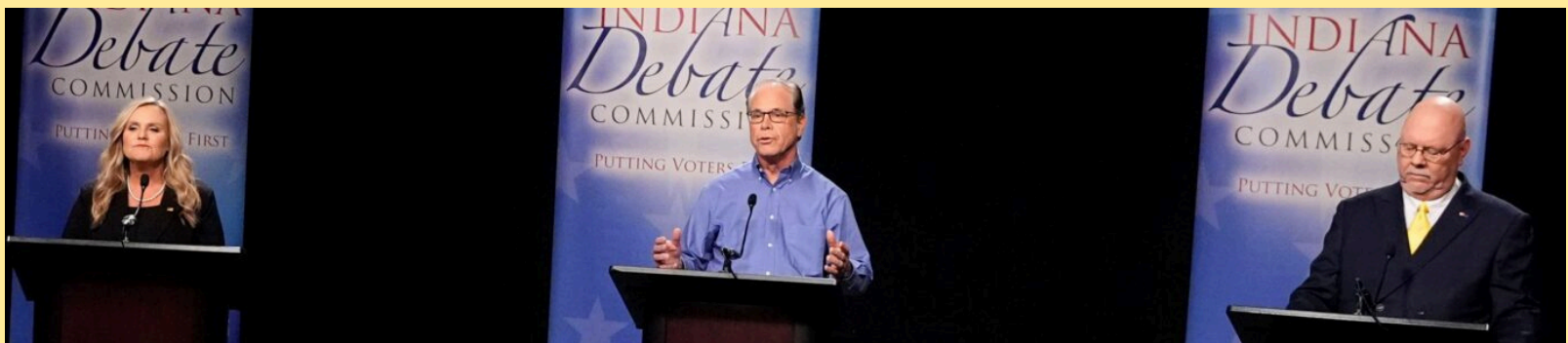
Party: Republican

Background: U.S. Senator for Indiana

Campaign Start Date: December 12, 2022

Top Priorities: The state’s education, workforce, and healthcare

Early voting is already underway, with election day set for November 5, when polls will be open from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM. Regardless of the outcome, Hoosiers can anticipate a new chapter in Indiana’s leadership, marking a significant moment in the state’s political landscape.



Jennifer McCormick, Mike Braun, and Donald Rainwater. Picture by Indiana Capital Chronicle



BOYS BASKETBALL

TIME FOR REVENGE

By: Juliann Jones

The Greenfield-Central Boys Basketball team is back this year with vengeance. "Losing in the Sectional-Championship at home last year was tough, and we haven't forgotten." With the goal of winning the first sectional since 1998, the team has incredible depth.

Braylon Mullins, "the best kid in the state", a recent UCONN Men's Basketball commit, enters his senior season with the best possible team. Boston Willard—senior point guard, is the puppet master of the floor, setting his team up for the best success. Dallas Freeman, senior QBI, crushes the rim with his impressive vertical. Micheal Johnson, a new addition to the team, begins his first year on the 3-point line as a Cougar. Brady Johnson, Tucker Brown, and Cooper Robertson are all notorious names in the gym, fighting with the team for success.



Boston Willard (3) Attacking the Rim



Packed Student Section at Sectional Championship

2025 is one of the most senior heavy sports classes in Greenfield's history, graduating six seniors this year. "Two years ago we graduated six seniors, but we do it every year, the new group steps up." With added difficulty to the season teams like Ben Davis, Lawrence North, and pre-season #1 team in the state Jeffersonville.

There's nothing better than a packed gym, lining the walls with Cougar Pride is the perfect way to start this historical season. "Show up and show out!"



GIRLS BASKETBALL

BACK TO BACK

By: Juliann Jones

Cool weather, squeaking shoes, and the clock running out, basketball season is on the way.

The women’s team has been on the rise in recent years; a great winning season has fueled the fire in the Cougar Den. With every player back, a strong freshman group, and an experienced team, Bradley Key—the head coach— provides insight for the future of Greenfield-Central.

“The goal is always a sectional title, but also to have fun and make it worthwhile for the girls.” Key said regarding the season, “You can’t talk about GC basketball without mentioning Chaney Brown and Brooklyn McConnell. Other teams know us when we walk in. Maddie Sonsini’s transfer was a great addition to the team,” Key described his players, “Really the entire senior class is strong, Addi Herrin—hard work, Kynsey Hasty—constantly showing up, and Leilani Forshey—such a fundamental player, Josie White—to show back up, she’s a senior year comeback.”

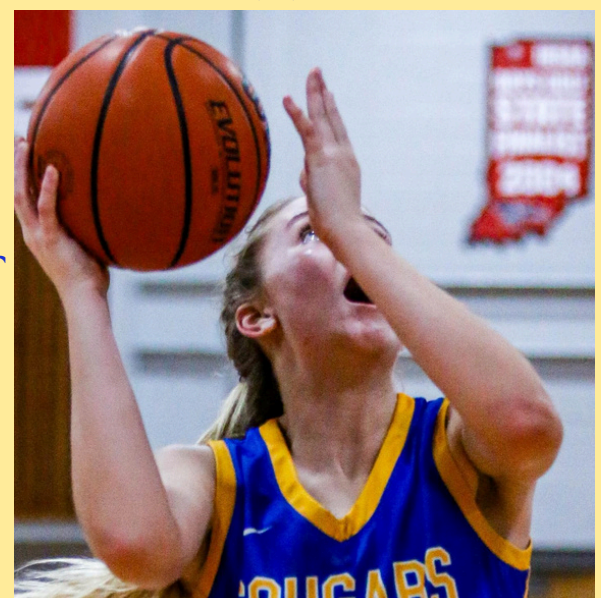
However, don’t worry, the younger players are creeping up. Hosting a roster of 23 players the team is continuously growing and working.

“We work hard Monday through Thursday, Fridays is where you see it.” (Key).

New Palestine, Mount Vernon, Pendleton, are all big games for Greenfield-Central. Filling the stands to celebrate back to back winning season, GC is excited for another hot season.



Addi Herrin (21) on a fast break!



Chaney Brown floating to the rim



Brooklyn McConnell lighting up!



SWIM

SPLASHING INTO SUCCESS

By Molly Cofer

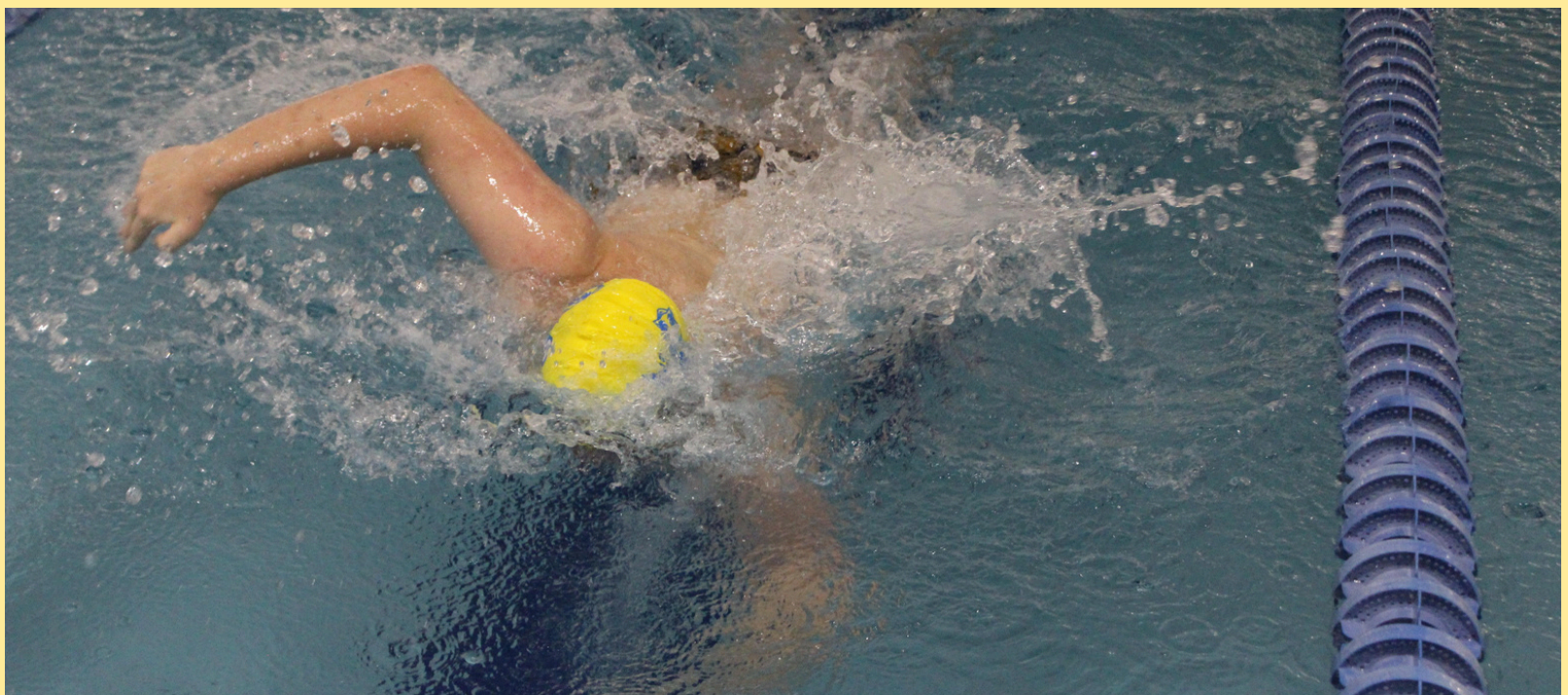
Swim season is kicking off again at Greenfield-Central High School, with new sign-ups happening during the week of October 21-25 and the first meet, the Kathy Dowling Invitational, happening on November 23.

The swim team is an anchor in GCHS athletics, with around 50 members on the swim team this year and excellent leaders from past years; the team is looking great.

The girls' team is starting strong again, with several goals set. "[The girls] have had a goal for quite a while of having all of our participants finish at the top eight and make it to the sectional finals," says Coach Ben Felver about the team's goals. Last year, they won their third straight Hoosier Heritage conference, adding to their total of five for the previous six years. Last season was full of record-breakers, and this season will hopefully be just as good.

The boys would like to be "really competitive in our conference and sectional." Felver added that the team may even have a chance of winning sectionals. With leaders like senior Colton Mayberry and senior Cooper Schmitt, they are set up to do great things this season.

All of GCHS is wishing the team good luck and supporting them at every meet.



Life is better in the water—here's to the swim team! A GCHS swimmer doing the freestyle stroke.



WRESTLING

HERE COMES ANOTHER GREAT SEASON

By: Trinitee fitz

Mark your calendars for an exciting event! The season's first wrestling match is set for the 27th, and it's a home match. What better way to kick off the season than by filling the stands! Come out and show your support for our wrestlers, both boys and girls, as they face off against Pendleton Heights. This is a fantastic opportunity to cheer for our athletes and witness some thrilling matches. Don't miss out on the action!

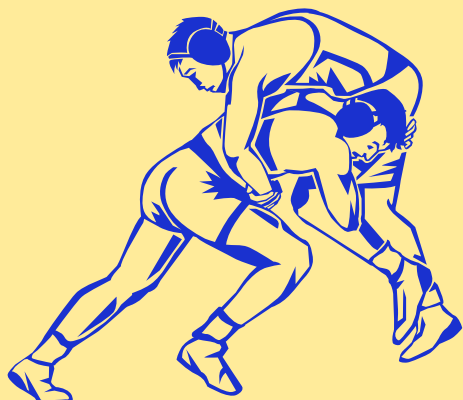
Landon Gibson, a 10th grader, shares some valuable insights for new wrestlers, "If your coach is tough on you, it's because they recognize your potential. Don't be afraid! Once you step onto the mat, you'll see why the coaches push you to your limits." This year's wrestling season promises to be thrilling, especially with a group of talented students joining the high school team. Get ready for an exciting journey ahead!



Jasmine Camacho, 12, poised to take down her opponent.



Jett McGuire, 11, it's more than just a match, it's a battle of determination and passion!





WELCOME ABOARD

A FUN SURPRISE FOR MR. WALBAUM

by Cougar Review Staff

What comes to mind when you think of a welcome? Perhaps a charming card or a warm introduction? Greenfield-Central High School took it up a notch this year by welcoming their new principal, Mr. Dan Walbaum, in a truly unique way.

As the school year kicked off, staff quickly became accustomed to Mr. Walbaum's initials, DSW, which also happen to stand for Designer Shoe Warehouse—a well-known shoe retailer. This sparked a clever idea from an anonymous staff member who devised a sneaky plan. An email was sent to all staff, excluding Mr. Walbaum, requesting donations of all types of shoes. Over the course of several weeks, the staff rallied together and managed to collect over 140 pairs of shoes. A classroom transformed into a treasure trove of footwear, filled with bags and boxes of shoes.

On September 17, a group of staff members took the collected shoes and decorated Mr. Walbaum's office. His desk, table, floor, and chair became a display of every shoe imaginable. One participant remarked, "It was a smelly job, but someone had to do it." With hopes that Mr. Walbaum had a good sense of humor, the staff eagerly anticipated his reaction.

The next day, they didn't have to wait long. An email from Mr. Walbaum read, "My office smells like feet, but this is hilarious. You all are the best, DSW." Operation Shoe Welcome was a success, but the fun didn't end there. The shoes were later bagged up and delivered to Soles for Souls for local donation, spreading the joy even further.

Greenfield-Central High School welcomes Mr. Walbaum, affectionately known as DSW, and hopes this year is a great start to his career.



All in Good Fun! On September 17, Principal Dan Walbaum was welcomed in a truly unique and memorable way. Shoes were donated to Soles for Souls.



THERAPY DOGS

WAGGING TAILS AND HAPPY TRAILS

By A ziyah Cook

According to Kennel Club, therapy dogs accompany their owners to volunteer in various settings, including schools, hospitals, and nursing homes. It is important to clarify that therapy dogs are different from service dogs. Service dogs are specially trained to perform specific tasks to assist individuals with disabilities. This distinction is crucial, as many people mistakenly confuse the two. For instance, a service dog may guide a person who is blind, while a therapy dog provides emotional support in environments like schools.

Therapy dogs come in various breeds and sizes; there is no specific requirement for their type. Common breeds used as therapy dogs include Golden Retrievers and Labrador Retrievers. At Greenfield-Central High School, the therapy dogs are Aussie Doodles.

Many people wonder about the training process for therapy dogs. Mr. Oliver, one of the owners of the GCHS therapy dogs, notes, "It depends on the dog's personality, breed, temperament during training, and knowing what to expect from the dog and the program." Frank, a therapy dog in training at the high school, began his journey in June. He is now frequently seen in the halls, bringing joy to students.

Some may question Frank's purpose at the high school. Mr. Oliver explains, "A lot of it is to ease students' tension and to make them feel more comfortable in a stressful situation. The number of kids that will stop and pet Frank and say, 'This is the best part of the day,' illustrates his impact."

The presence of a therapy dog like Frank is incredibly beneficial at the high school, and students express their gratitude for having him around. There is a growing belief that more schools should consider introducing therapy dogs to help calm students in uncomfortable situations. If you see one of GCHS's many therapy dogs, say hi; it might just brighten your day.



Greenfield-Central High Schools therapy dogs Kai and Frank and at work.



ADVICE COLUMN

COUGAR TALK

By: Kamarina Davis

Senior - Madelyn Bowman

Who motivated you in high school? Why?
"Coach Holden because he is always checking on me and supports me in all the activities I do."

What are you most excited about this year?
"I'm most excited about all the senior activities."



Do you play any sports? Why? How long?
"I have done cheer for 6 years. I like being involved in sports and other activities in high school. I also did track for one year."

What is some advice you want to give to underclassmen?
"Get yourself involved in sports or other activities."

What are your plans after you graduate?
"I plan to go to Indiana University in Bloomington. I plan to study marketing and sports management."

Junior - Ashtyn Davis

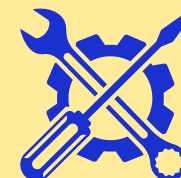
Who motivated you to keep going to school?
"Going to strength class and my sister making sure I get my things done."

What are you most excited about this winter / fall and others?
"Break and being able to spend time with my family."

What is some advice you want to give to underclassmen?
"Don't say stuff about the wrong people, or you will find out the hard way what happens."



What are your plans after you graduate?
"I want to be a mechanic."





ADVICE COLUMN

COUGAR TALK

By: Kamarina Davis

Sophomore - Rihanna Jones



Who motivated you to keep going in school?
"My friends and family."

What are you most excited about for the upcoming seasons?
"For Christmas and for it to be cold."

Do you do any sports? If so, name them and explain why?
"I used to do soccer because I like kicking a ball."

What is some advice you want to give to underclassmen?
"Do your work; if you don't, you're going to fall behind."

What are your plans after you graduate?
"To take online courses and find out what I want to do in the future."



What are your favorite activities to do?
"I like choir and singing."

Freshman - Ayden Merriman



Who motivated you to keep going in school?
"My mom and my brother making sure I stay on task."

What are you most excited about this winter / fall and others?
"Halloween and Christmas."

Do you do any sports? If so, name them and explain why?
"Football because I have been playing for 9 years, and I really like to play football."



What is some advice you want to give to underclassmen?
"Listen to your coaches."

What are your plans after you graduate?
"To play ball professionally."