

Art by Kennedy Nelson

# Black: the new purple and gold?

School color debate begs the question what is considered part of PHS identity

Walls, posters and clothing: everything is purple and gold. Even the things that are not purple and gold seem to absorb a tint of the school colors.

In the past few years it has become popular to incorporate other colors as PHS's school colors, such as gray and black. As much as athletes want black in their attire, there are others who do not. It is sometimes an issue to get clothing or uniforms approved by those of a higher power (athletic office, school board, administrators, etc.) if the color black is included in the clothing.

The reluctance of using black seems to be stressed so much that some people have begun to think that there is some prejudice against the color. However, there is no conspiracy to boycott black from PHS.

After asking many knowledgeable administrators the only explanation that could be unearthed was "purple and gold are our school colors"; it is tradition. Seeing as not much information was uncovered, a lot of the

following will be speculation.

At one point this year, it was rumored that the football team was going to get black uniforms accented with pink to promote Breast Cancer Awareness. However, this idea was allegedly frowned upon because of the black.

"Pink, not black, is associated with Breast Cancer, therefore it would not make sense to support awareness of Breast Cancer with the color black," said Principal Casey Brewster.

Pink jerseys would be acceptable unlike black jerseys because pink is the official color of Breast Cancer Awareness. As a solution and seeing how October is breast cancer awareness month, the football team will be sporting pink socks on the October 1 game against Corydon. The sudden interest with supporting Breast Cancer Awareness seems to just be genuine concern for the issue and a desire to try to improve the situation.

It can be argued that the rule concerning black is not held constant since the band gets to wear black pants.

First off, it should be noted that 90 percent of marching bands wear black pants. So not only does it look more formal, but black is also the typical pant color.

"The purpose of our uniforms is to promote our school color and tradition and to keep up with the latest design trends that embody the traditions of our program," said band director Bill Laughlin.

Formation is a large part of marching band, so it would make sense to try to subdue any errors that might be made. Black does just that; it helps conceal missteps and hides the marchers' feet.

All in all it would seem as if black may just be a current fad. It should be worn only to accent school colors and should not be expected to ever be worn on jerseys unless promoting awareness.

Just keep in mind we are the purple and gold Paoli Rams, wear it with pride.



# Keeping score; moving athletes learn how to make the cut

The high school years students are living right now are said to be one of the best times of their lives.

Students are involved in clubs and sports. Along with homework, this can be very stressful. Nevertheless, how would it feel to work hard for something all summer just to find out you cannot play?

Eligibility in sports has held back one student here.

To be eligible for any high school sport students have to be under the age

of 20. Students should also show good sportsmanship.

They have to have so many practices before they can even play in a varsity sport.

Making the grades is also important for eligibility. If a student does not pass seventy percent of the full credit subject or subjects that a student takes in the previous grading period. Semester grades are key.

Students should be enrolled in the first

15 days of the semester. Athletes cannot represent their school for more than four years.

Transferring schools cannot just be done for athletic reasons. Also the principal of the student's previous school has to sign off the athlete to the new school.

A student that is not eligible in one state cannot become eligible by moving to another school in a different state.

If an ineligible player plays, the

school's principal should take the following action. For example, suspending an athlete for longer or not allowing that athlete to participate for the rest of that school year.

Students and coaches need to make sure all the details are worked out before they start participating in activities. There are lots of rules, but the rules are simple.



*The numbers we think you need to know to really know sports.*

By Tyson Bostock  
Photos by Dylan Hoover

Cross Country  
Junior  
Katlyn Miller  
Fastest mile:

**8.17**  
Minutes



Tennis  
Senior  
Joe Moon  
Shoe size:

**11**



Football  
Junior  
Trevor Axson  
Bicep width:

**11.5**  
Inches



Volleyball  
Senior  
Mabel Laswell  
Number:

**12**



# The Ram Card

# Bracket breakdown

At the college level division determines competition

Recently, some graduates of PHS have found themselves continuing to play the sports they were known for here at the next level.

Playing sports in college is prestigious for anyone, but before you go watching March Madness looking for someone you may know, you first need to understand college divisions.

All universities are divided into four different athletic divisions, containing up to 30 different sports. Some of these include basketball, baseball, soccer and football, for both men and women.

The main factors in determining which division a college competes in are the size of the university based on enrollment and the number of sponsored sports in that university, not the individual team's performance.

The NCAA houses three college leagues under one roof. Those are the NCAA Division I, Division II, and Division III. They all have certain things that separate them from each other.

Division I is the largest and strongest division in which the biggest universities play. Players must be younger than age 24 to compete. Some teams competing in this division include the Indiana Hoosiers, the Ohio State Buckeyes and the Butler Bulldogs from Indianapolis.

The next division down is Division II. This division contains some teams that have better records than those in the lower levels of Division I, but compete only against teams in their division. There is not an age limit on Division II

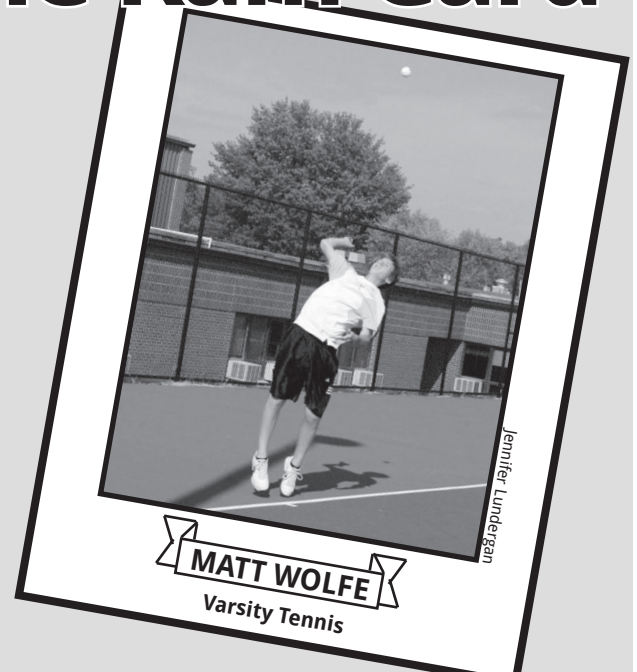
schools. All Division II colleges must sponsor at least five sports for men and women. Those must be two different schools for each. Some Division II schools are the University of Indianapolis, Saint Joseph's College and Indianapolis.

Division III colleges are usually small colleges. A lot of D III schools will also offer a J.V. team, which not only offers more athletes the option to play college sports, it also offers the ability to season yourself before making the jump to the collegiate varsity level.

Coaches and schools draft people for college sports right out of high school, so be realistic when considering playing for a college. If a person is thinking about continuing sports at the college level it would be beneficial to think about which divisions and what college would be best suited for that individual player. Check on college scholarships; education is important when going to college to play sports.

Division I member schools are required to sponsor a minimum of seven sports for men and women. Division II member colleges are required to sponsor a minimum of five sports for men and women.


So during March Madness, do not be disappointed if you do not see someone you know playing on the court. It could be that they are playing somewhere else, working just as hard.



**Matt Wolfe**  
Senior

**Height:** 6' 1"

**Weight:** 161 lbs



**Events:** No. 1 doubles


**Matches won:** Half of them (so far)

**Shoe size:** 11

**Brand of Racket:** Babolat

**Fastest serve:** 90 mph

**Fastest mile:** 6 minutes



By Dylan Hoover

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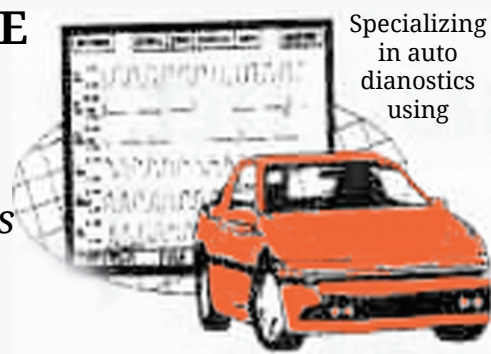
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