

Photos by Breanna Daugherty &amp; Jerica Goodpaster



# What is a Sport?

Debate over what qualifies as a sport fires up those involved

With another successful marching band season over, a common debate keeps popping up all over PHS.

What qualifies as a sport in high school?

And here specifically, should marching band and cheerleading be considered sports?

According to the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA), they are not.

The IHSAA was established to regulate and guide the coaches, athletic directors, referees and others in rules of sports.

It is not required that schools be part of IHSAA, but it would be wise to. To become a member of the IHSAA a school need only apply and receive the benefits of being a member, which would include participating in IHSAA sponsored events such as Sectional tournaments and others.

The IHSAA recognizes several sports, some are offered here at PHS others are not. The IHSAA certified sports include girls' golf, cross country, soccer, volleyball, swimming, basketball, gymnastics, track, tennis and softball. Boy's sports consist of tennis, cross country, soccer, football; this includes tackle and non-contact, wrestling, swimming, basketball, track, golf and baseball.

Take notice that band and cheerleading are not included in the list as IHSAA-recognized sports.

Though they may not be on the list, the coaches, directors and students have their reasons as to why they believe band and cheering could be considered a sport.

Band director Bill Laughlin expressed his opinions and the student reasoning as to why

marching band should be credited as a sport.

According to Laughlin, students in marching band must be able to run or jog a mile by mid-season to be in good shape, and have good stamina, for a good performance. Members of the marching band use a combination of musical talent, visual artistry and physical movement.

"Very few of the band students are ever found walking during P.E. class while other students do," said Laughlin.

With the demands of marching band and a very lengthy season, from mid-July to the end of October, at the start of this year the school decided that any marching band student may earn a P.E. credit for participation in marching band.

Since marching band is an outdoor activity, students train in excessive heat, rain, cold temperatures, wind and other factors. All of these things are developing physical ability of students and getting them "in shape."

According to Laughlin, there was a study done about 20 years ago at Indiana University. The study included a student member of the STAR of Indiana, a drum and bugle corps made of All-Star marching band students from all over the state. The experiment was to test the physical demands on a person involved in the Star of Indiana.

With the help of medical technology, the experiment found that the heart rate of a person during the performance was the same as if they had finished running a long distance race.

"Taking in consideration all of

the physical demands combined with musical, visual and precision demands makes marching band an activity that shares many of the same requirements as a sport while including and musical performance," said Laughlin.

Band is governed by ISSMA (Indiana State School Musical Association), which dictates rules for performances. ISSMA is marching band's equivalent to the IHSAA for athletics.

Cheerleading is another "hot-topic" activity that vies for athletic respect by many students.

Though the IHSAA only considers gymnastics a sport the National Foundation regulates and gives rules out to the cheer coaches to follow.

At PHS cheerleaders are able to "letter" (receive a letter jacket at the Varsity level after one year) and are recognized in many of the same ways other sports are by the athletic department.

Deciding whether cheerleading can be considered a IHSAA sport would take time and a lot of convincing to the IHSAA. Competitive cheerleading is different and might one day qualify for IHSAA, but it would require a lot of practice hours and physical labor.

Even though IHSAA does not consider cheerleading or band a sport, it should be noted that both put in many practice hours and time while participating in the activity.

Perhaps someday the IHSAA will consider giving marching band and cheerleading the chance to earn their place among all the other recognized sports and put the debate to rest.

By Jaclyn Thomas

## FEATURED

### Senior Breck Eubank



**What position do you play?**

Forward

**How often do you practice?**

Erryday. (Every day)

**Who is the team's biggest rival?**

Erryday. (Everybody)

**How many weeks do you practice?**

Erryday. (Every week)

**What are your strengths this year?**

Basketball.



**What team gives you the most challenge?**

Brownstizzle. (Brownstown)

**What are your weaknesses?**

I've never heard of this word.

**What are your predictions for this season?**

It's gonna snow.

Photos by Chelsea Talmage

By Cohen Bostock



# THE SHOT

## A Look Back

## SPORTS RECAP

### Football:

Good job to the boy's Varsity team for a great season this year finishing it out with a record of 9-3 with their last game of the season against the Triton Central Tigers.

### Basketball:

The Lady Rams kicked off their season with scrimmage against North Harrison on November 5. Their first game on Veteran's Day against Springs Valley resulted in a win. The team boasts four senior players this year: Alleigh Becht, Jaclyn Thomas, Ashley Forbes and Rachel Manship.

The guys team will begin their season against Mitchell, at Mitchell, on November 26. The team has five seniors on the team this year: Clay Burnette, Garrett Sanders, Trevor Axsom, Colton Phelps and Breck Eubank.

### Wrestling:

The Varsity Rams will have their first match on December 2, at Scottsburg in the Scottsburg 8-Way. There are four seniors on the team this year: Garrett Shepard, Aric Riley, Joe Tuell and Shawn Moon.



Photo by Jerica Goodpaster

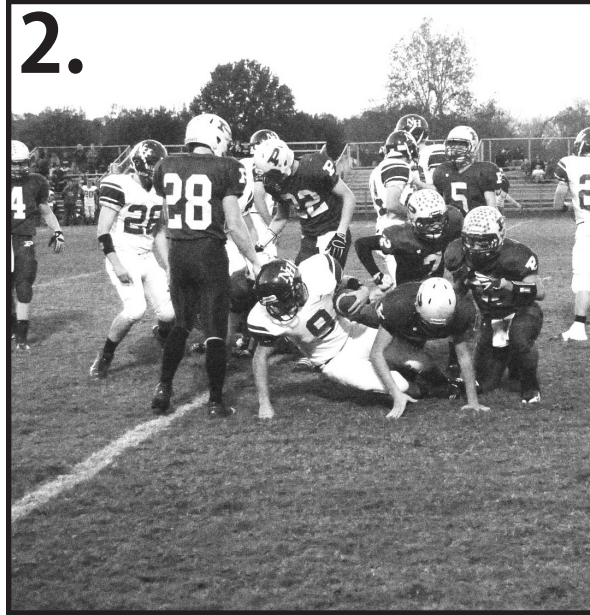


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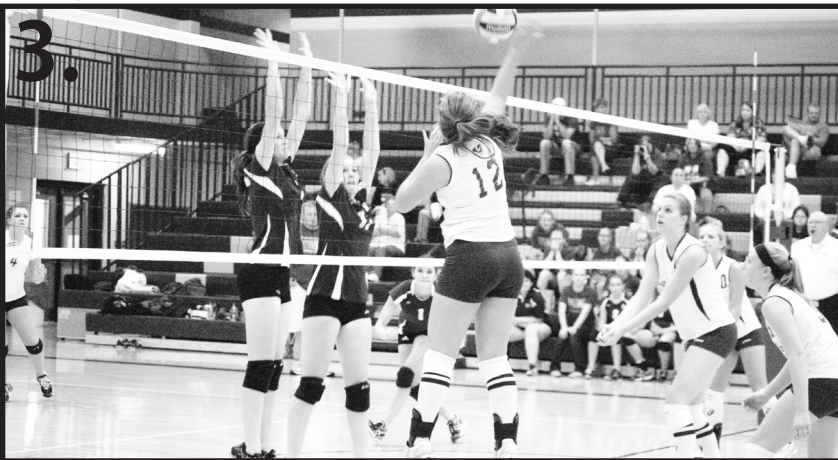


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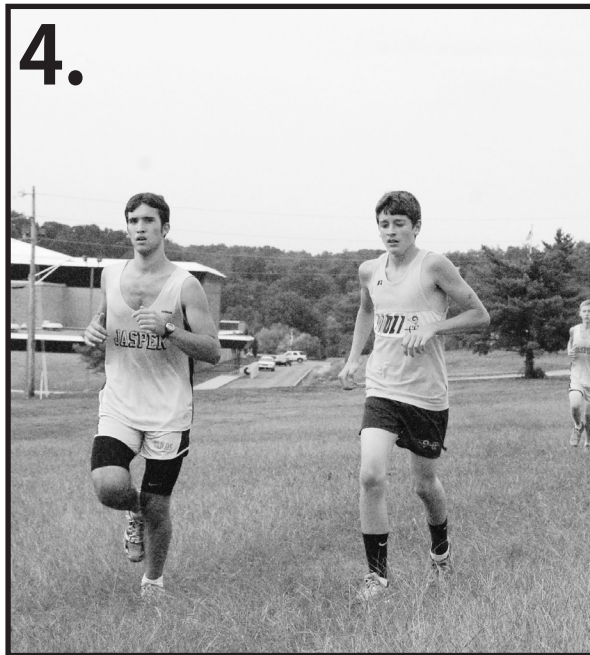


Photo by Breanna Daugherty

1. Senior Katlyn Miller cheers during a home football game. "My favorite part of cheering would have to be being with all the girls! They are like my second family, and I love all of them!" 2. Junior Dylan McClintock gets up after a tackle against North Harrison. "My favorite part is winning and holding up Tyler Hannon after the games." 3. Sophomore Lily Eubank hits the ball over the net. "My favorite part was the Indy Tourney and winning the Paoli Tourney." 4. Sophomore Josh Stewart runs down field. "My favorite part is the competition at meets."

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