



"We must form our minds by reading deep rather than wide." -Quintilian

A New Way to Get the News

By Sophia Braccio

ACTA who? There is a new North Phoenix Prep publication in town, and it is based on this philosophy: for the students, by the students. Run by an industrious team of high school journalists, and advised by Mr. Fleming, *Acta Gladiator* is dedicated to providing both middle and high schools with informative, compelling, and accurate accounts of the student community, as well as news on upcoming school events. The hope of the journalists is that this publication will help engage its readers with the many activities that are often overlooked and understated at NPX.



Twilight cross
country meet (p.4),
Gladiator team
standings (p.2), and
more...

The publication's name strives to reflect the traditions and culture of the school. As the NPX mascot is the mighty gladiator, and the branches of the student government are the Lanista and Senate, it seems appropriate that the title of the paper has ties with the Ancient Romans. According to Britannica.com (alongside other online sources), the *Acta Diurna* posted political and social news in public spaces across Ancient Rome, and is considered a predecessor to the modern gazette. For all the Latin lovers, *acta*, in the context of a publication, is "things that have been done." The *Acta Gladiator* will record all the great things that have been and will be done within the NPX student body.

Happy Fall Y'all

By Miranda Waters

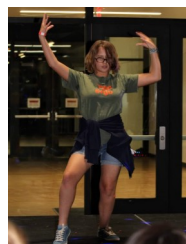
On September 21st the Gladiators had their first high school social. There were snacks, pizza and lots of fun! The social hosted the annual North Phoenix Prep Lip Sync Battle. It also hosted a Color Wars Competition between all high school grades with prize money for the winner. The winners of the lip sync battle were as follows: in third place the High School Girls Cross Country Team, in second place Alina Boorse and Alana Curtis, and in first place Laynie Ben. During the Color Wars the freshmen played the sophomores in giant cup pong while the juniors played the seniors in human tic-tac-toe. The sophomores and seniors won their games and faced off in a pop culture jeopardy style game. The seniors won the close game and decided to put the prize money towards the senior class as a whole.



Choreography is everything!



"Love is an open doooooor!"



Fierce
Freshmen



Photos by Spencer Hahn

Gladiator Teams, Tickets, and Rankings

By Saloni Godse

Middle school Gladiator Team Competitions are on! Gladiator Tickets can help your team to victory. Tickets are given out by any teacher, middle school or high school, and lanista. These tickets are given to students who are witnessed doing good and virtuous deeds around the campus such as: picking up trash, helping other students, tutoring students during lyceum, and offering to clean tables, desks, etc... To receive credit for your tickets, write your full name and abbreviation for your team on the back of your ticket. Turn in your ticket to the designated box for your team outside Ms. Schripsema's office upstairs.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. VELITES- 88 tickets | 6. PROVACATORES- 39 tickets |
| 2. DIMACHAERUS- 85 tickets | 7. BESTIARII- 35 tickets |
| 3. THRACES- 73 tickets | 8. RETIARRI- 29 tickets |
| 4. CESTUS- 69 tickets | 9. MURMILLONES- 23 tickets |
| 5. SAGITTARIUS- 42 tickets | 10. EQUITES- 22 tickets |

Club Feature: North Phoenix Chorale and the Northern Lights

By Bianca Rodriguez

At North Phoenix Prep, there are numerous musical opportunities for students. Most know Mr. Herrera as the choir director and teacher for the Freshmen and the Sophomores, but he also directs two additional choirs that meet after school, for students seeking more vocal performance opportunities. These two choirs are the North Phoenix Prep Chorale (high schoolers) and Northern Lights (middle schoolers). Mr. Lang, who teaches at Archway, is the co-director and accompanist for these choirs.

These clubs were created, as Mr. Herrera said, "to supplement the music education our students already receive within the Great Hearts curriculum. The choirs give them the opportunity to apply the skills they are learning in their middle school and high school music classes in a fun, relaxed, non-curricular club at the end of their school days." There are more students than ever before participating in choir this semester.



Mr. Herrera leads the Northern Lights in a vocal warmup. *Photo by Sophia Braccio*

Mr. Herrera is very dedicated to these choirs. When asked about what he wants the students in these choirs to get out of their experience, he said, "I want them to get from these choirs what I got from my middle school and high school choir experience---camaraderie, confidence, musical discovery, and memories that will last them a lifetime!" In November, Northern Lights and the North Phoenix Prep Chorale will be performing a holiday concert for residents at Orchard Pointe at Arrowhead,

an assisted living and memory care facility. Northern Lights and the North Phoenix Prep Chorale will be performing at the Winter Concert on December 11th. In February, the North Phoenix Prep Chorale will be performing the national anthem at a Grand Canyon University basketball game. It is not too late to join these choirs! If anyone wants to join, the North Phoenix Prep Chorale meets on Mondays and Northern Lights meets on Thursdays, both from 3:30-4:30pm. See Mr. Herrera for details.



Gladiators for the Environment



By Miranda Waters

Around the world in thousands of cities, people have been banding together against climate change for the past week. Over 2 million students and work members participated in a walk out and over 6 million people have taken to the streets to participate in climate strikes. Thanks to Abbey Sobelman, Cheyenne Wahlheim, and Ms. Humphrey, our school plans to rally this Friday during Lyceum to join the 6 million protestors in their strike against this appalling affair. Some things you can do at your own home are invest in reusable items such as straws, bags, water bottles, jars, etc. and recycle. This doesn't just mean recycling paper and plastic, but also donating your clothes to thrift stores and buying from them instead of throwing your clothes away or buying new clothes that are mass produced. So let's work together and change the way we treat our planet!

Bonding and Teambuilding at Lost Canyon

By Scotlyn Mascarelli

This year, the NPX high school was fortunate enough to go to Lost Canyon for a school retreat. It was great to be able to see people who you might not have seen all summer and just hang out and catch up on old business. The student's time there was occupied with a variety of different ac-



Seniors all smiles kicking off their last year at NPX. Photos by Spencer Hahn



Slime!

tivities, such as a glowstick race and shaving cream/slime/flour war, as well as having recreational free time to do as they pleased. It was a bit different this year, however, due to the fact that all high schoolers were attending

and not just the freshmen like last year. Most were content with the entire high school there: there were more people to beat at air hockey, and it was nice knowing that everyone who was new this year had an opportunity to meet new people.

Many students struggle with adapting to a new environment, and that retreat really helped them with becoming more comfortable with the people around them and created a better school experience. Excluding red blankets, the experiences on these retreats have been quite pleasant.

Teachers Say the Darndest Things

By Sofia Golubic

I think all of us can agree that school is hard. I'm not even sure I have enough brain cells to make it to the end of the quarter. But, there is one thing that I can be sure of. Teachers can be extraordinarily hilarious. I get that teachers are strict and the homework they give is certainly not the most fun to do, but you have to admit, every once and while they will say something that gives you enough hope to make it back to class the next day.

Here are my funniest teacher quotes from the first quarter. I hope they make your day and be sure to email us for a chance for your funny teacher quotes to be featured in the next issue of Acta Gladiator!

1. "Wow, Jack, two years of strength and conditioning and you still can't engage your hips?" -Mr. Gray, judging one student's lip sync battle dance at the school's first social.
2. "I'm kinda sad that there are no cameras because I wish your children could've seen...that." -Mr. Olsen, when asked to comment on a lip sync dance.
3. "How dare you clutter up perfectly good opinions with facts. How dare you, sir." -Dr. Bain

Get your Senate Gladiator Gear today!



Available for purchase in the quad during Lyceum.

\$25 Black or maroon sweatshirt stylish in and out of the classroom!

\$15 On Wednesdays we wear... show off your squad's school spirit in one of our grey or black t-shirts!



- Mon. Oct. 14-Tues. Oct. 15: Fall Conferences
- Wed. Oct. 16th: PSAT (grades 9-11)
- Fri. Oct. 18: PSO movie night
- Sat. Oct. 26: Middle School Spooktacular Social
- Mon. Oct. 28- Fri. Nov. 1: Spirit Week
- Sat. Nov. 2- High School HOCO





NORTH PHOENIX PREP YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks are available for order now for only \$30! Make sure to purchase yours before November 22, when prices will rise to \$35. To order online go to commpe.pictavo.com.



The *Acta Gladiator* wants your help! If you have an article lead or would like to advertise, email us at npxnewspaper@gmail.com.

Cross Country Running to Success

By Jack Miller

All of the Gladiator Cross Country teams are taking the season by storm! The high school boys are doing as well as ever: Jordan Black (Senior) has had a great season with multiple individual wins and Sam Johnston (Sophomore) with several second place finishes. The girls team is doing well too: Grace Tipton (Junior) has many wins under her belt and Michaela Wahlhiem (Off-Campus Junior) also has a couple wins and very high rankings. With both teams full of as many amazing athletes as they are, we can expect a great rest of the season from our Gladiator Cross Country teams!



Middle school cross country.
Photos by David Sypes

Gladiator Boys Shine at Twilight

By Miranda Waters

Last Friday on September 27th some of our Gladiators competed in Nike Desert Twilight, a huge annual cross country meet. The meet had 29 teams from all over the region and over 4,000 runners participating in 24 races. A special acknowledgement must go to the boys who participated in the Boys Sweepstakes. Five NPX boys participated in the last race of the night: Jordan Black, Sam Johnston, Rocco Berbetti, Richie Johnston, and Ariel Antonini. They came in as 21st out of 28 of the best teams in the Southwest and all of the boys broke their personal records by at least 10 seconds. Richie's personal record dropped by 13 seconds, Rocco's dropped by 15 seconds, Ariel's dropped by 23 seconds, and Sam's dropped by 39 seconds! Jordan Black stunned us all with his amazing finish to the meet. He finished the 5k race in 14:55 and went home with a 4th place medal in hand. He is now ranked as the eleventh best high school runner in the country!



Highschool boys after a successful meet. *Photo by Miranda Waters*

Volleyball Teams Serve up some Wins

By Kendall Kartler

The North Phoenix Prep Middle School and High School volleyball teams have had an impressive start to their season and have been showing other teams and their fans that hard work really does pay off. The Varsity volleyball team has done especially well. They started the season off by defeating Basis Phoenix, then went on to beat St. John Paul, Arete Prep, North Pointe Prep, and Lincoln Prep. Along the way they set a team record of 6-2. Almost undefeated, they lost to Anthem Prep and Ray High School. Let's continue to support our Gladiators as they finish up the season! Great job ladies and keep up the good work!



Varsity volleyball. *Photos by Spencer Hahn*

