



"There is a source of power in each of us that we don't realize until we take responsibility." -Diane Nash

Forgotten Black Trail Blazers Covid-19 Vaccinations in our Community Meme of the Month and more...

Winter Sports Overview

Intro by Ariel Antonini, athlete interview by Kendall Kartler



#23 Richard Bickerstaff. Photo by Miranda Waters.

The winter season for Gladiator athletics has been very different from the ordinary, as our basketball and soccer teams have had to make some adjustments to be able to compete in their respective AIA seasons. We asked four of our senior soccer players a couple of questions regarding how the season is going, and below are some of their responses.

What is it like playing with the new AIA rules?

It of course has been difficult to adapt to the new rules, but I am simply happy that we were able to have a season. After the first few games and practices enforcing the rules, I got used to it and it became a sort of second nature. - Richie Johnston

It's not really ideal playing with masks only because it gets hot really easily and most masks aren't as breathable, but the rule is understandable. - Isa Herrera

This year has definitely been different compared to the last. It's also a lot different not having a bunch of fans there to support us yelling on the sidelines out of excitement for us but we still get to hear about the support we have behind us. - Gabi Herrera

With the new AIA rules, it was another challenge for our team to face, especially since we didn't have the masks before, but our team did really well pulling together and following those rules. - Maverick Courtney

What was your favorite part about this season?

There have been so many great memories from this season; it's difficult to pick one specific one as my favorite. Scoring my first goal against Arete Prep, winning our first game against Glendale Prep, or simply having the ability to spend more time with my friends. -Richie Johnston

My favorite part of the season is definitely the bus rides to out of town for away games. I can say with certainty that every season I've looked forward to those games since freshman year mainly because they've been so memorable and we've bonded [on] a lot of those bus rides. - Isa Herrera

My favorite part of the season is when we just go out and play soccer and get to see the win that comes out with it. To be a part of a team that is constantly there to support everyone and pick each other up when we need it is amazing. All the excitement and seeing the players jump up and cheer is definitely something I won't forget. - Gabi Herrera

My favorite part of this season was to see how successful our soccer program has gotten. Three years ago we couldn't win a single game but now we take heart knowing that the work we put on that field can put up another win for the Gladiators. - Maverick Courtney

If you had one piece of advice to give to the younger athletes what would it be?

The only thing I could really say is to try and play every game and work at every practice with no regrets. Make sure you have the ability to one day look back at your soccer season and be truly content with every aspect of it. - Richie Johnston

There's a lot that I could say, but I think all I can say is have fun and don't stress because for the next couple of months you'll create a bond with so many classmates that you probably rarely talk to and build some wonderful memories. - Isa Herrera

Some advice that I would give is to just be patient and work hard. As someone who was on the team and that first season I played we didn't win any games, but with hard work there will be good outcomes. Don't let the losses take over how you play: instead, use those losses to help you learn and improve for the next game. - Gabi Herrera

For the younger players I would say to be committed to this program because not only do you get to play a sport but you get to be part of a family that will have your back. There is nothing more special than to play with the people you love. - Maverick Courtney

Forgotten Black Trail Blazers

The Voices Unrecognized on the Road to Equality

By Niat Solomon

We all know the faces of the Civil Rights movement—the names Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X probably ring a bell. However, many activists never got their due credit. Their contributions are undeniable, but they did not gain the same household status as their counterparts. Although their names were lost in the pursuit of freedom, these pioneers deserve recognition. In honor of Black History Month, we will be shedding some light on these unsung heroes.



Bayard Rustin

The March on Washington in 1963 will forever go down in history, but contrary to popular belief, King was not the only man behind this pivotal moment in history: Bayard Rustin was the chief organizer of the demonstration. A pacifist and socialist, his beliefs helped push the Civil Rights Movement to embrace non-violent tactics. A close advisor to Dr. King, he organized countless events such as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a large boycott on racial bias within the New York Public School Systems. However, as a gay Black man in America, countless groups were fundamentally opposed to his beliefs. He was arrested and removed from the Fellowship of Reconciliation for his sexuality in the 1950s, while also facing criticism from his coworkers for his socialist views. However, Rustin remained unashamed of his identity. For this reason, he was largely erased from the Civil Rights movement so as not to “taint” its image. Rustin continued to advocate for equality throughout his life, and, in 2013, he posthumously received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States.



Pauli Murray

Breaking barriers in education, law, and activism, Dr. Pauli Murray was truly a revolutionary. She coined the term “Jane Crow,” shedding light on the intersectionality of racism and sexism in America. She, alongside Bayard Rustin, helped form the Congress of Racial Equality. Throughout her life, she explored her gender identity, changing her name from Pauline to the more androgynous title, Pauli. In 1940, she was arrested for challenging bus segregation laws, which inspired her to enroll in law school at Howard University and achieve her doctorate degree at Yale School of Law. Her book, *State’s Laws on Race and Color*, was so influential that it was described as the “Bible” for Civil Rights litigators. In later years, she worked with Ruth Bader Ginsburg to fight the discrimination women face in America. Pauli faced countless obstacles in her life: she was frequently overlooked for her gender and sexuality and labeled “too radical” by the public, but she made strides for both the Civil and Women’s Rights Movement.



Diane Nash

Diane Nash was a freedom rider and lifelong opponent of racial segregation in the South. She attended Fisk University in Tennessee, where she witnessed extreme racial injustice. Because she felt that it was her duty to oppose segregation laws, Nash quickly became affiliated with activist Jim Lawson and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. She began attending workshops and assembling sit-ins and non-violent protests. Because of her opposition, she and her colleagues were arrested on multiple occasions. Nash continued to fight the segregation of public transportation in the South, coordinating the Nashville Student Movement Ride from Birmingham, Alabama to Jackson, Mississippi. She became a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, where she fought for schools’ desegregation and registered African Americans to vote. She was arrested repeatedly: once while pregnant with her first child. Nash’s commitment to equality and dedication to opposing injustice helped push the Civil Rights Movement to victory.

Work cited:

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Firsthand Take: Covid-19 Vaccinations in our Community

By Sofie Kassem

Owing to the worldwide spread of the novel Coronavirus, scientists across the globe have been working diligently to develop a vaccine for the past 10 months. Thus far, the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) have authorized two different vaccines: the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, and the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. These vaccines made their debut in early December but only reached national distribution in February. The objective of the COVID-19 vaccines is to build up immunity to the virus by forcing your body to produce antibodies. These antibodies are proteins and are made by the immune system to fight further viruses. In this manner, when and if you contract the virus, your body will know how to effectively fight against it. This vaccine will substantially help the world's fight against COVID-19 and make scientific history in the process. The speed by which these vaccines were developed is unprecedented and will stand alone as the fastest-developed vaccines in the world.

This month, I reached out to several faculty members and students who have received the COVID-19 vaccine in order to get a firsthand account of their experience. Here are just some of the faculty and student's responses:

Do you feel that you have personally made an impact in the world's fight against COVID-19? If so, how?

Yes. Knowing I'm one less person that will take up a hospital bed makes me feel like I've put less of a strain on the hospitals and opened beds for patients who really need them. - Sophie Luttinger

What is something from your COVID-19 vaccination experience

that you think is most important to tell others ?

I think I'm less worried for myself—and that's a relief—but mainly I'm less worried about spreading a bad case to my family and friends. However, I still think it's important to stay safe and protect others. Just because I'm vaccinated doesn't mean there's no chance of me spreading it. So mask up everyone! - Sophie Luttinger

I generally support the concept of vaccinations as a solution to fight things like COVID-19 and other diseases and would encourage other people to do the same. The injection itself did not hurt and I had no reactions after the first dose. But, after the second dose, I did experience soreness at the injection site, minor body aches and a low-grade fever for a day. - Ms. Woelzlein

How do you feel about coming back to school, having been vaccinated?

After being vaccinated, I felt a sense of relief that I would have some form of protection that I did not previously. It also makes me feel like daily life activities, including school, are closer to getting back to normal. - Ms. Woelzlein

Have your fears of COVID-19 changed, after having gotten vaccinated?

Not completely, I still take the same precautions as before, but I do hope that there ends up being a high percentage of vaccine participation to minimize the threat of new variants of the virus and fears that vaccines will become less effective. - Ms. Woelzlein

Junior Sam Johnston Completes Eagle Scout Project

By Maximus Prusinowski



Over the last few weeks, Samuel Johnston, a junior, has been making benches for the school in the courtyard. Samuel noticed that some students were sitting on the ground due to a lack of seating during lunch, so he decided to use the concrete tubes as the legs for benches, creating a wider variety of options to choose from. Samuel feels like this is an ideal place since he imagines as the garden begins to develop over the years, students can sit among a forest of greenery. He says, "The project was a lot of fun, although leading it was a bit hard at times..." Sam is currently exploring the possibility of paving the ground there with the gardening club so that it's more accessible to students and to keep some dirt or grime off of them. For any future scouts Sam says that it's better to have a project where you create something useful. With these changes to the school comes a better experience for future students, with a history being developed along with the years. Students are encouraged to create something approved by the headmaster that will last for years, or perhaps even generations, to come.

High School Retreat Cancelled Meme of the Month

By Saloni Godse

Throughout the past few years at NPX, there has been a tradition where the freshman get to go to a retreat in August. This retreat takes place at Lost Canyon, just outside of Williams, AZ. Last year, the retreat was extended to all high-school students and not just the freshmen. This retreat is for making new friends and/or becoming closer with your current friends. During the retreat students usually get to hike, go swimming, zip line into a lake, play pool, ride a giant swing, and partake in many other activities. Our highschool retreat for this year was scheduled to take place in August of 2020 but it was pushed back to April of 2021. Now, due to COVID-19 it was cancelled. This simply means that next year we should make our highschool retreat even more memorable to compensate for this year!

By Scotlyn Mascarelli



On March 10th...

Help Senate raise money for Prom!

How to help: Purchase food from Cane's at 4506 E Cactus Rd. and mention North Phoenix Prep at the checkout. 15% of proceeds will go to our Senate!

See you there!

NPX Junior, Senior Prom 2021

A MOONLIT BALL

April 17th

Arizona Irish Cultural Center and
McClellan Library

Tickets and pricing to be determined soon

\$10

GAMES S'MORES N' MORE!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

PIZZA, YARD GAMES, FIRE-PIT, DRINKS, MUSIC— MASKS REQUIRED

MARCH 6TH

7TH GRADE: 5:00-7:00 PM

8TH GRADE: 7:30-9:30 PM



Gladiator Ticket Rankings

1. VELITES— 487
2. DIMACHAERUS— 372
3. BESTIARI— 353
4. CESTUS— 342
5. SAGITTARIUS— 284
6. EQUITES— 279
7. MURMILLONES— 264
8. PROVOCATOES— 276
9. RETIARRI— 112
10. THRACES— 111

NPX SCIENCE FAIR

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021

NPX MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Awards will be presented to the winner of each category and the grand prize winner.

Category winners will advance to the Arizona State Science and Engineering Fair.

GLADIATOR SALE!!

ALL GLADIATOR STORES ARE BACK OPEN.

SHOW SUPPORT TO YOUR GLADIATOR TEAM AND WEAR UP!



VISIT YOUR TEAM GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR THE LINKS!
STORES OPEN FEB 22-MAR 8

Scan here to read the electronic versions of all of our issues... in color!



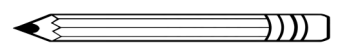
Friday Donuts!

\$2

Proceeds go towards prom

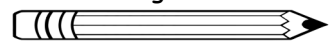
NPX is taking a group of students to Italy in the summer

2022! The trip is open to current 7th-11th grade students. Contact Mr. Herrera or Ms. Coffey for details.



Comic Artists Wanted!

For details, contact the curator of our comic section, Scotlyn Mascarelli, via email at wearinga-masc@gmail.com.



Got news? Email us at npxnewspaper@gmail.com, dm us on Instagram, or talk to a member of our editorial team.