

Brieflies

May 17- Come out and support the Orchestra; concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

May 21- Senior Convocation at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium.

May 28- Memorial Day; celebrate the last day off for this school year.

May 29-31- Make sure to check page 4 for the finals schedule.

June 1- Graduation. Congratulations to all of the seniors- your high school career is finally finished!

Juniors complete PSAE

By: Karin Scott
Future Focus Editor

The time that juniors dread most and seniors look back and sigh in relief on has just passed. This time, of course, is PSAE testing time.

With one and half days off school that the rest of the district does not get to enjoy, testing is the best of times for some, and the worst of times for others.

For once, students can't blame their teachers for giving them the tests. The PSAE is a state mandated test. Every junior in the nation takes the PSAE on the same two days of the school year.

The PSAE is broken into two parts over the two days. On Day One, the school gives the ACT free to each student. If the student has to take the ACT out of school, they have to pay a fee. Day Two is the Prairie State test, which measures the school academically.

The Prairie State test is very important to the school. The results from this test decide whether or not the school is on the

"watch list."

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that each school achieve a certain level of academic accomplishment.

This means the school has to increase by 7.5 points on both the math and the English portions of the test each year. If the school fails to increase they are put on the watch list.

To boost the attitude of students, incentives are being offered for the first time this year. Mr. Koeller said, "The juniors who meet or exceed in both the math and English portions of the Prairie State tests will be rewarded."

There will be a designated day off school during the senior year for the juniors who meet or exceed these requirements.

Also, all students who meet or exceed will be put into a raffle with prizes from places such as Best Buy.

According to Principal Koeller, the district is stepping in the right direction to make Moline High School academically excellent.



Co-valedictorians John Scott and Jason Doh contemplate homework that led to their success. (Photo by Patel)

Valedictorians tie for elite honors

By: Mohammed Hussain
Future News Editor

This year John Scott and Jason Doh received the title of valedictorian.

John Scott has distinguished himself as an all around academic throughout his high school career. A desire for more knowledge propelled John into his involvement in Academic Team.

Jason Doh has also shown a devotion to academics while at Moline High School. Jason has been involved in tennis throughout his high school career. Also, Jason's well-rounded talents led him to be elected as National Honor Society president.

Although these students take on an abnormal amount of schoolwork, they still manage to maintain a genial attitude. For example, Jason Doh is often seen eating Cheese Nips in science while John jokingly makes impressions from various episodes of Family Guy. It is apparent that John and Jason will be missed not only as a handy resource on that Calculus assignment but also as an important part of Moline High School.

Freshman Academy ready next year

By: Bonny Jain
News Reporter

As a part of the Smaller Learning Communities (SLC) program, Moline High School will be starting its Freshman Academy in the academic year of 07-08.

The goal of the Freshman Academy is to create closer and smaller learning groups and form stronger bonds among peers and teachers. This will be achieved by keeping freshmen with the same group of classmates in the four core classes. Non-core classes are not included in the Freshman Academy.

There has been a mixed reaction among MHS students and staff to the implementation of the Freshman Academy. Ms. Sasha Sausedo, a social studies teacher, says, "We are very excited about being a part of the Freshman

Academy and are looking forward to implementing the new World Studies course."

However, the exclusion of sophomores and upperclassmen from freshman core classes has caused some problems. For example, five current freshmen, who had planned to take Accelerated Geometry (a freshman core math class) as sophomores, are not being allowed.

Adam Zahn, one of these five, claims that adding five sophomores isn't enough to disrupt the freshmen's education.

Freshman Academies were initially implemented in colleges to help high school students make the transition to college life and academics.

The academies have become popular in high schools across the nation to ease the shift from middle school to high

school. They have proven to be effective methods for easing the strain that comes along with being a new face in a new place. Many freshman are glad that they are able to easily transition into MHS.

Local school districts have experience Moline can take advantage of. Freshman academies have already been implemented in two other schools in Rock Island county: United Township and Rock Island High School.

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