

# **MONARCHS SOAR THROUGH HOMECOMING**

by Piper Simpson, Khloe Vahling, and Brenda Rose Homecoming week kicked off on September 19, and this is a week to just let loose and have some fun at school while celebrating being a Monarch.

Junior high students didn't participate in all of the activities of the week, but Tuesday community time was spent playing games organized by Student Council. Thursday activities were kicked off with a pep rally in the afternoon followed by home sports competitions for junior high volleyball and football. That evening included the bonfire. Friday students dressed in extreme blue and white to show their school spirit and participated in the Homecoming parade and cheering on the Monarchs at the football game.

Raegan Allen (8) enjoyed the week, "I think Homecoming went great, and I had a lot of fun with my friends." Another way

that junior high students were involved this year was by playing in the band. Grant Nehls (7) shared, "We had to work harder than ever for preparing the band, but having Mr. Hernandez work with us at Lewis Field was awesome! My favorite activity was when I got to be in the parade for TMP." Emily Hipp (8) agreed, "I enjoyed marching in the parade and hanging out with friends at the football game"

Alumni are invited back for reunions in 5-year increments. Alumni are invited on campus as well as asked to participate in the parade and other activities throughout the weekend. Mary Lang, Alumni Office Manager, said, "There are usually approximately 800 to 1,000 alumni that attend these reunion parties. I would love to see the school host an all alumni get-together for alumni from all classes to attend on the school campus every year." Finding a place or potentially being able to secure funds to renovate the 4th floor for these types of gatherings would be wonderful.

Homecoming is a great time for current and past students of TMP-M to share theirschool spirit and love of being a Monarch!



Lydia Balthazor (7), Katie Herrman (7), Brynn Schoepf (7), Addison Mader (8), Francie Bittle (7), and Paige Koenigsman (7) show school spirit during Homecoming week. Students were able to dress in extreme blue and white that Friday. -Photo by Brenda Rose

### **BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH BRINGS SCHOOLS TOGETHER**

by Nash Dreiling & Colby Schmeidler Hays Catholic Schools, which consists of TMP-M & Holy Family Elementary, held a Back 2 School Bash on August 19, 2022. Fa-

Back 2 School Bash on August 19, 2022. Father Andy Hammeke (chaplain) kicked off the evening by leading the group in a blessing on the TMP -M campus.

The event had a variety of activities for all ages. There were bouncy houses, high school sports scrimmages, laser tag, mechanical bull riding, cotton candy, foam glow street dance, watermelon, ice cream, snowcones, hot dogs, 9 square, a DJ by Buzz Entertainment, & face painting. Kim Stoecklein (Advancement Office) helps organize the event each year. She said this year's attendance was greater than last year.

Evangeline Robinson (7) said her favorite part of the night was the dunk tank. "I liked how my friends and I raced in the bounce house and I got a mystery rubber burn. I also liked the bull and how I fell off every time," Robinson said. Next year, she would like for students to have a chance to be dunked. Jacob Seib (8) said his favorite part was playing basketball with water bottles on the side of the bouncy house. He suggested a basketball game be an addition to next year's event. Geralyn Stein (7) helped with the face painting this year as a junior high cheerleader, "It was fun to see what different things everyone got like tigers, butterflies, lions, hearts, etc."

Amy Church (event coordinator) said,

"There were more kids than the previous year. There were kids from all grade levels. The mechanical bull, bounce houses, and rock climbing wall were a big hit this year." Amy's favorite thing about the Back 2 School Bash was watching the kids run around & play with each other. Amy is looking forward to planning the next one. As always, additional volunteers help lighten the load and make the evening a success.

To conclude the evening, the Advancement Office drew for prizes. Teachers donated items that were raffled off as well as local businesses. The big prize was an iPad which was won by the Cody Marintzer family. Thanks to the many sponsors that helped make this memorable event happen!

soul...heart...body...monarchs

# **IT'S A MATTER OF OPINION**

## FUND THE FIELD

#### by Layne Dorzweiler

TMP-M is a wonderful school, but the students and faculty have noticed the football field could use some updates. The current field lacks a track for running, and there are no bleachers for visitors when attending junior high football games. After talking with students and teachers at TMP, maybe there is a way to make some changes.

Why haven't updates happened to the track and field yet? There are two main reasons. One reason is water. Water has been an issue in maintaining a lush and green field. The school is located inside the city of Hays, which Monarch Madness tickets. has water restrictions to help residents conserve water. The lack of water on the field has made several dead areas and lots of problems with stickers. Another major factor is cost. Creating a new track and artificial field could cost up to two million dollars, not counting a new scoreboard and bleachers.

TMP-M principal, Mr. Chad Meitner, said, "As a Catholic school, we rely on donations from others and we only get what is needed for the school." He noted that ferent interests, so do faculty and staff members. Mrs. the school would benefit with an update to the field, so perhaps students could fundraise. Football player Joey Dintino (8) also commented that it would be a good idea to various places would be fun!" to raise funds to put towards updates.

would like to help make some changes to better improve the TMP track and field. Even faculty and coaches are willing to help out to make the facility a better use for students and fans. The need is there, so perhaps the time is now to help make some changes to the track and football field.

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Circulation	Staff	
Advisor	Brenda Rose	dle Answer: Memories

# **A MOMENT OF ENTERTAINMENT**

#### by Lydia Balthazor

Do you think TMP-Marian Junior High needs more school organizations? Let's see what students and faculty have to say!

While adding many new clubs sounds like a fun idea, there are many guidelines needed to start a new club. "If students have a new club idea, the first step is to bring it to administration. The Administration Team will then take their request and determine if the club is approved," Mrs. Melissa Schoepf stated. While it may seem daunting to fund the group, it's as easy as selling

What clubs would students be interested in? "If I added a club, I would have a fishing club that everyone could join," said Nash Dreiling (7). "I would like to meet on Saturday afternoons." Brynn Rebel (8) responded, "I would add a cooking club, but members would have to cook without making a mess. We would probably meet once or twice a week depending on the food or project we are doing." In addition to students having many dif-Schoepf said, "I love reading, so I would be a part of a book club. I also love traveling, so being able to travel

Having more organizations can result in more of a so-In talking with other players, they too agreed that they cial life with different people. We can make new friends or hang out with the ones we have. It's also a great way to start a morning or end a day! It would be great to see the types and variety of clubs grow and expand based on student interests.



(Above) A group of junior high girls pose in front of the mechanical bull ride. This year's Back 2 School Bash offered many different, new activities, mechanical bull riding being one of them. -Photo by Hannah Rose

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(Below) Colby Schmeidler (7), Alec Gerstner (7), Dylan Billinger (7), and Kenneth Walker (7) take time out of the night to smile and show off some of their face paint. The Back 2 School Bash is a great way to bring together students at the beginning of the school year. -Photo by Brenda Rose



# SPOOKTACULAR EVENTS

### I WANNA ROCK!

by Maddy Dintino & Evangeline Robinson

The Halloween dance and door decorating are two events sponsored by TMP-M Junior High Student Council in October to celebrate Halloween.

The Halloween dance is filled with dancing, food, and fun. It takes place October 27, 2022, from 8-10 pm in the Canteen. There will be a costume contest for the best group costume or individual as well as other contests. Mr. Jason Casper (science) will be the DJ for the night. He is excited about the night, "My favorite part of being involved in the dance is being able to have fun with the junior high and just being able to be there is amazing." The students are also very excited about the dance. Emily Hipp (8) said, "I am most excited to see everyone's costumes and see all the cool decorations at the dance." For the 7th graders, this is their first dance and fun night experience. Enzo

## IMPACTING THE COMMUNITY

by Francie Bittle, Mia Lee, & Hailey Robben

TMP-M Junior High Student Council held a food drive for St. Joseph's Food Pantry in September.

Communities competed against each other to collect the most items, and Mrs. Rhoda Urban's won. Students also exceeded their goal of collecting 450 items. While competition is fun, the real reason for the activity is to get students involved with more than just the school community, but our town.

Mrs. Rose McFarland (P.E. and health) is one of the leaders of STUCO, and she said, "I think service is an important part of life, and if we could instill that in our student body, then that is something that might last us a lifetime." Carson Pinkney (8) said, "The junior high students learn the life skill of almsgiving. They also learn how to be better people." Adi Gottschalk (7) said, "This activity is a great opportunity to help people."

If anyone ever wants to volunteer at the pantry, you can go to Kennedy every first or third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.



8th grade Student Council members gather the food collected. These students then took the food to the St. Joseph's Food Pantry to stock shelves. -Photo by Brenda Rose Acosta (7) stated, "I think it will be fun and filled with activities."

The second event going on in October is the door decorating contest. Each community is given two doors to decorate. Students will spend the next few weeks preparing their door decorations, and then they will be judged on Thursday, October 27th. Adalie Kippes (8) stated, "The door decorating contest is very fun because it's a competition between the other classrooms, which is cool." An added bonus for the door decorating this year is that TMP-M students will welcome young trick-or-treaters from 4-6 pm on Halloween for Monarch Masquerade.

Overall the students are excited about both of the activities. 7th graders will experience something new this year and have lots of fun, and the 8th graders are looking forward to these events once again.

# CREATING COMMUNITY

by Adi Gottschalk & Emma Wasinger TMP-M Junior High communities participated in teambuilding activities the morning of August 18, 2022.

TMP-M students' team building activities were filled with activities that gave the opportunity for 7th and 8th graders to interact and to get to know one another. Adalie Kippes (8) said, "I do think I learned more about my community members. I knew all the 8th graders but it was nice to learn and interact with the new 7th graders."

Smoky Hill was asked to come in and help facilitate the activities. There were games of various types, all designed to get groups working together and communicating. Hannah Rose (8) said, "My favorite activity was the marble race because it was a good opportunity to work with new people in our community." Lane Geist (7) said, "My favorite game was when we had to get the bucket out of the middle without touching it."

Communities will continue to do team building. Jack Stoecklein (7) said, "In the beginning of the year, my community had a lot of trouble working together. As the weeks go by, we are learning to include everyone in our community no matter how good they are at something."

These activities really grew stronger bonds between community members.

#### by Jack Stoecklein

It's the final countdown! The drama team at TMP-M is performing Rock of Ages on November 3rd, 5th, and the 6th.

Director Mr. Travis Grizzell has decided Rock of Ages will be the perfect musical this year. While this production has many high school students involved, there is also a group of junior high students that will be performing and helping backstage.

Theater is a very inclusive group. Many people are just starting their interest in theater. "This is my first year being in a musical," said Hannah Rose (8). However, theater is definitely not an easy hobby. Evan Staab (7) said, "The hardest part I wasn't expecting is all of the dance moves. In Rock of Ages I am in a lot more songs than I expected, but it is still really fun to learn the moves."

Theater seems to take a small village of people to pull off. The cast and crew have put in an extreme amount of time to perfect this. We encourage you to make a show - it's going to be "WILD, WILD, WILD."!

### LEADERS ATTEND CONFERENCE

by Paige Koenigsman

In September, the TMP-M Junior High STUCO officers attended a conference in Plainville, Kansas, to improve their leadership, sociality, and public speaking skills.

During the conference, they interacted with other schools and learned a lot about what they do differently. The officers got to take part in activities and listen to a speaker. One activity included the officers having a scavenger hunt to find some similar qualities of others. After the activities they moved on to the speech where the speaker addressed how to be a good leader, how to be an outgoing public speaker, and how to become a more social person.

This was a great opportunity for our junior high leaders to meet with students from other schools to gain new ideas and activities that can be used here at school.



STUCO Officers Hannah Rose (8), Bria Windholz (8), Logan Dail (8), and Mattias Marintzer (8) pose with the speaker, Tei Street, from the conference. -Photo by Tei Street

### WELCOME, MONARCHS!

#### by Blakely Seib

TMP-M Junior High welcomed Isaac Loving (7), Graesyn Baxter (8), Ariadne Robles (8), and Marie Effa (8) to the TMP family this school year.

Along with welcoming the 7th graders coming to TMP-M from Holy Family Elementary, the junior high also welcomed four new junior high students. Loving transferred from Hays Middle School, and Baxter and Robles were also previously in attendance at HMS. Effa moved to Hays from Nigeria and transferred from Surefoot International School in Calabar.

When asked what they like about TMP so far, these students said the kind people, the classes, and more importantly, the spiritual activities. Loving says that the classes seem long to him; however, Effa thinks they are perfect. Another thing that they liked was the lunch. "Pizza is my favorite," Baxter said. Effa chimed in that she enjoys the cookies. Each of these students is also finding ways to get involved. Loving says that football has been his favorite activity so far. Effa says she likes doing Monarch music. Making friends is something some new students can struggle with, but according to Robles, "It was easy to make friends." All of the others agreed.

With the kind people, tasty lunches, fun activities, and spiritual enrichment, TMP-M Junior High is a great place to go to learn. TMP-M Junior High is very excited to have all of our students with us this year, but it is always especially exciting to welcome new faces!



Graesyn Baxter



Ariadne Robles



Marie Effa



Isaac Loving

### **TECH UPGRADE**

by Zack Billinger & Ethan Gibson

TMP-M Junior High students recently got new touchscreen Chromebooks for school.

The Chromebooks' touchscreens, are fast, and they are easy to use. I.T. Director, Mr. Scott Brown said, "The new Chromebook gives access to new tools, and it's more efficient."

The Chromebooks are very popular with the students. Logan Dail (8) said, "I think the new Chromebooks are a lot nicer than the old ones; they are faster in some ways than the old ones." Evelyn Schmidt said, "I really like the touch screens, and they aren't as slow." Geralyn Stein (7) agreed, "My favorite part is that the Chromebooks are bigger and easier to see, but also doing assignments is easier."

In all, the new Chromebooks have been much appreciated. Students need to assure they handle them with care. It is the hope to continuously upgrade technology every four years or so, but that always depends on the funding and availability of devices.

### CONCERT FOR HOPE by Aydan Church & Ava Flynn

The Concert for Hope, headlined by Eric Genuis and his renowned musicians, entertained TMP-M on September 22.

Mr. Chad Meitner (principal) received a call about some musicians that would be visiting Hays and wanted to perform for the students of TMP-M.

Miss Jennie Helget (math) liked the positive messages shared. She also liked when Mr. Genuis made us feel differently each time the story about the father and daughter was told. Miss Helget said, "Different music really can affect your emotions and thoughts!" Mariana Valencia (8) said, "I was fascinated by the quick movement of the violinist's fingers." Thomas Meagher (7) said, "I enjoyed the concert as well, and I particularly enjoyed listening to Mr. Genuis relate his music to his daughter and how it helps her to cope in different situations."

You can visit www.ericgenuis.com to learn about Mr. Genuis's music as well as his ministry.

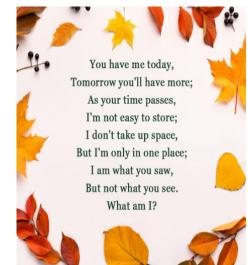
### UNITED THROUGH CLUBS

by Kobe Linenberger & Evan Staab

This fall, TMP-M Junior High students have been challenged to get involved in at least one activity or club this school year.

Junior high is a great time to become involved and try new things. Mrs. Melissa Schoepf (principal) said, "Clubs are an opportunity to build relationships and do fun activities that benefit everyone." Marie Effa (8) said, "I am in Monarch Music and the activities I like doing there are singing and doing practice. Something that I like

### **RIDDLE ME THIS**



Answer on Pg. 2

**DUGH CLUBS** to do outside of school is play the piano." Leo Billinger (7) is also becoming involved, "I am in Scholars Bowl, Science Olympiad, and Robotics. The things I like doing are building things, sorting Legos, and doing coding." Mrs. Becky Fox (counselor) said, "The clubs we have at TMP are to allow kids to engage in things that they enjoy and get

The clubs at TMP-Marian can help everyone enjoy and showcase their talents.

to socialize with other people."

### **CHEER ATTENDS CAMP**

by Delanie Sanders & Geralyn Stein

Cheerleaders from TMP-M Junior High traveled to Hoisington on September 2, 2022, for a cheer camp.

Camp allowed the girls to receive instruction from different people. "I thought it was cool having coaches from all over the country, and I liked seeing what other teams can do," said Maddy Dintino (7).

Coach Denise Weigel said, "I think it was a great opportunity to just learn more cheers and more stunts, just kind of a great experience for you to see."

The squad learned teamwork, became closer, and had a good time overall. They will be sharing some of these new cheers and stunts at basketball games soon as well as preparing for competition.

### MEET THE NEW MONARCH LINEUP

#### by Carson Ditter



Ms. Rhonda Windholz has joined TMP-M faculty as a resource room teacher.

Before joining TMP-M, Ms. Windholz taught in Olathe and at O'Loughlin prior to that. Students have enjoyed get-

ting to know Ms. Windholz. Anoir Vargas (8) said, "It's fun, you learn about different stuff, and you get better and better." Ryleigh Byer (7) described Windholz as happy, interesting, and positive.

Teaching at various grade levels is the most difficult part of her job; however, there are many things she enjoys. "My favorite thing about teaching at TMP-M is the ability to incorporate religion into our school day," Ms. Windholz stated.

In her free time, Windholz enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren and gardening. Fun fact - Windholz's favorite food is a hamburger and fries from the Golden Q. She loves being at TMP and looks forward to the future as a Monarch!

#### by Brynn Schoepf & Cade Schlautman



TMP-M Junior High welcomed a new computer teacher for the 8th grade this school year, Mr. John Linn.

Mr. Linn teaches other subjects like business for high school students in addition to his 8th

grade computer class. So far he is teaching the kids how to type, use docs, and sheets. His class is very helpful for when you get to college and want to start a business.

Addison Mader (8) said, "I like Mr. Linn because he is a good teacher, and he knows how to deal with kids. He likes to have fun and not just give us assignments everyday." Mattias Marinzer (8) said, "I would recommend his class; it is good for you to learn about all the topics of computers." Mr. Linn said, "I've enjoyed my time here so far. I've had quite a bit of experience as a teacher and as an administrator. So for the last 15 years, I have been an administrator and wanted to get back into teaching and this job opened up. I had a great opportunity to come here."

The TMP-M family is excited to have Mr. Linn onboard.

by Faith Schmeidler



Mrs. Kelly Hutchison is a new paraeducator at TMP-M Junior High.

Mrs. Hutchison enjoys TMP-M because the students and faculty are always so polite, work well together, and are always here to help. Stu-

dents are also very glad she is here. Geralyn Stein (7) said, "Ms. Hutchison is outgoing and tries to make sure we all understand by helping." Stein also said Ms. Hutchison will take time out of her day to explain something to them. Stein said, "She has made this school year more enjoyable by smiling; it creates a warm and welcoming environment." Easton Ditter (7) echoed, "I enjoy having her as a para because she is very patient and caring and makes sure we get our things done on time."

Ms. Hutchison has already affected so many kids' lives for the better. Students enjoy the happy environment she creates. Thank you for your helping hands and cheerful personlity, Mrs. Hutchison!

by Carson Kraus & Isaac Loving



Mr. Hector Hernandez has joined TMP-M as the band director. Mr. Hernandez moved to Kansas from California as a child. "I didn't really have any friends when I first came to Kansas. I made most of

my friends that I went to high school with in band at Fort Riley Middle School. Ever since then, band just kind of grew on me, and I wanted band to be like a little safe haven for everyone," said Mr. Hernandez. He attended FHSU then moved to Dodge City where he was teaching before coming to TMP-M. His family moved back to Hays for his wife to finish her degree.

Paige Koenigsman (7) said, "I think this year has been fun because we've already gotten to play for different events and I know there are still more to come." Trevor Fabrizius (8) shared that Mr. Hernandez helps make kids understand the music and makes his class enjoyable.

Mr. Hernandez has been busy with marching band as well as playing for the home football games. We look forward to hearing many great things from the band! by Nathan Ochoa and Brenda Rose



Mrs. Jill Windholz is the second half of the Windholz duo that has joined the TMP-M faculty this year in the resource room.

Mrs. Windholz previously taught in Ellsworth for 18 years;

however, she is no stranger to the area. She grew up in Victoria, so returning to the area to teach at TMP-M got her closer to family.

Mrs. Windholz has worked hard this school year to establish a relationship with her students and to build them up to be more successful in learning and in their creative skills. Jennie Helget (math) has noticed Mrs. Windholz's positive energy, "I have found Jill to be a conscientious teacher from providing a physically inviting classroom space to making sure students have the academic help they need."

In her free time, Mrs. Windholz likes to go running and read books. Above all else, she enjoys spending time with her family.

### CHARGING INTO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR by Thomas Meagher & Marcus Stahl

As the Monarchs returned for a new

school year, excitement filled the air. Most of the junior high students have become accustomed to school life, from unlocking locks quicker to getting used to the new work they have to do. Carson Kraus (7)

said, "I have gotten better at managing my

time and getting to my classes quicker." This year, one change is the addition of one new community, Mr. Caper's Saint Dymphna Community. The purpose of the new community is to lower the number of students in each community so teachers and students get to know each other better.

Football, volleyball, and cross country all had good seasons. Lydia Balthazor (7) said, "I really like having school sports. I love being able to be with my friends and have more competition." Clubs and other things are different and more enjoyable this year because most Covid restirctions are now gone. Brayden Staley-Herman (8), said, "This year seems way more interactive than last year in many ways, like more activities in STUCO."

All in all, the new school year is going to be a good year.

# **BUILDING A CULTURE**

by Enzo Acosta, Lane Geist, & Kenneth Walker TMP-M Junior High football has been on a stampede through the MCEL. They ended the season 7-0, their second consecutive undefeated season.

The season started off strong defeating the Norton Bluejays. The rest of the year, the team dominated everyone in the league. Strong line play led by Gus Corsair (8) and Tanner Geist (8) set the tone of games with their physicality and toughness, clearing a path. Braxton Basgall (8), Max Gerstner (8), Jacob Seib (8), and Joey Dintino (8) ran over and around the competition. Corsair said, "What I liked the most about football season was being around my friends and just playing ball. I like to play o-line the most because you get to pancake people. I think this year everyone grew in their football skills and weight room strength. My favorite memory from this year was when Tanner got a touchdown against Plainville."

Next year the team will remain in good hands with many 7th graders returning. Talon Sander (7) said, "The biggest game of this year was definitely when we played Smith Center and we won 48-0. I love the sport in general."

The team was led by head coach Joe Dintino, assistant coach Ray Becker, and assistant coach Austin Tatro. Dintino enjoys coaching because of his dad and many other great coaches who instilled a lot of life lessons.

He said, "When I got older, I realized what an impact those men had on me and wanted to coach." Coach Tatro also shares a love for the game, "The reason I like football so much is because it is a team aspect, bringing a bunch of kids together for a common goal and watching them build on their efforts every day. I hope we can continue to build on what we've done the last couple of years and continue to build a culture of success and confidence." Coach Becker attributed success to 8th grade leadership, "I think they stepped up and showed the 7th graders the different schemes, plays, and corrected them in a way that wasn't intimidating."

Congratulations on a successful season, TMP-M Junior High football! The future of Monarch football looks bright.



Gabe Atherton (8) sacks the Plainville quarterback. TMP-M went on to defeat Plainville 38-6 at home.

-Photo by Brenda Rose

# SET IT UP FOR SUCCESS

by Katie Herrman & Avery Montgomery TMP-M Junior High volleyball had a very successful season that ended with winning the MCEL tournament championship on October 10, 2022, at Norton High School.

The A team was undefeated in the league with an overall record of 22-5 on the season. The B team was 12-7 on the season while the C team finished 8-9. All three teams were led by new coaches this year with Adrienne Carr leading the A team, Makayla Beirman coaching the B team, and Miss Sianna Miller leading the C team. The volleyball girls worked well with the new coaches this year and made them feel welcomed.

Coaches were happy with how well all the students worked and behaved. Carr said, "My favorite thing about the students is that we have so many different personalities and so many big characters. I like seeing how we all work together and how each one brings something different to our team. We've seen a lot of improvement from learning the basics, to putting it all together, and then working together to put it in game situations. Each team has definitely taken big leaps in growth and been successful in their own ways." The players had a good time at practice and bus trips to the away games. Faith Schmeidler (7) said, "My favorite thing we did at practice is when we played queens all together." Addison Mader (8) said, "My favorite part about being a setter is that I get to set other people up for amazing kills." Everyone thought the season went well. "I think the season went pretty well even though we had some tough competition," said Emma Wasinger (7).

Congrats to the 8th graders on their second consecutive league championship; TMP-M is proud of you!



Jules Fleenor (8) and Evey Schmidt (7) smile after finishing the home cross country meet. There were only two girls out for cross country this year, one in each grade level.

### -Photo by Brenda Rose SPRINT TO THE END

by Leo Billinger & Evey Schmidt

The TMP-M Junior High cross country team finished out an intense fall season. Credit should be given to their coach, Mr. Cody Marintzer, as he helped them learn how to safely train and practice.

This year there were six 8th grade runners and two 7th grade runners. Ernest Pfeifer (8) learned to include prayer in his daily preparations. Just like in other sports, there are obstacles, mental and physical. Coach Marintzer said, "Very often we get new athletes who don't know what they can accomplish. By the end of the season, everyone has become better than they thought in many ways and have often done better than they thought was possible."

Mattias Marintzer (8) said, "I am sad the season is over, as I had a lot of fun this year." These runners face many weather challenges throughout the season. Coach Marintzer said, "One of my favorite meets was the Norton meet. This is because it was beautiful running weather. To top it off, many of our athletes set personal records. It is a wonderful thing to see people reach their potential."

The camaraderie built among team members in cross country each season is evident in the way that they cheer each other on and encourage one another. Congratulations to our Monarch runners on a successful season!



Hailey Robben (7) digs the ball in a good defensive play while Emma Wasinger (7) looks on, ready to assist. The C team girls went on to beat Salina Sacred Heart in two sets.

Photo by Brenda Rose