



HOLYOKE DRAGON TIMES

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HOMECOMING PEP RALLY AND NAME THE DRAGON

Everyone had Pep by Sawyer Sigler

HOLYOKE CO- It was homecoming week at the Dragon Den! The parade was amazing, and the floats were designed beautifully this year. The parade ended in the park with the start of the pep rally. The pep rally was crazy, and the people were going wild with excitement. The cheerleaders riled up the crowd. The pep rally was the first time the cheerleaders got to show off their new uniforms to the public, and the cheerleaders looked great in them. Everyone was super excited for the football and volleyball game against Highland. The coach's speeches were inspirational. The coaches for football, volleyball, and softball all made speeches. They were motivational and spoke about the season and how well the teams were working together. During the pep rally, *The Dragon Times* announced the Dragon mascot's name, Spike. There were a lot of people in the crowd there to support the sports players and the community. During the pep rally, the cheerleaders took four students from each class to play a game where they passed flour backward and over their heads. By the time it was over, everyone was covered in with a fine white dust. The sophomores were the flour champions. The band played and excited the audience. They were spectacular. By the end of the pep rally, volleyball, football, and softball players were ready for their homecoming games and the crowd was pumped up

Spike the Dragon by Dahira Marquez

HOLYOKE CO - The Dragon's name has been chosen! The new name for our mascot, the Holyoke Dragon, is Spike! Spike enjoys spending time with little kids. He loves going to school events to show his school spirit! The person behind the dragon didn't really have a reaction when the seniors asked him to be the dragon but now is really enjoying it! The person in the suit says it isn't hard to not talk to people. "Being the dragon is fun but tiring," says the mystery person in the dragon suit. If he could, Spike would update the costume and make it less baggy and more muscular. Spike didn't really have a preferred name and loves his new one! The person behind the dragon says it's fun to be the mascot and will be doing it for years to come.

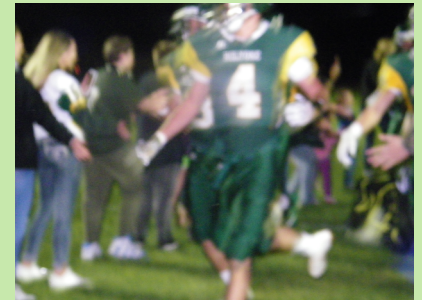


SPORTS

Football Game

By Ben Kleve

HOLYOKE CO- On Friday, September 27th, the Holyoke Dragon's high school football team defeated the Highland Huskies 24 to 21. The excitement started before the game even began. The local Medi-vac helicopter flew the game ball into the center of the football field where Dragons received it to cheers of the crowd. The Dragons kicked off the first quarter by putting 14 points on the scoreboard while shutting down the Highland Huskies' attempts to score. The second quarter brought misfortune to the Dragons as the Huskies scored 6 points, missing the extra point. Our mascot Dragon, Spike, enjoyed playing with kids in the crowd during the game. His favorite part of the game was banging the touchdown drum to get the crowd into the action. After the half-time break, the Dragons were unable to keep the Huskies from scoring 8 more points and only putting three on the scoreboard themselves. The fourth quarter was a nail biter as both teams scored a touchdown and made the extra points. Luckily the Dragons had put up points early in the game and did not get behind.



Volleyball Game

By Karlie Martin

HOLYOKE CO- Finally the night we have all been waiting for ... homecoming! The Holyoke Lady Dragons played against Highland on Friday, September 27th. Spike the Dragon mascot was on hand to get the crowd excited. The Dragons won three sets out of four. In the first set, it was back and forth to get ahead by the 2 points you need to win the game. The crowd was oohing and ahing with excitement. We pulled through to get the last point and won the game! Holyoke had a little miscommunication on the court but they pulled together in the end to get that win. Everyone was so excited! The seniors were so happy they won their last homecoming game! The JV and C teams won as well. Overall, it was a great night, and the Dragons walked away celebrating a hard fight win.



THEME DAYS

Theme Days

By: Isaiah Rueter

HOLYOKE CO- What is homecoming? A homecoming event is held at a school or college which is most likely a celebration of a football game in which alumni are invited. At Holyoke High School, homecoming is a week-long celebration. Events include float building, homecoming Olympics, a parade, a pep rally, volleyball, ending with the football game Friday night and the dance Saturday night. One thing everyone gets to participate in is the theme days. They were as follows: Monday- Pajama Day, Tuesday- Twin Day, Wednesday- Superhero Day, Thursday- Class Color Day, Friday- Green and Gold Day.



Homecoming Fun

HOMECOMING ROYALTY BY LAYNA WEAR

HOLYOKE CO - At the football game on Friday, the homecoming king and queen were chosen--Michael Ramos and Shianne Willimon. The other candidates were Slaten Burris and Emily Jelden and Luis Chifano and Josie Herman. Homecoming originated with alumni returning to their colleges for support of the football team. Many schools used it as a fundraising event for the alumni. High schools soon followed the colleges' lead and adopted the homecoming tradition. Colleges and high schools use homecoming as an event to welcome back those who have graduated while celebrating those currently attending. In a small community like ours, homecoming becomes a community-wide event.

The highlight of homecoming (next to football) is the election of homecoming royalty. The homecoming court is usually made up of seniors elected by their classmates.



Homecoming Olympics By Emma Sprague

HOLYOKE CO-As the olympics began, everyone to put their best game face on. When the seniors would take the lead, the juniors would follow just right behind. Just as they are so close to winning the seniors buzz in just before them. Although everyone wants to win only the most determined will take the win. The competitive seniors rush, trying their hardest to win one game, giving nobody any mercy. Then, out of nowhere the freshman start busting out their best moves. Slowly it comes time for the powderpuff, the senior boys take the win in volleyball. With all that the Olympics have come to an end with our seniors as our winners. In the end, seniors always win.



HOMEcoming DECORATIONS

By Elly Brown

HOLYOKE CO- Decorating for homecoming is a great way to show school spirit. From drawing on windows to gluing decorations on walls and taping posters on lockers-- our students have done a great job of showing their school pride. Parents have even helped decorate lockers and hallways to celebrate homecoming with their kids. Each class got to decorate their own section of the front entrance windows to the high school commons. Classes even got to decorate the pillars in the commons with tissue paper, posters, and colored poster board. In the past each highschool class got to decorate their own entire hall but that soon got repealed due to the upkeep of our school and a fire marshall's concern for safety. This hasn't stopped our highschool students from showing off their school spirit with their artistic abilities.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. Dalton

By: Krista Noffsinger

HOLYOKE CO- Many of the students in Holyoke were not born when Mrs. Dalton began teaching. Mrs. Dalton has been working here at Holyoke Junior/Senior High School for 15 years and has been teaching for 37 years altogether. During the interview, I asked her what had inspired her to become a teacher and she had said she was inspired by her father Max Dalton who was also an educator and principal for 36 years, yet she also was inspired by her own music teacher Mr. Jeffrey Davis. Her favorite memory from all of her years working here is when Brendan Mayden was a 3rd grader and he had told her a joke that was super inappropriate both her and Brendan didn't understand. She went to school for 4 years plus one semester to get her music education degree from UNC. Her favorite part about teaching here is watching her students perform at concerts and seeing them feel so very proud of themselves for taking that risk in front of an audience and being amazing performers, hearing kids make music every day, and getting to start with Kindergarten and teaching them through HS.

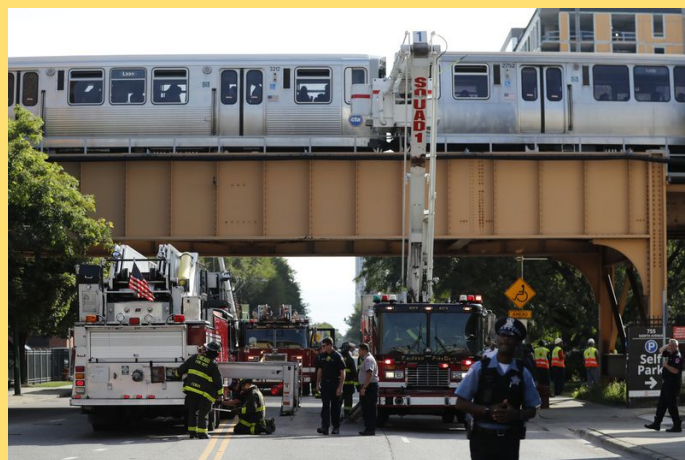
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BREAKING NEWS

Two Trains

By: Estrella Quintana

CHICAGO IL -According to [Chicago Tribune](#), two of the line trains were halted near the Sedwick Street station on a Tuesday morning at 9:15 AM. The CTA had announced that 2 trains may have collided as explained by the passengers. Brian Steele, a CTA spokesman, announced a southbound Brown and Purple line have collided with a southbound, north of the Sedgwick station. The CTA chief, officer Donald Bonds was at the scene that afternoon after the trains began to move again, saying that the investigation was "ongoing" and he could not yet tell whether there was contact between the two trains. After all, all 14 people were taken to a nearby hospital to be checked and treated, all being in a good, fair, condition, as the fire department had said.



JEFFEREY ESPINOZA

By Katie Marshall

HOLYOKE CO-Jeffrey Espinoza is a freshman at Holyoke Highschool. He likes being a student here, he just says it could be better. Jeffrey says the difference between 8th grade and 9th grade is that you have no time to mess around and that every second counts when it comes to paying attention. His favorite class and his best subject is science. Jeffrey's goals for the future are to be in college football and eventually make it to the NFL. His advice to someone struggling in school would be, "just focus and don't think about it too much."



ELISE KROGMEIER

By Anna Hayes

HOLYOKE CO- Elise Krogmeier is a new freshman at Holyoke High School. I asked her if anything felt different from junior high and she said that being a freshman is harder and more complicated, but you have some more freedom and have more fun. She said that being recognized as a freshman is new, different and exciting. Elise said she is excited to be part of high school activities such as homecoming and the Homecoming Olympics. She said that sports are much more serious and harder than they were in junior high sports. I asked her if she was in any extracurriculars and she said no, but she is considering being in the musical.



BREAKING NEWS

Texas Teen Collapses and Dies in His Twin Brother's Arms

By Areli Murillo

LEWISVILLE TX- Sixteen-year-old Texas football player, Deshaud Williams, collapsed and died in his twin brother's arms Friday night while playing tag. Deshaud was the defensive tackle on Lewisville High School's junior varsity football team. Friday night, Deshaud was running around with family and friends in a parking lot when he told his twin brother, Dashaud, that he was out of breath. They started jogging a bit more and when Deshaud said "Da, I can't breathe." When Dashaud was running to him Deshaud fell to his knees and fell back. Dashaud quickly called the police and emergency responders got there minutes later according to a GoFundMe account made by his family. Shortly after, Deshaud Williams was pronounced dead in his twin's arms on the way to the hospital. The police department said an autopsy was underway, there were no signs of foul play. His family suspects a cardiac arrest, even though he was said to be in good health by a school physical earlier this year. His mother, Razel Sheppard, said her son's untimely death was "a big mystery." "He's never been sick. He was a healthy all-around kid," she told NBC Dallas-Fort Worth. "Hopefully we'll get answers." According to NBC News, the family's GoFundMe page said Deshaud was an honor student, he was working at a pizzeria to save up for a car and had dreams to be a chef. "He was an industrious, reliable, sweet, kind and caring young man with a bright future," the GOFundMe page said. Sunday night, a lot of people gathered at a Lewisville park to release red balloons in honor of Deshaud Williams according to NBC News.

