

CLASSROOM CORNER

Two students chosen as Panthers of the Month

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SPENCER — The harder you work, the more success and fun you will have in all aspects of school, as the latest David Prouty High School Panthers of the Month discovered early in their careers.

Jordan Kelley and Joshua Perron were selected as January's Panthers of the Month.

Kelley, a senior from Spencer, is a member of the Marching Panther Band, Book Club, Drama Club, Show Choir, and the cross country team. It isn't easy to balance all of her commitments, but she has always gone the extra mile (literally) every year.

"The life experiences I've gotten have helped shape the way I see the world," said Kelley, whose favorite subjects are English and psychology.

Perron also knows a thing or two about putting in the hard work needed to succeed. The sophomore plays on the football team, and he is also a member of the school's Book

Club. His passion for literature isn't just limited to projects at the high school, though, as he and Kelley both regularly read to kindergarteners during an after-school Book Club program at Wire Village Elementary School.

The program has impressed teachers at both schools, giving the elementary students role models to look up to within the district.

"Since the beginning of the year, they have been reading to the kindergarteners. They have received praise from the staff, and the students enjoy the program," said DPHS teacher Nicole Jyringi.

Perron hopes to study his favorite subject, music, when he enters college in two-plus years. He has always enjoyed playing the guitar, and music will continue to be an important part of his experiences after Prouty.

Kelley, meanwhile, plans to major in psychology next fall, and she hopes to eventually travel abroad (specifically Greece).

Reflecting on their high school careers, both students wished to thank the many people who played vital roles in helping them succeed.

"My mother is truly amazing," Kelley said. "I've watched her change as much as I have throughout my life, and I'm so proud of her for going back to school. She has shown me that no matter how hard things can get, there is always a silver lining." Added Perron, "My dad [was one of my greatest role models] because he is helpful, understanding, and a hard worker."

When asked to provide tips for success to incoming freshmen at Prouty, both students had helpful suggestions.

"Making friends is a good way to help you through high school experiences," Perron said.

"Stay optimistic," Kelley answered. "Not everything will make sense right away — things will be hard and the entire world might flip upside down for you. But in the end this school and the people in it



Jordan Kelley

Courtesy photos



Joshua Perron

will help you to see the world in a different light. You will make it these four years and come out stronger."

Outside of school, Kelley enjoys reading, stargazing, and spending time with friends. Perron keeps busy with music and sharpening his skills with various instruments.

The school's National Honor Society started the Panther of the Month recognition program as a way to honor students who are making a positive contribution to DPHS. Teachers can nominate students for any reason.