

PUMP IT UP // During the Aug. 24 game, Sara Daniels (12) blocks against a right side attack against St. Vincent's Academy. "For one of our first games, we played really well," Daniels said. Daniels and her team won 2-0 against St. Vincent's during one of the first games of the season.



PASS IT ON // Before winning against Country Day, Morgan Pearson serves a jump float. "I served really well that game," Pearson said. "We dominated them as well." Pearson and the team beat Country Day 2-0 on Aug. 28.
SERVES UP // During the Sept. 28 game against South Effingham, Madison Sprosty (11) serves the ball. "I was serving the ball to try and help my team score more points and win the game," Sprosty said. After defeating their opponents 2-0, they prepared for their game against St. Vincent's.
PRACTICING SETS // Basia Peragine (11) prepares to hit the ball over the net in the Tippet Gym as part of a warm-up drill before the St. Vincent's game. "I was hitting the ball [before the game] and we won the game," Peragine said. "I think I played well." After warming up, Peragine got water and started the game.



OUTSIDE THE COURT

INSIDE JOKES USED BETWEEN JV AND VARSITY TEAMS

GERALD

"We always call our speaker 'Gerald' and it just kind of became a joke between everyone, like 'Don't forget Gerald!'"
BASIA PERAGINE (11)

HAMMER THE NAIL

"[The saying means] hustle and have grit mentality. Keep working hard and don't quit until you have accomplished it."
HELEN CHISOLM (11)

FLIP THE PAGE

"Coach [Chad] Carver always said silly slogans to makes us play our best and move on, but it would also make us laugh."
ABBEY PEEK (11)

PRESSURE BURSTS PIPES

"[Coach] Chad Carver repeats [this slogan] in games to motivate us to keep pressuring the other team by playing really well."
SARA DANIELS (12)

GOOD JUJU

"'Good Juju' was something that connected all of the team together. It was a funny joke that we said every game."
OLIVIA DUSTERDECK (8)

THREE-PEAT

VARSDITY TEAM WINS STATE FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR



Going into the season, the girls' expectations were different.

"We had seven seniors graduate, so we had nothing to lose," Caitlyn Baker (11) said. "From the beginning of the season, though, our entire team had one goal of winning the state championship."

Having won state the previous two years, the girls felt pressure to keep the streak.

"There was a lot of pressure to keep the streak of winning state because if we didn't I felt we would've let [coach] Hannah [Hunter] down," Helen Chisolm (11) said. "Also, I would've felt like we would've let the whole school down."

Fears of letting down the school fled quickly as the girls defeated Mount Paran Christian 3-0, earning them their third consecutive GHSA State Championship title. *Story by Taylor Bandy.*



CRACKING JOKES // Madison Sprosty (11) and Tynley Smeltzer (9) listen to Alana White (9) as she tells them a joke. "I was making a joke to try to get everyone pumped for the game," White said. "I was celebrating with my team after we won a point." After explaining the joke, the girls went back to playing their game against Country Day.

PASS. SET. SCHUBERT?

VARSDITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM ATTEMPTS TO THROW OFF OPPONENTS USING CLASSICAL MUSIC

Design by Abby Hunsinger. All Photos by Brandon Brooks.

The score was 15-4. Richmond Hill lost yet another point.

"I think this is the worst they have ever played," Richmond Hill mother Alyson Brunning said. She sighed and hung her head.

Music that previously filled the gym faded out. Spectators trickled in. The team stood off to one side of the court as their opponent headed toward the other. As they helped gather stray balls, sly smiles found their way onto their faces. They knew what was coming next. Franz Schubert's "Ave Maria" filled the gym. The girls held back giggles as their opponent's warmup fell to pieces.

"We thought [playing odd music] might be a sort of distraction for the other team, but also we thought that it would be really funny and amusing to both teams as well as the audience," Susannah Fowler (10) said.

The day before the game, Basia Peragine (11) and Madison Sprosty (11) consulted with history teacher John Locke to devise the perfect playlist to throw the opposing team off rhythm during warmups. During lunch, the three discussed what songs to use. They settled on a famous classical piece, "Ave Maria."

"[We first used the music] in our games against Savannah Country Day and Richmond Hill," Fowler said. "[They were] mad because of the music we played. It was meant to be a funny joke, but they took it too seriously."

That night, the girls played "Ave Maria" for both of their opponent's warmups, causing their rhythm to falter. The team's plan succeeded, as they won both matches. Though their fans were quite amused by the team's actions, the opponents did not feel the same way.

"I think a lot of people were surprised when we

played 'Ave Maria.' Most of the fans thought it was funny. The players of the other team blamed the song for their loss," Madison Sprosty (11) said.

The players were not the only ones upset about the music. Savannah Country Day's head coach later emailed the team, asking that they stop playing odd music during the opposing team's warm ups.

Though the music was a nice distraction, the team proved they didn't need it to succeed, as they later defeated Country Day once again without the music. *Story by Taylor Bandy.*

"I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE SURPRISED WHEN WE PLAYED 'AVE MARIA.' MOST OF THE FANS THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY. THE PLAYERS OF THE OTHER TEAM BLAMED THE SONG FOR THEIR LOSS."
MADISON SPROSTY (11)



"[MY ART SKILL] HAS GOT BETTER BECAUSE MY FRIEND TEACHES ME AND I PRACTICE A LOT."
ISSEY WRIGHT (6)



"[SOMETHING THAT I USED TO DO THAT I WILL NEVER DO AGAIN IS] PROBABLY DRIFTING ON A BIKE BECAUSE I SCRAPED MYSELF REALLY BAD."
REECE WILLIAMS (7)



"WHEN I WAS SMALLER I LOVED THE MOVIE 'POOTIE TANG.' BUT NOW MY FAVORITE MOVIE IS 'BABY DRIVER.'"
NEVAEH HAMILTON (9)