Erica Ruttico



Zulfawu Tahiru



M'Paly Sacko



May Amor Usman

## A Whole New World

## Exchange students experience high school in America for junior year

Football Games. Pep Rallies. The Homecoming Dance. Exchange students experienced a whole new world unlike their home countries when they came to America for their junior year.

Some exchange students enjoyed the newfound high school sports they could watch in America. "Football games are my favorite because, in Mozambique, there is no football," said Erica Ruttico ('20).

The first pep rally of the year also impressed the exchange students, who could easily become overwhelmed by the noises and sights of the cheerleaders, dance team, school song and spirit stick competition. "I think the dance team was really good and has good coordination," said **Zulfawu Tahiru** ('20), from Ghana.

Pep rallies and football games at the beginning of the year were new experiences for most of the

exchange students. "I think that the craziest thing about Central is the music, dancers and hearing how much everyone got into the chants at the pep rally," said M'Paly Sacko ('20), from Mali.

However, these students did not just come to the United States for the fun times at the football games and the pep rallies. "I like to learn about other cultures. I like to travel and I want to teach what I learn," said Ruttico.

It could also feel scary coming to a country they knew little about. "I felt very excited and nervous, doubting myself, but ended up very happy at the end," said May Amor Usman ('20), from the Philippines.

For exchange students, having these new experiences just added to the excitement of living and going to school in a whole new world. (O. Lebs and M. Henning)

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