

Our Superfan: Waterloo resident shows support for Hudson Pirates

by sophomore Caitlyn O'Malley

Johnathan Jones may not be a Hudson student, teacher, or parent, but he most definitely is a Pirate.

Jones first set foot in Pirate Nation six years ago. Hudson resident Rick Rustad, who works with Jones at Tyson and bonds with him over their love of sports, invited

Jones to see Rustad's son, 2013 graduate Isaiah, play football. Jones accepted the invite and was glad he did.

"It was so fun that I went back

again, and then I went there some more," said Jones. In fact, he has attended roughly 200 Hudson games since.

Any student who attends Hudson basketball, football, or volleyball games will tell you that Jones is a loyal fan.

No matter what the score is, he is the most positive, loud, and uplifting person in the stands.

"Team spirit, passion, and (the

urge) to cheer for the teams wakes a fire within me," said Jones.

But that is not the only reason Hudson fans love him. The students especially can't get enough of his creative cheers.

Jones created some of the cheers he uses to lead the Hudson student section back when he attended Marshall High School in Chicago, where he was a manager for many teams.

While there, Jones also attended cheerleader practices and learned every one of their cheers. Of course, he admits he had to change them a

bit for small-town Iowa.

"We were a bit more savage in Chicago, so here I had to tone it down a little," laughed Jones.

Even though Jones never played sports in high school, he has always had a passion for them. But what he enjoys most is the students.

"I like seeing the kids happy to see me," said Jones. "It makes me happy (that) they like me around."

"It's feels good to hear him cheering when we are on the field."

It gives us an extra boost."

- senior Jacob Murray,
varsity quarterback



To see Jones and the student section in action, scan this QR Code.

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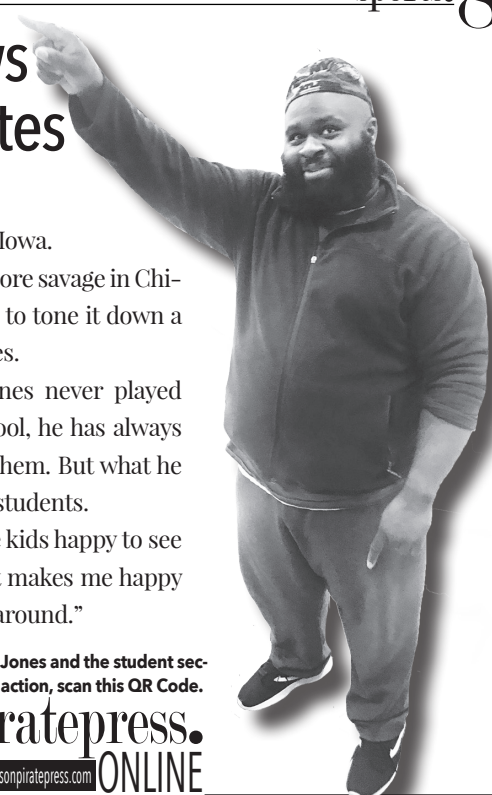


photo by junior Klaire Krapfl



We've got spirit, yes we do!

Over 43 junior high and high school students were decked out in all Hawaiian at the Sept. 7 Hudson game against GMG. These fanatics can be found on the varsity football, basketball, and volleyball bleachers throughout the year.

The student section was started in 2010 by then junior Conor Schley, brother of junior Harley Schley and freshman Davison Schley.

"I thought it would build strong camaraderie between our school and it did," said Schley on his

efforts to create Hudson's first student section.

Since then, the torch has been passed down to numerous senior leaders. This year's senior leaders are Alan Jackson and Jacob Myers. They lead cheers, organize tailgates, and decide what the student falls will wear.

To find out the themes for every athletic event, follow the student section's Twitter @HudsonPirate-StudentSection.

photo by junior Lexi Bergmeier

Hudson High School starts dance team

by sophomore Kylee Sallee

From show choir to musicals, homecoming to prom, and even in the locker room before a big sports game, Hudson students love to dance. It's because of this passion Hudson has decided to step up and create a dance team.

After noticing Hudson was one of the only schools in the conference without a dance team, Cammy Kolterman, mother of freshman Tori Kolterman, decided to explore the idea.

"It is just another good way of representing our school and community," said Kolterman.

Kolterman contacted Louise Lawson, who moved to Hudson in 2014, as well as 5-6 social studies teacher Sheryl Dekutoski. Both were happy to be a part of the new team.



Lawson



Dekutoski

"I'm so glad the administration is supporting this," said Dekutoski, grateful district funding for essentials like uniforms and poms.

Both coaches are bringing experience to the dance floor. Dekutoski coached junior high show choir, has taught dance, helped with a pom team in Dallas, and danced throughout her

twenties.

Lawson was an assistant coach at Iowa Falls-Alden for 13 years. She withdrew from her position when her family moved to Hudson.

Both coaches plan for the team to perform at sporting event half-times, in the Hudson Days Parade, and the yearly state competition in Des Moines.

Lawson hopes the dancers will benefit beyond their dance skills.

Said Lawson, "(I want them to) learn leadership, gain confidence, and teamwork."



photo by junior Lexi Bergmeier

The first members of the Hudson Dance Team include freshmen Caroline Mitchell, Tori Kolterman, Rylee Larson; sophomore Jayden Burnside; freshmen Ashlynn Reynolds and Eva Barfels; junior Harley Schley; senior Megan Sigmund; sophomores Maddie Santman and Jetta Colsch; freshmen Ella Engel and Emma Pettit; seniors Payton Sherwood and Abi Henderson; freshman Zariah Strong; and sophomore Brianna Lenton. Their first performance will be at the half-time of the Dec. 18 boys varsity basketball game in Hudson.