

PERCUSSION CLINIC

Marching to the beat

On the Friday before the Marching Dutch Invitational, the percussion section attended a percussion clinic. Pete Hansen has worked with Pella's percussionists for the last 17 years to improve their overall show, sound, and performance. Overall he spends 3 and a half days working with the drum line. The clinic on Sept. 25 was the last day he worked with the Marching Dutch percussion section this season.

"The purpose [of the Percussion Clinic] is to hone in and better refine the skills of the percussion section, so that we can better support and play with the rest of the band," said senior **Isaac Piersma**.

The beat of the percussion section keeps the band together and on tempo.

"We provide a foundation for the band to do their job," said **Piersma**. We are not more important than the band by any means but when we do our job well, it gives a good foundation for the band to be able to do their job well too."



● Freshman **Henry Kirkwold** plays "O'd To Joy" along with the drum line. They performed at the homecoming pep rally after the Percussion Clinic. "I enjoyed it, and we got a lot done," said senior **Tony Schmitz**.



● The trombone section performs at the Marching Dutch Invitational. Their show was titled "Stained Glass: A Light in Times of Darkness." "It's a little different take on the 'stained glass' theme we did a few years ago, and it's more positive than some other schools' themes," said senior **Isaac Piersma**.

DUTCH INVITATIONAL

Last year the Marching Dutch Invitational was canceled due to poor weather. Therefore, for both sophomores and freshmen, it was their first time performing at the event.

Their show was called "Stained Glass: A Light in Times of Darkness." This was senior **Ava Gift's** last time performing at the Invitational.

"Of course, I am going to miss being a part of the Marching Dutch," said **Gift**. "I made lots of friends; this was the one activity I really enjoyed."

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● **Alloree Else, Cael Roberts, Maria Pronina, Faith Vandenberg,** and **Kiara Nieves Braulio** pose for a team photo. **Anna Nikkel, Mason Holland,** and **Emmalee Spurgeon** were also on the debate team.

ARGUING THEIR CASE

Debaters argue each side of an issue. Their topics this year were health care and the nuclear policy of no first use. The debate club has grown from four members to eight members.

"I'm very happy with debate this year and how much it has grown and will hopefully continue to grow," said senior **Mason Holland**. "But the virus has taken some of the fun out of it including visiting other schools and traveling with your team."

Holland is a returning member of debate. Sophomore **Anna Nickel** is also a returning member. She appreciated the research experience she has gained through being in the club.

"It benefits me because it's something colleges like, and I know how to properly research and write about real world problems," said **Nickel**.



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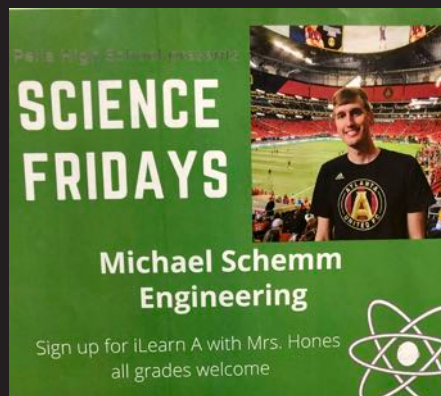
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SO, WHAT'S NEW?

Starting in September, Alumni who have STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) careers met with students virtually on "Science Fridays" during iLearn. Students could sign up to attend and ask questions. The meetings mainly consisted of the alumni telling students about their career.

"Our first goal as a science department is to help all of our students have a clear understanding of the nature of science and how science works," said science teacher **Gaithy Hones**. "We want all of our students to walk out of high school with the ability to make sound, logical, scientific decisions and to be able to use the basics of what they have learned here."



● The Dec. 11 Science Friday featured Alumni Michael Schemm. Other speakers included math teacher Kendi Arndt and Phil Visser.