Be glad it’s not the alumni out there.

Be very glad.

Go Raiders. Go.
Excitement is building for Auction 2017.
Consider supporting the Auction by participating in the following ways:
★ ADVERTISE in the Auction catalogue
★ DONATE an Auction item
★ MARK YOUR CALENDAR and plan to attend
Contact Heather Leonard, auction@pembrokehill.org or 816-936-1222 for more information.
Thanks to our advanced technology, Durrie Vision can do far more than correct a current vision defect — we can plan your vision care for the rest of your life. Because we want to do more than help you see better today. We want you to see better for a lifetime.

We always look forward to seeing the Raiders and their fans at our offices. Please call us at (913) 491-3330 to schedule an appointment.

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Go Raiders!

GIVE IT YOUR BEST, EVERY PLAY, EVERY DAY! GO WILLIAM AND ALL THE RAIDERS!

GOOD LUCK PHS RAIDERS! THE MITCHELL FAMILY

GO JAKE!

GOOD LUCK RAIDER VOLLEYBALL!

HAVE A GREAT FOOTBALL SEASON HENRY, GO RAIDERS!

LOVE MOM, DAD & CAROLINE

PROUD OF YOU, OUR GOLDIE GIRL

PROUD TO BE A RAIDER! GO JAKE!

THE MITCHELL FAMILY PROUD OF YOU, OUR GOLDIE GIRL

SENIOR PRIDE
Welcome from the Head of School

As a young man, I played every sport available. I was often on two teams at the same time. Most evenings found my friends and me shooting baskets or squeezing in one more at bat in near darkness well past sunset. We used two basketballs in the winter – one sitting inside on the heater warming up so as to be ready when the ball we were using would no longer bounce. Cherished memories are playing golf at dusk with my father and coaching my own children's soccer and basketball teams. My appreciation for athletics runs very deep.

Therefore, I feel fortunate to lead a school that shares this passion. From its founding in 1910 as the Country Day School for boys, followed quickly in 1913 by the Sunset Hill School for girls, this school has placed a high value on the experience of participating in athletics. One of the oldest photos in the archives is of the Country Day baseball team of 1912. As you can see, they were a motley crew with what appears to be a fair bit of swagger. Sunset Hill was well ahead of its time in encouraging girls to be active athletes, even if in the early days they played wearing bloomers. We have always believed in the importance of physical development and the camaraderie, determination and resilience fostered by participating on a team.

Today this belief is manifested in the commitment the school makes to the athletic program. This starts on the Wornall campus and continues into a fully integrated approach in the middle school. 23 unique upper school teams compete in 15 different sports. This diverse offering and the compelling programs led by more than 50 upper school coaches results in 3 out of every 4 students participating on at least one team each year. Almost every student will participate on a team sometime during his or her four years in the upper school.

I want to take this opportunity to express appreciation to the many supporters of these efforts. In addition to financial support, our coaches and students receive an extraordinary level of assistance and encouragement. Whether it is hosting team dinners, working the concession stand, leading a “Let’s Go Raiders” cheer, welcoming new families to the team or simply supporting students as they balance the many demands that playing on a team creates, parents are an essential component of our athletic program. This starts in the commitment the school makes in the direction of Athletic Director Don Earnest, Associate A.D. Bill Kolich, Assistant A.D. Sam Knopik and Assistant A.D. – Middle School, Lynn O'Toole they do a tremendous job. They teach. They model hard work and good sportsmanship. They care. They make a real difference in the lives of young people.

Here’s to another year of success!
Pembroke Hill's Raider Club unites families, fans and advertisers to provide athletic equipment and opportunities to enhance the development and experiences of students, and to maximize students' abilities to compete and succeed at high levels. The Raider Club Board of Directors combines funds from membership dues, Sports Program advertising, Raider Concession Stand and Spirit Wear proceeds to finance requests from coaches and the Athletic Director throughout the year. Thanks to Raider Club members and advertisers, the Raider Club has granted over $425,000 over the last decade!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Individual gifts for each senior athlete annually
Chairs for philips gym spectator and team seating
Security radars with microphones
Scorer's table for philips gym

Wall padding for philips gym
Team buses
T-shirts for seniors and freshmen annually
Defibrillator
Banners for philips gym
Stadium lighting

New raider mascot (2013)

Lawrence videos editing machine & software
Hi-end area camera
Shelving for storage room
Mini dv camera
Blocking chute (2011)
Variety game films

Cheerleading

Team-warm-ups (2000)

Track & Field

Girls track-warm-ups (2013)

Football

Pad for one man sled

Basketball

Shoot-a-way (shared with girls)

Basketball

Team bags (2001)

Team bags

Game film breakdown & statistics service (2012)

Rebounder (2013)

Weighted vests (2015)

Shot loc (2016)

Solo assist (2016)

O man (2016)

Drill sticks (2016)

Girls basketball

Team-warm-ups

Team bags

Game bags

Dance

Team bags

Team warm-ups

Choreographer & music for state competition (2010 & 2011)

Team-warm-ups (2015)

Field hockey

Field hockey goals

Converted scoreboard to wireless

Team bags (2001 & 2002)

New scoreboard for normal field hockey field (2011)

Team jackets (2010 & 2013)

Warm-up pants (2016)

Goals (2015)

Baseball

L-swing pitching shield for batting practice

Slam-boys machines for batting practice

Square screens for batting practice

Portable pitching mound

Sensmick drug for baseball field

Team bags (2011)

Power edge field drill (2012)

Pitching machine (2012)

Equipment for baseball batting cages (2012)

Field and dug-out improvements (2013)

Boys basketball

Team-warm-ups

Shoot-a-way (shared with girls)

Team bags (2001)

Team bags (2005)

Team bags (2009)

Game film breakdown & statistics service (2012)

Rebounder (2013)

Weighted vests (2015)

Shot loc (2016)

Solo assist (2016)

O man (2016)

Drill sticks (2016)

Boys golf

Golf bags (2010)

Cheerleading

Team-warm-ups (2000)

Pom-poms

Flex-roll mat (2000)

Mats (2005)

Team jerseys

Team-warm-ups (2007)

Team bags

Cross country

Team-warm-ups (2001 & 2004)

Team bags (2005 & 2010)

Team-waterproof warm-ups (2010)

Heart monitors (2011 & 2012)

Test for cross country and track (2003 & 2013)

Heart monitors (2013)

Warm-ups (2013)

Girls basketball

Team-warm-ups

Team bags

Shoot-a-way (shared with boys)

Team shooter shirts (2012)

Shot loc (2016)

Solo assist (2016)

O man (2016)

Drill sticks (2016)

Girls golf

Team bags (2013)

Lacrosse

Team-warm-ups

Team bags

Practice goals

Girls team-warm-ups (2016)

Pep club

Robo the raider costume and head

Centennial homecoming floats (2010)

Soccer

Team bags

Goals

Agility ladders & training guide

Agility hurdles

Storage bins for boys & girls

Warm-ups for boys (2000)

Team bags for boys (2009)

Soccer wall mannequins for drills

Canvass kick-back goals for practice fields

Team bags for boys (2001)

Warm-ups for boys (2006)

Muunnel trainer (2012)

Ipad (2013)

Soccer wall (2010)

Pole vault poles (2013)

Pole vault poles (2007)

Pole vault poles (2007)

Pole vault poles (2013)

Wrestling

Girls team-warm-ups (2016)

Warm-ups (2013)

Pole vault pit (2014)

Pole vault pit cover (2016)

Volleyball

Team-warm-ups (2000)

Block-n-trainer for spike-defense training

Team bags

Spike- it trainer for spiking and serving drills

Target challenger

Team-warm-ups (2010)

Standards & poles for philips gym (2010)

Hitting box (2013)

Warm-ups (2014)

Training room

Ice machine

Water station

Visor platinum handheld computer

Tread mills

Weights

Weight room flooring

Power lift platforms

Ekuker vehicle

Medical supply stands for philips gym

Muscle stimulator machine

Card equipment

Weight room equipment

Safety mats

Elliptical machines (2014)

Elliptical machine & exercise bike (2008)

Squat power rack

Game ready cold/compresor device (2012)

Two elliptical machines for weight/cardio room (2013)

Knee hold core machine (2013)

Stadium scoreboard (2010)

Grad Grounds

2016-17 RAIDERS SPORTS PROGRAM
Welcome to the 2016-2017 Raider athletic year!

Pembroke Hill has hundreds of athletes participating in fall sports from the Varsity level in soccer, field hockey, football, cross-country, golf, volleyball, tennis, swimming and cheer, to middle school in volleyball, soccer, football, cross-country and field hockey, to lower school in flag football, soccer and volleyball. And the Raider Club supports them all.

In 2015-2016, Pembroke Hill brought all school athletic programs under the umbrella of the Athletic Department and Don Earnest’s talented team. This change has further enabled the Raider Club to be THE Parents’ Association organization supporting athletics at all ages and grades.

The Raider Club’s objective is simple: foster the right atmosphere for our coaches to coach, our players to play and our parents and alums to cheer on and support our student athletes. We cannot achieve that objective without the help of our generous members, supporters and advertisers; so to all of you – thank you.

That generosity has enabled the Raider Club to enable our athletic teams of all ages with more than $425,000 in support over the last 15 years. If you are not a member, we would love to have you, so please take a moment to sign up under the “Quick Links” section of the PHS website. Just click on “Parents’ Association,” login, and click on Raider Club.

Most important of all, come out and support Raider athletics. Pembroke Hill sits on three key pillars – academics, arts and athletics – and the latter two, particularly athletics, lends itself to the camaraderie of watching and cheering on the team.

So again, thank you to our student athletes on both campuses at every grade level. Thank you to our members, advertisers and supporters. Thank you to our parents, coaches, faculty and staff. And thank you to the parent volunteers who help run our concessions and the Raider Club Board who donate their time to make this organization work.

Go Raiders!

David Dickey
Raider Club President

CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS!
HAVE A GREAT SEASON!

Go Raiders!
SENIOR PRIDE

STRIVE FOR GREATNESS BRANDON!

GO RAIDERS!

Go Raiders!

St. Lukes North Campus
5810 NW Barry Rd., Ste. 100
Kansas City, MO 64154

Shawnee Mission Medical Center
9301 W. 74th St., Ste. 230
Shawnee Mission, KS 66204

www.kcskincenter.com 816.584.8100

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RAIDER PRIDE!
5TH/6TH GRADE FOOTBALL

LET’S GO RAIDERS!
6TH GRADE VOLLEYBALL

LET’S GO LADY RAIDERS FIELD HOCKEY VARSITY, JV AND C TEAMS!
GO, FIGHT, WIN!

Congratulations Ashley! Class of 2017
Go Raiders!

**GOOD LUCK**  
**MEG & PETER!**  
**GO RAIDERS!**  

**THE BURDITT FAMILY**

Go Raiders!

**BEST OF LUCK**  
**TO EVAN AND**  
**THE RAIDER BASEBALL TEAM!**

**SENIOR PRIDE**

YOU ROCK,  
MACAULEY!

**GOOD LUCK**  
**AND**  
**GO RAIDERS!**

**Nelson, Olivia & Spencer**  
**GOOD LUCK**  
**THIS LAST YEAR TOGETHER AT PHS!**
JASON, MAKE THIS YOUR RECORD YEAR!!

THE GOODWINS SALUTE PHS STUDENT ATHLETES!

SENIOR PRIDE

Seven Senior Strong
Congratulations to our Senior Raiders
Meg Esrey • Chloe Montague • Emily Penning
Ashley Bough • Ellie Rose Sachs
Lindsay Luchinsky • Sydney Nager

HAVE A GREAT SENIOR YEAR, TRAVIS.
ENJOY THE JOURNEY!

LOVE MOM & DAD

SENIOR PRIDE
LIVE...LOVE...LAX
JOIN LADY RAIDERS VARSITY LACROSSE
2017

through the years...field hockey is forever!
enjoy, your field hockey families

good luck raider lacrosse
for the 2017 season!

marko,
we’re so proud of you! keep your standards high!
love,
mom, tata, luka & leo

senior pride

marko,
we’re so proud of you! keep your standards high!
love,
mom, tata, luka & leo
Bring Your A+ Game.

Whether it's on the field or in the classroom, be your best everyday. Good luck Raiders.

dmhadv.com

Go Raiders!

Good luck Nathalie & Julia!

Cheers to a great season!

Raider Cross Country

Team love, rise above
TITLE TOWN
BY KENT MUELLER

Title Town. That has a nice ring to it. It sounds nice. And lofty. If you conduct an Internet search you will find several locales around the country that lay claim to that name.

But where exactly is Title Town? Is there an address? How do you get there? How do you know you are there when you arrive? Well, Title Town is located in Phillips Gym. It is also located in the stadium. You can find Title Town by crossing State Line Road and climbing the hill to Owen Tennis Complex. Drive down Troost and Bannister Road and you will discover Title Town at the 3 & 2 Baseball Fields. Venture to the golf course at the Kansas City Country Club and there it is, Title Town. You will find Title Town to be most anywhere and everywhere our Pembroke Hill Raiders compete.

There is a more specific location. It resides in the very heart and soul of the golf course at the Kansas City Country Club and there it is, Title Town. That has a nice ring to it. It sounds nice. And for themselves.

That is the formula for amazing results in and out of the classroom. Easy? No. Otherwise everyone would do it. Raiders are winners whether it is in debate, or basketball. Competitors are won with their voices, and with their feet. They are adept at controlling things ranging from robots to lacrosse sticks. All for the good of their team.

The Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHSAA) sponsors state championship competition in nineteen sports. There are 579 schools that compete for the 73 championship trophies. Let's do some quick math. That would be one state championship for each school about every eight years. Right? Not in our case. Pembroke Hill has won 63 state championships in just the last 15 years. Instead of one state championship competition for Boy’s indoor track and field comes to being the best in the state. Tied for first overall, second for boys, tied for sixth for girls. And not in just a couple of sports, but in twelve. And don’t forget the non MSHSAA championship in lacrosse.

In fact, going back to when this school was known as Pembroke-Country Day, no school in the state of Missouri has won more MSHSAA sponsored state championships than our Raiders of Pembroke Hill. In addition to a state championship in boy’s lacrosse, which is not sponsored by MSHSAA, Pembroke Hill has won 63 state championships. That fact is why our home athletic venues can collectively be known as Title Town.

Last school year was both rare and typical. It was the rare year that we did not win a state championship. But it was very typical in the way we competed. In addition to a third place finish in Girl’s Tennis, Pembroke Hill placed second in four sports. Those were Boy’s Golf, Girl’s Golf, Boy’s Tennis and Girl’s Soccer. That was another outstanding year by our Raiders.

Let’s put a little perspective on our not winning a championship last year, for only the second time in the last 18 years. A hiatus of only one year. This is only twice in almost two decades. I’ll draw your attention to mid-state Indiana to the town of Lebanon. The Tigers won the Indiana Class 3A softball championship in May. Like Pembroke Hill this year, Lebanon had not won a state championship in the prior year. Nor the year before or the year be for that year. In fact, Lebanon’s last state championship was in Boys Basketball back in 1918, 98 years before the Tigers’ softball team edged Kankakee Valley, 2-1, for their first state championship. We don’t know what the future will bring for our Raiders, but I suspect we won’t have to wait until 2113 to hoist another banner to the ceiling of Phillips Gym.

Perhaps some of you are scurrying back to past articles on this topic. We were in second in state championships, right? Well, I erred in previous articles because I did not realize MSHSAA had sponsored state championship competition for Boy’s Indoor Track and Field from 1930 through 1972. That added three championships to our total which places us in a tie for the most with 63 titles.

As the accompanying list shows, Pembroke Hill has won state championships in 12 different sports. This shows the incredible breadth of our athletic program. No school has won championships in more different sports than have our Raiders. Like Pembroke Hill, John Burroughs has won titles in 12 different sports. Blue Springs, Jefferson City, and Hickman have won titles in 11 different sports.

As the charts show, Pembroke Hill is in rarefied territory when it comes to being the best in the state. Tied for first overall, second for boys and tied for sixth for girls. And not in just a couple of sports, but in twelve. And don’t forget the non MSHSAA championship in lacrosse.

To gain an appreciation for our past, present and the future into the future which we go, I invite you to examine both the walls of Phillips Gym and the walls of the gym of either school. Most schools have large banners for each title, including district and conference titles. Many also have large banners for finishes in the final four at the state competition. In Phillips we have a banners for each sport. Each title is noted simply by adding the year to the appropriate banner. When a banner gets full of years we start another banner for that sport. We appreciate and honor conference and district titles. The same with final four finishes. But, as you can see we simply don’t have enough real estate to display more than our state championships. That, folks, is a very good problem to have.

LEADING TOTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. PEMBROKE HILL 63
2. ROCKHURST 63
3. MICDS 49
4. UNIVERSITY CITY 43
5. ST. JOSEPH’S ACADEMY 42
6. LAFAYETTE-WILDWOOD 37
7. ROCK BRIDGE 35
8. JOHN BURROUGHS 34
9. PARKWAY WEST 34
10. WEST PLAINS 33

LEADING GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. ST. JOSEPH’S ACADEMY 42
2. LAFAYETTE-WILDWOOD 27
3. INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY 27
4. ROCK BRIDGE 20
5. NOTRE DAME DE SION 19
6. PEMBROKE HILL 19
7. VISITATION ACADEMY 19
8. PARKWAY WEST 18
9. WEST PLAINS 17
10. BLUE SPRINGS 13
11. PENNEY 13
12. HERMANN 13
FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

DON EARNEST
Athletic Director

On behalf of the over 70 professionals that make up our athletic administration, staff and coaches, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many families, friends, alums, and the greater Kansas City community for their support of our student athletes.

Our athletic program consists of 23 sports with approximately 48 different squads. These numerous choices provide the opportunity for our students to be exposed to the valuable life lessons of teamwork, self-discipline, courage, and fortitude that can be used in their future. The experiences in the athletic arena can teach us how to win with grace and handle defeat with dignity. The learning that takes place in the athletic program, we believe, compliments our student athletes learning in the classroom and prepares them for life after Pembroke Hill.

The conduct of our coaches, athletes and spectators in regard to sportsmanship and fair play are expectations that we expect to maintain, so we ask for your continued support of these standards as you interact with opposing teams, coaches, fans and contest officials. The Raider Club continues to play a pivotal role in providing unrelenting support, energy, and enthusiasm for our athletes and coaches. We wish to thank them for all they do for our community. I look forward to another year that contributes to our rich tradition of athletics at Pembroke Hill athletics.

BILL KOLICH
Associate Athletic Director

I am entering into my fourth year as Associate Athletic Director. In addition to my position in the athletic offices, I have the opportunity to be a part of the coaching staff at Pembroke Hill, where we strive to impress the importance of a positive learning experience, not only in teach the fundamentals of the game but also an incorporation of teaching life’s lessons. For each contest, we prepare the student athlete by teaching the importance of fundamentals and executing a game plan strategy. We realize that in the end the preparation for our contest will result in either a win or a loss. If the competition results in a loss, we stress the life lesson of accepting defeat with dignity understanding that we failed to obtain our objective. In this acceptance, we stress concretely that this is demonstrated in our resolve of manner and language. If the competition results in a victory, we stress winning with class understanding that our victory was a result of intentional work and preparation. With the victory, we emphasize the respect and responsibility of the athlete to his/her team, school and opponent. Our goal is that these athletic lessons extend to all present and future relationships.

Holmes Murphy is proud to support Pembroke Hill and the Raider Club.

Good luck on your 2016-2017 season!

SAM KNOPIK
Assistant Athletic Director

SAM KRZYTOW
Assistant Athletic Director

LYNN O’TOOLE
Asst. Athletic Director

Athletics is such an important part of the young person’s development. I believe that humans are meant to utilize their minds, body, and spirit and each of us these elements can be developed in many different ways and times in our lives. In order to bring the training of the body into an educational format, I’m proud to be a part of an athletic department that makes sure our students have what they need to have a wonderful experience.

Go Raiders!

In our second year of middle school athletics fully under the umbrella of Pembroke Hill Athletic Department, the Middle School Athletics program, hopes to build an even stronger connection between our 6th-12th grade athletic teams. Middle School athletics is a time for all of our students to get involved and be part of a team. We provide a positive, inclusive environment for our young athletes, in order to promote positive self-esteem, confidence and good sportsmanship characteristics. Many lifeskills can be developed through participating in athletics. Our programs help our adolescents develop empathy and integrity; fostering them to develop the skills needed to be good leaders and be responsible teammates on our upper school sports teams. Our Middle School Athletics program strives to develop the whole athlete both physically, mentally and emotionally.

Go Raiders!
RAIDER CLUB 2016-2017

RAIDER CLUB MEMBERS

The Aaron Family
Darrin and Donna Abbott
Jason and Terri Lee Adams
Wayne Strickland & Ana Aymera
Adel Family
The Ahlquist Family
Hugh and Cynthia Andrews and Family
Jim & Jifmar Andrews
Angriot Family
Archer Family
The Arnold Family
Stevens Family
The Banks Family
Brian and Danielle Bartelli
Bartlett Family
The Daniel Bauman Family
Molly Wise Bearham
The Beall Family
Peter Benson
Benson Family
The Berg Family
Maureen and Bill Berger
Berkowitz Family
Todd, Kathy and Jackie Berry
Raj, Kans, and Shara Tan-Bhals
Bodamer Family
The Bough Family
Bill and Kelly Brandmeyer
Mark and Valerie Brandmeyer family
The Bredfild Family
The Brooks Family
Bucky Brooks
The Burditt Family
Bunnett Family
The Art Kent Family
The Michael Butchew Family
The James Carney Family
The Cole Family
Gary & Mark Cohen Family
Kath and Amy Copakien
Jan and Shelley Copakien Family
Randall and Lisa Hendricks
Scott Conrad and Shavonne Daner
Jeff and Anne Dimas
Scott & Shelley Diffay (Kieffer)
The Depp Family
The Decker Family
Leanne DeShong and Family of Zach Jonas
The Dicksons
The Dilaw Family
The Donovan Family
Daw, Jen and Sydney Dingler
Duffy's
Dan and Joanne Easteed
Jason and Robyn Edwards
David, Amy, George and Jack Embry
Warren, Jenny, Gus & Audrey Erman
The Fitchgerald Family
Frederick Family
The Funk Family
Garrison Family
Gauthier Family
Gavin Family
Crosby and Jill Gerson
The Giles Family, Brent, Jenny, Avery & Kendall
The Fossilics
Karen Glossick & Don Sawyer
Kroon and John Goodwin
Colin and Mike Gotham
Todd and Tracy Graves and Family
Julie and Bob Dinnen
The Hammond Family
Teri and David Harry
The Hendrick Family
The Hendren family
Brian and Helen Henry
The Hibbschman Family
The Hill Family
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The Hogan Family
Mark & Joyce Hiraga
Steven and Heather Hunt
The Innes Family
Janice Ivy
The Gaume Family - Michael, Tessa, India & Grace
The Jacobs Family
Johannes Family
Clayton & Anne Johnston
The Johna Family
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The Lattie Family
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The LeBlanc Family
LeFler Family
The Leachens Family
The Long Family
The Family of Erin Lowe
The Luchins Family
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Dan Crabtree and Maureen Mahoney
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Liddy Maurin
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Meg & Jay McElmatt
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David and Luci Powell
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Brian and Susan Ramirez
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Rivera
Blithe and Scott Robertson
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Razouki, Charlie and Sue
Scott and Lidda Ruland
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Jarell and Michelle Schmidt
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Amy Smith
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Anne and Bob St. Peter
Dan and Karen Stoker
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The Stark Family
Jeff, Gina, Jack and Blair Stingley
Stone Family
Greg, Barbara, & Katlin Storm
Stynger Family
Rob & Blanca Sullivan
Swartman
Ed and Jamie Taylor
The Thurman Family
Evan and David Thorne
Carl and Susan Thorne-Thomson
Zach and Julie Thornton
Taney Family
The Turbinelli Family
The van Zanten Family
The Whalen Family
Frasano
Rebecca Wilson
Andrea, Tom, Tommy and Luca Wolfe
Tami and Andy Wolff
Wolff family
Russ Roximus, Giel Wonbekker, Ava Roximus, Eleanor Roximus
Wyatt Family
Brett and Debbie Yantis
Young Family
The Young
Zeidler Family

Go Raiders!
RAIDER CLUB BOARD
OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017
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Treasurer: Don Swartz
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Board Members-at-Large: Lisa Hoffman (Sports Program Senior & Spirit Ads), Rebecca Wilson ’85 (Sports Program Senior & Spirit Ads), Shelley Copaken, Terry Palisette, Sean Hogan (Past President)

2016-2017 TEAM PARENT LIAISONS
FALL SPORTS
Cheerleading: Holly Lowe
Cross Country: Meg & Jay McDermott
Field Hockey: Beth Emsy & Laurie Montague
Football: Liz & John Sedlock
Golf - Girls: Tessa Daume
Soccer - Boys: Erika Dickey & Shelley DeMayo
Swimming & Diving - Boys: Blythe Robertson
Tennis - Girls: Peggy Rooney
Volleyball: Lisa Hirschman & Suzanne Sheldon

WINTER SPORTS
Basketball - Boys: Carol Cobb
Basketball - Girls: TBA
Cheerleading: TBA
Dance: Mandy Burditt, Heather Borthick, JoMarie Andrews
Swimming & Diving - Girls: Kristin Salzman, Janet Sanders, Anne Dama
Wrestling: Andy Fronen & Laurie Blanda

SPRING SPORTS
Baseball: TBA
Golf Boys: TBA
Lacrosse - Boys: Sandy Longhofer & Christina Hogan
Soccer - Girls: TBA
Tennis - Boys: TBA
Track and Field: Meg & Jay McDermott

PEMBROKE HILL SCHOOL
Steve Bello, Ed.D, Head of School
Don Earnest, Athletic Director
Bill Kolich, Associate Athletic Director
Sam Kneple, Assistant Athletic Director
Lynn O'Toole, Assistant Athletic Director, Middle School
Bobbi Elliott, Controller
Liddy Maurin, Administrative Assistant
Dobbs Treglia, Development Office

PHS VARSITY HEAD COACHES, 2016-2017
Athletic Trainers: Larry Huff
Baseball: Jeff Diakon
Basketball (Boys): Bill Kolich
Basketball (Girls): Delilah Anderson
Cheer: Rachel Lewis
Cross Country: Tom Medlock
Dance: Tina Budzinski
Field Hockey: Avery Hughes
Football: Sam Kneple
Golf (Boys): TBA
Golf (Girls): Andi Wolfe
Lacrosse (Boys): David Colbert
Lacrosse (Girls): TBA
Soccer (Boys and Girls): Matt Pritchett
Tennis (Boys): TBA
Tennis (Girls): Mike Duckworth
Track and Field (Boys and Girls): Steve Kapp
Volleyball: Lynn O'Toole
Wrestling: Todd Harris

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE RAIDER CLUB
FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE SPORTS PROGRAM
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SPORTS PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS, 2016-2017
David Dickey
Sean Hogan
Rebecca Jackson
Heather Johnz

BOOSTER CLUB SPORTS PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS
Kent Mueller, Contributing Author
Erika Dickey, Content
Christina Hogan, Content

LAYOUT & DESIGN
Jared Bergeon, DMH
Sean Hogan, DMH

PRINTING
Allen Press

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Go Raiders!
THE RAIDER AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE 2016-2017 RAIDER AWARD WINNERS!

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2016-17 RAIDERS SPORTS PROGRAM

Go Raiders!

Good Luck Sean! Go Raiders!

Good Luck Matthew! Go Raiders!

Good Luck Raiders! The Kincaid Family

Good Luck to the Girls Golf Team – Go Raiders!

Run, Raiders, Run.

Raider Track and Field

You’re a Keeper!

Love, Mom, Dad, Spencer and Erin

Have a Great 2017 Season Raider Lacrosse & Noah Skolnick

Good Luck Will & Alex! Go Raiders!
GO RAIDERS!

GOOD LUCK GRACE & ROBERT!

GOOD LUCK LILLY! GO PHS!

GOOD LUCK JACK! GO RAIDERS!

BELLA – WE ARE SO HAPPY AND PROUD OF YOU!

MOM, SCOTT, CARLEE, CARSON AND CAT

GO CHLO

WE ARE SO HAPPY AND PROUD OF YOU!

MOM, SCOTT, CARLEE, CARSON AND CAT

GO RAIDERS!
SENIOR PRIDE

GOOD LUCK HANK!

GO RAIDERS!

SENIOR PRIDE

PROUD OF OUR REIGNING CLASS 1 CHAMPION
GOOD LUCK INDIE!

LOVE, DAD, MOM & GRACE

SENIOR PRIDE

GO RAIDER FIELD HOCKEY!
CLASS OF 2021

CONGRATULATIONS ALEX!

GO RAIDERS!
Go Raiders!

For every time you laced up those shoes. Every mile run, early in the morning when you didn’t want to be awake and in dark of night when you just wanted to be done for the day. In the heat, the rain, the cold. Every high five you gave the girl you beat, and, more importantly, those you gave to the girl who beat you. I was proud. Your determination. Your will. Your character. It will guide you not just on the courses you’ve yet to run, but thru life.

XOXO, MOM

WHATEVER YOUR SPORT, YOUR FANS AT H&R BLOCK WISH YOU A SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

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Scout Johntz
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GO RAIDERS!

BEKA LEUSCHEN
CLASS OF 2017

THERE WILL BE OBSTACLES
THERE WILL BE DOUBTERS
THERE WILL BE MISTAKES
BUT WITH HARD WORK,
THERE ARE NO LIMITS.
In August, several communities became poorer. It was then that Dale Eshelbrenner’s battle with cancer came to an end. But, that was not the end of Dale’s legacy.

So many people are affected by his passing because of the effect he had on so many. The Indian Hills Country Club. The tennis community of Kansas City. Those he taught and coached for over a quarter century. Those who worked with him. And most significantly, his family.

After growing up in Fort Scott, Kansas Dale matriculated at Bethany College. From Lindsborg, Kansas Dale brought his mastery of tennis to Kansas City. Both Indian Hills and Pembroke Hill were fortunate to have Dale work with their athletes and students.

At Pembroke Hill, Dale taught Physical Education at both the Middle and Upper School levels. He was an assistant girls basketball coach when the Raiders won two Missouri state titles. He also created an Upper School leadership program for team captains. And yes, he coached both the Raider boys and girls tennis teams. And boy did he coach.

Dale’s first team at Pembroke Hill was the boys team in the spring of 1991. He led them to the Missouri state title that year. That was the first of three consecutive state championships. Starting in the fall of the next school year, he took on the coaching duties of the girls tennis team and also taught physical education. As a testament to Dale’s consistency, after winning the state title in his first year as the boys coach, he led the girls team to the state title in the fall of 2014, his last year coaching the Raiders girls team. Those are symbolic bookends to a long coaching career.

While coaching the boys team for twenty-six years, he led them to the Missouri state title thirteen times. His teams were in the final four a remarkable twenty-four times. During Dale’s twenty-four years of leading the girls team, he saw his teams advance to the final four sixteen times, winning seven Missouri state titles. In fifty coaching seasons, Dale advanced his team to the final four forty times. And twenty of those forty trips to the final four resulted in a state championship.

Tristan Threatt was a member of Coach Eshelbrenner’s last two boys’ Missouri state championship teams. Yes, Tristan says he cherishes the memories of the state titles and all of the team activities. But, what does he remember most? In Tristan’s words, “But what is even more memorable was watching Coach Eshelbrenner interact with his wife and kids during our matches. No matter how competitive the match was, he always took time to watch his kids run and play on the sidelines. He was able to bring family and friends together to enjoy great tennis, friendship and fun.”

It wasn’t all about winning and championships. It was about people. And family. And that is why so many join Tristan in saying “I am grateful to have been a part of his legacy both on and off the court.”
Go Raiders!

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The Little Flower Shop

The Little Flower Shop
Rachel Lewis has been the assistant head coach for both the cheerleading and dance teams since 2011. In 2015, Coach Lewis took the reigns as the head coach of the varsity cheerleading squad.

Coach Lewis understood cheering the Raiders from her early years. She is a 2007 graduate of The Pembrook Hill School. She then matriculated at the University of Kansas where she received a BA in Classical Antiquity. Rachel is a native of Kansas City.

Rachel Lewis
Head Coach

RACHEL LEWIS

2015 AWARDS

**COACHES:** Rachel Lewis, Head Coach; Tina Budzinski, Assistant Coach

**CAPTAINS:** Alexis Haley and Abigail Pritchett

**RAIDER AWARD WINNER:** Alexis Haley

**VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:** Alexis Haley, Nick Dowling, Abigail Pritchett, Fielding Burnette, Peter Gado, Allison Jones, Erin Lowe, Julia Pfluger, Matilda Adolphsen, Ambika Elliot
Tom Medlock has coached the Raider cross country teams since 1996. Previously, Tom taught at Tampa Preparatory School. He has also served as an assistant coach for track & field and girls soccer.

Coach Medlock has primarily taught physics and biology which he has supplemented with Eastern Thought and astronomy. Tom joined the Pembroke Hill College counseling Department in 2006. Tom holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kansas and a master’s degree from Harvard University.
Avery Hughes has served as the Head Field Hockey Coach since 1978, amassing over 285 wins. In addition to field hockey, Avery has coached basketball at the middle school, Freshman, junior varsity and varsity levels, both as an assistant and as the head coach.

Coach Hughes has either taught Middle School Math or assisted throughout the Lower School since the beginning of her tenure at this school.

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Coach Hughes graduated from The Sunset Hill School. She received her BA from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Avery was very busy in college as she played a total of twelve seasons in squash, tennis, basketball and field hockey. She ended her field hockey playing days as the Captain for the Pioneers.

Avery Hughes
Head Coach

ARFIELD HOCKEY

2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Head Coach Avery Hughes; Assistant Coaches Lisa Fairchild, Hilary McGee, Amy Dean, Jenny Schaafsmas

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Elissa Bamberger, Elodi Bodamer, Ashley Bough, Colleen Crabtree, Fiona Eckert, Emily Ervin, Meg Esrey, Kit Frazen, Carrie Hughes, Lindsay Luchinsky, Chloe Montague, Sydney Nager, Emily Penning, Paige Penning, Ellis Rose Sachs, Caroline Salzman, Elena Humphrey - Manager, Stella Kahl - Manager

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Catherine Brooks, Grace Cross, Alexandra Copaken, Maggie Johnston, Rebecca Kessler, Reagan Mitchell, Caroline O’Keefe, Olivia Sabates, Kate Stokes, Kate Whitney, Chloe Yonke

C TEAM LETTER WINNERS: Julia Cohen, Zoe Gantner, Julia Hall, Anna LaMothe, Selam O’Brien

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Kit Frazen & Paige Penning
Sam is entering his 13th year as the Pembroke Hill Head Football Coach. He has amassed the second most wins by a coach in the 103-year history of Pembroke Hill football. He has received awards such as the 2011 Kansas City Chiefs Missouri High School Coach of the Year and numerous Coach of the Week awards. He also was named the Greater Kansas City Coaches Association Man of the Year in 2013.

Coach Knopik is a three-year past president of the Missouri Football Coaches Association and a Greater Kansas City Football Coaches Assn. board member since 2005.

Sam also serves as an Assistant Athletic Director and teaches World History.

2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Head Coach Sam Knopik, Assistant Coaches Bill Griffiths, Nick Hennessy, Miles Hochard, Scott Guthrie, John Denny, Clayton Jones

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:
Aaron Alnutt, Aaron Berkowitz, Alec Hill, Cap McLain, Charlie Thorne, Declan O’Leary, Gage Kent, George Embry, Jack Staker, Joe Graves, Julian Sanders, Nathan Barewin, Nick Fitzgerald, Nick Letts, Quinn Brandmeyer, William Yantis

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Inkoo Kang

INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:
Inkoo Kang - DE: All-District First Team, Academic All-State
Hank Graves - IL: All-District First Team
Griffin Brandmeyer - OL: All-District Second Team
Michael Keane - TE: All-District Second Team, Academic All-State
Daniel Stanley: Academic All-State
Ben Wang: Academic All-State
Davis Brooks: Academic All-State
Daniel Duffy: Academic All-State
Go Raiders!

**2015 AWARDS**

**COACHES:** Head Coach Andi Wolfe; Assistant Coach Evan Scobie

**CAPTAINS:** Charlotte Hendricks and Claire Nonemaker

**VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:** India Gaume, Shannon Fang, Grace Parkerson, Charlotte Hendricks, Claire Nonemaker, Kathryn Miyawaki, Sydney Woods, Mikayla Ferguson

**JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:** Emily Dickey, Elizabeth Gorny, Alaina Genson, Liz Konecny, Carmela Nunez

**INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:**
- **India Gaume:** 1st Place Districts, 1st Place Sectionals, 1st Place State, Kenneth Smith Award
- **Shannon Fang:** 11th Place Districts, 11th Place Sectionals, 16th Place State
- **Grace Parkerson:** 19th Place Districts, 6th Place Sectionals
- **Charlotte Hendricks:** 13th Place Districts, 12th Place Sectionals
- **Claire Nonemaker:** 5th Place Districts, 15th Place Sectionals

**TEAM HIGHLIGHTS:**
- 1st Place Liberty Tournament, 1st Place Richmond Tournament, 2nd Place Cap City Tournament, 1st Place MoKan Tournament, 1st Place District Tournament, 1st Place Sectional Tournament, 2nd Place State Tournament

**RAIDER CLUB AWARD WINNER:** Charlotte Hendricks

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**ANDI WOLFE**

A graduate of the University of NebraskaLincoln, Andi has BA degrees in Spanish and English. She has also studied in Monterrey, Mexico.

Andi is a native of Hastings, Nebraska where she established her championship ways at Hastings High School. Coach Wolfe won the Nebraska State Singles Tennis Championship her sophomore year and the state Doubles Championship as a senior. She led the team to state team tennis titles in both her junior and senior years.

A graduate of the University of NebraskaLincoln, Andi has BA degrees in Spanish and English. She has also studied in Monterrey, Mexico.

Andi is a native of Hastings, Nebraska where she established her championship ways at Hastings High School. Coach Wolfe won the Nebraska State Singles Tennis Championship her sophomore year and the state Doubles Championship as a senior. She led the team to state team tennis titles in both her junior and senior years.

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**Girls Golf**

**2016-17 RAIDERS SPORTS PROGRAM**

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**Girls Golf**

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**2016-17 RAIDERS SPORTS PROGRAM**
Matthew Pritchett enters his 17th year as the head coach of both the Raider boys and girls soccer teams. For the boys, Matthew has accumulated over 224 wins. Those wins produced 13 district championships, 8 final fours, 4 championship games and 1 state championship. He has led the Raider Soccer Girls to over 129 wins. Those wins led to 6 district titles and 2 final four appearances.

A native of St. Louis, Matthew graduated from Parkway South High School. He matriculated at Columbia College where he received degrees in Marketing and Shopping Center Development and Management. He also holds a master’s degree from Rockhurst University in Elementary Education.

Matthew Pritchett
Head Coach

BOYS SOCCER

2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Head Coach Matt Pritchett; Assistant Coaches Matt Clothier, Justin Young, Lucas Richardson

CAPTAINS: Thad Blevins, Charlie Hamilton, Kieffer DeMayo, Trent Cartmel

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:
Daniel Spertus, Christopher Fredette, Laurent Foyer, Harrison Swartzman, Ethan Angrist, Owen Wright, Eric Medlock, Matthew Claus, Adrian Castaner, Brett Barnow, Ben Brundige, Wil Rowland, Mark Ferguson, Daniel Bauman

RAIDER AWARD WINNER:
Robert Starr & Spenser Thomas

INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:
All-District Team: Thad Blevins, Trent Cartmel, Kieffer DeMayo, Alex Dickey, Charlie Hamilton, Brandon Washington
All-Western Region Team: Thad Blevins, Kieffer DeMayo, Alex Dickey, Brandon Washington
All-Western Region Goalkeeper of the Year: Alex Dickey
All-State Second Team: Kieffer DeMayo, Alex Dickey
All-State First Team: Kieffer DeMayo, Alex Dickey

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS:
KC Classic Champions, District Champions
Boys Swimming

Chad Holmes began as the Head Coach of both the boys and girls Swimming and Diving teams in the 2012-2013 school year.

Coach Holmes brings many years of successful swimming and diving coaching to Pembroke Hill. He held similar positions from 2007 through 2012 at the North Kansas City School District. This included coaching the teams at Staley, Oak Park, Winnetonka and North Kansas City high schools. In those five years Chad led his team to ten conference championships, winning all five with both the boys and the girls teams.

Prior to that position, Chad coached both the boys and girls teams for two years at Eaglecrest High School in Aurora, Colorado and for one year as the girls coach at Burke High School in Omaha, Nebraska.

A native of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Coach Holmes graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School. He holds undergraduate degrees in physical education and coaching from Northwest Missouri State University Chad also holds a master’s degree in Athletic Administration from William Woods University.

2015 AWARDS

COACH: Chad Holmes
CAPTAIN: Francesco DiMare
VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Spencer Schmid, Austin Tang, Will McCoswell, Zair Khan, Francesco DimMare
RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Spencer Schmid
INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS:
Spencer Schmid: State Qualifier in 50 yard free and 100 yard free, ILC Conference 1st place in 50 yard free and 3rd place in 100 yard free
200 Medley School Record: Zair Khan, Francesco Dimare, Spencer Schmid, Austin Tang
200 Free Relay School Record: Will McCoswell, Austin Tang, Francesco Dimare
TEAM HIGHLIGHTS: 1st place NKC Schools Invitational, 5th place ILC Conference Championships
Michael Duckworth enters his second year as the Head Girl’s Tennis Coach. He brought immediate success by guiding the Raiders to a Missouri state team title in his first year. Coach Duckworth also teaches World History from 1500 and Advanced Placement classes for both microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Previous to Pembroke Hill, Michael taught at Lee’s Summit North and Lee’s Summit West. Coach Duckworth also taught at Smith’s Hill, an academically selective public high school in Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia.

Coach Duckworth received undergraduate degrees in economics and social studies education from the University of Kansas where he also received a master’s degree in education.

2015 AWARDS

COACH: Head Coach Mike Duckworth; Assistant Coach Tiffani Pearson

CAPTAIN: Yurie Heard & Ellison Rooney

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Yurie Heard, Caroline Rooney, Ellison Rooney, Jacqueline Kincaid, Bella Foote, Veronica Loskutova, Zosia Czerwinski, Emily Green, Anya Loboda, Christine Zhang, Emily Cohen

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Tessa Gittings, Nathalia Kiersnowski, Julie Jones, Rachel Legg, Sujung Chung, Preethi Jonnalagadda, Pallavi Jonnalagadda, Julia Kiersnowski, Arrington Ossie, Katrina Zhao, Claire St. Peter, Haley Harvey, Dajung Chung, Amanda Li, Kyle Bergerson, Evelyn Freilich, Shira Bhaia, Emma Shaldin, Kate Kramer, Stella Wroblewski, Adrianna Gautreaux, Sienna Doering, Karoline Park, Kate Humphrey

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Veronica Loskutova

INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHTS: Caroline Rooney & Ellison Rooney (Doubles) - 2nd in Districts, 3rd in State

Yurie Heard: 1st in Districts, 1st in State

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS: District Champions and 3rd in State

Go Raiders!
Lynn O’Toole has been the Head Volleyball Coach since 2001. She also has served as an Assistant Middle School Track coach over the same period. Previously, she had been the volleyball coach at Frankfort High School in Frankfort, Kansas.

Coach O’Toole has led the Raiders to great success in a very competitive sport. Entering this season, she has amassed more than 270 wins with 159 losses and 30 ties.

A native of Lansing, Kansas, Lynn graduated from Lansing High School. From there she attended Kansas State University, receiving a BS in Education.

Volleyball

2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Head Coach Lynn O’Toole; Assistant Coaches Todd Harris and Veronica Mobley

CAPTAINS: Elizabeth Gerson & Maya Hill

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Riley Kivett, Ashlee Lehr, Megan Hibschman, Elizabeth Gerson, Maya Hill, Gunjan Gaur, Laura Hibschman, Grace Lattan, Gina Pepitone, Baylor McCrary, Jada Large, Jancyn Appel, Megan Sh., Elizabeth Shulman

JV LETTER WINNERS: Anna Shulman, Asha Hebbar, Hannah Butchaw, Grace Archer, Audrey O’Shaughnessy, Catie Franano, Darcy Bend, Ellie Ruland

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Laura Hibschman

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:
All District 1st Team: Ashlee Lehr, Elizabeth Gerson, Maya Hill, Jancyn Appel

TEAM AWARDS:
District Champions
We’re Proud to Salute Pembroke Hill Athletics.

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Bill Kolich enters his fourth year as the Head Boys Basketball Coach. He also serves as an Assistant Athletic Director.

Coach Kolich previously coached basketball at the former St. Joseph Academy in Shawnee, Kansas and St. Thomas Aquinas in Overland Park. Bill also was the Women’s Head Basketball Coach at Benedictine College.

A native of Kansas City, Kansas, Bill graduated from Bishop Ward High School. He matriculated at Benedictine College where he played basketball all four years while earning his BS in Accounting.

2015-2016 AWARDS

COACHES:
Bill Kolich, Head Coach; Jacob Derritt and Nate Parks, Assistant Coaches

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:
Curtis Lewis, Spencer Allen, Jason Cobb, Trent Cartmell, Jack Mitchell, Nazr El-Scari, Spenser Thomas, Garrett Presko, Will Powell, Michael Keane, Derrick Kagwanja, Kyle Burgerson, Sienna Doering, Adrianna Gautreaux, Kate Humphrey, Momin Tahirkheli

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS:
Aaron Swartz, Yakini Kasim, Shahim Shazhad, Graham Cranshaw, Jordan Winn, Jacob Kaufman, Tate Benson, Jack Ramza, Macauley Greif, Charlie Thorne

C TEAM LETTER WINNERS:
Shahim Shazhad, Ronald White, Logan Stevens, Ethan Lane, Harrison Swartzman, Cap McLiney, Declan O’Leary

RAIDER AWARD WINNER:
Curtis Lewis

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
Curtis Lewis: First Team All-District

TEAM HONORS:
3rd Place at Van Horn Tournament
This is the second year of Delischa Anderson’s career as the Head Girls Basketball Coach for Pembroke Hill. Previously, Delischa coached the Eighth Grade Girls Volleyball team in addition to being assistant coach for Raider’s Girls Basketball.

Coach Anderson graduated from Hickman Mills High School where she was a Girls Basketball Team Captain all four years. Following her senior year she was a nominee for the prestigious McDonald’s All-America Team. She played her college basketball at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. As a Cowgirl, Delischa was named to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference All-Conference Team while she led the conference in scoring.

Delischa is also a certified personal trainer.

Go Raiders!
Rachel Lewis has been the assistant head coach for both the cheerleading and dance teams since 2011. In 2015, Coach Lewis took the reigns as the head coach of the varsity cheerleading squad.

Coach Lewis understood cheering the Raiders from her early years. She is a 2007 graduate of The Pembrooke Hill School. She then matriculated at the University of Kansas where she received a BA in Classical Antiquity. Rachel is a native of Kansas City.

2015-2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Head Coach - Rachel Lewis; Assistant Coach - Anna Thomas

CAPTAINS: Paige Penning & Mickey Ferguson


RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Alexis Haley
Tina Budzinski became the Raider Head Dance Coach in 2005. Prior to coming to Pembroke Hill, Tina spent six years as the head dance coach of the nationally ranked dance team at William Jewell College.

Coach Budzinski has also served as a physical education teacher in both the Middle and Upper Schools, along with duties in the Middle School Advisory Department.

A 2001 graduate from the University of Missouri-Columbia, Tina holds bachelor degrees in Sports Marketing and Event Management.

2015-2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Tina Budzinski, Head Varsity; Anna Thomas, Assistant

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Meg Burditt, Maggie Burke, Natalie Dameron, Ellie Rose Sachs, Christine Sees, Julia Pfluger, Julia Parkerson, Abigail Andrews, Elinor Bortnick, Erin Lowe, Gabby Hendren, Carmela Nunez, Ambika Elliott, Rachel Colligan, Nichole Samuels

INDIVIDUAL HONORs:

All-State Academic Team: Maggie Burke, Natalie Dameron, Erin Lowe, Abigail Andrews, Elinor Bortnick, Gabby Hendren, Carmela Nunez, Ambika Elliott, Rachel Colligan, Julia Parkerson

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Maggie Burger

TEAM HONORS:

Kansas City Classic - December 12, 2015
3rd Place-Dance
3rd Place-Mix-JV

Lee’s Summit North Invitational - Jan 23, 2016
3rd place Dance-Varsity
4th place Mix-JV
1st place- Kick-JV
6th place- Mix Varsity

Missouri State Dance Team Competition February 20, 2016
5th place Mix
4th place Dance
Chad Holmes began as the Head Coach of both the boys and girls Swimming and Diving teams in the 2012-2013 school year.

Coach Holmes brings many years of successful swimming and diving coaching to Pembroke Hill. He held similar positions from 2007 through 2012 at the North Kansas City School District. This included coaching the teams at Staley, Oak Park, Winnetonka, and North Kansas City high schools. In those five years Chad led his team to ten conference championships, winning all five with both the boys and the girls teams. Prior to that position, Chad coached both the boys and girls teams for two years at Eaglecrest High School in Aurora, Colorado and for one year as the girls coach at Burke High School in Omaha, Nebraska.

A native of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Coach Holmes graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School. He holds undergraduate degrees in physical education and coaching from Northwest Missouri State University. Chad also holds a master's degree in Athletic Administration from William Woods University.

2015-2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Chad Holmes, Head Varsity; Jackie Moore, Assistant

CAPTAINS: Alice Rowland & Emily Green

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Alice Rowland

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Summer Kelly, Lauren Lee, Emily Dickey, Julia Rosher, Caroline Salzman, Becca Kessler, Catherine Dema, Ellaina Sanders, Sydney Woods, Alice Rowland, Emily Green, Emily Cohen

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:

Caroline Salzman: 11th place state finish in 50 freestyle (school record), 26th place finish in 100 freestyle (school record), Missouri Swim coaches association All state swim team honorable mention

ILC Conference:

1st Caroline Salzman 100 freestyle
2nd Ellaina Sanders 100 backstroke
3rd Caroline Salzman 100 breaststroke
5th Ellaina Sanders 50 freestyle
5th 400 freestyle relay Alice Rowland, Julia Rosher, Lauren Lee, Sydney Woods
7th Emily Dickey 100 freestyle
8th Lauren Lee 100 breaststroke
9th Emily Dickey 100 freestyle
10th Alice Rowland 10 breaststroke
11th Julia Rosher 500 freestyle
12th Julia Rosher 200 freestyle
14th Lauren Lee 200 breaststroke
15th Sydney Woods 100 freestyle
16th Summer Kelly 100 butterfly

TEAM HONORS:

Omaha Lewis Central Invite 4th place
University of Missouri COMO 13th place
Northland Winnetonka Invite 11th place
Independence Invite 11th place
ILC conference championships 4th place
WRESTLING

Tod Harris is the Head Raider Wrestling Coach. Todd’s coaching at Pembroke Hill started in 2004 and had also included assistant coaching positions for volleyball and middle school track and field.

Coach Harris’ head coaching experience also includes wrestling at St. Mary’s High School and volleyball at Lone Jack, East and Raytown high schools. Todd coached East to Interscholastic League titles in 1992, 1993 and 1995 while also being named conference Coach of the Year.

Born in Dubuque, Iowa, Todd was raised in Chicago, Illinois and Independence, Missouri where he graduated from Truman High School. Coach Harris holds BS, Ed. degrees in Biology, Geology and Physical Education from the University of Central Missouri.

TODD HARRIS
Head Coach

2014-2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Todd Harris, Head Varsity Coach; Miles Hochard, Assistant Coach

CAPTAINS: Daniel Duffy and Nick Pallotto

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Nick Pallotto

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Joe Graves, George Embry, Charlie Fromm, Jake Lowe, Nick Pallotto, Sean Weisenfeld, Fielding Burnette, Daniel Duffy, Hank Graves, Katherine Stokes, Catherine Brooks

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:

Joe Graves: 3rd - Bishop Miege, 4th - Battle of Lexington, 2nd - West Platte
George Embry: 2nd - Sherwood & University City, 4th - Bishop Miege & Marshall, 3rd - West Platte
Charlie Fromm: 2nd - Sherwood, Champion - Bishop Miege & West Platte
Jake Lowe: 6th - Bishop Miege, 3rd - West Platte
Nick Pallotto: 2nd - Sherwood, 6th - Marshall, Champion - Bishop Miege, West Platte, & University City
Fielding Burnette: 2nd - Bishop Miege
Daniel Duffy: 2nd - Sherwood, 4th - Marshall, Champion - Bishop Miege
Hank Graves: 4th - West Platte, Champion - Sherwood

TEAM HONORS:

Bishop Miege Tournament: 2nd
12 Dual Wins [New School Record]
Go Raiders!

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Jeff Diskin rejoined Pembroke Hill in 2015. First hired as the Raider Baseball head coach in 2003, he successfully served through the 2013 season. As a Raider, Jeff also applied his coaching skills to basketball, volleyball and field hockey athletes. He also taught middle school English and served as an Assistant Athletic Director.

After eleven years here at Pembroke Hill, Coach Diskin joined the Kansas City Royals organization as its Coordinator for Cultural Development. With coaching in his blood Jeff rejoined the school as the Head Baseball Coach while maintaining his position and duties with the Kansas City Royals.

Coach Diskin played baseball for Shawnee Mission West and Baker University before playing professionally in the Dutch Professional Baseball League. Jeff graduated from Baker and received his MBA from Pittsburg State University.

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Coach Diskin played baseball for Shawnee Mission West and Baker University before playing professionally in the Dutch Professional Baseball League. Jeff graduated from Baker and received his MBA from Pittsburg State University.

2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Jeff Diskin, Dale Robinson, Ryan Ogle, Ben Baker

CAPTAINS: Jason Cobb and Steven Miyawaki

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: William Baker, John Black, Boston Cartee, Thomas Christianson, Jason Cobb, Daniel Duffy, Nick Fitzgerald, Evan Hosse, Alex Hrinya, Inkoo Kang, Garrett Kincad, Steven Miyawaki, Avery Mooney, Garrett Presko, Travis Sedlock, Marcus Smith, Daniel Stanley, Kevin Ward, Tommy Wolfe, James Young, and Managers Mikayla Ferguson and Avery O’Bar

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Aaron Alnutt, Bert Bean, Aaron Berkowitz, Brogan Bethune, Dominic Davies, Ethan Lane, Paolo Laskero, Luke Ossie, Jack Rist, Campbell Robinson, Ethan Starr, Jordan Winn

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: John Black

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
Academic All State: Jason Cobb, Steven Miyawaki, Daniel Stanley
All-District: Garrett Presko, Daniel Duffy

TEAM HONORS:
3rd Place Grandview Tournament
Evan Scobie completed his fourth year as the Head Boys Golf Coach. He also has served as an assistant for the girls golf team. Coach Scobie led the Raiders to a third place finish at the State Meet in his first year. He has followed that performance with two consecutive state team titles.

A native of Hanover, New Hampshire, Evan graduated from Hanover High School. Tom received his bachelor’s degree in Marketing from New Mexico State University.

COACHES: Evan Scobie, Mike Welsh

CAPTAINS: William Esrey, Charlie Hamilton, Jack Mitchell

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Trent Cartmell, William Esrey, Charlie Hamilton, Bryan Jeong, Nick Klock, Jack Mitchell, Robert Starr, and Manager Claire Nonemaker

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Davis Brooks, Oliver Carnes, Alaric Chen, Jake Cohen, Michael Innes, Will McConwell, Austin Tang

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Jack Mitchell

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
All District Team: William Esrey, Charlie Hamilton, Nick Klock, Jack Mitchell
All-State: William Esrey, Charlie Hamilton, Jack Mitchell
National High School Coaches Association Academic All-American: William Esrey
Charlie Hamilton (77) – 6th place Richmond Invitational
DAVID COLBERT
Head Coach

Boys Lacrosse

2016 AWARDS

COACHES: David Colbert, Noah Laible, John Webster, Joseph Ferber, David Herring

CAPTAINS: Parker Beaham, Griffin Brandmeyer, Alex Carolan, William Esrey, Ford Johnson, George Story


JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Nathan Barewin, Tate Benson, Will Carolan, Chris Fredette, Macauley Greif, Gage Kent, Cap McLiney, Sean Murphy, Will Schmitt, Noah Skolnick, Will Yantis

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: William Park

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
All-Lacrosse Association of Kansas City Metro Team
First Team - Ford Johnson
Second Team - George Story
Honorable Mention - Alex Carolan
Honorable Mention - William Park

David Colbert enters his ninth year as the Raider Head Boy’s Lacrosse Coach. His 85+ career wins is the most in Pembroke history. In 2009, Coach Colbert led the Raiders to the MSLA State Championship.

A native of McLean, Virginia, David graduated from Portsmouth Abbey School in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Coach Colbert received a BA from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine where he competed for four years on the Bobcat Men’s Lacrosse team.
Matthew Pritchett enters his 17th year as the head coach of both the Raider boys and girls soccer teams. For the boys, Matthew has accumulated 224+ wins. Those wins produced 13 district championships, 8 final fours, 4 championship games and 1 state championship. He has led the Raider Soccer Girls to 129+ wins. Those wins led to 6 district titles and 2 final four appearances.

A native of St. Louis, Matthew graduated from Parkway South High School. He matriculated at Columbia College where he received degrees in Marketing and Shopping Center Development and Management. He also holds a master’s degree from Rockhurst University in Elementary Education.

Matthew

Matt Pritchett
Head Coach

2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Matt Pritchett, Carrie McAtee, Hillary McGee, Justin Young

CAPTAINS: Elodi Bodamer, Kealy Kornitzer, Alice Rowland, Caroline Salzman

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Elissa Bamberger, Elodi Bodamer, Zosia Czerwinski, Grace Cross, Emily Ervin, Haley Harvey, Megan Hesseman, Stella Kahl, Kealy Kornitzer, Grace Lattan, Rachel Legg, Rebecca Leuschner, Molly Logan, Caroline McCray, Caroline Peterson, Julia Roshier, Alice Rowland, Olivia Sabates, Ellie Rose Sachs, Caroline Salzman, Lizzie Spaeth, Lauren Washington, and Managers Luis Alanis, Ethan Angrist, and Ashley Bough

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Julia Cohon, Alexandra Copaken, Colleen Crabtree, Emily Dickay, Lily Ellis, Tessa Gittings, Julia Hall, Gabby Hendren, Carrie Hughes, Maggie Johnston, Jane Marklay, Caroline O’Keefe, Estu Pawestri, Kate Stokes, Victoria Wall, Janna Withrow, Mary Wurster

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Elissa Bamberger

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
Class 2, Region 3 Player of the Year: Caroline Peterson
Class 2, Region 3 Defensive Player of the Year: Molly Logan
Class 2, Region 3 Coach of the Year: Private School - Matthew Pritchett
Class 2, Region 3 All-Region Team: Stella Kahl, Kealy Kornitzer, Rachel Legg, Molly Logan, Caroline Peterson, Caroline Salzman
Missouri State Class 2 Co-Offensive Player of the Year: Caroline Peterson
First Team All-State: Molly Logan, Caroline Peterson, Caroline Salzman
Second Team All-State: Stella Kahl, Kealy Kornitzer
Honorable Mention All-State: Rachel Legg

TEAM HONORS:
Camdenton Tournament Pool Champions
Districts: First Place
State: Second Place
BOYS TENNIS

Dale Eshelbrenner led the Raider boys and girls tennis teams to great success since his arrival in 1991. During his tenure here at Pembroke Hill, Coach Eshelbrenner led the Raiders to thirteen boys state championships and seven girls state championships. That total of twenty Missouri state team championships exceeds all but twenty-three entire Missouri high schools, for all of their sports throughout their history of competition.

Dale was a native of Fort Scott, Kansas. He earned his college diploma from Bethany College, located in Lindsborg, Kansas.

2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Dale Eshelbrenner, Justin Romick, Max Fearing, Mike Duckworth

CAPTAINS: Josh Bortnick and Tripp Dearborn

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Josh Bortnick, Cormac Chester, Tripp Dearborn, Matthew Gernon, Kevin Li, Logan Stevens, Thomas Thornton, Nathan Turtledove

JUNIOR VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Daniel Bauman, Matthew Berkley, Daniel Bond, Graham Boswell, Adrian Castaner, Bennie Dai, Max Dickinson, Cooper Garrett, Jacob Kaufman, Shreem Makkad, Nick Pallotto, Raghav Parikh, Aaron Swartz, Owen Wright

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Josh Bortnick

INDIVIDUAL HONORS: Josh Bortnick, Cormac Chester, Tripp Dearborn, Kevin Li, Thomas Thornton, and Nathan Turtledove all won 1st place in their respective divisions at the Blue Springs Tournament. Josh Bortnick placed 3rd at the MICDS Tournament of Champions.

TEAM HONORS:
Blue Springs Tournament: 1st Place
Districts: 1st Place
State: 2nd Place
Steve Kapp's coaching career started as an Assistant Cross Country Coach in 2012. Since then, Steve became an Assistant Track & Field Coach in 2013 just prior to taking the reins as the Head Track & Field Coach in 2014.

As the assistant coach, Steve helped lead the Raiders to District Cross Country titles. First with the boys in 2012 and then with both the boys and girls in 2014.

Steve is a graduate of Pembroke Hill and received his BA in English from the University of Texas-Austin.

2016 AWARDS

COACHES: Steve Kapp, Sarah Taber, Miles Hochard, McCay Tuttle

CAPTAINS: Boys - Evan Peterson, Matheus Ramos, John Rosher Girls - Kennedy Coleman, Charlotte Hendricks, Izzy Laskero


RAIDER AWARD WINNERS: Charlotte Hendricks & Fielding Burnette

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:

Bella Barnes: 6th place 200 - Piper; Emlien Brown: 800 7th Place - Smithville; Kennedy Coleman: 1600 1st Place - Excelsior Springs, 1st Place - Piper, 3rd Place - Platte County, 3000 2nd Place - Smithville, 3rd Place - Ray-Pec, 4th Place - Kearney; Robert Cuddy: 8th Place Shot Put - Piper; Coleman Gliddon: 800 4th Place - Smithville, 3200 6th Place - Ray-Pec; Charlotte Hendricks: Triple Jump 7th Place Smithville, Alec Hill: High Jump 5th Place - Ray-Pec; Reece Jones: 3200 1st Smithville, 1st Excelsior Springs, 4th Kearney, 1600 2nd Platte County, 800 4th Place - Ray-Pec, 4th Place - Platte County; Emma Knopik: 2000 4th Place - Smithville, 7th Place - Excelsior Springs; Arielle Nash: High Jump 7th Place - Ray-Pec, 7th Place - Excelsior Springs, 7th Place - Piper, Long Jump 7th Place - Ray-Pec; Evan Peterson: 1440 1st Place - Smithville, 1st Place - Platte County, 2nd Place - Ray-Pec, 3200 2nd Place - Kearney, 6th Place - Kansas Relays, 800 2nd Place - Ray-Pec, 4th Place - Platte County; Mathieu Ramos: 3200 3rd Place - Smithville, 5th Place - Excelsior Springs, 7th Place - Piper, 8th Place - Platte County; Julia Rosher: 800 4th Place - Ray-Pec, 1600 3rd Place - Excelsior Springs, 4th Place - Smithville, 6th Place - Ray-Pec; Elliana Sanders: 800 5th Place - Smithville, 7th Place - Piper, Shahim Shahzad: 200 7th Place - Excelsior Springs; Thomas Way: 1600 5th Place - Smithville, 8th Place - Excelsior Springs, 3200 3rd Ray-Pec, 7th Place - Platte County, 800 6th Place - Piper

TEAM HONORS:

Boys: 4th place Smithville Invitational, 4x800 Relay 1st Place - Ray-Pec; Reece Jones, John Rosher, Ben McDermott, Evan Peterson; 2nd Place - Smithville Invitational; Reece Jones, Ben McDermott, Coleman Gliddon, Evan Peterson; 3rd Excelsior Springs; Reece Jones, John Rosher, Emlien Brown, Ben McDermott; 3rd Place - Piper (John Rosher, Coleman Gliddon, Ben McDermott, Emlien Brown); 4x400 Relay 4th Place - Piper; Spencer Schmid, Sein Boswell, Justin Pierre, Ben McDermott

Girls: 4x800 Relay 1st Place - Piper, 2nd Smithville Invitational, 5th Place - Platte County; Kennedy Coleman, Julia Rosher, Izzy Laskero, Elliana Sanders; 3rd Ray-Pec (Julia Rosher, Izzy Laskero, Lawrence, Kennedy Coleman)
Kara Kling was Pembroke Hill’s first head coach of its newest interscholastic sport. Starting in the Spring of 2016, Kara lead the Girl’s Lacrosse Team, after coaching the team as a club sport since 2014.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Coach Kling graduated from St. Joseph’s Academy. Kara received her Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kansas, where she competed in Club Women’s Lacrosse.

2015 AWARDS

COACHES: Kara Kling, Katie Foster, Joanna Kubicki

CAPTAINS: Catherine Fredette, Elena Humphrey, Kippy Terry

VARSITY LETTER WINNERS: Catherine Brooks, Emily Cohen, Sienna Doering, Margaret Esrey, Catie Franano, Cathurina Fredette, Evelyn Freilich, Lily Glenn, Emily Green, Grace Green, Elena Humphrey, Kate Humphrey, Julia Kiersznowski, Lindsay Luchinsky, Lauren McElhinney, Reagan Mitchell, Chloe Montague, Carmela Nunez, Audrey O’Shaughnessy, Grace Parkerson, Emily Penning, Ellison Rooney, Ellis Roland, Kippy Terry, Chloe Yonke and Managers Evelyn Freilich and Julia Kierznowski

RAIDER AWARD WINNER: Meg Esrey

INDIVIDUAL HONORS:
Most Goals: Ellie Ruland
Most Valuable Defender: Kippy Terry
Most Improved Player: Sienna Doering
Well, yes a school can have too much class. It is fun to have as much as you can, as long as you compete well with those of similar class. If you get too much, it simply isn’t any fun. And the amount of class you have varies from sport to sport.

Reading the title, you thought this was about sportsmanship, right? I apologize for the cheap trick to get your attention. I just couldn’t resist the double entendre. This article is about how the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHSAA) creates classifications and districts for each sport they sponsor. Is this important? Yes, very much so. The classification to which you are assigned dictates which schools you have to defeat to continue advancing in post season competition. If you compete for state championships, and no one has more MSHSAA state championships than our Raiders, our classification is very important.

Is this where I tell you our classification and that will end the discussion? Not so fast. As it turns out, it is much more complicated than a simple, singular assignment.

First, the higher the number of the classification, the larger the number of schools in the various classifications vary greatly. There are 131 schools competing in a specific sport ranges from 92 in boy’s tennis to 591 in boy’s basketball. The number of classifications within a sport range from 6 in 11-man football to only one in both boy’s and girls swimming and diving. The numbers of schools in the various classifications vary greatly. There are 131 schools competing in the one classification for girl’s swimming and diving, while there are only 32 schools in Class 6 of football. Think that through. Would you rather have to beat out 131 schools to win a championship? Or, just 31? Of all the sports, MSHSAA has only re-classified three by the deadline for this article. Was Pembroke Hill affected? Most definitely.

Our district in last year’s Class 3 was very competitive. It included Hogan Prep, Barstow, D’Hara, Central Academy, Summit Christian, University Academy, African Centered Education and Southwest Early to College. In the last seven years, a boy’s team from that district made it to the state championship game six times, winning two titles. That was a very strong district. Our new district in class 4 will include Center, Central Academy, East, Lincoln Prep and Van Horn. Those schools may not have gotten to the state championship game recently, but they are much larger schools. The other schools in our new class 3 district averaged 321 students. Our new class 4 district opponents will average 748 students. Even with the 35% that MSHSAA adds to our student population because we are a private school, we will still be the smallest school in our new district.

A few familiar names were moved both up and down the classification list. In boy’s and girl’s basketball Central Academy, John Burroughs and St. Pius A. K.C joined our Raiders in moving up to class 4. Notable changes in football were Center moving from class 4 to class 3, African Centered Education from 2 to 3, D’Hara from 3 to 2 and both East and Northeast bumping up from class 3 to class 4. The closure of Southwest Early to College caused several changes at other schools. The 426 students formerly at Southwest were redistributed elsewhere within the Kansas City School District causing ten+ increases in the student body of African Centered Education, Central Academy, East and Northeast. Those increases pushed Central Academy up a notch in boys and girls basketball to class 4. The increased population at African Centered Education pushed the Knights football program up to class 3. The football teams at both Northeast and East have moved up to class 4.

Changes in its student population can affect a school. All re-classified schools both leave and join classes and districts. Even without changes in your student population, you can be greatly affected by the arrival of a re-classified school into your district. Take boy’s basketball’s Class 1, District 1 for example. This district located down in Missouri’s boot heel has been comprised of Clarkton, Coote, Delta (Deering), Gideon, North Pemiscot, Ross, and Southland. Last year those schools combined for more losses than wins. This year’s re-classification resulted in Scott County Central being added to that district. That school has long been a powerhouse in basketball. The Brawns and Bravettes have won 29 state championships, all in boy’s and girl’s basketball. The boy’s team won the class 2 state championship two out of the last three years. Their arrival into that class 1 district will have significant impact on the other district schools.

We will have to wait to see if our classification changes for any other sport. But, regardless of whom the competition is, our Raiders are known for showing up to compete. We have competed against the very best teams throughout our grand history. That will continue into the future. And so will our success.
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**Ingredients**
- 3/4 pound unsalted butter, at room temperature
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- blue & red sugar for dusting

**Directions**
Preheat oven to 350°F. In mixer, cream butter and sugar until light colored. Add vanilla, in a medium bowl, sift together the flour and salt, then add to butter mixture. Mix on low until dough comes together. On a floured surface, shape into a disk. Chill for 30 minutes. Roll the dough 1/4 thick and cut into desired shapes. Place cookies on ungreased baking sheet and sprinkle with blue and red sugar. Bake for 15-20 minutes, until edges begin to brown. Allow to cool to room temperature.
PHANTOM STUDENTS THROUGHOUT MISSOURI
BY KENT MUELLER

Every two years Missouri high schools dutifully submit the number of their students to MSHSAA. The state association then uses those numbers to place schools into classifications with other schools of similar size. It makes sense for schools to compete against other schools that have comparable numbers of students.

But, something magical happens. MSHSAA finds phantom students. Tens of thousands of students. To be exact, this year they found 23,376 students that the schools were unaware existed. MSHSAA found those students throughout the state, in small schools and in large. They are in rural, urban, and suburban schools. Those students don’t have names, faces, or genders. They are just numbers. Did they find them in every school? No. They found them in schools such as Chaminade, Bishop LeBlond, and Hogan Prep. Villa Duchesne, Alta Vista and Cristo Rey also have these faceless students. Did they find any at Pembroke Hill? Yes they did. To be exact, perhaps after scouring Jordan Hall and Centennial Hall, they found 148 Raiders. (None of whom pay tuition or eat at Hall Student Center!).

All of those phantom students are created for the just and noble cause of fair competition. The issue being addressed with these imaginary students is the inherent set of advantages private schools enjoy versus their public school counterparts. For the same reasons, starting a few years ago, charter schools are now treated the same as private schools.

What are these athletic advantages private schools enjoy over the public schools? They are all variations of the selective process to private school admissions. The active recruiting of athletes can be a part of this, but that is not a part of this article. Even without recruiting, private schools tend to have advantages over others. Most, but not all, private schools draw from higher socio-economic demographics than the average high school. Students from those higher demographics are more likely to be healthy, have access to facilities, and equipment to help them compete. They are also more likely to compete in non-school club sports in the off season. Good examples of sports where access to facilities and outside competition give advantages to private schools are golf and swimming.

Are these advantages easily quantifiable and evenly distributed? No, they are not. MSHSAA uses a process that treats all sports at all private and charter schools the same. Is that fair? One size fits all solutions are never fair. Is there a better solution? The answer to that question is much more elusive.

Now back to those phantom students. MSHSAA adds 35 percent to the student body numbers of private and charter schools. This last Spring Pembroke Hill informed MSHSAA there are 421 Raiders. MSHSAA looked at that number and wrote down 569, a number 35 percent greater than reality. It is that higher number that MSHSAA uses to place each of our sports into its classification for post season completion. The “35% Rule” is used to handicap private and charter schools.

As noted, this is a “One Size Fits All” rule. Not all private and charter schools enjoy the same degree of advantages. And there would be inequities even if all the affected schools had the same demographics. The only schools that truly get handicapped are those that are sufficiently close to the next higher classification for the 35 percent increase to boost them into the next higher class. What more, those private schools that start out in the largest classification can never be handicapped by this rule because there isn’t a higher class into which they can go.

Now you know why MSHSAA thinks we have a larger student population than those who actually attend class. Is the reasoning just? Certainly. It is completely fair? Nothing is completely fair. The good thing is that with each sport there is a whistle, a waiving of the referee’s arm, or the toss of the ball that leads to why we are here. Good, wholesome competition. Play ball!
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