

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## 2023 Homecoming

**Ameyali Martinez-Pena**  
*Staff Writer*

Homecoming is here and this year's theme is "Under the Stars"! Saturday, September 9, 2023, was this year's homecoming at Our Lady of Lourdes Conmy Center. As students pick out their most dazzling dresses and perfect their hair, they await one of the most special events of the year! Homecoming is a dance that allows all grades to enjoy and celebrate the one of the first football games of the season. At homecoming, students can create unforgettable moments with their friends. Though every homecoming is special in their own way, this year it's a bit more unique. Mrs. Hawkins has had the honor to become in charge of SGA and with composing homecoming and homecoming week. "My favorite part was ordering all the flowers and crowns!", Mrs. Hawkins states with composing homecoming this year. When asked what she would do differently next homecoming, she says "Next year I'm going to sell tickets earlier." However, Mrs. Hawkins couldn't do it alone. Our school's own Student Government assisted with the planning of organizing our homecoming. They helped with creating centerpieces, assembling decorations, and so much more without them, it wouldn't be possible. Thanks again to Mrs. Hawkins and SGA for helping with preparations to help achieve a successful and outstanding homecoming!



A group of students have fun on the dance floor at Homecoming.

*Photo by: Elli O'Neil*

First DHS newspaper  
printed in 7 years!

## Back to School

**Ameyali Martinez-Pena**  
*Staff Writer*

School is back in session! Students return back to school on August 10, 2023 to a recent "A" school! This school year started off with some new changes and--some--familiar faces. With our annual class-grade presentation, students are reminded of our school rules, policies, and requirements. But let's not forget, Back-To-School night, as students and parents connect with their teachers for the new school year, they are also reminded of teachers' expectations. Though, every school year can be slightly intimidating for several new students... (we have 1,224 students this year!) It's important to breathe deep, breathe through, and breathe out. So, let's make this a great 2023-2024 school year!

## Table of Contents

Page 1-3: Breaking News

Page 4 & 5: Clubs

Page 6-8: Sports

Page 9 & 10: Entertainment

Page 11 & 12: Staff List & Editorial

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## Spirit week

Serenity McRory  
Staff Writer

Throughout Spirit Week, many students participated in showing their school spirit. Starting off with pajama day, there were many plaid and holiday themed pajamas. As teachers returned to school on the following Tuesday, they didn't just walk in to see their students, but their students dressed as them! Scary! Some of the special teachers who had a student dress up as them were Mr. Vroman, Mr. Montgomery, and even our great principal Mr. Kiblinger. Followed by this was Character Day, where we had the honor of being in the presence of Bruce Wayne, Doodle Bob, and even Mr. Murphy, who was dressed as a Hogwarts Slytherin. Thursday was Generations Day; all the freshmen dressed as babies, followed by the sophomores, who were college students, or as many of us saw, frat boys. The juniors were working class adults, and many suits could be found. Finally, the seniors, who all had grey hairs and slowly moved around campus as they yelled at the younger generations, being as they were the elderly. The final day of the week blasted off with Spirit Day, where everyone wore their best red, white, and black outfits. Every student represented the Dunedin high School spirit in the way they best saw fit!



Friday, September 8th was Spirit Day. Pictured above, a group of cheerleaders dress in their best school colors.

Photo by: Emily Wagner

## Free School Lunch

Serenity McRory  
Staff Writer

To start the 2023 school year off, Dunedin High School is now offering free lunch to all students! This is all thanks to the previous year's students and teachers who all worked hard throughout the year to bring the schools rating up and make this possible. In the 2022 school year Dunedin was still a shining school with a B rank, but in 2023 DHS gets to kick off the new year as an A school. The student test scores were ranked 47.33%, but thanks to everyone in the school who put the effort in during the 2022 school year, in this very great 2023 school year, DHS has moved to 52.45% in ranking. School test scores are not the only thing that had a role in turning this amazing High School into an A school with free lunch for all students. In 2022 Dunedin High Schools ranking was in 314th place but come the 2023 school year DHS has gone up that ladder 47 times placing itself in 267th place. Out of all the main subjects at this great school science scores excelled the most. Some of the amazing science teachers at Dunedin in the 2022 school year is Mrs. Morrison, Ms. McNeal, and Ms. Sampson. They all worked hard, just as many other teachers to make their kids ready for the E.O. C'S. So, Dunedin High School wants to thank all the students and teachers for the effort and hard work they have always done.

## Trunk or Treat

Hosted by Key  Club!

When: October 30th at DHS



# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## Hurricane Idalia

Ava Johnny and Sellylynn Albert  
*Staff Writers*

Earlier during the school year, what appeared to be just a storm but became a hurricane that was heading towards our direction. On Monday the 28th of August, while students were sitting down eating lunch, their phones buzzed alerting them about the threatening storm coming their way. This resulted in the cancellation of all Pinellas County schools on days August 29th –30th. Students and teachers needed to prep for this hurricane, and were surveyed on: what are some essentials or materials that they needed to put up or away? Wayne Keys, coach of the boys’ varsity basketball team, stated that “I had to get all my belongings from the pool, put a tarp over the pool, then put buckets over my filter, and get a lot of jugs of water”; throughout the time of Hurricane Idalia, he stayed inside prepared by watching the news. “Buckle Up!” he said. Meanwhile, students and teachers that lived in the flood areas were terrified! They prepped with sandbags, toilet paper, food, and cases of water. Norman Santos claimed that he was trembling with fear because he had seen a fallen tree on top of a crushed car in front of his window. Ryan Joseph, Nathan Deguzman, Bella Joseph, and Leiah Edwin all expressed the same pros and cons for Hurricane Idalia. They claimed that staying inside and not being able to hang out with friends was a con. However, staying inside gave them time to work on missing assignments for school.



Man walks through flooded road in Cuba.  
*Photo by: Reuters.com*

## Girls State

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Autumn Nachman is a senior at Dunedin High School, and over the summer, she was one of 300 girls to attend Florida Girl’s State. Florida Girl’s State, hosted at Florida State University, is a week-long opportunity for high school girls all over Florida to learn about democratic ideals and the political process. It is also here where the girls try to pass a bill and get it approved in their state. Activities would last every day from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm, and included events such as assemblies, debates, open congressional sessions and campaigns.

Nachman’s proposed bill was a five-cent sales tax included on chemically based cleaning products and detergents containing volatile organic compounds (such as nitrogen, ammonia, and phosphorus). This tax would then be donated back to American National Parks. In order to pass the bill, Nachman’s proposal had to go through the City committee, Rules and Calendar’s Committee, the Standing Committee, and, finally, the Chamber floor. Nachman made it all the way up to the Chamber Floor, traveling to Girl’s Nation in the process and becoming the first from Pinellas County to attend.

When asked in an interview, Nachman stated her favorite part of Girl’s State was the congressional sessions, and said debates with her fellow attendees were very fun. Nachman also expressed her enjoyment in meeting other girls her age also interested in government.

“I learned that there are many incredibly intelligent young women in Florida who want to get involved politically and are ready to make a change,” said Nachman in an interview. “You just have to find them”.

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023



This is our new DHS Press newspaper logo! If you see it around school, you know it's us!

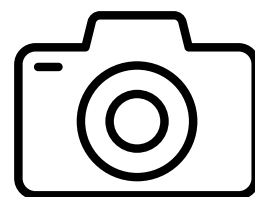
## SGA

**Samantha Baird**  
*Staff Writer and Head Technical Advisor*

Although student government works mostly behind the scenes here at DHS, they are still very busy as they prepare all of your favorite events. One of SGA's biggest and most recent events was homecoming! When it comes to homecoming, student government does many things such as deciding the theme, making the centerpieces, setting up the decorations, and more. SGA is also responsible for the themes of each day during spirit week, as well as the homecoming parade. This year SGA meets in Mrs. Hawkins room, room 15-9 for the all-grade weekly meetings, Monday during lunch. Each grade level of SGA also has separate meetings on other days in their grade level sponsors room. The freshman and sophomore sponsor is Mr. Szymanski; the junior and senior sponsor is Mrs. Hawkins. Each grade level also has different roles, such as president, vice president, historian, and secretary. Elected at the end of last year, the presidents are Jesielle Rosenberg (10), Chloe Stertz (11), Tori Kabamba (12). There is also a group of elected students to represent student government as a whole. The SGA president is Rachel Roberts (12). Student government is a very important part of DHS that helps make changes and prepare events.

Seniors- do not forget! Have your Senior Photos completed.

Go to [cadystudios.com](http://cadystudios.com) to schedule your special photo!



Students meeting during lunch on Monday for SGA.  
*Photo by: Samantha Baird*



# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

The DHS Band performs at the first home game of the season.  
Photo by: Joselin Acosta



## DHS Band: Marching to the Beat of Success!

Natasha Philips  
Staff Writer

DHS Band is not just a group of musicians, but a family united by a passion for music. Led by talented and inspiring Ms. Alicea, this band has been hitting all the right notes and making their mark in the community. From electrifying halftime performances at football games to captivating audiences at competitions, the DHS Band never fails to leave a great impression. Their commitment to excellence and their unwavering spirit have earned them numerous accolades and recognition. But it is not just about the trophies and awards. The band members cherish the friendships they have formed and the memories they created together. The band room is a place where laughter, support, and musical creativity thrive. So, here is to Dunedin High School Band! May their music continue to inspire, uplift, and bring joy to all who listen. They are proof that when a group of individuals come together, something truly magical happens.

## Theatre

Samantha Baird  
Staff Writer and Head Technical Advisor

Theatre lovers get ready. Junie B Jones the musical will be coming to DHS. From cast auditions, to rehearsals, to set creation, the DHS theatre program is busy as they prepare to perform this fun musical. However, the theatre program is working on much more than just a musical. They are also putting together two One Acts to be performed at the district thespian competition; they are 'Tuna Fish Eulogy' and 'Selfie.' Auditions for the musical and plays took place on August 22, after school, and call backs were posted the following day, asking back 19 students for the musical and 21 students for the One Acts. Cast lists were later posted on Friday, August 25th, excitedly announcing the cast that will be performing in the musical and plays. Mrs. Mullholand will be directing the Junie B Jones musical, and she has invited several elementary schools to come and view the show, but there is lots of work to be done before the show is ready. Also helping prepare the musical are Gabe O'Reilly and Julia Sterz. In charge of the One Acts is Mrs. Mullholand, Gabe O'Reilly, and Julia Stertz.



Cast singing around the piano at Junie B Jones rehearsal.

Photo by: Samantha Baird

## Show off your costume!



Wear your Halloween costume on October 31st, per Student Government.

*Please no masks or inappropriate costumes*



# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## Athlete's Corner

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Lucy Valentino is a sophomore at Dunedin High School, and this is her second year apart of the Girl's Cross Country team. Valentino has a background in playing recreational soccer for Dunedin Stirling, having not participated on a running team until she began high school. Despite this, Valentino currently holds the school record for the girl's fastest 5k, and placed first at Cross Country's first meet of the season. Valentino stated that she much prefers to run long distances over sprints, and believes consistency is key when it comes to practice. She also said her proudest achievement related to running is her 2022 District's race, setting her personal record of 20:33. If she continues to run in college, Valentino would prefer to run for a lower-division team if given the choice. When asked about her favorite part of Cross Country, Valentino said she values the community, stating that "you make a lot of friends you would not have otherwise, and everyone is really fun and friendly". Finally, after being asked if she had any advice for her teammates, Valentino said, simply, "drink water!".



Sophomore Lucy Valentino crosses the finish line at a Cross Country Invitational, hosted by DHS.  
*Photo by: Tanay Patel*



The DHS Football team enters the field during the Homecoming Game  
*Photo by: Tanay Patel*

## We Want a Touchdown!

Jayda Tucker  
*Staff Writer*

With every passing game, our Falcon Football team perseveres. They have played against the Lakewood Ranch Mustangs, the Countryside Cougars, the Osceola Warriors, and the Seminole Warhawks! Our Falcon Football team brings everyone together every Friday night to cheer on our team with immense spirit and encouragement! Not only do the players get to shine on the field, but the games also draw in crowds of enthusiastic fans. Showing our Falcon's our true school spirit motivates them and keeps them pushing. Football is one of High School's best memories; football is a sport that inspires people to have fun. Our Falcons show immense pride and respect on and off the field. When on the field, there can be up to five wide receivers, but there are always five offensive linemen no more and no less. When our defense hits the field, it is important; they try their best and do their part so we can have more offense time and score some touchdowns! Defense is mainly to keep the other team's offense from progressing or scoring on the field. Students, Staff, Friends, Parents, and alike come to see this team, and you should too!



# DHS Press

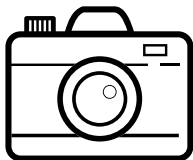
Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## Home Game Football Schedule

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

1. Friday, August 25th- Dunedin vs. Countryside @7:30 pm
2. Friday, September 8th- Dunedin vs. Seminole (Homecoming Game) @7:30 pm
3. Wednesday, September 20th- Dunedin vs. Largo @7:00 pm
4. Friday, September 22nd- Dunedin vs. St. Petersburg @7:30 pm
5. Wednesday, September 27th- Dunedin vs. Countryside @7:00 pm
6. Wednesday, October 4th- Dunedin vs. Clearwater @7:00 pm
7. Friday, October 13th- Dunedin vs. Berkeley @ 7:30 pm
8. Wednesday, October 18th- Dunedin vs. Pinellas Park @7:00 pm
9. Friday, October 27th- Dunedin vs. Calvary @7:30 pm
10. Friday, November 3rd- Dunedin vs. Palm Harbor @7:30 pm



Student Athletes-  
Schedule photos  
with Cady  
Studios!

Go to [cadystudios.com](http://cadystudios.com) to  
schedule your professional  
photos.

Sophomore  
Brayton Ross  
and junior  
Jonathan  
McBrayer begin  
their race at the  
Falcon  
Invitational  
*Photo by: Tanay  
Patel*



## Cross Country Season Begins

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

The Dunedin Cross Country season is under way, and it's producing DHS's finest runners in years. The DHS Cross Country team started off their season over the summer with a three-day conditioning camp from July 25th through July 27th. At the camp, members enjoyed morning runs, competitive games, and ice breaker activities to try and promote team bonding. The first meet of the season was hosted by DHS at Hammock Park on Thursday, August 17th. Each runner must complete 3.1 miles at every meet, and members try to place in the top ten. The last meet of the season before Districts will be the Clearwater Central Catholic Invitational on October 21st, held at the host team's high school.

This year, the team has welcomed a brand-new batch of runners, making this the largest team Cross Country has seen in years. A total of 16 new members joined this season, in addition to the seven sophomores, juniors, and seniors who participated in past years. With their strength in numbers, and their commitment to improvement, the group is confident they can pull off a great season. "The team's biggest strength is their dedication and determination", said Mrs. Morrison. Morrison is head coach of the team, and she's been teaching at Dunedin for five years. "Cross Country is the kind of sport where if you do the work, you get better. You have to be fully invested in order to succeed".

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## DHS Swim & Dive Makes Waves in Top 8

Campbell Hudson  
*Editor-in-Chief*

The Dunedin High School Swim Team has begun a brand-new season, with tougher competition than they've ever faced before.

The 2023 DHS Swim and Dive season officially began July 31st. The first meet was held on August 19th at Northeast High, and a total of 12 schools attended. This year, the team has moved up from the lower eight to the top eight in the district. This means Dunedin will be going directly up against some of the best schools in the county, after placing in the top eight of schools last year. Due to this, meets will be highly competitive for every swimmer, and it will be more challenging for the team to place in the top three.

Despite the high stakes, swimmers have been working hard and performing exceptionally well at meets. Notable events include Sophia Presby in the 100 Breaststroke, Milena Fix in the 100 Butterfly, Seth Demirtas in the 100 Breaststroke, and Sean Wallace in the 100 Freestyle. Quickly approaching is the highly anticipated Districts meet. The meet will host every school in the district, and if swimmers make the cut, they can advance to Regionals, where they could hopefully earn a spot at States. States is the largest meet for high school swimmers in Florida, and it's very difficult to qualify. Regardless, the team is hopeful they can pull it off.

"We have a really solid group of kids out here willing to work hard and improve," stated Coach Tiffany Rayel. Rayel is a physical education and health teacher at Dunedin, and she has been head coach of the team for six years. "The more you show up, and if you put in the effort, the better you will be".



Freshman Marianna Foster races the 200 medley relay at a home meet against Countryside High.

*Photo by: Elli O'Neil*

Did you know that you can  
get **free ad space** in the  
newspaper if you purchase  
an ad in the yearbook?  
Now you do!

Just go to the DHS website and click on  
'Buy a Yearbook', input your  
information, then begin making your  
ad!

Winter Athletes, have  
you completed your  
paperwork?



All Athletes must have their paperwork  
done in order to participate on a sports  
team. Visit the Dunedin High School  
website and complete yours.



# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## Barbie vs Oppenheimer

Ghost of DHS (Anonymous)  
Staff Writer

In the new film Oppenheimer, the first line is “Prometheus stole fire from the gods and gave it to man. For this, he was chained to a rock and tortured for eternity.” This really speaks to the whole film. J. R. Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb, is the focus of the film. A man with blood on his hands. Not someone to be celebrated, and not someone to be reprimanded. His invention opened up a new world of warfare, for better or worse, but a new world nonetheless.

The film asks the questions: How could something so destructive be so beautiful? How could something so murderous be so intriguing...?

Society praised him, the government both praised him and reprimand him.

For the other film, we have Barbie. Those who say it’s strictly a feminist think-piece are just wrong. Yes, it is about feminism and the patriarchy, but what Greta Gerwig did was switch the patriarchy and gender norms. It’s about the norm, escaping the norm, what it’s like to be in a society where it’s normal for women to be objects; and when someone opens your eyes and you see how women are being treated, you’re in shock. Barbieland flips our society on its head. It’s not man hating, it’s reversing gender norms.

In today’s world, and in previous decades, women were looked at as mere accessories. Now m(k)en are being looked at in the same way and there’s an uprising. It’s women empowerment, and it’s recognizing that women can have any career they want AND be a mom.

Both these films have one underlying theme: societal norms.

## Movie Recommendations

Will Rettmann  
Staff Writer

- Warning: The following movies contain scenes and subjects that are not suitable for some viewers.**
1. Blue Beetle (2023) (PG 13) by Angel Manuel Soto
  2. Guardians of the Galaxy (2014) (PG 13) by James Gunn
  3. Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse (2023) (PG) by Joaquim Dos Santos
  4. Barbie (2023) (PG 13) by Greta Gerwig
  5. Scream VI (2023) (R) by Matt Bettinelli-Olpin, Tyler Gillett
  6. The Batman (2022) (PG 13) by Matt Reeves
  7. Bullet Train (2022) (R) by David Leitch
  8. Avatar (2009) (PG 13) by James Cameron
  9. Scott Pilgrim vs. the World (2010) (PG 13) by Edgar Wright
  10. Ghostbusters (1984) (PG) by Ivan Reitman

September 16th was 100 days until Christmas!

## Book List

Brinleigh Brittain  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

1. Good Omens: The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Anges Nutter, Witch by Sir. Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman
2. The Gentleman: A Novel by Forrest Leo
3. American Royals by Katharine McGee
4. The Library of the Unwritten by A.J. Hackwith
5. Grown by Tiffany D. Jackson
6. Radio Silence by Alice Oseman
7. Paper Towns by John Green
8. A Girl Like That by Tanza Bhathena
9. Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood
10. Young Avengers: The Complete Collection by Allen Heinberg and Jim Cheung

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

The Painting  
*Sunny Beach*  
Art by:  
Tavík  
František  
Šimon



The school lunch line is packed with people each day, and includes healthy options such as juice, fruit, and sandwiches.  
*Photo by: NBC News*

## Summer Vacations

**Brinleigh Brittain**  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

Summer break is a time to take a pause from the pressures of school and work to unwind. A time to do something fun over the empty weeks. Some people visit family, go on a cross-country trip to visit every state park, and others simply go take a swim at the beach. Riverlyn B. took a trip to Minnesota, where she spent the month camping, swimming, and visiting fairgrounds. Madison B also had a good time over the break. “I spent two weeks in North Carolina in a gorgeous beach house with my family and best friend.” Some people’s trips weren’t so fun. Skylar Rettmann went kayaking in St. Petersburg. “I got sunburned really bad and it hurt.” He remarked on this miserable experience. Even our esteemed teachers have gone on interesting and thrilling trips during June and July. Coach Kifer has traveled north to Canda, and back south to visit Maine, Arizona, and California. “I’ve visited 29 out of 30 major league baseball stadiums.” He proudly stated. Perhaps these accounts have brought fond memories of vacations passed or have given aspiring travelers some ideas for their next trip!

## School Lunch Poll

**Will Rettmann**  
*Staff Writer*

Most people’s favorite time to eat is lunch, especially when being at school. This year at Dunedin High School, school lunch is free for every student, and a lot of people are recognizing it. The lines are always filled to the brim at the start, but does that mean that everyone who gets lunch actually enjoys it? Out of the 50 students asked whether they enjoy school lunch or not, about 44% said they enjoy school lunch. However, 55% of students said they didn’t enjoy school lunch.

“School lunch is honestly not bad and it's 10000% necessary for people with food insecurity issues” said Autumn Rain. Based on the feedback from Dunedin High School students, the most popular and preferred school lunch meals are pizza and chicken sandwiches.

Overall, many students at Dunedin are grateful for the free school lunch, regardless of how it tastes. However, everyone can agree that there is always room for improvement.



# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023



The Colosseum, located in Rome, Italy.

Photo by: Campbell Hudson

## Meet the Staff!

### Editors-in-chief

.....Campbell Hudson

.....Brinleigh Brittain

### Head Technical Advisor

.....Samantha Baird

### Staff Writers

.....Ameyali Martinez-Pena

.....Ava Johnny

.....Ghost of Dunedin  
(Anonymous)

.....Jayda Tucker

.....Natasha Philip

.....Serenity McRory

.....Will Rettmann

.....Sellylynn Albert

## My Summer in Europe

Campbell Hudson  
*Co-Editor-in-Chief*

This summer, I joined countless other tourists across the globe and traveled to two of the most desired vacation destinations in the world: Italy and Greece. Knowing a maximum of five Italian words, with my suitcase, passport, and disposable camera, I left the country for the first time and traveled halfway across the world.

I left for my two-week trip on June 29th, with about thirty kids my age also from the Pinellas County area. The tour company we traveled with was called EF Tours, an organization dedicated to providing affordable, educational trips for students. EF Tours offers a wide variety of tours, with the most popular ones traveling to France, England, Spain, and China. My tour was titled The Adriatic Odyssey, and stopped at the following cities: Rome, Florence, Meteora, Santorini, Mykonos, and finally, Athens.

Each day was filled to the brim with activities, excursions, and educational lessons about the city we were visiting. I had the opportunity to see some of the most famous and beautiful structures in the world, but also had time for more leisurely pastimes. We visited the Vatican City, where we got to see the Sistine Chapel and Michelangelo’s famous paintings. We toured the Roman Forum, and learned about daily life in Ancient Greece. We saw the Acropolis, and visited its accompanied museum. We even went inside old Italian catacombs, walking a mile through the winding, haunting path.

I learned so many new things on my trip; I learned about Ancient Greek mythology and religion, and how it completely shaped their lives. I learned about Caesar’s rule over Rome, and his ultimate fall due to the senators. I learned about the attack on the Parthenon in 1687. All of this rich history helped make my tour even more memorable than it already was, and opened up my mind to the heritage of those across the world.

My trip to Europe this summer was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I’ll remember for the rest of my life. I feel very thankful that I was able to go, and experience the beauty of other countries.

# DHS Press

Volume 1

Fall Edition 2023

## This page could be yours!

If you own a business, go to the Dunedin High School website and buy an ad today!

