

THIS IS HOW THE LANGERS DO IT

BREAKDOWN OF A PEP ASSEMBLY FROM TWO SEPARATE PERSPECTIVES



JUMPING FOR JOY

RIGHT Jumping up and down in the crowd, sophomore Liv Madden enjoyed her first pep assembly. "It was super hyped up because it was the first one we have had for a year," Madden said. "It was super fun and everyone was very excited." **PHOTO | EMMA KATE SQUIRES**

COMPETITIVE CANDIDATES

RIGHT When the music ended for the Homecoming Court's round of musical chairs, senior Evan Broaddus went head to head with senior Carson Welch. "We are both swimmers and were more competitive against each other." **PHOTO | ELLA HANS**

KNOCKOUT TIME

FAR RIGHT Pressed for time in a game of knockout with her fellow sweetheart court candidates, senior Hannah Winter shot to score. "During the game I was really struggling to make the baskets," Winter said. "I was actually very impressed with how far I ended up making it though, I got second." **PHOTO | PHOENIX FISK**



PEP EXEC POV

THE SIX PEP EXECS RECEIVED A text from the Pep Club sponsor, Timothy Brill. Days earlier, during the 7:15 pep club meeting, senior pep exec Celia Condon quickly typed out a proposal for a potential pep assembly.

Condon wrote out the ideas as the other five pep execs rambled them off. They were fighting for the go-ahead on a winter pep assembly.

"If sports are being played and student sections are allowed, what's the difference in having a pep assembly?" senior pep exec Charlotte Hawes said.

"We could also split it into cohorts so there are less people," senior pep exec Kyler Houghton said. "Then there will be plenty of space in the gym for everyone to spread out."

Condon nodded along, interpreting the

arguments into a more professional email. Send.

It was another five days before Brill's text came through letting the execs know that Principal Peres had given them the approval. Now there was less than a week to put together a pep assembly. Actually, two pep assemblies – the assembly had to be split due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The Rockhurst versus SM East game was approaching quickly and WPA was right around the corner – the execs found these as perfect events to base the assembly around.

WPA king and queen candidates were quickly notified that they would be participating in a game of knock out basketball

at the assembly. The Student Store and Drill Team also had hype videos made to get students excited for the upcoming game.

Two seminars worth of planning was all the six execs got. Emails and texts buzzed their phones daily. They finalized their minute-by-minute itinerary 24 hours before the day and hoped that if they brought the activities, the students would bring the energy.

Pep execs Brian Heneger, Spencer Newton and Houghton went to get the East flags out of Brill's closet and started practicing the red sea chant that they would teach the underclassmen at the assembly.



A LONG TIME COMING

ABOVE While performing the cheer routine for the pep assembly, junior Gianna Sorce does her jump. "We were doing our routine for the Rock Game," Sorce said. "We've been working on [the routine] since summer." **PHOTO | ELLA HANS**

TRICYCLE TROUBLES

FAR ABOVE Competing in the pep assembly relay race, sophomore Jack Jones struggled to stay on the trike. "Joey broke our scooter so I was trying to sit on it to make it go," Jones said. "But I just couldn't figure it out." **PHOTO | KATHERINE HAMILTON**



IN vs. OUT

STUDENTS ON HOW THE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ASSEMBLIES COMPARED

DUSKE! DUSKE! DUSKE!

THE YELLS of his friends and pointing fingers surrounded him. Junior Charlie Duske glanced over to junior Spencer Blacketer, through a couple hand motions and squints, they stood up together and volunteered themselves for the activity.

Pep Executive Charlotte Hawes placed a pie in front of each of the boys for a pie-eating competition. They were competing against all the grades, Duske and Blacketer would be representing the juniors.

"I remember feeling sick pretty quickly. I even asked for a trash bag at one point but after a second I continued eating just a bit slower," Duske said. "I still remember how bad the apple pie was. It was room temperature and tasted awful."

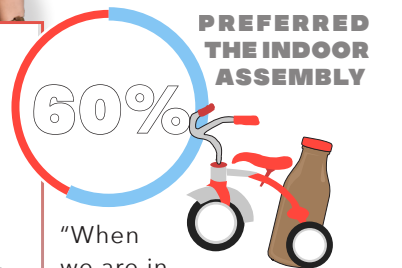
The competition only

lasted five minutes as the senior representatives devoured the pies. With Duske's fork still half in his mouth the "senior, senior" chant grew louder from the other side of the bleachers.

In defeat, Duske and Blacketer walked back to the bleachers.

"The losing part wasn't that bad and honestly, I was just happy I didn't have to eat [the pie] anymore," Duske said. "The walk back to my friends was the worst part just because they made fun of me for losing."

Through the joking insults, Duske and Blacketer embraced the SM East spirit. The energy and competitive atmosphere brought by the student section made them crave a second chance. Their hands would be the first ones seen by the Pep Execs in the next pep assembly.



"When we are in the gym it's just a better atmosphere. We are all packed together and the energy is higher."

HOCH SAYLOR | 12

"The outdoor assembly was our first one and felt more real. It was so warm out and really hyped me up. Plus watching Morgan Turpin eat the pie had to be my favorite part."

CAROLINE REISER | 10

PIE-EATER PERSPECTIVE

ARE YOU MORE LIKELY TO GO TO A GAME THIS YEAR COMPARED TO BEFORE COVID?

"I feel more excited because I know like as a whole student body there will be more people as opposed to last year. Especially in terms of like basketball games, that is something that we didn't get to experience last year at all."

RYDER HENDON | 10



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