

# WE KNOW MORE THAN YOU KNOW

INSTRUCTORS SHOW THEIR SPORTING SIDE AND PASSION FOR FANTASY FOOTBALL

Journalism adviser **Michael Malcom-Bjorklund** feels like a proud parent whenever his fantasy team players do well. "It's almost like they're your children and when they score a touchdown, you feel proud of them and want to celebrate with them," Malcom-Bjorklund said.

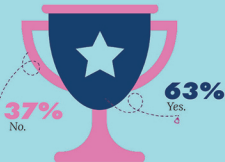


"I tend to play fantasy football in long-time auction keeper leagues, so I remember the times when I get a rookie or young player cheap who is going to be good for the three years I can keep him."

**J. KIRBY**  
social studies

"I was in a league where I was barely able to qualify for the playoffs by winning the division title. I then scraped by in the first round. Fortunately, a couple of players had career games including Kenyan Drake."

**MICHAEL REYNOLDS**  
social studies



## ALL FOR THE CHIP

Do you play fantasy football or not?

"My favorite fantasy football memory was when I was down by 10 points in my match-up one week heading into the Monday Night Football game. I only had the Seattle Seahawks' defense and my opponent had Kenneth Walker. My chances to win were looking slim, but their defense outscored Walker in fantasy points, so I won."

**JACKSON JOHNSON**  
class of twenty-six



"My favorite fantasy football memory happened in my freshman year. That year, I won the championship in a league that I was in for the first time. The coolest part was that I got an NFL jersey of my fantasy team's MVP, Jonathan Taylor, as a reward."

**TYLER FAULKNER**  
class of twenty-five

## FANTASY LEAGUES FOSTER SENSE OF COMMUNITY, BRINGS OUT COMPETITIVE JUICES

REPORTING BY **BRYSON BUSH**

Ask any die-hard fantasy football fan — you don't need to wear a headset or use a whistle to be a winning coach. Starting in 1963 with one small league in Oakland, Calif., fantasy football has become one of the most popular games in America.

As of 2022, 29.2 million people in the United States were playing fantasy football, making it the most-played fantasy game in the country, according to Statista.com.

An avid fan of the sport, **Hatcher Chamberlain ('27)** organizes a team with friends on campus.

"I created our school fantasy football league for one main reason," Chamberlain said. "I wanted to compete with my friends. Being able to have something in common with them outside of school is a lot of fun. I just thought it would be something cool for us to do together."

For those new to the game, it all starts with gathering a few of your friends. Most leagues consist of 10-12 teams. After choosing a clever team name, next comes the draft. Teams draft everything from quarterbacks to running backs to defenses. Some leagues even draft coaches.

Once the draft is over, league owners use the lineups to get points during each week of the regular season from player's individual stats. The goal is to get enough wins throughout the season to make it to the league's playoffs, where a few league participants compete for the fantasy championship.

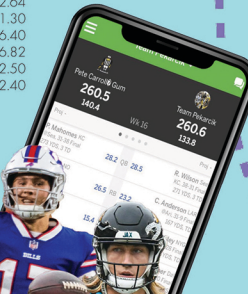
One of the league owners in a school league, **Ryder Keen ('27)** not only enjoys being part of the league, but for the increased interest in Sunday afternoons.

"I wanted to join the league to get into the NFL more," Keen said. "Having the fantasy team makes me pay more attention to the games on Sundays."

## SIMPLY THE BEST

Top fantasy players of '23

1. CeeDee Lamb (Dal) 403.20
2. Josh Allen (Buf) 392.64
3. C. McCaffrey (SF) 391.30
4. Tyreek Hill (Mia) 376.40
5. Jalen Hurts (Phi) 356.82
16. Mike Evans (TB) 282.50
17. T. Etienne (Jax) 282.40



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# IT'S JUST FANTASY

TRYING TO CATCH UP ON PERSONAL STUFF, STUDENTS PEN LETTERS TO THEIR FRIENDS

# THANK YOU, FRIENDS

REPORTING BY **MADISON WHITE**

It might not be Friday, but **Octariah Fulton ('25)** needed to catch up with her friend **Tamia Turner ('25)** to simply tell her how much she cares.

In a day and age where texting and calling friends are more the norm, students took the time to write friends they don't normally communicate with on a daily basis.

Just under a third have written a personal letter within the past twelve months. Thirty-seven percent say it's been over five years since they've written and sent a personal letter, while another 15% of adults have never written and sent a personal letter.

Dear *Kylah,*

I hope that this note finds you in good health. How did your Thanksgiving go? Mine was mediocre, only spreader, useless family gossip. Maybe I can come to your house to visit. See you soon!

Reagan  
Kenzie

**McKenzie Davis** writes to **Kylah Harris**

Dear *Tanijah,*  
today in Journalism was interesting. I got cut but wish you were in this class with me you'd enjoy it.

**Ashari Warren** writes to **Tanija Williams**

You are beautiful, smart, and kind. You believe in people and bring them up when others don't. You never let people bring you down. You are your own human being and no one can change that. You are loved and missed. Keep your head up high. You're doing great. Love you!

**Cadance Wojcik** writes to **Kristen Wohl**

I am very grateful for you being in my presence every day. You taught me a ton of things about life. God brought us together for a reason and I cherish you for being there for me.

**Octariah Fulton** writes to **Tamia Turner**