



Pleasant Grove High School
Texarkana, Texas

2024 the hawk

it's not that simple



simply pg

Just 180 days. Four nine-week grading periods. 30 days of break. And 754 students (depending on the day). Three lunch periods in a pit-less cafeteria. Three gyms. Four simultaneous construction projects and 11

new classrooms. Newspaper deadlines. Fall musical practices all day on Saturday. Five road trips to football games. Meeting at Cane's after home games. Robotics tournaments. Not that simple, actually.

the hawk
2024



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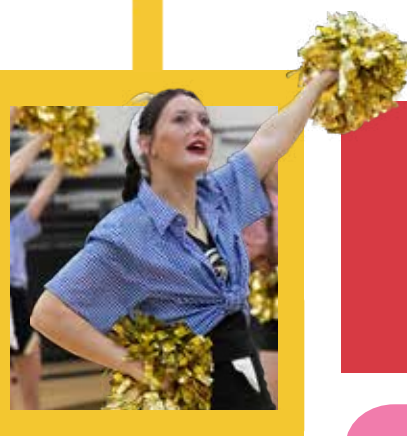
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it's not that simple

Wearing a blue gingham shirt, Fallon Anthony (12) cheers during the western pep-rally. "Being in cheer isn't that simple because we're always having long practices, mornings, and afternoons," Fallon said. "We are also practicing for UIL and NCA which also takes time because we still have football games." [CSanders]

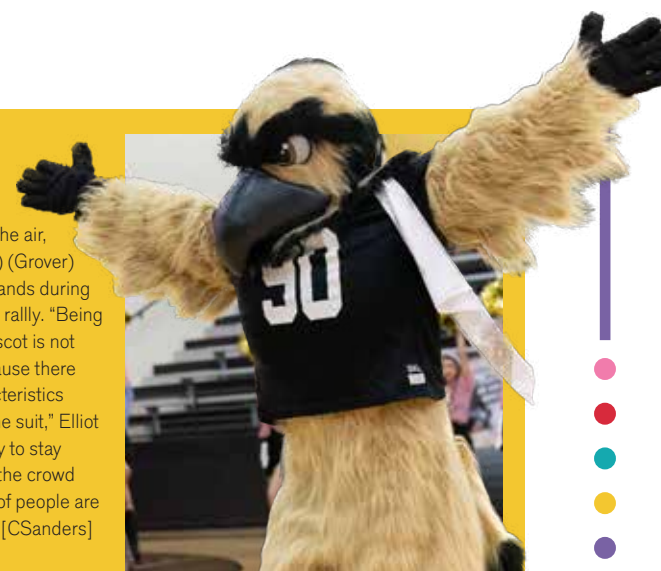


With water dripping, teachers' aide Maddie Horn comes up from the dunking booth after being dropped on the Friday morning of homecoming. [CSanders]

Crouched down, Brenton Clark (12) focuses on lining up his putt on the putting green during the Northridge tournament. "Playing a game of golf isn't simple because there are many factors into hitting one shot," Brenton said. [CSanders]



Hands up in the air, Elliot White (12) (Grover) motivates the stands during the western pep rally. "Being the school's mascot is not that simple because there are many characteristics when wearing the suit," Elliot said. "I always try to stay moving to keep the crowd alive since tons of people are a fan of Grover." [CSanders]



Outside in the woods behind the school, Jasper Roach (11) and Abby Runion (11) run a measuring tape around a tree to complete an assignment in Mrs. Katie Teer's environmental science class. "We were trying to determine the growth rate and the factors affecting the tree," Jasper said. "Spending 45 minutes outside was a simple way to make the day go faster." [CSanders]



Sprinting up the stairs to Mrs. Strebeck's room at 7:59 a.m. Finishing an art project with an hour to spare. The day is

never long enough (6-7),

except when you're stuck in an after school practice that feels like it will never end.

It's the same every year — why would it be so complicated? The black-out pep rally, the paper airplane project with Mrs. Knowles. It feels like

deja vu (50-51).

Walking through a construction zone and navigating the maze that has become the 700 hall — it shouldn't be complicated, but this year we are in

uncharted territory (24-25).

Checking off the days until spring break and baseball season — it seems like such

a long wait (150-151).

But it's not always the same.

it's interrupted (88-89)

by unplanned fire drills, a power outage and a bagpipe parade for Mrs. Giles' birthday.

And it can be

worth the wait (supplement)

when we're bringing home trophies and medals, and picking out our prom dresses.

[sectional listings are on each divider and a complete topical listing is in the index]

making it simple for you **164 Group/team photos**
180 Advertising
200 Senior Ads

it's not that simple

the hawk 2024
Vol. 47



Dressed for the western pep rally, Grover (Elliot White, 12) prepares to cartwheel across the gym floor. For Elliot, deciding to be Grover was a simple decision. "Both of my parents were mascots, and I just thought it looked really cool and fun," she said. "They were actually both the Super Frog mascot at TCU. It was my choice to be a mascot, but they're definitely extremely supportive of it." [CSanders]

Pleasant Grove High School

5406 McKnight Road
Texarkana, Texas 75503
903-832-8005
www.pgisd.net
students: 754
staff: 81
classification: 4A-2, 7&15
Principal Kristen Giles

001 |
Title
Page

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1

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did you really think
it was all that
simple?

Did you really think that you could just sneak into Mrs. Watson's first period Physics class one minute after the bell without hearing about the importance of timeliness and how that will never slide in college?

And did you honestly believe that TurnItIn would do its one and only job at 11:40 p.m. and allow you to turn in the Character Analysis Essay for Streb that you spent two weeks perfecting?

Maybe you were convinced that the day would go by without Coach Darby popping in to your journalism class on Cupcake Day for snacks and add in a story about how Harrison woke him up at 2:20 in the morning?

Well, that would be easy to believe, wouldn't it? And yeah, sometimes it really was that easy, but for the most part —

it was never that simple.



Seated at a library table, Reed Walters (11) chooses his classes for senior year. "I was trying to figure out what classes would work for my schedule, especially since I'm going to do work release," Reed said. [JSolomon]



Focusing on her assignment, Emma Grace Strate (9) finishes her Spanish 2 project in Mrs. Ana Yates' class. "I thought freshman year was going to be harder, but it ended up being easier," Emma said. "Even though I have lots of things to do, like cheer." [JSolomon]



Catching inflatable pool tubes around her arms, Mariah Gann (10) acts as a target at the Hawaiian pep rally game. "I love getting to be a part of the pep rally games every week," Mariah said. "I also really enjoy interacting with the student section and being a part of the fun." [CSanders]

simply put

- It may not have been simple, but you knew what to expect – The ceiling in the 600 hall was going to leak every time it rained. You were going to get called out anytime you parked in the back. Mrs.

Teer was going to drop your lowest grade at the end of the nine weeks. You were going to take a nap every day after school (and maybe even during school).

Behind the camera, Tate Bass (12) teaches sophomore film students how to set up interview shots and grade lighting in the PAC foyer. As a third-year film student, Tate not only helped teach the newbies but also directed and edited the documentaries submitted to UIL for competition. [CSanders]



Jumping to the right, Buma Fomuso (12) blocks a kick during the game against Sulphur Springs. "I was so focused on making the saves that when we won it didn't register until I saw all of my teammates run toward me to celebrate," Buma said. [CSanders]



Dancing to a song from "Teen Beach Movie," Lyla Breto (11) dresses up at the PopTart breakfast. "I loved dressing up for Hawaiian day and getting to dance with all of the theater kids because we all knew and liked the songs," Lyla said. [CSanders]

yeah,
no.

STUCO members woke up before the literal crack of dawn to make questionable-looking pink pancakes for the entire student body, while simultaneously dancing to the "Teen Beach Movie" sound track in their leis and Hawaiian shirts.

The new intercom system completely blew out your eardrums at least 10 times a day, while the voice on the new fire alarm was so calming it made you question whether you had to actually get up from your seat at all.

You signed your tardy slip in the morning with a random name, thinking you were being sneaky, but you were caught red-handed by Kiser on the cameras and had to go to morning detention with Mrs. Abston.

Even the seemingly easy things, like going on Sonic runs after class and driving down the Shuffle on the weekend, were not that simple.

We just made it look that way.

Holding a brush, Ruby Rehkopf (12) adds the finishing touches to her show makeup before going on stage for the opening number in "Oklahoma!" "I was rushed a lot when I was trying to get ready," Ruby said. "It took me two whole hours just to do my hair because I had to wear extensions." [CSanders]



It doesn't make sense.

Just a few months ago, you were swapping your backpack for a beach bag and booking it to Gulf Shores to get a summer tan. And now you're back.

Now you're sprinting to Hawk Stadium to do fast-feet drills with Coach Gibson or squeezing into star-studded whites for rigorous drill team dances.

It started with schedule pickup — you woke up really early to see if you'd have Mrs. Quinn for another year and if you finally got lunch with your friends.

And let's not talk about deadlines. One day to read *how many* pages in AP US? All those sketch book

assignments are due when? It seemed like there was never enough time to get everything done.

Yeah, we did get a few breaks, but they were over before we even got caught up on sleep. Okay, maybe that was because we spent our breaks at youth group retreats or theater workshops or robotics meets. And hanging out with friends, of course.

The thing is, sometimes time went by SO slowly — volleyball practice, those bus trips to tennis tournaments, EOC tests where you had to sit while one kid checked every answer four times — that we kind of appreciated the rush of our daily lives. Even if it wasn't long enough.

it's never long enough

but sometimes it goes on and on

Passionate about the discussion in Mrs. Stephanie Knowles' economics class, Olivia Perry (12) raises her arms to get her point across. "I didn't think I was going to be speaking that day, so I was coming up with points on the spot," Olivia said. "Eventually I started getting really into it, but I got cut short so other people could talk." [BSolomon]



- Section contents
- Summer 8-11 | First Day 12-13 | Deadlines 14-15 | Practices 16-17 | Fall Golf And Tennis 18-19 | Breaks 20-21 | Friends, Family, Faith 22-23

Riding on top of a float at the Homecoming Parade, Coach Jonathan Darby and Assistant Principal Neal Kiser act out a boxing scene. "I was pumped because I helped build the float, and I really wanted to show off my school spirit," Darby said. "Kiser was a very tough competitor though." [CSanders]



Focusing on her subject, Emma Sharp (10) aims her camera to film a video for film class. "I like being behind the camera instead of in front of it," Emma said. "When I'm filming, I have more control of the situation, and I can make sure everything is perfect." [CSanders]

We can probably agree that this year hasn't been simple.

We swapped our old classrooms for ones with wide windows, fresh white paint, and brand new desks. And then we had to figure out how to navigate all the new hallways.

We swapped the cafeteria with — well it's just scaffolding and dirt for now, but we're sure it will be cool next year.

We swapped the ease of simply getting into the parking lot with narrow gate entries that still didn't work by the end of the year.

A new year brings new experiences. And that's not even counting the freshmen and transfer students.

Imagine being told to fill out something called an "ehallpass" on your first day here. Or losing the Black/Gold chant at pep rallies because no one taught you what it was.

But let's be honest, none of us really know what we're doing. We still don't know if we should take DC or AP classes.

Or if we can balance a job and homework at the same time. Even seniors are still figuring things out — ya know with the whole "college" thing.

So yeah, we might be in uncharted territory, but at least we're here together.

it's **uncharted** territory
but sometimes it's what we know

- Section contents
- Map/Construction 26-27 | Freshmen 28-29 | Adulting 30-31 | Other Countries 32-33 | Confort Zone 34-35 | Social Media/ Trends 36-39 | Health Sciences 40-41 | New Places 42-43 | Current Events 44-45 | Annual Projects 46-47 | Simple Things 48-49

Extending towards the basket, Torion Phillips (12) tries to get past the Idabel defense to put some more points on the board. "I wanted to get us ahead at the beginning of the game because we were playing against a pretty competitive team," Torion said. [CSanders]



Smiling for the camera, Kristen Gill (9) and Anna Claire Novosad (9) take a selfie with the STUCO elf in the cafeteria. "I think that hiding the elf around the school is a cute idea, and It's fun to try and look for it's new hiding spot," Anna said. "They should definitely continue hiding it next year." [JRamos]

Yeah, a few interruptions can definitely “get you out of the groove” and disrupt the “flow” you have going on.

Well, if you were ever actually “in the groove” in the first place. Because let’s face it, no matter how tight-knit our schedules are, we will never be as organized as we want to be. We’re teenagers — we barely have our life together, no matter how many cutesy planners we keep.

So what if a two-hour-long blackout keeps us from doom-scrolling on TikTok? Or a fire drill takes away precious time from one of Mrs. Martindale’s tests? Or leaving first period early to catch the TC bus still isn’t enough to be on time?

Things are never as simple as we want them to be. And let’s agree, it’s better that way.

We might hate it when things get interrupted, but we both know that’s what keeps things interesting. Otherwise, our daily routines, full of lectures, homework, and quizzes, wouldn’t have spontaneous food days from Mrs. Quinn, surprise coloring weeks from Mr. Krobot, or team Christmas parties with Coach Pickett.

And well, it might not be the simple route — but we don’t do simple. A few interruptions might make things complicated, but what’s life without a little spontaneity?

it's interrupted

but sometimes it continues

- **Section contents**
- December **90-91** | Winter Guard/ Jazz Band **92-93** | Academic Interruptions **94-95** |
- Girls Basketball **96-97** | Boys Basketball **98-99** | JV Basketball **100-101** | Hawk
- Healers **102-103** | Girls Soccer **104-105** | Boys Soccer **106-107** | Internships/ TC
- **108-109** | Academic Routines **110-111**

8

88

Even Page

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Taking a selfie, Abigail Thrash (11), Kaylynn Sharp (11), and Madalee Garner (11) get together at the Pop Tart breakfast. "I enjoyed the breakfast a lot because Pop Tarts are one of my favorite snack foods," Madalee said. "I also liked getting to wear and stack leis." [CSanders]



Before school, STUCO sponsor Alicia Gallegos dumps PopTarts on a table out front for the gameday breakfast. "We decided to do a Pop Tart breakfast this year because it would be less messy," Mrs. Gallegos said. "When the breakfast was over, I took the leftover Pop Tarts to the cafeteria, so they wouldn't go to waste." [CSanders]



Finally — what's more simple than your portrait? That's the whole reason you bought the book, right?

And yeah, we know you'll skip all your classmates and go straight to your own photo (You do look amazing).

But as you flip the pages scanning for your name, you'll be missing the students who made this year anything but simple.

Like Trent Walker (12) who started his own car detailing business. Audrey Tercero (11) who has won first place at state in UIL calculator

every year since the eighth grade. Or Claire Hufford (11) who spends her Sunday afternoons shooting clay disks out of the sky.

But we get it. You're here for you. The you that juggles eight classes a day — and somehow manages homework, practices and jobs on top of that.

You probably have better things to do than read this yearbook, so we'll leave you to it. Go look at your picture. We know you'll be back again — just make sure to see the many faces you might've skipped over before.

it's simply you

but sometimes it's all of us

- Section contents
- Freshmen **114-121** | Sophomores **122-129** | Juniors **130-137** | Seniors **138-145** | Faculty **146-147** | Faculty Feature **148-149**

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At the PG robotics tournament, Zach Harris (12) mass loads the team's robot with tri-balls, trying to get as many balls on the field as possible. "I was a little nervous because I'm not really that good at mass loading, but I think this turned out okay," he said. The PG teams took all four top spots. [CSanders]



Strumming her guitar, Rhoda Clements (10) performs the song "Everywhere Everything," by Noah Kahan at the Follies. "I was a little nervous, but I'm used to performing in front of other people because I sing a lot at church," Rhoda said. "It's one of my favorite songs as well." [MSmallwood]

Did you think this was the end? — you've seen it all, right?

You saw theater put on their best Oklahoman accent and tried not to "ooh" and "ahh" out loud every time there was a kissing scene.

You went to PG Deli and Hokkaido Ramen and involved yourself in the whole 7 Brew/Scooters debate.

You looked at your class portrait and cringed at your haircut and outfit (what was August you thinking?)

But there was more than that.

We still had to wait for what happened next

We practiced all semester for the UIL cheer competition, and finally we were there on stage.

Theatre swapped the farm scene for a magician's stage and a straitjacket.

Juniors and seniors exchanged poker chips for iPads, gadgets, and thing-a-ma-bobs at casino night.

But we're not going to spoil everything — you've made it this far already, so go ahead and see what's in store for you.

it's a long wait but sometimes it happens fast

- Section contents
- Cheer/ Drill Team Competitions **152-153** | Spring Competitions **154-155** | OAP/ Follies **156-157** | Best Day Ever **158-159** |
 - Simply Stats **160-161** | Journalism **162-163**



Testing a flame on his Bunsen burner, Landon Beck (12) does a lab for his DC Chemistry class. "We normally do a lab two to three times every nine weeks," Landon said. "During this lab, we were learning about phase changes." [BSolomon] **In** the dark, the cheerleaders dance during the Black Out pep rally. "I think this pep rally was a really cool experience to be a part of," Madelyn Beck (9) said. [CSanders]

to put it simply

After several twists and turns and questionable choices, you made it to the end of the year.

You tried to leave early out of the PAC only to be caught red-handed by Mr. Kiser. You got your hands dirty making enchiladas in Mrs. Porter's Spanish club. You came to school dressed head-to-toe in hot pink like Barbie. And you made afterschool Sonic/Target/7 Brew runs a part of your daily routine (despite your emptying wallet.)

This year was anything but simple because, well, you made it that way. If it wasn't for you, this school might be considered simple — plain even.

But you made sure that wouldn't happen. You screamed out your lungs every Friday night. You danced in a gym covered in mirrorballs and begged the DJ to play your Spotify playlist. You searched for the missing "rocktapus" (that's Dwayne "the Rock" octopus) and declared war on Mrs. Knowles. You flew down bouncy house slides, challenged Grover to a race (and lost), and made mudpuddle-dodging an unofficial sport.

You made sure this year was anything but simple. (and we're glad you did)

it's just what i do

Looking for an open teammate, Addisyn Gildon (11) attempts to move the ball up the field. "I play in the midfield, so my main role most of the time is to deliver the ball to my teammates," Addisyn said. "Sometimes I get the ball back though, so I can score." [JSolomon]



8

228

Even Page

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229

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simply fun



Arms in the air, Ariel Owens (9) holds up a sign to support the Hawk soccer team against Sulphur Springs. "I think It's very important to attend games to encourage the players. I make signs to show my support but simply being there is enough."

Holding a knife, journalism teacher Charla Harris gets ready to slice a watermelon on the plaza by the gym. Yearbook staffers bought the watermelon to get up close photos for the watermelon supper page.





Tossing a pancake in the air, Jordan Conley (12) helps prepare breakfast during the annual pancake breakfast. "Stuco isn't that simple because we are working behind the scenes to host and help out with fun events. It can be overwhelming when you look at the big picture, but if you break it down, planning and taking action isn't that stressful," Jordan said. [CSanders]

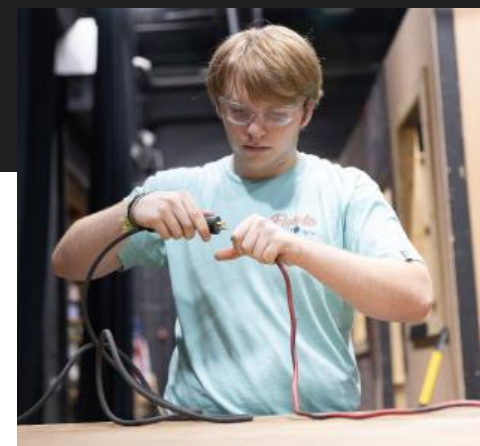
Focusing on the game, Madison Carpenter (12) reaches to hit the ball. "Volleyball isn't simple because of the physical and mental toughness that is required each day," Madison said. [CSanders]



Cheering on the Hawks, Catherine Joyce (12), Madison Davis (12), and Halston Baca (11) scream as loud as they can. "Being a part of the student section isn't that simple because as an upper classman you try to keep everyone engaged, especially freshmen," Catherine said. "They are just timid also because we scream at them to go sit with their moms if they don't cheer loud enough." [CSanders]



Adding more color, Nadylee Miller (9) paints a cake prop for the theater show. "Helping theater with their props is simple but not simple at the same time, because all theater one kids are trying to make sure the props are right for each scene," Nadylee said. [LNewton]



With careful attention, Caleb Price (12) plugs in cables to help set up the lights for theater's fall production of "Oklahoma!" "Besides putting on a costume and memorizing lines, setting up the tech crew is not as simple as everything else," Caleb said. "We spend hours and hours building, constructing, and developing sound and light ques while everyone else is working on stage." [CSanders]

it's really
not that **simple.**

8

LEFT

Front

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Front