

## FALLING FOR FALL

*Excitement develops among students as we transition from summer into the cooler months of fall. The Charger staff shares some of their favorite things about this time of year.*

### MULLIGANS

Once the leaves turn colors, and the air gets a little bit crisper, my anticipation builds for the upcoming season. It's all because of my love for one of the greatest things ever created: a mulligan.

Mulligans originated from hobos, who would each bring scraps of food and put them into a huge community pot over a campfire, creating a shared stew. The idea of the stew became a tradition in Wabaunsee County, where groups and families now gather to catch up and eat a similar stew, made out of meat, potatoes and vegetables.

Mulligans have become a big part of my life. Every fall, I can be found on my family's ranch, enjoying the one they host, outside of the old Spring Creek Schoolhouse, or even the one on the last home football game. It's a great time to catch up with family and friends, enjoy a good meal and take a hayrack ride.

— Kaytlyn Meseke

### FOOD

What makes fall the best time of year? Leaves changing, pumpkin carving, breaking out our cozy sweaters and, most importantly, fall food is back in season!

Caffeine addicts are making the switch from iced coffee to hot lattes. Our favorite snacks are being sold in seasonal pumpkin spice flavors. Halloween candy is cheap, and you can find shelves full of candy corn in every store.

Best of all, it's finally the perfect temperature for soup! Chilli, mulligan, vegetable soup, potato soup, chicken and noodle soup, you name it! There is no better feeling than being snuggled up in a blanket in front of the television, sipping on spoonfuls of your favorite fall soup.

— Kendyl Bolinder

### HOLIDAYS

Holidays are one of the best parts about fall. Halloween is great for dressing up, eating candy, and going to haunted houses. People like to dress up as their favorite characters or just wear clothes that they wouldn't normally wear. Another great part of Halloween is the movies. There are tons of horror movies and family movies to watch that begin showing at the beginning of October. For Thanksgiving, there is a lot of good food and family time. Everybody likes to eat and what is better than overeating and watching football or parades on TV.

— Mayah Mumpower

### HAUNTED HOUSES

With spooky season comes haunted houses. Haunted Houses are a great place to go to get your heart thumping with an adrenaline rush, that is if you don't chicken out first. Nothing beats paying to be scared out of your wits. For those of you seeking that heart pounding experience, head over to the Haunted Opera House in Wamego at 5th and Elm. The haunted house is open every Saturday in October as well as Halloween and a bonus after shock on November 2. Tickets are \$10 a piece for a thrilling scary experience.

— Hannah Mumpower

### WEATHER

The crisp chilly air that comes once a year at this time makes this time of year so much better.

The time for letterman jackets, flannels, and jeans to be breaking out of the back of your closets is finally here. The morning

air is so nice and cold that it gives you a perfect reason to keep your windows open all night long so that you can stay in bed cuddled up with your favorite quilt for an extra five minutes. The chilly air gives you a reason to cuddle up with your blankets and grab a cup of something warm to drink, or because you are from Wabaunsee, a nice warm bowl of mulligan.

— Laurel Barber

### SCENTS

As someone who spends entirely too much money on candles and air fresheners, I become apprehensive for the fall months due to seasonal candles and scents finally being back in stock.

Not only are some of the best scents (pumpkin spice, cinnamon, maple, apple, and Christmas candles) going back on the shelves this time of year, but we get the best deals on our favorite summer scents during end-of-season sales as well. Lighting seasonal candles really helps set the mood, and makes this time of year all the more enjoyable

— Kendyl Bolinder

### PUMPKIN PATCHES

Fall is already the best time of year with cooler weather, leaves changing colors, and the return of the Pumpkin Spice Latte. What makes fall even better though is getting to go to pumpkin patches with your family and friends. Pumpkin patches are important because they help bring people together during the fall months. They have lots of family-friendly activities for everyone to enjoy, such as going through corn mazes, visiting the petting zoo, and going on hayrack rides. Up your Instagram game by taking cute candid pictures at the patch and posting them on your social media. Pumpkin patches are also the best place for picking out your perfect pumpkin to take home and carve. Spending the day at the pumpkin patch is a must to have on your fall bucket list, so clear your calendar and head to a patch near you!

— Alexis Hafenstine

### CLOTHES

Summer ending may feel like a bummer to some, but the good news is that fall is filled with endless outfit ideas and many fashion opportunities for both girls and guys to have fun with!

With fall comes the inevitable change of scenery and weather, which brings about a change in fashion. This season is associated with beautiful colors that are great to incorporate into your outfits. It's not hotter than fire, and not colder than ice, but the perfect temperature to break out some of our favorite garments. People are switching from flip flops to boots, T-shirts to sweatshirts, shorts to jeans, crop tops to sweaters, and bare-necks to scarves.

Fall brings a change in style that is the best part about the season changing.

— Brianna DeVader

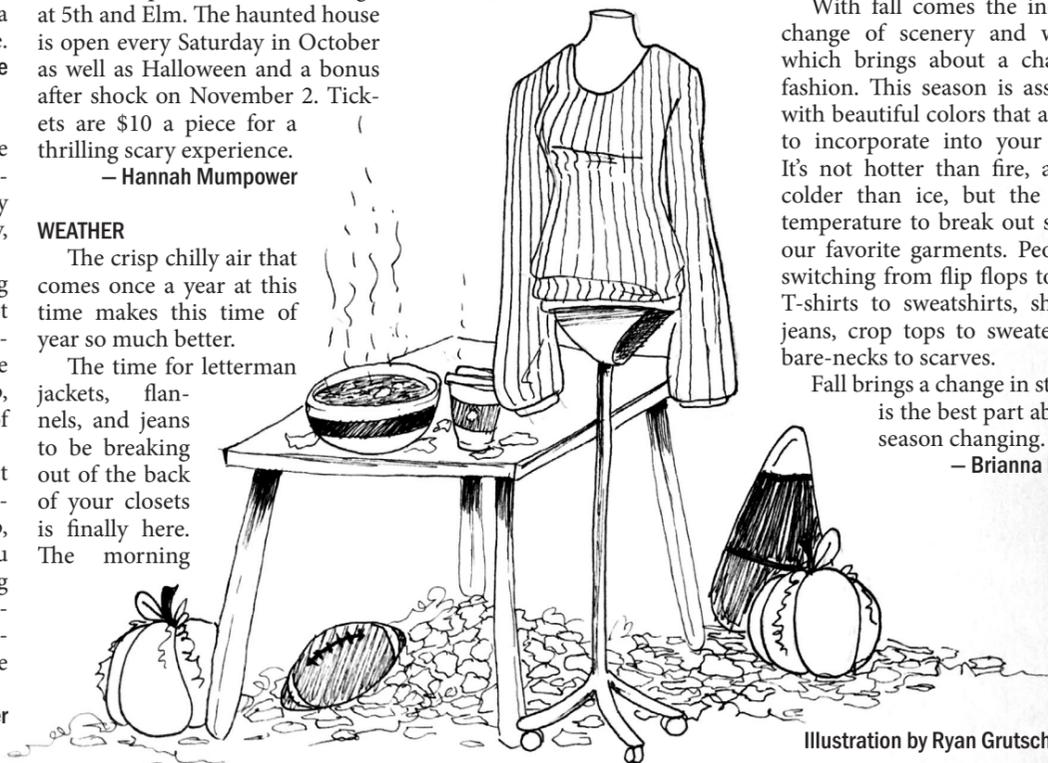


Illustration by Ryan Grutsch

## Students begin career aptitude program

Hannah Mumpower  
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WHS introduced a new career and college readiness program called Xello this semester, to a mixed response.

While students recognize the need for a program that could potentially help students cultivate plans after high school, the implementation of the new program has been controversial. For some seniors who had already completed a majority of the previous program, Career Cruising, starting a new college readiness program seems redundant and a waste of time.

"I don't understand why we're taking away what little AB time that we have that could be used for homework or meetings when we've already done Career Cruising," senior Sierra Quatham said.

Xello is a new online program designed to help students plan for careers after high school. Students who do Xello complete lessons that help them figure out what their plans after high school will look like, whether it be trade colleges, universities or other alternate routes. Students also complete career, personality and learning style assessments so they can better understand their interests, skills and strengths.

After completing the lessons and assessments, students can personalize their Xello student portfolios. These portfolios will include any careers and colleges the student shows interest in as well as their skills and abilities that will help achieve their goals.

Counselor Marilyn Workman said that an Individual Plan of Study is required by the state for students in grades 6-12 in order to provide more guidance in careers and vocations.

"Xello seems to be easier to navigate and enjoy than career cruising, thus the change was made by the company, not us," Workman said.

Career Cruising was a similar career and college readiness course used by WHS student body in the past, but the company chose to make it obsolete and transition to Xello.

Xello also offers resources such as scholarship information, costs of college and different majors that are offered at different colleges.

"There is a wealth of information all in one place which is awesome," counselor Marilyn Workman said.

Along with Xello, WHS is continuing to have student led parent teacher conferences. Students this year are required to create a slideshow to present to their parents. These slideshows will showcase the students' goals, academic strengths and weaknesses and their results from Xello.

Parent teacher conferences are October 29 and 30.

## Schreiner finishes 8th place at state tennis

Kaytlyn Meseke  
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Senior Autymn Schreiner ended her tennis career at state with an eighth place finish.

Wabaunsee finished 12th as a team with 8 points. Kansas City Christian School earned the championship with 40.

Schreiner opened against Molly Bender from Conway Springs. Schreiner played aggressive and had no problem earning the win, 6-2, 6-3.

Schreiner moved on to the second round where she played 29-0 Emily Ryan from Central Plains. It was a hard match up for her, and she wasn't able to hit winning shots against Ryan. Schreiner lost 0-6 in both sets, moving her into the backside of the bracket.

"We knew that she would still have a chance at a high finish after this match, so she was able to stay focused afterwards," head coach

For coverage of other fall sports, including postseason previews for Saturday's home cross country regional and home volleyball substate, check whscharger.com.

Brendan Praeger said.

She rebounded against Lauren Crotinger of Greely County with a 9-2 victory.

Schreiner's next match was against Trego Community High School's Caroline Brungardt to determine who would make it to the second day of the state tournament. It became an easy win, 9-1, and guaranteed her a medal at the end of the second day.

The second day for Schreiner started with a tough, competitive match against Lena Rauchholz from Smokey Valley. She started out down 3-7, but Schreiner soon found a way to take control over the opponent, Praeger said. She forced Rauchholz into a tiebreaker, after surviving several match

points. Schreiner continued to play aggressively, won the tiebreaker and guaranteed herself a finishing place between fifth and eighth.

Schreiner wasn't able to keep the momentum going into her final matches. She competed against Victoria's Brooklynn Kuhn and Whichita Independent's Sense Cadman, but lost both 3-9.

Schreiner ended her three years of tennis with an eighth place finish at state and a record of 29-8.

"My goal was to finish in the top 10 and less than 10 losses at state, so I would say it all ended on a good note," Schreiner said.

Coach Praeger said he was very impressed by how Auty has done these last three years, but more importantly at state.

"I knew she had the potential to be one of the best players in the state this year, so it was exciting to see her play up to her potential," Praeger said.

Juniors Kendyl Bolinder and

Raegan Feyh didn't have as great of a run as Schreiner did in the state tournament. In the first round they competed against Scott Community's Gutierrez-Myers and Hermosillo, but took a tough loss, 2-6, 4-6.

"Kendyl and Raegan were a little tight at the beginning. They eventually began to move well and land some shots, but it wasn't enough to pull out the match against a team that ended up finishing 9th," Praeger said.

The pair still had a chance to place on the backside of the bracket if they could advance. Bolinder and Feyh competed against Cynthia Gonzales and Lanae Haupt, the other doubles team from Scott Community. The match was much more competitive, but they still couldn't pull out the win and ending their season, 6-9.

"I think it will get them focused to come back next year and make more of an impact," Praeger said.