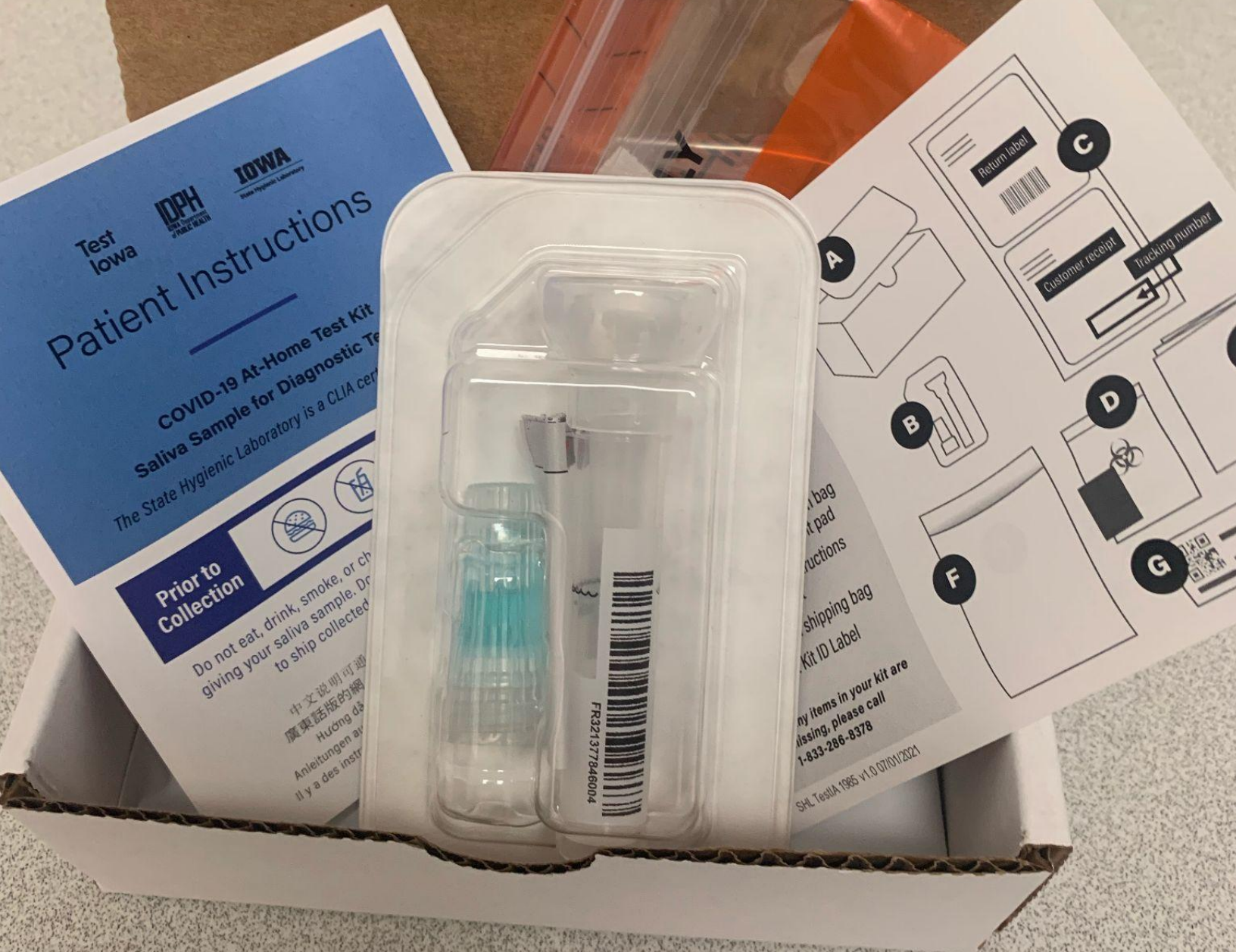


THE OUTLOOK



A new school year, but COVID restrictions still remain.

Meet the Jefferson Newspaper Team 2021-2022



Gunner Myers- Gunner is going into senior year at Jefferson High School.

This will be Gunner's first year participating in Newspaper class at Jeff. Gunner enjoys spending his free time outside of school working out or writing. He plans on providing an objective voice for the Newspaper team and outline in depth topics from around the world.

He stated his favorite thing to write about is "nuanced situations around the world, especially ones with social implications".

Kathryne Morgan- Kat will be a junior this year at Jefferson.

Kat is on the swimming and softball teams for the J-Hawks. She continues her love for softball outside of school as she plays a lot of softball in her free time.

Kat is a talented writer and student who values Newspaper because it provides information for people regarding current events they may not otherwise know about. She plans on writing a lot of opinion articles and wants her opinion regarding certain topics to be heard.



Author White- Author will be a junior this year at Jefferson.

Author is a hard working student athlete who plays football for Jefferson and enjoys wrestling in his free time. When he isn't busy with athletics, he is working at Happy Joes, watching tv, and playing video games occasionally.

He plans on providing solid and entertaining articles for the readers of the Newspaper to enjoy.

Author states his favorite things to write are articles around sports, but is happy about writing anything.





Jacob Strain- Jacob will be a junior at Jefferson.
 Jacob plays golf, basketball, and tennis at Jefferson.
 He enjoys hanging out with friends and golfing with his friend group when he is not in school.
 Jacob plans on putting forth 100% effort towards Newspaper this year to provide the general public with quality information.
 Jacob enjoys writing sports articles the most, but also likes writing about events going on at Jefferson.

Logan Augustine- Logan will be a junior at Jefferson.
 This will be Logan's first year participating in Newspaper.
 Logan is a four sport athlete. He plays golf, basketball, tennis and baseball for JHS.
 Logan, alongside with his friends, enjoys playing golf outside of school and hanging out when they aren't in school.



Logan Miller- Logan will be a Junior at Jefferson.
 Logan has been in Newspaper since his freshman year at Jefferson so he is an experienced writer.
 Logan plays golf, tennis, and baseball for the J-Hawks.
 Outside of school Logan likes to hang out and play golf with his friends.
 Logan views Newspaper as important to the community around him because it provides the cold, hard truth about everything around him.
 Logan, with his great knowledge of sports, is a very heavy sports article writer, so you will find him in the sports section quite a lot this year.

Adam Panoch- Adam will be a junior at Jefferson.
 This will be Adam's first full year in Newspaper as Covid had other plans last year.
 Adam is a four sport athlete who plays golf, basketball, tennis, and baseball at Jefferson.
 When he isn't playing a sport for Jefferson, you can catch Adam lifting weights and hanging out with friends. Adam enjoys Newspapers because he believes it informs the community around him about topics around the world.
 He is flexible about his writing as he writes about all sorts of topics for the paper.



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Outlook Editorial Policy:

Outlook newspaper serves to supplement the educational environment of Jefferson High School by providing an informative and entertaining source of news and communication while upholding journalist standards.

All unsigned editorials, generally recognized as our Staff Editorial, represent a topic of concern to the majority of the class. Signed letters to the editors, cartoons and illustrations appearing on editorial or opinions pages represent the viewpoint of the author or artist.

Any corrections brought to the attention of the editors will be noted and corrected in the news page.

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Covid Catch Up

Eighteen months have passed since this global pandemic hit the United States, in earnest, in February of 2020, with around 219 million Coronavirus cases and a worldwide death toll of 4.5 million people (and counting).

Still, even after all that, COVID 19 cases are on the rise both in America and abroad.

According to the CNN.com article 'Healthline,' "More than half of U.S. adults are now fully vaccinated. New COVID-19 cases are on the rise in virtually every U.S. state."

A key component to the recent rise in Covid numbers has been because of the Delta Variant (an adapted strain of COVID which researchers first discovered in the country of India in Dec. 2020). The delta variant is able to spread faster which explains the recent uprise in the numbers.

As masks become more and more unpopular only seven states still require a mask to be worn in public places: Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington.

Since masks have not been required, hospitals around the US are being pushed to their limits once again. "Kentucky hospital pushed to its limits," CNN's Healthline article said. "On Thursday, the governor said 60 of the state's 96 hospitals are reporting staff shortages, and there are only 90 available adult ICU beds statewide, the fewest amount available throughout the pandemic."

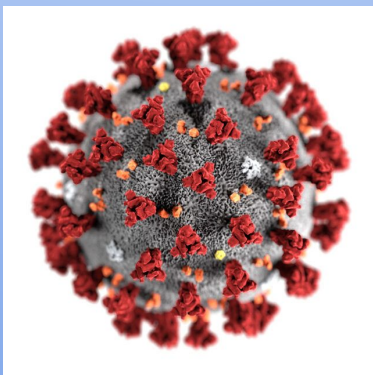
President Joe Biden is still working to encourage everyone that is eligible in America for the vaccine to take it.

However, millions of Americans have refused, despite the FDA formally approving the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines later this summer.

Within the last two weeks, President Biden has launched a vaccine mandate for many federal employees in an effort to get the Delta Variant under control.

At the center of Biden's new plan is directing the Labor Department to require all businesses with 100 or more employees ensure their workers are either vaccinated or tested once a week.

With many school districts in Iowa issuing new mask mandates, the controversy around COVID and the measures people take to mitigate its effects are unlikely to end anytime soon.



Afghanistan's Taliban Takeover



(Image from AP News)

The Taliban, an organization who harbored Osama Bin Laden after he orchestrated the World Trade Center attacks of 9/11, has now gained complete control of the country of Afghanistan.

People within the country are uncertain of their future and Americans have been stranded inside, not knowing if the Taliban will pursue them or grant them passage.

All of this is happening as threats from an even more violent and brutal subdivision of ISIS, known as ISIS-K, are imminent.

ISIS-K

ISIS-K has been the culprit of many attacks within Afghanistan. This includes bombings near the Kabul airport where Americans were operating their evacuation missions, which killed 13 United States troops and injured more.

Many people saw this as a reason why the U.S. needed to withdraw troops from the country as it grew more unstable.

Mr. Rolwes, a history teacher at Jefferson, agreed.

"The longer this went on I think there was a chance that more service members could have been hurt or killed," Rolwes said.

ISIS-K was founded in 2015 by ex-Taliban members and has grown with new membership from several other militant groups as their influence grew.

They were held at bay in regions of Afghanistan by U.S. supported Afghan troops for years.

However, as the Taliban overpowered the Afghan military and the U.S. withdrew troops, ISIS-K was granted room to wreak havoc.

ISIS-K is now the primary threat to the Taliban and the future of interaction between the groups is uncertain.

Mr. Rolwes sees a conflict between the two groups plausible.

"If the Taliban show that they are too moderate then they may find themselves in a civil war with ISIS-K," Rolwes said.

Currently there has not been a full out conflict between them, but as ISIS-K continues to attempt to destabilize the region, it is a very real possibility that war will ensue.

American Diplomacy

ISIS-K is not the only uncertainty within Afghanistan. Although thousands of American troops and many civilians were evacuated at the end of August, according to AP News it is estimated that 100-200 Americans still reside in Afghanistan.

Mr. Rolwes shared that he is worried about these remaining troops, as well as Afghan civilians who are not being allowed to leave the country.

“The situation could lead to a great deal of regional instability as those who were not able to leave on the United States planes, were seemingly stranded,” Rolwes said.

AP News reported, however, that in early September the Taliban granted around 30 Americans permission to leave the country on a plane of 200 passengers.

This has made many Americans optimistic that the Taliban will cooperate with the US to get the rest of the Americans out of the country.

Not everybody shares in this optimism however. Many people do not believe that the Taliban are going to continue their diplomatic good-faith.

This comes as the Taliban has established an interim government in Afghanistan which includes former Guantanamo Bay prisoners, and strictly excludes women.

In fact CNN says, “No women or members from Afghanistan’s ousted leadership were selected for acting cabinet.” This fits Mr. Rolwes concerns over “the Taliban’s rigid beliefs” and how that will affect women and other loyal Afghan civilians within the country.



Guantanamo Bay in Southeastern Cuba, was once home to an American detainment center where suspected terrorists were sent. The prison was allegedly a place where torture and abuse were carried out by American authorities. The prison has now been closed as worldwide controversy arose from its harsh tactics. (Image from Britannica)

Social Revolution

Even as there is so much uncertainty about the Taliban and the future of the Afghan people, Mr. Rolwes expressed sentiments of hope for resistance from within the country.

“They will be ruling over a very different Afghanistan,” he said. “The society is much younger and may resist their rule in ways that the Taliban didn’t have to deal with when they came to power originally in the 1990’s.”

Rolwes is referring to a demographic change within the country that occurred after the Taliban first held control within the country.

There is now a larger class of young, educated women who have been able to exercise their rights for years, which could now be at jeopardy with the Taliban once again in power.

According to the Human Rights Watch News, the Taliban have put new rules into effect, preventing women from working, going to school and also restricting the places they can travel to.

Many people are expecting that with the Taliban tightening their grip on the Afghan people, revolts and other forms of resistance are, at least, possible and, arguably, likely.

In Person or Online School ?

Big Questions

- ❖ Do you need to wear a mask ?
 - As of Wednesday, Sept. 15, all CRCSD schools will require a mask for students and staff
- ❖ Will school get shut down early this year ?
 - At the rate we are going on right now school will more than likely shut down. We would then probably transition to online learning from the comfort of your home.
- ❖ How long until schools start to shut down ?
 - We don't know for sure if or when school will close down. However its estimated that Cedar Rapids Community Schools will be online due to covid around Oct. or Nov. due to cases rising in the building.
- ❖ Is the school clean ?
 - While Jefferson's custodians will continue to work diligently to keep the building clean, some of last year's Covid mitigation requirements have been lifted. Unlike last year there are not required sanitizing stations and desks won't be wiped down nightly.
- ❖ Is everything back to normal
 - No...well, not yet.

Learning Options

At Jefferson High School last year all students had three options on how they choose to learn. These are In-person, Online and Hybrid.

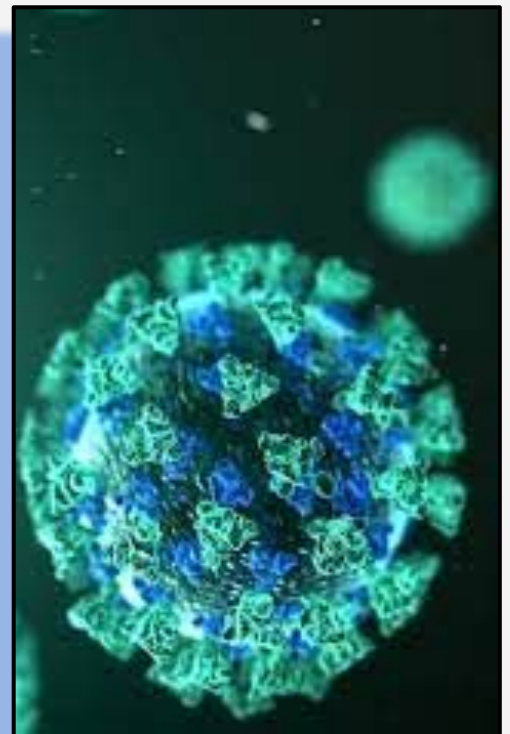
In person, meaning students go to school everyday. They learn face to face from inside of a classroom with other people.

Online, which means students log into their class on a chromebook. Teachers assign work for them to do from home.

Hybrid, meaning students go every other day in-person. They get the advantage of being taught in the building and learning at home.

This year we have started of school with everyone in person learning in their classrooms. Further into the year after we get comfortable things might change.

If students are not careful and covid cases keep rising at Jefferson High School the teachers might have to send their students home for learning online.



In Person or Online School ?

Facts

- ★ Cedar Rapids Community Schools have been in session since Aug. 23
- ★ Covid cases in Iowa (top picture) have been going up at an unhealthy rate. This could lead to school getting shut down and moved to online learning instantly.
- ★ Jefferson does not have any kind of requirements on wearing a face mask or face shield to school. This could lead to covid cases rising and getting worse.
- ★ Jefferson does not have any rules regarding social distancing throughout the school. This could lead to students and teachers spreading covid amongst each other. Therefore shutting school down again.
- ★ If we made rules that were all for wearing masks and social distancing while in the halls and classrooms, covid cases would go down. Students would not have as great of a chance to spread the harmful virus. This could lead to us staying in person and teachers teaching our lessons from inside the school for a longer period of time.
- ★ Some people prefer not to get the vaccine. This could quickly lead to that person attracting covid and afterwards giving it to the other students surrounding them in the halls and classrooms.

Other Ideas

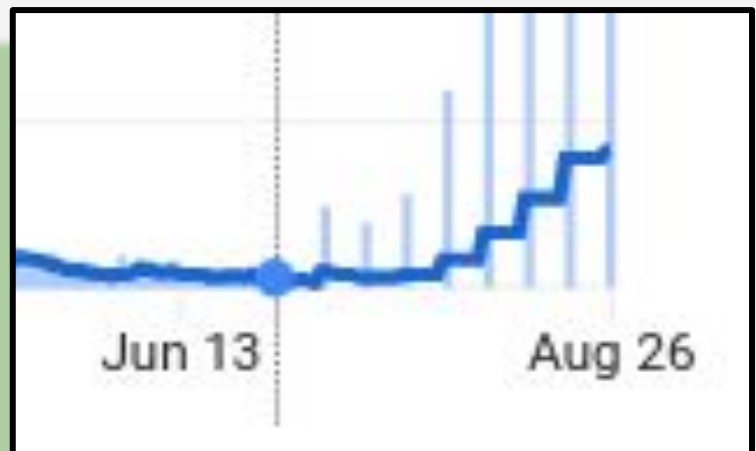
Interview or something

Student: opinions on what learning option

Jeffersons Students have some ideas on what they think schools looks like in the near future. ---- was generous enough to give us their thoughts on the situation. He/She expressed that they believe school wont shut down/will shut down ..when?

Office: how long until we shut down

The staff in the main office here at jefferson have some words to express aswell. --- announced that they estimate school wont shut down/will shut down ..when? They have a feeling that we will be/not be moving to online/hybrid learning.



To the left is a chart of Covid cases in Iowa between the months of June, July, and August.

7-day average went from 5 to 82 in three months

What is 7-day average? Its when you take the amount of covid cases in the last 7 days, add them up, and divide the sum by 7

Jefferson High School Homecoming 2021

Homecoming at Jefferson High School will look a little different from past years.

The last time Jefferson held Homecoming was during the 2019-2020 school year.

With Covid springing into action and the entire world having to come up with other plans, the decision was made to cancel last year's activities.

But this year JHS is planning on coming back, and they hope it will be better than ever.

As has been tradition, this year's Homecoming festivities will include a different dress up theme for each school day of the week.

Day One: Dress you Best (wear fancy, formal clothing)

Day Two: Pajama Day

Day Three: Hogwarts (wear your favorite Harry Potter themed clothing)

Day Four: Twin Day (coordinate with your best friend)

Day Five: J-Hawk Spirit Day

The theme for the dance, itself, is Lights, Camera, Action.

The Homecoming football game is set for Friday Sept. 24 and the J-Hawks will take on the Linn-Mar Lions. Then the dance is scheduled for the next day, Sept. 25.

Although many schools are debating on putting the dance outside this year, the Jefferson student council is considering outdoor options where they can put on the event in an open-air environment.

The dance will look like a typical homecoming dance with pictures, dancing and, hopefully, a great time.

The dance will be held from 7:00-10:00 PM.

"The teachers haven't made any final decisions," JHS senior and student council member, Gabi Bernadotte, said.

As of right now the new mask mandate will encourage students to wear masks during the dance.

One thing is for sure, many Jefferson students are excited for a safe, fun event they haven't had for awhile.





AOTI-Allie Barlow



When young Allie Barlow was going to her sister's volleyball tournaments she would have never thought about being a Division One volleyball recruit.

Allie has been the starting setter since she was a Freshman here at Jefferson, in that time she has led the team in serving and assists all three years.

Anything the team needed Barlow has stepped up and done.

Actually, Allie leads the team in just about everything: serving, assists, digs... pretty much all of it.

Still only a junior, and a starter since her very first day of practice, Barlow has already accumulated many accolades.

As a freshman she was honorable mention All-Metro and All-Conference. As a sophomore she took a big step and was 1st team All-Conference and All-Metro.

This year Allie has had many different goals.

"I hope I can be a good leader by staying positive and setting a good example for all the girls that look up to me," Allie said.

When the high school season finishes, Allie immediately starts playing club volleyball.

"I play club volleyball outside of school," Barlow said. "As soon as high school volleyball ends I will be right back in the gym for tournaments and workouts."

Allie was named captain of the team this year and she has really enjoyed leading her team this year.

"We have a quote 'We Over Me' this season in order for us to improve each day," she said.

Allie is one of the top setters in the state of Iowa and is getting recruited by numerous Division One coaches and programs.

"I plan on playing college volleyball and my hope is to be recruited at the D1 level," Barlow said.



GOLF



The Jefferson Golf team is coming off of a season where they really showed some potential. This year, they are really trying to prove something.

"An expectation for the season is to break 310 at least once in an 18 hole meet this year" Junior Landon Augustine said.

All six players this year are juniors, five of which lettered last year. They look to be competitive with some of the best teams in the state.



FOOTBALL

The Jefferson Football team is facing a lot of adversity this year. This year, only 20 players have gone out. Although they are fighting through a lot of adversity, they are not looking for pity.

"My expectations for the season are that we won't be a team that gets rolled over, all of our games should be a dog fight", said Senior Zane Wilson. Zane is confident in the teams' skills.

"Key contributors could be at any point of the season any of the 11 guys on the field. We have great athletes that are fine tuning the mental aspect of the game and we have guys who have been around the game a long time, constantly improving, but everyone needs to bring their A game, it cannot be a one man show." The Jefferson football team will continue to fight through adversity this season.

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY



The Jefferson Girls Cross Country team is looking forward to a strong season.

"I expect our team to go out with a bang right away. We have a fairly small team and we want to make the most out of who we have. We push each other to make ourselves better and we all want the best for each other." said Senior Kelsey Palmer. They all embrace the team mentality.

"We all contribute a great amount to the team. Every individual brings in a huge amount which contributes to us being successful," Palmer said. Girls CC looks to have a strong season, by running well as a team.

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY



The Jefferson Boys Cross Country team is looking forward to another solid year.

Led by Coach Matt Hilby, the J-Hawks should look to compete with some of the best. With two solid runners in Gavin Hall and Zach Egger, the boys cross country team has a season to look forward to.

So far, the boys have meets at both the Hillcrest and Vinton-Shellsburg Invitationals.

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING



The Jefferson girls swimming and diving team looks forward to a new season.

With one of the top diving programs in the state, the J-Hawks (who pair up with Prairie High School for the team), hope to have state qualifiers both on the board and in the water.

State competition for swimming and diving is in Marshalltown this November.

VOLLEYBALL



The Jefferson girls volleyball team is looking for a solid season with a young team.

Last year, they lost a lot of seniors, and are looking to get some wins and experience with a lot of juniors.

The junior class is a tight knit group with good chemistry and they have gotten some good wins so far this season.