

# **SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

*the one hundred twenty-fifth edition*

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- th** The Chronicle is also available in Spanish, French, and German translations.
- ñ** La Crónica también está disponible en traducciones al español.
- ç** La Chronique est également disponible en traduction française.
- ä** Die Chronik ist auch in deutscher Übersetzung erhältlich.

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*the* PRAIRIE RIDGE  
**Chronicle**

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# Wings Clipped: Football 2-0



**Football (2-0) Defeats Jacobs Golden Eagles 33-22.** Following their electric win over Cary-Grove, Prairie Ridge football set their sights on their next targets: Jacobs High School. PR Wolf Prints is proud to report that the Golden Eagles did not fly away with this game, falling to the Wolves in a 33–22 loss. From start to finish, Prairie Ridge dominated the game, never relinquishing the lead from the very first snap.

Senior QB/DB **Luke Vanderweil** stole the show, rushing for 140 yards and three touchdowns—including a 54-yard score on the opening play. Vanderweil also showed up on defense, taking limited reps as a cornerback where he snagged a pick-six for his fourth touchdown of the night. As impressive as Vander-

weil's performance was, he made it clear who deserved the credit: the Wolves' offensive line. **Michael Pochron, Zach Mason, Ben Nystrom, Braeden Kehl, and Will Kay** put in work all night clearing the trenches, opening lanes that Vanderweil and fullback Jake Wagler took full advantage of all night long.

With another statement win in the books, the Wolves now turn their focus to this week's opponent: **Hampshire High School** (9/12). The Whip-Purs enter at 1–1, having dropped their opener to Jacobs in a heartbreaking 53–13 loss before bouncing back with a decisive 42–14 victory over Crystal Lake Central. Hampshire will be looking to carry that momentum into Friday's game as they defend



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FARSTEAD FOTOS

their home turf against the powerhouse Prairie Ridge squad—a tall order given the Wolves' proven dominance this season. Come out and support your Wolves on the road this Friday. *Go PR!*

# Girls Tennis 3-0

Last week, on Thursday, Girls Varsity Tennis pulled out a win against long-time rival Cary-Grove. The 4-doubles team of Scarlett Plott and Ava Baker finished with a score of **6-4, 3-6, 6-1**, giving PR the win.

As a team, the girls won **4-3**, making this the first time in a long time that PR has beaten CG. This match against CG, Tennis' first conference match, resulted in 1-, 3-, and

4-doubles as well as 1-singles wins.

On Tuesday, September 8, Varsity will be away and JV will be home against Jacobs. On Thursday, September 11, both varsity and JV will be away at Hampshire. Come show some school spirit and cheer on Girls Tennis!



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# Flag Football 0-2



Week 1 of conference Flag Football is off to a rocky start, with the last game resulting in a staggering (6-51) loss. While the loss looks bad on paper, there were slight improvements across the team. Wolf Prints reporters interviewed starting defensive player Adella Pollack, who spoke on how the team, mainly offensive players, started strong but quickly fell short after a couple of key plays were missed. She described how the offense was under a great deal of pressure due to Lakes' defensive scheme, which included blitzes almost every other play, a strategy neglected in the team's

practice (an effect of the previous Lakes game, in which the Lakes defense took a much less aggressive approach, focusing more on cutting off the receivers than sacking the QB). With regards to the team spirit, Pollack mentioned how morale deteriorated as the game began to turn in an unfavorable direction. Despite the tough loss, there were improvements made since Lakes. Varsity defensive player Sofia Baggio mentioned that "overall game knowledge improved," which led to more effective play running, and players exhibited a stronger ability to read the game and make calls with great-



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er confidence. Coming up this week, the girls are on the road to Dundee Crown on Tuesday (9/9), followed by a home game on Wednesday against Crystal Lake South (9/10), and an away game at Saint Viator this Saturday (9/13). The team is hopeful about future games, and is hard at work trying to set the (literal) record straight. *Go Wolves!*

# Athlete of the Week

This week's Athlete of the Week is **Grace Mertel** of the Girls Golf Team. Grace is being recognized for her outstanding achievement of shooting a 36—an even par—at Turnberry Golf Club during last Wednesday's (9/3) match against Burlington Central. Her superb performance not only set a **new school record** but also helped lead the Wolves to victory, improving the team's record to a perfect 3-0.

This isn't just a one-time highlight for Grace. She has placed in **the top 10 of every tournament** the team has competed in this season, showcasing her consistent skill and dominance on the course. A historic and dominant final season for Grace with Wolves golf.

Wolf Prints congratulates Grace on this incredible accomplishment and wishes her the best of luck for the rest of her season.



## Boys 2-1 & Girls 3-0 Golf



While golf as a sport has grown in popularity over the past few years, many PR students are unaware of how high school golf is actually played. Many assume that golf is an individual sport, when in reality, high school golf competes as a team. Seven people are brought to play at each match, and the top four scorers count towards the team total. Both our girls and boys golf teams are officially halfway through

their seasons and off to a great start.

Our boys golf team is currently 2-1 in conference dual matches, highlighted by a big win against Hampshire on August 20th, with the Wolves coming out victorious with a score of 152 to 159. The team was led by Junior Anthony Pettrone, who shot an impressive 36. In addition, Senior Jack Dahlman, Junior Andrew Daman, and Sophomore Mason Zimmerman all broke the 40-stroke mark with a score of 39. The Wolves also competed in a tournament at Boulder Ridge on August 21st. The boys battled to a podium finish, taking third out of the ten teams in the Fox Valley Conference.

Our girls team has a current record of 3-0 in dual matches and has placed in the top five in three of the tournaments this season. One of the highlights of the Wolves' season so far was a record-setting performance by Grace Mertel, with an even par, 36. Grace has also placed in the top ten for all four tournaments the team has participated in, including tying with fellow senior Lily Meyers for first at the Huntly



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Invitational. Lily won 3rd place at the Belvidere Invitational as well. The team has had several players shoot personal bests this season, including junior Lily Kerley and sophomore Callie Roberts. In addition, sophomore Carly Koeppen medaled at the match against Marengo, and freshman Elizabeth Jacobs had 2 chip-ins at the first high school tournament she played in. Coach Stantesly remarks that the team is “putting together solid rounds and our new golfers are showing great growth and improvement.”

# Soccer 3-2

Prairie Ridge's soccer season has been rolling through. The Wolves started on 8/26 with an away game against Grayslake North. It was an even match for the majority of the game, but in the end, Grayslake North took it home on their own turf. Undaunted, the soccer team put the loss behind them, winning their next two games on 8/28 and 8/30, with our Varsity Team dominantly defeating Harvard 2-1 on our home field. Varsity's 8/30 game was neck-and-neck, but the team's grit and leadership pulled through,

triumphing over Warren Township. Following this success were two tough matchups for the varsity soccer team, with the first game taking place against a strong team, the Lakes Eagles, on 9/2. The game was a tough one for the soccer boys, with the Eagles having the upper hand throughout most of the game and ultimately taking the win against PR, 2-1. The final game of the week was a good matchup against the Mundelein Carmel Corsairs. The teams were fairly evenly matched, ending in a 0-0 stalemate for the Wolves.



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Next week, the varsity team plays an away game against Belvidere at 6:30 PM on 9/11. *Go Wolves!*

# Volleyball 4-1



With week two of the volleyball season complete, the volleyball team's conference season is in full swing. So far, the Wolves have played 5 games with a record of 4-1. Each game has been just as exhilarating as the last, and it's safe to say that these girls aren't backing down

without a fight this 2025 season.

Last week, the wolves had two matches. On Tuesday, September 2nd, the PRVB team travelled to Hampshire High School to play against the Whip-Purs. The Wolves went into this match undefeated with a record of 3-0. In the first set, Prairie Ridge fought hard, but lost the close game to the Whip-Purs, 24-26. The next set, the Wolves left everything on the court, winning the set 25-18. Unfortunately, the Wolves were unable to defeat the Whip-Purs in the third set, making their season record 3-1.

On Thursday, September 4th, the Wolves headed to Burlington Central with victory in their minds. Prairie Ridge led the match in the first set, beating the Rockets 25-19. The next set was just as thrilling as the first, and the Wolves easily defeated Burlington Central Volleyball with their strong 25-13 set, winning in two. Congratulations to the Wolves for



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their strong 4-1 start to this season.

This week, the Prairie Ridge Volleyball Team brings the McHenry Warriors to their home court on Tuesday, September 9th. On Thursday, September 11th, the team heads to Huntley High School to play against the Red Raiders in what's sure to be an exciting match. Show up and support your volleyball team as they continue their excellent season.