

## Intramurals draws athletes

By Brady Cave  
sports editor

Intramural basketball is an opportunity for students to play organized five-on-five basketball with their peers.

Mr. Blaine Williams has an extensive history of running the intramural basketball program.

"I have spent probably close to 15 years now as the head of intramural basketball. For a few years early on, I was the assistant, but since then, I have been the only one running it. I have been looking for someone to take it over when I am done, but I would like even more to have someone to help me run the league," Mr. Williams said.

Some athletes' favorite sporting experiences come from sports they do not compete in for the school.

"I have played football since my freshman year at Greenwood, and some of my favorite sports memories have happened at intramural basketball games. It is a fun way to play sports with your friends that you typically do not get to play with," junior Nic Grimes said.

Mr. Williams agreed.

"It is always funny to me how seriously some of these athletes take it. Every year I will have people tell me that they have been looking forward to intramural basketball since it ended the previous year," he said.

Some athletes have spent time with the official basketball team. They see intramural basketball as an opportunity to play a more laid back game.

"I played basketball for the freshman team and went to the off-season basketball workouts the last two years. Intramural will be a less stressful experience, and I will be able to play outside of my typical role that I had for the basketball team, playing defense and getting rebounds," junior Harman Singh said.

Being around the basketball team has influenced one player to join intramurals.

"My freshman year I was the basketball manager. I wanted to play intramural basketball because being around their practices made me want to play myself," sophomore Ben Corliss said.

Some seniors said they should be picked early in the draft.

"I feel like my athleticism alone should make me a high draft pick. Even if some younger guys may be a little more skilled than me, they can not match my athleticism and strength from the extra years of working out," senior Brayden Wright said.

Grimes was honest about his player profile.

"I am not the most skilled player on offense. I help my team by rebounding and playing good defense. Last year, my team won the championship, and I feel like my defense was a big help in that," Grimes said.

Mr. Williams reminisced.

"I will never forget one year that we had to play the championship game at the old middle school because all of the courts were reserved here at the high school. A kid hit a shot from half court to send the game to overtime, and it being in the old middle school gym made it an even cooler memory," he said.

The intramural basketball skills combine took place on Monday with draft on Tuesday. The first slate of intramural games will be the Wednesday after Winter Break.

## How It Began ISSA Rockets to Intramural Seniors



### Mavrick Pauley

Started with recreational leagues

Played for Rockets at ISSA

Joined Greenwood Woodchucks

6th-8th Grade Basketball at GMS

4 year Intramural player

### Isaac Apgar

Played for Rockets at ISSA

Joined GCA Travel Basketball team

6th-8th Grade Basketball at GCA

2 years on Greenwood's JV team

Entering Second Year of Intramurals



### Nicholas Pruett

Started on backyard court with Dad

Played for Rockets at ISSA

Joined Greenwood Woodchucks

6th and 7th Grade Basketball at GMS

3 years of Intramural Basketball

## 2025 Intramural Basketball Captains



**Alex  
Kramer**



**Dom  
Williams**



**Brady  
Cave**



**Mavrick  
Pauley**



**Will  
Riley**



**Carter  
Chatham**



**Waveland  
Goodrich**



**Henry  
Barrett**

## SAAC Fan of the Game successful in inaugural season

By Sam Thompson  
sports editor

A Cousins sub meal, upgraded seat, and Greenwood athletics. These are just some of the reasons students should come out and support the Woodmen.

After the Student Athletic Advisory Council's, SAAC, recent change in leadership, Mrs. Andi Campbell revamped the club and looks to improve the support for Woodmen athletics, especially the less attended sports.

"The purpose of SAAC is to bring an improvement to the number of student fans. We are especially looking for ways to draw students to lower attended games, like soccer and tennis," Mrs. Campbell said.

The way that SAAC plans to get students to games is their new Fan of the Game. There are two Fan of the Game every event that SAAC hosts. Students are encouraged to join the fun put on by the SAAC and enter their names into a draw-

ing with a chance to win the Fan of the Game.

"Each Fan of the Game earns upgraded seating, a meal from Cousins sub and a drink from the concession stand while they watch the game," Mrs. Campbell said.

The Fan of the Game creates a great experience for the students while they watch their friends compete.

"I really enjoyed the recliner and my meal during the volleyball match. I was already going with my friends because it was free and I won Fan of the Game which was really nice. I think it's a great reason to come to the games," junior Andrew Vornheader said.

SAAC has been happy with the sponsors supporting their fans at their events.

"We have gotten two recliners from American Wholesale Furniture for our upgraded seating, and Cousins subs donates two box meals for every event," Mrs. Campbell said.



Mr. Stan and Mrs. Betsy Simpson, SAAC Fans of the Game, sit in their upgraded seating during the Sept. 20 football game. In addition to the lounge seats, Fans of the Game get food from Cousins Subs. Andi Campbell photo

The SAAC concluded their fall season with Fan of the Games at many events and is working to continue to improve to get more attraction at Woodmen events.

"We got the most attendance at our volleyball events, and we saw some improvement at tennis. We are hoping to

have better turnout at our winter events as basketball is already heavily attended," Mrs. Campbell said.

The next events are swimming on Dec. 10, wrestling on Dec. 12 and the double-header basketball games on Jan. 10, 24, and 31.