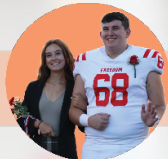


# THE LUCKY 20



Emma Falk (12), Wyatt Boyer (12)



Alyssa Grunnagle (12), James Couch (12)



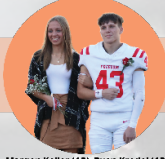
Breanna Reynolds (12), Tyler Welsh (12)



Jayda Pawelkoski (12), Tyler Schultheis (12)



Taylor O'Donnell (12), Cody Patterson (12)



Morgan Keller (12), Ryan Kredel (12)



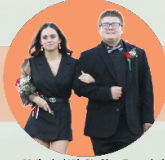
Abigail Hodnick (12), Chase Grable (12)



Shaye Bailey (12), Logan Bickerstaff (12)



Daisy Lewis (12), Caden Martin (12)



Brenna McIlvain (12), Steffan Paganie (12)

## Faces of bliss

With radiant smiles, Brenna McIlvain (12) and Steffan Paganie (12) look at each other in shock. Paganie was announced king at the homecoming football game, and McIlvain was announced queen soon after. "Honestly, I was still really just happy for Steffan that I initially did not realize they called my name," McIlvain said.

Hannah Shaffer | Shawnee

# BLISS IN Radiance

## 2023 Homecoming court installs bliss in community

By: Calla Reynolds (10)

Within the autumn months, Freedom holds an annual Homecoming dance. Along with the dance comes many festivities: a spirit week, parade, bonfire, pep assembly and the official crowning of Homecoming King and Queen. In addition to the festivities, 20 seniors were elected by the student body to serve in Homecoming Court. This year, the 10 female seniors elected were Brenna McIlvain, Emma Falk, Alyssa Grunnagle, Morgan Keller, Shaye Bailey, Breanna Reynolds, Jayda Pawelkoski, Taylor O'Donnell, Abigail Hodnick and Daisy Lewis. The 10 senior males were Steffan Paganie, Chase Grable, James Couch, Logan Bickerstaff, Wyatt Boyer, Cody Patterson, Tyler Schultheis, Tyler Welsh, Ryan Kredel and Caden Martin. The group of seniors were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of Homecoming events.

During the week of Sept. 25, students participated in Spirit Week, where each school day was assigned a theme in celebration of Homecoming. Homecoming was held on Sept. 30. Chronologically, the themes were pajama day, country versus country club, twin day, jersey day and school spirit day. Additionally, in the same week, all of the festivities took place.

On Sept. 28, the court took on Third

Avenue, Freedom. In groups of two, the seniors sat atop convertible cars and threw candy out to spectators during the Homecoming parade. The following day, during Personal Learning Time (PLT), the court performed a dance routine for the elementary, middle and high school students and staff at the Jimbo Covert Stadium.

"We had several practices during PLT and after school. The girls took most leadership of the dance, but the boys would chip in here and there with some fun ideas. We just made up the dance as we went along," McIlvain said.

Prior to the final event, which was the crowning, students nominated a male and female from the court to be titled King and Queen. Out of the 20 students, two were selected to be the 2023 Homecoming King and Queen: McIlvain and Paganie. The two were crowned at the ceremony held at the football game against Western Beaver on Sept. 29.

"Overall, the experience was super fun and I am so appreciative of those who voted for me to even have the experience," McIlvain said.



## Red, white and royal hugs

Raising their hands into the air, the 2023 homecoming court comes together in a circle. They huddled near the end of the traditional dance routine, performed at the pep rally, to celebrate each other.

Brodie Falk | Shawnee



## Smiles and surprises

Smiling in surprise, Steffan Paganie (12) walks away from the 2022 homecoming king, Damian Grunnagle, with a crown and a sash. Each year, the new homecoming king and queen are crowned by the king and queen from the year prior.

Christopher Denkvich | Shawnee

