

DISCOVER



PHS Panthers

2022 Football Schedule

- Aug. 19 vs. Jackson-Olin
- Aug. 26 @ Oak Mountain
- Sept. 9 vs. Briarwood
- Sept. 16 @ Helena
- Sept. 23 @ Chelsea
- Sept. 30 @ Calera
- Oct. 6 vs. Ben. Russell
- Oct. 14 vs. Homewood
- Oct. 21 @ Chilton County
- Oct. 27 vs. Spain Park

FOOTBALL FRIDAYS

Community Unity Surrounds PHS Gamedays

Football season is here, and the Friday night lights are shining bright at Pelham High School. The football team, band, and cheerleaders have put in countless hours over the summer to get ready, and now it is time to take the field. Under the leadership of new head football coach Mike Vickery, the excitement is building.

The Panthers just came off a year where several sports teams excelled in their seasons. Principal and Athletic Director Kim Kiel believes this year will be no different. "Each year our programs build off of each other. Our coaches coach multiple sports, and our players play multiple sports and that in itself brings our programs together to create a family environment. Truthfully, the energy is electric this time of year, and a great opportunity for everyone to be involved."

SGA President and senior Emma Studdard said football season at PHS is unifying and creates excitement among students. "Game day spirit is a full-day experience. We dress up in the theme of the game and wear it to class, the pep rally, and of course in the student section, 'Vick-tory Village.'" She cited the singing of the alma mater on the field after both wins and losses as a big tradition. "Experiencing that moment together no matter the score is a moving thing." She also enjoys when the band leads the crowd in "Monkey Beat", a song and dance in memory of PHS student Carson Sumpter, who passed away from bone cancer in 2011.

Studdard invites everyone to come out to pack the stands at the games. "It's so encouraging to see that teacher, neighbor, or coworker supporting Pelham High School. A crowded stadium adds to the energy of the night."



MEET PRC'S NEW TENNIS PRO

The Pelham Racquet Club recently added to its stable of talented tennis pros. Michael Helms, who is also known as "Helmsey" on the nationally-syndicated Rick and Bubba Show is now a USTA certified assistant tennis professional at PRC.

"My alarm goes off early (for the radio show), but after we're done around mid-morning, I head over to the Racquet Club for lessons and clinics," said Helms, who has been involved with tennis for over 20 years. The former baseball player at Jacksonville State University also enjoys golf in his spare time.

While Helms teaches all ages, he said he's finding satisfaction with teaching beginners. "I want to get it

right so eventually they get to focus on strategy and tactics." Read more about Michael on the [Pelham Racquet Club website](#).

THE WORKING DOGS OF PELHAM

National Dog Day is Friday August 26. In honor of the occasion, we salute the working dogs of the City of Pelham.



BAGHEERA

Breed/Age:

Labrador Retriever, age 3

Years of Service:

3 months

Nickname:

Biggie

Primary Duties:

Explosive detection

Favorite Toy:

His red Kong ball

Favorite Treat:

Steak

Off-Duty Activities:

Going running with his handler, Sgt. Johnson

From Bagheera's Human:

"Bagheera will soon be Pelham PD's first Vapor Wake K9."



DRIVER

Breed/Age:

German Shorthaired

Pointer (GSP), age 2

Years of Service:

2 years

Nickname:

Driver Man

Primary Duties:

Deters Canadian Geese from Ballantrae Golf Course

Favorite Toy:

Anything that squeaks or rolls

Favorite Treat:

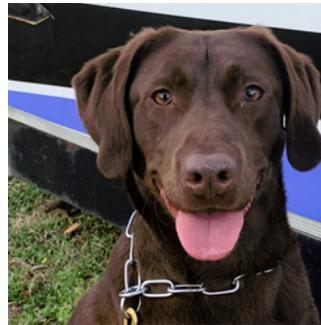
Pretzel bites stuffed with peanut butter

Off-Duty Activities:

Napping with his humans

From Driver's Human:

"Before Driver, we had at times up to 100 geese on the golf course, costing the City over \$10,000 a year in repairs. Driver is loved by the staff and players at Ballantrae."



RIPLEY

Breed/Age:

Labrador Retriever, age 2

Years of Service:

6 months

Nickname:

Rip

Primary Duties:

Explosive detection

Favorite Toy:

Rubber ball

Favorite Treat:

Anything my human will let me eat. I love eating!

Off-Duty Activities:

Swimming in the pool at home

From Ripley's Human:

"Ripley is a great police dog and partner. He is always ready for work. We look forward to serving the City of Pelham and all its citizens for many years."



THUNDER

Breed/Age:

Labrador Retriever, age 4

Years of Service:

2+ years

Nickname:

Thunderstruck

Primary Duties:

Explosive detection, being the goodest boy, cheering on the Birmingham Bulls, and eating the Chief's French fries.

Favorite Toy:

The one you throw

Favorite Treat:

The one you give me (or drop)

Off-Duty Activities:

Playing fetch & making TikToks

From Thunder:

"Don't let my leash holder fool you. I'm the brains and beauty of our team. I like couch time, walks on the beach, puppaccinos, and Taylor Swift."