

The-Cat's-Dispatch

We'll meet our deadlines, even if we end up dead along the line.



Walnut Ridge, Arkansas
Lawrence County School District

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~ Walnut Ridge High School supplement to The Times Dispatch since 1976 ~



WRHS Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

By Kayla Curtis

WRHS has five new staff members at our lovely little high school this year: Coach Ryan, Coach Halbrook, Coach Ford, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Shelia. Take some time to get to know them on a more personal level. Hopefully, this will help.

Our new PE and Drivers Ed. teacher Coach Peter Ryan is fresh out of Arkansas Tech University. He teaches because it gives him an opportunity to have a positive impact on all of the students; "It's ALL about the students!" he stated.

Did you know girls' basketball coach, Chase Halbrook was once an eighth grade science teacher? He has also taught K-12 PE. He began teaching at Piggott in 2015, switching schools to Delta C-7 in Missouri in 2016. Coach Halbrook went to ASU. He hopes to be a positive influence on his students and players.

Coach Tommy Ford attended ASU from 84'-90'. He now has his BSE, MSE, and Ed. S. He was even an assistant high school principal at Nettleton.

Coach Ford has taught and coached at EPC in 1990

and Crossett until he retired in 2016. After spending two years out of state, he's now teaching in his first Arkansas school since retirement. He says he has taught "basically all social studies at one point in time or another." Coach Ford teaches because he enjoys watching students learn, advance and achieve. He coached because of the thrill of the competition, and he strives to help athletes improve and be successful.

Mrs. Schelley Davis - former teacher of our rivals) - has taught seventh and eighth grade math, Algebra I,

Geometry, Algebra III and ALE. After graduating BRTC in 1996 and ASU in 1998, she began teaching at Hoxie in 2013. She loves working with youth and wants to inspire them.

Before Mrs. Sheila Britton was hired as WRHS secretary, she worked at First Choice Healthcare for 13 years. Mrs. Sheila chose to work here because both of her daughters attended here, and she wanted to be closer to her grandkids, who are currently enrolled in WR elementary and middle schools.

Download **SchoolWay** from the app store today.

Knowledge of the Newbies

By Kayla Curtis

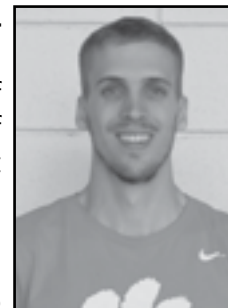


Mrs. Davis - "Take your education seriously; knowledge is power. Stay confident! And cherish family."

Coach Halbrook - "The harder you work in school, the easier life is after school. If you can go to college for free, DO IT! Practice as hard as you can every day, because you will miss it more than you will ever understand."



Coach Ryan - "Listen more. Push yourself to get out of your comfort zone and give your all at everything you try to do. Be more willing to get to know those who are a little different from you."



Mrs. Shelia - "Enjoy school and do your best. Real life comes soon enough! Always be nice and smile - you never know what someone may be going through, just a smile could make their day better. Be social, join the clubs and get involved in sports."



Coach Ford - "Be loyal, but be careful about the intentions of those who you show loyalty to. Work hard and have fun."



Walnut Ridge Alumni Return to the Court

By Holly Berry

On Thursday, August 16, the Walnut Ridge High School hosted an alumni volleyball game. The junior high volleyball team played the older alumni, including Coach Berry, while the senior Lady Cats played the recently graduated players. The alumni players put up a great fight, but both junior and senior teams pulled through the games with new vigor.

Junior high girls played the first game against Coach Berry's team. The has-beens and the junior high team played each other in two sets. Coach Berry's team played well, but the junior high girls showed they were better and took the win.

Senior high girls played the second game against the recent grads. The recent graduates and senior high also played each other in two sets.

This game was the most exciting to watch. These recent graduates put up a fight and put down as many balls as they could, but senior high showed everyone what they would be able to do for this year's volleyball season and smashed their way to victory.

Lady Cats Begin Volleyball Season

By Olivia Ford

After a trip to the state semifinals last season, the Walnut Ridge Lady Cats are striving for another successful campaign this year. They were honored with an invitation to participate in a Preview Day at Harding Academy also featuring 11 other teams expected to make deep playoff runs this season.

The girls had a very good start to their season, finishing the day with four wins and one loss. The Bobcats began with an impressive victory over last year's Class 4A state runners-up from Baptist Prep. The team continued their winning streak with victories over Batesville Southside, Harding Academy, and Mayflower. The lone loss of the day was in their last match versus Atkins.

The regular season opener was a road game at Crowley's Ridge Academy. The Bobcats won the first set, before losing the next two, only to finish strong to defeat the Falcons in the last two sets for a 3-2 victory.

Another road win over Class 5A West Memphis moved the Bobcats to a 2-0 record to begin their season.

Save the Date: October 12
Parent Teacher Conferences (No school)
1st Quarter Report Cards

Back2School Cookout

By Kai Cunningham

Most senior classes go to Moni's in a huge group for their senior breakfast, but half of this year's seniors decided to change it up a little bit. We decided to have a cookout in the gym parking lot at school. We had a great turnout. Roughly 30 seniors showed up and we had a blast.

We showed up around 5:30 a.m. and started cooking. Luckily this time, the cops didn't show up and chew us out. It is a must for next year's seniors!

At 8:00 a.m. Mr. Kersey welcomed everyone, students and faculty, back to school. StuCo president, Graham West and Mrs. Findley also spoke.

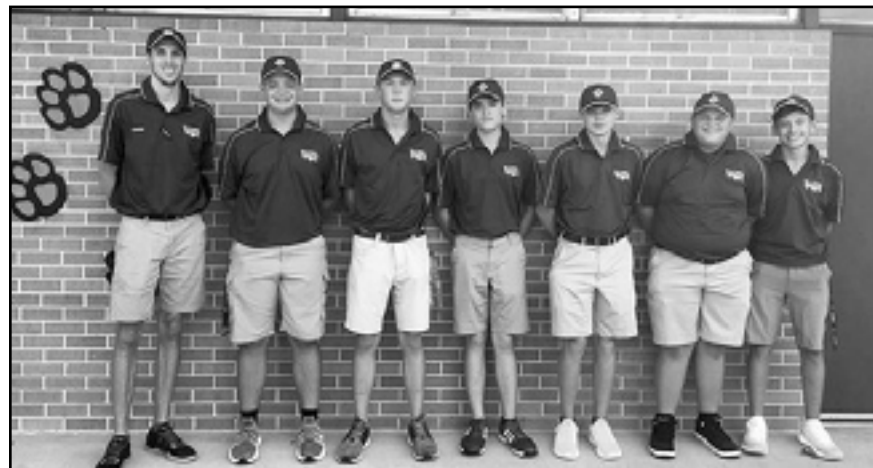
Then, he talked to the seniors alone about how we need to be role models this year, and to help out as much as we can. We're up for the challenge, Coach.

The Comeback

By Zack Osburn

It has made its way back to WR - one of the best golf teams you will ever hear of. They are a great group of boys who can all hit a golf ball pretty far. Their first game was at Newport. The player that scored the highest was Jordan Haynes, who got second place. That's okay though, because he had his team coming in right behind him.

People ask, "Why did we bring back the golf team?" It has made a comeback so it can give the kids another sport to enjoy if they don't play baseball, basketball, and football. Having this golf team helps the kids get involved more and have fun doing what they love. Welcome back golf team, best of luck to y'all!



From left to right is our fine golf team: Coach Peter Ryan, Will Davis, Trevor Smith, Zachary Caspall, Cody McEntire, Jordan Haynes, and Isaac Biggers.

WR Wins in Summer Baseball

By Cade Burris

Over the summer, the Walnut Ridge Orioles (a baseball team made up of Walnut Ridge students) took part in a baseball league with several other northeast Arkansas schools. The team is made up of incoming students (grades 9-12) who intend to play baseball on the high school baseball team.

Each summer the Orioles play several double-headers in June. The team also participated in the Glenn Sain Classic. A total of eight teams from northeast Arkansas and southeast Missouri came to Paragould for the tournament.

The Orioles breezed to a spot in the championship against Cooter (Missouri) with wins against Batesville Legion and Neelyville. This would be the second time the Orioles have faced Cooter in the Glenn Sain Classic Championship; it would also be the second time the Orioles beat Cooter.

After seven long, hard-fought innings, the Orioles became back-to-back Glenn Sain Classic Champions with a final score of 7-4.

Congratulations to Homecoming Royalty:

Queen, Sheridan Smith; Maid of Honor, Claire Fisher
 Senior Maid, Hailie Standridge
 Junior Maid, Jenny Davis
 Sophomore Maid, Anna Claire Maple
 Freshman Maid, Olivia Farmer

Generation X

By Dakota Girard

This year's Pride Band theme is Generation X. Generation X was composed by Randall D. Standridge and consists of three parts: X-Citement, X-Pression, and X-Clamation.

Over the summer, they have spent a lot of time rehearsing music for this year's marching season. They are excited for football games and competitions to begin.

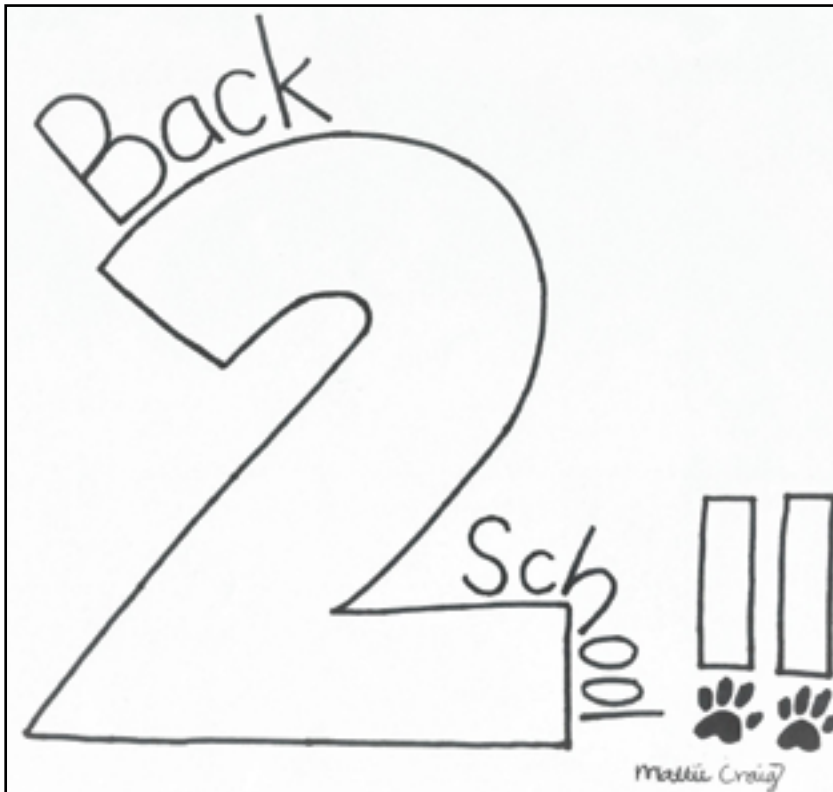
The Pride is led this year by drum major Kaylie Blazer and the color guard captain Lilly Maple. They are directed by John Long.



The PRIDE Band is always ready with a catchy tune, whether it's during a pep rally, a football game, or anytime Mr. Long yells, "Horns up."



The Back2School Dance brought out the party animals this year!



Bobcat Bio:**Kaiden Stormes**

By Abby Rounsavall

Class – Senior

Clubs – Gamers Club, Key Club, FBLA

BFFs – CJ Couch, Garrett Gunn
Favorite teacher/class – Rice (Journalism)

Relationship status – Single :(

Political view – Moderate

Pet Peeve – People who keep coughing

Last binge watch – Another

Favorite Meme – To be continued...

Guilty pleasure – Dragons

Tech Addiction – Half-Life 2: Clockwork

Most awkward moment – Too many

Last person you texted – CJ's mom

Favorite artist – EDEN

Worst habit – Biting my nails

What would you choose as your last meal? – Macaroni and Cheese

Freshman Flop – Only taking one semester of Spanish 1

Girl's State was More than Expected

By Claire Fisher

"Friends we are and friends we'll always be."

...

Girl's State was a once in a lifetime experience for me. For one week, I woke up at 5 o'clock in the morning, got fully ready by 6:30, had a jam packed schedule, and was in bed by midnight. My dorm key, name tag, Girl's State sweatshirt, and red visor became my top priorities.

I made a few friends — more than I thought I would make. I cheered until I couldn't talk anymore, and cried until I had major headaches when we had to leave. This experience might have been a few steps outside of my comfort zone, but

I am forever grateful that I got to experience Arkansas Girl's State!

...

"Girl's State girls we'll always be, until we meet again."



Seniors 2019: Shelby, Lilly, Krystin, Dakota, Hailie and Tamera are ready to get their senior year started.

Art Club is planning a busy year

By Erin Hicks

Sponsoring the Walnut Ridge Art Club (WRAC) is Mrs. Pattin. Her goals are to create a Kitty Art Camp, promote art outside of school, and hopefully take a trip to an art museum. There is a \$5 admission fee to join WRAC (pronounced "rack") for startup supplies. Any student who has taken an art class in high school may join; all you need is a willingness to work hard and create art.

WRAC will have a potluck meeting on September 25. If you did not attend the last meeting, talk to Mrs. Pattin before attending. The president of Art Club is Katie Kersey. Mady McGinnis, Garrett Gunn, Alex Lishman, and Kaiden Stormes are the representatives for art club.

Art Club will also be having a design competition for this year's t-shirt. The winner will have their design printed on the shirt for all club members.

Bobcat Bio:**Blane Wade**

By Hannah Wade

Class – Sophomore

BFFs – Anna Saffell, Makenna Moore, Makenzee Miller

Favorite teacher/class – Ms. Foster/Algebra II

Relationship Status – Single

Political view – It makes no sense

Pet Peeve – Chase Ervin

Tech Addiction – Snapchat

Last person you texted – Anna Saffell

Least favorite artist – Lil Pump

Freshman Flop – Didn't keep school as my #1 priority

**Homecoming 2018*****The Boys of Fall*****Friday, Oct. 5, 2018**

Seniors 2019: Ashleigh Morris and Claire Fisher are finally seniors.

Bobcat Bio:

Kayleene Long

By Hannah Wade

Class – Freshman
 BFFs – Shyanne Foley, Baylee Davis, Hannah Wade
 Favorite teacher – Mr. Harper
 Relationship status – Single
 Political view – Republican
 Pet Peeve – Question askers
 Tech Addiction – Snapchat
 Last person you texted – Shyanne Foley
 Worst habit – Fidgeting



Artistic Talents

By Irene Lynette

When you hear the name Walnut Ridge High School, what do you think of? Well, I think of basketball, football, or sports in general. There is so much more than that at this school, like our arts program.

Even though the arts at this school are not prominent, we have so many amazing programs for them, including choir, band, and art classes. People should show more appreciation for the arts.

Our choir holds concerts, as does the Pride band. Just attending the concerts could make the people involved with the arts feel special, or if you see someone drawing or painting, tell them that their artwork looks good (unless it doesn't).

Don't get me wrong, our sports teams are amazing and very talented. As for the arts, they are equally as talented. Making a sculpture or singing a high note is just as important as scoring a touchdown or shooting a 3-pointer.

Fishing With Pop

By Selena Teel

Bass fishing was the name of the game. Choosing what to use was hard depending on the fish. We came to an agreement that using spinner baits, crank baits, or plastic worms was best.

We heard that the fish were just jumping out of the water! This was exciting for both Pop and me since we both love to fish.

We couldn't wait to be on our way to Lake Charles, about 20 miles from where he lived. Pop and I got the boat ready the night before. It was hard to sleep because of the anticipation about the fishing trip.

On the way down to the boat, it was so steep that I lost my balance and rolled into a big ant hill. The ants were all over my legs; it was so disgusting.

I don't even remember if we caught any fish. It was just the time spent with my grandfather that I will always remember. He is my role model and I hope to be as wise as him one day.

Bobcat Speak:

Who's Your Favorite Freshman?

By Ashleigh Morris

- Kai Cunningham – Kel Slusser
- Mrs. Pattin – Rusty
- Claire Fisher – Holly Berry
- Baylee Davis – Kayleene Long
- Jordyn Jones – Holly Berry
- Kaiden Stormes – Dagan Lillard
- Nick Foster – Mason Andrews and Noah Roark
- Liley Holsapple – Chloe Davis
- Livvie Howard – Olivia Farmer
- Grady Privett – Brown Logan
- #MyPresident (aka Graham West) – Dagan Lillard
- Slade Dalton – Savannah Andrews
- Brighton Brand – Olivia Farmer

Would You Rather...

By Nash Gill

Have love or money?

- Coach Ryan – Love
- Coach Halbrook – Money
- Kai Cunningham – Love

Have a dog or a cat?

- Tristan Hart – Dog
- Coach Coffman – Dog
- Olivia Bickers – Dog

Watch football or volleyball?

- Zack O – Football
- Mrs. Rice – Volleyball
- Baylee Davis – Football

Bobcat Speak:
**Describe School
 in One Word:**

By Grady Privett

Austin Stover – Boring

Connor Manning –
 Extraterrestrial

Drew Brewer – I-Just-Want-
 To-Go-Home

Jaden Darris – Boring

Kailey Blazer – Depressing

Graham West –

Jerry (Mr. Haynes)

Valorie Cook –

Disappointment

Chase Ervin – Haynes

Rome McEntire – Oof

Tyler Ditto – Fun

Maggie Gibson – Difficult

Logan Hudson – Good

**What Grinds
 Your Gears?**

By Malachi Tinker

Tristin Hart – When people
 flick my ears

Ashleigh Morris – Trees

Olivia Bickers – Bryson
 Farmer

Chloe Brown – School

Tara Wells – People

Hannah Wade – Prepositions

Mattie Craig – Slow People

Austin Stover – Homework

Logan Blackwood –

Tall people

Peyton Callahan –

Short people

Andrew Brewer – Katie's
 driving

Mrs. Rob – Students that do
 not do their homework

#BringVineBack2018

“Life is Too Short”

By Hunter West

“Life is too short” is commonly said by two types of people: risk takers and people who have had near-death experiences. Well, life is not as short as you think, it's just kinda boring.

Life is a thrill and quite sharp for some people; it's slow and dull for others. Life often feels short because nothing interesting happens and you don't make anything happen — at least, nothing memorable. So it ends up feeling like nothing happened.

People who participate in more activities have more experiences to remember, which makes people believe they've lived longer, fuller lives. Life is experience; make stuff happen and you tend to have more experience.

Experience is carried by memories, memories that you will look back on to decide if you've lived a good life, a long life or a short life, all usually decided by what's memorable rather than the span of time in life.

Life isn't short. Life is just often uneventful and dull. Life is measured in different ways by different people. In the end, life is measured through experience, not time.

Bring Vine Back

By Kate Cole

Vine was the best. Now it's a blast from the past. Everyone loved it because it gave us six-second videos we'll never forget. If there was a Vine, life was fine. #BringVineBack2018

Just a Minute Ago...

By Olivia Bickers

Sheridan Smith was named homecoming queen.
 Coach Halbrook – Nash Gill and Bryson Farmer cheated on their workouts.

Mrs. Pattin – I took a picture with Kai! (Cunningham)

Isiah Mabry – You walked into my class.

Slade Dalton – You moved to Walnut Ridge.

Jackson Forrester – A Madden tournament had a shooting!

Charles Mabry – I moved to Walnut Ridge, too.

Bryson Farmer – We played Hoxie in volleyball... yeehaw!

Tristin Hart – Nash Gill tripped over his own foot.

Dylan Aaron – We had school spirit!

Cade Burris – The Kru showed up and showed out!

Malachi Tinker – I taught Hannah Wade how to do the worm.

Grady Privett finally turned 16.

The Bobcats beat Marked Tree in the home opener.



Mattie and Macy: Juniors Mattie Craig and Macy Smelser are BFFs on and off the court.



Horizontal Tuba: Tuba King Creedon Lee experiments with different ways of playing.



Nash & Logan



Cade & Slade

Mystery Students

By Brighton Brand

He is 5'7, but he looks about 11
He plays basketball and baseball,
He already has a helmet on his
head so he should play football.
Sophomore girls are crazy 'bout
him,
And he's just as crazy about them

She's blonde, she's tall
She loves volleyball.
She wrecked this summer –
Totaled a brand new 2017
Altima.... What a bummer.

How Did You Become Best Friends?

By Tristin Hart

Cade Burris and Slade Dalton:

Cade and Slade, both seniors, have been best friends ever since Cade saved Slade from drowning in a pond. Slade was trapped under the ice. Cade pulled him up and gave him CPR (mouth to mouth) and brought Slade back to life.

Nash Gill and Logan Blackwood:

Nash and Logan, both juniors, first met when they were in kindergarten. Nash has always been taller than Logan and it became their "thing". They would always make fun of each other about it. Nash says the friendship has always been there and will never leave.

Olivia Bickers and Taylor McGinty:

Liv and Taylor, both seniors, are recent friends. When Liv started her senior year at Walnut Ridge, she didn't have many friends - she was on the hunt for a new bestie. She met Taylor in Mrs. Baker's room during lunch. They realized how much they had in common; they just laughed and talked all class period.

A Fresh Start

By Hannah Beary

As a freshman entering high school, it can be scary. We don't really know what to expect. For me, it was a rough start, but things soon started to progress and get better. Personally I was a little afraid because I didn't know how different things would be.

I knew that I would have to give it 100% more than what I did in middle school, and if I did that I knew that I could have amazing opportunities as an outcome. Not only will high school help better myself through education but also in daily life experiences. ,

Although things started out a little rough, the teachers and staff members have been really great through it all. I want to challenge all freshmen to keep pressing forward even when things get tough. Get involved as much as you can. Always give it your all because in the end, it'll be worth it.

Bobcat Speak:

Who is the Messiest Person You Know?

By Hailey Jensen

- Mollie Blackshear – Myself
- Emma Richey – Kaci Kirksey
- Will Davis – Kyle Russell
- Kyle Russell – Myself
- Allie Sherman – Mollie Blackshear
- Holly Berry – Drake Berry
- Mrs. Holland – Danielle Denham
- Bailey Augustine – Ethan Augustine
- Alex Jones – Tara Wells
- Jayden Hollister – Ty Flippo
- Tate Anderson – Myself
- Lilly Maple – Anna Claire Maple
- Livvie Howard – Mollie Blackshear
- Trevor Smith – Jordan Haynes
- Jaden Darris – Jett Ditto
- Graham West – Myself
- Jett Ditto – Jaden Darris



Liv & Taylor

Online Concurrent Credit

By Baylee Davis

This year I have been truly blessed to take college classes online. I absolutely adore having the chance to take these classes without having to go to an actual college. I get to stay around my friends as well as take high school classes due to not having to travel.

I love the fact that I get to do my assignments at my own pace and get to take quizzes when I feel I am ready throughout the week. The teachers I work with are truly amazing and helpful.

I am currently enrolled in Human Anatomy and Physiology as well as Developmental Psychology. The advantage of this opportunity is that these class periods are built into your schedule. The only downside, however, is that there is no face to face communication with an actual teacher, so you have to stay on top of your work yourself.

If you get the chance or the time in your schedule you should definitely take advantage of this opportunity. Get a head start on your college work.

“Fun” Facts about WRHS students

By Trishton Wilson

Holly Berry – I can pick up things with my feet.

Hannah Harper – I am ambidextrous.

Alex Lishman – I can quickly come up with pick-up lines.

Chloe Brown – I love to sleep.

Skylar Louthan – I play bass for my church.

Mollie Blackshear – I can flip my eye-lids.

Hailey Jensen – I am not good at anything.

Haley Smart – I have a streak of 425.

Jamie Patrick – I like volleyball.

Leah Malewski – I can sing.

Trishton Wilson – I come up with the best nicknames.

Lane Brown – I look like a shampoo bottle.

September Birthdays!

By Parker Brand

1st - Kailey Blazer

3rd - Grady Privett

5th - Colin Parker

8th - Alexis Dalton

9th - Cody McEntire

13th - Nash Gill

Julie Vance

15th - Cody Colburn

17th - Holly Berry

17th - Zack Osburn

18th - Mady McGinnis

19th - Reece Archer

Noah Roark

22nd - Tamera Trinidad

25th - Katie Kersey

26th - Sean Brown

28th - Colby Brown

Andi Jones

What's Hot & What's Not

By Chloe Brown

What's Hot:

MGK (Machine Gun Kelley)

Birkenstocks

Football

EAST Lab

Citizen's Vault

Brick houses

Avengers 4

Instagram

Mexican food

Foreign exchange students

Fortnite

What's Not:

Eminem

Crocs

Baseball

Physical Education

Main St. Pizza

Wooden houses

Frozen

Facebook

Chinese food

Regular students

Call of Duty

Sports Spotlight: Baylee Davis

By Livvie Howard

Baylee Davis, 17, has played volleyball and softball and now she's even cheering for the Bobcats.

Over the years, Coach Janna Berry has push Baylee to work hard to succeed. Bus rides to away games are her most cherished memories.

Her biggest accomplishments are getting All-State in softball twice. The key to Baylee's success is to practice, practice, practice. She really admires Braxton Burnside, from Paragould who now plays softball in the SEC. She draws inspiration from her love for the game. Her plans after high school are to attend U of A or Ole Miss to earn a pre-med degree. If she has the chance, she would like to continue playing softball or volleyball at the collegiate level.

The best advice that Baylee has ever received is "be the kid the other teams are worried about." She lives by the motto "Today I will do what others won't, so tomorrow I can do what others can't."

As Baylee grew up, Baylee Burris was a WR athlete whom she looked up to because she always played three sports, handled her school work and excelled at everything. The one thing on her bucket list is to win a state championship.



Bobcat Speak:

What Do You Miss the Most About Summer?

By Tyler Cunningham

Bryson Farmer – "Looping"
with friends

Baylee Davis – Sleeping in
Kai Cunningham – Fishing

Nash Gill – Cruising with
Zack Osburn

Slade Dalton – Backroads

Olivia Bickers – Hanging with
the boys

Zack Osburn – Long summer
nights

Will Davis – Hanging with
friends

James Belew – Fortnite

Mason McEntire – No school

Mollie Blackshear – Sleep

Anna Maple – Sleep schedule

Bobcat Speak:

Who's Your Favorite NFL Player?

By Bryson Farmer

Mrs. Holland – Ben
Roethlisberger

Charles Mabry, Jr. – Ezekiel
Elliot

Zack Osburn – Slade Dalton

Nash Gill – Luke Harper

Sheridan Smith – Eric Decker

Cade Burris – Julio Jones

Cole Manning – Jalen Ramsey

Mrs. Baker – Drew Brees

Kai Cunningham – Charles
Mabry, Jr.

Mrs. Rouse – Reggie Bush

Coach Halbrook – Ezekiel
Elliot

Jace Turner – De'Sean
Jackson



The Kru: Showing their support for our school at every single game.

October Horoscopes

By Jacob Buxton

Aries - This month will be great to start new ventures or continue old ones. Hard work will not be required this month.

Taurus - This month will be either a time of financial gain or loss. Not a good time to gamble.

Gemini - This month will have many trials waiting. Buckle up and get ready for the ride.

Cancer - This month will be the beginning of an emotional reprieve. Friendships will be more powerful this month.

Leo - This month will be great for rekindling old relationships. A perfect time to fall in love.

Virgo - This month will be a roller coaster of feelings and events. An amazing time to stay home.

Libra - This month will lead to many new discoveries of one's self and the world around. A great time to explore.

Scorpio - This month will give back all the effort you've put into last month. Forces are returned.

Sagittarius - This month will reopen old wounds, friends will help them heal though. Keep faith in each other.

Capricorn - This month holds rejuvenating energies for your tired soul. Friends will come and open you up to the world.

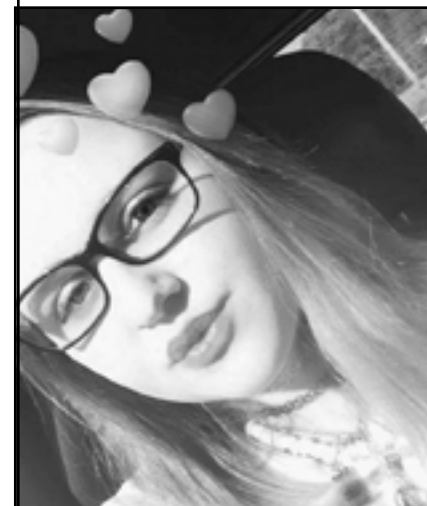
Aquarius - This month offers fantastic progress at the cost of emotional highs and lows. Hold on to your friends, they love you.

Pieces - This month is a time to improve yourself, the stars are aligned. Keep your chin up.

Bobcat Bio:

Morgan Elrod

By Abby Rounsavall



Grade - Junior

Club involvement – Choir
BFFs – Irene Hood, Jamie
Patrick

Relationship status – Single

Pet Peeve – Smacking

Last binge watch – Law and
Order SVU

Tech Addiction – Snapchat

Last person you texted –
Irene Hood

What would you choose as
your last meal? – Homemade
Chicken and Dumplings



Actual Legend: Tyler Ditto
stylin' on 'em at the Back to
School Dance.

The Wait is Over: TØP is Back

By Tate Anderson

After an almost two-year hiatus, the critically-acclaimed pop duo TWENTY ØNE PILØTS has released four new tracks from their upcoming studio album *Trench*, set to release in early October.

The first two tracks, titled "Jumpsuit" and "Nico and the Niners", were released in July. The third track, "Levitate," was released on August 8 after being leaked early by music platform TIDAL and "My Blood" was released on August 27.

Tyler Joseph — TWENTY ØNE PILØTS frontman — stated

in past interviews that he wanted to go back to the style of the first album and focus more on the lyrical aspect of their songs. This can clearly be seen in the new tracks.

Songs like "Jumpsuit" contain lyrics that make the listener want to think and hone in on what Joseph is singing. Each new track has an accompanying music video. Unlike most other TØP songs with music videos, these three videos seem to be linked and hint at a larger narrative at work in the album.

The story seems to

expand on ideas from the previous album, *Blurryface*. The band has used their Twitter account to post cryptic messages and letters months before the album's announcement.

Now that these tracks have been released, the community has finally been able to put most of the pieces together.

The story follows a man named Clancy who lives in the city of Dema (pronounced "Deema"). This city is dictated by the Bishops, a group of hooded figures who try to keep the civilians in check by stealing

their hope and joy through an unknown religion called Vialism. However, Clancy has broken free from his brainwashing. So, it is up to him to escape the city with the help of a mysterious, yellow-clad gang known as the Banditos and a single phrase: "East is up."

TWENTY ØNE PILØTS' fifth studio-album, *Trench*, will release on October 5.

A Blast from the Past

By Alex Lishman

Ah, 2008. A time of smudgy eyeliner, Fallout Boy, and the 'May I speak to the manager?' haircut. This year's sophomore class had just started kindergarten and Barack Obama had just become president. The world was much simpler to the class of 2021.

The trends at the time were drastically different from today. For instance, in '08 anyone who was someone wore low rise, fit and flare jeans, layered with a sun dress, a flashy scarf and topped off with a snazzy hat and sandals.

Ashley Tisdale and Britney Spears followed all the hot trends during this time period. Now in 2018, we wear high-waisted skinny jeans, cropped tops and some sort

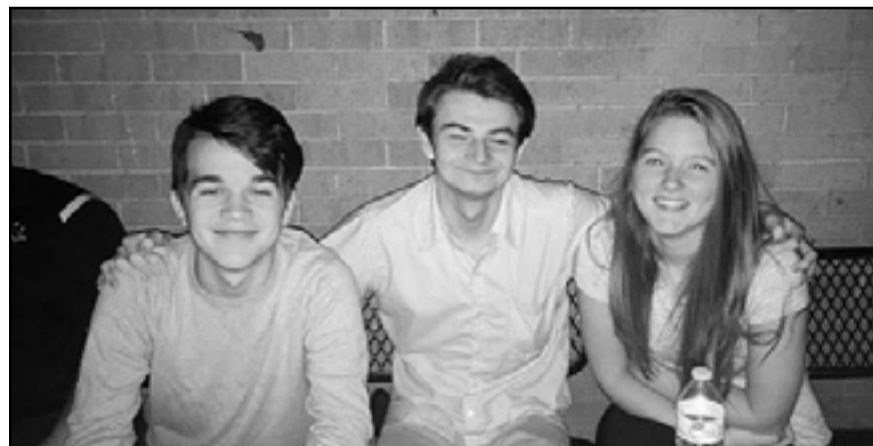
of layer (a flannel, a bomber jacket, etc.).

The music has more or less stayed the same, ironically. Lots of songs have brought back that older sound, like Bruno Mars and Cardi B's *Finesse*. Some old songs are still popular today as well, like The Killers' *Mr. Brightside*, which has stayed on London's Top 20 charts since its debut in late 2008.

Many trends we had a decade ago have evolved into what we wear and do today, like the music we listen to, or the makeup we wear. The iconic fashion statements of that time period took the whole world by storm, and if we didn't have those looks, we would not be the same today.



Juniors: Mattie Craig, Mady McGinnis, Macy Smelser and Hannah Wade wait for the morning assembly to start on August 15.



The Best Days of their Lives: Graham West, Garrett Gunn and Kayla Curtis enjoy spending time together at the Back2School Dance.

Hepatitis A Outbreak

By Skyla Henry

Since February of 2018, the number of Hepatitis A cases in Northeast Arkansas has been growing. Hep A is a contagious liver disease caused by the Hep A virus. It is transmitted person to person when someone ingests bits of fecal matter through food, drink or close personal contact.

The vaccine for Hepatitis A, the Immune Globulin, can prevent the disease. The number of cases in the U.S. declined by 95% when the vaccine was introduced in 1995.

There have been more than 48 cases in Lawrence County; however, Greene, Clay, and Craighead counties are the most affected. Recently, there was a case involving a Paragould student. The school was sanitized and closed.

An effective way to prevent Hep A is to simply practice good hygiene and wash your hands thoroughly after using the restroom and before eating or preparing food.

The Queen of Soul

By Max Hibbs

Aretha Franklin, one of the top female singers in the world, passed away August 16 due to pancreatic cancer at the age of 76. Born in Memphis, she had four children.

She wasn't only a singer, but an actress and pianist, as well. Aretha's father was a minister at New Bethel Baptist Church in Detroit, where her career began.

Some movies and TV shows she appeared in were The Blues Brothers, Muscle Shoals and Stations of the Elevated.

Aretha has several albums, including Amazing Grace, Who's Zoomin' Who, Sparkle and more. She has always been at the top, but a song that almost everyone knows is RESPECT.

Coincidentally, Aretha died on the same day date as Elvis Presley, known as The King of Rock, who died in 1977. Aretha's home in Memphis is now going to be a historical site. Her childhood home is located near the South Memphis neighborhood called Soulville.



The Three Amigos:

Kailey Blazer and Drew Brewer visit with Jordan Haynes while providing drinks at the Back2School Dance.

Check In at the Winchester Mansion

By Haley Smart

Winchester is a scary movie that is based on the true story of one of the world's most haunted houses.

Sarah Winchester, widow of the founder of Winchester Firearms began construction of the house in 1884 in San Jose, California. She hoped to trap the ghosts of the people who were killed by the Winchester guns, which was among the earliest rifle repeaters.

The house contains hundreds of rooms, including some that are exact replicas of the places where different ghosts had been killed. Sarah believed that if people were killed by the Winchester gun, they would come back and try to kill her.

People assumed Sarah was insane for building the house the way she did but it wasn't until her therapist came and realized she wasn't.

If this movie sounds interesting to you, check out the local Redbox.

“Maverick” John McCain Dies

By Graham West

Arizona senator and former presidential nominee John McCain, called the “maverick” of the Republican Party, passed away on August 25 after discontinuing further treatment for cancer just one day before.

He served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. During his time, he was captured by the Vietnamese and kept as a prisoner of war (POW). Held captive over five years, he experienced torture and suffered severe injuries before his release. He entered a political career shortly after where he served as representative for four years and senator for 31 years.

McCain's political persona was impacted greatly by his personal image. He was close to children from his two marriages, had a volatile temper, and was often known for his poorly-considered quotes. Called a “maverick,” McCain often disagreed with his party on political issues and frequently held very stubborn positions on them.

In 2000, McCain ran for the Republican presidential nomination but lost to George W. Bush, who went on to win the presidency. He ran again in 2008 when he earned the nomination from his party. He held a strong campaign with Alaskan Governor Sarah Palin as his running partner, but lost the general election to Barack Obama.

McCain dedicated his life to public service and loved his country greatly. His seat in the Senate will still feel empty years after it is refilled.

LeBron's Promise

By Ty Flippo

LeBron James, arguably the best basketball player in the world, went straight from high school in Akron, Ohio to the NBA and the Cleveland Cavs. His charity, the LeBron James Family Foundation, partnered with Akron Public Schools to open the "I Promise School for At Risk Youth" in August.

It opened with an enrollment of 240 third and fourth graders. I Promise will feature longer school days and a non-traditional school year. One reason James did this is because he missed 83 days of school in fourth grade. He needed additional help to catch up.

His goal is to increase the number of children enrolled and 100% graduation rate. The motto for this school is "Nothing is given. Everything is earned." LeBron's philosophy is visible throughout the schools.

Places like Kent State and Panera Bread have reached out to help the school. LeBron has been known to do good things for the community; he even received the J. Walter Kennedy citizenship award.

The most interesting thing about this is that every student that successfully completes the program and graduates from high school, will have their full tuition to the University of Akron paid for by LeBron.

Mayo Kidnapping

By Mollie Blackshear

Have you ever thought of what it would be like if you were held hostage? Eighteen-year old Alyssa Gilderhus and her family say she was held hostage at the world famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where she was treated following an aneurysm.

Alyssa was diagnosed with a brain aneurysm and treated at Mayo for a couple of months. According to her, neither she nor her parents consented to treatment from Mayo after the three months she was held there.

Mayo refused to stop treatment and even went as far as to try and get guardianship for Alyssa so they could make decisions regarding her treatment.

It finally got to the point where her dad planned to help Alyssa escape from the hospital. Mayo had authorities looking for Alyssa, but she finally got to go home where she currently resides.

Why did Mayo want Alyssa in their care so badly when other doctors said she could return home? The Mayo clinic has some explaining to do. Maybe then we will understand the full story.

Answers, Mystery Students:
Sydney Burgin,
Kai Cunningham

Madden '19 Shootout

By Slade Dalton

Video game Madden 19 is a trending game that every young football fan is playing in his or her spare time. With football season right around the corner, players are taking their chances playing online against other people in the Madden community.

Certain players have taken their skills to the E-Sports level. In the Madden 19 tournament championship on August 26, David Katz, 24, didn't take losing so lightly.

Katz fired 12 shots into the crowd at the Madden '19 tournament, killing two and wounding ten. One of the wounded victims claimed that

the two killed in the shooting were the best players in the world. One was the defending champion of the Madden classic last year. After Katz had previously lost, he came back with a legally acquired 9mm handgun.

This tragedy has caused a want and need for more security at E-sports events which previously were easy going. It is generally laid back with respectful players. The next three tournaments have now been cancelled out of respect for the two lives lost while they review security procedures.

The Cat's Dispatch is going under several changes this year, so please give the journalism class your feedback and tell us what we can improve or change to make the paper more enjoyable. After all, it is written for everyone at WRHS!

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