# The Cat's Dispatch

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

# Play Ball!! Nolan and Rex Plan to Take Bobcats Back to Benton

By Karlee Brewer

Walnut Ridge baseball is back. The 2023 season is in full swing as the team prepares for their annual beach trip to play in the Gulf Shores Classic tournament during Spring Break.

Rex Tedder and Nolan Belcher, both juniors at WRHS, play pitcher and catcher, respectively, for the Bobcats. Last year, as sophomores, they each verbally committed to play for the Arkansas State University Red Wolves after high school.

Rex Tedder, 16, pitches for the Walnut Ridge Bobcats. When not pitching, Rex plays third base or shortstop. Watching *The Sandlot* made him want to play baseball. After playing for ASU, he hopes to continue playing into the MLB.

His parents encouraging him to pursue the game he loves has been a huge help in his success, but perhaps the biggest contributing factor was the people telling him he would never make it.

His advice for young athletes is

"Chase y o u r dreams a n d

don't get distracted by things that don't matter."

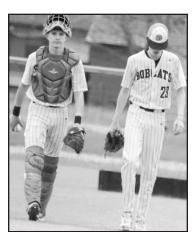
Receiving an offer to play D1 baseball is his biggest accomplishment in sports. Hard work and giving 110 % are the keys to his success.

Rex draws inspiration from family and God. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" is a motto he lives by. Rex has attended WRHS since 10th grade.

Nolan Belcher, also 16, is on the receiving end of every pitch thrown. As catcher for the Bobcats, Belcher is following in his dad's footsteps. His dad is Coach Jason Belcher,

head coach at W R H S . H i s parents have best prepared him for success.

A lifelong Bobcat, Belcher has played catcher for thr Walnut Ridge Bobcats since 9th



grade. He plans to continue to play baseball in college and has recently been re-

cruited by Arkansas State and Missouri State.

Playing in the state finals game his freshman year was his most memorable moment so far, however, winning the Power Puff volleyball tournament recently was a close second.

Nolan's biggest accomplishment to date is being able to play



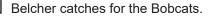
Tedder is the Bobcats' leading pitcher.

Division 1 college baseball. He draws inspiration from God. A saying or motto he lives by: Corinthians 9:24.

Two things on Nolan's Bucket List are getting drafted and playing in the MLB.

#### Nolan's Favorites

Sport – Baseball Pro athlete – Tom Brady Pro Team – Philadelphia Eagles

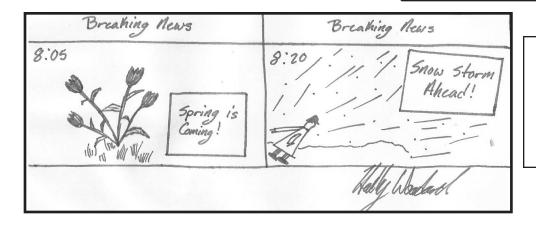




### **Rex's Favorites:**

Sport – Baseball
Pro athlete – Jacob DeGrom
Pro team – STL Cardinals

Photos provided by Rex Tedder and Nolan Belcher



End of 3rd Quarter was March 10

2nd Annual **Talent Show Thursday** March 16 9 a.m. Cost of **Admission:** \$2 per Student \$5 per Adult

## **In School Suspension**

By Baily Rorex

As I look around the room at all the unfamiliar faces, I start to think about how divided our school really is. Most of the kids are too young to be in here in the first place.

I notice how similar each person is: their hair, their style, the way they all have found a way to collectively make themselves look busy while trying to pass the time, their purposefully bad posture, and the looks on their faces.

Everyone in here has that look, other than Mrs. Pam, of course. The look of hidden guilt, weak perseverance, withdrawal and boredom. The way they shift the position they're sitting in, like clockwork.

The smart aleck on the first row scootches to the left, the mentally challenged boy on the second row adjusts the position of his shoulders.

The kid with a Rick and Morty t-shirt in the front corner leans farther forward - lifting his butt into the air, making the desk a bit top-heavy, and the guy with a yawning problem in the back sinks more and more into his seat. Although this room is silent, it speaks so many volumes.

The American flag that's taped to the wall with a small piece of paper with the lines to the Pledge of Allegiance beside it. The wooden lockboxes contain calculators and personal items.

The "motivational" signs hung up to help control the kids with bad tempers or mood disorders. Although I don't think a picture of a polar bear with the word "chill" printed below it would stop me from doing anything violent if I were that type of person.

I've always wondered why those types of signs aren't displayed in prisons. I guess it could be seen as mockery for some of the heinous crimes committed, but it could also act as a reminder of the lost innocence to the prisoners: their own, that is.

#### Disclaimer:

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We welcome letters to the editor or guest writers. Contact Stacy Rice, advisor.

Parent - Teacher Conferences **Thursday** March 16 3-8 p.m.

# **SPRING BREAK BEGINS**

Friday, March 17 through March 24

# Mystery Sudents By Bo Keresy

The is a blonde-haired girl with bright blue eyes The is always doing something on the side. From hitting the ten-foot line to laughing all day, she is usually really sweet if you stay out of her way.

He is #34 on the field, whenever you come across him you better yield. He is the class clown year around, but do not underestimate his knowledge abound. He drives a jeep, but he can give off the vibe of a creep.

#### Cat's Dispatch Staff

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## Just Thoughts

## **Romanticizing Murderers**

By Dakota Riggs

Murderers are horrible people. We can all agree on that, but some people like to romanticize them. They try to convince people that the murder committed is less of an issue simply because they think the accused is attractive!

Netflix's Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffery Dahmer Story tells the story of Jeffery Dahmer; Even Peters plays Dahmer. On TikTok people have started making edits of the Jeffery Dahmer series romanticizing Dahmer.

Some say they are romanticizing Even Peters. Why did they pick his role in the Jeffery Dahmer series and not one of his other roles? No matter what they say, in some way they romanticize Jeffery Dahmer.

The Menendez brothers have also been romanticized on Tik-Tok. In 1989, Lyle Menendez, age 21, and Erik Menendez, age 18, killed their parents, Kitty and Jose. Their father, Jose, has been accused of abusing and raping his sons for many years, but it could not be ruled as self-defense since the abuse didn't actually happen that night.

Some people on TikTok said they should be set free because they are "too hot for prison." They also made edits romanticizing them. The people who made the edits have no excuse for what they did.

TikTok is the main place where people romanticize murderers. These people need to understand it is not ok to romanticize these criminals. Not only is it just disgusting, but it is also downplaying the murders themselves. The people that are being romanticized have murdered people. How could anyone find anything attractive about that?

# What are Your Plans for Spring Break?

By Summer Wilson

Bailee Witt – Going to the river for my birthday
Bo Kersey – Going to the beach for baseball
Daphne Ward – Rewatching *You* or finishing a Netflix series
Caitlyn Sheets – Going to volunteer at NEA Veterinarian Clinic in
Corning

Samantha Diehm – Her best friend from Oregon will visit and they are going to hangout and go to a concert together

Taylor Forrester – Going to Gulf Shores Elizabeth Hill – Might go to Conway

Matt VanBrook – Going to work on my motorcycle

Bre Tate – Going on a cruise

Hunter Colvey – Turning 18 and doing crazy things all Spring Break Rex Tedder – Turkey Hunting Lydia Sheets – Working

### **Summer is the Best Season**

By Summer Wilson

Have you ever counted down the days until summer while sitting inside on a chilly, snowy day? If so, you share my passion of the summer season. I love summer for a variety of reasons, and I believe it to be the best season.

Depending on where you live, the temperature during the summer can range from 70 degrees to 90 degrees, making it one of the warmest seasons of the year. There are so many things you can do in the summertime.

The water is without a doubt the best part of summer, whether it's at the lake, the beach, or the pool. There is nothing better than getting up early, getting in a car with your friends, and spending the entire day at the lake. You're going to have a beautiful day as long as you have food, drinks, and music.

Another reason is getting to sleep in and not having to wake up at 6 or 7 in the morning. Sometimes sleeping in and not having to worry about being late and rushing around are the best feeling in the world to me.

Having free time and not having to worry about any school-work are simply the best feelings in the world -- getting to do whatever you want and go wherever you want.

During the summertime you can make the best memories of your life. You can go hang out with your friends every day and not have to wait until a class period ends or until lunch to see them. But in my opinion summer is the best season of them all!

# Snow Days Are Cold -- Not Cool By Maria Monge Hermida

Fun snow days were left behind as soon as I grew up. Adults feel their teenagers are too old to be able to enjoy a wonderful white day, full of family time, and they decide to transform the fun snow days into boring lockdowns at home.

A regular holiday is fine: there is no need to get up early, you can calmly prepare your breakfast, you can go for a run and then there is no homework to do. Actually, when I have a stressful week in school, all I am looking forward to is the three-day weekend that comes closer.

I admit I would enjoy my snow days out of school if not for my love of running. But everything gets quite depressing to me when the roads are full of ice, and stepping out of the house is a risky mission, only for the bravest. And by bravest, I mean those who don't care about twisting their ankles. I'm sorry, but I appreciate my joints.

So, what is the point of a day when I'm not having fun at school because there is no school, adults are too busy being boring and bored and I can't run? Exactly, there is no point.

Also, this is not as dramatic when I am in Spain, since school is not as enjoyable as here and a day off is very desired. In the United States, where going to class is probably one of the best parts of the week, a snow and slow day is not exactly what I want to have.

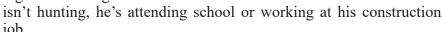
## **Trenton is Building His Future**

By Madison Wade

Trenton Ditto was born on June 30, 2004, so he will turn 18 this year. His parents are Bret and Stephanie Ditto, with a younger sister named Katelynn. Trenton also has a pet lab named Bandit.

During Ditto's 12 years attending Walnut Ridge, he met Luke Gill and has been best friends ever since. Trenton loves to hunt and attend FFA meetings with his friends.

As stated before, Trenton adores hunting and fishing. Some would say he's always out in the wilderness looking for suitable game to catch. When he





#### Trenton's Favorites

App – Facebook
Pizza – Meat Lover's
Restaurant –
Texas Roadhouse
Food – Steak
Movie – Top Gun
Ice cream – Vanilla
Song – You Proof

Trenton's biggest fear going into high school was the challenging classes ahead of him. Seeing his future as an opportunity, he doesn't wish to go to college as of now, but his future plans may change.

As the school year comes to a close, keep all of the seniors in mind, since we all want our last weeks at WR to be memorable.

# Just a Minute Ago... By Carissa Caldwell

...Bobcat Baseball and Lady Cats Softball participated in Media Day ...Quinn Carson shaved his head

...Jacob McQuay also shaved his head

...Damar Hamlin's recovery

...The Hailey Bieber/Selena Gomez/Taylor Swift/Kylie Jenner drama

...Rihanna is pregnant again

...Jaden Blaylock shaved his head

...Cocaine Bear came to theaters and was supposedly mid

...Cardi has more community service

...Pete Davidson is dating either Ice Spice, Jenna Ortega or Megan Fox

...Gwen Stefani recently claims to be Japanese ...Hunter Manus shaved his head

... Ayden George and Walker Ward started the planning of BOAT MK2

# Madison's Mix of Madness By Maggie Porter



Madison Paige Wade, also known as Maddy, was born on October 12, 2004. She is the daughter of Brandi and Blake Wade. Her siblings are Emma, 14; Gunner, nine; and Blakelyn, about three months.

Madison has many pets. She has three cats, Mouse, Persephane and Tigger. One hedgehog Zarro

and five dogs, Yam, Savine, Bella, Oreo, and Jane. Her best friends are Sarah Young, Hannah Granger, Amelia Guthrie and Brooke Brown.

Maddy has attended Walnut Ridge since kindergarten and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Holland because "she is wild." Her most memorable moment was meeting Mrs. Holland for the first time. But, her most embarrassing moment was throwing up during end of year testing in 3rd grade.

Her advice for underclassmen is "do not take chemistry." Outside of school Madison enjoys doing artwork and working at Citgo.

Her biggest fear going into high school was failing. Her plans for after high school are getting into graphic design somewhere and moving out of Arkansas.

#### **Madison's Favorites**

App – Apple Music
Movie – Avatar
Drink – Dr. Pepper
Holiday – Halloween
Ice Cream – Chocolate
T.V Show – The Owl House
Singer – Do Not Resurrect
Band – Falling in Reverse

# If you Could Go Anywhere in the World, Where Would You Go?

By Maggie Porter

Portugal – Shania Martin

Athens – Karlee Brewer

Greece – Madison Wade

South Africa – Rex Tedder

Taco Bell – Madison Jones

Bora Bora – Daphne Ward

Rome – Izzy Smith

Europe – Walker Ward

Jenna Ortega's house – Easton Richey

Bora Bora – Hunter Colvey

Japan – Nic Young

Germany – Breanna Gibson

My house in Madrid - Maria Monge Hermida

Venice - Quinn Carson

### Class of 2023

# Be Like Ty By Holly Woodard

Ty Constance Debow Cook is a 17-year-old senior. Her birthday is March 10, 2005. Ty's parents are Christine Debow and Matt Cook; her siblings include Jake Owens, 19, Emma Debow, 14, and Piper Cook, six. Her dog, Beau, is a Yorkie and her best friends include Austin Stowers, Brooke Whitmire and Caitlyn Sheets.



Ty has been attending Walnut Ridge since Kindergarten and her favorite teachers are Mrs. Rob because she lets her vent, yet keeps her on track and Mr. Weber because he brings out her love for singing. Ty's most memorable moments were going to basketball state tournament games and the Aquarium trip with Science Club.

The accomplishment she is most proud of is cheering for three years and some advice she would like to pass down to underclassmen is "as hard as all your classes will be, don't worry, be happy. The less friends you make the better off you are. Keep to yourself and breathe."

#### Ty's Favorites:

App – Snapchat, Pinterest Pizza Topping – Bacon, Chicken Movie – Tangled Drink – MelloYello and blue Powerade with extra raspberry

T. V. Show – NCIS
Book – It Ends with Us
Food – Chicken Alfredo
Song – I Thank God and
Honey in the Rock

Her biggest fear going into high school was upperclassmen. Ty's biggest pet peeves are pen clicking, lip smacking, and angry people. The things she will miss most about high school are the teachers and staff.

She is involved in senior high cheer, choir, Key Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Student Council, Science Club, National Honor Society, Annual Staff and Trio. Her favorite thing to do outside of school is to hang out with friends and OCW.

After high school, she looks

forward to moving out. What causes her the most anxiety upon leaving high school? Not having a voice in the real world. Ty's unpopular opinion is "being nice is better than being rude."

Her role models are her two aunts, Shannon Smith, because of the way she lives her life and Erikca Smith, because of her love for Jesus. If Ty could start high school again, she would base every day off Jesus and keep herself out of drama.

Ty's plans for college include Arthur's Beauty College for Cosmetology.

Key Club vs. Faculty Basketball Game March 16 at 12:40

# Cam's Last Good-Buy By Karlee Brewer

Cameron Alen Buys or Cam was born on May 23, 2005. He has a little brother, Charlie 12. and a dog, Leia, who is a West Highland Terrier.

His best friends include Maddox Jean, Alex Prestidge, Logan Sain, Melanie Jones and Walker Ward.

He has attended Walnut Ridge for 10 years. Mrs. Rob is his favorite teacher. Sweetheart Homecoming was his most memorable moment.



He's most proud of his football accomplishments. His advice for underclassmen is, "always pay attention." His best advice for skipping class was he just didn't want to come. Cam will miss Mrs.

Rob most after high school.

#### **Cam's Favorites:**

App – Instagram
Pizza topping – Pepperoni
Movie – Cars
Class – Ap English 12
Holiday – Christmas
Food – Steak
Restaurant – Polar Freeze
Drink – Sweet Tea

He is a member of FBLA, FFA, Key Club, Student Council and football. He is looking forward to working after high school.

He plans to attend ASU Newport to be a lineman after high school. Cam's role model is his father. His unpopular opinion is work is better than school.

# **Bobcat Bio: Emily Jones**By Emma Yarbro

Grade – Junior

Pet peeve – People interrupting me

Favorite Teacher – Mrs. Rob

Last Binge – Ginny and Georgia

Relationship status –Taken

Guilty pleasure –Getting back at people when they do her wrong

Most awkward moment – Almost falling down the bleachers last year

Toxic trait – Manipulative

Favorite Sonic order – Jr. Frito chili cheese wrap, cheddar peppers and cranberry limeade with peach Worst habit –Talking about people when they are in the room

Choice for your last meal – Lazzari's



# Country Boy Can Survive By Maria Hermida



Senior Caden Troy Murphy, who often goes by Murphy or Murph, was born on November 22, 2004. He is part of a big family, made up of his parents, Lacy Robinett and David Murphy, and his four siblings, Ranie Hills (27), Jared Robinett (26), Noah Murphy (10) and Jasper Murphy (4).

Murphy has attended Walnut Ridge since the 1st grade where he met his best friends, Luke Gill and Rex Tedder. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Steele, and he is involved in many different clubs, like FFA, FBLA, 4H and Trap.

His most embarrassing moment in school was being accused of something he would never do. He is very proud of being the FFA president two years straight. Caden's advice for underclassmen is simple, "Shut up, do your work and pay attention!"

He recognizes that his best excuse for being late to class is

saying that he was stopped by the train. Murphy won't miss high school, but if he could start it again, he would take different classes. His biggest fear going into high school was failure.

Murphy can't live without his boots and his biggest pet peeve is fake people. Outside school, he likes working in Tedder Equipment and hunting. Nothing causes him anxiety upon leaving high school; in fact, he is looking forward to going on to Lineman School.

The hardest thing he has had to do is being nice to people who don't deserve it; his unpopular opinion is that old money is better than new money.

### **Murph's Favorites:**

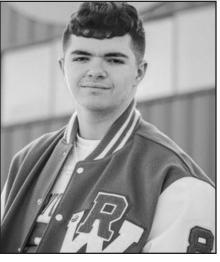
Āpp – Snapchat Pizza Topping – Pineapple and pepperoni Class – Agriculture Drink – Dr Pepper Holiday – Thanksgiving Movie – Top Gun Band – Journey TV Show – Two and a Half Men Food – Mexican chicken Singer – Bailey Zimmerman Song – Rock in a Hard Place Restaurant -Texas Roadhouse Ice Cream – Strawberry

Celebrity Crush –

Jennifer Aniston

Toxic Trait – I'm moody

# Kai Loves Rock N Roll By Maria Hermida



Senior Kai Alan Fisher, also known as Kai Boy, was born on April 1, 2005, and is the son of Stacy and Joe Fisher. He has one sister, Claire, who is 21.

Kai Boy has attended Walnut Ridge since preschool, and his best friends are Ashton Davis and Jacob McQuay. He is proud of getting straight A's on his report cards for the past years, which is also the hardest thing he has ever had to do, and his favorite teacher is Mrs. Holland because "she is crazy."

Kai's most embarrassing mo-

ment in school was when Trenton accidentally got ketchup on his lunchbox, and he cried over it. Kai can't live without nuggets, and his advice for underclassmen is simple: "survive."

Kai is involved in National Honor Society and Key Club. Outside school, he likes playing video games, watching YouTube and listening to music.

His biggest fear going into high school was passing English and Chemistry. After graduation,

Kai will miss seeing the people he has been with all his life.

This senior is looking forward to summer break and is planning to go to BRTC and get his basics. The thought of going to college and meeting new people are the two things that cause him the most anxiety upon leaving high school.

Kai's biggest pet peeve is people who act full of themselves. His role model is his nana because she inspired him to never smoke.

An unpopular opinion of his is that pop music has been in the spotlight for far too long, and rock music should make a comeback.

### **Kai's Favorites**

App – YouTube
Pizza Topping – Pepperoni
Movie – Willy Wonka and
the Chocolate Factory
Class – History
Drink – Dr. Pepper
Band – The Beatles
Holiday – Christmas
TV Show – Sponge Bob
SquarePants
Book – Diary of a Wimpy
Kid Series
Singer – Freddy Mercury
Food – Chicken
Restaurant – McDonald's

Ice Cream – Homemade Vanilla

Toxic Trait – Getting mad/ upset over the smallest things



Juniors Bo Kersey and Nolan Belcher, along with senior Braden Deese and Coach Jason Belcher participated in the first NEA Sports Baseball Media Day in Jonesboro at Temple Baptist Church. They were interviewed about the upcoming season.

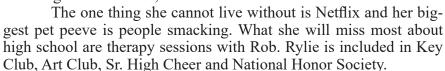
# Cheering Goodbyes By Holly Woodard

Rylie Noel Archer is 17, born on March 28, 2005. Her parents are Jennifer and Bryan Archer, and her siblings include Megan, 28, Emily, 22, Sean, 19, Jacey, 25, Reece, 21, and Brooke, 17. She has one dog, Max, and her best friend is Ethan McGintv.

Rylie has attended Walnut Ridge for six years and her favorite teacher has to be Mrs. Rob because they have the same personality.

Some advice she would like to pass down to underclassmen is "Do not wait until last minute to do your work for Rob!" Her best excuse

for being late to class is, she "had to fill Rob in on the tea."



Her biggest fear going into high school was Doc's classes and the thing she is looking forward to

> most after graduation is moving in with her best friend, Ethan.

One of Rylie's favorite things to do outside of school is sleep and her unpopular opinion would be that Raising Cane's is better than Zaxby's.



Pizza Topping – Banana Peppers Class - Rob T. V. Show -Married at First Sight Singer – Morgan Wallen Ice Cream – Rocky Road

# "I'm Old Gregg" By Quinn Carson

Greg Duckworth was born November 17, 2009, to Kelly and Greg Duckworth. He has one sibling: Darrian, and two dogs, named Tex and Dewey.

Greg has attended Walnut Ridge since kindergarten. Unlike school, his dog, Tex, is the one thing he can't live without. He is a member of the WRHS band and is involved with FFA. He likes to weld or work on his truck when he's not at school and is currently employed at Hays.

Greg wants to become a pipe welder, but what he's most excited for after graduation is being able to work. When asked who



# All Hail King George By Carissa Caldwell



Ayden Kyle George, otherwise known as Mr. President, was born to Donna Monroe and Kelly George on December 22, 2004. In case you are wondering, Kelly is his dad. He has two freshman sisters named Aubrey and Ashlynn Monroe, and three cats, Lucky, Cloud and Baby.

In Ayden's 12 years of school at Walnut Ridge, he has made a few best friends including myself, Hunter Glenn Manus, Kai Watson and Caleb Beiter. His favorite teacher is Mr. Havnes simply because he is a "cool dude."

His best excuse for being late to class is being "at your mom's

house," and his biggest pet peeves are "your mom" jokes and hypocrites.

You may remember Ayden from when he shocked everyone his eighth-grade year by running for class president. He has held that title every year since that day; he plans to further his political career by becoming the real deal president one day. His advice to underclassmen? Vote 4 George.

Ayden plans to attend Arkansas State University and major

**Ayden's Favorites:** 

Class – History Drink – Lemonade Holiday – 4th of July T.V. Show – *Limitless* Book - 1984 Song – Mr. Blue SkyToxic Trait –

Being misogynistic Movie – *Diango: Unchained*  in history, then attend Law School in Little Rock. He is currently involved in FBLA, Student Council, Key Club, Art Club, Book Club and National Honor Society.

Ayden's role model is Napoleon Bonaparte for conquering Europe. An unpopular opinion of Avden's is that the ATF should be dissolved.

his no.1 role model was, he responded "Donald Trump" and when asked why he said, "The Hair."

## **Greg's Favorites:**

Pizza topping – Meatballs TV Show – *Stranger Things* Class – Ag and Band Drink – Sweet Tea

Band – Metallica Holiday – Christmas

Book – *City of Ember* Food – Pizza Celebrity Crush - "A. Danger" Restaurant – El Acapulco Ice Cream – Birthday Cake

# Six Concussions Later... By Breanna Gibson

This is the story of the magnificent MadDog Jones.

Madison Grace Jones, senior, Class of '23, was born December 18, 2004 to Craig and Angee Jones. She has a twin sister Melanie Jones (18) who helped her dominate the basketball court!

Madison has a dog named Ariel. On top of being a pro-basketball player, Madison is backto-back Powder Puff flag football



MVP for the last two years. While taking on the world, Madison makes time for her amazing BFFs: Daphne Ward, Jacob McQuay and Avery Anderson.

Madison has been a proud Bobcat since kindergarten. Mad-Dog loves and appreciates her all-time favorite teacher, The Stacy Rice!

Her most embarrassing moment was when she left a banana in her locker for so long it rotted and started attracting bugs. Aside from that, she has a problem with falling out of cars and trucks. You name it, she's probably done it. She's the biggest dare devil of them all.

One of Madison's sweetest high school memories is being a State Sweepstakes Winner in Pride Band where she was one of the best conductors the WRHS Pride Band has ever had.

Madison's advice to the underclassmen is "Don't date seniors – It's GROSS!" Her all-time Emmy-winning excuse for being late for class is "I didn't wanna come." One thing she can't live without is music, Food? Water?? Nope, music. More specifically, Demi Lovato music.

At the top of Madison's list of pet peeves, she strongly dislikes being interrupted.

When she leaves WRHS, the thing she will miss the most is the drama. The club and proud spots teams to hold/have Madison are the WRHS Lady Basketball team, Pride Band, Key Club, Journalism, Student Council and Quiz bowl.

#### **Madison's Favorites:**

App – Tik Tok
Pizza topping – Chicken
Fast Food – Taco Bell
Movie – Shark Tale
Celebrity Crush –
Demi Lovato
Toxic trait –
Being too confident
Drink – Sweet Tea
Holiday – Halloween
T.V show – Glee

When Madison is not at school, she likes to hang out with her friends. She works at Pizza Den in Hoxie. Madison's biggest fear when going into high school was failing.

The hardest thing she has done in high school is write an essay for Rob. Her plans after high school are to complete her paramedic training.

SEE p. 13 Madison Jones Spotlight

# Putting the Cleats Away and Keeping the Friends

By Michelle Moore

Logan Sain, also known as "Logie Bear," was born on April 27, 2005. His parents, Chris and Chrissy, raised him in Walnut Ridge for 17 years with his brother Landon, 20, and his dog, Jewels. He is the quarterback of the football team and participates in baseball.



His closest friends are Caleb, Collin, Brogan, and Maddie. As he finishes high school, his

most memorable moment is Sweetheart Homecoming, not so much having to wear a cheer uniform on another occasion. On his regular days he enjoys spending time with his "dawg," Mr. Haynes; to simply imply, this is why he tends to be tardy for class.

Besides being late for class, Logan will not miss people as they are his biggest pet peeve, but he is not ready to let go of sports or the organizations he has been a part of -- FBLA, Key Club and Student Council.

Logan wants all underclassmen to enjoy every moment. "It goes by fast and cherish your friends," he says. Friends are one thing he cannot live without -- and he does not want to.

While it is not too late, he wants others to give more effort to classes like he wishes he would have tried.

As Logan puts away the cleats and memories of high school,

#### **Logan's Favorites:**

App – Instagram

Pizza Topping – Meat Lovers

Drink – Blue Gatorade

Holiday – Christmas

T.V Show – All-American

Celebrity Crush 
Livvy Dunne

Restaurant –

Texas Roadhouse

Ice Cream – Chocolate Chip

Cookie Dough

he will start by going to Black River Technical College and then attending Arkansas State University for a degree in Education.

He intends on using this degree to be a history teacher while looking forward to being a coach. He has grown this inspiration from a fellow follower in Christ, Tim Tebow. Logan says he is a great role model.

# WRHS Junior Senior Prom: Putting on the Ritz

April 22 at The Studio on Main St.

# Shania's Last March By Maggie Porter

Shania Lexus Martin, also goes by Shay, is the daughter of Tina Martin. She is 18 years old and was born one day after her best friend, ME. Her other best friend is Izzy Smith.

Shania has been attending Walnut Ridge for six years and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Linda Smith. The most memorable moment she has in her high school years was band winning Sweepstakes.

You'll never guess the one thing she can't live without, me again! The one thing that bothers Shay the most is people who think they are better than others. After high school, she expects to miss her teachers the most.



Shania is involved in many clubs like Band, National Honor Society and Science Club. Outside of school she likes to hang out with her friends. She just started her new job at Lawrence Hall and really enjoys it.

If she could start high school over again, the one thing she

#### **Shania's Favorites:**

App – TikTok
Pizza Topping – Pepperoni
Class – Mrs. Linda's
Drink – Coke
Holiday – Halloween
T.V. Show – Grey's Anatomy
Food – Sushi
Toxic Trait –
Always wanting to be right

would change is she would actually do her journals! Like most people, her biggest fear coming into high school was Doc's class.

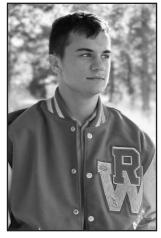
After high school, she plans to attend GCU in Arizona for her bachelor's in biology then go to med school.

She is looking forward to summer with her best friends before she has to move away in the fall.

# Remember When... By Bailee Witt

...Mrs. Rob dyed her hair.
...There was a smoking tree.
...Roblox got banned.
...Celebrities weren't canceled.
...We had music programs with Mrs. Essman.
...Mrs. Kim was the elementary school principal.
...Disney channel was actually good.
...Mr. Kersey had spiky hair.
...Ethan McGinty liked women.
...We had Nitro Type.
...A-B Honor Roll.
...We had recess.

# **D-Raney In The House**By Quinn Carson



Deron Lyndon Raney was born October 12, 2004 to Joe and Jessica Raney. He has a little sister, Dakota, 16, along with a cat named Tiny. His best friends are Jacob McQuay and Greg Duckworth.

He has been at Da' Ridge for six years. While attending WR, he's found Mr. Haynes to be his absolute favorite teacher. Deron's most memorable moment was when he crowd-surfed at last year's Talent Show. His most embarrassing moment is every single time he falls asleep in class.

He's super proud of placing every year in FBLA competition. Those FBLA trips are

what he will miss most after high school. Deron is also involved in Trio. One piece of advice he has for students is "Do your English essays for Mrs. Rob."

His best excuse for being late is that he "had to go to the bath-room." He absolutely cannot live without his phone and his biggest pet peeve is impatient people.

Outside of school, he works at Walmart and likes to hang out with his friends. When asked what his biggest fear about going into high school was, he replied "My

grades dropping by a lot."

Deron's future plans are to attend Black River Tech in Pocahontas to get a degree in computer science. Deron's role model is Mr. Sam Walton because he was a very respectful and successful man who started one of the most successful businesses in the world, Walmart and Sam's Club. And sadly, Deron's unpopular opinion is that he likes mayonnaise on hotdogs.

#### **Deron's Favorites:**

App – Snapchat
Pizza topping – Bacon
Movie – Spider-Man: No
Way Home
Band – Imagine Dragons
T.V. show – South Park
Food – Seafood
Celebrity Crush –
Emma Watson
Song: My Way, by
Frank Sinatra



# Who's Who

# Juniors

# Class of 2024



Most Likely to go to Space Mark Hatfield and Baily Rorex



Most Likey to Marry a Millionaire Henry Stowers and Maggie Brinsfield



Drama King and Queen Carrie Denton and Bo Kersey

**Class Clowns** 

Brayden Feezor and Baily Rorex



Most Likely to Get into a Fight Zach Highfill and Emma Aaron



**Most Likely to get** Caught with a Vape Destiny Gosha and Gage Thielemier



Jenna Wallin and Robbie Tate



Best Glow Up



**Biggest Over Achievers** Alli Bramlett and Matthew Mullen



**Most Athletic** Taylor Forrester and Rex Tedder



Most Likely to Never be Single Jenna Wallin and Henry Stowers



Most Likely to Make a **Teacher Retire** Wyatt Davis and Olivia Lierpert

## Who's Who



**Teacher's Pets**Alli Bramlett and Bo Kersey



**Most Creative**Summer Wilson and Preston Vidal



**Best Shoulder to Cry on**Nolan Belcher and Avery Anderson



**Best Friends**Baily Rorex and Michelle Moore



Most Likely to be President
Alli Bramlett and Matthew Mullen

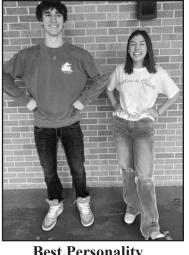
Who's Who
Counting and
Photo Credits:
Bre Tate and
Summer
Wilson



**Most Friendly**Taylor Forrestor and Dawson Ward



Most Likely to Take Home to Meet the Family Sebastian Hoffman and Avery Anderson



**Best Personality**Mark Hatfield and Jenna Wallin



Most Likely to
Win an Argument
Taylor Forrester and Mark Hatfield



**Teachers' Pests**Olivia Leipert and Wyatt Davis



**Most School Spriit**Taylor Forrester and Bo Keresy

### Walker's Final Walk

By Carissa Caldwell

Walker Ray Ward, or Wardpup, was born August 26, 2004 and is 18 years old. His parents are Mrs. Natosha and Coach "Ward-Dawg" Jason Ward. His brother is 16-year-old "D-Money" Dawson Ward and his sister is seven-year-old Addy. Walker has two dogs named Buster and Luna, and a cat named Lucky.

Walker has attended Walnut Ridge his whole life; his favorite teacher is Mrs. Rob for being so cool. His most memorable moments were from his whole senior football season.

He is rather proud of constructing a working boat with Ayden George, Seth Rounsavall and Jacob McQuay.

One piece of advice Walker would give to underclassmen is "Do not procrastinate your work." His favorite thing to do outside of school is sleep, and his biggest pet peeve is loud chewing. When he leaves high school, he is going to miss his friends the most.

Walker is a member of FBLA, Key Club, and Bobcat football; he works at Don's Steakhouse. His biggest fear when coming into high school was keeping his grades up, and his biggest fear leav-

#### Walker's Favorites:

App – Snapchat Movie – Shrek 4 Class – English Holiday – Halloween Ice Cream – Strawberry Food – Sushi Toxic Trait – Sleeps too much ing high school is college. He is looking forward to less stress after graduating.

BOBCATS

Walker plans to pursue Physical Therapy at A-State or play college football. The hardest thing he has ever done was decide his future. Walker's role models are his parents, and his unpopular opinion is that he is good at football.

### Bobcat Bio: Payton Ditto By Emma Yarbro

Grade - Senior Favorite Teacher – Mr. Rice Favorite Sonic order – Sweet tea with large cheese sticks

Last meal – Tomahawk steak with mashed potatoes

Best Friends – Jack Cain and Hunter Colvey Toxic Trait – Rather make money than be with people

Last text – Boss Last binge – Flint Town Club Involvement – FFA



### **Twin Towers of Power**

By Daphne Ward

Madison Grace and Melanie Faith Jones, both 18 years old, were born December 6, 2004. (Melanie, however, is older by 45 minutes). Their parents are Craig and Angee Jones.

Madison and Melanie are seniors and have attended Walnut Ridge since kindergarten. Melanie participates in Volleyball, Basketball, Mu Alpha Theta, FBLA, Key Club, JA Crown Club, NHS, Annual Staff, and StuCo.

Her best friends are Cam Buys and Kinley Davis. Her hobbies include napping, going thrift shopping, retail therapy and hanging out with her friends.

Madison participates in Pride Band, Basketball, Jazz Band, Key Club, Student Council, and Ouiz Bowl. Some

of Madison's hobbies include napping as well, playing sports, martial arts, and hanging out with her friends. Her best friends are Jacob McQuay, Daphne Ward and Avery Anderson.

When asked "Have you ever tried to switch places?" They both replied, "Yes, one time in the 4th grade when we had a sub. We switched hairbows and names for the day" And if you are wondering if they have 'twin telepathy,' the answer is "yes."

Melanie says, she ALWAYS knows the punchline to Madison's jokes, and Madison always knows what Melanie is thinking. (They also answered this question the exact same way).

Madison says they can feel each other's pain, although Melanie disagrees. Madison claims that whenever Melanie tore her ACL, she could feel it.

Their favorite thing to do together is make fun of people and they agree: Melanie is the evil twin while also agreeing that Madison was the accident.



Melanie's favorite thing about Madison is that she is always down to ride around and get food with her. She says Madison always makes her laugh.

Madison says that her favorite thing about Melanie is that she is "always supportive of my dumb decisions."

Whenever they were asked, "Do you like being a twin" they replied

"Yeah, I guess she's alright" and they can agree when they say they are each other's 'built in best friend.'



# Campus News

### What was your Freshman Flop? By Breanna Gipson

Maggie Porter – - Being a cheerleader Karlee Brewer – Being a cheerleader Chrystal Hill – Getting suspended for 10 days. Holly Woodard – Got my first C on a test Dakota Timms – Got in a fight Matt Bethany – Ran into a brick wall Jayden Saulsberry – Dated a girl from a different school Alayni Moore – Liked a senior. Anthony Hughes – Got ISS Aaron Farrell – Dated someone younger than me Abbigale Malewski – Talking to a guy from Hoxie Eli Stewart – Rode my bike to school Johnathan Hughes – Snapped my knee in half

### What's your Favorite Season? By Dakota Timms

Abby Lillard – Summer Izzy Smith - Spring Breanna Gibson -Fall Sadie Privett – Fall Katherine Skinner – Summer Aaron Farrell – Summer Nick Robinson - Winter Layla Nunally – Summer Brianna Morgan-Spring Anthony Hughes - Summer Lily Luster – Summer Jayden Saulsberry – Summer Maddox Jean - Winter Candace Morgan – Volleyball

# Whats Hot /Whats Not By Abigail Lillard

What's Hot Natural Eyebrows Glamour Eagles AT&T Katy Perry's Halftime Show Senior Year Being a Cougar MatyB Raps Candy Crush Selena Gomez Pancakes

Potato Salad

What's Not Soapbrows Minimalist Chiefs Verizon Rhianna's Halftime Show Junior Year Younger Guys **Jacob Sartorious** Farm Hero Saga Hailey Bieber Waffles Coleslaw

#### **Music and Martial Arts** By Maria Monge Hermida

Senior Carl Aller Junior Baker, also known as CJ, was born on April 21, 2004, and is the son of Rick and Penny Baker. He has four siblings: Billy, Kara, Cassidy and Brandon and two dogs.

CJ has attended Walnut Ridge since preschool, so he has lived many memorable moments here, including getting First Division in band. His best friends are Kaden, Jenny, Maddison, Sarah and Elie.

Band takes an important role in Carl's life: his favorite teacher is Mr. Long, he admits that saying he was in the band room is his best excuse for being late to class, and performing on the field is what he will miss the most about high school.

CJ can't live without his friends and is very proud of earning his black belt. His advice for underclassmen is "don't get caught up in the small things."

Outside of school, Carl enjoys hunting, driving, playing games and doing karate. His biggest fear going into high school was getting lost, and if he could start it again, he would forget all the bad things.

CJ is looking forward to getting a firefighter job after graduation so he is planning to get a de-**CJ's Favorites** 

App – Netflix Movie – Black Hawk Down Band - Hollywood Undead TV Show – *Znation* Food – Crawfish Song – City, by Hollywood Undead Restaurant -**Buffalo Wild Wings** 

gree in Fire Science at BRTC.

The hardest thing he has ever had to do is moving houses and his pet peeve is repetitive questioning. CJ's role model is Master Fred Weeks, because he is his instructor and the smartest person he knows.

Finally, his unpopular opinion is that "Ford is better than Chevy."

### Continued from 8

#### **Madison Jones Spotlight**

Madison's role model is Melanie Jones: "She is free-spirited and always seem to have her life together."

# **Bobcat Bio: Bradley McQuay**By Summer Wilson

Grade – Freshman Best Friends – Jodie Fultner Last Person Texted – Jodie Fultner Favorite Class – EAST Favorite Teacher – Mrs. Davis

Favorite Color - Cherry Blossom

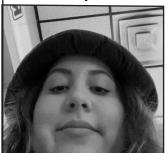
Last Binge Watch – *Rick and Morty* Biggest Pet Peeve – Being interrupted Worst Habit – Not keeping up on homework

Favorite Fast Food – Sonic Favorite Sonic Order – A number 4 with a large fry and a Big Red Last meal – A number 4 with a large fry and a Big Red from Sonic



#### **Bobcat Bio: Carissa Caldwell** By Lydia Sheets

Grade - Senior Club Involvement - Journalism, Choir, Science Club, Quiz Bowl, National **Honor Society** 



Relationship Status – Single Pet Peeve – Hiccups Last Binge Watch – Adventure Time Guilty Pleasure – Resisting the Patriarchy Toxic Trait – I don't care about your feelings Favorite Sonic Order – Onion rings with a raspberry Sprite

Random Fact About Yourself – I don't like old people

#### **Bobcat Bio: Jarrod Fultner** By Lyida Sheets

Grade - Junior

Favorite Teacher/ Class – Mrs. Farrar or Mrs. Rob

Relationship Status – Single

Last Binge Watch – *American Horror Story* 

Guilty Pleasure – Retail Therapy

Toxic Trait – Talking over people; cutting people off

Worst Habit – Procrastinating Favorite Fast Food – Burger King



### **Teacher Spotlight:** Dr. Ellen Holloway

By Dakota Riggs

Dr. Ellen Holloway, also known as Doc, is a science teacher at WRHS. She teaches physical science, physics and chemistry. She has worked at WRHS for 17 years.

Before becoming a teacher, she owned a veterinary clinic. Doc is married to her husband of 37 years, Ron Holloway. They have two children: Trey and Luke.

She went to college at LSU School of Veterinary Medicine and got

h e r doctorate

in Veterinary Medicine. Doc went to O. Perry Walker High School in New Orleans. She likes to hike, crochet, ride bikes and likes pets.

Some advice she gives to students is "Set goals, work hard, and be persistent." Doc's personal philosophy is "Education is the ticket to a better life."

Her favorite part of teaching is learning new concepts and new technology.

Doc's Favorites: Food – Steak App – Artistry TV Show – Clarkson's Farm Book – Marth Well's Murderbot Store - Amazon Restaurant – Japanese Food Truck and NEWK'S Band – Eagles BFF – Mrs. Linda Smith Ouote - "You never fail until you stop trying." Albert Ein-

#### **Bobcat Bio: Bre Tate** By Summer Wilson

Grade – Sophomore

Attended WRHS – Since ninth grade

stein

Best Friends- Me: Summer Wilson, her amazing momma, and the cutest

little dog ever, RJ

Favorite Class – Journalism

Favorite Teacher – Mrs. Davis

Club Involvement – FFA, FBLA, and Key Club

Last Binge Watch – *Outer Banks* 

Freshman Flop - Getting put on house arrest for not going to school and having to wear an ankle monitor during softball

Biggest pet peeve – People lying and switching up Toxic Trait – Bipolar

Worst Habit – Shutting people out when she's upset Favorite Fast Food – McDonald's

Favorite Sonic Order – Sprite with real cherries and a medium cheese stick

Last Meal – Her mom's Mexican Chicken



### AP Language

# **Omaha**By Michelle Moore

A lady saw her son grow each day
Raising him to be everything she wants him to be in life
He's now cold to the touch with bruising marks in the veins of the
arms that once held her

She catches the snow on her shoulders as she walks down Hawthorne Street without remembrance to others of her past A man holds the creaking door of a tavern for his wife

They started off as their childhood dreams with love

The glances of love between them Turned to glazes as her eye ached

And His eyebrows furrowed with remorse for the bruise he left Today they walk into the tavern silent without showing anyone the naive child dreams aren't for them

I walk in between the bricks lining 11th street The chilling air filling my lungs and wind cutting my eyes Others see the shivering girl with her head down

I hear the voices in my head My own telling to be more

My father's response to anything I see around me
The song playing as a boy showed me, I was tricked
The humming of vehicles bringing me back to the hum lingering in
the background as my dad told me how little I meant to this world

No one can see this as I pull my hood closer to my face I appear hollow to everyone, and they appear hollow to me I want to feel the same way I see

I want my facade to feel real

#### To the Juniors to Make Much of Time

By Kinley Davis

Your home for 13 years. A structure that encourages learning.

A class that may cause tears,

A place where your wheels will keep turning.

On your twelfth go around,

You will find yourself tired.

It will not be something only you have found,

The stress shows how everyone is wired.

Do not give up on school,
As attractive as it may seem.
It is important to keep your cool,
Even though you want to scream.
Although you are ready to go,
Cherish your last year of childhood.
Once you are gone you will say "Woah,"
And realize you had it good.

#### To the Freshmen to Make Much of Time

By Walker Ward

Four years sounds like a long time, When you finally start high school. It is a steep mountain you must climb, But don't take it for granted and be a fool. Senior Year seems so far away, It sneaks up on you fast. Knowing that you cannot stay, And that it will not last. But you can make the most of it, Don't overemphasize your term. What makes you happy and in good spirit, Is the direction you should stand firm. When you're a senior you'll say this as well, Even though you think you'll be fine. When you finally make it to the last level, That's when you realize your running out of time.

### To the Seniors to Make Much of Time

Bv Kai Fisher There is not much time, my friends, So we better make things last. While our childhood is at its end. Let's go out and have a blast. Put all of your work aside, And together let's rejoice. And experience this one last joyride. But, of course, that is your choice. Time on Earth is so cruel. That our childhoods were robbed from us. Reality can be very brutal; It feels like getting hit by a bus. So as the weeks pass, Let's make new memories, happily. Because, in the end, we are more than just a class, We are a family.

Answers to Mystery Sudents: Mallie Jean and Mark Hatfield





### **Horoscopes**

By Baily Rorex

Welcome to Pisces season!

Read on for your March 2023 monthly horoscopes to find out what the stars are saying. Big changes are ahead from your career to your friendships to your love life — in the weeks to come.

Pisces: Validation/Frustration

The idea of committed relationships and what you require within a relationship, specifically a romantic one, will dominate your mind this month.

Libra: Inner peace/Distraction

This month the peace you've been searching mindlessly to find will finally come your way. Although this peace may be disrupted at times by a distraction.

Capricorn: Exploration/Existing mindlessly

The moment has come for you to update your system so that you can be in the know about your views on life.

Gemini: Accurate self-representation/Transparency

Like it or not, our reputation is built by what occupies our attention the most. While that may appear to be a personal experience, the truth is that you are as transparent as a glass of water.

Aquarius: Self-evaluation/Self-embodiment

Massive strides are being taken this month. You're finally in the position to accept past beliefs that you often let dictate who you are.

Aries: Self-expression/Baggage

Aries, as you uncover and account for the baggage you have been carrying inside. Allowing your home, whatever that looks like for you, to be your safe space to be and freely express yourself will prove to be a medicine of sorts when life feels heavier than usual.

Sagittarius: Free spirit/Privacy

The increasing density of your personal life is causing you to withdraw from the center of attention and shift inward. Deep down, the desire for safety has been turned up ten notches due to the surfacing profound truths catching you off guard.

Scorpio: Inspiration/Self-realization

Exploring the best way to express yourself creatively will occupy a significant amount of your attention this month and produce works of art you did not know you had in you!

Virgo: Self-magnification/Doubt

Whom do you know yourself to be? Your self-concept, internally and externally, is being amplified this month, along with what you want your legacy to be.

Leo: Closure/Accountability

Managing the emotional, mental and spiritual toll of past relationships can lead to a transformative breakthrough this month.

Cancer: Mysticism/Lowering your guard

The support you receive from like-minded people can be used as a tool to motivate you to lower your guard and embrace the mystical side of yourself.

Taurus: Healing/Reexperiencing emotions

A matter of the heart has unlocked suppressed emotions that, if addressed, can result in profound healing.

# What's Your Biggest Fear? By Bre Tate

My money not replacing itself when I spend it – River Hancock
Anything involving death – Summer Wilson
Blondes – Gunner Thielemier
Drowning – Enrique Perez
What is in the dark – Daphnie Ward
Not the ocean but the waves – Bailee Whitt
Suffocating – Madison Blaylock
Moose – Arianna Morgan
Giving your all to someone and they play you – Brianna Morgan
Ostriches – Kaitlyn Milgrim
Going blind – Abby Rogers
Dying without being happy – Jayden Saulsberry

# What was Your Favorite Activity During Recess?

By Kaitlyn Milgrim

Summer Wilson – Swing
Bre Tate – Swing
Bailee Witt – Push kids into the rocks
M Htay – Football
Mallie Jean — Swing
Jayden Saulsbury – Football
Dylan Colburn – Tag
Juan Aguilar – Wrestling
Gunner Thielemier – Jumping off the swings
Callie Gosha – Playing basketball
Enrique Perez – Monkey bars
Zoey French – Swing



Juniors Maddie Burris, Taylor Forrester and Maggie Brinsfield accompanied Coach Sarah Moore to Jonesboro last week where they participated int the first NEA Sports Softball Media Day. The girls were interviewed live on the radio regarding the upcoming softball season.