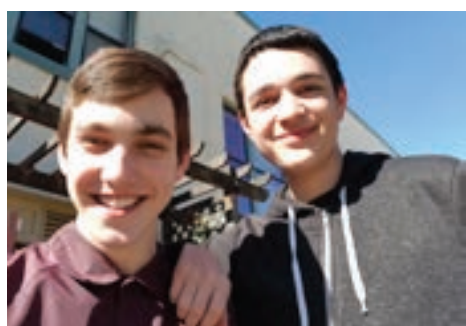


The WILLITS WOLVERINE

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER - EDITION #6



Thursday, March 1, 2018



Above, left: Jett Seaton and Matt Licea. Above, right: Mercy Villegas.

'WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT TRIMESTERS?'

By Aleen Hernandez

This year at Willits High School we are trying something new by breaking up the year into trimesters. Last year, students had two semesters with six classes that lasted for about 55 minutes each for 20 weeks. This year, each trimester is 12 weeks long with five classes a day that last 72 minutes. Students now have 15 classes instead of 12, more opportunity for electives, and more time to complete assignments. This change has impacted students in both positive and negative ways. I was curious to find out how my peers felt about the trimester system so I asked them, "What do you think about trimesters?" These are some of the responses I got:

"I think the system is good. Students who fail classes get the opportunity to retake the class right away."

- Jett Seaton

"The trimester system is different, and I personally like it. The classes are longer which gives you more time to learn. Overall, I think everything runs pretty smoothly, and it's a great choice for our school."

- Laney Hendy

"I think the semester system works way better for students because it gives the student more structure and organization."

- Madison Miles

"The trimester system is a fun way to not get bored with your classes."

- Savannah Southwick

"I like it because I have many opportunities to take different classes and it keeps me interested throughout the year."

- Hanna Corey

"I don't really like the trimester system, because the classes are

longer and we only get 30 minutes for lunch."

- Mercy Villegas and Dustin Wisdom

"WHS switched things up this year by introducing the trimester system. This has helped students who are falling behind have a second chance to catch up. I also like that we have more class choices."

- John Foucault and Melody Leon

"The trimesters are a bad idea, because lunch is too short."

- Matt Licea

"I feel like having long classes is good because it gives us more time to learn the material but lunch is too short."

- Tayja Summers

"I think the trimester system is great because instead of learning about the same few topics for 9 months we get to learn more things."

- Rhyann Whaley

Madison Miles and Rhyann Whaley



Above: Brianna Sanchez, Hanna Corey, Nicole Karkar, Isabella Nunez and Taylor Pardue. Not Pictured Amanda Figg-Hoblyn

WOLVERINE WRESTLING

By Nicole Karkar

Wrestling is my favorite sport because of the constant intensity.

Every day at practice it's a battle to get everyone ready for North Coast Sections because it's a state-

qualifying tournament and the competition is so high.

This year we had six girls complete the whole season, Amanda Figg Hoblyn, Nicole Karkar, Isabella Nunez, Hanna Corey, Taylor Purdue

Finish "Wrestling" on page 2



WHS Wrestlers, back row, from left: Coach Brian Bowles, Adrian Brito, Mitchell Hollingsworth, Triston Martin and Justin Verdot. Front row, from left: KC Brown, Owen Sebastian, Craig Stewart, Carson Miler, Gabe McGinnis, Dominick Bertolino and Giovanni Bertolino.



CHAMPION CHICKEN COOPS

By Pablo Avalos III

The Chicken Coop Championship is near completion. In second period construction class, we've built chicken coops using the skills and tools Mr. Bowles has taught and shown us. We started the project about three weeks ago, and since then the progression has been exponential.

Using our knowledge of framing, we were able to lay out and plan the design of our chicken coops. After planning and assembling materials, we used tools like a miter saw and a table saw to cut our wood to the right lengths for our project.

To build the walls, Mr. Bowles taught

us the "16 on center" method. This is a skill that we can use throughout our lives, especially the ones who are pursuing a career in construction.

We then hammered the walls into the frame, another skill Mr. Bowles has taught us to do properly. The next step in our project was the roofing. We used the tin recycled from the goat barn and screwed it in with 2-inch metal screws with gaskets.

Finally, to finish off our project, we primed and painted it. These chicken coops will be auctioned off before the end of the year. We will keep you posted on when and where the auction will take place.

The Chicken Coop Crew: Roman Wiegand, Alex Cesena, Jada Smith, Dominica Favalora, James Aikin, Grace Horger, KC Brown, Beau Betts, Nathan Coleman, Davian Steffen, Cairan Avansino, Essen Youngstrom, Caiden Butler, Austin Wilcutt, Evan Flamer and Gage Parker.



Savannah Southwick.



Above: Advanced Placement Environmental Science students Britney Patel, Karen Hernandez, Taylor Pardue and Daisy Barrett.

APES: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLASS

by Daisy Barrett

Our 2018 AP Environmental Science class is better than ever. This year we teamed up with the Eel River Recovery Project to investigate the health of our creek. Pat Higgins, environmentalist and scientist from ERRP, came down from Eureka to inform us about our stream, and we then realized how important our river truly is. We went down to the creek several times looking for salmon. We also collected macroinvertebrates (little critters under the rocks) in order to evaluate the water quality. Although we need to collect other types of data to be sure, the macroinvertebrates present in our creek show that it has fairly high water quality.

The AP Environmental Science class also does other hands-on activities for the students to learn what happens in the environment. Junior Bernardo Lopez states: "I really enjoy APES because it is a hands-on class. Every Thursday and Friday we have a lab and learn new things about the world around us."

Recently, the students have created their own aquifer by using sand and clay to see what type of aquifer holds the most water. The students also have learned about natural selection, biodiversity, invasive species, global warming and population growth.



Left: Advanced Placement Environmental Science students Melody Leon, Ian Watson, Taylor Watts and Bernardo Lopez down at the creek.

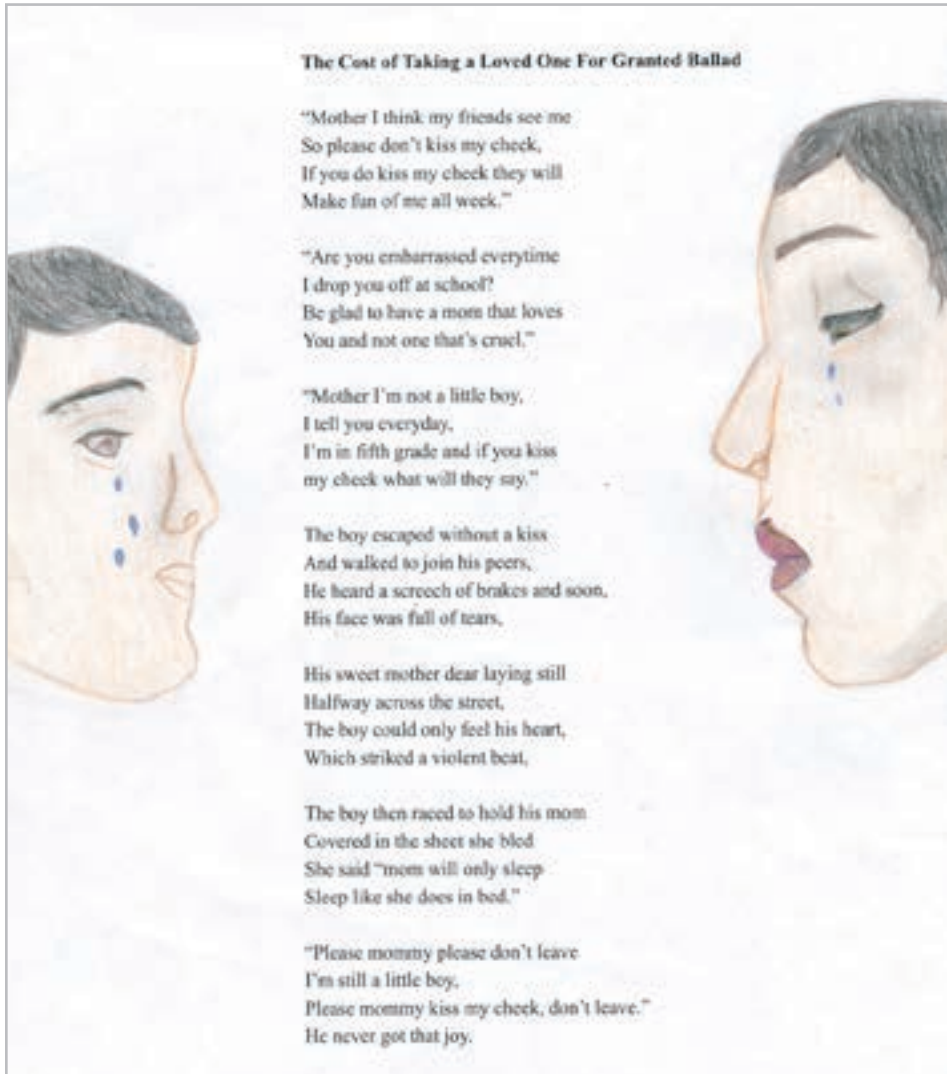
The end of "Wrestling" from page 1

and Briana Sanchez. Isabella Nunez completed the season with a third-place medal which qualified her for the California State Tournament. "This has been a great season for me as a wrestler. I've grown and learned so much from my coaches and created bonds with my teammates that can't be broken." said Isabella. Briana Sanchez commented, "This is my first year on the wrestling team, and it went great. I have strong bonds with the other girls, and I learned that even if I get hurt, I can keep going."

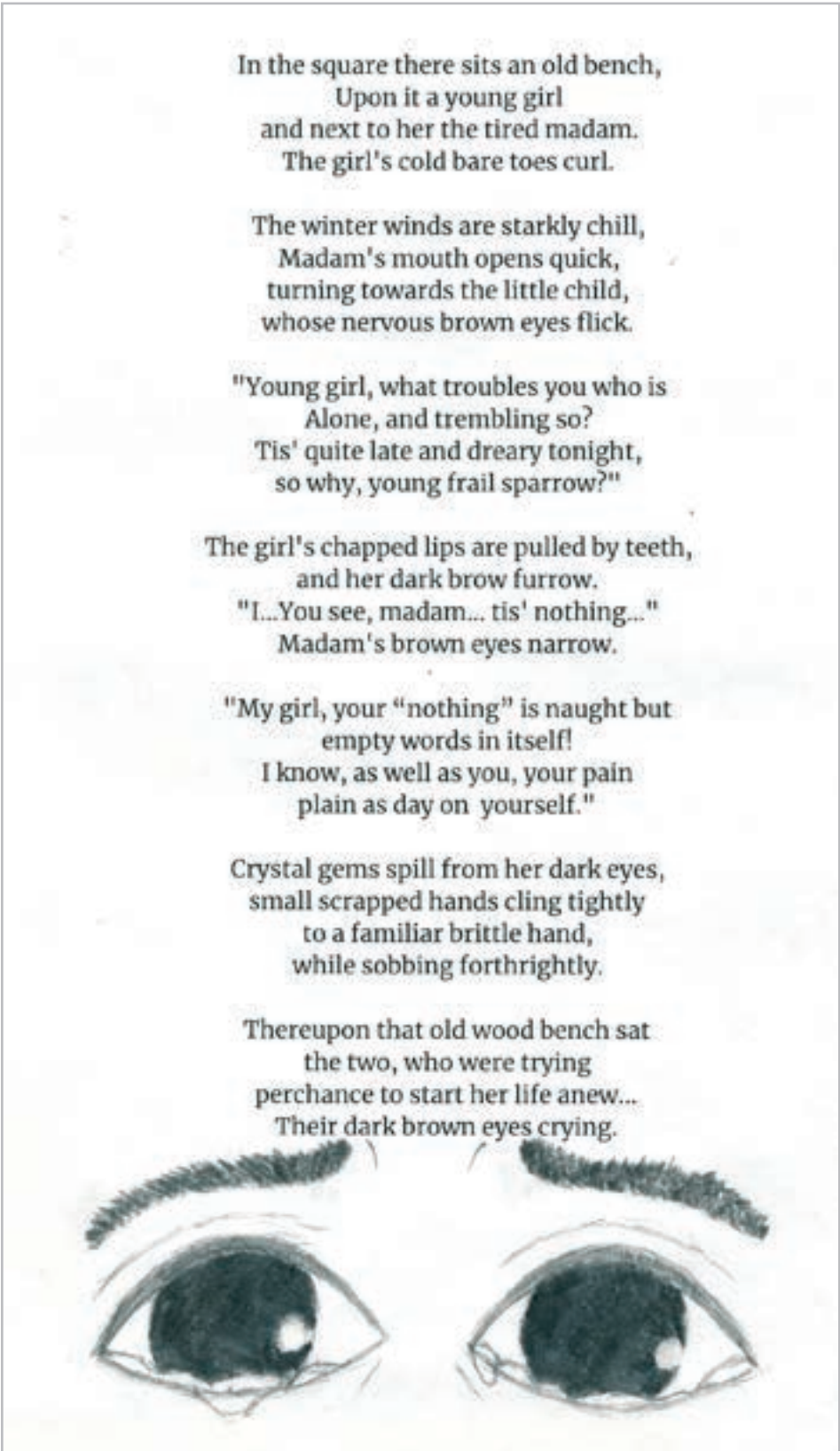
Hanna Corey shared: "Wrestling is for sure one of the hardest things that I've done. I've grown as a person and an athlete. I love the bonds and memories I share with the team."

After being the only girl last season, having six girls was a blast, and a great way to

finish off my senior year and wrestling journey. I'm grateful for all the memories. Last weekend the boys team went to James Logan High School in Union City to compete in the North Coast Championships. Eleven wrestlers placed top three at CMC league championships and qualified to go NCSC. It was a two-day tournament against approximately 60 high school teams from Del Norte to James Logan. We are proud to have made it this far, but by the second day the only Wolverine standing was Triston Martin. He gave it his best, but lost both matches on the second day and was eliminated from the tournament. "I've been wrestling with Mr. Bowles for three years and have learned a lot as an athlete and a person. Freshman Triston is outie ... later Beefcake."



Above: Poet Rene Torres and artist Belen Mendoza.

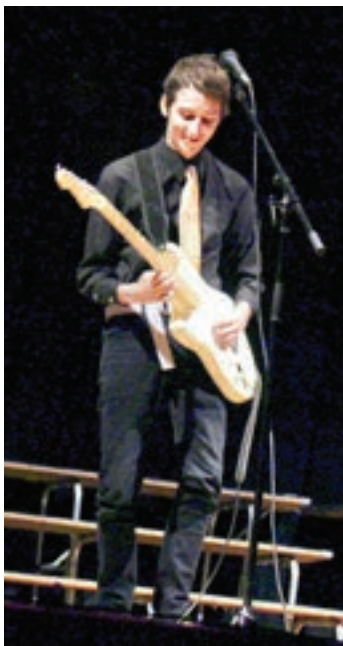


Above: Poet Savanna Hofmaister and artist Sara Strickland.

ART UNDER 20

OPENS MARCH 30
AT WILLITS CENTER
FOR THE ARTS

Artists Drake Wisdom, Darren Taylor, Kylei Polen, Jaden Doak, Marissa Gutierrez and Alyssa Fraser invite you to come see their work and the artworks of over 100 high-school-age artists at Art Under 20, opening March 30 at the Willits Center for the Arts.



Far left: The Musical Theatre Class performs a vignette of "Princess and the Pea" at A Hot Winter's Night in January. From left: Cheyanne Turner, Emma Crowe, Makenzie Hansen, Ceder Lowham, Sakora Scott and Cecilia Cramer. At left: Ian Watson plays his guitar at Hot Winter's Night. Below: The Concert Band at the 2018 A Hot Winter's Night performance.

A HOT WINTER'S NIGHT

by Daisy Barrett

The 14th annual A Hot Winter's Night was surely an evening to remember. On January 26, 2018, the halls were filled with lights, snowflakes, hot air balloons and beautiful artworks from over 100 WHS visual artists.

The performing artists showed off their talents in the Alan Garcia Auditorium by playing music, acting, singing, dancing and expressing their feelings through poetry. The Leadership Class prepared a delicious soup supper in the Wolverine Cafe, and Ms. Rees class made delicious treats for intermission.

Opening this year's show was Christopher

Abrams and Nicholas Hebel, our master of ceremonies. They entertained the audience with some of their favorite yet silly jokes. Nicholas Hebel states, "I really enjoyed performing at Hot Winter's Night, the only thing I wish we had was a better sound system, then the night would be perfect!"

The Concert Band opened with a few beautiful instrumental pieces. Scattered throughout the show we heard amazing poems from poets Mikayla Blake, Mychaela Nowlin, Paige Brown and Nick Hebel. There were solo performances by Ian Watson who sang "Take On Me" by A-ha while he played his

electric guitar. Cheyanne Turner and Emma Crowe both choreographed and performed interpretive dances. Emma said, "Having to memorize this dance was chaotic, but I was thrilled that I got to show my dance to everyone."

Sakora Scott and Savanna Hofmaister both entertained us with haunting and impressive piano solos. The evening ended with the Musical Theatre Class performing a reenactment of "Beauty and the Beast." Samantha Miller said: "I enjoyed playing the role of Belle. It was a magical night with tons of excitement from the crowd."



CHEER ON

By Haley Frahm

This season the basketball cheerleaders have done some wonders. They have dedicated their time to both boys and girls JV and Varsity Basketball. Depending on who is home, the girls are on the sidelines watching and cheering them on every step of the way. Sometimes the girls will even run the snack shack.

This Cheer team is loud and proud, and they support the Wolverines through rainy games and chilly nights. The girls love doing their half-time dance performance to entertain the crowd. Sharp moves, kicks, and some amazing jumps ... nothing is better in that moment.

Angel Avalos said: "I love Basketball Cheer! The stunts are my favorite part. The girls all bonded through the practices, games and working in the snack shack. We all gained trust with one another, and it was a great year."

It's easy and effortless for these girls to exhibit their outstanding positive attitudes and boundless energy, and that's what makes cheer fun.

The WHS cheer team holds Angel Avalos up high.

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Saturday attendance is mandatory, and will affect students' ability to complete certifications!
Students who successfully complete all course requirements and are at least 15 years old by May 19, 2018 will receive American Red Cross certifications for Lifeguarding, Community First Aid & Safety, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, and First Aid for Public Safety Personnel. All certifications are valid for two years.
Enrollment fees for High School students can be as low as \$87 (including materials fees); check with admissions to see what rates apply for your situation. A digital version of the required textbook may be downloaded for free via the internet at redcross.org. Students must have access to the textbook to complete required assignments.

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PG. 2
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PG. 3
C +/- %

W



WHS students and staff at the Migrant Education Area Speech and Debate Competition at Sonoma State University. In back, from left: Christian Archundia, Jairo Carrillo, Aleen Hernandez, Karina Brito, Susana Ramirez (coach), and Karen Hernandez. Sitting, from left: Migrant Ed Family Support Paraprofessionals Yuseli Campuzano, Alicia Cardena, and Leslie Campuzano.

MIGRANT ED SPEECH AND DEBATE COMPETITION

On February 10, 2018, seven Willits High School students attended the Migrant Education Area Speech and Debate Competition at Sonoma State University. This is the first year Willits High students have put together a team, with the help of Mrs. Susana Ramirez, our talented math teacher. In the Area competition, neighboring schools from middle to high school students compete at their own grade level in the following two categories: delivering a prepared speech, and writing and delivering an extemporaneous speech on site or in a group debate. Schools in the competition included Ukiah High, Lower Lake High, Upper Lake High, Fort Bragg High, Healdsburg High and Napa High School, to name a few. The next Regional Competition will take place March 10, 2018 at Woodland Community College, where all students who qualified will compete with other students from all over Northern California. If a student places 1st or 2nd at the Regional Competition, they will be competing again at the state level in central California. The competition had a great outcome for our Willits High students. Six out of the seven

were awarded 1st, 2nd or 3rd place honors. Three of the six students who were awarded a place will be competing at the Regional Competition. Only 1st and 2nd place winners of the prepared speech will get to move on to regionals. "This is a great opportunity to expose migrant education students to the world of public speaking. They learn interpersonal skills, public speaking skills, how to give constructive feedback, how to dress professionally, and how to properly introduce themselves with a handshake." Coach Ramirez said.

The following list shows the student places and the category:

Karina Brito – 1st Place in extemporaneous speech for 9th grade

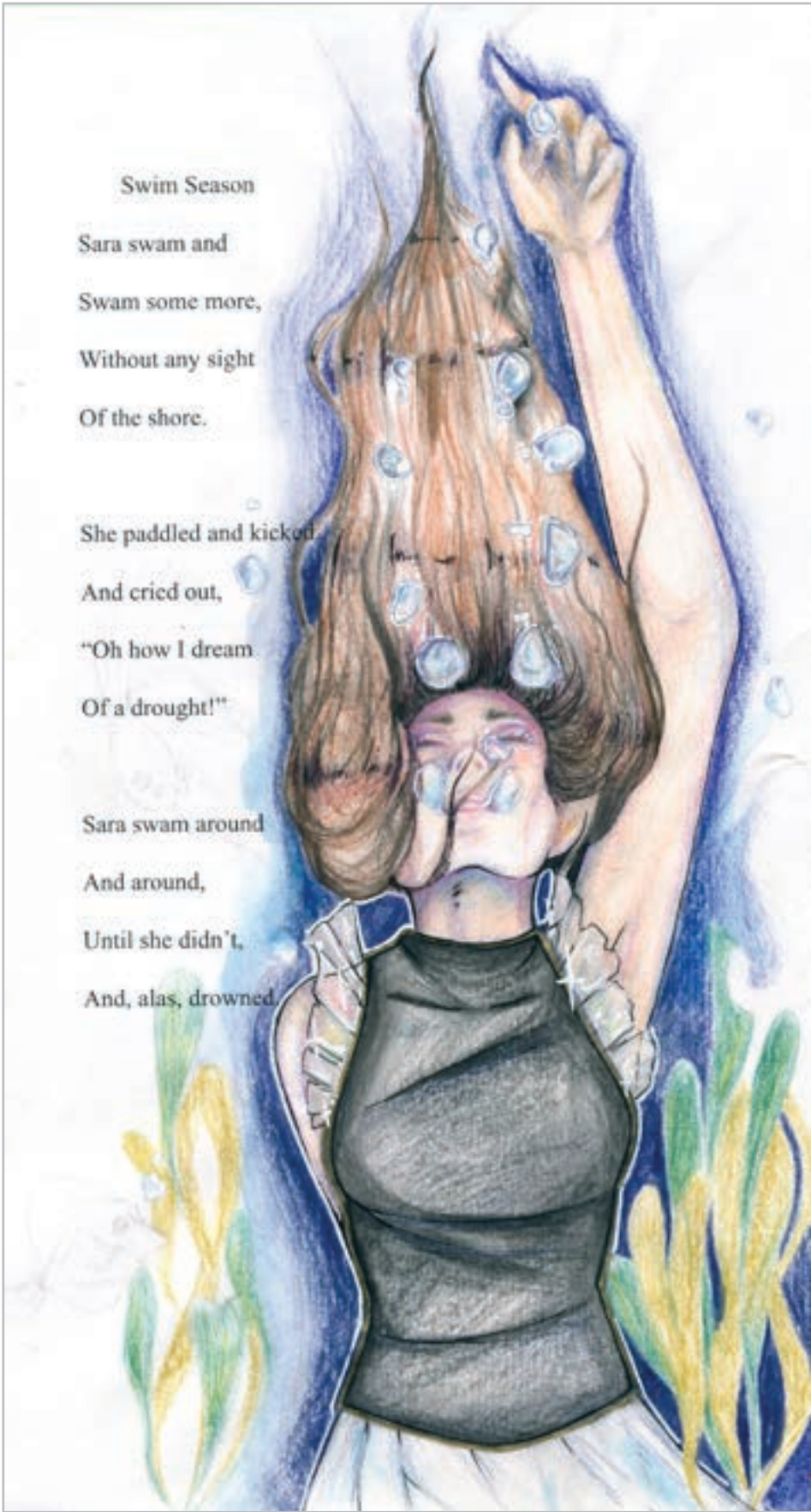
Jairo Carrillo – 1st Place in extemporaneous speech for 11th grade

Christian Archundia – 3rd Place in extemporaneous speech for 12th grade

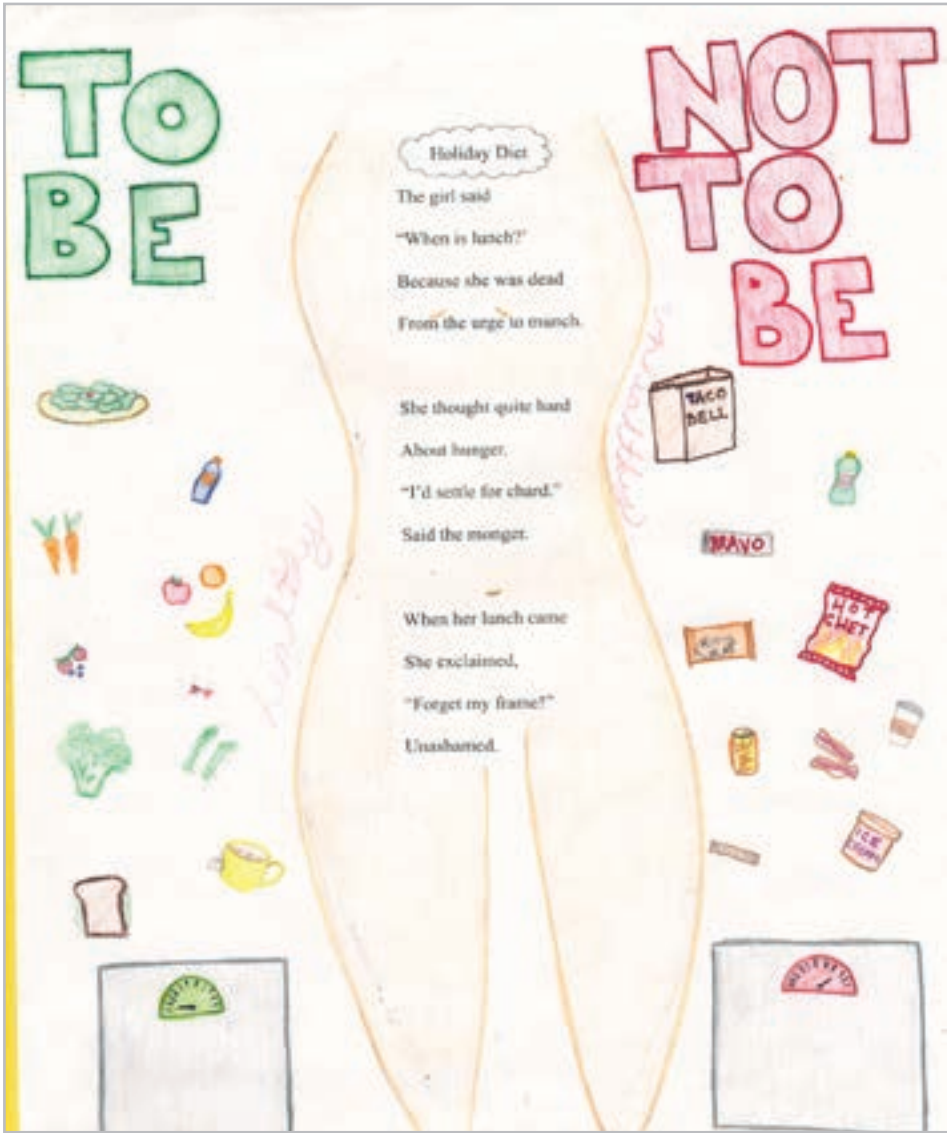
Yuseli Campuzano – 2nd Place in prepared speech for 12th grade

Karen Hernandez – 1st Place in prepared speech for 11th grade

Aleen Hernandez – 2nd Place for prepared speech for 10th grade.



Above: Poet Sara Strickland and artist Savanna Hofmaister.
Below: Poet Naomi Strickland and artist Mychaela Nowlin.



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Willits High School students with artist Ursula Partch and her "Ghost Tree." From left, Sophia deTreville, Yesenia Rodriguez, Britney Patel, Bianca Guevara, artist Ursula Partch, Justice Adams and Marissa Gutierrez.



Native American Club members and advisors, with the green and gold afghan donated to help raise funds. In front, from left: club members Jocelyn Beebe, Elijah DeCent, Amaia Hammack and Bianca Guevara. In rear, from left: advisors Jill Dorman and Lucy Kyne. Not pictured: Stephanie Webb and Davina Gomez.

NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB

By Jocelyn Beebe and Lucy Kyne

One of the clubs at WHS is the Native American Club (NAC), founded in 2016. Although it is small, it is passionate and mighty. A total of six active members are striving to make positive change within our school and among the Native American community. During our meetings, we discuss fundraising ideas, our culture and political problems facing Native Americans here in Northern California. We enjoy doing community service projects by spreading awareness about wellness, such as our planned Mental Health Event called "Native Stand – Mental Health Matters." Throughout the month of May, the WHS Native American Club will provide Mental Health Awareness via morning announcements and lime-green visual aids, in addition to our "Native Stand" school-wide presentation at 11 am on May 3. Partnering with the Each Mind Matters national campaign and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), we hope to combat the stigma associated with mental illness, and to

also provide resources for students, friends and family members living with mental illness or compromised mental health. Through fundraising we plan to go on a field trip to Humboldt University and one of the Indian Islands (Duluwat Island) to explore the land that was owned by our ancestors. To earn money we recently organized a bake sale in front of ER Energy. We made close to \$300, along with providing a donation of baked goods to the Willits Senior Center and Northbrook Care Facility. We are developing a T-shirt design to represent our accomplishments in this group, and welcome your artistic ideas. Currently, we are actively selling Native American arts and crafts to sponsor our activities, including a stunning green and gold handmade afghan donated by the Dorman family. With the help of Lucy Kyne, Stephanie Webb, Amaia Hammack, Bianca Guevara, Davina Gomez and Elijah DeCent, our club is active and striving. We are an open club, there is no blood quantum required to join. We welcome new members – join us anytime in the WHS Media Center at lunch every Thursday!

WCA ART ADVENTURE

By Savannah Southwick

Hello! Let me tell you about something spectacular that we did in Ms. Bakewell's visual arts class. We went on a walking field trip to the Willits Center for the Arts to see Ursula Partch's "Natural Accumulations." As soon as we arrived, everyone was welcomed with an enlightening, earthy vibe and beautiful artwork. What I admired about Ursula's work was that it's an installation, first one ever at the gallery. You're probably thinking that the show was beautiful paintings but I'm talking about making art out of the most simplest of things like wool, yarn and fibers. Ursula makes the whole room her canvas not just a sheet of paper. She mentioned that sometimes she feels like she's accumulating too much stuff. Then she thought about it and realized everything including nature, has a way of accumulating things. For example, the way the water

accumulates and runs down waterfalls gracefully flowing into welcoming pools and streams for salmon habitat. Another is the way colorful leaves hang on trees to finally fall off and create a beautiful golden or red carpet. In these pictures, you'll see the "Ghost Tree." That one is quite possibly my favorite piece of her art! Every time I look at it, I fall in love with it all over again like looking at it for the first time. She explained that when a redwood tree is cut down, it usually puts forth a "fairy ring" of trees around the trunk. The ghost tree was made from 200,000 stitches of translucent paper yarn, and Ursula worked on it for an hour every day for nine months. Ursula puts her heart and soul into her pieces and it's very inspiring. To take something as simple as waterfalls, leaves and trees, and transform them into a masterpiece is a joy to behold! Go check it out, beautiful people!

ART UNDER 20-18



Reception: Friday, March 30, 4-7 pm
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March 12, 2018
6:30 PM
WHS Auditorium

1st Annual Signing Day!
Come support our Student-Athletes
Cheer on their accomplishments
Encourage their growth!
Ask questions, learn about their new homes!

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March 1, 2018

WINTER SPIRIT WEEK

'VIDEO GAMES' POSTER COMPETITION BRINGS OUT STUDENT CREATIVITY

by Sara Strickland

This year's Winter Spirit Week Poster Competition theme was video games. Most of the classes selected retro '80s arcade games like Pac-Man (senior class), Super Mario Bros. (junior class), and Donkey Kong (freshman class). The sophomore class selected a more recent active game: Just Dance.

The week of preparation flew by, with everyone brainstorming and rushing to fulfill all of the requirements to qualify. Each class had to make posters representing their game, each winter sport, the school slogan, their graduation year, etc.

We all hit minor roadblocks as the week passed. The freshmen had seemingly the largest area to cover with their posters, and the sophomore class discovered that Just Dance didn't provide them with much poster material or characters. The juniors had difficulty recruiting people to help them meet the requirements, and the seniors

had a little trouble communicating. However, each class found a way to join together and qualify for the competition. After the week of grueling painting on hands and knees, the classes successfully covered their area in the gym and showcased their school spirit in creative ways.

In the end, the juniors won the competition, the seniors placed second, the freshman third, and the sophomores last. The junior's success stemmed from their recreation of Super Mario Bros. itself, as well as their detailed depictions of Mario and Luigi, illustrated by Savanna Hofmaister. The seniors came in a close second, with their intricately made



Karen Hernandez, Savanna Hofmaister, Araceli Arellano and Jasmine Mendoza celebrate Winter Spirit Week at WHS.

Pac-Man maze, as well as the detailed arcade game and original lettering. The freshmen depicted the ladders predominantly featured in Donkey Kong, and the sophomores did their best to win, despite the unforeseen limitations of choosing Just Dance as their video game.

Overall, 2018's Winter Spirit Week Poster Competition was a success and a blast!



Jada Smith, Alyssa Fraser, Daisy Barrett, Jocelyn Beebe and Teo Labus take a break from writing "The Wolverine" to pose for a photo.

THE NEWSPAPER CLUB

By Alyssa Fraser

Willits High School has many clubs to choose from, depending on a person's interests. For people who like to write, we have the Newspaper Club. This club is run by Ms. Bakewell, who brings stories for us to turn into articles. She also reaches out to other students and teachers to find out what's happening and encourages them to share their experiences. She always supports us in our writing and keeps the club together and moving forward.

Being part of this club is more than just writing down words. We have the chance to learn about all the different people and activities going on by interviewing teachers and students and going on photo shoots to capture images. We write up not only the stories of others, but some of our own. We can share things that we feel passionate about and it's rewarding to know you helped create something wonderful.

The WHS Wolverine staff was honored last December by the WUSD board and was congratulated on a job well done. The board is impressed by the quality of the paper and level of commitment from the students.

"The Wolverine" started back up in the fall of 2016 after a long hiatus. Maureen Moore of Willits Weekly came up with the idea and went to Ms. Bakewell with the proposal. "I was the advisor of the Mistletoe Yearbook Staff at the time," said Ms. Bakewell, "and decided that since my students and I were covering

everything ... sports, special events, academics, interest stories, etc., that it would be fun. So we did it!"

This year, the newspaper has become a club that meets on Wednesdays at lunch. We decide what we want to cover and divide up the responsibilities among us, and we plug away at it. Our editor is Daisy Barrett who said: "I enjoy being the editor of the Wolverine because I believe it's important for our community to be informed about our students and their activities which help shape opinions about WHS. I enjoy building new relationships with other students while we create a paper about our lives."

Our staff includes Jocelyn Beebe, Alyssa Fraser, Teo Labus and Jada Smith. We also have contributions from reporters at large including Heidi Herold, Mychaela Nowlin, Sara Strickland, Naomi Strickland, Lucas Branscomb and Madison Forrester. We are always open to ideas and welcome anyone who is interested in joining our staff.

"I love how we celebrate our students and acknowledge their achievements," shared Ms. Bakewell. "It truly is a blessing to work with these incredibly talented and beautiful young people. They're amazing!"

"The Wolverine" goes out once a trimester - inserted into Willits Weekly - to 3,500 homes in our community and is a snapshot into the wonderful world of Willits High School. I hope you enjoy it.



Members of the Willits High School Academic Decathlon team who competed in the speech and interview portion of this year's Regionals at Upper Lake High School.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON: WE'RE GOING TO STATE!

By Naomi Strickland

Willits High's Academic Decathlon team is currently preparing for State competitions, building on success at Regionals. Our decathletes thrived, winning a total of 14 medals and qualifying for State. The following students displayed excellence in their corresponding categories: Brieana Evans received 2nd place in her interview, Jacob Arms was awarded 2nd place in Mathematics, and Savanna Hofmaister received 1st place in Literature and 3rd place in Science.

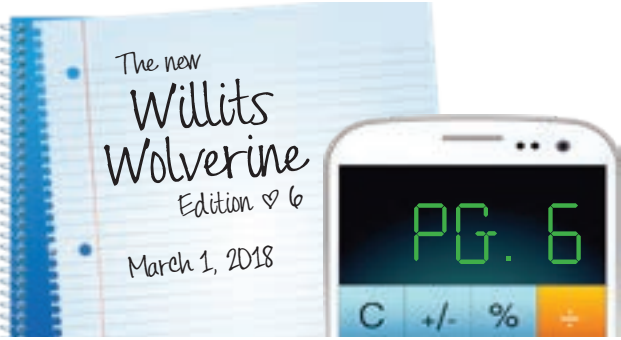
Mychaela Nowlin received 3rd place in Science, Nicholas Hebel received 3rd place in Economics and 3rd in Essay, and Ian Watson received 3rd in Music, 3rd in Economics, and 1st in Literature. Ian also won 1st place and Elizabeth Henning won 3rd in the Scholastic division, and Alizabeth Wilcox received 2nd place in the Varsity division.

Our team displayed our dedication and perseverance for the acquisition

of knowledge by winning 2nd place at Regionals, a place higher than we received last year. We continue to study diligently in preparation for State, which is March 22 to 25 in Sacramento. All students that competed in Regionals will attend State competitions, but the following students will represent Willits High School: Honors division: Nicholas Hebel, Savanna Hofmaister, and Naomi Strickland; Scholastic division: Ian Watson, Elizabeth Henning, and Mychaela Nowlin; and Varsity division: Alizabeth Wilcox and Ariel Reyes.

This year our subject is Africa. Students have immersed themselves in the culture of Africa by devouring a 5 inch binder of seven different subjects. Savanna contributed her opinion of our competitions and subjects: "Competitions are nerve-racking but fun; having the chance to study something completely new is something I thoroughly enjoy." Isabelle shared her opinion of our team: "Academic Decathlon pulls people from all grades together. We bond over our mutual motivation and respect for our subject."

Ariel discussed her experience at Regionals: "Although it may seem challenging and scary to compete, you ultimately expose yourself to new experiences and opportunities." Our team is focusing on our passion for academics as we set our sights on success at State.



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'SCRUBS 101' CALLING ALL THE DOCTORS

by Daisy Barrett

Scrubs 101 began in August 2005 when then-ROP director Dennis Aseltine approached Jennifer Barrett and asked if she would like to start teaching a new class called Health Occupations. Excited about this opportunity, Mrs. Barrett developed the class and gave it the name "Scrubs 101."

Mrs. Barrett uses a hands-on learning approach in this popular class. Students learn basic anatomy and physiology, how to take blood pressure, identify bones, muscles and blood vessels, and first aid. They earn certifications in ICS (Incident Command System) 100, Teen CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), and AED (Automated External Defibrillator), and they acquire a basic understanding of how to read an ECG (electrocardiogram).

"This year's Scrubs 101 class has been amazing," states Jennifer Barrett. "All students are ready

to learn and expand their knowledge in the medical field. I average about 20 to 25 students per year, and many of them go on to become health professionals themselves."

Adventist Health Howard Memorial has developed a volunteer program directed towards Scrubs students. They can now apply to spend six weeks at the hospital learning and observing professionals at work in Medical Imaging, in the Lab and in Physical Therapy. Students must go through an interview process to be selected, and this year Sabrina Garcia and Melody Leon will be attending the program.

Many thanks go to volunteer coordinator Becky Hope who worked for three years to get all of the contracts up and ready for students to be able to participate in this beneficial program.

In addition to the hospital, Verihealth has been open to having students ride along in their ambulance. Paramedic Kristen Colvig has been a huge part of the Scrubs class - she has helped

with CPR, AED and first aid, along with different teen CERT components. Having guest professionals in the medical field discuss their occupation and share their skills with the students has added to the success of the Scrubs program.

Finally, co-facilitator of Scrubs 101 is Eric Alvarez, the training officer at Little Lake Fire Department. Eric has helped teach the students fire suppression using a fire extinguisher and ICS 100, and he even got a volunteer fire crew together to teach cribbing to the students for their final.

Jennifer Barrett explains: "Scrubs is not a classroom-only program. The success of this class lies with bringing in professionals to teach the students what they do and what it takes to be in the field. I am so thankful to all of the guest speakers that have come to speak to my students." Student David Mann says: "Scrubs is my favorite class! I love learning new things about the medical field, and I love actually doing hands-on activities."



Above: "Ofrendas," or altars, created by Maestra McLernon's Spanish class, line the hallway in celebration of Dia de los Muertos. At right: Ms. McNally-McCall's guitar students give an impromptu concert for Dia de los Muertos. Back row, from left: Michael Grimes, Jacobi Smith, Angel Jacinto Ian Nunez, CJ Abrams and Odalys Lara Lopez. Front row, from left: Alexander Ramero, Ms. McNally-McCall, and Joey Mendoza.



EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS AT WHS

By Alyssa Fraser

El Dia de los Muertos is a popular holiday that's been celebrated throughout Mexico for centuries. Day of the Dead may sound like a celebration of death, but it's actually a celebration of the lives of family and friends who have passed. It's said that on October 31, All Hallows Eve, the spirits of the children return to spend time with their families. Then on November 1, the spirits of adults return, and on November 2, the families go to

the graveyard to decorate the tombs of their relatives.

At Willits High, we celebrated this holiday in Maestra McLernon's Spanish class. We created "ofrendas" out of shoeboxes and displayed them outside of her classroom on a beautiful altar. They contained many different items, each one serving a specific purpose. For example, candles and marigolds are placed on the ofrenda to guide the spirits back to the land of the living. Favorite foods and drinks of the ancestors are gathered and set out to feed the spirits and quench

their thirst. Skulls made of sugar are used as gifts, and "papel picado," or paper flags made of decorative tissue, are hung to represent the winds. And of course, photographs of family members who have passed are placed on the altar.

Maestra McLernon said: "My students did an excellent job with their ofrendas. Their creativity and participation gave our Dia de los Muertos display authenticity. The artworks created by Ms. Bakewell's amazing art students decorated the hall, and Ms. McNally-McCall's guitar students gave us an impromptu concert for the event. Overall, it was a very culturally enriching experience."

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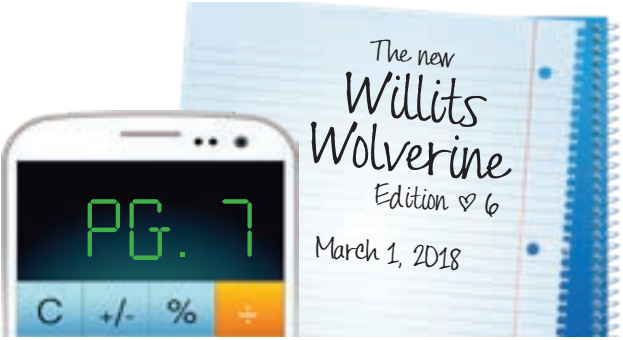
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ORDER ON THE COURT: BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

By Pablo Avalos III

The 2018 boys basketball team had a rough season, but played with a lot of heart. Every practice, game, and bus ride, the boys stuck together through thick and thin. Sadly, five of our senior boys are leaving this year: Justin Bays, Justin Amador, Josh Betts, Matthew McGee, and Lance Burgess. "This was one of the best team-oriented seasons I've played in my high school basketball career, but I am sad it's my last." Senior Justin Amador explains.

This year WHS has a varsity team chock-full of exceptionally skilled underclassmen. The team brought up four sophomore boys who help the team tremendously. I feel like playing on a varsity team is a honor, but knowing that my fellow sophomores and I still have two years to develop as a team reassures me that we can turn this basketball program around. For me scoring in a varsity game is a very cool feeling, especially against people two to three years older than myself. Sophomore starter Jacob Arms says: "It felt pretty great with getting moved up to Varsity as a

sophomore. Scoring on an upperclassmen is the best feeling in the world, and I can't wait to dunk on some seniors next year. The second time we played Fort Bragg, was probably the best game of the season due to its intensity on the court, and I scored a lot that game. I'm excited for next season because the juniors next year would already have a year playing on the varsity team, and I feel like we're going to be beasts. To the seniors that are leaving I want to say 'thank you' for being my role models on the court, and I'm going to remember them when I'm on the wall of fame."

When asked how the season was going so far Matthew McGee states: "Well, we have not won a game yet, but the experiences and team chemistry is very good. The team and I are having fun and enjoying playing even though the season has been a bit rough."

The top scorers of the year are Josh Betts with 138, Jacob Arms with 135, and Justin Bays with 127 points.

WHS Boys Varsity Basketball team, back row: Josh Betts, Lance Burgess, Justin Bays, Justin Amador and Matt McGee; front row: Tristin P'fingston, Aaron Colvig, DJ Buzzard, Pablo Avalos III, Jacob Arms, Matt Colvig, Nathan Maples and Drake Wisdom.



Jeremy Kittel, Nathaniel Smith, Joshua Pinkman and Simon Chrisman visit WHS as part of an education outreach program.

JEREMY KITTEL BAND PERFORMS FOR WHS

By Cecilia L. Cramer

The Jeremy Kittel Band was an interesting learning experience. As an opening, they played something that sounded like it came from the Highlands of Scotland, and then proceeded to another song after introducing themselves.

There were four members of the band, and each played a different instrument. The instruments were a hammered dulcimer, a mandolin, a cello and a violin/fiddle. Each of the band members plays multiple instruments as well, but mostly string and percussion instruments.

The band, for the most part, plays music "by ear," and enjoys improvising. They made up an improvised piece right on the spot, which was very interesting to hear. They all came in and played their part remarkably well, even during the improvised piece.

They don't always, but do occasionally, sing to the music they play, and they played and sang a Beatles song for us. They play a meld of music, and this is very interesting because some of the instruments are more associated with classical music than other styles. Their crescendos and diminuendos were pronounced, and you could tell the quieter parts of music from the louder parts.

Each of the instruments is unique. The hammered dulcimer comes from Africa, but all cultures have a variation of the instrument. It is similar to the piano and also uses hammers similar to how pianos have small mallets that hit the strings. The hammered dulcimer takes 20 to 30 minutes to tune.

The mandolin started in Europe and is tuned like a violin; the exception being it is on its side and has double the strings. Cello was also an instrument played, and it is similar to the standup bass and is normally an orchestra instrument. The violin was another instrument played, and this was a more common instrument, which our teacher plays. A violin is called a fiddle depending on the style of music being played.

The Jeremy Kittel Band is currently on tour, and their visit here was part of an education outreach program sponsored by the Ukiah Community Concert Association and offered just to our school. They will be releasing their new album in the next few months.

So, in conclusion, this was a very marvelous experience, and it was great to ask questions and talk with the performers afterwards. Our own school band could learn from them, because they listen to other types of music to hear how different music could influence our own playing. I wish this band good luck with the rest of their tour and thank them very much for coming to our school. Our school concert band is also playing multiple types of music that will, in turn, broaden our horizon of music and will allow us to make our own style come to life.



Charlie and her little sister Caroline.

WELCOME TO THE LITTLEST WOLVERINE

The students, faculty and staff of Willits High School would like to welcome our sweetest and littlest Wolverine ... Miss Caroline Virginia Rose Pinon. She was born on January 4, 2018 to her proud parents Mary Colvig and Denny Pinon and her big sister Charlie. ♡

Warmest Congratulations!



Willits High School FFA members, in front: Morgan Riley, Lilah Garman, Taylor Watts, Karissa Cornwall, Alexis Reyes, Lety Mendoza, and Cheyanne Paulson; in back: James Brown, Demetri Nova, Lucas Branscomb, Ryan Reed, and Madison Forrester.

WHAT'S GOING DOWN WITH WHS FFA?

By Claire Case-Brackett and Lucas Branscomb

Our FFA chapter has been very busy getting ready for spring. Students are gearing up for the Section Speaking Contest in Kelseyville on February 28. Freshmen are practicing the five paragraphs of the FFA Creed, which has become a rite of passage. Most FFA members (past and present) can recite at least part. Sophomores will compete in an Impromptu speech contest, where students choose an agriculturally related topic and speak for at least 30 seconds, but no more than 2 minutes.

Extemporaneous Speaking, Prepared Public Speaking and Job Interview are challenging for contestants. The Extemporaneous contest is open to all grades and has students draw a topic on the spot, prepare a 4 to 6 minute speech in 30 minutes, and present to a panel of judges. Prepared Public Speaking allows students to bring their own original prepared 3 to 5 minute speech and have it evaluated by a panel of judges. The last competition is Job Interview. Students go through the job application-interview process by applying to one of six mock agricultural jobs, and they must create a cover letter and resume. At the competition, they fill out an application, and are then interviewed by a panel of judges.

The top four students from each section will move on to the Regional competition, where they will compete against the other top winners from the other three sections of our region.

We have nine students who will receive their state FFA degrees at the Spring Regional State Degree Ceremony on March 24 in Kelseyville. Congratulations to Kyleena Amador, Darrell Buzzard, Jorge Carrillo, Karissa Cornwall, Lilah Garman, Jasmine Mendoza, Cody Pedersen, Keegan Reed and Alexis Reyes. Only 3 percent of the California FFA association membership receive this award, making it the state's highest honor. Each recipient will receive a gold State FFA Degree charm.

The FFA State Conference will be held April 20 through 25. It is a gathering of 8,000 of the state's 87,000 members. This event has a jam-packed schedule filled with leadership workshops, motivational speakers, a huge career fair, and even a trip to Anaheim's California Adventure, but it is expensive. We are trying to raise \$10,000 for the 20 members to cover the costs of registration and hotels.

Our two main fundraisers will be cookie dough sales and tri-tip lunches. The cookie dough fundraiser runs through the end of February and a tri-tip sandwich fundraiser will occur every month through April. Our March tri-tip lunch is scheduled for the 14th and the next will be on April 11. The cookie dough comes in a cool FFA tub that weighs 2.7 pounds, which makes about 40 cookies. The different types of cookie dough are Chunky Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal Raisin, White Chocolate Macadamia, Triple Chocolate and Snickerdoodle. We are trying to reach our goal of selling 300 tubs. If you would like to help us by ordering some cookie dough please call 707-459-7700, extension 1539.

Made For Excellence (MFE) and Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA) are two of the conferences we have recently attended (January 21-22). MFE focuses on the "ME" - highlighting personal skills and the ability to be successful. ALA focuses on the "WE" - how leaders build relationships with others to establish common vision. Twelve students attended this conference in Monterey and were able to enjoy some of the sights and scenery while there.

Animals for the Redwood Empire Fair are starting to arrive, and we are also expecting the delivery of some new kids from our goats Lilly and Beauty. The offspring from the goats will be future projects for FFA members. We also have two New Zealand does that will produce offspring for our students to show at the Fair in August which will soon get bred.

Our school farm is currently under major construction, and we can expect to put our goats and lambs in the new barn being built by Brian Bowles' amazing construction class in the next month. The garden is coming back into production and a pad has been laid out for the future swine barn scheduled to be built next year. There is excitement in the air. On April 14 from 11 am to 2 pm we will be having a Farm Open House and Petting Zoo. We would like to invite the community down to see the improvements that have taken place and grab a bite to eat. All proceeds from the lunch will directly go to the school farm.

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Garman Construction, Northern Aggregates Inc., Caltrans, Sparetime Supply, Bryan Mann, Coastal Mountain Electric, Marvin's Garden Tree Service, Willits Frontier Days, Paul Riley, our principal Michael Colvig, and Carrie and Aaron Oliver.

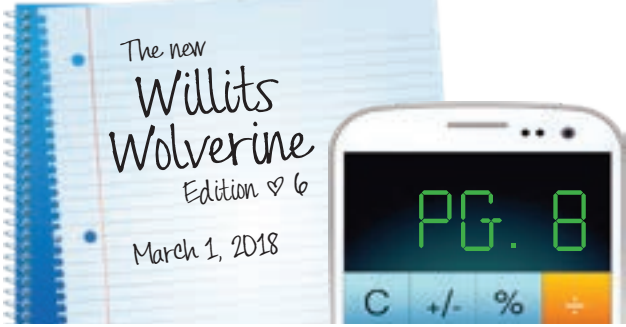


All League award recipients get together for a group photo. Back: Christian Arreguin, Aldo Perez, Johnny Lara-Lopez, Mariano Thomas Mendoza and Eddie Leon. Middle: Gisele Nieto, Daisy Barrett and Nicole Karkar. Front: Triston Martin and Jacob Arms. Not pictured: Emily Acevedo and Angel Jacinto.

ALL LEAGUE

All League is a prestigious award given out each year to the most valuable student athletes in fall sports. Every coach in the league casts their votes for a certain number of athletes to be acknowledged for their leadership skills, outstanding athletic abilities, and sportsmanship. This year, Willits High School is proud to have many students win this important honor for our school.

Our first NCLI team All League recipients are: Jacob Arms, Nicole Karkar, Johnny Lara-Lopez and Eddie Leon. Our second team All League recipients are: Mariano Thomas Mendoza, Emily Acevedo and Angel Jacinto. Lastly, our honorable mention All League recipients are: Daisy Barrett, Aldo Perez, Christian Arreguin, Triston Martin and Gisele Nieto.



The Latino Club breaking the bread for Rosca de Reyes. From left to right: Aleen Hernandez, Nayeli Rodriguez, Mercy Villegas, Gwyn Hernandez, Leslie Campuzano, Belen Mendoza, Lety Sanchez, Karina Brito, Liliana Acevedo, Patricia Carrillo, Julissa Perez, Rene Torres, Christian Archundia, Jairo Carrillo, Karen Hernandez and Yuseli Campuzano.

THE LATINO CLUB

By Belen Mendoza

This is the first year the Latino Club, which has at least 22 members, was formed at Willits High School. The purpose of the club is to provide a space for students to learn about, celebrate and embrace their culture. One of club's goals is to bring unity among its members by providing a safe space where students can express themselves and discuss current issues that affect not only our Latino students, but also our Latino community.

The Latino Club allows the students of Willits High School to thrive and celebrate their culture in a way which may not have been possible otherwise. The club organizes a celebration when a Latino holiday or tradition is happening. During El Día De Los Muertos, we celebrated the Mexican tradition of honoring the deceased. For the winter holiday, we had a gift exchange and then observed Rosca De Reyes, to commemorate Día De Los Reyes Magos. In May, the club will be celebrating Semana de la Raza, and members will be attending the Hispanic Retreat at Mendocino College as well.

Despite all the festivity, the club is more than just a group of people who use culture as a justification to gather and celebrate. It is also a place where students are free to talk about current issues that affect the Latino community not just politically, but within the school as well.

Ms. Ramirez encourages us to speak Spanish while we are in our meetings, because although many of us can speak it, sometimes we have a tendency to become accustomed to speaking only English.

Being a member of the Latino Club is a superb opportunity to thrive in our culture, celebrating holidays and advocating on issues that affect us. Although this is our club's first year, we have still managed to celebrate by providing food and anything necessary ourselves. Our future plan is to have a field trip sometime during the end of the school year, for which we have to raise enough money, and we are working sedulously to fund it. Overall, the Latino Club provides a space for the students at Willits High School to feel at ease to discuss our struggles, as well as our opportunities to shine.

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