

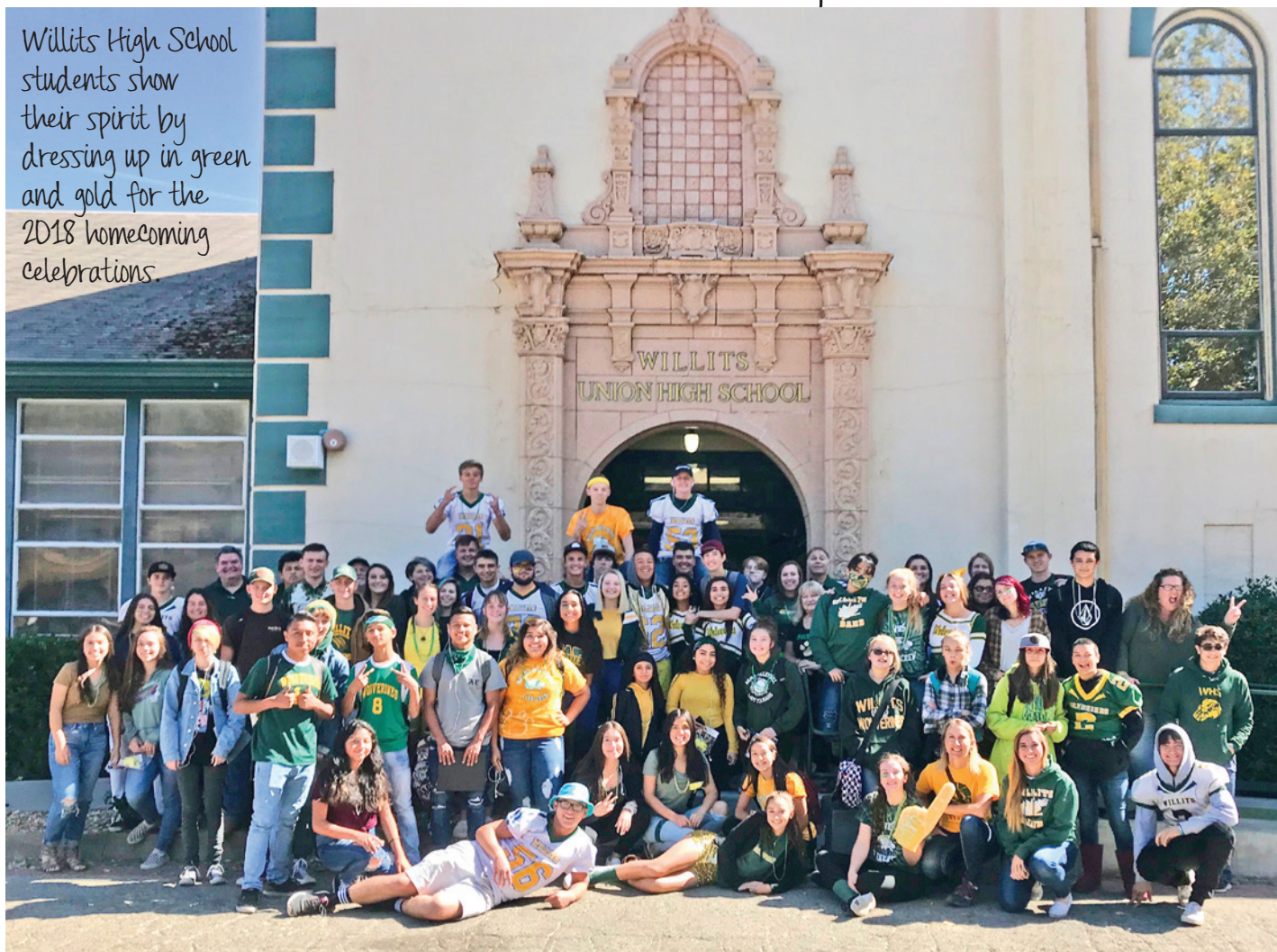
# The WILLITS WOLVERINE

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER - EDITION #8

Thursday, October 4, 2018



Willits High School students show their spirit by dressing up in green and gold for the 2018 homecoming celebrations.



## HOMECOMING 2018: FLASHBACK TO THE 80S

By Daisy Barrett

It's that magical time of the year again, when crowns and tiaras come out of hiding and laughter and smiles fill the air. Yes, it's homecoming and the theme this year was "Flashback to the 80s." We dedicated it to the class of 1988 in honor of their 30th class reunion.

The classes picked 80s movies as inspiration for their float decorations and Spirit Day dress-up gear. The freshmen chose "Ghostbusters" or students could wear red, sophomores were "Back to the Future" or put your blue on, juniors were "Footloose" or don white, and the seniors were "ET" or wear black. And as always per tradition, spirited

Finish "Homecoming" on page B6

## ADVENTIST HEALTH OPENS ITS DOORS TO WHS STUDENTS

By Taylor Campbell and Ms. Bakewell

Howard Hospital has a wonderful internship program that accepts one or two students into it a year. Basically, it's a one-of-a-kind opportunity where you can get hands-on experience in the medical field.

The first couple of weeks the intern observes in the lab, then they spend a couple weeks in medical imaging, and finally spend two weeks in physical therapy. It really gives a person a good range of experience.

Melody Leon is passionate about the medical profession and has decided that she would like to have a career

Finish "Hospital" on page B9

## A NEW CROSS COUNTRY SEASON

By Jada Smith

Along with the new season of cross country, came many new faces. Not only do we have new runners, Logan Smms, Austen Smms, Paul Keough, Remy Cottrell and Michael Kale, but we also have a new coach! She is none other than our beloved science teacher, Liz Roripaugh.

"I've been active in sports my whole life," says Roripaugh. She continues, "I played softball and did gymnastics in middle school, and then I switched to track and soccer during high school. My sister, Ruth, and I were on the first-ever Willits High School soccer team, which was actually a boys team."

Roripaugh continued her sports career through college, participating in track and setting six records at Caltech. After injuring herself during track, she was unable to run the next cross country season, but was kindly offered to help manage the team, which began her coaching career. Roripaugh's goal for the team is that "everyone feels like they learn and improve over the season and have a lot of fun doing it!"

The runner's dedication to this goal shows, when one looks at the 6:30 am Tuesday practices, Saturday morning runs, and daily after school training.

There's been great improvement among the team, some members have cut their race times by as much as six minutes! One of the runners, Alyssa Fraser says, "The intense training is worth it in the end. It feels so rewarding to have supportive team members and accomplish personal goals."

Overall, cross country has been a positive environment for people who all have at least one thing in common: a love for running.



The new and improved Crow's Nest.

## LOOKING GOOD!

By Elisa Zalaya

Over the summer, many renovations took place at Willits High. First of all, the arched entrance into the main building was washed and polished. The Wolverine logo on the outside and inside of the gym has been replaced with a newer one that actually resembles the animal. Superintendent Mr. Westerberg remarked that the old logo, "looked like a cross between a beaver and a bear."

It's a relief to have a redesigned, improved representation of the wolverine, thanks to

Malakai Schindel, and it's no longer going to be an awkward sight for anyone who sees it.

Additionally, a new fence was put in around the Lady Wolverine softball field and new roofs on the softball and baseball dugouts. A new roof was also put on the fitness center, buildings were painted, the front of campus was spiffed up with new signs, we received a new score box for the gym, and the crow's nest on the football field was completely remodeled.

And the renovations don't stop there! A new

Finish "Renovations" on page B4



Above: The WHS Cross Country Team hangs out at a meet: Austin Sims, Brieana Evans, Alyssa Fraser, Teo Labus, Taylor Campbell and Jada Smith.





Above: Ms. Laskovics, Tiana Dalton, Paris Hansberger, Janie Ruiz-Fuentes and Michael Kale work on a project during Summer Academy.

## A HEAD START FOR FRESHMEN

By Michael Kale

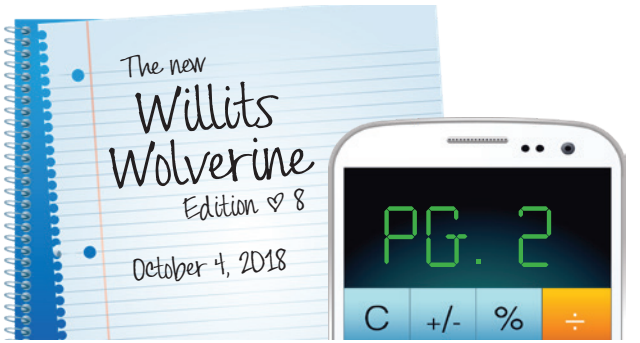
The Freshman Academy was a fun way to spend three weeks this summer. The classes offered were Biology A and Algebra I A, taught by Ms. Laskovics and Mr. Alaniz. The classes met from 8 am to 12:30 pm, four days a week, and students earned five credits, which is equivalent to a trimester's worth of work. "I thought it was really helpful to take classes in the summer because it opened up space in my schedule and I got more one-on-one help," commented Amber Nowlin, who was in the Algebra Academy. "It was fun, but I had to get up really early! I liked that I got to learn cool things!" said Janie Ruiz who took the Biology Academy. The academy gave us all a taste of high school and a head start on graduation since biology and algebra are graduation requirements. A big "thanks" to the teachers and administration who made this opportunity possible!



## FREE FOOD!

By Elisa Zalaya

With every new year, there are new beginnings, so what's new at WHS? Free food for everyone! Breakfast, brunch and lunch are now provided at no cost to the student, so parents no longer need to fret about whether or not their child has been fed. According to several studies, people who have had a proper breakfast are less likely to overeat later in the day. The average breakfast contains more fiber than any other meal, meaning those who ate jumpstart their metabolism, reducing appetite and sudden cravings for food during class. A full stomach grants enhanced concentration, potentially improving student



The WHS Aca Deca Team gathers for a group photo: back row: Ariel Reyes, Grady Williams, Mackenzie Hanson, Teo Labus, Mara Moratti, Elizabeth Henning, Ian Watson, Jacob Arms, Spencer Copperfield, Micah Stamps, Tyler Bailey, Savanna Hofmeister, Jaeva Cash, Mikayla Blake and Ms. Colvig. Front row: Briana Evans, Lily Turner, Emerald Waters, Amy Andrade, McKenna McNally, Joscelyn Beebe and Karen Hernandez.

## ACADEMIC DECATHLON AND THE 1960S: A TRANSFORMATIONAL DECADE

By Teo Labus

There are many wonderful programs at Willits High School, including Academic Decathlon which is both mentally challenging as well as inclusive. Academic Decathlon (now referred to as U.S. Academic Decathlon "USAD") is "an association of state programs dedicated to promoting and rewarding interdisciplinary learning, teamwork and academic achievement among high school students."

The program is inclusive to students of all learning levels, even if you have a low GPA or have failed a class in the past, you can still compete in USAD with your team. The class studies a variety of subjects such as art, music, literature, mathematics, economics, social studies and science.

As decathletes we have multiple mental challenges such as interviews where we're judged on voice, language usage, interpersonal skills, non-verbal skills, manner, listening skills, answering skills, responses, overall effectiveness, and appearance. We also write an essay, a speech, and do an impromptu speech.

Our teacher Ms. Colvig, makes learning fun. She is dedicated to her students and pushes them toward reaching their goal of going to the state competition and publicly

At left: Emerald Waters and Stacy Villegas are about to enjoy their free brunch.

grades. However, not everyone shares the enthusiasm. Many people prefer to grab a quick snack from the gas station directly across the street because, and as a student phrased it, "The choices suck." But does the Tower Mart provide the same nutritious food choices as the school's cafeteria? I think not! Though milk may not seem as appealing compared to a soda, it certainly has more health benefits than the latter. Another student commented that they personally enjoy the choices that the cafeteria has to offer, mainly the salad bar and the smoothies that are served during lunch. Whether or not you enjoy the choices, it is absolutely free and a privilege we shouldn't take for granted! The program is made possible for every student, kindergarten through 12th grade in the Willits Unified School District by a federal government grant. However, more students must take advantage of this opportunity to keep it free. In fact, now it's possible to ask for a bagged lunch to save for later. Students who have sports, or stay long hours after school, don't hesitate to approach our cafeteria staff, because they will be more than happy to set aside food you can pick up later on. For parents, it costs an average of \$900 a year to feed one child lunch. This program saves every family money and provides nourishment away from home at the most convenient times. Well, what are you waiting for? Take advantage of this new opportunity, eat well, and become a successful student at Willits High!

speaking. "By the end of the competition, students can deliver their speeches with enthusiasm," said Ms. Colvig.

Each year, the program has a new focus for students to study and memorize. This year, the topic is the 1960s. Everyone is enthusiastic about this subject compared to the one they studied last year on Africa. Briana Evans, a second year student, acknowledged that it's fun to learn about our history. Ariel said, "This year there is more to talk about." Most second-year decathletes agree and are excited to put their knowledge to the test.

WHIS has many new students excited to be a part of the Aca Deca team this year. I asked MacKenzie Hanson, a first year decathlete, why she joined Academic Decathlon. She said, "I joined because my friends told me to," and then realized that she didn't just enjoy the class because of her friends, but also because she loves learning and history. Other newcomers like Jocelyn Beebe said, "I like that we'll go on trips." She's excited that the team will compete at regionals and possibly at the state competition.

The new decathletes, the new topic, and the excited team are sure to bring their A-game to the challenges that they face as well as become great friends along the way.



Principal Colvig is excited for another great year at WHS.

## WELCOME BACK WOLVERINES

By Michael Colvig

As principal of Willits High School, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone back for a great year at Willits High School. We are all excited to have students back in our classrooms and hallways, filling them with energy and enthusiasm for learning.

We strive to challenge each student to grow in his or her academic abilities and to be college or career ready by the end of four years.

Finish "Colvig" on page B4

# SUMMER FUN

## SUMMER TRIP TO ITALY

By Alyssa Fraser

Everyone did something this summer, whether it was traveling, summer classes, or just staying at home and relaxing. This summer, Mara Moratti traveled around Italy for three weeks with her family. They started in Rome and traveled around major cities including Venice, Florence, Bellagio and Lecco.

When asked what her favorite place she visited was, she said, "I loved Florence. It was less crowded than Rome, but it was still beautiful; it had cobblestone streets and statues and museums on every corner. There were a ton of interesting landmarks."

Mara said that her favorite part of her trip was seeing everything she had only read about before, like famous art and scenery. She also added, "The whole country had a lot of interesting history, and it was really fun to go on tours and learn about it."

If Mara ever revisits Italy, she plans on riding down the water-streets of Venice in a gondola.

## SMALL TOWN KIDS TAKE A BITE OF THE 'BIG APPLE'

BUZZARD AND ARMS HEAD EAST

By Daisy Barrett

Over the summer our football captains traveled across the country to gain new skills and to see how it is in the next level. "I have always wanted to play football in college," said DJ Buzzard, "so once I heard about this opportunity, I knew that I couldn't miss it." Buzzard and his best friend Jacob Arms spent a week at the University of Rochester, Cornell University and Columbia University for a football camp. At the camp the boys not only represented Mendocino County, they also represented the whole state of California. "It was pretty cool to meet new people from all around the world. My favorite part about the camp was practicing new skills, so that I can become a better wide receiver," shared Arms. Off the field, the boys traveled around the city to get a feel of "college life." Buzzard said, "It was my first time ever to see the Statue of Liberty and it is something that I will never forget. All of the city lights at night and taking this journey with my best friend is something I will always remember." The boys have still kept in touch with the college coaches and will hopefully keep pursuing their dreams as college football athletes.

"Last summer the WHS soccer team conditioned every day from 4 to 6 pm. We practiced our drills, passing and shooting; we scrimmaged and ran a lot. I am able run for a longer period of time and I feel like I'm in better shape."

— Jose Sanchez

At right: Jose Sanchez poses for a photo in between drills.



"My dad lives on the island Oahu and I went to visit him there this summer. I spent two months hiking, swimming with turtles, boating, dodging cockroaches, and playing fortnight."

— Austin Osier

"Last summer I spent a week at the Redwood Empire Fair camping and showing my animal. I got FFA Reserve Champion Steer and I'm proud of it. I got Moose in October and raised him at my house in the Willits Valley. He grazed on my grandpa's grass hay and 20 pounds of grain a day. He weighed 1,324 pounds by fair."

— Jaden Daak

"Last summer my family and I spent a week on the big island of Hawaii. We went when the volcano Kilauea was erupting. We went snorkeling, swimming, and went to a luau. My dad got chosen to dance the hula and we laughed and laughed watching him."

— Kaiden Butler

"This summer I rode my four-wheeler at the Oregon Dunes and at Samoa Dunes. I have a yfz 450 that I like to ride and I get a little crazy sometimes. I like to jump my quad and race people that are

on the dunes. I also sometimes do wheelies on the beach."

— Taylor Drew

"This last summer, I played baseball pretty much every day. I started by playing Babe Ruth Baseball in Ukiah and made it to their All-star team. The All-star team is the best of the best in the whole league. I was the pitcher in the championship game against Novato, but unfortunately, we lost that one. Baseball is what I live for, eat, sleep and play."

— Martin Coughlin

"Last summer I went up to my family cabin in Montana."

— Amayah Alexander



Above: Mara Moratti at the Coliseum in Rome, Italy. Below: Jaden shows her steer, Moose, and Claire shows her steer, Maverick at the Redwood Empire Fair.



Above: Austin takes a break from hiking on the island of Kauai. Below: Martin pitches for the Ukiah All-star team in a championship game against Novato.



Below: Drew, his dad, Jack, his mom, Jenn, and brother, Tanner, ride four-wheelers in Oregon.



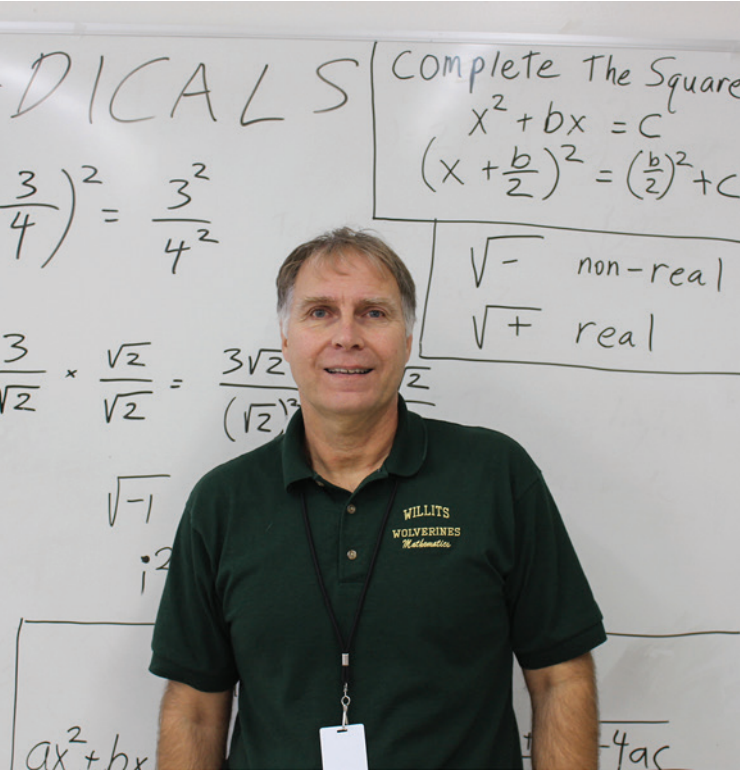
Above: Amayah and her brother, Donny, hike in the Bear Tube Mountains and love spending time in the great outdoors. Above, right: Kaiden, Kelsey and Kiley Butler stand together on the shores of Hawaii.







Above: Freshmen get to know each other in their Hawaiian-themed Link group: back, Guadalupe Santamaria, Pablo Avalos III, Danielle Barry, Rosemary Grieve. Front: Cody Escobedo, Hector Torres, Giovan Banuelos, Francisco Chavez and Kayla Meshekey.



Above, left: Mr. Reese, the new math teacher, has hopes to teach students that math may be an alien language to some of us, but it is the same as learning Spanish or French! Above, right: Ms. Doorty hopes to grow the band and the chorus program, as well as put more music into our community.



# NEW YEAR, NEW TEACHERS!

By Joscelyn Beebe

The new school year has brought many new programs and opportunities to WHS, as well as four new teachers! We had the chance to ask them a few questions just to get to know them a little.

The new math teacher in Room 2 is Mr. Reese. He told us that he graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a master's in economics. He added that he loves to farm and his family has owned a ranch in Virginia since 1825! Mr. Reese has hopes to teach students that math

may be an alien language to some of us, but it is the same as learning Spanish or French! Our new Spanish teacher alongside Ms. McLernon is Ms. Nord in Room 12. Ms. Nord graduated from Willamette University with a double major in Spanish and English. She then went on to earn her master's in international and comparative education at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. Before coming to our school, Ms. Nord had just returned from the Peace Corps, where she went to Ukraine and learned the native language. She hopes to be a good teacher and influence and would like to get to know the students.

Our new band teacher is Ms. Doorty. She graduated from Nazareth College in Rochester, New York. She moved here all the way from Geneva, New York to teach our band. She hopes to grow the band and the chorus program, as well as put more music into our community.

Last but not least, our new history and weight training teacher alongside Mr. Conrad, is Mr.

field is being added beyond the football stadium with permission of the local railroad company. Parents and volunteers teamed up last summer to clean the area and in no time, the extra land will give great opportunities to expand the sport choices we offer.

Future projects include building a dome over our school pool so swimming lessons and competitions can continue over the chilly months. The heat will be trapped inside the bubble, so students can swim without worries of getting sick. Approximate costs for the dome could reach \$62,000, but it is a small price compared to a ten million dollar indoor pool.

Mr. Westerberg has also promised to replace the old drinking fountains around campus with new filtered water fountains so WHS students have access to clean, fresh water anytime and we can do our part to cut down on plastic.

We love all the improvements that have come our way to make our school an even more enjoyable experience and look forward to the ones just around the corner! Despite the weighty expenses, Willits High has a bright future and strives to reach the goals to make it the best place it can be.

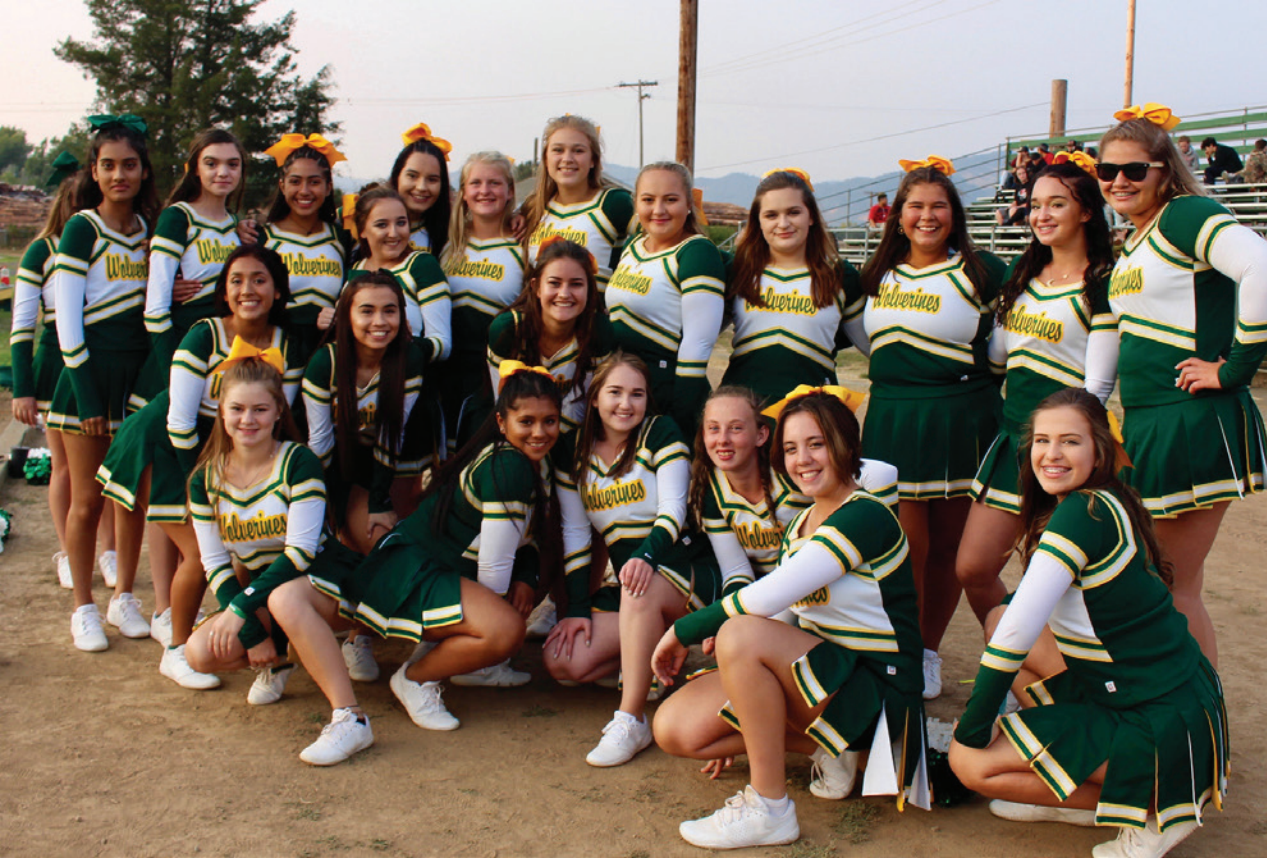
# A GOOD KICK IN THE GRASS

By Araceli Arellano

The girls soccer team has been putting forth tremendous effort this season. We are currently fifth place in league and that's the best we have done in many years. We have three seniors who are also the team captains, Emily Acevedo, Kiley Butler and myself. As captains, we're very proud of what we have achieved and have been able to accomplish. Even though we have a young team, the girls work hard and strive to do their best. We spend hours on the field working together, conditioning, strengthening and practicing. We all get along fine in spite of our differences here and there and we work as a team on the field. A special thanks and appreciation goes out to our coach, Tatiana Cantrell, who shows up for us during practice and for the games.



Above: The WHS girls soccer team gathers on the field: Natalie Castro, Nayeli Rodriguez, Hannah Bouthillier, Tiana Dalton, Courtney Potter, Victoria Hernandez, Cristina Escobedo, Gwyn Hernandez, Marissa Gutierrez, Araceli Arellano, Emma Compa, Kiley Butler and Odalys Lara-Lopez.



Above: The WHS Cheerleading Squad squeezes in for a group photo: top row, Rammeet Mann, Elizabeth Henning, Valeria Valasco, Jessica Brown, Kyla Hendry, Taylor Pardue, McKenzie Gregg, Hanna Corey, McKenna McNally, Amber Nowlin, Mandy Thurman and Jessica Buzzard. Bottom Row: Angel Avalos, Janine Wright, Isabella Galtton, Calan Cole, Brianna Sanchez, Kayla Norton, Hailey Vincent, Emma Crowe and Samantha Miller.

# CHEERS!

By Hailey Vincent

The 2018 Wolverine cheerleading squad has been doing very well this season. We have a great team, amazing teamwork, and have been looking great. Megan Freudenberg and Lacey Thurman have been doing a fantastic job as our coaches, from fixing our hair, to perfecting our dances and stunts; they are there when we need them.

Our four captains are Jessica Buzzard, McKenna McNally, Mandy Thurman, and Jessica Brown; they have been doing an amazing job too. They aren't just there to arrange our bows or call out our cheers. They are there because they help us when we need it the most and will always help us with a smile on their face, no matter what day or time, and they are always open for new ideas for the dances and stunts.

Thurman said, "This year being chosen as captain has been an amazing part of my sophomore year. Having my girls pick me to be their leader and somebody they can count on, talk to, and trust really means a lot to me. Cheer has been one of the biggest parts of my life. I love being out on the football field and under those Friday night lights and cheering our team on, but I love being out there with my girls a little more."

Buzzard shared, "I've been cheering since I was four years old. It runs in the family. My sister, Megan Freudenberg, is my coach. Cheerleading and football has always been a big part of my life. Being under those Friday night lights is

just a part of who I am now. This is my third year in a row being captain, and each year my girls voted me in to be their leader on and off the field. It's a big honor to be the one they look up to."

Our next game is our Homecoming game where we're doing an 80s themed dance. We will keep our heads high, bows higher, and confidence the highest, and facials the best. Hope to see you there because Friday is game on!



Above: Ms. Nord, a new Spanish teacher, just returned from the Peace Corps, where she went to Ukraine and learned the native language.

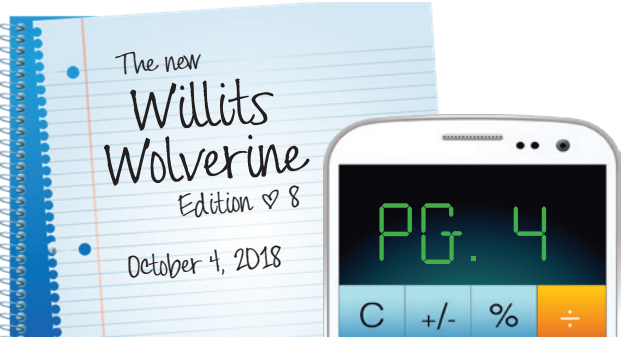
The end of "Teachers" from page B4

Carr in Room 40. He went to five different colleges, but let us know that he attended Santa Rosa junior college, U.C. Berkeley, and graduated with a bachelor's in sociology from California Lutheran College in L.A. At all five colleges he played football. He hopes to create positive relationships and be a mentor through extracurricular activities.

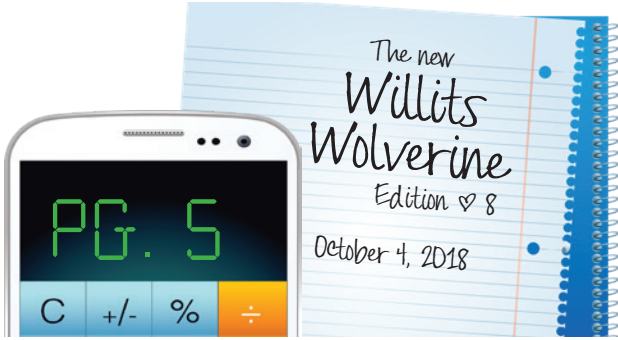
Welcome to WHS! We hope you have a great year.



Above: Mr. Carr hopes to create positive relationships and be a mentor through extracurricular activities.



Finish "Teachers" on page B5







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At left, top: The freshmen's "Ghostbusters" themed float won third place. At left: Senior Princess Jasmine Mendoza and Prince DJ Buzzard wave to the crowd. At left, below: Jasmine Mendoza and Lilah Garman cut the cake for alumni.



The end of "Homecoming" from page B1

students wore green and gold on Friday.

On Wednesday, the annual homecoming night rally kicked the celebration into high gear. Karen Thiel was honored as the Grand Marshall and James Schroeder was given the distinction of Athletes Choice of 2018. The evening started off with the Lady Wolverine Cheerleaders dancing to tunes from the 80s.

"I had so much fun with all my girls. It was a bittersweet moment, but I am glad I had the honor to experience it with my favorite senior Taylor Brown," reminisced senior Ramneet Mann.

Next, our mighty football Wolverines performed the "Napoleon Dynamite" dance. "It was a lot of fun dancing with the guys. Jacob rocked it, no one can break it down like he can," explained Austin Andrade.

The best performance of the night was presented by the WHS teachers. Mr. Conrad, Ms. Bakewell, Mr. Carr, Mrs. Barrett, Ms. Lohne and Mrs. Brackett did a teachers' skit based on "The Breakfast Club."

"We had so much fun putting our skit together; we all laughed and enjoyed ourselves," exclaimed Ms. Bakewell. After the performances were done, fall sport coaches came on stage to speak about their senior athletes. Some coaches brought soccer balls, while others brought flowers and hugs.

The night ended with the presentation of the homecoming court: Freshman Princess Destiny Laurent and Prince Cody Escobedo. Sophomore Princess Amy Andrade and Prince Parker Watts. Junior Princess Nayeli Rodriguez and Prince Craig Stewart. Finally it was time to announce the Homecoming King and Queen. Second Runner-up was Princess Heidi Herold and Prince Jorge Carrillo. First Runner-up was Princess Jasmine Mendoza and Prince DJ Buzzard.

The king and queen of the 2018 homecoming was Keegan Reed and Daisy Barrett! Congratulations to our court! The night concluded with pictures and smiles that will last a lifetime.

On Friday night at halftime during the varsity game, the court rode in convertibles and waved to the crowd in the grandstands closely followed by the class floats. The seniors came in fourth place with their "ET" float. "Ghostbusters" came third place, created by the freshman class, Second place went to the juniors for "Footloose," and first place was awarded to the sophomore class for "Back to the Future."

On Saturday night the junior class threw the homecoming dance in the gym with decorations, a DJ and food. Spirited students came to dance, hang out with friends, and had fun. A good time was had by all and a week of memories was made.

## 

By Daisy Barrett

Homecoming is the time of year where our spirits are high and our football players play their hearts out. The big football game happened on September 28 against St. Helena and we put up a good fight.

Senior Christian Pederson predicted that "our team is going out with a positive attitude and we are going to kill it on the field." Junior Aaron Colvig believes, "we need to play as a team in order to beat St. Helena. I believe that our players will work to the limit and reach for success."

Other varsity football players like Captain DJ Buzzard thinks, "we are going to go out there and execute our job. We will play to win and annihilate St. Helena."

This homecoming our guys did their best and showed off their skills and played to the limit.

It's not whether you win or lose that matters after all. It's how you play the game that counts!



At right: "Footloose" was the theme for the junior's second-place float.

At right, below: The seniors created an "ET" float for homecoming.

Above: Left to right: Seniors Christian Pedersen, DJ Buzzard, Keegan Reed, Matt Colvig and Jose Soto-Gonzalez.



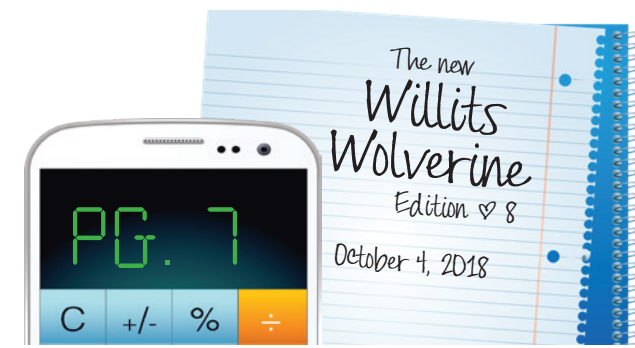
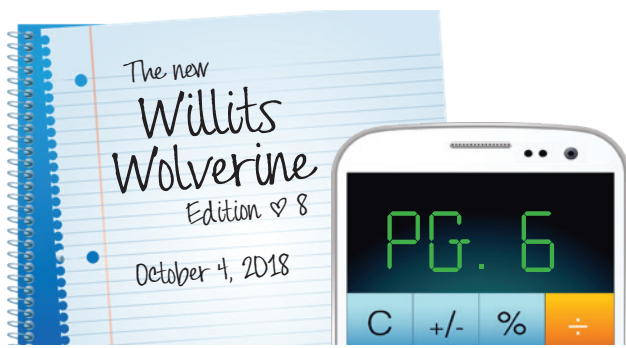
Above: Junior Princess Nayeli Rodriguez and Prince Craig Stewart are shuttled in an elegant Mercedes.



At left: Some alumni from the class of 1988 with their beloved mascot, the WHS Wolverine! Above, left: Grand Marshall Karen Thiel and Athlete's Choice Jim Schroeder lead the homecoming parade. Above, right: Freshmen Princess Destiny Laurent and Prince Cody Escobedo smile at onlookers. Below: Freshmen sport red for Spirit Day.



Above: The WHS band and the BGMS eighth grade band joined forces to lift the spirits of all who attended the homecoming football game: First row, Miss Doorty, Mr. Olds, Kyra Gibbons, JD Heathcock and Alex Cesena. Second row: Alexis Zynda, Kate Austin, Michael Kale, Java Cash, Isabel Mandujano and Katie Williams. Third row: Cecilia Cramer, Jason Cox, Christian Tara, Isabel Lopez-Lara, Bernardo Lopez and Remy Cottrell. Fourth row: Melody Leon, Jensen Steele-Marbury, John Foucault, Owen Sabastian and Jon Dyer. At left, above: Wolverine is a big hit with the younger crowd at the homecoming game. At left: Homecoming Queen Daisy Barrett and King Keegan Reed follow behind the Grand Marshall. Below, from left: Sophomore Princess Amy Andrade and Prince Parker Watts have a royal time. The sophomore class won first place with their "Back to the Future" float. Senior Princess Heidi Herold and Prince Jorge Carrillo ride in style.





# SINGING FOR PEACE

By Meghan Doorty

On Friday, September 21, the WHS Chorus performed at the International Day of Peace event at Recreation Grove Park. Over the course of a month, the 11 girls who signed up for chorus learned about their voices, how to sing properly, and how to sing in two- and three-part harmony.

The singers chose and prepared a piece in two-part harmony called "See You Again" arranged by Roger Emerson to perform at the event. After their very first performance, I asked students to reflect on their experience. They commented that they were nervous right before they were about to sing, but then afterward they felt proud of their performance.

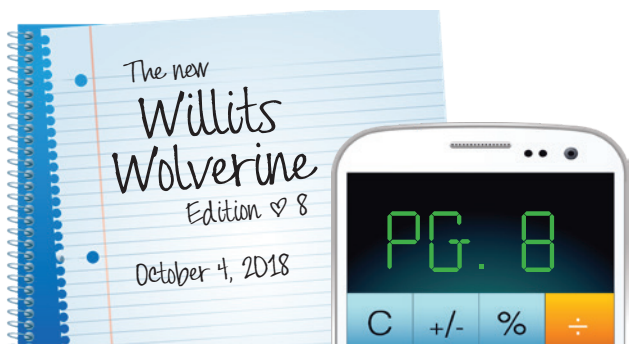
One student commented that "she had no idea how much impact their singing could affect people." The girls agreed that they are glad they had the opportunity to experience what it was like to perform before their formal concert at Hot Winter's Night on December 7. The singers are excited to learn more music, and those with performance anxiety are learning to conquer their fears because they are discovering that they love to sing and be a part of the chorus.



The WHS Chorus performs at the International Day of Peace event at Recreation Grove Park, front, Cecelia Cramer, Mia Jimenez, Kaya Clover, Emerald Waters, Miss Doorty, Rachel Woods, Hanna Corey, RoseMary Grieve and Cedar Lowham. Not pictured: Sakora Scott, Isabella and Nomiah.



Above, left: Kyra Gibbons, Patrick Leonard and Jessica Lewis show off their Peace Pastels dove drawing. Above, right: Drake Wisdom gives a peace sign in front of his Peace Pastels artwork.



CREATED BY WHS STUDENTS  
**2018-19 WOLVERINE NEWSPAPER STAFF**  
 AND WILLITS WEEKLY STAFF  
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Above, from left: McKenna McNally and Austin Sims plan to "burn up the dance floor" at homecoming. Cousins Samantha Miller and Hailey Vincent are going to prove that dancing runs in the family. Mandy Thurman agrees to go to the dance with poet Carson Miler. Below, left: Jessica Lewis couldn't say no to Lucas Branstomb's invitation to homecoming. Below, right: Emma Crowe and Taylor Campbell are "beary happy" to be going to homecoming together.



## POPPING THE QUESTION

By Amya Michels

When you read the title of this article, you were probably thinking it was about asking for someone's hand in marriage. Well, you're kinda wrong, it's about asking someone to homecoming.

Here are a few suggestions to get the date of your dreams for the dance. Strike up a conversation and don't rush it. Simply ask if they're going with someone. If they are you've gotta accept it; if not, then that's your perfect chance!

How will you do it? You could be like, "Hey, let's go together!" or you could be romantic about it, maybe make a poster, leave a card, give flowers, candy, or what about writing it on a cupcake? Keep it short, not too long, just a simple, "Homecoming?" will do.



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Melody Leon interns at Howard Hospital through the WHS Scrubs program.

The end of "Hospital" from page B1

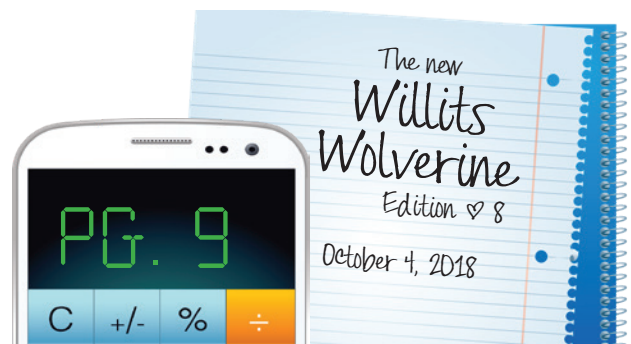
working in that field. She earned the chance to take advantage of this opportunity by maintaining a 3.5 GPA. Not only were her grades good, but she also had recommendations from her teachers. Through the WHS Scrubs program, Leon managed to become an intern at Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital. As a high school senior, she has a passion for wanting to learn more about forensics. Leon has managed to do over 250 hours and counting at the lab. "I feel motivated when I'm in the work environment," she shares, "and know that forensic pathology is the career I want to pursue. It's rewarding and worth it. "Additionally, everyone in the hospital has treated me like family. I have love and respect for them and their work effort. I am thankful for this opportunity and everything I have learned and continue to learn, including the opportunity to shadow a pathologist in Ukiah." After graduating from WHS, Leon hopes to obtain a job at Howard Memorial Hospital and to continue her studies in the medical field.

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Above: Matt Colvig and DJ Buzzard watch their marshmallow catapult across the room as part of a physics experiment.

Below: Ian Watson measures the angle of his spoon-catapult that launches marshmallows into the air.





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October 4, 2018





# HOW HIGH WILL THEY FLY?

A PHYSICS EXPERIMENT

By Mikayla Blake

In the Willits High School Physics class we just went through a lab in which we launched a marshmallow projectile at multiple angles to determine its maximum height. In the process, the first thing we did was create our catapult that we would be launching our marshmallow off of. We created the catapult using a pencil, spoon, rubber bands and a clip. After we created the catapult, we went into the auditorium and did a test run to see, on average, how high the marshmallow would go in order to make a more accurate hypothesis. Once we came up with our hypothesis, we decided to start the lab to test our theory. We launched the marshmallow at different angle degrees to test which one would give us the maximum height of the projectile. To do the experiment completely, we had to record the time and the distance across the stage. With the information that we acquired, we used the equations of a projectile to find out the missing components. We had to discover the initial velocity and use that in an equation to discover the vertical height in every degree. With each degree, we did three attempts and we had to find the average of height and time of that degree so we could have more accurate answers for the vertical height and initial velocity. Although we did all the correct procedures for the experiment, all of the groups still had an amount of percent error. Which means that none of our hypotheses were completely correct, but a few were very close. We did this experiment to have a real-life visual of how high an object can go when launched at multiple angles, in order to relate it to the equations and facts the book had given us.



Willits FFA attends the 2018 Redwood Empire Fair: back to front, row 1: Josh Betts, Beau Betts, Jacobi Smith, Kyleena Amador, Devin Heiken, Ryan Lacount, Lucas Branscomb, Demetri Nova and Bailey Ferguson. Row 2: Colton Doak, Skylar Arnold, Christian Erickson, David Mann, Alexis Reyes, Taylor Watts, Ryan Reed, Jace Kroh and Samantha Arms. Row 3: Jaden Doak, Ethan Ferguson, Cheyanne Paulson, Karissa Cornwall, Jasmine Mendoza, Ben Branscomb, Claire Case Brackett, Madison Forrester and Emma Garman. Row 4: Kelley Case Brackett, Jessica Buzzard, Collin Spackman, Taylor Drew, Jacob Arms, DJ Buzzard, James Brown, Danielle Barry and Morgan Riley.

## WILLITS FFA ROCKED IT!

By Claire Case-Brackett

Willits FFA was the second biggest chapter attending the 2018 Redwood Empire Fair. During the first week of August in Ukiah, 38 FFA members exhibited. The fair is for Mendocino and Lake county 4H and FFA members to show their animals as a competition. However,

only Mendocino County residents are allowed to sell in the auction. In the goat division, Morgan Riley won Supreme Champion Market Goat and Reserve Champion Doe in goats, Bailey Ferguson placed first in her market class, and Willits FFA chapters' farm goats

Finish "FFA" on page B12

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Above: The WHS varsity volleyball team visits the Whisper Halls Escape Room in Sacramento to work on problem solving skills as a team: back, Coach John Jessup, Amy Andrade, Kailani Newbern, Madison Forrester, Daisy Barrett, Aleen Hernandez, Edan Hinker-Tye. Front, Nomiah Britton and Lily Barrett.

## BUMP, SET, DOMINATE

By Aleen Hernandez

This year the varsity volleyball team has gone through various changes. We welcome our new coaches, John and Elsa Jessup, four sophomores players, and one freshman player. This season we have a young varsity team with only three seniors and one junior from the past year. On September 22, the volleyball varsity team attended a tournament in Sacramento. The night before, the girls went on a team bonding adventure to the Whisper Halls Escape Room to work on problem solving skills as a team. The room challenged the team to solve riddles and puzzles in order to unlock the keys to escape. In the room the girls were timed for one hour to escape. Madison Forrester stated, "I was really scared, but my girls helped me work through my fear." Unfortunately, the time was up before the team actually escaped. The girls endured four games before being placed in the accurate bracket. The tournament lasted for 12 hours and the team advanced to the finals. In the first set of the final game, the girls lost 17 to 25. Then in the second set, the girls won 25 to 14. On the final set, the teams were on a race to earn 15 points in order to win and take home the medal. In the end, WHS lost by two points and got second place in their bracket. "Even though we lost, we played with our hearts. Now we will come home and play to take the gold," expressed Amy Andrade.



## BOYS SOCCER

By Carolyn Bakewell

The boys soccer team is having a great year! They are currently in second place and are pumped up to give it their all to become the 2018 Regional Champions. Coach Saprina Rodriguez said, "These guys are great, they work well together and have impressive chemistry." They practice anywhere from two to five hours a day and they live and breathe this game. It looks like they are all enjoying themselves and have created lasting friendships. Come out and see a game, it's exciting and fun especially when the field is wet!



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# COLLEGE-BOUND? SEE YOUR COUNSELOR!

By Bob Colvig, Ed.D.

It's October 2018 and time for college-bound seniors (the class of 2019) to start their college applications. Start by scheduling a meeting with your high school counselor first. Most of the application deadlines this year are November 30; however, some scholarship application deadlines are November 1, so research due dates.

The entire college application process takes time and thoughtful reflection by parents and students. Communication with your high school counselor is essential. Seeking a high school counselor's advice and help, will reduce the stress and enable all to enjoy the process.

There are different terms used in the college application world, and the language can be confusing. Terms like ACT, SAT, SAT2, CSU, UC, A-G, AP, will have crept into our seniors' vocabulary by early fall. This may lead to more new terms that can be a challenge for both parents and students.

Students will be discussing essays, personal statements, GPAs, the FAFSA, CalGrants, My UC Application, Cal State Apply, the Common App, and needing an FSA ID. It's important for both parents and students to take an active role to learn what these terms mean, and keep track of the various steps in the application process.

When asking for explanations, a common answer we might hear is "it's on the internet." Just because it is on a website does not necessarily mean we understand it, or how to use it, or its importance. That is when we turn to our high school counselors for help with the college application process. From the development of

college lists, to completing letters of recommendation, listening, and guidance, our high school counselors will help our seniors submit their college applications.

For WHS students with last name A-I, contact Lucy Kyne at 459-7700 x1513.

For WHS students with last name J-Z, contact Nicole Burke at 459-7700 x1514.

*Important upcoming WHS events for seniors and their families*

October 25: Financial Aid Information Night at 6 pm in Room 33. FAFSA/Dream App professionals are available to assist completing the FAFSA application.

October 29: College Application Night at 6 pm in Room 33. School Counselors Lucy Kyne and Nicole Burke are on hand to assist with UC, CSU, and Common App applications.

November 26, 28, 29 and 30: College Application Workshops at lunch and from 3 to 4 pm in the WHS library.

*Plan early!*

My advice for seniors and parents of college bound seniors is to plan early: Make an appointment with your high school counselor. To all educators, thank you in advance, for all of your hard work.

Bob Colvig, Ed.D. is a former high school counselor and currently a member of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees. He currently provides assistance to schools, parents and students, through college application workshops. He can be reached at colvigconsulting@gmail.com, or through his website www.colvigconsulting.com, or via Facebook.

## WOLVERINE FACE-LIFT

By Carolyn Bakewell

Malakai Schindel, artist, musician and Willits High School alumni from the class of 1996, painted our new and improved Wolverine logo. You may know him as the conductor and singer on the Skunk Train who entertains passengers with his guitar, harmonica and beautiful voice, or you may know Malakai the artist who has left his mark beautifying our community by painting murals all around Mendocino County.

Schindel painted his first mural at Baechtel Grove Middle School under the guidance of Jackie Pealater, his art teacher at the time who sparked his love for the arts. When he arrived at WHS, he continued studying art with Kathleen Kirkpatrick, chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Emeritus who deepened his understanding and knowledge.

Schindel is inspired by Diego Rivera and Michelangelo Buonarroti who are two of the greatest muralists of all time. While still in high school, Malakai received a grant to paint "The Diversity Dragon" in the quad on the outside of the gym. "The Diversity Dragon" mural is all-inclusive," he explained. "It's about tolerance, gender identity, equality and religious freedom among other things."


The artist's other murals include St. Frances of the Redwoods and the 123-foot-wide by 14-foot-tall JD. Redhouse mural.

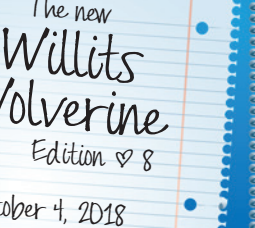
We are honored to have had Schindel create our new Wolverine logo and it's special because he is one of our own WHS alumni and a valued member of our community.



The new  
**Willits Wolverine**  
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October 4, 2018







# The Wolverine

VOL. XIX, No.3

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1977

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL, WILLITS, CA. 95490

## Queen Tracy will rule over HC



FANTASYLAND/ With the Seniors at the top of the castle Queen Tracy Persico reigns over the 1977 Homecoming with Princesses Emily Frenzel and Suzanne Tolman as her court, next in line is Cindy Marshall Freshman Princess and Junior Princess Dyan Smith, on down to Sophomore and Eighth grade Princesses, Liz Persico and Kim Barber.

Homecoming Queen for 1977 is Tracy Persico.

Crowned tonight in the coronation ceremony produced by the sophomores, she reigned over the rally and will rule over the events tomorrow--the parade and the game with its traditional halftime program.

Queen Tracy, a songleader this year and last, was junior class president, sophomore princess and a JV cheerleader.



Tamie Wheeler McGowen

Yesterday at 9:37 PM · 📷

Michael Colvig on behalf of the Class of 1988, thank you and WHS for making our Homecoming reunion extra special. The thoughtful details did not go unnoticed! Everything from the special announcements over the loud speaker, the 80's themed floats, the cheerleaders halftime 80's special in 80's attire and dancing to 80's music, the alumni cake - and perhaps most stunning of all was the Ghostbusters and Back to the Future Floats featuring specific, "Welcome Class of 88" messages, including a huge photo of our graduating class during our commencement ceremony! 🤔 I don't recall the name of the woman who introduced herself as the Leadership position but could you please be sure to thank everyone who took special time to make this night so special for our class and the other 80's classes who joined us. It was truly very much appreciated and we want to make sure you all know how much it made our night extra special! We had a great time. Thank you so much! 🍌💚💛💚💚



Above: The Willits High School Class of 1978 gathered for a reunion on Saturday, September 27 at the Willits Senior Center, including: Back row, from left: Lu Ramirez, Raymond Ubelhart, Gary Hoffman, Randy Leishman, Annette Hensley-Gamble, Debbie Aréher, Michael Horger, David Lamica, Glenn Casias, Terry Richards, Ron Prickett, Charlie Prickett, Tim Stranske, Craig Clatty, Connie Shannon-Perez, Tom Lee, Becky Cox-Bowlds, Carl Feldman, Alex Bowlds Susan Garcia and Fernando Garcia. Next row: Mary Hoffman, Scott Marshall, Steven Myers, Danna Cornett, Tami Wear-Casias, Annette Richards (behind), Betty Ford-Stranske. Front row: Jotham Fisher-Smith, Dan Swuster, Kevin Rini, Suzanne Tolman-Rini, Tracy Persico-Swuster, Kelli Johnson, John Kvasnicka, Yuko Nagahashi and Midori Hill-Feldman. Not pictured: Tim King, Ken and Barbie Svendsen, Bruce Holland, Gary Breen, Lisa Lamprich, Kathy Jensen-Branscomb, and Lisa Davis (John Kvasnicka partner)



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The end of "FFA" from page B10

were shown and did well. Jasmine Mendoza won FFA Champion Market Lamb and Caitlyn Forrester won Reserve FFA Champion Market Lamb along with first place in advanced showmanship. Samantha Arms and Danielle Barry won first in their market classes and Barry exhibited the Supreme Champion registered ewe. Claire Case-Brackett won Supreme Champion Market Steer and Jaden Doak won Reserve Champion FFA Market Steer, cleaning house in the goat, sheep and steer division. Coltin Doak won his swine market class, Willits FFA won Pen of three in steers and sheep, meaning they had the best group than any of the other chapters in Mendocino

County. At the horse show the week before, Samantha Arms won reserve 14 and over high point, Champion mare and first in advanced showmanship. Caitlyn Forrester and Samantha Arms both qualified for round robin and Forrester won first place while Arms came in second. Morgan Riley won the perpetual trophy sportsmanship award and Mrs. Brackett won the advisor of the year award. The Redwood Empire Fair was very rewarding for many of the Willits FFA members and we are glad that so many of us got to experience the great thrill. The hard work of many members paid off and stood out. Willits FFA rocked it!