

# The Paw Print

Wilsonville High School

6800 SW Wilsonville Rd.

Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Op-Ed

**The end of an era**

CREST's Bob Carlson goes into retirement as the farm makes changes

Student Life

**Homecoming Dance**

First dance for some, last dance for many

Sports

**Varsity Football**

No. 1 Wilsonville buoyed by sense of urgency

Academics

**New Teachers at WHS**

Wilsonville welcomes 3 new teachers this year

Arts and Entertainment

**Fall Musical**

Legally Blonde brought to life by the theater department

## Welcome home, Wildcats

By Aly Johnston  
Editor in Chief

Homecoming weekend here at WVHS has always been a blast. We kick off the festivities with an exciting homecoming assembly put on by our ASB, where students play games, rally with their grade and support their homecoming court.

After school, the Wilsonville community enjoys our infamous homecoming parade on Friday afternoon, then celebrates with students, their families and alumni that night at the homecoming football game. Then, after taking Saturday morning to rest up, us students put on our fancy clothes and flock to the auxiliary gym to party the night away at the homecoming dance.

This year was no exception. Wilsonville's school spirit shined at every homecoming event,

with students cheering loudly, turning out to every event and taking advantage of the fun opportunities that were available.

At the homecoming assembly, freshmen learned our school's cheer, a small but important way to welcome the class of 2022 into the Wildcat family. The students then celebrated each fall sport, cheering on football, boys and girls soccer, unified soccer, volleyball, and cross country.

There was even a surprise homecoming proposal at the assembly! Senior Cooper Mootz surprised his girlfriend Marri McCallum with roses and a speech asking her to the dance in front of the whole school. "I wanted to propose to her at the assembly because I knew she'd love it. She always thought it was cute when other couples, like Draco Bynum and his girlfriend Maddy Schmitt, had done it in the past so I figured

senior year was the perfect opportunity.", Cooper said of the proposal.

In the afternoon, the sun came out for the annual homecoming parade.

Each grade's stu-

dent council worked tirelessly to create their best "storybook" themed float. Freshmen put together a detailed and well built "Three Little Pigs" float, earning them second place overall. The sophomores

shined with their "Where's Waldo" float, building a scene with tall, lit up buildings that landed them controversially in fourth place. The juniors wowed with their "Alice in Wonderland" float, donning paper mache teacups and a checkered floor along with characters from the fairytale. The juniors broke their losing streak of two years, celebrating third place.

The seniors, however, were the main attraction of the parade. Their colorful, intricate and elaborate "Dr. Seuss" themed float earned them first place overall. Seniors dressed up as various Seuss characters, such as the Cat in the Hat, Thing 1, Thing 2, Red Fish and Blue Fish. Class of 2019 student council president Ali Nelson told us that "I think that this year was most definitely the most fun. We tried to just make it big and fun and happy."

At the foot-

ball game, the Wildcats crushed their opponent Forest Grove 53-6. The Cats came out strong, leading 48-0 at halftime. One highlight of the game was senior Kevin Burke's 55 yard interception that he ran back for a touchdown. Saturday evening's homecoming dance was the highlight of the weekend for many students. Boys and girls from every grade turned out in massive numbers to the auxiliary gym to dance and have fun with friends.

Many freshmen experienced their first high school dance; Emma Matthies told us that "We all had a ton of fun. For me and I think everyone I went with it definitely wasn't anything like what we were expecting, but not in a bad way."

2018 homecoming weekend was an all around success! Here's to an even more fun and exciting event next year.



Seniors Marri McCallum and Cooper Mootz together after Cooper's homecoming proposal. This was their fourth homecoming together.

## Wildcat football - an overview

By Brenden Ertle  
Staff Writer

The 2018-19 Wilsonville Wildcats varsity football team capped off their season undefeated in the regular season, finishing 8-0, sweeping their respective district. Wilsonville's road to unbeaten status wasn't easy.

They started the journey in Crater playing the Comets. A tough road win brought them back home for their toughest test all year to play Demontre Thomas II and the Churchill Lancers. Wilsonville's home opener was an instant classic. Jonah Gomez caught a tipped pass with seconds remaining to propel the Wildcats over the Lancers 57-50.

After overcoming their toughest tasks of the year, the team still had a long road ahead of them and a few roadblocks. After the Churchill game the Wildcats focused on their

defense; meanwhile the offense was clicking on multiple levels. The Wildcat defense bent but didn't break the first two weeks, but their goal was not to bend at all. They didn't want to give up a single yard.

The next three games against Cleveland, Hillsboro and Forest Grove, the Wildcats gave up a total of 13 points in that span.

Week six the Wildcats had to travel to Scappoose to battle with the Indians in a wet and muddy classic. Wilsonville didn't face any adversity the prior three weeks but were forced with some very early going down 13-0 in the first three minutes. This team has showed on numerous occasions that it thrives under adversity. They rallied and scored 41 unanswered points.

The team returned to Wilsonville 6-0 with a 41-20 victory. Wilsonville's defense shut down the

state's leading rusher at the time, Connor McNabb, holding him to 11 carries for 16 yards.

The defense has improved to be one of the best in 5A football this season. The unit is solid all around from the front seven to the back end, led by Kevin Burke and Trevor Antonson who have combined for 10 interceptions, most among any defensive back duo in 5A.

The Wildcat offense has been prolific since week one. Their offense is averaging 53.4 points per game. Star quarterback Nate Overholt has been as close to perfect as you can get. He has thrown for 2,209 yards and tossed 38 touchdowns along with a perfect passer rating of 149.

Overholt has arguably one of the top receiving corps in the state to sling the ball to - Jonah Gomez, Sam Westing, Zach

Rivers, Cade Edmondson, Isaiah Haqq, and Grant Irby - not to mention the two headed back field of Cooper Mootz and Trevor Antonson. Mootz has rushed for 482 yards and 6 touchdowns in only 6 games, missing 2 games due to injury.

None of this would be possible without the dominant play in the trenches. The Wilsonville offensive line has showed its worth all year long, opening big holes in the run game and giving Over-

holt a clean pocket to sling it.

The 2019 senior class is deep and talented, and most of the players have played together since the 3rd grade. The chemistry and dominance shows on the field week in and out. They have the talent to bring a state championship back home to Wilsonville, and there's nothing they want more than to have a ring on their finger. The senior class has been through a lot together - highest of highs and the

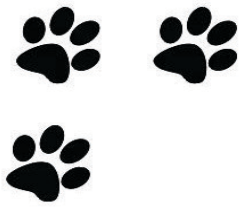
lowest of lows.

One clear aspect they've shown is that they have championship pedigree and strive to be the best. They have all the pieces in place to make a long playoff run with help from the best fanbase in the state.

Once the sun sets and the lights turn on in Randall Stadium, it's a terrifying place to play for opposing teams. The state championship comes through Wilsonville this year. Roll Ville.



The Wilsonville Wildcats getting hyped to run out of the tunnel to take down the St. Helens Lions. Seniors Kody Gray and Kalei Kauhi leading the 'We Ready' chant.



# OPINIONS

## Life in the Fire Lane: Extinguished

By Alaina Bekebrede,  
Opinions Section Editor

Curb, handicapped, and fire lane parking have all prompted the new system of reserved parking for this year's upper-classmen. The news of this dramatic change spread like wildfire throughout the student body as it was published to the school's website in mid-July. It caused a lot of controversy in the lives of teachers, students, and parents because it was a total shift compared to previous years.

This year's new proposal wasn't brought on by administration, but by the Tualatin Valley Fire Department. "They were here and said you can't park in the fire lane, that's in violation," said administrative team member Tate Olsen. Olsen inherited the parking lot situation as last year's was out of control. "The only way we could enforce the parking lot is through assigned spaces," he stated as he spoke of why this change took place.

When deciding who gets these coveted spots, juniors and seniors are the ones who are above the age of 16 and the majority have their license. It made sense that they were the only ones eligible. Initially, the plan was to open up parking for seniors only. Yet, there were enough spots to comfortably fit in a large majority of juniors as well. Unfortu-

nately, this meant that some juniors and many sophomores were left disappointed as they have to patiently wait until the next school year to be able to park on the premises.

The lots available this year are the Pointe, tennis courts, front, and Boeckman, which is partially shared with primary school. "The lot had to all be numbered so the teachers and parents (at Boeckman Primary) don't park into any student's spots," says Olsen. Over the first week of school, many people didn't realize this new system had taken affect. I spoke to Kali Connell (senior), who knows a thing or two about how frustrating the experience of people parking in your spot can be. "I was enraged. I was told to park in someone else's spot which wouldn't help anything. Nothing ever happened to the person who parked into my spot." Fortunately, most of these problems have been smoothed out over the first quarter.

Many people are wondering how the administration navigates choosing who gets the most desirable spots. "We let kids pick an area, and then track who wanted what, then follow the order of when the sheets came in. Everyone before August 18th got their first choice," Olsen says. It was a little easier than expected to assign spots because everyone initially thought that the Pointe spots would be gone first. However, "there are people that had their first choice spots in all of the different parking lots," which made it simple to give students a spot. This was a little different than what was initially expected.



Overview Image of the Pointe parking lot at Wilsonville High School  
Photo by TJ Hagen

Originally, the plan was for the seniors to get their first choices and then for the juniors to get whatever is leftover. However, many parents and students complained over this decision which made the assignments, more or less, first come, first serve.

Despite the exclusion of sophomores and some juniors, many people are excited to finally have an organized system where it's not just a game of musical cars. People are now guaranteed their own nook in the parking lot. Yet, this won't always be the case due to the growing class sizes and the addition of new schools to the district.

Talks of improving this new system are already underway as administration prepare for the next year. A new digital option could be available where people choose their spot rather than be assigned to it. Although this would be a

great idea, people are still going to get turned away for spots as the class sizes continue to grow. Not only in Wilsonville, but the entire Portland Metro area has undergone some major growing plans during the last couple of years and this is just another side effect. The freshman class is already at 340 students, well above the 283 spots available now. Sadly, the number of spots aren't going to increase anytime soon.

Believe it not, Wilsonville High School has more parking on-site than West Linn High School and other Portland schools that have more students body than our school. Changing to this system was relatively painless as most of the students know how much of an improvement in both efficiency and safety the system has provided.

"Now everyone knows it's re-

served and people are going to know it's going to change a little bit, we're looking at doing parking in the spring or in the summer again. If we can set this as the precedent and as the culture that we only have this many spaces, then we will get better at the process to get in those spaces," says Olsen. "We're going to have to tell people every year that they won't have a spot".

The bottom line is that the school and students are going to have to work more cohesively in order to get students to and from school. We're looking to West Linn to get advice for this growing issue, as they have had this problem for years. Wilsonville is headed in the right direction under this new system of reserved parking. Future seniors and juniors, look out for information this spring about the upcoming system so you can guarantee yourself one of these 283 coveted spots.

## CREST faces changes in 2018

Changes come at CREST as director retires after 16 years of service to West Linn-Wilsonville districts

By Gabby Leon  
Staff Writer

Anyone who has attended school in Wilsonville knows about the CREST farm. Many students have memories of field trips and also having internships over the summer at CREST. For those who haven't been to CREST, or Center for Research in Environmental Sciences and Technologies, it's an environmental educational center that engages students in science with a hands on approach. CREST leads students in the district in an active research and inquiry by engaging them in field experiences, independent student research, gardening, and service learning. CREST has been helping the Wilsonville- West Linn school district and community since it's open-

ing in 2001.

Recently, in an interview with Pamplin media group, Bob Carlson said that his last day on the farm is the 31st of October. This is sad news, not only for students, but also for the community. Bob Carlson has been in the district for twenty-seven years, working as a teacher, environmental science educator, and the director at CREST. He has led multiple summer and environmental programs. Carlson has brainstormed ideas to get students outside, taking care of the forestry near their schools, and helping out on the farm. The information and inspiration that Carlson provided during his years at CREST has been invaluable, not only to the students, but also to the community as a whole.

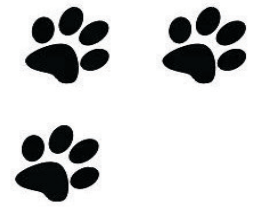
A staple piece of CREST is also undergoing changes in the 2018-19 school year. The 10-acre farm

will be cut down as it will be the site of a future school, allowing for more growth.

The school district still hasn't decided on who exactly is going the fill the shoes of Carlson at CREST. However, one major change that is taking place is the division of the duties of Carlson's old job. Instead of having one major position, there are three subdivisions of the job; there will be a science instructional coordinator, school garden coordinator, and a CREST internship coordinator. As many of us have fond memories of CREST farm, we all wish the best to Bob Carlson and are grateful for his amazing work he has done with CREST. We hope that CREST will continue to be a beacon for environmental science and a place for kids and the community to learn through this fun, free opportunity into science inquiry.



Entrance to CREST Farms on Wilsonville Road  
Photo by Alaina Bekebrede



## Visual Arts: are they as important as performing arts?

By Peyton Butler  
Staff Writer



Student art gallery located in the visual arts classroom. Photo by Peyton Butler

At Wilsonville High School, the student body prides themselves on their art departments. Wilsonville has a fantastic arts program, that many students dedicate a lot of their time towards. Wilsonville has many wonderful visual arts programs: fine arts, photography, and graphic arts. They also have extraordinary performing arts programs, like band, choir, and theatre. A vast majority of students feel that each department is just as valuable as any other.

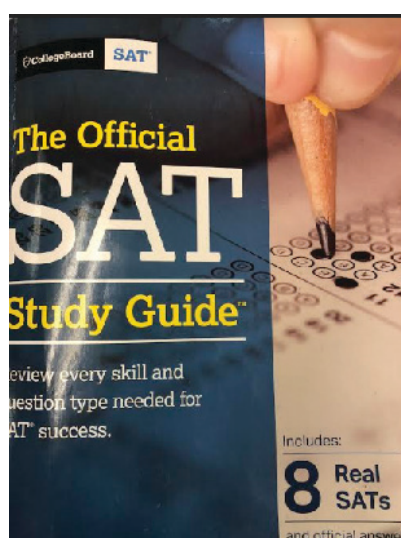
Freshman Anna Stanley, an Art I student, feels that classes in fine arts are very beneficial to students not only for skills in visual arts, but in performing arts as well. Stanley is not only an Art I student, but is also a part of the cast of Wilsonville's fall show, *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. Stanley states, "I think that visual arts do help with performing arts greatly because, it made me a more creative and sensitive person." Stanley feels that art classes should be just as crucial as performing arts classes because, "Someone could probably only name one visual artist per every 10 musical artists. As much as music is important, visual art is just as important."

John Cramer, a Junior, is a student in Men's Choir. He made the switch to choir after many years of band as an Alto Saxophone player. After his first solo at the Fall Choir concert, he had this to say about his choir experience so far, "It was challenging making the switch from band to choir because I never did choir in middle school, and I felt behind. But the choir community is so supportive.

I believe everybody should try it out. It is an awesome community and it really helps me speak out." Cramer feels that choir has really helped him grow this year.

Senior, Mackenzie Bodyfelt, feels that no one should feel tied down to just one area of art. "I definitely think that visual arts are just as important as performing arts. Each area of art offers students a unique skill that is just as important as the others." Bodyfelt takes part in many different arts departments, she is an AP Art student, as well as the stage manager for the fall musical. Bodyfelt feels that visual arts classes help students build problem solving skills, and their own individual sense of voice.

Overall students feel that their involvement in the arts departments is very beneficial. No matter what department they're involved in, they feel participating in the arts has helped for the better.



SAT study book. Photo by Zoe Lyons

## Should standardized testing be mandatory for every student?

By Grace Yaso  
Academics Section Editor

Standardized testing. Just the thought of these two words sends students into a frenzy of stress and anxiety. Although these feelings may not be echoed in every student, the vast majority of students agree that standardized testing is definitely not the highlight of their year. High schools will not permit students to graduate if they do not pass their standardized testing in math and English. Moreover, colleges require standardized testing in order to admit students into their schools. Sadly, these testing results do not allow a student to grow into their full potential. These tests destroy the joy of learning and have students always preparing for the next test or exam. What happens to those who are geniuses in their work but cannot show it because they are bad test-takers? Standardized testing should not be utilized because it does not benefit students and puts some at a great disadvantage.

In 2001, the No Child Left Behind Act became a law. Through this act, federal education programs could be authorized through the states. In 2002, however, the law was reorganized to state that students in grades 3-8 and in high school were to be tested in both math and English. The purpose for this act was to close the unfair education gap between students across the country and to promote healthy educational growth. The measure to which states are held liable for students' developmental progress is through a system called the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). This system measures whether or not a school or school district has met the required growth levels for that year. This information comes mainly through standardized testing. According to a statistic from *The Atlantic*, in 2006, five years after the No Child Left Behind law was passed, the percentages of public schools that did not meet the AYP standard was 26%. Sadly, by 2011, the number had almost doubled to 48%. This meant that 48% of public schools nationwide were not meeting the necessary requirements. This was after the standardized tests had become mandatory in the school system. This shows that standardized testing does not help a student to succeed. In fact, it may be partially responsible for the failure to meet the AYP standard. Although some can state that standardized tests are detrimental to students, it is not only people who are outside of the

school realm who believe this. In fact, many teachers agree that standardized testing is not beneficial to students' educational growth. According to the National Education Association, 70% of educators do not believe that standardized tests are helpful to students to achieve goals in learning. These teachers realize that each student's need and style of learning differs from student to student. Thus, placing a one-size-fits-all test upon all students has teachers questioning whether standardized tests are truly beneficial for the students. The fact that the majority of teachers, the people who spend the most time with the students, are receiving red flags from these tests should be disheartening.

Students spend a large amount of time during their school year testing or preparing for tests. According to a study conducted by the Council of Great City Schools, the average junior in high school spends about 22 hours of their school year in testing alone. This does not account for the countless hours of test preparation that is required beforehand. However, high school students are not the only ones to spend these hours studying for and taking these tests. Even third graders spend approximately 20.6 hours a year testing. The average student

will take around 112 mandatory standardized tests by the time they graduate from high school. These hours that are spent testing and preparing for these tests could be used in other ways that could help benefit the students. Although these tests supposedly help gauge where the students are academically, it usually takes about two to four months to obtain results from the tests. Thus these tests "minimize their utility for instructional purposes." Although standardized testing was put into effect to close the educational gap, the effects have not done so. In fact, they have widened the gap between American students and their peers around the world. Here in America, it is a test-oriented society. If a student receives an exemplary score on a test, then it would be easier for them to be able to attend the college of their choice, thus securing them an opportunity for a better job in the future. However, each student's need is different. Each student learns in his or her own unique way. Yet, we have taken that unique way of learning away from them and forced them inside of a box, which supposedly fits all of them. Standardized testing should be removed, not only to help students learn, but for them to push themselves to their own highest potential.

## The Paw Print

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Special thanks to Mr. Greg Artman for his amazing photographs

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### Mission Statement

The Paw Print is a student newspaper dedicated to producing accurate, interesting, quality news. We believe an informed school has major advantages in many forms of education. We are committed to practicing sound journalism and delivering the opinions and ideas of the students in a free and open environment.

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## Students find new ways to ask their dates to homecoming

By Sydney Jacobsen  
Staff Writer

One of the most memorable things that people look back on when reminiscing about high school are the football games, graduation, and the high school dances. Almost any parent you ask could describe the dress or tux they wore and who they went with. These dances are memories that stick with us forever, and some people have really stepped up to the plate to make these dances more special than they've ever been before. Posters, flowers and thoughtful gifts have become a new standard when it comes to asking a date to any dance. When September first rolls around, girls are already on a hunt for dresses and heels. The boys begin to panic, trying to decide who they should ask. When looking back at homecoming 2018, many people will inevitably think of the over the top class floats, the dance on Saturday night, and the football game. The Friday homecoming pep assembly is a time where students can get excited for the game to take place that night. It is also a time where the homecoming princesses and princes from each grade are introduced.



This assembly seems to fit as the perfect time to pop the question. Obviously, he didn't get on one knee, but every girl's heart melted when Cooper Mootz (senior) stood in front of the whole school and asked his girlfriend of four years, Marri McCallum, to homecoming. Watching him pull out a huge bouquet of roses

and talk about the 1,000 plus days that they been together was like a fairytale for many girls in the audience. While these kinds of extravagant proposals have become a trend across movies and social media, it's remains a huge goal that many girls strive to reach sometime during their time in high school. So what else were

the boys at Wilsonville High School up to for the first dance of the 2018-2019 school year?

Although Cooper's romantic speech was jaw dropping and beautiful, not everyone is able to steal the show at a school-wide assembly. With this in mind, there are still many guys who deserve some recognition for the great moves they pulled to get a date. Many of the senior boys came in ahead with surprise posters, huge flowers and painted car windows. Brenden Ertle (senior) pulled his 2006 Honda Accord to his girlfriend Sophi Heilig's house with writing all along the side saying "I didn't drive 3,200 miles to not go to with you... HOCO?" after coming home from Minnesota. While holding a poster up and smiling doesn't seem to mean much, many other

people also got very creative with these proposals and used it as an opportunity to give gifts. Ryan McCord (junior) presented his question on a wakesurf board to his girlfriend Lexi Edmiston, with a simple "HOCO?" written on the back of the board. This was well fitting for Lexi, who spends every summer on the water.

No matter if you take a Cooper Mootz kind of approach or a more relaxed and casual presentation, it makes sense to try and cuff yourself a date for the evening. With winter formal coming up on January 26th, you have plenty of time to start plotting your next clever poster.

On the left: Photo by Mrs. Heilig of Sophie Heilig and Brenden Ertle celebrating a successful Homecoming proposal. Brenden refers to the 3,200 mile trip he made from Minnesota to Oregon on his car windows.

## Freshman dedication

The Paw Print is excited to welcome the Class of 2022 into our school community. We are dedicated to telling the stories of everyone in our school, but, for our first edition, we are choosing to focus on the newest members of our Wildcat family. So many freshmen have already contributed to the "Four A's" - Academics, Arts, Athletics and Activities. The Paw Print is excited to feature some outstanding freshmen and show WHS that we are an amazing, well-rounded community.

## A new year of journalism

By Sydney Jacobsen  
Staff Writer

As of the 2018-2019 school year, Wilsonville High School has welcomed approximately 1,161 students, with 27 sports teams, and 21 established clubs. While all these numbers continue to rise, students are becoming less and less aware of everything Wilsonville High School has to offer. Daily announcements and posters around the school weren't

doing enough to inform students of what was happening. Starting in the spring of 2017, a small group of students brought sign up sheets to every classroom and asked if anyone would be interested in taking a new elective. After enough people signed the sheet, the Wilsonville Journalism program was created and launched last fall. Since then, online shows have been created, as well as a website and a print newspaper that have all worked towards informing students of everything

happening around the school. With many of the founders of the journalism program graduating in 2018, there were a lot of questions about how the next year would look for this new elective. Thankfully, it's doing better than ever. For this new school year, the Journalism II class has dived headfirst into pushing the program to improve in every way possible.

Just like last year, there are three main aspects of the Journalism class that are being done to keep the school informed: the WBN sports broadcasts that are done at every game, the two online shows, and The Paw Print, both online and printed four times a year. For weekly updates, we have pushed to get multiple articles posted every week on our online website. These articles look at everything from upcoming events to student interviews and editorials. Alongside these articles, every Friday on the WBN YouTube channel, The Wildcat Recap and The 97070 Show both air. The Wildcat Recap is an upbeat show focused around student life at Wilsonville High School, highlighting certain events that take place that week. The

97070 Show focuses solely on the incredible athletics at Wilsonville, both how our teams are doing and what games are coming up. The Junior Java, a new show started by Ally Finkbeiner and Meghann Yochim, just posted their first few episodes within these past few weeks. These videos are posted every Friday on YouTube. The Junior Java is a fun vlog styled show that focuses on anything and everything relating to different aspects at Wilsonville High School. By doing these shows, we hope to make it easier for students to learn not only about what's going on around the school, but feel like they are building a strong connection with the people here. This connection between students and the school is what the program is all about for this upcoming school year.

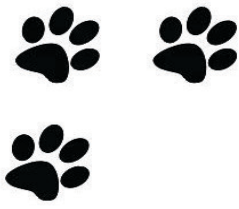
The journalism program will continue to push forward with new articles online every week, along with weekly episodes of the 97070 Show, the Wildcat Recap, and the Junior Java. As the community of Wilsonville continues to grow, our program will continue to grow with it. Each member is working hard to keep every student

in the loop and educated on what's happening at Wilsonville High School. To stay connected, you can follow the WBN instagram @ WVHSBroadcasting, along with subscribing to our YouTube channel, Wilsonville Broadcast Network.

*"For this new school year, the Journalism II class has dived headfirst into pushing the program to improve in every way possible."*  
- Sydney Jacobsen



Some members of Journalism II having a good time at University of Oregon's Press Day



October 26, 2018

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## Seniors take on victory!

By Jessica Caulk  
Student Life Section Editor

This year's theme was children's books: Freshmen took on "The Three Little Pigs", sophomores tackled "Where's Waldo?" juniors had "Alice in Wonderland", and the seniors took on Dr. Seuss. Each grade's student council did an amazing job on their floats, and the work they put into it really showed!

After months of building and attending meetings, all in the hopes of redeeming themselves from their freshman year float,

the Class of 2019 finally earned bragging rights to best float. Senior council president Ali Nelson was thrilled when the class of 2019 got 1st place, especially since there was a little bit of sibling rivalry this year. It just so happens that the freshman council president is Ali Nelson's younger sister Chloe Nelson.

The freshmen really stepped up their game this year, and maybe it was because of the sibling rivalry. Senior Ali Nelson explained, "Competing against my sister Chloe made us win. There were about 5 of us that had little siblings helping with

the freshman float, so seeing that they were about to beat us kicked our butts into gear." The seniors seemed to want nothing more than to win this year, especially if it meant beating a sibling. And that is exactly what they did.

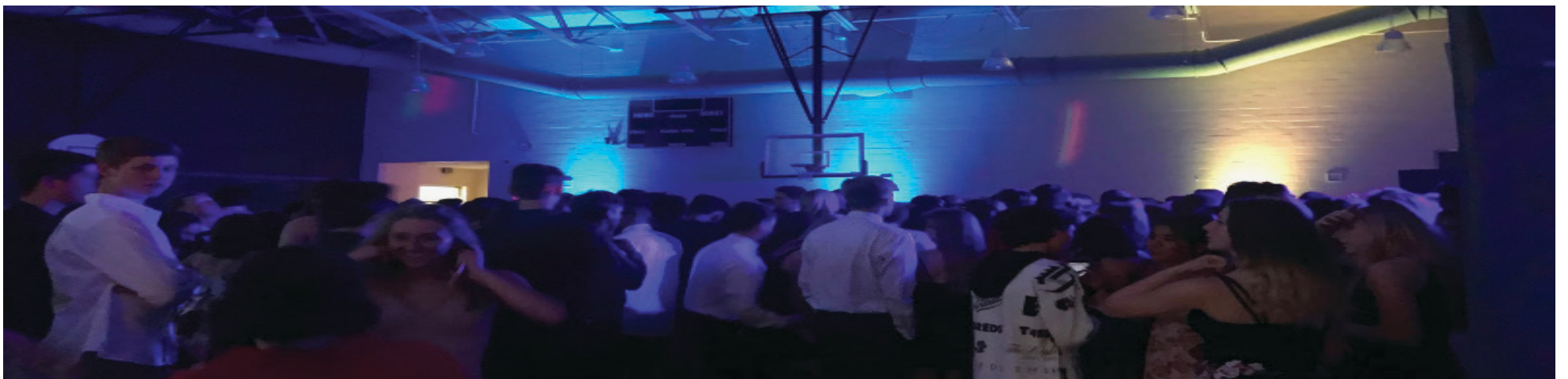
As fun as sibling rivalry is, especially if you're the one winning, it's always good to be friendly. Ali told me that she was, "Proud of what she made," and that she, "Kind of killed it with her council." So, congratulations to the seniors for winning 1st place, and congratulations to the freshman class were surviving your first float.



Photo of senior class homecoming float by Greg Artman

## First Dance for Some, Last Night for Many

By Melody Garcia-Gonzales & Aylenna Busse



The 2018 Wilsonville High School Homecoming dance was held in the aux gym. Students dressed up for the occasion and danced the night away with their friends.

Homecoming is a momentous event. For many, it's their first high school dance, while for others, it is their last. The 2018 homecoming dance was held in the auxiliary gym, where the DJ and lights were set up, anxiously awaiting the crowd of excited high school students to arrive. Meghan Barry, Kara Pugh, Araxi Tejada-Martinez, Noemit Reyes, Tatum Newkirk, Jared Wieland, Christian Aguilar, and Zach Geilmann, are all juniors who attended this dance. They had several comments to share:

When it comes to school dances, everyone has expectations: what kind of music will be playing? Who's going to show up? What is the set up going to look like? Most high schoolers have done things in order to prepare for this dance and most also have their pre-dance routine figured out. In order to prepare for the dance, Meghan said, "Well, I went to buy a dress [the weekend before the dance] with the gang." Araxi prepared the same way. "I bought a dress. I've got to look good, you know," she stated with a smile. Christian on the other had already had his outfit. He had his clothes already laid out and ironed. Zach took the preparation

process, "one day at a time."

Like most high school activities, no one likes to do them alone and this dance was no exception. Most of those who attended the dance went with a group of friends, a date, or with an imaginary boyfriend, as Kara opted to do. "I'm going with my imaginary boyfriend, he's perfect. And also with my friends, Meghan, Chloe, Jenna, and Juliette." Christian asked his girlfriend, Tatum, to homecoming and they went with a group of friends. Araxi said, "I'll be going with my boo, Noemit."

A little pre-dance routine that is really common is going out to eat before the dance. Since no food is served at homecoming and since most people dance, they leave the dance very hungry and decide to grab a bite after the dance. Whether it's before or after the dance, usually the restaurants become full of tired, hungry high school students. Some recommendations that Jared has as to places to eat are the Spaghetti Factory, P.F. Chang's, Sushi Ville, or Cheesecake Factory. Noemit recommends, "Dollar tree, just kidding, something that is not too fancy." When asked where Kara was going, she said, "We've [my

group] been trying to figure that out, but I heard that Red Robin is good. I wanted to go eat sushi, but my friends are uncultured swines who do not appreciate Japanese culture."

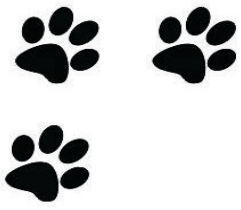
Like a lot of things that we look forward to, we always have expectations. We make scenarios in our head and imagine how they might play out. Meghan can't wait to "get ready with [her] girls and listen to some bops." Araxi is hoping "to find a man, just kidding. No really, just to have a good time." Kara says that she's "looking forward to getting ready, and hanging out with friends. I think that is what homecoming is all about unless you have a real partner. It's all about looking good, looking fine, looking fresh." Jared's expectations for the dance is to have fun with his friends. Zach looks forward to enjoying the dance and the good energy.

The dance itself had a lot of mixed reviews. Some say that it was fun and others that it could've been better. We followed up with Araxi, Jared, Meghan, Kara, Zach, Tatum, Christian and Noemit to get their reactions of the dance.

Upon arrival, Meghan got to the dance early, her initial reaction was, "Wow, no one is here. But then a group of senior boys arrived and it got lit pretty fast." Kara arrived at the same time as Meghan, her reaction was different, "Wow, these dresses are short." I was concerned for them, I didn't want them to accidentally show something that they didn't want to show. It took awhile for it to get hyped up, but once it was hyped, it was hyped. It was really sweaty. The entire thing was a lot like teenagers humping each other." When Jared arrived, he joined the dance crowd, his first thoughts were, "It's really hot and a lot of people are pushing." In order to have a great dance to remember, you have to have great music. Many said the music wasn't the best choice, but as it went on it got better. Meghan Barry said "A couple were good but during the good songs, the bass was so loud that I couldn't even hear my bop, Fergalicious. There were a couple of good songs in the mix of bad songs." In which I totally agree with her on this, it was very hard to hear the music sometimes especially with the bass being turned up. It wasn't just the music, however, it was also the crowd.

Homecoming is not too fancy, so the setup isn't supposed to be spectacular. Yet, many said that it could have been a lot better. Some suggestions for next year is to, "have some food, some punch, and live up to high school movie expectations." As for this is the seniors last homecoming dance, we should let them always leave with remembering a great dance.

Overall, the dance, as always, received mixed reviews from different types of students. For instance, Araxi said it was, "Crappy, I didn't have a good time." Whereas, for others, like Meghan Barry said, "I had a good time, it was nothing that I hadn't seen before." There's always going to be different opinions surrounding all school events; you can't always please everyone. What can be done is to take people's feedback and make improvements on the events, making them ten times better than what they used to be. Homecoming is always intimidating at first. It's the first dance of the school year, so sometimes it's difficult to know what to expect. Some dances are better than others, but all anyone is looking for is a good time, some music we can sing along too, and a night to remember.



# SPORTS

October 26, 2018

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## No.1 Wilsonville buoyed by sense of urgency

By Cydney Gutridge  
Sports Section Editor

The Wilsonville varsity football team has been the ultimate powerhouse this season in the OSAA 5A Division. Star quarterback Nathan Overholt has led his team so far to an undefeated season. Wilsonville will be graduating 35 seniors, and this Class of 2019 feels that they have something to prove in the postseason this year.

Two years ago, Wilsonville made it to the State Championship Game and lost in a heartbreaker to the Lebanon Warriors. Last year, the Wildcats had another amazing season but came up just short again in the semi-final game, losing to the Hermiston Bulldogs. This year the Wildcats are more hungry than ever for a state title and the championship ring. Isaiah Haqq says, "This year we're not selling ourselves short and we're going to take it

one game at a time to achieve our goal of winning state." Early in the season Wilsonville took on the Churchill Lancers—ranked first in the OSAA coaches poll—at Randall Stadium. The Wildcats brought in one of their largest crowds and the fans were louder than ever. It was a neck and neck game right until the final seconds of play. A Churchill defender tipped a pass intended for senior Sam Westing, which was then snagged with cat-like reflexes by senior Jonah Gomez in the end zone to win the game.

The seniors all agree "This game was unforgettable." Wilsonville will play their final league game of the season Friday, October 19th against the Wilson Trojans. The Wildcats have been preparing for the most important games of the season: the playoffs. Nate Overholt explains, "We're taking every game and practice seriously and trust that

by taking things one day at a time, we will reach our goal." Many of the seniors have the same mindset going into the postseason. Kalei Kauhi, linebacker, says "I try to get better every day as well as try to help my team-



Photo from Greg Artman of a couple of seniors in the locker room with their football gear on

mates out as much as I can." The 5A West Special District 1 has not been extremely competitive so far this

season, so practices are extremely important to Wilsonville to make up for their weak le

## Samantha Prusse strives for excellence

By Cydney Gutridge  
Sports Section Editor

Competing as one of the best runners in the state, a junior at Wilsonville High School has achieved great success, but is still hungry for more. Prusse exemplifies the aspects of a picture perfect student athlete. She has participated in varsity athletics in cross country and track for the past three years, as well as maintaining an excellent academic standing.

As a freshman, she qualified for the state track meet in three events. She placed as one of the top eight runners in the state in the 1500 meter race. In cross country, she was all-state top 20 and broke 20 minutes in the 5000 meter race. It was a really strong overall showing for the year as just a freshman.

During her sophomore year, Prusse won both the 800 and 1500 meter race in the Northwest Oregon Conference (NWOC), advancing to the state meet for the second year in a row. This time around, she placed 4th in the 800 meter race and 5th in the 1500 meter race at state. In cross country, she won districts and placed 15th at state. However, Prusse believes, "I could have done way better at state; I let people pass me up and it was just a bad day for me."

But Samantha's accom-



plishments do not end there. She has competed in four cross country meets so far this school year. In the NWOC Preview Race, she placed first in the 5k, breaking her personal record of 19 minutes. In the 3k, she broke 11 minutes which is also another personal record. Prusse's times and placings

make her a competitor for state title. Planning for this season, Samantha asserts, "I want to get at least 18:30 for the 5k and get top three at state." Prusse has modified her racing strategy. She explains "I've been starting to go fast at the beginning of the race to be with the fast people instead

of working up to them. I have gotten faster so I can run with them and not behind them, which have helped me run a faster race."

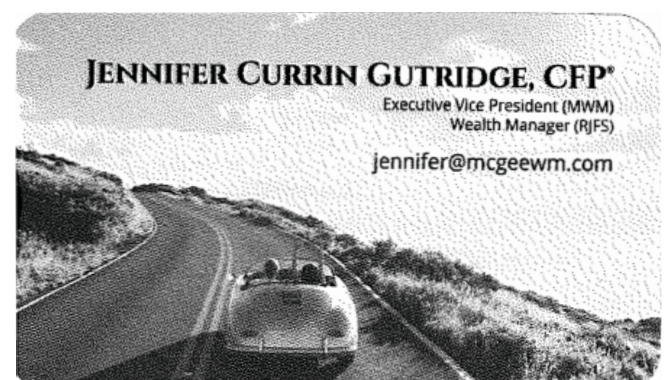
Samantha's favorite race is the 4 by 400 meter race because it takes some of the individual pressure off. She also said that winning or setting a personal record in this race feels more rewarding because it can be achieved as a team and they can celebrate together as one.

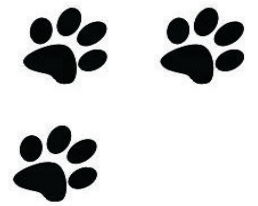
Samantha believes that running has positively impacted her life in ways she did not expect

Photo on the left: Junior, Sam Prusse (on the right) and Freshman, Gabby Prusse (on the left) pose with the 2018 NWOC Cross Country trophy.

or predict. Running has taught her how to strive for what she believes in, even if it seems impossible. Through overcoming injuries to putting in a lot of extra time, Samantha has learned that it is well worth the commitment needed to excel at this sport. Running has brought Samantha great friendships outside of school and sports. She hopes to pursue her childhood dream of continuing her running career after high school.

The numbers are evident, with Samantha's continuous hard work and success in the classroom, she has an extremely bright future to look forward to





## Fab Freshman Four

By Kali Connell  
Staff Writer

The Wildcat's girls soccer team have been hard at work since mid-June and have not slowed down one bit. Preseason was a bit of what kids nowadays would call a "grind" playing tough 6A teams; however those losses have not carried over into their league play whatsoever. The team as a whole unit have put in a tremendous effort, but the 'Fab Four Freshman' contributions have not gone unnoticed. Karina Borgen, Dalton Mermis, Katelyn McDougal, and none other than Lindsey Antonson have dominated all season long. With regular season coming to a close, they have shared with me their experiences thus far with varsity and some improvements we could expect from them and the team in the future.

Playing at a varsity level at such a young age often doesn't happen naturally; these four have prepared in numerous ways to earn their spot as well as become the players they are today. Katelyn, Karina, Lindsey, and Dalton participated in year round/club soccer the majority of their pre-high school career. Jumping on to a new team after being with the same girls for years can be a difficult transition. To help inaugurate the team chemistry, the Lady Cats competed in dual tournaments

this summer. Lindsey Antonson explains, "I play club so that helped me prepare I suppose. But we also played in the summer with the high school team a bit to help get ready for the season". The team displayed their dominance making it to the championship for one of the two tournaments, exhibiting what future competitors could look forward to.

What a season the cats have held thus far! Competitors have been unable to hold embankment against our mighty Cats. With success comes great fun for the Lady Cats this year; 9th grader Katelyn McDougal says one of the best things about being on varsity is the, "pre-game rituals we do because everyone gets in the right mindset and prepared for each game". Before every match you can hear the girls from miles away jamming out to their pre-game pump up playlist in the locker room, showing off their hype to anyone near. The four disclosed that as intimidating as it may seem to be playing with amazing upperclassmen, they make the experience so much more memorable. Midfielder Karina Borgen shares, "I love being able to get closer with girls I would never have talked to. Also, the soccer is so much more fun!".

Intimidation strikes opposing teams when the Fab Four step foot on the field. Lindsey Antonson holds the lead for goals



on the team and is on track for a school record! Scoring in every game thus far in the season, she fears no defender and plans to keep the action coming. Karina Borgen also holds goal points

the center field sternly. Katelyn and Dalton are a part of Wilsonville's strong defense, holding a glue in place, letting few to no balls through. These ladies plan to progress their play the rest of the season and future years--with

playoffs looking good in Wilsonville's view, they are excited to see what the forthcoming holds! Catch the girls at their next home game and don't forget to cheer for the Fab Four Freshmen, go Cats!

## Volleyball: undefeated league champs

By Sabyn Thoun  
Backpage Editor

The Lady Wildcats have demolished their way through league. They gave up one set to the strong La Salle Falcons on their home court the second run through league. They easily beat

the Falcons in three sets playing them previously at home in the first run through league. The Falcons were the only team in the 5A Northwest Oregon Conference league that was able to give these Wildcats a run for their money.

This year the team has four graduating seniors. They will lose two of their middle hitters, a defensive player, and a setter-- however most of the starting lineup remains on the team as the Wildcat volleyball team has a very young roster.

Meredith Thomas is one of the senior middle hitters for the Wildcats. Meredith has played volleyball for six years and has loved every minute of this season. Her favorite memory was beating West Linn in three sets. She plans to study business administration after high school.

Emily Scanlon is the Wildcats other senior middle hitter. She has also played volleyball for six years. Emily's favorite memory is when she transferred to Wilsonville, how welcoming the girls were and how close they quickly became.

Their senior defensive player is Delaney Dougherty. Delaney has played on the varsity volleyball team here for four years and her favorite memory is beating West Linn. She plans to attend a four year university and study pre-med.

And finally, the Wildcats senior setter is Fiona Kathleen Rose Showalter. Fiona has been playing volleyball for five years and has quickly found a special place in her heart for the Wildcats and Coach Nathan as well. She plans on attending Portland State Uni-

versity in the fall and will study English Literature and Language.

As we caught up with a couple of the Wildcats post game for an interview, Grace Thompson and Lindsey Hartford told us a little more about the success they have been having right after they clinched yet another win against St. Helens for the league title.

"We need to stay humble and remember that we can be beaten and not take any team for granted," said Grace Thompson when asked what being undefeated heading in to playoffs means to the team.

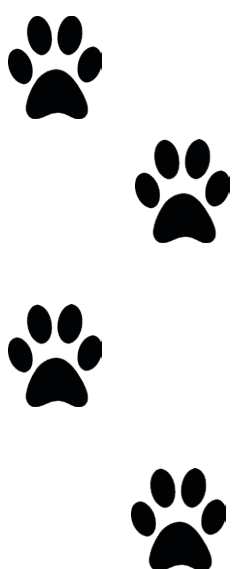
Lindsey Hartford added, "We have a really close knit team where everyone gets along and comes together with a common goal, and when that happens we are pretty hard to beat because we are all working together and all on."

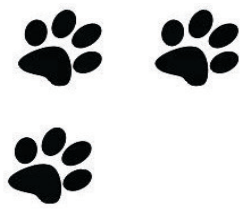
Their goal heading into playoffs is to not take any team too lightly and continue to work hard every day. The ladies have had great success this season finishing as league champions. They maintained a perfect record of 14-0 throughout the season, and they will head into the playoffs ranked number three in the state. They have secured themselves a home play-in game and a chance to head deep into the playoffs. These ladies have made the season look like a piece of cake.

The Wildcats will play their first playoff game at home on Saturday, October 27th. Their opponent is undetermined right now until the league standings freeze on Wednesday, October 24th.



Junior, Grace Thompson serves the ball in the 2018 Varsity Volleyball Senior Night vs. St. Helens. Photo by Greg Artman





## The PSAT: is it worth the stress?

By Ally Finkbeiner  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, October 10th, the PSAT was administered here at Wilsonville. This test is a precursor for the SAT, an important standardized test that most students take their junior year, in order to apply for college. The PSAT is offered to all sophomores at Wilsonville, and many of the juniors take it as well, along with a few freshmen.

You can take the PSAT once a year, and most students will end up taking it once or twice between their sophomore and junior years. It's a slightly shortened version of the SAT, with a few less questions in each section, and no essay, which is an optional portion of the SAT. Both tests have four required sections: reading, writing, math without a calculator, and math with a calculator. The exams are meant to test students on their academic abilities and college readiness, and they focus on material that

will be covered by junior year.

While in theory, the subject matter on the PSAT has been taught to students before they take it, the test is definitely not easy. Junior Jackie Foltz mentioned, "The hardest part for me was the math with a calculator section, because I had to remember to balance my time and answer every question." Other students agreed with this sentiment, and sophomore Grace Mager confirmed that the math was the hardest part, while the reading was a bit easier. When asked what one word she would use to describe the PSAT, Mager said it was very long, while Foltz reported that the whole experience was stressful.

The PSAT has a lot of benefits, especially for someone who is looking to attend college after high school. For one, it is a great way to prepare for the SAT, which is a very important part of the college application process. Thus, it's important to prepare for the test and to make sure

that you're ready for it. In terms of preparation, Mager suggested, "Get a full night of sleep so you don't fall asleep during the test."

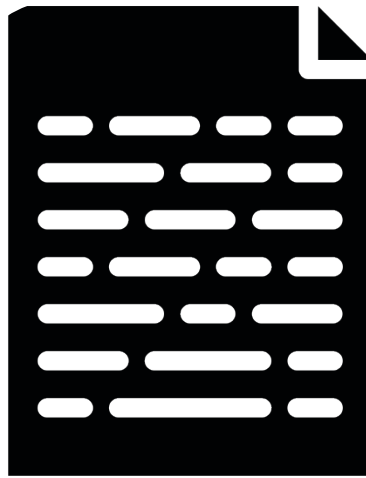
Foltz had advice for students taking the PSAT as well, and she remarked, "The PSAT gets easier every time you take it, so don't stress if your first try is not as good as you hoped. Also, never leave answers blank! If you're running out of time, just

bubble random answers so you have some chance of getting points."

For juniors specifically, there's another benefit to the PSAT. A select number of juniors who score very highly are eligible for National Merit Scholarships, which come in a variety of forms. There are different levels of recognition, starting with Commended Students and ending with Finalists. Along with the awards, many scholarships are given out as well. There are corporate and college sponsored scholarships, as well as National Merit Scholarships for around 7,500 students with outstanding scores on their PSAT. All in all, less than 1% of students achieve this, making it a highly impressive feat.

Even with all its benefits, the PSAT is not for everyone. Ju-

nior Ethan Gail opted not to take the test this year, stating, "I'm taking the ACT instead, so it's not really necessary for me." The ACT is another standardized test that some students choose to take before applying to colleges. The ACT is similar to the SAT, but it also has a science portion, which the SAT does not include. Many students take one or the other, but it is possible to take both, depending on what field of study you're interested in and what schools you're looking to apply to.



Created by Andrew Doane from Noun Project



## Wilsonville High School begins new academic seminar program

By Gabriella Leon  
Staff Writer

During the week of September 24-28, students at Wilsonville High School attended their first academic seminar classes of an early release day week. Each grade had a slightly different agenda for the day, but many itineraries overlapped. Each grade, except for the seniors, took part in a survey asking them about how they felt about school, what they've struggled with academically or otherwise, and whether or not students feel safe at school.

The Freshmen stayed in their classroom the entirety of the period and talked with their classmates about having a positive mindset. College was the focus of the Sophomore's academic seminar, and they discussed the then upcoming PSAT which was held at the school along with the SAT. The Juniors discussed academic goals and left part way through their class time to go to the auxiliary gym to talk about class rings and promo codes. The Seniors spent their pe-

riod in the main gym, where they were given the order forms for their caps and gowns. In addition to graduation gear, Seniors had the opportunity to purchase extra class accessories like customizable rings.

Academic seminars for all grades focused on creating a better school environment and preparing upperclassmen for graduation and beyond. While



trips to the gym will be uncommon in future academic seminars, students can expect similar workshops to improve the school's environment.

Photo above: Wilsonville High School pilots new academic seminar program. This is a time for students to get caught up on news around the school, (Photo credit: Ian Flynn)

## Freshman Spotlight: Reece Fitch

By Grace Yaso  
Academics Section Editor

At Wilsonville High School, there are numerous amounts of advanced placement classes that are offered to the students. As a student becomes older, they have the opportunity to take more advanced placement classes and have more freedom over their schedule. Typically, only a select few advanced classes are offered to freshmen, including AP Human Geography and AP Computer Science. However, there is a freshman at Wilsonville who is challenging himself with advanced classes and pushing himself to new limits.

Reece Fitch seems like a normal freshman at Wilsonville High School. He takes Biology, English 9, and band, as many freshmen do at the high school. However, his math abilities are anything but ordinary. He is one of only two freshmen taking AP Calculus AB. In the past, such difficult classes were never offered to freshmen; yet, Fitch is one of

the very few freshmen in the history of Wilsonville High School who has taken this class. When asked why he decided to choose to take the rigorous course, he replied, "I wanted to be able to push myself with a challenging course and I wanted to be in a class with my older brother Russell." When asked how he achieved this level of mathematical advancement,

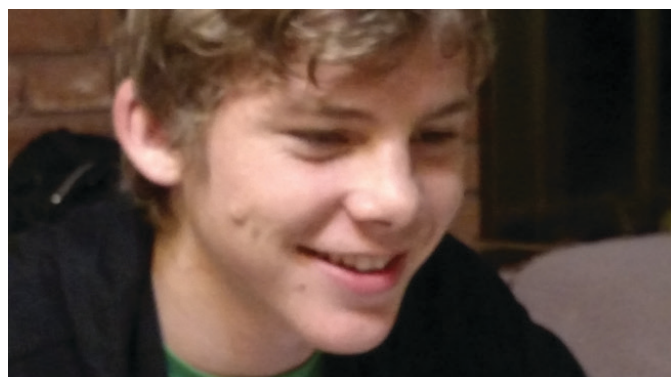
Fitch stated that his mother and older brother were responsible for helping him achieve this incredible task. He said, "My brother really helped me because he was always in more advanced classes than I was."

There are many advantages to taking such an advanced math class - for one, it opens the door to obtain college credit as early as freshman year. However, Fitch worries about an inevitable downside: "I'm excited to be able to take the highest math class that Wilsonville offers next year, but I'm afraid that I'm going to run out of classes to take." How-

ever, it is still an incredible feat to take an advanced placement math class in his first year.

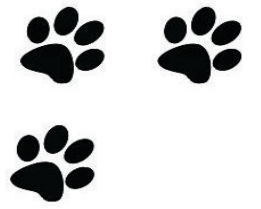
In his spare time, Reece enjoys playing soccer, basketball, and running track and field. He hopes to be able to join the track and field team in the spring. When asked about his plans for the future, he responded, "I'm not really sure, but I do want to do something with math because I love math."

Reece Fitch is a perfect example of a student who strives for excellence. He is a model to the students at Wilsonville High School. With his decision to take the difficult classes, he is pushing his limits and trying new things. As students at Wilsonville, we could all learn from Reece's example and push ourselves to learn new things. We should take classes that challenge us and grow us to be better students at Wilsonville High School and beyond the walls of the school.



Reece Fitch, a freshman at Wilsonville High School, demonstrates the aspects of a dedicated student. He challenges and pushes himself to his limits.





## Wilsonville High School welcomes new teachers

By Grace Yaso  
Academics Section Editor

For the new 2018-2019 school year, Wilsonville has added three new amazing teachers. I spoke with them about various topics, and their profiles are included below.

Juliana Ko



Wilsonville High School has a new addition to the English department, Juliana Ko; A Virginia native and graduate of both Virginia Tech and James Madison University. She has taught at both the high school and middle school level, but feels that high school is, "where my personality and the way I wanted to teach fits best."

Ms. Ko first became in-

terested in teaching as a child, "I would play school with my sisters... I'd put stickers on things so that's why I originally wanted to teach, because of the stickers," Said Ko. However, it was in high school where her love of teaching really began after being inspired by one of her teachers, who helped her through a difficult time: "My English teacher, through the things she asked me to read or through the discussions we had in class, she really helped me...She never knew, but from that I was like: 'Okay, I think this is the essence of what teaching is.' You can help students without even knowing it."

Ko talked about the newest piece of curriculum she is excited to be teaching this year: Persepolis, a book she was unable to teach before, because it was "too controversial."

Since moving to Portland, Ms. Ko has been enjoying what the city has to offer. She also enjoys playing disc-golf in her free time.

Whenever you have the chance, stop by Room 103 to say hello!

Michael Mitchell



Michael Mitchell, a graduate from Portland State University and Concordia University, teaches an assortment of grades and classes, among which are trigonometry and stretched advanced algebra.

In 1998, Mitchell taught mathematics at Wilsonville High School. He diligently taught for three years, until he left to pursue his teaching career at West Linn High School.

Although one may believe that Mr. Mitchell is a typical teacher, he has led quite an exciting life teaching abroad. Him and his wife both accepted teaching positions at an international school in Nigeria, where he

taught for three years. He originally taught mathematics and PE, while his wife taught Spanish. He was then promoted to be the athletics director of the school. After several years, he moved to Malaysia to continue teaching with his wife. Several years later, he moved yet again to Angola.

Mr. Mitchell is looking forward to teaching his classes this school year. If you have Mr. Mitchell as a teacher or even see him in the hallways, ask him about his amazing experiences teaching abroad! He will have some incredible stories to share!

As students walk through the halls of the school, they may recognize a very familiar face in an unfamiliar place. Ali Feuerstein, a science teacher who used to teach at Wood Middle School, has been welcomed to the Wilsonville High School staff as a science teacher. In particular, she teaches freshman biology and physics.

Although Ms. Feuerstein has taught in the West Linn-Wilsonville school district in the past, the transition from teaching middle schoolers to high schoolers is quite different. When asked about what her favorite part of teaching at Wilsonville was, she replied with, "The students." She is also looking forward to watching the students and fellow staff members grow as the year progresses.

In her spare time, Ms. Feuerstein enjoys hiking in locations around Oregon. If you get the opportunity, feel free to stop by her classroom (216) to say hello or to chat!

Ali Feuerstein



## How to apply to college without stressing

By Meghann Yochim  
Staff Writer

When entering high school, most students are grateful to leave middle school behind in the dust. Everyone is excited to be moving on to bigger and better things, and everyone is excited by the thrill of being able to say that high school has finally arrived. But, have you ever stopped to wonder about what's after that, what comes next in the grand scheme of things? That is what seniors are tasked with doing this time of year. That's right, you heard it here first, folks. It's college application season.

Every year the new graduating class sheds out of their old lives as juniors and leaps into senior year. Senior Sundays are posted all over Instagram as they prepare to be at the top of the high school food chain. It's all fun and games until at least one person realizes that it doesn't end with high school. Once this awareness sets in, so does the panic. Stress is the last thing a student wants when they are applying to colleges and trying to savor their last year of high school. So how do you avoid stress when making big decisions about your future? Good thing we've got some seniors on the inside to give us the full scoop.

Nathan Tidball, a well known senior due to his success in ISEF, pointed out something highly significant that many underclassmen should register. "Underclassmen," Tidball commands, "Pick one or two activities you find intriguing and stick with them! Colleges love to see keen interests with dedicated participation." Focusing on one or two things you love will benefit you more than constantly moving around. Colleges love to see students who are driven to be a part of something they love because it shows hard work and dedication. Freshmen, take this piece of advice spoken from someone who has been in your spot: work hard and stick with activities you love, it will assist you in the long run.

Now that we've discussed something that can be beneficial when looking at colleges, why don't we explain what a college application really is? Another senior from Wilsonville High School, Anna Sweetland, described the process perfectly. "Applying to college is basically having to dive deep into your entire academic history," Sweetland construes, "while also evaluating your accomplishments and then deciding what criteria you need from a school and what subject you want to continue to study."

It seems very overwhelming, and Sweetland even admits to feeling a little rushed herself, yet she also suggests starting the process early. Sweetland began her journey towards choosing a college back in December of her junior year, and she doesn't seem to be regretting it.

To conclude, our last but definitely not least senior, Dana Zaidan, depicts which part of applying to college was most stressful to her. She described her decision to apply to about five colleges after taking into account the number of essays required and her timeframe, yet she still decided that the hardest part was figuring out what to write about. "[It's] a matter of figuring out what idea is interesting enough and has enough information about it to be constructed into an essay." You have to balance your essay between writing creatively and persuasively while also being able to describe your accomplishments humbly, which is what Zaidan admits is a little bit difficult at times.

Even if you're a senior and your career in high school is sadly coming to a close, there is no need to get stressed out over college applications. If you're a freshman, find one or more things you love to do and stick with it! If

you're a middle-class-man, pull out a computer and start looking into colleges that interest you. There are plenty of ways to prepare for applying to colleges, many of which keep your stress levels down. Just remember: you may be applying to someplace that will affect your future, but in the end, it is you who will decide where you wish to go and what you wish to accomplish.

Dana Zaidan and Nathan Tidball, pictured below, have applied to many colleges recently. They're nervous for what comes next, but thrilled to be entering a new chapter of their lives



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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October 26, 2018

## Casa del Aves: art teachers wow with stunning shows

By Isaac Boger

Arts & Entertainment Section Editor

Department heads Mr. Shotola-Hardt and Ms. Escobar are not only gifted teachers, but amazingly talented artists. This year, both artists had the opportunity to exhibit their beautiful, and extremely personal, art at their own shows. Both Shotola-Hardt and Escobar's recent art is in many ways in response to rising sentiments of hate and bigotry towards immigrants and minorities; Shotola-Hardt's parents were war refugees from Eastern Europe during World War II and Escobar's heritage has recently made her a target for anti-mexican hate.

Ms. Escobar, who teaches Art I, Sculpture, 3D design, and jewelry, put her art on display this summer at Trails End Gallery in Chewelah, Washington. Her show, consisting of 25 pieces, took a year to put together and was titled "Casa Escobar."

Her show was brimming with family history and stories from her childhood, but it initially had a different focus.

"At first, my plan was to make a statement through my work on all of the negative portrayals of Mexican immigrants in this country right now, and the emboldened and underlying racism that is running unchecked in our government. I have been the recipient of countless micro-aggressions, including micro-

aggressions about my last name. So it started out angry, but when I began making the work it became this beautiful portrayal of my deep love for my Mexican heritage and for my family," says Escobar. Her original concept for her show is still apparent in much of her work including a painting titled "The Dreamer" (shown with article) which tackles the issues of DACA and immigration. In a time of political polarization, Ms. Escobar's art urges its viewers to empathize and be compassionate.

Ms. Escobar's process for making her show was very intuitive. "I did nothing but think of my family while I made this work. I let my memories, love, stories, and history guide me. A lot of the time I had no idea where the work was going, but it always resolved

itself and had this core theme of growing up in Texas as Mexican-American, and my family's history there and in Mexico. I worked on "Casa Escobar" for a year before I realized I was making a house of childhood memories," she reminisces.

Mr. Shotola-Hardt's show is

which I hope to engender emotion, memory, and empathy. I am deeply concerned for our planet's ecological health and future. Birds have always been indicator species for me — it is informative to track fluctuations in bird species populations, and changes in bird migrations and habitat

and playing music are what fill my cup up so that I can give, give, give as a teacher and as a husband and father."

Those who attend Shotola-Hardt's show might be surprised he didn't plan his pieces together with fellow artist Lauren Carrera. "Her interest in science, in environmentalism, in history, and her aesthetics were a great match for me," exclaims Shotola-Hardt. "I invited her to pick up the other half of the gallery when I downgraded from a full gallery solo show to a half gallery show. I knew the work would be compatible, but didn't know it would be excellent to the degree that it is. Everyone has said that it looks like we planned everything out together, when we were just both working independently in our studios and didn't see the other's work until we installed the show."

Shotola-Hardt is a co-owner of the Blackfish Gallery in Portland and has a large show for his paintings every two years. This year it ran from October 2nd to 27th and was a joint show with fellow artist Lauren Carrera. The two year rotation is the perfect amount of time for Shotola to create new pieces for his show.

"It takes me two years to paint a show. While a show is up on the gallery walls, I'm working on the next show. I never take a break, and why would I? Painting is one of the best things about living. Painting and composing

Both Shotola-Hardt and Ms. Escobar feel a need to address the problems they see in their community in their art. "The things I feel strongly about seem to be under attack nowadays: the environment (climate change deniers, global warming, and other environmental crises); the immigrant/refugee crisis / persecution of certain ethnic & cultural groups / human rights / racism & other types of bigotry and hatred," explains Shotola-Hardt. Art can be one of the most influential types of expression, and Shotola-Hardt and Escobar make an earnest appeal for changing the way we treat each other and the planet.



titled "Elegy for the Birds." While birds often find themselves at the center of his paintings, he assures that his depiction of avians are not scientific. His artist statement says it best.

"My paintings of birds are not field guide illustrations, rather they are bird-centric fine art works and portraits of birds in

## Photography - more than just pictures

By Finlay Dunn  
Staff Writer

The Photography class at Wilsonville High School is continuing its relevance and teaching of a variety of photographic skills in its fourth year under art, science, and photography teacher Mr. Hyman. When asked how to describe the Photography program, Hyman explained that it is a spectacular yet challenging course that effectively teaches students how to use professional tools and take pictures.

The program is challenging for two reasons, the first being that students have to be taught to use tools like Adobe and Photoshop, which are used by Mr. Hyman and other professionals. Hyman also said that these tools cause a steep learning curve among students and in order for them to make good pictures, they need to be able to edit and upload them. In addition, the students also have to learn how to use the camera itself. Students come into the class having only taken pictures on their iPhone, but, according to Mr. Hyman, there are way more aspects of a picture that can be manipulated on a normal camera. For example, part of the picture can be totally in focus and another part can be out of focus.

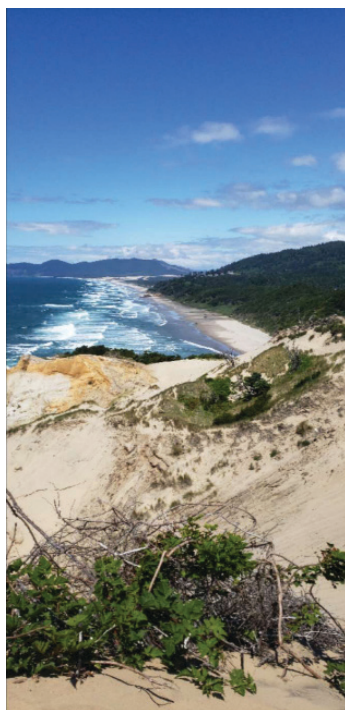
Additionally, Mr. Hyman also said that there are some students in his class that have a particularly deep interest in the topic, like junior Jackie Foltz.

2018 happens to be the first year that Foltz is taking the photography class, but she has been taking photos all of her life and she has always possessed an interest in the subject. Foltz says that she likes photography a lot because "I think it's interesting how you can portray scenes different ways." In addition, Foltz says she is interested in many different aspects of photography, but her preference is the nature aspect and taking lots of photos outside. Then, she said she uses Adobe to make the photos more interesting. Even though Foltz has taken lots of pictures, she has not yet put them out there for people to see. However, there will be competitions and art shows where the photos can be entered and shown off.

Despite Foltz's love of photography, she does not see herself pursuing it as a career. Yet, she was quick to mention, "I would really like to continue in photography," because it is interesting and a great skill to have.

Foltz is just one example of

many students at Wilsonville High School that enjoy and thrive in



the up-and-coming photography class. The photography program at Wilsonville High School is not only successful, but it teaches students how to use a variety of professional equipment and gives them tools to use throughout their lives.

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Junior Jackie Foltz loves taking pictures outside, as seen here. Pictured left is an image of Lincoln City.

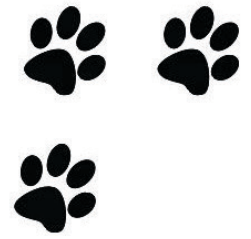
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



October 26, 2018

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## Incoming freshmen join the cast of Legally Blonde

As we roll into the new year the drama department starts on their first musical of the year: Legally Blonde. With the opening show on November 1st the cast has gone into full swing. Since the audition process actors have been preparing everything from their dance moves to their vocal cords. This year we have seen an enormous increase in students joining the drama department, this includes new students at Wilsonville. Freshman Jessica Hanson talks about her experience of playing a Delta Nu/Harvard student in Legally Blonde, "It's an amazing experience, you get to meet so many kinds of people who love the things you do. The

musical is such a fun show to be a part of, you get to learn how to sing, dance, and even jump rope!" Jessica also strongly urges her fellow wildcats who are interested in theater to audition!

Joining activities, like the school play, can make getting acclimated to a new school environment that much easier. Freshman Jevan Lundberg talks about the theater community here at Wilsonville, "You really feel like you are part of a family and they are supportive." Having a group of people that are interested in something as much as you, are supportive, and are always working as if it's a week before open-

By: Jessica Caulk  
Student Life Section  
Editor

ing show, makes our drama department very special.

Not only are the freshman of Legally Blonde working hard on the show for opening day, the rest of the cast is as well. The drama department as a whole has put a lot of work and passion into this play (as they usually do) and their work really does pay off!

Wildcats make sure to go support your fellow peers in their performances this year, not only to check out the amazing talent our school has, but also because of the work that was put into this year's production of Legally Blonde!

Opening Night is November 1st don't forget to get your tickets at [wildcatdrama.com](http://wildcatdrama.com)



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## 2018-2019 Theatre Season: an overview

Wilsonville High School Theatre Department has a busy year ahead of them! With three mainstage shows, plus competition showcases and one acts, students in the theatre department have a lot to look forward to this year. The three mainstage shows will be Legally Blonde: The Musical, Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare, and She Kills Monsters by Qui Nguyen, along with their competition showcase, Night on Broadway. Wilsonville theatre students are all looking forward to this year's season for different reasons. Freshman Chance Kirk has participated in theatre in and out of school for multiple years, but Legally Blonde is his first high school production. Kirk said he enjoys high school theatre a lot

because, "Everyone is super nice and supportive even though I am new. It's way more supportive than middle school ever was. I also like that we have more freedom, like a chunk of time before rehearsal starts to do whatever we want."

Students at Wilsonville have the opportunity to take an acting or musical scene to a regional competition for a chance to win ribbons or a spot at Oregon's State Thespians Competition. The theatre department shows off these scenes at their Night on Broadway. Katie Walter, a junior, is excited to be part of this year's competition showcase and Night on Broadway. "I'm looking forward to working on developing the depth of the scene or musical number I'm working on. When you're only working on one scene at a time, you're really able to analyze each

By Peyton Butler, Staff Writer

moment and bring out what was meant to be conveyed. You don't always get that level of introspection and purposeful thought with a full length show." Often, Wilsonville's winter show is a classical drama production, and this year's is William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing. The show takes a twist on Shakespeare's classical comedy by having the setting placed in World War I era Britain. Nate Rasmussen, a senior, says he is excited for this show because "It's being directed by Mr. Fitzgerald, so it will be fun to work with him for the last time in high school. Also, we haven't done a Shakespeare in a while, so it will keep things interesting." Period shows and Shakespeare are fun, but they can also be challenging, Rasmussen states. "From past experience, memorizing lines

will be hard. Also translating your character through the text is a lot harder when it's a language you don't normally speak. Letting your character come through on stage is a lot harder." The last show of the 2018-2019 season will be She Kills Monsters, which is about a girl who gets to know her dead sister through Dungeons and Dragons. Junior Samantha Katz says, "I'm very excited because the plot is nothing like anything Wilsonville has ever done before. It's going to be a stretch for us because we have to learn a lot of new techniques like stage fighting."

Students, such as those who were interviewed, are very excited for this year's upcoming shows, whether they are in theatre or not.

## Band and choir concerts to start the fall

Prepare your ears! On October 17th and 18th we heard from our very own choir and band/orchestra teams. Choir's night was on the 17th, and band/orchestra's night was on the 18th. These two nights were the first major shows that the two groups got to perform this year. The fall concerts is a big night for everyone as it's the first time that band and choir can show off what they have been working on all year. Senior Nate Rasmussen states that he and the rest of the choir team has been preparing for their concert throughout the past month of school. Rasmussen reported that the choir rehearses every 6th period which adds up to about 5 hours each full week. They work on their individual parts for most of the pe-

riod and then when they bring them together it turns into a melting pot of mellifluous harmony. Rasmussen stated that the kind of music that they have been working on thus far in the year has varied across a wide range of genres. For example, Rasmussen said, "My Soul is A River, which is a Civil Rights spiritual, and Let My Love Be Heard, a beautiful song whose texts come from an old prayer." Rasmussen describes them as having "a really powerful sound".

To learn a little about what the band and orchestra had prepared for the concert, Senior Nick Burrell—seasoned bass player—answered a few questions. Jazz band played some pretty unique and exciting scores: Beehive

By Ian Flynn  
Staff Writer



Jive, Cerulean Blue by Gregory Yasinitzky (professor of music from Washington State University), and Dat Dere by Bobby Timmons (American jazz pianist and composer from the mid 1900's). Burrell stated that each and every musician from all departments will be decked out in full on formal wear, so they all match as a unit.

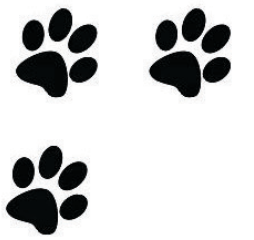
For the students in orchestra, they performed pieces such as Declarations by Jeffrey Bishop (composer from Kansas City with over a hundred works), Fire Dance by Soon Hee Newbold (an modern American composer and actress), and Gustav Mahler (Austrian romantic composer from late nineteenth century) Symphony number 1 movement 2.

All the music departments brought their finest work to these concerts, and it was a great way for them to start off the year. The music departments next steps this year will be to prepare their Winter Festival pieces so that they can be ready by the time the Winter Festival comes.

Pictured at left: Nate Rasmussen and Dawson Kennedy having fun after a performance. Both boys are enjoying their senior year as members of the choir.



# BACK PAGE



By: SabynThoune  
Back Page Editor

## CAMPS



On July 13th, 45 high school students and nine leaders met at Wilsonville High School. They loaded the bus and headed off for the best week of their lives- even if they didn't know it at the time. The drive was about three and a half hours to a town called Antelope. Once you get to Antelope, you begin to head down a gravel road leaving behind all cell phone reception for the next seven days. At the bottom of that gravel road you reach a place called Washington Family Ranch- Oregon's Young Life camp. That's where the fun begins.

Once you get off the bus, you are instantly greeted by some of your lovely work crew staff who will serve you during your week at camp. Senior Karleigh Goertz describes it as "The most excited I've been in while and already felt fullyLoved." Her favorite memory at camp this year was "Either

## Over the summer...

having cabin time and getting super close with all the girls, or the messy war games because it was super gross and we were laughing the whole time." This was Goertz's first year attending Young Life camp with Wilsonville, as she just transferred here.

Cameron Forsberg is also a senior at Wilsonville and this was his third year going to camp. The past two years Forsberg went to Malibu which is the Young Life camp in Canada. "This year at camp was very different compared to last year - it was a new location and a lot of new faces. The two combined for a great week," Forsberg told us.

## WORK



Many Wilsonville students worked hard at their jobs over the summer. We have students working in all different fields - some students worked in food, some in retail, some at golf courses, and some at coffee shops. We got the chance to catch

up with a couple of them and hear all about it.

First we spoke with Carly Atwood. She works at Langdon Farms golf course in Aurora. Her job there is to wash golf carts when they come in, as well as help out with different tasks during the tournaments they host. She said her favorite part of the job is, "The people and the atmosphere. It can be very stressful at times and very chill and relaxing at others, but the people always make it super fun."

Next we caught up with Karleigh Goertz, who works at Baskin Robbins. Her job is to serve people really good ice cream and occasionally make cakes and clean the store. Her favorite part of the job is "seeing the reaction on their faces after they get their ice cream and how excited all the little kids get for some ice cream."

Finally we heard from Gia Pritchett, who works at Dutch Bros. Coffee. Her job is to take peoples orders, make their drinks, and check them out. Her favorite

part of her job is, "getting to meet and talk to new people everyday and hear all the stories they have to tell."

The Wildcats have some pretty fun jobs. Make sure to say hi to them when you see the around - you never know what they could do for you!

## TRAVEL



Wheels up Wildcats! We had many students travel over the summer. They reached anywhere from different places in the PNW to other countries around the globe. These students had opportunities to see the world and experience things in a new way no matter where they traveled.

Our first student kept their travels close to home. Gracie Killelea headed a couple hours south to Brownsville, Oregon where the annual Country Music Fest is held. Her favorite part was enjoying all the amazing artists with some of her best friends.

Next up, Marri McCallum took a trip to Maui, Hawaii, with her family.

They were there for ten days. Her favorite part of the trip was swimming with the turtles. "They were really big and like nothing I'd ever seen before," said McCullum. She enjoyed spending time with her family and relaxing while taking part in all of the activities.

Lastly, Sydnie Jersey went on a mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico. She was there for a week with her church. While they were there, they built a house for one the families there. Her favorite part was spending quality time with the people she went with and getting to know them on a deeper level.

These Wildcats pretty much covered it all this summer. All these trips around were so fun and interesting, and we're so happy that our students got to get out and enjoy all of what this planet has to offer.

WHS  
Fresh

## WHAT'S FRESH OFF THE FRESHMAN MIND?



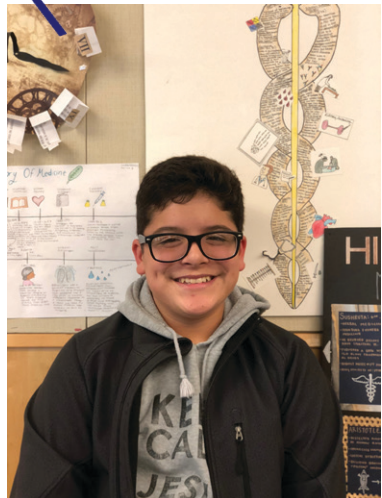
Freshman, Jessica Hansen

What activities have you been involved in? Why?

"I have been involved in drama club and I'm in the musical because singing and acting is my passion. There are so many wonderful people in the drama club and in the musical, it's just always a welcoming fun place to be."

What has been the biggest challenge so far?

"The biggest challenge of high school has definitely been the amount of homework I get. You go from having none in middle school to almost every night."



Freshman, Miguel Tejada

What activities have you been involved in? Why?

"I am involved in MeCha. This is because it's a movement for hispanic people like me, and the first meeting was fun so I decided to stay."

Whos is your favorite teacher so far? Which class?

"My favorite teacher is Mrs. Kub. This is because she made me feel more involved and welcomed when I really didn't know if I wanted to stay in choir. She made me look at the entire picture."



Freshman, Kaitlyn Graves

What activities have you been involved in? Why?

"I was involved with the drama improv field trip because I got to be with my friends, and I help with drama tech because it looks good on college resumes. I am also involved in the Women Empowerment Club and ISEF."

What has been the biggest challenge so far?

"The biggest challenge for me is staying on top of my AP classes and staying involved with clubs such as Drama, Women Empowerment Club, and ISEF."



Freshman, Max Bledy

What has been the biggest challenge so far?

"For me, the biggest challenge has been studying. You have to study a lot more in high school. I remember that in middle school you didn't really have to study a lot. The tests are also way bigger and grades are much more important."

Whos is your favorite teacher so far? Which class?

"My favorite teacher is Garcia because he is funny and relatable and I like when he tells us stories."



Freshman, Evan Storm

What has been the best part about high school?

"The best part about high school is that we have different classes, different teachers, and hanging out with friends."

What activities are you involved in? Why?

"I am currently involved in Cross Country because I enjoy running and I am looking forward to tennis season, because my whole family plays. Tennis is also really fun."