

# The Paw Print

Wilsonville High School

6800 SW Wilsonville Rd.

Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Op-Ed <b>Homework over break</b> Students weigh in on the effectiveness of assignments over break	Student Life <b>Female Empowerment Club</b> An inside look into a thriving club	Sports <b>Girls take third in state</b> Girls basketball beats Crater to take home third	Academics <b>Junior spotlight</b> Junior Jared Wieland is recognized for academic success	Arts and Entertainment <b>CCC skills competition</b> Students from WVHS participate in a local art competition
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## 5A CHAMPS

### Boys basketball team wins state championship against Churchill 67-58



Senior Zach Rivers defends a shot. Rivers said the win against Silverton was arguably the biggest win of the season because of the way they battled while making history. Photo credit Greg Artman.

By Finlay Dunn  
Staff Writer

The Wilsonville High School boys basketball team continued their impressive legacy as

they added another state championship to their belt this year. The road to the state title started all the way back at the beginning of the season with the Holiday

Inn Winter Invitational Tournament. The Wildcats were victorious in the WIT, winning all three of their games by double digits. Then the rival West Linn Lions

came to town, and the Wildcats beat the Lions in a highly competitive, closely fought battle. Many aspects were key to the victory including the hounding defense

by senior wing Zach Rivers and clutch shooting by Jack Roche.

**Continued on page 5**

## Girls basketball takes third at state



By Cydney Gutridge  
Sports Section Editor

The Wilsonville Girls Basketball team makes history placing 3rd in the state, this was their first appearance at the state tournament since 2012.

Held at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis, Oregon, the girls were ranked number one going into the tournament and fell just short of proceeding to the state championship game.

On Thursday, the Wildcats faced the Crescent Valley Raiders in the quarterfinal game. Crescent Valley was ranked number nine, beating the eighth seed to advance to the quarterfinals.

The Raiders gave the Wildcats a run for their money in the first half. They were able to rebound underneath and their shots were falling in the first half.

The Raiders had an impressive student section and kept Wilsonville on their toes.

But in the second half, Wilsonville took over the game and were playing very competitively. The Wildcats led for the majority of the second half and defeated Crescent Valley 60-38.

Sophomore guard, Sydney Burns, received player of the game with 15 points and 11 rebounds. The Wildcats advanced to the semifinals playing their rivals—the La Salle Falcons.

In league play, Wilsonville was able to beat the La Salle by 12 points on the Falcon's home court.

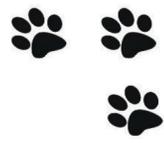
But, La Salle, later in league play was able to get revenge on the Wildcats beating them on their home court.

Therefore, both teams had to share the Northwest Oregon Conference League title.

This had been the game everyone was waiting for. La Salle had returned their star player, Alyson Muira, who has committed to play basketball at the University of Southern California next year.

Sophomore Sydney Burns takes the ball down the court. Burns received player of the game with 15 points and 11 rebounds. Photo credit Greg Artman.

**Continued on page 5**



## The Jussie Smollett scandal: who does it hurt?

By Isaac Boger  
Arts Section Editor

Near the end of January 2019, a news story broke about gay, black actor Jussie Smollett being attacked by two unknown attackers decked out in MAGA gear who were shouting racist and homophobic slurs at him.

The Empire actor claimed the two men put a noose around his neck and doused him in bleach while they beat him before leaving.

Soon after the story went public, members of the gay and black communities as well as high profile celebrities like Ellen and politicians including Kamala Harris stood behind Smollett and expressed their anger with the bigotry that lead to the supposed attack.

Over the next weeks the narrative of the attack began to shift. Claims surrounding the credibility of his version of the story began to circulate the internet and it became hard to decipher the truth from the clickbait.

New sites began claiming that the attack was a hoax

and that the police investigation began to shift.

After initially denouncing the validity of those claims, the Chicago Police Department announced on February 22 that Smollett was a suspect in filing a false police report.

Public outrage surged, especially from the gay and black communities for many of the people of Chicago were angry as well, the city is known for its gun violence and backlog of unsolved crimes and Smollett's charade distracted from real issues faced by the people of Chicago.

There was another unexpected source of outrage however, and it was from the president himself.

On February 21st, Trump tweeted ".@JussieSmollett - what about MAGA and the tens of millions of people you insulted with your racist and dangerous comments! #MAGA," obviously in reference to the fact that Smollett claimed his alleged attackers wore "make America great again" hats and shouted This is MAGA country.

By claiming that Smollett hurt Trump supporters by characterizing his attackers as supporters of Trump, the president started a debate about who Smollett's story really hurt: was it the gay and black communities who stood by him or the people stereotyped by Smollett's description of his fictitious attackers?

For Jussie's story to truly hurt Trump supporters, it would have to change the way the public perceived them.

During the month of February, there were number of cases of MAGA hat wearers being banned from restaurants and other institutions, that might initially seem like they are reactions to Smollett's original report, however a quick google search reveals this discrimination has been going on since the 2016 election, and is a separate issue.

The reality is that Trump supporters make believable culprits for the majority of liberals, even if these type of hate crimes aren't very common.

The fact that Jussie Smollett planned his own attack

actually vindicates Trump supporters who feel like they are unfairly blamed for racism and homophobia.

The real victims of Smollett's lies are the LGBT and Black communities. The fact that his case was so high profile and ended up being a hoax doesn't lend credit to actual victims or racial and sexuality/gender based hate crimes.

Smollett made a mockery of real life cases of assault of queer people and people of color which can even end in death. Every cases after his will be looked on with a lot more apprehension than before due to his lies.

Chicago is a town known for its violent crime, and a high profile hoax like Smollett's takes the spotlight from people and families that are far less famous but whose lives have been changed by very real and also unsolved crimes.

In a divided America, actions like Smollett's divided us even further. Because of his lies, cases of actual harassment and bigotry will become more polar-



Jussie Smollett, pictured above, has been in the spotlight recently.

izing and doubted than they ever would have if Smollett hadn't fabricated his assault.

When the dust settles, it will be minorities in America that will find themselves set back by Smollett's hoax and not Trump supporters.

## Should teachers assign homework over spring break?



By Meghan Yochim  
Staff Writer

Schoolwork? Outside of school? What a travesty!

Every year the argument about homework over break is brought up around this time. Spring break gives us the first taste of sunshine that we've had in a long while; most would like to spend it hanging out with friends or lounging around, not completing the seemingly endless assignments doled out by our teachers.

I brought up this topic with a handful of people with a variety of viewpoints, so let's see the pros and cons of this argument.

As a teacher of Biology, AP Biology, and Forensics, Mr. Schuster believes that homework in general is of importance for a student's growth.

"Homework in general is important. You're going to have that in life—we take work home with us. It gives us an opportunity to reflect on what we know and what we don't know."

While Schuster is a heavy supporter of continuing your own learning outside of the school building, he does believe that vacations need to consist of relaxation away from the stress of work.

Schuster chooses to only assign break projects to his AP class, but only because they're under the clock for their test in May.

On the other hand, Junior Maddy Weiss thinks that all work should be done in school.

Even if she does see the possible benefits and preparations that homework has to offer, she would much rather complete

all of her curriculum during school hours.

"There's so many things to do outside of school," Weiss admits, "and with that time I would hangout with my friends and spend time with my family!"

As for spring break, Weiss even goes as far as pointing out that it has the word "break" in it, hence it is only obvious that we must take a break from schoolwork during this time given to us in the spring.

In agreement with Weiss is AP Calculus, Advanced Algebra, and Geometry teacher Mr. Fowler. As someone who only wishes for his students to learn and understand the math they're being taught, Fowler only assigns homework when it's truly necessary.

"I quit giving homework because I think we can learn better in class, however students can practice on their own if they want to."

Fowler has noticed that when students are given a lot of work for one time period, they often resort to either doing it on the last day possible or copying from their friends, which he has deducted was not an effective way of learning the material.

Lastly, from Junior Owen Gail's viewpoint, just the right amount of homework should

be assigned over the upcoming spring break. Gail is a believer in balance, so ideally there should be enough homework to remember and practice certain concepts, but not enough to cause stress.

"I think a small amount of homework should be assigned over break for teachers who think it is necessary so you don't forget concepts and get useful practice," Gail reflects.

In theory, Gail thinks the ideal amount would be no more than an hour or two per class, maybe even less.

In the end, homework can be a great way to practice and study certain concepts that we may need help with. However, too much can cause a wave of stress and panic, which may even lead to procrastination in some of

us. All in all, if homework needs to be assigned during the break so we don't forget pieces of curriculum, it should be in small doses. This is because I would guarantee that most of us would rather spend time with our friends or outside, not sitting inside stressing over extra work.

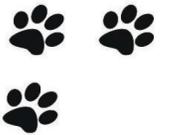
*"I think a small amount of homework should be assigned over break for teachers who think it is necessary so you don't forget concepts and get useful practice,"*

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## Is taking a free period right for you?



Photo by Sebastian Voortman from Pexels

By Zoe Lyons  
Staff Writer

Some may choose a late-start or an early dismissal, meaning they won't have a first or sixth period, while others may have another period free during the day to use as a study hall.

There is a lot of freedom that comes with being an upperclassman, one of them being getting to create a schedule that reflects more of your interests as more classes become available to you.

Students can choose to have a schedule full of art classes, AP classes, a TA period, or even a free period. Students may prefer to take a free period for a variety of reasons.

However some concerns have been voiced about taking a free period. Many counselors advise against it for students applying to competitive schools, as a strong senior schedule is more appealing for colleges when considering admission.

Students may also be advised against taking a free period if their schedule only allows for it mid-day, say

fifth period for example, as they'd prefer you be in a class.

I spoke to guidance counselor Andre Abraham about what he says to students who want to take free periods:

"Think about why you want it, what you're going to do with that extra time, and about what you're trying to do after high school".

For students who need to work more and have enough credits, he says go for it, but be cautious if you're trying to get into Stanford, or other competitive schools.

He urges those students to consider another class instead. "It's all about you as an individual," says Abraham, who encourages meeting with your counselor and discussing why you want the free period before making any decisions.

Even with some advisory against it, free periods are very popular among Wilsonville upperclassmen. Some students prefer to sleep in a little later and have late-arrival, meaning a free first period.

One senior, Maya Previs, chose to take a free period and credits it for help-

ing her be more punctual, helpful if you're taking a lot of classes that have a heavy workload.

"I was late everyday my junior year and so I decided it was best for me to take the time and prepare myself in the mornings."

Starting school at 9:30 or 10:00 has its benefits as well, studies have shown that teenagers don't get enough sleep, so an extra hour or so of sleep in the morning could have a more positive impact than those with a late-start.

Senior Sara Dyer noted that she sleeps much more now because of her schedule, and is able to focus more in school,

"It's so much better now". Taking a late start also gives students more time to get ready in the morning and allows students to finish homework before school if they need to.

Another benefit is that taking a late-arrival won't affect any afterschool activities the same way an early-dismissal could.

While there are benefits to both late-arrival and early-dismissal, one benefit to getting out of school early is that you have more time to finish homework.

This can be especially

Not only that, but getting out at 1:30 or 2:00 allows students to get some more hours at work, or work earlier shifts so they can get home earlier at night.

Since many students have to work while in school, this can be a big motivator in taking those early-dismissal periods. More students leaving early also means less traffic in the parking lot, both for them, and for everyone else.

Whether you choose an early-dismissal, an early-arrival, or another free period there is a lot to consider before you create your schedule for your junior or senior year.

Your counselor will have advice for you regarding what the best way to build your schedule is based on your plans for after high school.

*"Think about why you want it, what you're going to do with that extra time, and about what you're trying to do after high school".*

- Andre Abraham

## WHS needs to help prepare students for different paths

By Paw Print  
Editorial Board

Wilsonville High School is known for being a "college prep" school - they offer many AP classes and challenging courses. We, as an editorial board, acknowledge that preparing for college is an important thing for many of our students, but there is also a population of students who aren't planning on pursuing that option.

For WHS to truly prepare every student for life after high school, we believe that diversifying the courses available is necessary.

To create change in the culture of Wilsonville, more CTE courses, workforce training classes & opportunities, and a wider variety of electives should be offered to students.

At the current moment, there are a few CTE options for students, but not nearly enough

fer this opportunity as much as it should; to truly serve all of its students, our school should have more variety of classes. AP classes also aren't the perfect setting for every job.

A sit down, take notes, listen to lectures, take tests kind of class may work for some students, but for others, it may prove difficult. Therefore, offering a wider variety of classes with different teaching styles that can fit every student would provide more equal opportunities for those who learn differently.

We, the Paw Print editors, hope that we were able to shine a light on an issue that we think has a deep impact on our students.

By limiting the number of CTE classes and opportunities to experience work in the real world, we show students that the school doesn't place as much effort into helping them achieve their goals.

No matter what changes are made, hopefully students are impacted for the better.

We hope that in the future, students can select from a wider variety of classes, and experience a more well rounded high school experience.

to be comparable to the number of AP classes. Journalism I and II, Yearbook, Photography, and a few other classes are CTE. The World of Speed offers an opportunity to work on automobiles for credits, and there is also a cooking class offered for students.

Although these are some good options, we believe there should be a larger variety - there are nearly 20 AP classes, but not nearly as many other opportunities.

There are some opportunities for electives and standard, non-AP courses, but not nearly the variety. If students who aren't planning on going to college are given way more college oriented options, that can be frustrating.

If a student wants to go directly into a trade, they may not want to take AP classes, which would prepare them for college - they would want to gain experience in that field before they fully commit to that career.

Wilsonville doesn't of-

## The Paw Print

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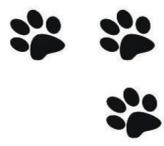
Special thanks to Mr. Greg Artman for his amazing photographs

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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.

Contact us - fitzgerj@wlwv.k12.or.us



## Introducing your 2019 Springfest court

By Jessica Caulk  
Student Life Editor

The days are being counted down until their performance. There have been many meetings, fittings, and rehearsals, and Wilsonville's 2019 Springfest Court is nearly ready to see who will be announced king and queen.

First, let us give some recognition to the seniors on the court who have stayed committed and determined not only during the morning rehearsals, but also from the very beginning.

Each court member had to not only fill out an application, but also go through an interview in front of many student representatives as well as be a part of a popularity vote.

Congratulations to our senior boys – Trevor Antonson, Caleb Baker, Pablo Campos, Nathan

Overholt, Nate Rasmussen, Nathan Tidball, Sam Westing, and Joseph Wilde. Boys, get ready to put your dancing shoes on!

Also a congratulations to our senior girls– Alex Burkeen, Macy Carlson, Rachel Cramer, Sadie Crystal, Lauren Dean, Peyton Guenther, Sydnie Jersey, and Grace Yaso. Ladies, pick your colors and get ready for your curtsies.

Every single one of these seniors have put so much effort into what Wilsonville's Springfest is all about. They have had practices almost every Wednesday and Sunday evening, learning either a fun, fast dance section or a slow dance. Senior Sydnie Jersey said that in practices "we are learning the slow dance, which takes lots of time to learn because we have to break the steps down one by one."

Jersey also talked about

how excited she is to do the slow dance, since it's something she's hasn't done before, but is "most excited for the fun fast paced dance because I always loved watching that part from the past springfest courts."

Our 2019 Springfest Court is really working hard in practices and making sure they're getting their dance moves prepared. Springfest will be held on April 24th at 7:30pm in the main gym. These senior Wildcats will be dressed up and ready to perform, so don't forget to come watch not only the court, but also the talent from so many other Wildcats.

Springfest will be held on April 24th at 7:30pm in the main gym.



The court rehearses their routine in the gym. The court prepares for their debut. (not pictured: Nate Rasmussen and Joseph Wilde) Photo by Staci Caulk.

## Juniors hard at work

By Melody Garcia Gonzalez  
Staff Writer

As teenagers, we experience several rites of passage: getting our permit, then our license, and maybe a car. We slowly become more independent and eventually will not have a guardian to rely on like we do now.

Many students at Wilsonville High School have already begun this path of responsibility and manage to go to school and maintain a job. Juniors Uriel Villa-Martinez, Sam Duran, Elena Sherman and Chloe Kuhlmann, offer an inside look on life as a worker and a student.

Students have a lot going on with homework and extra-curriculars, so why add the extra load of a job? Uriel says, "I decided to get a job because I need money."

Sam decided to get a job for the same reason, "I wanted to save money for a car. Also, I just wanted money."

On the other hand, Elena decided to take on a job "for the experience of having a manager and understanding the dynamic in a work environment."

Chloe decided to get a job at Wilsonville Veterinary Clinic "Because I wanted experience in a field that I want to go into."

Although the idea of making money and going to school sounds nice, it is not easy. When asked about how they manage work and school,

Sam chuckled and said, "I don't. Usually though, it's late nights."

Elena seems to share the same sentiment. She responds, "It's really hard. Sometimes I don't know how I'm getting good grades."

Chloe has figured out a strategy that works for her. She says, "I try to get homework done

during the week. Plus, I only work one day a week."

Uriel has found that something similar works for him. "I balance work and school by working on the weekends and working one day on the week day. I just work 4 hours on Wednesday and work all of my hours on Saturday and Sunday," he says.

Lastly, some words of wisdom that they would like to offer students who seek to do the same thing that they're doing is to "stay on top of things. Get a planner and use it! Write down what you need to and schedule things out," says Chloe.

Elena's advice is "not worrying about it. Like not stressing over every little assignment. Do little things at a time."

*Budget time for work and fun.*

*-Sam Duran*

Sam's wise words are, "I am the wrong person to ask, but if I were to give myself and others advice it'd be to be conscientious of your time. Budget fun time and work time. As nice as it is to have fun in high school, it is also important to work hard in order to create the life that you want after high school."

Similar advice is given by Uriel: "If you have a hard time managing your life from school to work, work less and it's not that hard unless you have something going on you can just work less and focus more on school."

While it is hard and life can become grueling at times, these juniors are doing it and thriving. The important component is balance.

## Academic opportunities available to students

By Grace Yaso  
Academics Editor

As March rolls around, the summer months are slowly creeping upon us. Students may already be dreaming about their summer plans of laying out on the beach and soaking up the sun, all while counting down the days until school finally gets out. Yet, as students imagine the endless nights of staying up late and hanging out with friends, new opportunities may arise that they might want to consider: summer academic programs.

Even though the thought of attending academic programs in the summer might be a little off-putting for some, it has many benefits that students may want to consider. First, it allows students to pursue their passions and interests in an academic setting. It also gives students opportunities in order to learn valuable skills that are needed in college and beyond.

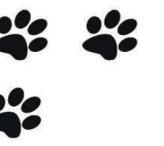
Wilsonville High School alumni, Alexandra Saccente, took an advantage of one such opportunity in the summer of her junior year of high school. After applying to attend a STEM based program

at Duke University, which is located in North Carolina, she received notice that she had been accepted. She was ecstatic about being able to attend her dream university and study subjects in which she was passionate about.

During her time at Duke University, Alex was able to grow as a mathematician with twenty other girls through daily workshops and lectures from college professors. She said, "I was able to grow as a mathematician and I developed an even truer passion for mathematics during the ten days at Duke."

Aside from practical mathematics skills, Alex's worldview was also broadened in a way that it had never been before. She was able to create ties with many different women who shared the same love of math as she did. She also learned how much women are underrepresented in STEM fields. Saccente states, "Women belong in STEM fields, and STEM fields need women. It's programs like these that give young women, like myself, the opportunity to celebrate gender diversity in the STEM field."

Overall, Saccente states that, "It was one of the best experiences I had during high school. I had such a terrific time learning about topics I'd never even heard of and was surrounded by some of the smartest individuals I had ever met."



## Girls basketball continued from page 1

She is unstoppable from the 3 point line and is an extremely good ball handler. She had not been able to play any league games this season due to a shoulder injury. The Wildcats looked to stop Addi Wedin and Muira, their two best players. It was a back and forth game up until the last few minutes.

The Falcons shot an incredible 62% which is extremely hard to defend. Wedin had 22 points and Miura had 21 points. Burns said, "It was unfortunate we were unable to stop them on defense." La Salle was able to defeat Wilsonville 79-63.

This was a very upsetting game for the Wildcats as they were not only defeated by the fifth-ranked team, but also their rivals.

But La Salle's girl's team is no slouch, and they proceeded to win the state championship. Burns said, "I am very impressed with my team that they never gave up and played with everything they had until the end."

On Saturday, the Wildcats played the Crater Comets

for the 3rd place title. Last year, Crater upset Wilsonville on their home court in the first round of state to advance to Gill Coliseum.

So, the Wildcats were able to find some motivation after a tough loss the night before. Crater was the number seven seed and they were able to upset the number two seed Lebanon in the quarterfinals.

Despite their rank, they were an impressive squad and almost took the 3rd place trophy from Wilsonville.

It was an extremely tight game, but the Wildcats were able to gut out their 2nd win at the state tournament.

Renee Lee was a key player in the game keeping the Wildcats alive with an amazing 16 points. She had 3 three-pointers and was the second leading scorer of the game. Sydney Burns received

player of the game for her third game in a row with 19 points.

Both sophomores, Emilia Bishop and Sydney Burns received first team all-tournament and first team in the NWOC. "It was

an honor to make the first team," Burns said. Although Wilsonville graduated 5 seniors, they have some very impressive young talent that will likely take them back to the state tournament next March. Burns shared, "Next year I'm hoping the team makes it back to Gill, and that we play in the final game to win the state championship."



Junior Kayla Hieb driving to the hoop.

## Boys basketball continued from page 1

After two tournaments and a trip to Hawaii, the Wildcats entered league play. The boys dominated the first four games of league with no opponent even smelling a chance of victory. The combined score for those contests was 328-147. After beating the Broncos 70-60 in a home game, the boys proceeded to handily win their next six games in a row to improve to 13-0 in league.

After their closest game against Parkrose, the Wildcats prevailed 66-60 and had officially gone 14-0 in league as well as won the NWOC outright for an outstanding fifth year in a row.

Senior wing Zach Rivers said that the Parkrose win was very important because it is a very tough place to play and the energy of the gym gave it a playoff-like atmosphere.

The close victory over seventh seeded Parkrose gave the team experience and confidence heading into the round of 16 matchup vs the Crescent Valley Raiders.

The Wildcats handled the Raiders easily, winning the matchup 79-31 and qualifying for the 5A state tournament at Gill Coliseum for the 11th year in a row.

The boys dominated the Pendleton Buckaroos in their first round matchup by a score of 70-40 and moved on to face the third seed Silverton Foxes in the semifinals. The Silverton game was the most competitive and back

tant because it helps strengthen your self-confidence and respect," Saccente verbalized. Recently, the club coalesced in a circle, each answering a question as they passed around a bag of candy.

Anna Sweetland, a well-rounded senior, encouraged them to state a physical aspect of themselves that they admired, something they did well this semester, and what they would tell their younger selves.

By participating in the activity, the members had the chance to interact with, and express themselves around their peers.

When asked why it is important for WHS to have a Female Empowerment Club, Sweetland responded, "We are younger, and in a time where we are developing our sense of self, and Female Empowerment Club is a space for people to relate on certain issues."

## Female Empowerment club spreads positivity and awareness

By Mackenzie Waterfield  
Staff Writer

Striving to enlighten others is a crucial element to many student-lead organizations and clubs. Female Empowerment Club, however, shines in their pursuit of spreading positivity and awareness throughout Wilsonville High School.

Through a variety of projects, they have become influential beyond the Wednesday lunch meetings in room 117.

Each week, the club is open for all genders to collaborate. It not only offers the opportunity for inventive minds to gather and compose activities, but simply discuss societal issues pertaining to equality.

The club has invited a few guest speakers to lecture them, and students have cre-

ated slideshows about topics in which they are passionate about.

A thought-provoking presentation was done by sophomore Olivia Parker. She voiced her stance on the issue of social media and mental health, sparking a meaningful conversation that is often overlooked.

They have also completed a plentiful amount of benevolent activities outside of the meetings. An earlier project included several members selling bracelets at the Holiday Bazaar with the affirmations of "you inspire me" and "you are beautiful."

Junior Juliette Saccente joined this school year and emphasized how the club has enhanced her overall well being.

"The club makes you feel proud of yourself at the end of the day. It is so impor-



The FEC meeting, pictured above. The group has done fundraisers to help support worthy organizations.



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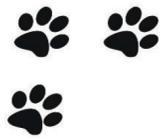
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# SPORTS

## Cheer finishes another successful season

By Kennedy Waible  
Staff Writer

Over the past couple years, the Wilsonville High School cheer program has improved tremendously and has taken home trophies from state for the past four years in a row.

Seniors Summer Johnson, Jaelyn James, McKina Stalheim and Kennedy Waible joined the team freshman year and have made a big impact to the team. This year, Karleigh Goertz joined and has helped strengthen the team as a whole.

In 2016, our WHS cheer team placed 4th place in 5A Small Co-ed. This was the first time Wilsonville has ever brought home a state trophy for cheerleading.

The team was ecstatic to be the first team in history to bring home a trophy and that next year the program expanded greatly.

As the 2017 season came around, the team encountered many obstacles including an abrupt injury a couple weeks before state. They ended up having to change their routine to adjust to the injury – surprisingly, they received fourth place in the 5A All Girl category that year.

Last year the 2018 season, our WHS cheer team was a strong all girl team and was thrilled to place second behind their rivals South Albany. South Albany lead by a 8th or a point in the 2018 standings.

This year going into state, the cheer team had determination, dedication, and had worked extremely hard to reach their goals this season.

While both teams, JV and varsity, are cheering at the football, girls basketball, and boys basketball games, they juggle their own competition season throughout the fall and winter. WHS cheer competed at Lakeridge High School Pacer Invitational on January 12th and placed first in 5A all girl division.

Their second qualifying competition was at West Linn High School, and they received first place again. It was a great start to their season, and at practices they were making changes each week to better themselves at the next competition.

At state this year, the Wildcats went in knowing their fiercest competitors of this season were South Albany, Ridgeview, and West Albany. All of them performed exceptionally at their qualifying competitions, similar to the Wildcats. Before state, Lainnee Robinson, a junior on WHS cheer, showed her eagerness.

"I'm so excited to compete with my teammates at state. This is the hardest working team I've been on in the last three years at WHS and the whole team has persevered throughout the season. Our seniors have demonstrated leadership all throughout the season and I can't wait to do our last performance with them." The OSAA State Championship Cheer Competition was on February 16th at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum. The team



The cheer team poses at Gill Coliseum after performing in championship games. The team performed well at state. Photo by Greg Artman.

went in with amazing attitudes and mindsets despite the results from the competitions. The results were disappointing to the team because of the potential to place higher.

They ended up getting fourth place out of nine teams. South Albany took home first for another year. Our Wilsonville cheer team was awarded the Choreography award of the whole competition and scored the highest tumbling score out of all divisions 1A through 6A.

The cheer team will finish the season cheering on the girls and boys basketball teams during playoffs. The team has five seniors that are amazing leaders on the team. This will be the fourth year those seniors will be cheering on the Wildcats at Gill Coliseum.

Julia Huchler, a junior on WHS cheer, said "The seniors

have lead the team to many victories this season and next year we have to fill their shoes and carry out the legacy of Wilsonville cheer."

"We are extremely excited to see how the team bonds next year and to be a senior on this team and compete our final times as Wilsonville cheerleaders."

Next season, the team plans to boost their performance even more and grow as a team each and every practice. Coach Jennifer Stahlheim commented about this season and said "This year has been one of my favorite years coaching so far!"

"The group of athletes we had have pushed and worked so hard to be amazing! Although the score sheets at state say something different, what we put on the floor was beautiful! We earned the highest tumbling

score in the State of Oregon not just the 5A division, but in the whole state! In addition to that they received the best choreography award of all schools competing at State."

"This is the first set of seniors that have competed all 4 years at state for Wilsonville High School and I will miss them all very much! I am looking forward to what the veterans will bring to the team next year and hope we have some great new talent join during tryouts!"

Tryouts for next season will be May 20th, 22nd, and 24th for both current high school students and incoming freshman. It should be an amazing season for the wildcat cheerleaders next year. The seniors from this year will be off to pursue their dreams, and the upcoming seniors will be ready to lead and conquer all of next season.

## Boys and girls golf prepare for the upcoming season

By Sabyn Thoun  
Backpage Editor

The boys and girls golf programs have certainly had plenty of success.

Both teams have qualified for the state tournament multiple years in a row and the girls even clinched the title in 2017. However, as the years pass by, seniors graduate and eventually the team has to pull up new players.

Last year the girls experienced this, they pulled 5 new varsity players from the previous JV team with hopes of bringing the squad back to the state tournament.

Senior Ali Nelson says she "didn't think much about it during league tournaments, we

just went out and played. Regionals was another story, all the pressure was there. Coach told us that he would be proud either way, but we wanted to go to the state tournament."

Last year, both boys and girls teams ended up qualifying for the state tournament. The girls played their tournament at Trysting Tree Golf Course in Corvallis and the boys played at Emerald Valley in Creswell. The boys took 10th and the girls took 7th.

Tryouts for the boys were held the week of March 4th, and the varsity team was decided at the end of the week: Ryan Berry, Ryan Jefferies, Braden Garrow, Jacob Hausserman, and Baker McQueen.

The girls team works a little differently – each week

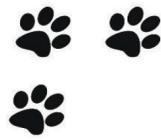
they play a qualifying round which then decides the team that will compete at the tournament. The returning varsity players for the girls are: Sabyn Thoun, Ali Nelson, Penelope Mitchell, Kara Kaiser, and Emma Kaleikilo.

This upcoming season won't be much different for the girls, they graduated one senior. The boys, on the other hand, will bring up 5 new players. In addition to new players, the league has also changed: Sandy High School has left the league and Scappoose High School has joined.

The boys will start the season off at Wildwood Golf Course on March 18th. The girls team will follow on March 19th at Wildwood Golf Course, home of the Scappoose Indians.



The girls golf team poses after winning regionals last year. The team is looking forward to another strong season. Photo by Josh Thoun.



# SPORTS

## Baseball prepares for the 2019 season

By Cameron Forsberg  
Staff Writer

With spring around the corner, Wilsonville's baseball team is getting ready for the 2019 season.

Last season, the boys made it to the first round of play-offs, but ended with a tough 3-2 loss to Bend in the 9th inning.

The baseball team last year consisted of nine seniors, meaning that there will be some big shoes to fill. The four returning juniors will have to step up not just as players, but also as leaders. Some sophomores might have to help out this varsity team.

We asked senior first team all state shortstop, Trevor Antonson what he thinks this

year's team will need to work on in order to be successful this season. He replied, "I think the biggest thing we're going to struggle with is how young we are going to be. Some of us older guys will have to step up and lead by example, but the younger classes are very skilled and will cope with the varsity level or play very quickly."

This year's team will also have two returning juniors: Cole Kleckner and Keegan Shivers. These two had to step up and help out last year's varsity team because of the lack of juniors.

Cole filled in at center field and made some big plays for the cats. Keegan took charge on the mound and helped out last years pitching rotation which helped later in the season.



Keegan Shivers eyes his chances on base. Shivers brings talent and experience to this year's team. Photo by Greg Artman.

By Brenden Ertle  
Staff Writer

Our Wilsonville girls ski team wrapped up their season after their appearance at state. The team earned third in the Three Rivers League, and received hardware at state as well. With their four skiers -- Sophi Heilig, Cailin Gahan, Kiera Bertell, and Noelle Schaaf -- they learned and developed new skills while getting closer as a team. They had numerous races throughout the year where they usually finished in the top three as a squad.

Cailin Gahan received third overall and 6th in slalom after all the hard work she put into the season. With her teammates encouragement she was able to perform to her best ability and have some of the best races in her career so far.

I spoke with Cailin about her sixth place finish and taking over as team leader when senior Sophi graduates. Cailin said "I couldn't be happier with my result. I set a goal for myself earlier this season to finish top 3 in state and I accomplished it so I'm very excited"

She was very proud of her results, as one of the top skiers in the state!

Gahan looks forward to taking over as the leader next season.

"I'm very excited going into senior year as a leader, since ski racing has always been a huge part of my life, I'm excited to get to share my love with those who might just be getting started and to help them improve their skill." Cailin will be partnered with senior Kiera Bertell for seniors on the ski team.

Stunning senior skier Sophi Heilig reflected about her last season on the team and she explained her love for the team. "My last season was very bitter-sweet but I'm happy with how the year went. I loved getting closer with the people I really love and care about." "I will certainly miss the atmosphere of the race day, the com-

## Girls dance team: a season in review



Dance team performs at Gill Coliseum during basketball semi-finals. The team went to compete at nationals. Photos by Greg Artman.

By Aylenna Busse  
Staff Writer

Dance is more than just a sport. Being a part of the Wilsonville Pride Dance Team I can say that this year, our team has been very hard working from our first practice in August.

From the first day of practice, we took all our choreography and made sure we knew it inside and out, backwards and forwards. Our choreography for our state routine came from our coaches Liesel and Kristina, as well as our lyrical piece we took

to nationals.

This year we hired Lisa Zaragoza as our choreographer for our hip hop routine. We also took this hip hop routine to nationals, where we qualified for championships. There, we got to compete with some of the best hip hop teams in the country. The work ethic that this team has is unbelievable – just the fact that our dance team qualified to compete in championships for hip hop is amazing.

To qualify, you have take a video of all the routines that you are planning on performing

and send those videos to those in charge of nationals. They then all your performances and decide which they think your performance belongs in the competition.

Dance is so much more than a sport – it's a family. It's about working together with the ones on your team. Building each other up instead of tearing them down.

Our Pride Dance Team has done a great job this season, and they have so much to be proud of.

## Girls ski team reflects on championship season

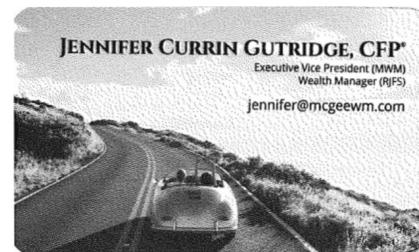
petitive feel that the day brings, and how excited everyone is. Even if it was bad weather or a scary run run we were all happy and together."

"I will also miss my teammates a lot, a big group of us have competed so long together and the end is bittersweet." Sophi definitely had a season to remember with some phenomenal finishes. Ski has been such big part of her life – I asked if she plans to play in college. "I will not be racing in college but for sure will find time to go to the mountain every once in awhile."

"It's a passion of mine and is so fun, for sure in the future I will be skiing." Sophi told me. All the Wilsonville skiers had an amazing year and we look forward to next season.



Sophi Heilig hits the slopes during her final season on the ski team. Heilig hopes to keep ski as a part of her life. Photos provided by Sophi Heilig.





## Waitlisted for colleges

By Alaina Bekebrede and Lucie White

to make a decision with the regular-decision applicants.

Through-out high school, ambitious students dedicate their lives to getting the perfect GPA, having enough extracurriculars, and getting amazing standardized test scores in order to get into their dream schools. Unfortunately, as schools get more and more competitive, students have been getting either waitlisted or deferred from their school as space for good education is becoming more and more scarce. When someone is waitlisted, colleges wait to offer you admission to see how many students will actually be attending their university. Deferral on the other hand is when you apply early-admissions to a school and they're not sure about your application and wait

Jack Roche is a three sport athlete, fresh off his fourth 5A state championship for basketball. Jack is also an exemplary student who "desires to be challenged and to struggle". Roche is largely interested in competitive colleges such as Stanford, Princeton, Duke, and other Ivy League schools. So far, he has received acceptance from Duke University and was also deferred from Princeton from restrictive early action.

What motivated Roche to apply were "the connections and people you meet are the brightest and best around - and most importantly, these places just felt like the best place and fit for me". At the moment, Jack is most likely to attend Duke, but he's waiting for more decisions to come in later this spring. Senior Jack Burns has

an impressive academic portfolio including a plethora of AP classes, debate club, and a multi-sport varsity athlete. Burns applied to Biola University and University of Chicago. U of Chicago is an extremely selective school with a unique socratic method of teaching, from which Burns received deferment at.

Although Burns has the possibility to go to University of Chicago, he doesn't think it'll happen. "The financial package would have to be adequate. I personally want to avoid debt out of college as much as possible". As most students want to avoid as much debt as possible, money is a deciding factor on where seniors will be attending colleges. Out of his choices, Jack assumes that he'll be attending Biola next fall. Although some students have gotten the wait-listed notifications from top schools, many students' fates are still up in the



One of most prestigious colleges in America, Harvard University.

air as schools are releasing the admissions for regular decision applicants. Top scholar senior, Lisa Blomberg, has a few more weeks until she finds out from competitive universities such as Stanford, Yale, and Duke. Blomberg has already been accept-

ed to MIT through early action. Throughout the next couple of weeks, students will be finding out their college futures - let's wish the best of luck to Wilsonville seniors for their admissions.

## Junior academic spotlight: Jared Wieland

By Grace Yaso  
Academics Editor



Jared Wieland, a junior, describes his state qualifying ISEF project to an audience. Photo by Charlie Hyman

As the school year continues and the workload becomes increasingly difficult, it can become easy to lose sight of one's academic goals. Tests, huge homework assignments, and projects may weigh on the student's mental state and cloud their thinking. However, there are students at Wilsonville High School who have remained on top of their work, despite the stresses that school may bring.

Jared Wieland is one of those students who, regardless of his busy schedule, demonstrates tenacity and self-discipline in his classes and activities outside of school. Wieland maintains a full academic schedule, taking five advanced placement (AP) classes as a junior in high school.

Some of these classes include AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, and AP Art. Through his rigorous academics, he hopes of one day becoming an anesthesiologist or studying oncology as a clinician.

According to Wieland, his favorite class is AP Biology because "It's amazing to see how the world functions with all of its intricacies".

He also finds time in school in order to relax. He states that, "I like AP art because it's a really good outlet with a busy schedule". He realizes that the balance between a stressful schedule and outlets such as art is necessary when creating a successful student.

Although Wieland has a very full academic schedule, his extracurriculars are no different. Outside of school, he is involved heavily involved with ISEF.

This year, his project was "using CRISPR-Cas9 viral vector system and lipoplex cationic lipid mediated transfection for the reconstitution and reconstruction of the TP53 apoptotic signaling pathway in adenocarcinoma or breast cancer to induce controlled cell death". He won third place and was advanced to the state competition.

Aside from ISEF, he was a part of the varsity football team, achieving second place in state. Wieland also enjoys many outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, and camping. Last but not least, one of his favorite activities is sleeping!

As the school year may seem to continue to drag on endlessly, we need to remember to keep persevering and work diligently. However, we must remember to balance schoolwork and extracurriculars with activities that make you happy. That way, it will create a bet-

ter environment for you to work in and will help you to focus!

*"Jared Wieland is one of those students who, regardless of his busy schedule, demonstrates tenacity and self-discipline in his classes and activities outside of school."*

## Controversial topics in the classroom

By Kali Connell  
Staff Writer

In 2019 it's important for students, teachers, and others to have in depth and valuable conversations in and out of classrooms. Topics that have recently been discussed at Wilsonville High School have drawn much attention from students, teachers, and parents whom are concerned or intrigued with their contents.

In my four years here, I have noticed educators often shy away from discussing material that is considered too political, controversial, and/or provocative.

Not many teachers educate their students on the hidden truths in our society that a small percentage of us pay attention to outside of class. A select few have opened a portion of students' eyes to the real world and encourage progressive conversations amongst the scholars.

English teacher Mr. Slick is a strong example of a teacher who believes it is important to talk/teach about more complex issues in society to his classes. As a senior, this is my first time having Slick as a teacher. From personal experience I can tell you, you learn not only english related components,

but also history of gender and race and how it has translated into our current day lives. I had the chance to speak to Mr. Slick about such controversies and he told me what he believes.

"Controversial topics tend to be issues around race and gender. Although I don't think they should be considered controversial, they tend to deal with topics our society has made uncomfortable or combative".

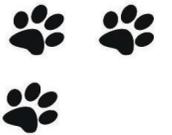
Not all teachers are comfortable discussing contentious material. However, when you come across an educator who is, it can make you appreciate their boldness to inform you on subjects deeper than just classic books and Shakespeare plays.

Being bold can come with some repercussions, but Slick possesses the motivation to enlighten his students based on the fact that "... school is removed from the real world", and the best way to in- curate real world info is at school.

Criticisms often arise but only from those who are comfortable about speaking up. Teachers like such encourage curiosity over compliance which creates a warm and welcoming environment.

*"Although I don't think they should be controversial, they tend to deal with topics our society has made uncomfortable and combative."*

Aaron Slick



## A new era of storytelling: Podcasts

By Peyton Butler and Grace Yaso

In one of WBN's podcasts, titled "The Pawdcast", Peyton Butler and Grace Yaso speak on what they are enthusiastic about, and address them in relation to their experiences at Wilsonville High School. Their goal with this show is to express what they are interested in at this time in their lives, and to see what other people are interested in during their time in high school.

They chose to start a podcast because they wanted to tell their own story and save a snapshot of who they were during this time. Both have listened to many podcasts in the past, and felt that this form of media would be a good fit for the both of them to tell stories for WBN (Wilsonville Broadcast Network).

There were many lessons that were learned throughout the course of the creation of the Pawdcast. First, it's not quite as difficult as it might seem. Although the task of recording, producing, editing, and uploading a podcast may seem daunting at first, having someone to share the workload creates a more enjoyable experience.

Secondly, it exposed the hosts to new experiences and skills. For example, certain audio skills that were necessary for creating a podcast were learned and practiced throughout the course of the past few months. This included setting up the mics, recording and editing the podcast, and properly taking down the equipment.

Creating a podcast not only cultivates knowledge of technology, it also teaches vital skills that are will be useful in the future. Throughout the course of the past several months, the podcast has allowed the hosts to be more com-

fortable with interviews and holding a meaningful conversation.

In order for a podcast to succeed, the conversations and interviews must be intriguing and insightful. They learned how to become more aware of how to converse and interact with others. This also challenged their creativity as well. Creating a concept for discussion every week soon became quite difficult. Yet, when they began to think outside of the box, the topics came much more naturally.

Podcasts have a way of reaching out to people who would not typically be drawn to written stories. Not because those people are lazy and don't want to read, but because it is just a different form of storytelling that is more appealing than others. Podcasts can communicate in the most human way possible: word of mouth. Listening to a person can show how the presenter is really feeling, and the kind of emotions they want to convey.

A podcast also has a timeless feel, harkening back to when people would listen to radio programs. Oral stories have been around long before writing ever existed. There is a connection that can be felt between the presenter and the listener, a connection built off of knowing that it's just another person talking to you.

Many people enjoy podcasts because they can come in such a wide array of topics and genres. There is a podcast out there for everyone.

The podcast mentioned above, The Pawdcast, can be found through their instagram account @wbnpawdcast. Their post episodes weekly on their SoundCloud of the same username, as well as on the iTunes Podcast app under "The Pawdcast". If you like heartfelt moments, and snapshots of high school life, go check out The Pawdcast!



Art created by Peyton Butler for "The Pawdcast"

## Upcoming SATs and Testing

By Ally Finkbeiner  
Online Editor

While college may seem far away for most juniors, the reality is, it's coming up quickly. Most college-bound students will begin applications this fall, which means preparation starts now. In fact, what many consider to be the trademark event of the spring of junior year is rapidly approaching - the SAT.

Actually, the SAT has already happened. March 9th was the first testing date of the year, but if you missed it, don't worry. The next date is May 4th, which is the most popular one of the spring, and typically the first one that juniors will take. Wilsonville High School is administering the May 4th test, so if you're looking to take the SAT in a familiar location, sign up soon! The deadline for registration is April 5th.

There's plenty of other test dates between now and application season too, so don't worry if you can't attend the May 4th one or your score isn't perfect the first time. The SAT is typically offered in June, August, October, and November as well.

Many students take the SAT more than once in order to get the best score possible, as it is an important test for college admissions. Junior Sydney Byun took the test for the first time on March 9th, and she reflected, "I'm already planning to

take the SAT again in May, but I wanted to get a feel for it beforehand so that I don't go in having never taken the test before."

Retaking the test is one way to improve your score, but the best bet is to study beforehand. Wilsonville's annual SAT prep course, taught by Mr. Fowler and Ms. Hanlon, is currently underway, and juniors are preparing for the May 4th exam by reviewing both math and English skills. Junior Meghann Yochim is taking this prep course, and she says, "It's a very convenient way for people to improve their scores, and it's a manageable class."

One thing to consider is whether to take the essay portion of the SAT, or just the multiple choice section. Some colleges require the essay, so it's worth researching any of your potential schools to see if you should take it. WVHS counselor Ms. Moon recommends that "you might as well take it with the essay just to avoid any last minute scrambling or realization that a school you decide to apply to requires it."

Another factor is the SAT Subject Tests, which are one hour multiple choice tests on a variety of subjects, from Chemistry to US History. While most schools don't require Subject Tests, some do, and others recommend you take one or two, especially if they relate to a field you are planning to study in. Subject Tests are offered on the same

days as the regular SAT, but you cannot take both in the same day, so make sure to plan ahead.

Some students opt not to take the SAT, and decide that the ACT is a better fit for them.

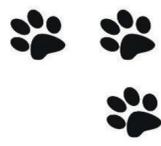
Similarly to the SAT, the ACT has an optional essay portion, but it also has a science section, which the SAT lacks. It is not necessary to take both, so you should research the two and decide which is the right one for you.

While the SAT - or ACT - is important for college admissions, schools will not accept or deny you solely based on your score. It is important to build a well-rounded application, and for juniors, we're in the final stretch.

Ms. Leatherman, a counselor here at Wilsonville, says "All juniors should make time this spring to meet with their counselor, review their credits, discuss graduation requirements, and plan a strong senior schedule."

So, if you're a junior who is planning to go to college, it's crunch time. The next SAT date is May 4th, so start studying!

*"What many consider to be the trademark event of the spring of junior year is rapidly approaching - the SAT."*



## Shakespeare brought to life in Much Ado About Nothing

By Peyton Butler  
Staff Writer

William Shakespeare published his works during the late 1500's. These plays have been seen by countless people, from presidents to high school students. On February 21st, the Theatre Department opened their production of Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing, which ran from February 21st-23rd. This production of the show was set in 1919 era England, just after the end of World War One. The story focuses on four characters and their conflicting relationships with one another. Beatrice and Benedick despise the idea of marriage, while Hero and Claudio do plan to get married. All the while the antagonist Don John plots to foil Hero's wedding. Students have been working on this production since December of 2018, and all their hard work has paid off. To begin a show, students must go through the audition process, in which they read scenes from the production in small groups out loud for the

director. After callbacks, there is a read through, where the whole cast gets together and reads the script out loud in The Black Box Theater. Rehearsals ran from 3:15 to 6:15 most days of the week, running simultaneously with rehearsals for Wilsonville's Thespian Showcase. Practically all of the students who were in the cast of Much Ado About Nothing were also participating in the Thespian Showcase, often going to multiple rehearsals some days. This demonstrates the dedication and passion that many students have for theatre at Wilsonville. Despite its Shakespearean language, this show is without a doubt a comedy. Junior Meghann



Claudio(Casey Young) and Hero (Samantha Katz) walk down the aisle in the winter production of Much Ado About Nothing. Photo by Greg

Yochim says, "I found it so funny! My friend and I were sitting in the front row cackling the whole time because we found it hilarious. The parts where Beatrice (Averyl Hartje) was overly sarcastic or the eavesdropping scenes were probably the funniest." The show had a hard working

backstage crew, who helped the show finish without a hitch. Senior Mackenzie Boddy was the production's Backstage Manager, and this was the second show she has had managed. She says, "I like theatre because the people are amazing, and I've made so many great friends through the past two years. My favorite part about this show, in particular, was the close knit relationship between the cast members, and the crew." This show was different from other productions put on by Wilsonville because of the amount of student involvement that went into bringing the show together. Different students composed music, choreographed dance numbers, and designed costumes; all tasks which have never been done for a production by students before. Many of the same students who were part of the production were also part of the cast of actors. Junior Cami Saunders was the student composer for Much Ado About Nothing. She wrote songs for the show, using lyrics that were written by William Shakespeare. Saunders also played live piano backstage for every performance. "I loved watching the show progress! It was exciting to see the show go from a bunch of high schoolers standing on a stage reading out of books, to them really acting and interacting in character," says Saunders. After months of hard work, the show eventually came to a close. When a show closes, it is met with a range of emotions from those involved. However, students in the theatre department are ready to take on the challenges that are to come for the rest of their 2019 season.

## Wilsonville thespians are headed to State

By Meghann Yochim  
Staff Writer

During the spring the theater department kicks into full gear, as it is the time of year for the Regionals and State competitions. Schools send talented thespians to compete in regionals by performing their favorite songs and pieces, and if they win top 10% in their category, they get to move on to participate in state. Now that we got the basics out of the way, let's dive in and ask a few thespians from our school what they enjoy most.

Katie Walter, an experienced Junior thespian, landed a spot in the top 10% of her category and is heading to state. "My duo acting scene with Peyton Guenther and Averyl Hartje competing their duo scene at W. Both thespians will be competing at state," Walter reports, "I am also directing a one act that will be competing." Since the energy is so positive at state, Walter explains that she isn't nervous, but excited. Senior thespian Peyton But-

ler will be heading to state for her Costume Design Technical entry. Butler is very ecstatic to be going to state. "It's a time I get to be with my friends for a whole weekend and get to go to acting workshops and see a bunch of really talented people perform." Butler explains excitedly. Another junior, Tenley Lubisch, also finds herself excited during this season. She loves competing and her nerves were practically nonexistent with her large group musical number. "I was very excited to see how we would do, because the num-

ber for her piece "All Girl Band" to perform at state this year. "I've never competed at State before" Grace confesses, "so I'm nervous but also excited to see how much we can do with the group we have." Despite this, Folske had loads of fun participating in regionals, and urges everyone to try out, even if they're unsure of how they'll do. Last but not definitely not least, junior thespian Mikaela Ochocki is focusing on organizing state. While she is a very confident person, she does admit to feeling trepidation about this event. "I'm very nervous to address 1000+ people, but I'm very excited at the same time because I know my troupe will be cheering me on!" Ochocki reports enthusiastically. Ochocki also pushes for people to try out for regionals, especially since she said she wouldn't be where she is right now if she hadn't tried out as a freshman.



While many students performing experience jitters, most report that they embrace the excitement rather than the nervousness. Participating in regionals is a way for people to try out something new, and almost every thespian will tell you to try out because you never know where that audition could take you.

## Juniors win big at art awards

By Peyton Butler  
Staff Writer

Fine arts students spend weeks on each of their pieces, making sure that their piece is complete enough to feel finished, going back repeatedly, making slight changes until the piece feels done. The key to creating a great piece of art has nothing to do with pure talent - it all depends on the amount of time you are willing to put into making it.

For fine arts students, a big part of first semester is entering in Scholastic Art Awards. Scholastic Art Awards is a nationwide arts and writing competition where students submit works online, and they are judged by professionals within that category. The awards are split into three levels: Gold Key (being the highest), Silver Key, and Honorable Mention. Students who receive a Gold Key enter another round of judging, where their work is shipped off to be displayed with other Gold Key winners works as well. This competition is a way for students to gain scholarships and awards, as well as a great thing to put on resumes and college applications.

For students who are a part of the Advanced and AP Art classes at Wilsonville, they spend a large portion of first semester creating and preparing works to be submitted to scholastic. Many students spend upwards of a month on pieces that they submit. There

are also many categories that students can submit work into, such as painting, photography, graphic design, and many more. The junior class gained a lot of recognition from judges for the work that they submitted. For example, junior Ciera Ross submitted many works for the Scholastic Art Awards, and received a Gold Key. Ross works in physical mediums, such as drawing and paint, and is currently enrolled in Advanced Art. "The piece I am most proud of that I submitted was my Alexander McQueen piece, because I worked really hard on it and I have never done an art piece that big before." Ross stated that this particular piece underwent many different drafts until she was happy with the final product. Ross says that her pieces can take anywhere from a couple of weeks to over a month to complete. Jasleen Kaur, also a junior, received two Gold Key awards for some of the pieces she submitted. She also works in physical mediums, and her art concentration is focused on exploring ties to her culture, her past, and present as an Indian immigrant. "I am the most proud of a painting I submitted, which was a scene of my mother in our kitchen. It was the sort of thing that is so mundane and overlooked, but it received a Gold Key!"

## Artists compete in fast-paced multi-school competition

By Isaac Boger  
Arts and Entertainment Section Editor



"I made a oil Pastel and sharpie drawing of a carousel house toy, then used the plastic sheet to make a second layer with a little Grim Reaper guy and I sharpie in all the colors to make it look spooky," Amanda Elliott.

students from Wilsonville and other high schools participated in the 1 hour and 45 minute rush to create the best art they could on theme with the surprise prompt of the year.

This was senior Amanda Elliott's first time at the skills competition and she says that, "I haven't really done anything like this before". It was also junior Jasleen Kaur's first time and she candidly says, "I was just really going with whatever was being thrown at me, to be honest"



"I made a wind-up turtle. Cute, yet terrible because turtles can be slow! But that's not what the judges wanted! I first made an origami shell which I shaded then I added the wind-up part (decorative) and finished the body. I placed the turtle in a pond with blooming lily pads that I made as well."- Portia Woods

For students at Wilsonville High School, art is usually a relaxing and non-competitive endeavor. Wilsonville has such a sense of community and collaboration, one can forget the joys of a friendly competition and the glory of victory.

Thankfully for 2D and 3D art students, they get to flex their artistic muscles annually in a fast paced skills competition at Clackamas Community College. The prizes for first, second, and third place were tuition waivers for college credit.

On February 28th,

By Ally Finkbeiner  
Online Editor

If you saw the Wilsonville Drama Department's recent production of Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing, you would have quickly recognized the talent that is Averyl Hartje. A junior at Wilsonville, Averyl has been a part of countless productions, some on our own stage, and many beyond the doors of Wilsonville High School.

In Much Ado, Averyl played the lead role of Beatrice, who she describes as "A very witty and intelligent character who is quick with her words." This isn't the first time Averyl has graced our stage as the sharp British lead in a WVHS produc-

tion; she was also Elizabeth in Pride & Prejudice, and Cecily in The Importance of Being Earnest. Outside of school, though, Averyl is a part of the Oregon Children's Theatre's Young Professionals group, and she recently starred in her first professional show. Titled Shiver: A Musical Ghost Story, the show followed a group of high school students amidst a snowstorm, all connected by one mysterious character. Reflecting on that performance, Averyl said, "That was a really amazing experience because we got to work on an original show and develop some of the music for our own voices."

Averyl has no plans to stop performing anytime soon. When asked why she enjoys acting and singing so much, she explained, "I love performing because it's kind of incredible to be able to pass along ideas through putting yourself into another person's shoes and passing along their emotions and their thoughts."

As much as she loves being on stage, that's not the only thing she has planned for her future. Last summer, she attended the Stanford pre-collegiate program, where she focused on political science and studied de-

some brads, and a few popsicle sticks. We could only use these materials, but we didn't have to use all of them," says Elliott.

There were multiple rooms for us to choose from, like the ceramics studio, painting studio, and graphic design studio; and yes, I did sit next to my friends, Maile and Elyasia," says Kaur. The surprise prompt was revealed to the students when they arrived at the competition.

This year's prompt was Terrifying Toys. Elliott says she enjoyed the prompt "but based on the judging it seemed like they needed to be more specific about what they were looking for."

Kaur, who says she enjoyed the prompt immensely, says she liked it because "It was broad in an unexpected way because anything can be a toy, and most things are bad toys. There was a lot of room to play".

Students didn't have to show up with any art supplies because Clackamas Community College provided all the materials they used. "They provided pipe cleaners, three sheets of randomly colored paper, a clear plastic sheet, scissors, tape, oil pastels, a sharpie, a pencil,

some brads, and a few popsicle sticks. We could only use these materials, but we didn't have to use all of them," says Elliott.

Elliott says the 1 hour and 45 minute time limit made the competition more exciting. "The hardest part was thinking of an idea without it taking up too much time. I ended up with barely enough time to finish because I spent a lot of time thinking up ideas." Kaur also cites coming up with a concept as one of the most time-consuming parts, but also admits the social aspect distracted her as well. "I spent most of it chatting or brainstorming, and missed adding some key details to my piece for it."

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flute and sings. She's been performing in choirs since she was five, and she was recently part of the selective All-Northwest choir convention, which draws high schoolers from across the western part of the country to sing with the best of the best. Averyl has no plans to stop performing anytime soon. When asked why she enjoys acting and singing so much, she explained, "I love performing because it's kind of incredible to be able to pass along ideas through putting yourself into another person's shoes and passing along their emotions and their thoughts."

As much as she loves being on stage, that's not the only thing she has planned for her future. Last summer, she attended the Stanford pre-collegiate program, where she focused on political science and studied de-

liverative polling. Averyl found the program to be extremely interesting and rewarding, and Stanford has become a huge goal of hers. If not Stanford though, she has a plan for whichever college she attends. Averyl wants to double major in musical theater and political science, keeping both her passion for performing and her academic interests alive.

Getting to where she is now has been no easy task, but Averyl is definitely doing what she loves most. In terms of getting into acting, she said, "My advice is to really just begin. You can't get better unless you start some-

where. Acting is scary because you're putting yourself out there, but if you just don't let the fear hold you back, you're unstoppable."

Both artists enjoyed the experience, not only for the competition but also for the trip to the college campus and day out.

"I suppose I recommend this experience, it was pretty sick and the food at the cafe was pretty awesome. Artists who work quickly are more likely to have fun with it, but I take forever to paint and I thought it was fun, so I guess that's not true for everyone," says Elliott.

"I would totally recommend going because it was such a different feel to high school art experiences, and just walking around the campus was so cool, plus some great photo ops. It felt like more of a fun field trip than an art competition, plus the prospect of winning money!" says Kaur.

Woods espouses a similar sentiment saying, "I would recommend this to every artist! It was really fun and pushed my artistic limits! It's really fun to hang out and meet people in the art community!"

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Photographer: Jake Young Averyl Hartje performing as Beatrice in the WVHS Theatre production of Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing. This was Hartje's third time playing the lead role at Wilsonville.

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## Juniors create online content for all students to enjoy

The “Junior Java” has become popular among WVHS students for its humor and style

By Aly Johnston  
Editor-in-Chief

Over the 2018-2019 school year, a new YouTube sensation has emerged – the Junior Java.

A variety show with topics like school events, coffee, and teenage life, juniors Ally Finkbeiner and Meghann Yochim have done it all.

Both creators sit down with me to talk about their channel and what they're most proud of.

**Question:** Why do you do it?

**Ally:** “Meghann and I do the Junior Java as part of our journalism class because it's a different way to broadcast information to students instead of just writing articles.”  
**Meg:** “I do it because I think it's a very good way to reach the people of our age and it's a new way of journalism that hasn't been

brought to our school before.”

**Q:** What's your favorite episode?

**Ally:** “My favorite ep

isode would have to either be the school vlog or the Valentine's Day video, because, um, we got to involve a lot of students, and people really enjoy the episodes where they can see themselves in it.”  
**Meg:** “Definitely the “Drive with Us” episode because it includes people from our school, or the “School Day Vlog” because I like

including people from our community, and it was really fun to film.”

**Q:** What's the most difficult part?

**Ally:** “The most difficult part for me is planning, because we don't always know what we're going to do for each episode, and we don't know how long each part is going to take. We try to keep our vid-

eos around the same length, at seven to ten minutes each, and we never know how long a cooking portion

will be, or how long the bloopers will be.

It has been difficult to plan it and come up with exciting new content that people will be interested in.”

**Meg:** “Definitely the editing because I'm very horrible at managing my time, and managing your time and editing in a healthy way is something I need to work on, and that's hard to do with

all of the classes I'm taking. It's not that I don't like it, it's just that it's very time sensitive.

**Q:** What's your goal for the show?

**Ally:** “Our goal for the show is to get more people involved and get more people's input on what they want to see so we'll know what will do the best. We don't necessarily do it because we want a bunch of views, we do it because we think it's fun and it's a different way for us to express our ideas, and we hope more people can enjoy in the coming weeks.”

**Meg:** “My goal for the show is to include more people from our school from different groups, and different grades as well. Including people and reaching out to people in one of our main priorities, and I hope we can do that more.”

**Q:** What was your inspiration?

**Ally:** “You'd have to ask Meghann, but I'm 99% sure she'll say Emma Chamberlain.”

**Meg:** “Emma Chamberlain for sure. She's super funny, she's with the times, and she is very relatable to all teenagers today.”



Meghann Yochim and Ally Finkbeiner in a Junior Java thumbnail. Ally and Meghann have done the show since this year.

## College advice for juniors – a look into the future



Colorado Boulder's sign for their college.

By Kennedy Waible  
Staff Writer

If you're a senior, you know the amount of times you get asked “What are your plans next year?” or “Where are you going to school next year?” on a daily basis.

It can become extremely repetitive and frustrating to have people wondering what you're going to do, especially when you don't even know yourself. College is definitely the most difficult decision a person has to make at this age, and the decision is made even harder when you realize that you're trying to figure out what you want to do for the rest of your life.

This article is for the juniors who haven't quite experienced the tedious and ambitious process to college decisions.

The college decision process usually begins with applying to any school that sparks your interest. Many people apply to anywhere from 1 school to 20 schools nationally or internationally.

It only gets harder from here though. The constant grind of writing essays that could make or break you is extremely stressful.

Imagine it as trying to highlight everything amazing about yourself and why you belong at that school in one sequential story.

It feels like it's impossible to do - how do you determine one thing about yourself to tell these people who are deciding if you get into the school of your dreams?

Now it's time for the anticipation for the decisions from all the schools. There are colleges that get back to you in a week, and there's colleges that make you wait for months to hear back from. By this time, half of your friends either know where they're going or have plans set in stone for next year. More and more pressure is starting to be on you because your friends, family, parents, and others who may not even know you wonder and stress about when you're going to decide.

This is the time where you start to second guess your applications and wish you applied somewhere that you didn't. Fair warning: don't do this, it's toxic and will make you stress ten times more.

Next step in this process is the final decision, and the awkwardness of trying to find a roommate. There is no definitive answer to whether in state or out of state is better - it all depends on where you fit the best. You just need to go where you are going to be happy; don't worry if you make the wrong decision, as you can always come back or transfer somewhere else.

No matter your decision, you will need a roommate or two. If you decide to go out of state, it can be fun to read about people that you could possibly be sleeping in the same room with.

Many people who are going in state decide to room with someone they already know from high school. That's always a safe option, because you already know them. Keep in mind - this will be the person that you color coordinate your comforters with. It's a major decision.

The best part of the whole process is when you can finally tell all the curious and nosey people who have been dying to know your decision what your final choice is. No more frustration and stress. All the weight is lifted off your shoulders and you can ultimately live out the rest of your senior year and spend the last couple months you have with the people you love.

## Looking forward to spring break

By Sabyn Thoune  
Back Page Section Editor

Spring break. The last hurrah before teachers and students buckle down for the last ten weeks of school. This is the longest number of consecutive days we are in school without a break, and the strain starts to show.

As the good weather comes back around, students tend to lose focus and school becomes a bit more of a challenge. In Oregon, Spring Break occurs during a time when that nice weather hasn't quite returned, so most students and their families try to leave town one last time before summer vacation.

Speaking from personal experience, traveling to some sunshine is always a good idea if you can, especially after the months of rain we get.

Senior Sophi Heilig plans just such an adventure. She and her family travel to Palm Springs every year for Spring Break. Another student is freshman, Addy Terry. She will be traveling to Las Vegas to visit family and enjoy some sun.

Unlike the first few students, junior Ryan Berry will beat the heat as he travels to Canada with his family members to check out the area.

As some students travel far and wide, others will be enjoying some time at home without any school work to do or class to attend.

Either way, our fellow wildcats will have the week of March 25th-29th to enjoy some time off any way they would like to. Just remember to be safe and come back ready to finish the year out strong Wildcats!



Senior Cydney Gutridge at Kaanapali over last spring break. She enjoyed her trip, as well as the tropical weather.