

# The Paw Print

Wilsonville High School

6800 SW Wilsonville Rd.

Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

## Opinions

**Can you hear me now?**

An investigative piece on school dynamics.

## Student Life

**Black Student Union**

BSU is a newly instated club of WV!

## Sports

**Girls Basketball**

WV at the top of the NWOC once again.

## Academics

**Sophomore Spotlight**

A feature on sophomore Sanjana Mahesh.

## Arts

**Coffee House**

Theater Department hosts a showcase.

## Boys Basketball

### The road to becoming a 5A powerhouse

By Fiona Dunn  
Editor-in-Chief

The boys basketball team entered their season uncertain where they would land—their players young and inexperienced on the varsity stage. The previous year, Riley Scanlan led the team in scoring but after he and fellow starter Cason Dougall graduated, they left the team in a precarious situation. On top of that, with COVID constant and seemingly unrelenting, the team was unable to participate in their usual summer league season.

Despite all of this, the Cats kicked off their season by taking first place in the WIT. They took down the North Eugene Highlanders and the Falcons of Liberty High School with little stress; the former had a final score of 67-33 and the latter 59-30.

The championship game proved to be a tougher challenge. The Cats led Crescent Valley by four at halftime, but the Raiders were able to tie the game early in the third quarter. Then shortly after the game seemed to be going downhill, the Cats were able to pull away and maintained an 8-10 point lead. Senior, starting guard Enzo Chimenti explained, "I feel like we competed well. With it being the first three games of the season, I expected turnovers, missed shots, and fatigue from everyone on the team. However, we worked through that by competing."



Junior Tristan Davis looks to score during the Cats' game against Liberty in the second round of the WIT. Davis is a starting post on the boys basketball team and has worked to establish himself as a key interior presence this season.

Photo provided by Greg Artman.

Maxim Wu is another starting guard and believes their game against the Raiders is the most gelled together and connected their team has played: "I think we played the best complete versus Crescent Valley. They are currently the #2 ranked team in 5a, and we put together a good effort and had energy throughout the game."

After the WIT, the Cats went on to play in the Capital City Classic, making it all the way to the fourth round before falling to West Salem in a heart wrenching 2-point loss.

Their third and final tournament of the preseason took them over thirteen-hundred miles away, where they

played in the Clarke Cochran Christmas Classic of Ketchikan, Alaska. The team was dominant in all three games, resulting in scores of 53-13, 64-30, and 56-42.

The next time the Cats donned their uniforms was for the first league game of the season—against Milwaukie. The final score conveyed the Cats' obvi-

ous dominance with a 71-48 win.

However, eight days later the team hit a snag—and the snag was named "La Salle." The Cats lost their 77 game win-streak in league. Wu classified the team's performance as "sub-par" and described feelings of frustration due to the team's lack of energy during the warm-up and game itself. Wu reflected on the season so far and acknowledged, "We tend to get punched in the mouth early in the game." After the shocking loss to La Salle, the Cats have been concentrating on "getting ready to play and defensive intensity." This specific focus should help the Cats build habits that will prove advantageous as they move forward, and despite their penchant for starting slow, the boys have displayed a pretty tough mental game by repeatedly, and successfully, responding to adversity thus advancing their abilities as a team.

Now the Cats must look forward and work not only to place first in league, but to sustain their ranking among the top four (if the COVID precaution is instilled and state quarterfinals are held at a home gym, or the top eight if not) in order to put them in the best spot possible come early March. If they are able to capitalize on their talent and athletic abilities, as well as bring forth a renewed sense of drive and determination, the boys team should be right on track to play in Gill Coliseum.

## Poshmark Hustle

By Sydnie Bierma  
Student Life Editor

Poshmark, a modern thrifting app, has resurfaced over the past few years. People of all ages are finding that it's a quick and easy way to make money. Students at Wilsonville High School are no exception.

Senior Miles Gail was one of the first Poshmark hustlers and is known as the "Poshfather." He learned the business through his older brothers. "We used to go in the morning before school when the Milwaukie bins still opened at 7," quoted Gail. It wasn't until the summer before junior year that he branched out on his own and started his own account, Melbyn. "I wasn't making money working for my brothers anymore," explained Miles.

He keeps his account busy, posting 30 new items a day and having his self-made robots run every two hours. His "bots"

allow him to hack into his desktop from school. With this he can refresh his items and put them at the top of the search. He also joins different campaigns and "posh parties". This helps him blow out certain items rather quickly. "For example, joining an outdoor brand party allows me to reach out to more people," stated Miles.

Frustrated with his job at Jamba Juice, Connor Atwood joined the ranks of the self-employed. Atwood stated, "I was done being employed by an employer and wanted to work for myself." He also mentioned how at a traditional job you can put in extra effort and not get paid for it, but by hustling on Poshmark his sales go up.

Connor visits the Woodburn bins once a week. On Saturdays, "I take back roads to make the drive more enjoyable and arrive at 7:30." The line begins to form nearly an hour before the

bins open and sellers often chat while waiting. Once he goes in he tries to leave with around 75 items. Atwood then lists his items on his account atwoodvintage. He follows the schedule of posting 10 new items a day.

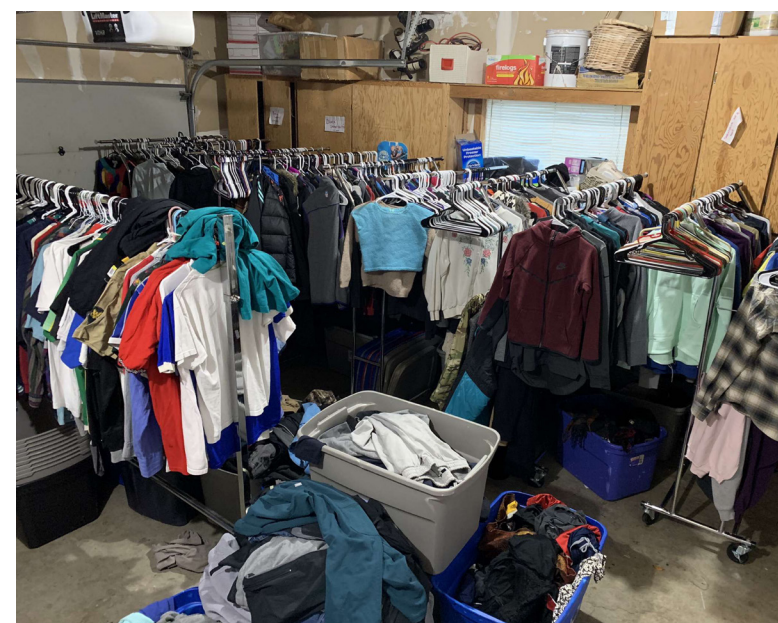
The part that makes a big difference and allows him to make the most money possible is his bots. He pays \$25 a month to have his bots refresh his items every three hours. In total it refreshes 8,700 items a day. The robots also interact with likes and send out offers. If an item is liked the bot waits 5 minutes to send out a 25% off offer—resulting in a quick sale.

Another high school hustler is Chase Hix who got into the business after seeing the great success that Miles had. Hix goes to the bins on the weekends; however, "during a long break I'll go pretty much everyday," he mentioned. He just recently bought storage bins for

his garage to organize his items.

He hopes to continue on his bins journey, as I'm sure other high school sellers at Wil-

sonville will do as well. Although this is just a snippet of a few of WVHS Poshmark sellers, business is booming now more than ever.



A sneak peek into the "Poshfather's" garage. His entire garage is filled with clothing racks and bins to store his items listed on Poshmark. Photo provided by Miles Gail.



# OPINIONS

Page 2

Feb 3rd, 2022

## Skiing vs. Snowboarding What snow sport is favored by teenagers?

By Emma Dougherty  
97070 Producer

Although Oregon has a beautiful summer, everyone waits for a snow filled winter on the mountain. The anxious winter sports fans were rewarded when Timberline, Meadows, and Ski Bowl announced their opening day of December 12th.

Many teenagers purchase a season pass, but some just go up a few times during the year. With the anticipation for the season to start, people get their skis and snowboards tuned up and waxed.

There is a significant difference between skiing and snowboarding. Skiing is done with two skis and poles. Snowboarding is done on one board where you have to strap in every time you get off the lift. The common question asked, which is better?

Hiro Kondo, a skier and snowboarder shares his opinion, "I've skied for 10 years and snowboarded for 3 years. I just recently picked up snowboarding, but I don't favor one over the other. I'm looking forward to going up to the mountain with all my friends this year."

Opposing skiing is Caedan Harrison who's on the snowboard team. Harrison exclaimed, "I've been snowboarding for 7 years, and I have been on the snowboard team since freshman year. I prefer snowboarding over skiing because it is easier

to do fun tricks on a snowboard."

One advantage of snowboarding is there is only one board your feet are strapped into, while skis one foot is strapped into each, making snowboarding easier to do tricks. Snowboarding is hard and doesn't come naturally, while many kids were raised to ski. It is common for parents to teach their kids to ski first because it tends to be easier.

Marisa Roska, a senior, says, "I have been skiing since I was 8 and have wanted to snowboard, but I don't go to the mountain enough to learn how to do it, so I just stick to skiing. Going down the mountain is such a good stress reliever, and it's gorgeous up there."

With the long wait for enough snow to open up the mountain, students took advantage of their days off of school, during winter break to go get some runs in. Addy Terry, also a senior, shares, "I have been skiing since 7th grade, and I've never snowboarded before. I honestly think skiing is a lot more fun, if I wanted to learn to snowboard I should have learned how to do it a long time ago since it's pretty difficult."

The different lodges to choose from offer night skiing for skiers and snowboarders as well. If skiing and snowboarding isn't your thing, you can also go tubing. Make sure you bundle up whenever you head up to the mountain next, and enjoy hitting the slopes!



Hiro Kondo and Rochne Beecham skiing and snowboarding at Timberline. Taking advantage of the days off on winter break. Photo provided by Hiro Kondo.

## The Paw Print

The Wilsonville Broadcast Network is the student-run media program, dedicated to telling the stories of Wilsonville High School. Our goal is to produce accurate, interesting, and informative news across a variety of media platforms.

### Editor-in-Chief:

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A Paw Print Editorial

## PDA: Public displays of affection

It is no question that walking past two people groping each other outside of your science classroom is uncomfortable. Why is it then, that PDA is everywhere at Wilsonville High School? Is it for attention? Is it purely because they can't read the room? Right off the bat, a key distinction must be made between acceptable and unacceptable public displays of affection. Acceptable

forms of PDA may include hand-holding--as it doesn't affect a learning environment, nor is it seemingly too intimate for public social gatherings. As societal norms are the blueprint of what is okay, or not, in settings outside of school, why is it that these norms are suddenly ignored by a select few the moment they walk through the school doors? The overwhelming majority of

the student body, and the staff of WVHS, seem to despise these interactions, yet they continue to visibly occur--every single day. PDA is not just making individual passing students avert their gaze but negatively impacting the entire school's atmosphere. Instead of feeling at peace and comfortable at school, students are bombarded by emotionally distressing visuals of their peers--and then

asked to go sit by them in math class. PDA does not have a place at school, so how do we eradicate an obnoxious habit in those who refuse to take the hint? Heckling? Physically pulling them apart? One thing is for certain: PDA is a distraction to the student body's learning environment and to put it simply, such displays of public affection just need to go.



# OPINIONS

Feb 3rd, 2022

Page 3

By Cole Hubka  
Staff Writer

There are many different coaching styles shared among different coaches. Each individual coach feels that their style of coaching may be superior to others. Some believe in a more harsh coaching style while others use little discipline. Athletes respond to different styles of coaching in different ways. Some prefer tough love while others like to be punished or told like it is.

Some pros of coaching light are that the coach gives services that allow him or her to get players respect. The coaches and players avoid conflict. There is more accountability on the players to get their work done. The coach is more valued.

Some pros of coaching heavy are that feedback is based on practices or games with evi-

dence. Established rules and protocols. The coaches collaborate with the player to help them get better. The coach is more needed.

Some cons to coaching light are that the players might not feel the need to practice on their own to get better because they don't have a coach who is always helping them. Another con is that there might not be as much of a seriousness at practices and games because the coach could be too laid back and let the players do what they want.

Cons to coaching heavy are that it can make the players more stressed for practices or games because they always have a coach watching them. A second con to coaching heavy is that the players might lose interest in the sport they are playing because of

## Coaching Critique



Coach Guenther talks to his team after the semifinal game against Thurston. The Cats lost 14-34. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

a coach who is more autocratic. The Wilsonville football team had a very good season this year going 11-1 and making it to the semifinals. I asked Coach Guenther what his stance was

on coaching and he said this, "My coaching style is a mix of both laid back and heavy. I am mostly laid back with my players but when I need to get on them I do." I then interviewed the Wild-

cats quarterback Chase Hix who said this about which coaching styles he prefers, "I prefer a more laid back coaching style." The coaching style that Coach Guenther uses is obviously very effective because all his players love him and he wins a lot of games.

In my opinion, I would want to have a coach like Coach Guenther who is a mix of light and heavy. I think there is always room for fun in sports whether it be in practice or pregame but once that game starts the coach should get serious as well as the players.

At the end of the day, all that really matters is that the team is happy with the coach and that they are winning. If the players aren't happy with the coaches coaching style he or she should probably change their coaching style and be more democratic with the players.

By Alexis McIlmoil  
Opinions Editor

## Can you hear me now?

The one thing I'm sure we didn't expect from 2020 was a worldwide pandemic. Lives were completely uprooted, loved ones were lost—for lack of a better word, it was one hell of a year. But it didn't just stop after that year. It seeped through into the future, which has become our present.

In the face of a life-threatening virus, schools were shut down and teachers and students alike went through some of the hardest learning periods, probably of their lives.

There's a few teachers this year that students, myself included, are having a rather difficult time with, whether it's because of the way they are teaching, or the way they aren't teaching. This got me thinking.

In a previous article I had written, during the writing process I was educated to understand the new educational and teaching standards so that students' grades were actually reflecting their learning abilities and behaviors, with the objective of creating a more equitable grading system for students. It's been a few months since then and there have definitely been some changes. Not just on the teacher front, but the students as well.

As a student at Wilsonville, I can confidently say that teachers have definitely made changes. I for one am extremely grateful for the changes that have been made. I feel like I am excelling in many of my courses now that normally would be rather difficult. "The relationship between teachers and students needs to work in tandem for the highest learning efficiency," says Fiona Dunn, a junior at Wilsonville.

When the relationship between students and teachers is synergistic, and when the feedback interchanges between the two are respectful and constructive, it leads to an optimum outcome.

Mr. Collier, a science



Senora Zolotoff and Alexis McIlmoil, stand back to back. McIlmoil said Mrs Zolotoff is her idol. Photo provided by the author. Photo provided by author.

teacher at Wilsonville shares his thought that, "We need to be realistic and accept the fact that the last 18 months have interfered with students' education. Personally, I feel everything, not just school and work— but the world seems to be a much more stressful place, and stress is not good for learning."

He personally has given his students as much time and patience as they need, in hopes to not further discourage students: "There's a lot of teachers who want things to go back to how they were immediately, but if you have a large number of students telling you that they are at their limit and struggling, we have to address that, that is our job. That doesn't mean we stop teaching them, we give them more time, we try new things and see if that works."

"We've all been in those situations where someone cares about your problems or your feel-

ings. Now more than ever, in terms of getting our students back to where they're capable of, we need to help with that as much as we can," shares Mr. Collier.

Coller said he had realized that strict guidance wasn't the attitude best suited for an educator because there are those kids that are left behind, whatever the reason. He's swung the other way to give students as much space, time, and leeway to learn with the intention that they keep trying to learn and they don't quit. "The goal isn't to have everyone learn everything by the same date, but to have everyone keep learning and not quit, because that's when we all lose."

Senora Zolotoff shares that she loves student feedback. I have personally had the honor of having Senora Zolotoff teach all my Spanish classes throughout high school. Because of her teaching style, which had already been implementing many of the new educational standards from this year, I will go on to take AP Spanish my senior year, an incredible feat I never imagined would cross my mind.

Mrs. Roberts, an English teacher, also shares many of the same attributes of Mrs. Zolotoff's teaching. Both teachers had already been using many of the "new techniques" brought to attention this year. She asks students, "Please tell me if something sucks, I'm not doing my job if kids aren't learning. I genuinely want my students to do well. Too much, too fast, can be extremely overwhelming and me piling more work on isn't going to improve anything." She also shares that parents and students alike have been very appreciative of her grading and teaching efforts.

I, for one, am extremely grateful towards math teachers much like Mr. Mitchell, who has really applied so many helpful strategies for students' learning.

Math has never been a strong suit of mine, so when a math teacher like Mr. Mitchell gives review packets very similar to assessments and lots of practice work, I can't help but smile.

One of the social studies teachers, Ms. Rehwaldt, shares that she's "not grading as many things this year, which students always like. The tricky part is more of the control over how a student does on their summative assessment that measures their final learning is really their responsibility because I'm not motivating them by the grade of their individual daily work."

She also shares other helpful tactics she's implemented such as not giving out 0s, which can have a huge impact on a student's grades, and instead give 30%. A 0 is an outlier and can skew a grade horribly in the wrong way.

Mrs. Rehwaldt teaches AP United States History which, in the spring, students can take the APUSH AP test and receive college credit. Ms. Rehwaldt's goal is to make sure students not only understand the textbook, but use their learning to be able to synthesize and create an understanding in those final essays during the AP test.

To wrap things up, our principal Mrs Schmidt shares that she loves that kids are advocating and sharing their input respectfully with teachers. When students went to their December academic seminar, they were asked to fill out a form online which asked for kids' feedback through questions such as, "What do you need better as a learner at school?"

The administration then took all of these suggestions and summarized them. They were put in front of all the teachers at a staff meeting and the teachers were asked to put them into categories by what they were observing. They were asked, "What do the kids want, and

what can you take from that?"

A student leadership advisory group was also started. It consists of students representing all clubs activities, and grade levels. The student advisory group was asked to do the same activity.

Mrs. Schimdt shares that, "We are constantly looking for feedback and ways to get kids to participate in feedback." The administration wants students to know that they are listening and looking for ways for different groups of students to feel comfortable sharing what they want, knowing that kids will respond to their learning environment if there are certain characteristics of school that are more suitable.

These past few years have been unprecedented. Students have been struggling, but there are people listening. The changes that the administration has asked teachers to make aren't easy to do, but like Mr. Collier said, it's a teacher's job to address those struggles. Teachers have definitely not been having an easy time as well, so students be grateful towards their efforts!

Students should hope that we can create the most efficient and orderly, but also enjoyable learning and teaching environment at our school. Perseverance and patience have never been needed more. Even though the year is halfway done, and finishing soon, it's not quite the end for the younger grade levels. This is not the time to push through until the summer and quit.

To produce the peak educational environment for the students this year and the years to come, continue to cooperate together and keep advocating! Just because a change wasn't made immediately, doesn't mean it isn't heard. Use your voice in a respectful way and create the environment you want to continue to learn in.



# STUDENT LIFE

## Evolution of Winter Formal Attire at WVHS

By Emma Matthies  
Guest Writer

How do you picture a high school couple at Winter Formal? Maybe a sleek tuxedo and a classy dress? Possibly accessorized with a matching tie for him and pumps for her? But what if there were two “she’s”, and one was wearing a two piece jumpsuit, the other a casual suit?

Looking back 20 years, dance attire looked a lot different than it does today. High school in the early 2000s is associated with bright colored dresses, and chunky hair highlights. In this era, even cummerbunds and hats were in style.

As time went on, formal turned into semi formal. Kyleigh Coupe shared her take on the dance fashion of our generation: “From what I’ve noticed a lot of girls like to wear tighter fitting, shorter dresses and the guys just wear a nice shirt, pants, and either a bow tie or regular tie.”

Dresses have become shorter and vary in style; fancy hair updos are now considered “so last season,” and bowties

and suspenders came into the picture. This description seems to fit a common stereotype that represents the ensembles worn at Wilsonville High School for the past decade.

“In some cases stereotypes drive simplicity and lack of creativity in outfits in fear of looking too different,” says Elijah Sievers. In other words, the presence of clothing “expectations” can cause students to shy away from their individuality.

But what if the stereotypes could be broken? What if every student could wear whatever they wanted to, regardless of gender roles

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*“In some cases stereotypes drive simplicity and lack of creativity in outfits in fear of looking too different,”*  
-Elijah Sievers

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and high school cliches?

This is where 2022 comes in. Fashion influencers such as Emma Chamberlain expose teens to unique trends in regards to daily clothing and streetwear.

Students can even bring this individuality to Winter Formal. Elle Bidwell opens up about her outfit ideas for this year’s dance. “I definitely want to wear some sort of dress, but I honestly hate wearing heels, so I’ll probably be in boots.”

Elle agrees that this generation gives a lot of freedom in what students can wear. “I get inspiration from the media, but I also try to feel individualistic and show myself in what I wear,” she explains. Her biggest inspiration this year will be Kat’s blue prom dress from the movie 10 Things I Hate About You!



### Fashion Forward!

Elijah Sievers added his own flare to his previous homecoming outfit. He paired a simple undershirt with dark cyan pants and a sleek chain.

## WVHS Yearbook Back in Action!

By Mckennzie Platt  
Guest Writer

Last year, yearbook class took place mostly over Zoom. One of the things that made it especially difficult was that the class only met in the first and third quarter, so Mr. Katz didn’t have enough consistent student-input to make the book truly representative of the students at WVHS. This year the yearbook staff meets daily and is working really hard to adjust, being back at school.

This year there aren’t as many people working on the book this year compared to last year. They’re behind on deadlines, and just don’t have enough people to manage time well with the amount of work that still has to be done.

The yearbook staff this year has very big plans for the yearbook and is trying their best to include as many people as they can in the book by going around taking photos of people do-



The entire WVHS yearbook staff! This photo was taken during Mr. Katz’s first period yearbook class. Photo provided by Mr. Katz.

ing various activities. There are also several new pages in the yearbook this year that weren’t featured previously.

In response to all

the new clubs, activities, and classes there will be a separate page in the book

Talking to some of the

other staff members about

how they felt about the yearbook, Gabby Prusse said, “I feel like it’s going better than last year; However, it’s being made slowly but surely. I

think it’s going well but some people want to put weird stuff in the book as a joke.”

Another WVHS student Preston Jeffords who isn’t a part of the yearbook staff was asked if thought the yearbook would be better this year. In response he said, “I think it will be better because there’s more activities and students with lots of school spirit on campus! And when the school’s energy is high the clubs and activities in the school prosper exponentially!”

With everything that’s taken place over the past year it’s been pondered that the book won’t live up to its usual standard. Megan Eagles also said, “It is really fun to design such an iconic book.”

The yearbook staff puts in a lot of hard work into making a yearbook every year. There are so many aspects about a yearbook that are more complex than they seem.



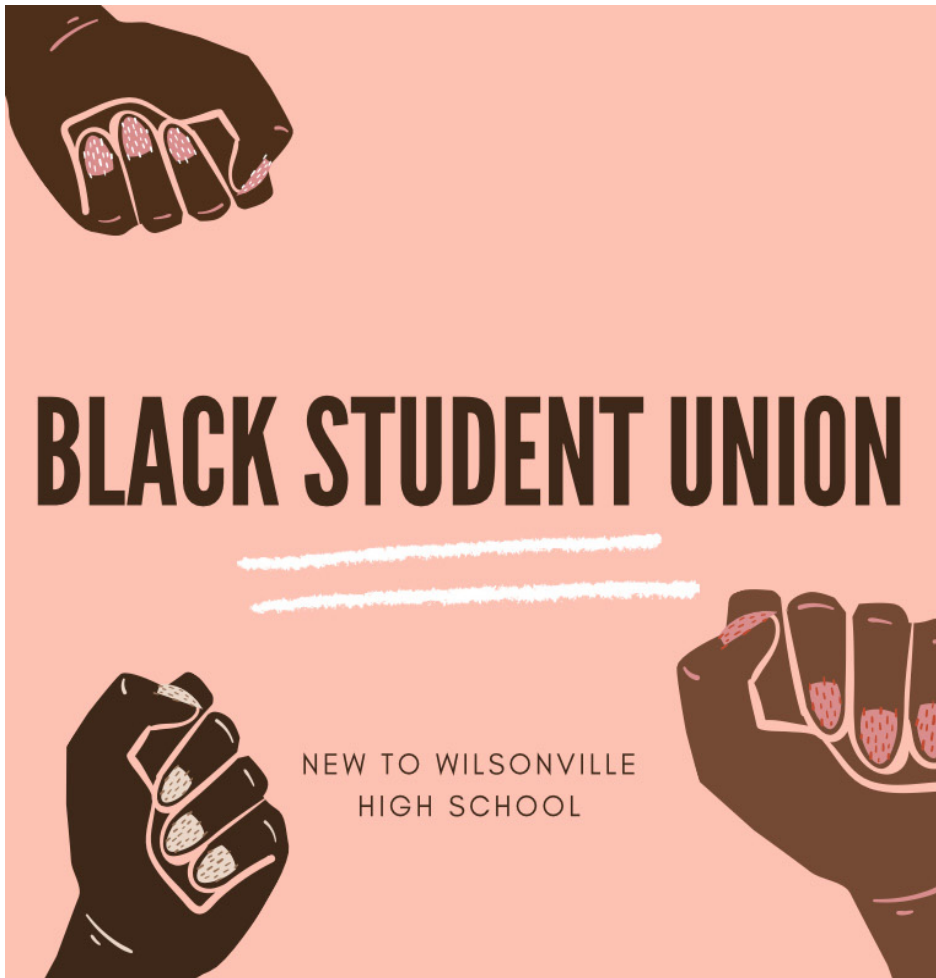
# STUDENT LIFE

Feb 3rd, 2022

Page 5

## The Black Student Union gives students a voice

By Alina Jakobson  
Staff Writer



The Black Student Union has arrived at WVHS! Bringing awareness, a safe space, and comfort, the BSU is a great new addition to Wilsonville High School. Graphic made by author.

The Black Student Union is a brand new club this year at Wilsonville High School. The BSU is a safe space for black students to spread awareness, and it provides them with an outlet to discuss issues that they may be facing.

Counselor Mr. Abraham is the staff advisor for the BSU. Mr. Abraham is the leader that oversees the club's process and makes sure that everything goes smoothly.

Sophomore Kiera Easterly is a co-founder of the BSU, along with a few others. At this point in time there are about 5 students in the club. Kiera Easterly says, "Since the club is brand new it's a work in progress and is actively growing."

The main goal of the BSU according to co-founder Kiera Easterly is, "We just want to spread awareness, and without BSU people wouldn't know about the black community at this school. The goal is to do good things and earn status in the club community at Wilsonville High School so that we can continue to have this club for years to come."

*"We just want to spread awareness, and without BSU people wouldn't know about the black community at this school. The goal is to do good things and earn status in the club community at Wilsonville High School so that we can continue to have this club for years to come."*  
-Kiera Easterly

Kiera plans to continue being involved with the BSU for the rest of her high school career. She mentioned, "we have this opportunity to have a kente sash to wear when we gradu-

ate, and embroidered on it will be our graduating year." A kente stole is a woven scarf-like garment adapted from African tradition in Ghana that is worn over the shoulders at graduation.

Many new clubs have popped up this 2021-2022 school year and are a great place for students to express their interests while having a safe place to go. The Black Student Union at Wilsonville High School is trailblazing the way to spread awareness about the African American community and will be around for many more years to come!

If you are interested in joining, email:

Mr. Abraham

[abrahama@wlwv.k12.or.us](mailto:abrahama@wlwv.k12.or.us)

Kiera Easterly  
[easterlk@wvhs.wlww.k12.or.us](mailto:easterlk@wvhs.wlww.k12.or.us)

## The WVHS community: How can we make sure everyone is being represented?

By Elia Bartlett  
Managing Editor

Inclusivity is one of WVHS's core goals when it comes to the community. The staff and students work hard to ensure people feel welcome and heard, but giving voice to underrepresented communities is something that can always be improved on. With such a diverse school community, it is important to keep in mind our differences. Sometimes, especially coming from a different perspective, people's voices can get lost in the mix. When that happens, the community must work together to ensure everyone is heard and respected.

Here at WVHS, the community of students are extremely considerate of this topic. Many dedicated students formed clubs over these past few years that are aimed towards creating a safe environment for students.

The LGBTQ+ club is geared toward encouraging students to be themselves and "[working] to build capacities of understanding and acknowledgement," as stated by their club description, written by the students involved as a way to introduce people to the club. This club is not new, but is a prominent voice in the

WVHS community, advocating for MEChA is a national organization for Latinx/Chicanx students, and is designed to unite these students and strengthen their community. Having these kinds of clubs is a great way to bring students together.

Another one of the clubs that has been a prevalent advocate for people's voices to be heard is the Female Empowerment Club. It is run by a group of sophomores, juniors, and seniors who work together to plan events and create an environment where people feel safe. The student leaders have expressed that their goal for the club is to advocate for the rights of women, not just in our community, but all over the country and the world.

Although in the past, students have expressed complaints about feeling like they are not being listened to. Sometimes after a change is made to the school, there is backlash from students who do not like the outcome and wish they had had some say. Most recently, the decision to shut down the vending machines during class hours has caused some protests among



Student Advisory Club member Anthea Goh asks for junior Kyra Lorio's thoughts on how the school could make academic resources more accessible to students. The committee had discussed this, along with other issues, at their last meeting. Photo provided by author.

the student body. However, recently the school has established the Student Advisory Committee as a way to connect with students and get their opinions on changes happening in the school.

The committee meets about once a month to discuss ways in which the school can be improved. The administration has been searching for a way to get student input on the

school, Ms Schmidt explained to the group on their first meeting, and they came up with the committee as a way to better understand the needs of the students.

The Student Advisory Committee is made up of all grade levels, and the members work together at meetings to brainstorm and come up with solutions for standing issues in the school. While it is true that a small sample does not speak for the opinions of the entire student body, having these students, who can then reach out to their peers and ask their opinions, is a way in which the school is taking student voices into consideration.

While there may never be a way to capture all of the individuality that the WVHS community has to offer, staff and students are working together to hear everybody's voices, and make sure everyone feels safe and comfortable. The school will undoubtedly see more clubs, programs, and other pulls for inclusivity as the people involved grow to be more aware of the differences that make the community so unique.



# SPORTS

Feb 3rd, 2022

Page 6

## Girls Basketball season update



Wilsonville's starting lineup for game against rival La Salle. Senior Karina Borgen (far left) has been a fantastic leader on and off the court for this Wilsonville squad. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

By Mason Seal  
Broadcasting Manager

It has been a successful season thus far for the Wilsonville Wildcats girls basketball team. After a short season last year and losing multiple big contributors going into the 21-22 season Wilsonville started the year on a rocky trajectory however turned it around as of late. The defense kept Wilsonville in games all year but the offense failed Wilsonville in the first part of the season. Asking Fiona Dunn about the struggles at the beginning of the season she stated, "The team did not play much together and it took a little bit of effort to get comfortable with each other and meld together." Lily Scanlan added on to Dunn's statement... "A lot of team bonding and getting to know each other on and off the court, getting to know the style we all play with has really helped us." After a very bumpy start (3-4) the Wilsonville girls got on a hot streak winning eight games in a row. Especially considering how young of a team Wilsonville is, out of the four returning seniors (Karina Borgen, Grace Gatto, Kam Gibson, and Peyton Timm) only Borgen and Gatto had big minutes last season.

With those seniors stepping up it has been a smooth transition for Wilsonville's underclassmen who have gotten crunch time minutes at the varsity level. Stud freshmen wing and post Audrey Counts and Payton Radcliffe respectively have started almost every game for Wilsonville and a great start to promising careers. The aforementioned Scanlan and Zoey Davis have been big players to the success Wilsonville has had this year. Davis has led the Wildcats in scoring multiple times, and Scanlan has been a solid player off the bench. Fiona Dunn the lone junior on this varsity team has stepped into another rotational role and has a bright future ahead of her. When asked about her end goals for this season Dunn responded, "Making it to state is always a goal and getting home court advantage for the playoffs would be fantastic." Scanlan had the same ideas as Dunn when asked a similar question about goals for this year: "We want to make it to state, especially for coach Duke because he has had the last couple opportunities of state taken away from him due to covid." During that 8 game win streak with wins over NWOC rivals such as La Salle and Rex Putnam, Wilsonville finds themselves at the top of the NWOC once again. Dunn spoke on the recent hot streak: "It puts us in a really good position for the playoffs

and beating teams like Putnam and La Salle puts us in an excellent spot in the conference." Wilsonville has been a very good team as of late, it will be exciting to see what they do heading into the month of February. Going into the second half of league play Wilsonville is ranked 7th in 5A and as already mentioned is in the drivers seat for the NWOC. However with big aspirations and motivation this Wilsonville team is one you wouldn't want to play coming down the stretch. Led by stud seniors Borgen and Gatto followed up with fantastic stars in the making Counts, Radcliffe, Scanlan, and Davis Wilsonville is dangerous for this year and many years to come.

*"Making it to state is always a goal and getting home court advantage for the playoffs would be fantastic."*

- Fiona Dunn

## Wilsonville Wrestling led by talented youth and veterans

By Keenan Sanford  
Staff Writer

The Wilsonville Wrestling season, just like all other winter sports, is well underway. About half of the way into the season, the Cats have participated in lots of tournaments, duels, and meets. In Oregon, a very competitive state for wrestling, the Cats are being tested week in and week out with their heavy youth. But with their youth comes

lots of raw talent. Here's a quick recap of some of their biggest tournaments and competitions: The first big tournament for the Cats came as the Tyrone Woods invite. It was also the biggest tournament that the Cats have participated in. They went up against the likes of Hood River, Pendleton, Barlow, and Silverton. Their youth showed as they struggled against the other wrestling powerhouses. Next, the Cats had a big challenge: their first NWOC meet against a

very tough Scappoose squad. The Scappoose team is one of the most respected teams in not just the NWOC, but the entire state. Coming into the match, the Wildcats were heavy underdogs. But they fought hard. They took some early points, but Scappoose ran away with it by a score of 57-22. In a quick turnaround, the Cats geared up for another large tournament, this time in the form of the Rose City Classic. This time they faced off against

Thurston, Dallas, and Glencoe, among others. Similar to the Tyrone Woods tournament, the Cats fought hard but their youth and inexperience showed early. The NWOC is not a friendly schedule, as the wrestling Wildcats had to strap up for another tough in conference opponent. This time: the Hillsboro Spartans. The Spartans were led by some big bodied veterans and scrappy youth. The Cats were outmatched and they dropped this dual 56-30.

## Wilsonville Swim Team

By Connor Larsen  
Staff Writer

Wilsonville swim is coming off a menacing season during the pandemic, dominating NWOC. Now in the current season with the boys undefeated and the girls with only one team loss across the whole season, the team looks even more threatening than they were last year with minimal waver.

Last season, the boys took fourth in the district while the girls took second and graduated numerous talented seniors. One of those seniors, Abby Maoz, who is now currently attending Louisiana State University, was named the 5A Oregon athlete of the year. She was a three-time state champion in the 100 breaststroke, an NISCA All American, and as the Oregon state record holder of the 100 breaststroke. With Wilsonville graduating an athlete who is arguably the highest achieving athlete the school has ever had, the program has a lot of momentum coming out of the pandemic. The Cats came out right out of the gates with some dominant wins in the district.

One thing the program could definitely use however, is a city pool. The team, due to limitations of being able to use the Tualatin pool, is only able to practice 3 days a week, while most teams in the state are able to practice 5 days a week because they have pools in their city. "Most schools don't have pools because of the liability issues that come with it, but it would be great if the city could have one. Most teams train 5 days a week, while we only get to train 3 days a week with the lack of a pool in the city," said Coach Deb, who has coached Wilsonville swim since the school opened up in 1995. 5 days a week of practice would allow the coaches to balance training phases and not overwork the kids, while keeping them consistent and providing more training opportunities outside of practice during the season. Despite this, the team has set strong marks thus far in a meet against Rex Putnam and Scappoose in the middle of December. They continued to perform in a league meet on





# SPORTS

Page 7

Feb 3rd, 2022

## Team 2021-2022

January 21st against the previously mentioned teams and Milwaukie, and then in the Molalla invitational the day after. There are only a few more meets to go: the last meet of January on the 29th, another NWOC meet, and then the last regular season meet on the 2nd of February. All of these meets will lead into the taper week, a week of lower volume and easier swimming to make sure all the swimmers are well rested. Districts will be held at Parkrose High School on February 11-12. The star swimmer to look out for this season is Helena Jones, who has the potential to take several different district titles ranging from 50 to 500 freestyle as well as the 100 backstroke. The wide skill set she has in swimming could bank tons of good points for the team and be a key contributor to keeping the girls team within striking distance of a district title. We wish the best of luck for the team and every student to have good health and to be able to finish their semester strong. All swimmers, go give it your all at districts!



Photo to left is Steven Khamvongsa competing in the 100 freestyle his freshman year. The pandemic only allowed for dual meets until districts, yet determination can still be found in Steven and the rest of the team. Photo provided by Greg Artman

## Welcome to the broadcasting family!

By Anthony Saccente  
Broadcast Manager



Hannah Gillas taking a win over Putnam. Gillas recently took first place in one of the girls bracket at the Colton Holly Tournament at WVHS. Photo provided by Greg Artman

WBN is expanding its illustrious broadcasting foothold for home sporting events at Wilsonville High School!

Wrestling has become a regular event in the broadcasting canon for the winter athletic season. Our first home event was a league match against Scappoose. The Wildcats ended up losing the match to Scappoose 57 to 22, but it was well fought on both sides.

Their second match was a dual meet vs. league rival Hillsboro. The final score to that match was 54 to 30, Hillsboro with the hard fought victory.

The remaining home matches are the Colton Holly Memorial Invitational on January 29th (hosting Barlow, Canby, Grant, Newberg, Pendleton, and Tigard) and the Putnam vs. Wilsonville Dual Meet on February 2nd. We are very excited for these events, and we expect the Wildcats to give their best showing.

As far as the broadcasts are concerned, they have been running very smoothly. For those who do not know, all of the events produced happen in the main gym. For basketball, we set up all of our equipment in the bleachers up above mid court and right below our pixellot camera.

Speaking of that camera, it behaves quite splendidly. Anyone who has tuned into any of our broadcasts would know that sometimes the automated camera will not always be in the best place to capture the action that is going on in the specific event. But that has NOT been the case!

All of the action takes place at mid court, with only one light shining on the ring. It is quite a momentous sight, especially just before the match when you can feel all of the build up for that night.

Also, the audio quality has been fantastic. People have been able to hear the announcers just fine and watch the matches with ease.

Jessica Hansen is a senior at Wilsonville High School, who has been wrestling this season and has been announcing wrestling matches this year. Despite wanting to be inside the ring, she fell in love with the announcing experience. "The whole time announcing I wanted to be down there to support my teammates, but was happy that I was able to broadcast and support them from there."

Other people are excited about the broadcasting upgrade. Jasmine Brown is a sophomore

*"The whole time announcing I wanted to be down there to support my teammates, but was happy that I was able to broadcast and support them from there."*

- Jessica Hansen

at Wilsonville High School, who has been wrestling for five years. "I love it. I think it is a great way to see the sport from a different perspective. And I like how people can learn more about wrestling while watching the events."

With all of that said, WBN is excited about the progress it has made in expanding its wrestling coverage, and it looks to keep moving forward.

As with all of our sports, you can watch all of the home regular season wrestling matches for free on NFHS by creating an account and using the Wilsonville High School page. We hope you tune in!

The Cats have been looking to gain some sort of momentum throughout the grueling season and they hoped that a matchup against 6A Centennial would be a good starting point. It was neck and neck towards the end with both teams seeming like they'll run away with it but then the other team would catch back up. In the end it was the Cats who got the W by a score of 38-33! It didn't matter who the Cats faced, they always battled until the very

last set. This was evident in all of their tournaments, meets, and matches. "Wrestling is tough because it requires resilience," says Sophomore Jasmine Brown. "You need to be able to be mentally tough." However, their youth and inexperience caught up to them a lot of the time. But with youth and inexperience now, comes veteran knowledge in the future. The Wildcat wrestling program had a large mixture of talent. Some seniors like Hanna Gilas,

Marshall Rodenbeck, and Zack Sotherland helped lead the way for this squad. The Cats also got lots of very solid performances from underclassmen this year, and they will look to become an even bigger role in the coming years. Performances from Sophomores Ziggy Shoemaker, Cooper Adams, and Jasmine Brown, among others, are reasons for this program to have lots of optimism in the near future. "We are going to be solid in the coming years,"

says Shoemaker. "We've got a lot of good younger guys and girls."

Wilsonville Wrestling logo. They represent WVHS well!

Photo provided by Keenan Sanford





# ACADEMICS

Page 8

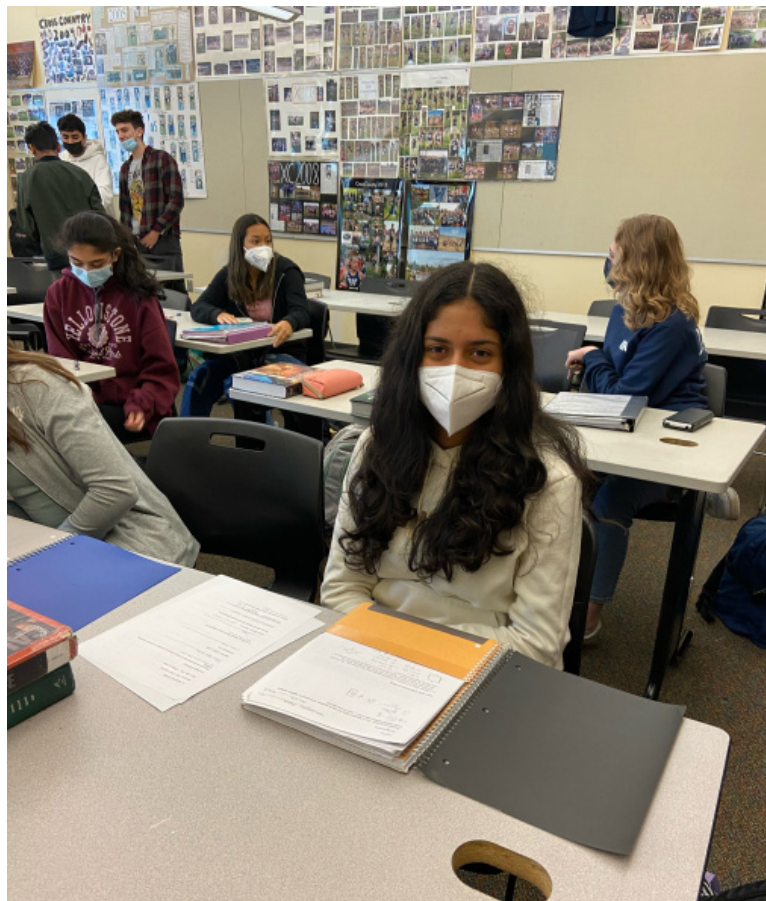
Feb 3rd, 2022

By Anthea Goh  
Managing Editor

## Sophomore Spotlight

Sanjana Mahesh is a force to be reckoned with. As a sophomore, Mahesh is currently taking AP Chemistry, AP U.S. History, English 10, Robotics, AP Calculus AB, and Spanish III. With three AP classes on her plate, she has quite the workload and difficult material to get through, but she doesn't let that stop her. Challenging courses, like AP classes, come with a high workload full of challenging content. However, Sanjana isn't afraid to put in the work and extra hours to succeed in those classes. She generally spends four hours a day doing homework before staying up late to study for any upcoming quizzes or tests. "I usually try to study a couple days before a test. I also study until I feel confident with what I learned and it helps me deal with stress," Mahesh stated regarding her study habits.

As if three AP classes aren't impressive enough, two of those classes, AP Chemistry and AP Calculus AB, are classes usually taken exclusively by upperclassmen. Although the classes can be difficult, Mahesh doesn't regret taking them. She doesn't feel like very many of



Sanjana Mahesh in her AP Calculus AB class studying for finals. She is one of the only sophomores in the class of juniors and seniors. Photo provided by author.

the challenges she has faced in those classes are due to her

being in a lower grade than her classmates. When asked about the atmosphere of those classes, Sanjana mentioned, "The upperclassmen are very supportive and in AP Chemistry no one looks at me like an underclassman."

So far this year, Sanjana has found that her most challenging class is AP Chemistry. She said that this was her hardest class mainly because she didn't take general chemistry prior to taking AP Chemistry, meaning that everything was new to her in comparison to her classmates who already had a year of chemistry knowledge before going into the class. On the other hand, Sanjana felt like the class with the hardest workload was AP U.S. History, a class with heavy reading assignments throughout the year. Nevertheless, she hasn't let the challenges of either of these classes get in her way.

On top of her accomplished academic record, Mahesh is also involved in several extracurricular activities outside of school. She is currently a class representative in Wilsonville High School's rotary club and is participating in ISEF this year.

She is also involved in sports, where she plays both volleyball and lacrosse. Sanjana has clearly proven that she is not only academically talented but also a well-rounded student who is involved in a variety of different activities.

When comparing her freshman and sophomore years, Sanjana has found that there has been a clear shift in her workload due to the fact that she is taking more challenging classes this year. With her increased workload and extracurricular activities, Mahesh has said that her other activities outside of school help push her to work faster, as well as not procrastinate on her schoolwork.

In the next coming years, Mahesh is planning to take several more challenging classes with a range of different AP classes. As she moves through her high school career, Sanjana Mahesh is a name to look out for. As a sophomore, Sanjana already has an incredible talent for knowledge and the willingness to put in the work to get where she wants to be. With her drive and ambition, it is without a doubt that Sanjana Mahesh has a very successful future in front of her.

## Wilsonville Robotics - Team 1425

By Katelyn LeBlanc  
Staff writer

Team 1425, Error Code Xero, is a student-led organization that allows students to become involved with STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and to get real-world experience. Team 1425 operates through the FIRST Robotics Challenge (FRC) organization and has competed for over 19 years. Currently our team consists of 37 students, and over 80% are new in the 2022 season.

Each year FRC creates a new, unique challenge for teams across the globe to participate in. This year the competition is called Rapid React. Robots have to throw balls into designated targets to score points and have their robot climb and hold itself up multiple feet. The competition season begins early March, and ends after 6 weeks, with a world's competition in Houston, Texas. The team works year-round on various tasks and off-season events. Our team is broken up into seven subteams, business, electrical, software, mechanical, design, strategy, and scouting. Each subteam has specific roles in the team and is managed by a student leader and has mentor supervision. The business subteam markets the team to the com-

munity, raises money, plans events, creates graphics and write-ups, and writes grants, along with many other tasks. The electrical team connects all electrical components on the robot, mounts sensors, builds independent electrical projects, and learns physics concepts and electrical theory. The software team programs autonomous and teleop modes, and writes the code in Java so the robots can perform various tasks either autonomously or while being driven by the human drive team. The mechanical team prototypes parts of the robot and builds the drive base and other subsystems specific to each year's game and season. The design team uses programs like OnShape to design the robot before the mechanical division starts to build it. Finally, the strategy and scouting teams are intertwined, and they brainstorm plans for the competitions and collect and interpret data taken during competitions by our team's Scouters and they use the data to help us understand how competitor teams compare to us. Students will learn a variety of STEM skills on Team 1425. Anyone can join the robotics team regardless of previous knowledge or experience. We make it our goal to ensure every student has a place on Team 1425.



The robotics team raising money by doing a car wash. They have worked really hard to make robotics such an amazing thing. Photo provided by Sydney Hildebrandt.



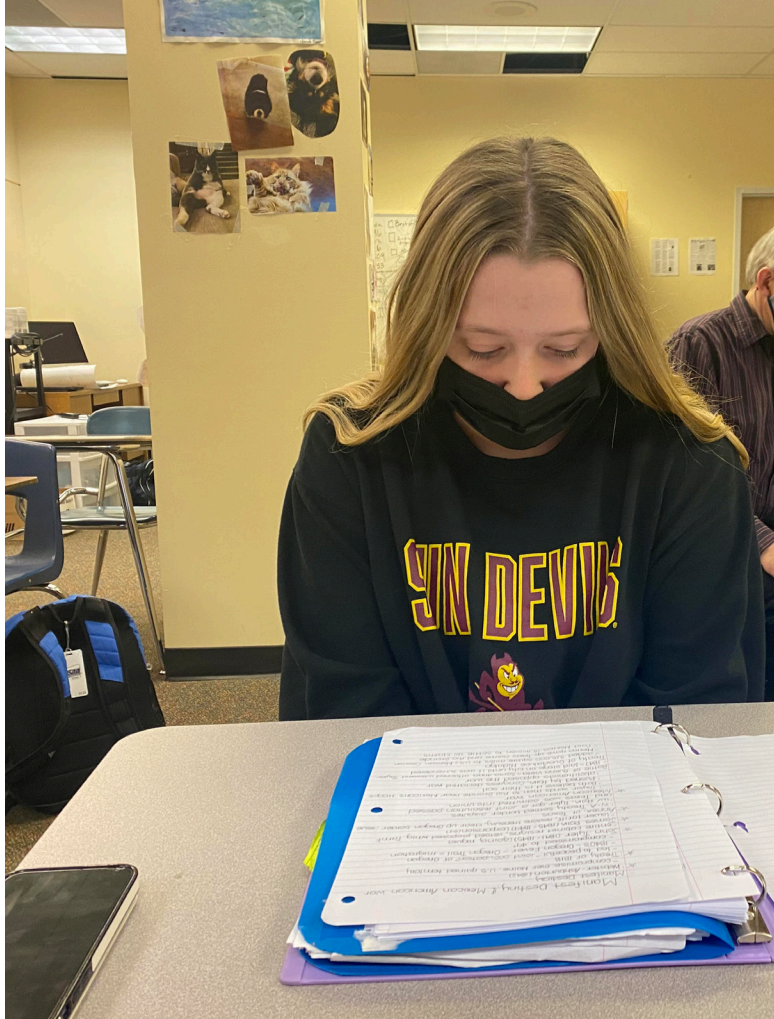
# ACADEMICS

Feb 3rd, 2022

Page 9

## Sophomores gearing up for finals

By Regan Loostyn  
Staff Writer



Sophomore Maddie Holly studying for her APUSH final. The sophomore class are walking into a finals week that they have not experienced before. Photo provided by author.

Wilsonville High School is a school that consists of a two-semester schedule. At the end of each semester, most classes will give a final test over what was learned during the semester. At WVHS, finals are over a three-day period. Each day is a half-day and there are only 2 class periods.

This is the first time that the sophomore class will take a "normal" final. Their 9th-grade year was mostly online and most teachers didn't give finals.

With having been online last year, students have a hard time staying focused in school. That made coming back to school in person hard for everyone to adjust.

Sophomore Sandier Ramirez shared that he had a hard time focusing on school. "I didn't really enjoy it just because I couldn't really pay attention as much as I should have because it was easy to go on my phone." However, he did say that coming back to school has taught him to pay attention more than in the past.

Since 10th graders have not experienced high school finals, they do not know what to expect. Sopho-

more Sarah Middleton shared that she wishes she could have had a normal final last school year to prepare for this semester.

"That way it is less nerve wracking because every time you do something for the first time it's always pretty scary."

Finals can be a stressful time for all students. Sophomore Grace Kelso said, "I'm just anxious about one class, but other than that I'm not super worried because I've taken plenty of notes and I feel prepared." Sarah also agreed that she is anxious about the finals in her harder classes.

Giving yourself time to prepare for finals is important. Sophomore Caleb Green says, "I try to start studying as soon as I have a study guide or info on what I should be studying for and how I can best prepare so I'm not wasting my time."

To help students prepare for finals, Wilsonville High School holds study sessions a few weeks in advance. This year it was called "Study and Snack" and it took place after school. Students brought their homework and had easy access to help.

Even though finals aren't the easiest and are stressful, they are

very important. Finals are given to assess what students have learned throughout the whole semester.

Finals are a great learning experience for those continuing their education after high school. Caleb shared why he thinks finals are important for students to take, "I understand we need finals to gather actual quantitative data for colleges and GPA. And it's a good way to wrap up one semester and move on to the next one. It's just stressful."

Finals can add a lot of pressure to students. However, by giving yourself time to prepare and a lot of hard work you can get through it, as is the intention of the class of 2024 and the entire student body.

*"It's a good way to wrap up one semester and move on to the next one. It's just stressful."*

*- Caleb Green*

## The math ripple

By Lorianne Servignat  
Academic Editor

The transition from three to six classes was difficult for many students, but the transition into a new math class was even harder. During comprehensive distance learning there was a year's worth of math smashed into one semester. This made it tough for many students when entering their math classes this year because they felt like they were missing out on the information they needed to be successful. During online learning, some students struggled with holding themselves accountable and listening during class. These were hard habits to break when students found themselves back at in-person school this year. Sophomore Talia Valdez says, "Covid encouraged me to do less work." As students acclimate back to in-person learning, they are starting to break these habits and become accustomed to learning math in an in-school setting. Getting distracted at home was extremely easy, whether it was a phone, book, or the paint on the walls, focusing on class was hard for many people, which is why many find math difficult this year. Many students feel like they haven't done the math for a year and a half because last year was extremely difficult to learn/tune in on math.

Many students were using apps

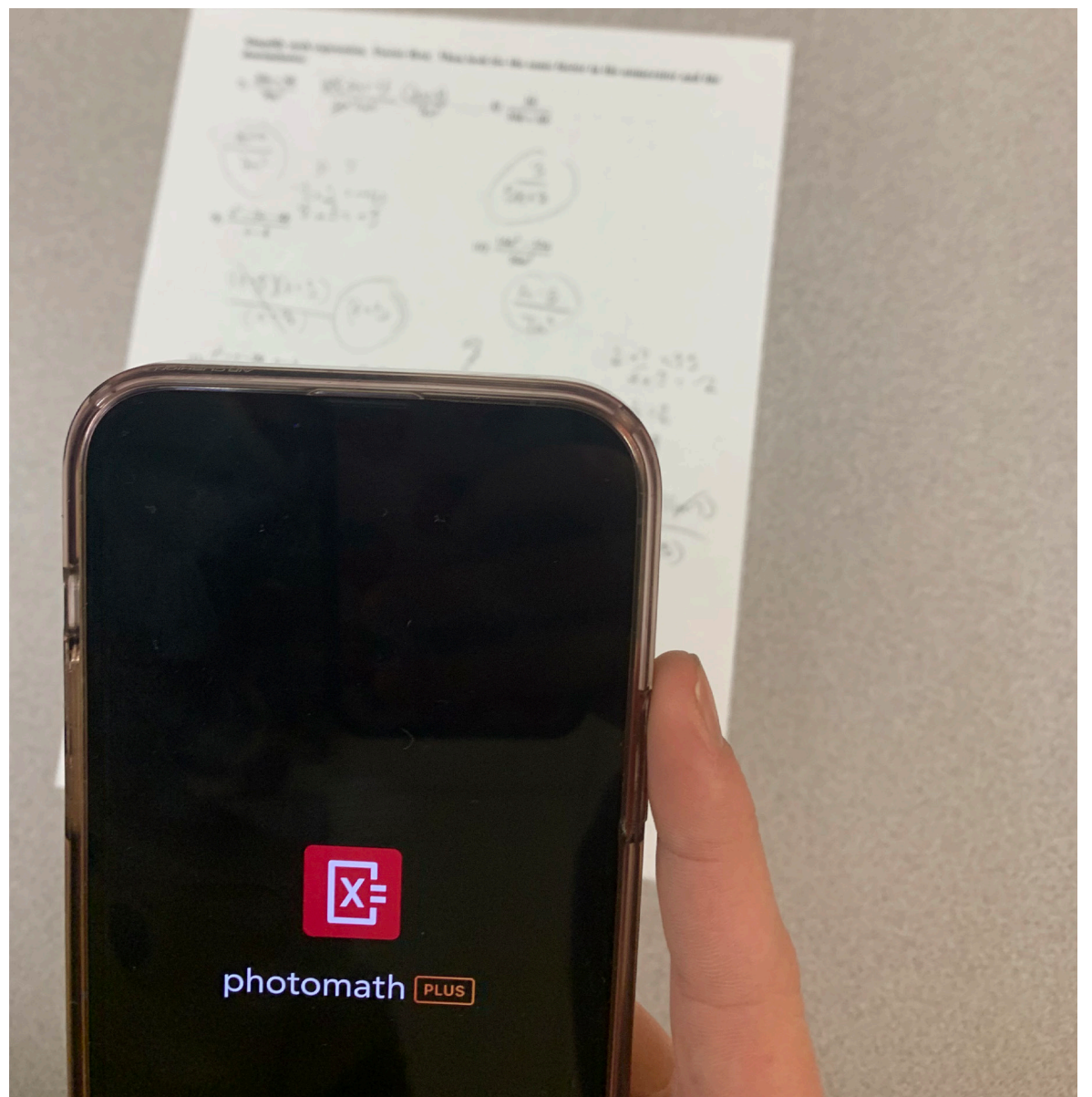
such as photo math. After taking a poll of 22 students, 18 of them said they had used photo math or another app like it. This made it easier for students to finish homework or check their answers. But as a consequence, many feel cheated from a year of math and are finding it hard to catch up this year.

Although math is easier to learn in person, having six classes makes it hard to focus on just math as a class as well. Sophomore Colby Turco says, "with only three classes it was easier to tune in on math." This has made the transition to other classes more difficult as well.

Teachers have been very understanding of these math struggles both this year and last year. The review has taken up a big chunk of the school year this year, but many students find it helpful and beneficial for their learning. This year is also a much slower pace not only because of review but also because it is a full year of math. This will slow down classes for a while in math classrooms.

The amount of review is going to create a ripple effect in a few more years to come. Many students are going to take a slower approach when it comes to math and learning. This will slow down classes for a while in math classrooms.

Getting back into the swing of school has been difficult for all



The student pulls out Photomath to help with some homework. They use it now to check their answers, but during quarantine, it was used in other ways. Photo provided by author.

students. One of the most prevalent problems facing math stu-

dents coming out of COVID is focusing, but students are begin-

ning to break this habit and get back on track with math.



## The National Art Honors Society experience

By Jasmine Brown  
Arts Editor

National Art Honors Society is a well known organization that strives to give support to young teenage artists who excel in the visual arts. First founded by the National Art Education Association in 1978, this organization is still continuing to spread and gaining popularity in schools around the nation after 44 years. One of those schools is our own Wilsonville High School.

For students involved, they gain the opportunities to spread their artistic talents with the community and to possibly gain recognition for future colleges and/or careers. "The National Art Honors Society can overall expand your horizons with volunteering opportunities and allow you to infuse yourself into an event with your interest in art. It gives students opportunities to showcase their own art, and leads to personal growth and leadership skills. It is also significantly beneficial if you are considering going to a college— especially majoring in art-related fields—after high school," says Stephanie Yang,



Students in National Art Honors Society making decorations. These fun creatures would be put up around Wilsonville Public Library. Photo by Stephanie Yang.

one of the three co-presidents for the National Art Honors society. "I have been able to enjoy both organizing the activities as a leader, and participating and contributing to the local community with my skills and passion for art."

There are many other benefits to joining the National Art Honors society as you move through your high school years. "A few of the bigger benefits for

me would be having a safe place to work on art-related projects, leadership opportunities, and gaining more recognition for your art," says Jeslyn Fernandez, another one of the three presidents. "Seniors will also get to show off their NAHS cord at graduation!" There are a few specific requirements that must be met for those interested in joining the National Art Honors Society. Club members must be taking an art

course at the high school, have and maintain a 3.5 gpa or higher, and have completed at least 15 hours of volunteer work that's sponsored by the National Art Honors Society. Even though it may be a lot of work, the members can agree that it is definitely worth it after being accepted! In the past, the National Art Honors Society has done many activities to support the community. The club has prepared sugar

skulls for the day of the dead celebration, as well as an art trolley at school sometimes during lunchtimes. Club members will also expand their activities outside of school, and have done volunteering at the Komak art show as well as doing many activities at the Wilsonville Public Library.

"When you participate in the volunteer activities you get to know all the great people you work with because of the tight-knit community that's created, as well as being able to create art that benefits the community," Jeslyn Fernandez, says. "We recommend that students who might want to join reach out to Ms. Escobar or any of our 3 presidents (Jeslyn Fernandez, Stephanie Yang, Maria Mironova) on Instagram, or email us with any questions!"

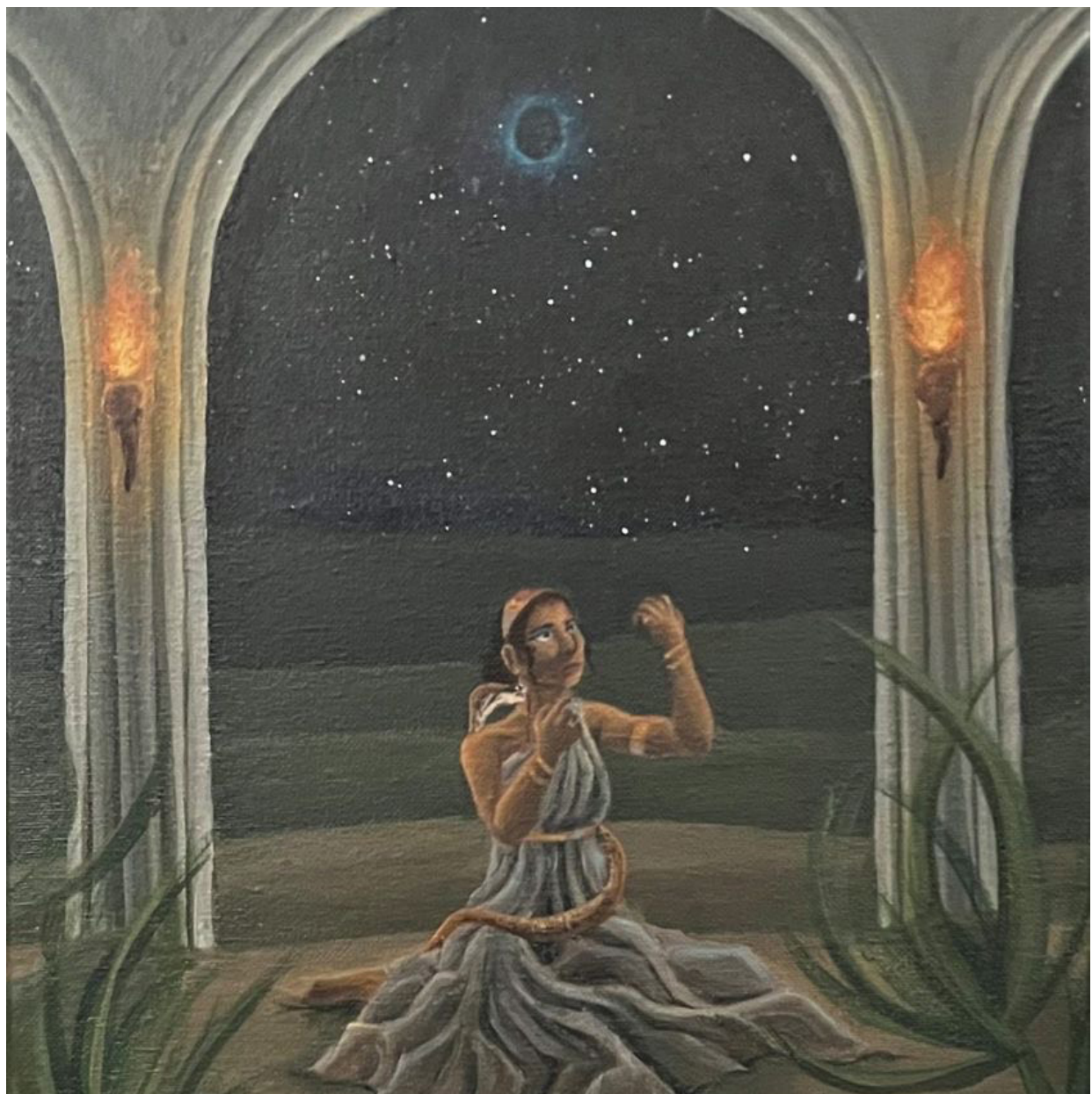
*"It gives students opportunities to showcase their own art, and leads to personal growth and leadership skills."*  
-Stephanie Yang

## Creativity present with negativity

By Siona Rudd  
Staff Writer

Art may be displayed in many scenarios: museums, workplaces, the list goes on and on, all physical places. But what about social media, a non-physical, dangerous platform? Can something so negative be presented with something as pure as art? To discover the answer to this question, you must look at what defines something as art. Dena Kaufman, a 9th grader at Wilsonville High School, shares that she believes "art is expressing something through your creative mind." According to successconsciousness.com, one person can have from 60,000 up to 80,000 thoughts per day. When expression occurs it can create a variety of artwork. Another student at Wilsonville, senior Ella Rice, describes art as "work of some kind (music, paintings, etc.) that has a soul behind it". When Ella and Dena were asked whether they believed social media can be classified as art, they had different answers. Rice had the idea that while platforms may have artistic features or elements, they cannot be described as art by themselves. Just as there is flour in bread, we would never call bread flour. Kaufman counteracts with her response, "I believe its a way of self-expression or to show others what you enjoy doing." She continues to connect this with her definition of art.

An example of art representation in social media is the Instagram explore page, which can be filled with nail art, watercolor, etc. Other examples are music platforms, which can also be a form of self-expression. While walking around the school I asked a total of nine students about their thoughts on the big question. 55% responded with some form of yes, 33% said no, and 12% said that it depends on the situation. The students that said "no" all believed that the negativity on social media outweighs the art. Art and positivity are rarely represented because of the main groups of these platforms. For example, many students felt this way during quarantine and 2020. Every time they opened social media they were pummeled with the reality of the drama and politics. This affected their viewpoint of platforms and made them see it through a more negative view. An anonymous student shares that they rarely open up social media because of this in order to try and avoid the wave of negativity. They wish that we could add more art or represent it more to regenerate the positives. A way to do this is by spreading positivity yourself, posting it on your story, tweeting it, and giving compliments to others. This can allow others to feel comfortable and excited to get online. Hopefully, if we work towards this goal, everyone can develop and believe in the idea that social media is art.



Student Ella Rice's artwork was made in her AP Art class. This was made to symbolize Cleopatra, The Goddess of 69 BCE. Photo provided by author.



## Soul'd out heading into competition season

By Elizabeth Harris  
Staff Writer

This year, Soul'd Out has finally been able to practice regularly together and perform for the first time since early 2020. Cian Lister, a member of Soul'd Out, explained that in previous years they've had several more members than the group currently has. But despite their small numbers, they are working towards their performances that hopefully will occur in the coming months.

One of Cian's favorite memories from being a part of Soul'd Out is going to the International Championship of High School Acapella, also known as ICHSA, for the past three years. Due to the recent rise in COVID cases, this in-person competition has been moved to an online format that the acapella group will participate in. Even though the group was looking forward to this exciting event; they will be performing virtually for ICHSA on March 1st this year.



Soul'd Out sings at their first choir concert of the school year. The group is excited to share the music they've spent many weeks working on. Photo provided by author.

Laura Jeffrey, one of the current presidents of Soul'd Out, explained that, "I was really excited last year to make it not Soul'd Out but due to COVID online school singing in my room by myself". This was the experience of many of the students in both the Soul'd Out acapella group and the choirs. There were hardly any in-person practices due to the

restrictions and the fact that school wasn't in session, being only online instead for the majority of the year. Laura also explained that Soul'd Out is "building themselves back up" with regular practice times every day before school. A moment that stood out to Laura during these past two years of Soul'd Out was last year when they finally sang

together for one of the first times in a while, and when they practiced before their performance. Everyone was well blended and it sounded the best they ever had. Chance Kirk, the vice president, stated, "I'm happy to be back in person." After the long months of no performances, Soul'd Out has been able to participate in a couple of performances over

the past few months that we've been in school. Wyatt Butler, a new member of Soul'd Out this year, talked of his excitement to be apart of Soul'd Out this year because it has been something he has wanted to be a part of for several years. With a positive outlook, the group may be able to compete in the Rose City Sing-Off. The choir has been unable to attend this competition due to conflicting events for several years, this being one of the first times in a while that a group from our school will go and perform. Claudia Molatore, also president of Soul'd Out, shares, "We are really excited for the things that may happen this year and we are keeping our fingers crossed that COVID doesn't cancel everything. We are working so hard to get everything together." After many months of singing alone, this group will go on to achieve great things because of their hard work and diligence as they continue to practice and perform.

## The "Coffee House"

By Claudia Molatore  
Guest Writer

For the first time ever, the Wilsonville High School Theater Department will be hosting the first of many Coffee Houses on February 4th. In a sad turn of events, there will be no coffee available unless you are improving it. However, there will be wonderful performances of all kinds. This upcoming event is open to all Wilsonville High School students, and there is no audition necessary to be involved. The Coffee House is open to all types of performances, including: musical theater songs, monologues, group acting scenes, interpretive dance, stand-up comedy, etc. Some students are using this Coffee House as an opportunity to practice performing their pieces for an audience before taking them to competition the first weekend in February. The competition most of the students are preparing for is called

Regionals, and it will be this competition's first time back in-person since 2020. Many students are excited to compete in-person again, in particular senior Chance Kirk, who last competed at Regionals in 2020. Chance is thrilled to have this opportunity available again. Last time he competed at Regionals he placed for his musical theater duet act and was scheduled to compete at State for his musical theater group act when COVID hit and the State competition was cancelled. This year, Chance is doing a duo acting scene with Lizzy Hall and a solo musical theater piece. While talking with him about these upcoming events he said, "I'm excited about Coffee House because I think it's a really good opportunity for everyone to come show what they've been working on for Regionals, as well as show off whatever special talents or things they're pas-

sionate about." Furthermore, both Chance and Lizzy are eager to try to place at Regionals. In contrast, junior Courtney Lawrence is a little more anxious than the seasoned veteran Chance Kirk. Courtney is performing a Musical duet with junior Kara Emmett and possibly doing a Musical Solo piece of her own. This will be Courtney's first attempt at Regionals and the Coffee House is just the opportunity to get her past the initial anxiety of performing. She says "This is what theater is all about! Providing a judgment free zone where people can show off their creativity." More than anything the Theater Department is excited for the opportunity to showcase all types of talents in the upcoming Coffee House on February 4th; tickets are not required for entry to the performance. If you are available, come and support your classmates.



Claudia Molatore performs in the fall production of *Once Upon a Mattress*. Photo provided by author.



# BACK PAGE

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## Featured athletes of the class of 2024

By Maddie Holly  
Sports Editor

### Zoey Davis



Zoey Davis at the free throw line vs. La Salle. Davis dropped 17 points on the Falcons this game. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

**What sport do you play?**

I play basketball.

**Favorite pre game hype song?**

My favorite pre game song would probably be Bring Em Out.

**When did you start playing your sport?**

I started playing when I was in first grade.

**Is there a coach, athlete, or specific person that you look up to as a role model?**

I would say my role model is my mom.

**What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?**

The best advice I was told was “Do the work others aren’t willing to do, and you’ll get things others won’t.”

**What has being an athlete/playing sports taught you?**

Being an athlete has taught me how to work through adversity and how to work with others in order to accomplish goals.

### Kyle Counts



Kyle Counts at the free throw line. Counts has been a key player, dominating all parts of the game for the Wildcats. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

**What sport do you play?**

I play basketball.

**Favorite pre game hype song?**

Probably Neva Cared by Polo G or Food by Aira.

**When did you start playing your sport?**

I started playing basketball when I was 6.

**Is there a coach, athlete, or specific person that you look up to as a role model?**

I look up to my dad and his love of basketball and his work ethic.

**What is the best piece of advice you have received regarding sports?**

Probably “Shoot the ball!” from some mom in the crowd.

**What has being an athlete taught you?**

How to be gritty.

Class of 2024