

The Paw Print

Wilsonville High School 6800 SW Wilsonville Rd. Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

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Peak Performance

A roofing business co-founded by WVHS student

By Fiona Dunn
Editor-in-Chief

Carson Puppo is not your average teenager. He wakes up at five-thirty every morning. He responds to emails. He answers phone calls. He co-founded a company at fifteen years old. Two years ago, Puppo and his older brother–Aaron Puppo–began what would become a successful and reputable roofing business.

Puppo's interest in tools, projects, and the like developed early-on in his life. By the time a family friend—who runs a non-profit organization—invited him to shadow a few of her workers, Puppo's love for construction had already been thoroughly established, but the roofing project turned it into something tangible: “I just fell in love with the process, the instant gratification.”

When the pandemic caused schools to shut down, the Puppo brothers capitalized on their sudden abundance of time, and decided to flip a house: “We bought a house in Salem, totally gutted it, totally re-did the whole thing, basically all ourselves—my brother and I. It took us about nine months to do, and that was right in the middle of COVID; so when we were online, I was there at the house everyday working.”

The Puppo brothers' efforts paid off: the boys received 14 offers in the first 24-hours after listing the house, and had successfully sold it just 24-hours after that. Although the money they earned from the sale wasn't the finale of their economic venture; instead the money went towards “dump trailers and a truck—[it's] what kicked off the roofing business.” It's been two years since the brothers got their license and began



Carson Puppo (right) and his older brother Aaron (left) pose for a photo during a roofing job. The two brothers are the co-founders of Peak Performance roofing. Photo provided by Carson Puppo.

what eventually would be called Performance Roofing: “We started out just me, my brother, and a few buddies. We just did a couple houses a week, and then we started to grow and expand—kept adding crews, kept doing more and more houses—until we kind of built up a name for ourselves.”

Puppo and his brother each hold a specific role in the company's management: “My brother Aaron, he does the sales side of everything. He goes out and bids jobs and such. After we close a deal, he puts that information into our software, and then I take it up from there. I email the clients about dates and scheduling and projects, and then we invoice through that software and that kind of stuff. I also communicate with the crews: what days to show up, where they're working, what

materials they'll be using, and any other sort of project details.”

The construction software Puppo mentions is called Projul, which is a scheduling system the brothers use to manage their invoices, estimates, and other such parts of their company; however, the majority of their communication is through emails and phone calls.

Puppo has seemingly mastered what no other teenager can—time management. He works “seven days a week, sometimes eighty, ninety hour weeks,” and in the summer he worked “a-hundred-hours a week, seven days a week, non-stop.”— But when a company's success relies on its reputation, there is no such thing as clocking-in or out. “I mean a customer calls at five am, or eight pm, you pick up the phone, you

answer. When there's a problem, you take care of it then and now, you don't wait.” As the company's number of completed projects increased, its reputation surpassed their own high expectations.

If the company alone seems near impossible to manage, how is Puppo able to balance a regular high school experience—with classes, sports, and friendships--simultaneously? “It's just, you know, a constant grind. You give stuff up. You skip out on stuff to make it work. But that's how you grow...I wake up early. I'm usually up by 5:30 in the morning to do some emails and stuff like that, and then after school, or after tennis, I usually head out to a couple job sites. It's just time management, honestly.”

Puppo had only positive things to say about how his teach-

ers have adapted and helped him: “[They've] been great. All my teachers understand, and if I need to step out and take a phone call or whatever, they're really respectful of that which is awesome.” He also praised his crews and brother for their work which plays a big role in helping him balance both parts of his life: “My crews are really good. My brother does all the estimating. We just hired an office manager, so she helps a lot.”

At the moment, Peak Performance roofing has four crews, and they do ten houses a week, but the brothers do have plans to expand even more in the future.

In five to ten years, the boys hope to be in a place where they “can be pretty much hands off of the business—maybe work a couple days a week and then do some other stuff. I'm super into house flipping and house renovation, so this is a really good way to build capital to do future ventures.”

Puppo said his one piece of advice for anyone thinking of starting their own company, or pursuing a project is this: “If you want something you gotta grind for it. You gotta make sacrifices. It's gonna suck. But if it's something that you really value and something that you really believe in, just make it happen. Find people who are going to support you. I have a lot of supportive friends and family, who support the brand and all that. Just have fun with it—that's what I'd say.”

Carson Puppo—seventeen years old, running a company that has a stellar reputation, flush with both social skills and money—has learned an unquantifiable amount from his time co-running Peak Performance. Only the future will unveil what's in store for Puppo, but one thing is clear: he demonstrates the work ethic, skills, and drive to be successful wherever that may be.



Pictured above is an “after” picture for one of Peak Performance's roofing jobs. Pictured on the right is the company logo! Both visuals provided by Carson Puppo.



Peak Performance
ROOFING

OPINIONS

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A Paw Print Editorial

State Testing

What is state testing? Every year juniors are required to take two online tests: one for math, one for reading and writing. The tests swallow up almost an entire week of a class's time-taking vital hours away from AP courses.

Even ignoring the mental tax statewide tests put on its striving collegiate students, the purpose of such tests remains unclear: some students opt out of the test and get out of it entirely, and on the other hand, it's safe to assume that of the students who take it, only a select few truly perform to the best of their abilities.

If the test is supposed to show proficiency, then it is an extremely inaccurate indicator. Learning requires time; spending a week's worth of hours in the classroom for a test that produces flawed results is inefficient and pointless.

The test does not fulfill its defined purpose. It's providing no benefits. It's a waste of resources. It's a waste of energy. It's a waste of time. Do away with standardized testing and turn the school's focus back to tangible learning.

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.

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OPINIONS

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Lessons from the pandemic

Students share their most important takeaway from COVID-19

By Siona Ruud
Staff Writer

It's been 2 years since the start of quarantine, with the announcement being March 11th, 2020. Our lives completely changed on day one. Over the past 2 years, there have been many lessons to be learned, whether to do with school, self discovery, or learning from mistakes. People of all ages were affected by this tragic event. Including students, many had a difficult time in school. For sophomore Zoey Beyl, she learned who her true friends are. The pandemic tested her friendships and their loyalty. Not being near her friends made it very difficult to

maintain the bond between them. Zoey explains, "Quarantine showed me the real side of the people I thought I knew".

Academics were a challenge for Cayden Browning: "I knew I needed to pay attention during school, but online school challenged my expectations." For more than a year, we were expected to continue all of our education through a screen displaying faces and familiar voices.

Browning grew appreciation for in person education, and how much easier it was to pay attention when you dealt with in person confrontation if you were to be present in class.

Grace Tueke learned the importance of alone time.



Sophomores Grace Tueke and Jack Barrett pose in school with the option of whether or not they wear a mask. Finally after a year and a half of masks they have the choice. Photo provided by the author.

She was able to learn more about themselves and deepen their understanding of who she really is. "I learned how overwhelming it can be to hangout with people everyday," reflected Tueke. She continued by saying, "How important it is to create time to focus on yourself and find something you love to do by yourself."

The past 2 years everyone has had plenty of time by themselves. There is significant importance to discover an activity to do by yourself that cures that boredom that comes along with COVID-19.

Especially with the stress of the unknown, selfcare is a necessity, whether that's skincare, spa day at home, or binge watching your favorite show. Taking that time to relax is VERY important.

The monopoly called 'College Board'

What will happen next?

By Emma Matthies
Guest Writer

The College Board claims that each year with standardized testing, they 'help clear a path for more than 7 million students...' (1). But who is included in these so-called '7 million students?'

According to Anthony Carnevale, director of the Georgetown University Center on Education, this large number is extremely selective. "College has become the capstone in an inequality machine that raises and perpetuates class and race hierarchies and sinks the lower classes" (1).

The organization's main product, the SAT, has set the standard for college admissions for more than five decades. However, a light has been shed on its near-monopoly status within the past 4 or 5 years.

Not only do these tests exclude an array of communities, but the organization has turned into a giant money ploy. The College Board's tests fuel more than \$1 billion in annual revenue; and, the chief executive, David Coleman, receives compensation of almost \$2 million a year (1).

In regards to the recent debate on standardized testing, admissions staff members such as William Hiss have studied the importance—or lack thereof—of taking the SAT. Hiss' research showed

that instead of standardized testing, high school GPA matters the most.

Hiss also expressed how the human mind is extremely complex and fluid. "...trying to find a single measurement tool that will be reliable across the enormous populations of American students is simply a trip up a blind alley" (3).

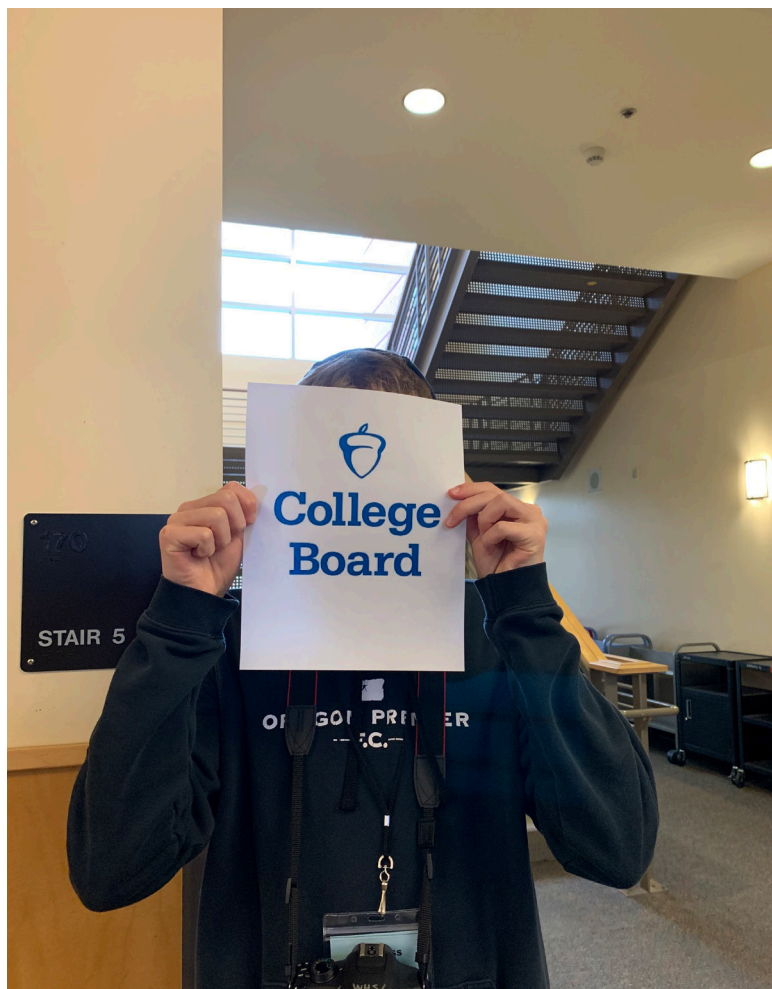
Because of this claim, many admission boards believe there should be a change to the requirement of these standardized tests. But what could this change look like?

In March of 2021, more than 500 colleges made an attempt to make the playing fields equal by joining the 'test optional' movement. Since then, over 1,600 schools have joined, some even becoming 'test blind' meaning the admissions staff won't even look at or consider students' test scores.

After becoming test blind, the University of California system admitted a huge amount of underrepresented students in the fall of 2021. "...students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups comprise 43 percent of admitted California freshmen,... the greatest number in UC history at 36,462," (3).

Coming from a different perspective, students agree that standardized testing is biased, unfair, and an inaccurate representation of a student's skills.

Mason Hardbarger, senior, explains how they think the SAT process is unfair, and only advocates for a specific group of



A student poses with College Board logo in front of their face. Some people joke that the College Board can take over one's personality. Photo provided by Alexis McIlmoil.

individuals. "People that come from a higher economic background can easily pay for SAT prep books and prep classes; but, people who come from lower classes aren't able to obtain these resources because of the cost." Even though these resources are expensive, SAT prep books and prep classes can help students receive better scores on their SATs; this further proves that

students in a lower economic status are set up to perform worse on the SAT from the very beginning.

In Mason's opinion, colleges should move away from standardized testing. They say that this will give students from different economic backgrounds a more fair advantage in regards to being admitted to the colleges they apply for.

Sydney Bierma, senior, has similar opinions on the requirements of submitting SAT scores. She thinks that all colleges should become test optional because the SAT only showcases the potential of highly academic students. "It's hard to look at a student's grades and test scores to distinguish their potential because some students are more skilled in other areas like athletics or the performing arts; not every student wants to become an engineer or doctor."

With the growing movement of destroying the College Board, anything is possible for the future of standardized testing. Some sources say the SAT will solely be administered online starting in 2024. Others say that SAT scores will not even be considered in the admissions process starting in 2023.

What do you think will happen to the SAT? Will there be equal opportunity for all racial, ethnic, and economic groups; or will the monopoly live on?

STUDENT LIFE

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Prom returns to WVHS after 2 years

By Ella Hubka
Guest Writer

How is prom different from other school dances? What are students' opinions on having only juniors and seniors there? How is this dance going to be different, being that no one has experienced an official prom before?

It's rather odd that no one currently attending Wilsonville High School has ever been to prom and leaves room for imagination in regards to what the dance will actually look like. "I'm excited for prom this year because I've never been! It was also fun to find my dress and heels, and I'm thinking it will be a fun and memorable experience," exclaimed junior Malak Elmanhawy.

A common feeling amongst upperclassmen is excitement and curiosity about how the dance will go. "I'm curious about how the dance will go as it is being held at the zoo," stated Wesley Hur. Hur also mentioned, "I think it's going to be a lot of fun." New experiences are always more exhilarating with peers. This will be especially true when both grades attending the dance will be in the same boat. "I am looking forward to prom



A group of juniors, before the last prom held in 2019. That year Wilsonville High School hosted prom at the Oregon Zoo. This will be the same location used for this year's dance. Photo provided by author.

and I am hoping that it will be a fun experience to have with my classmates," says junior Emily Barry. She feels particularly excited to share this new experience with the whole junior class. Not only are high schoolers able to bond better with their grade, they're able to bring dates

from other schools as well. "I feel like bringing people from other schools to our prom is something that appeals to us juniors because we all have friends from other schools and it is a fun experience that we get to have with them!" claimed Liza Locke.

"I'm looking forward to prom, especially since I'm able to bring someone from another school. I think it's going to be a positive experience for us juniors since it's the first time for all of us," presented Devyn Ratter.

Not only is it the first of-

official prom for juniors, but the seniors as well. It will be interesting to have two grades at a dance that neither has been to before. There'll be plenty of new experiences surrounding the night. "...it is the first dance we get to experience that is only for the juniors and seniors at our school," senior Nick Cooper.

Prom went from something that was completely normal to something that was unheard of for the past two years. The last official prom was held in spring of 2019. As upperclassmen we're supposed to lead by example which is difficult in this situation because this is everyone's first trial run. With that said, this displays a unique opportunity that only this year's juniors and seniors will experience and may actually be more collaborative than ever before.

The night of April 23rd will definitely be a night to remember for juniors and seniors alike. It will be interesting to see how each grade handles the exclusive evening.

I am looking forward to prom and I am hoping that it will be a fun experience to have with my classmates.
-Emily Barry

Wilsonville Chess Club is back!

By Malia Case
Guest Writer

A once defunct Wilsonville High Chess Club is now back - in a big way. In the four months since its revival, the club has attracted students from every grade and skill level, with up to 30 members attending sessions in a fun and supportive environment that allows students to improve their chess knowledge.

Each Monday, students gather for a round of chess trivia, matches, and prizes. The club was brought back by Wilsonville juniors Fallon Leishman and Malia Case, who both share a love of chess and hoped it would be a popular activity among students. "We weren't sure what level of interest we'd have when we started to club," said Leishman. "The turnout has been amazing and it doesn't matter if you're a skilled chess player or a beginner."

The club's presidents quickly learned that the interest level exceeded their allotment of chess boards, and that any tournaments would require a number of chess clocks in order to speed up play. Advisor John Fitzgerald and multiple Wilsonville parents helped secure additional boards, and the club leaders met with the

Wilsonville Booster Club during their monthly meeting in hopes of obtaining five chess clocks to simulate the tournament conditions that higher level players experience. The Booster Club approved funds for ten clocks.

While competitiveness within the club -- in both trivia and chess matches -- is important, it seems to share equal billing with a sense of camaraderie. According to Leishman, "The most surprising aspect is the community that has formed within the club." Other club members agree. "I like chess because it brings my friends together to challenge each other," said junior Amari Hodges, a multiple-winner of the chess trivia contest.

The challenges will be many in April as the club embarks on an elimination tournament. While tournament details are still being worked out, the idea is to match up players of equal skill level for a multi-week tournament that will start the week of the 17th. The tournament will include a consolation bracket to allow for continued play if the player is eliminated in early rounds. Assistant Principal Dennis Burke has also suggested the Wilsonville Chess Club challenge other area high schools in a similar tournament format. On days without a tour-



A picture taken during lunch last month. The club meets every Monday in the upper cluster. Photo provided by author.

namment the meeting starts off with a round of trivia where students test their knowledge of the game and its rich history. Through trivia, members have become familiar with the top chess players in the world, known as Grandmaster's or GM's, as well as popular chess openings. Recently, the club

has followed the 2022 FIDE Grand Prix in Berlin, a high-level chess tournament that sets precedent for the World Chess Championships in 2023.

Interested students can join the Wilsonville Chess Club by coming to the upper cluster during lunch on Mondays. All levels are welcome and more in-

formation can be found on the Instagram page @wvhschessclub, where recaps of meetings are posted as well as reminders and updates for the following weeks!

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WVHS students' spring break summaries

By Sydnie Bierma
Student Life Editor

Over spring break, junior Fiona Dunn traveled with her parents to New York City. The family visited many museums, shops, and ate lots of good food. A personal favorite from the vacation for Dunn was their evening at the Broadway show, *Moulin Rouge*. Dunn claimed that, "the show was really well put on." The family also spent an evening at a delicious Vietnam-ese restaurant. The junior also spoke highly of the city's plethora of homemade bagel shops.



Joel and Andrea Dunn enjoying Times Square together. The family took their first spring break with just the three of them this year!



A view up the stairs coming out of a subway stop in New York City. The family spent over an entire week together! Photos provided by Fiona Dunn.

"I loved just being able to walk around and explore the city." - Fiona Dunn



Aaron helping release the turtles in Costa Rica. She enjoyed spending her time volunteering over the break! Photos provided by Aurora Aaron.



The girls relaxing on the beach together on the beautiful island of Maui. They spent lots of time soaking up the sun. Photos provided by Natalie Adams.

Senior Aurora Aaron traveled for a good cause over the break! She ended up visiting Costa Rica to help the turtles. Aaron was there for a week and worked with a group of around 13 people. When asked about how she heard about the opportunity she responded, "I do it through a program called Global Leadership Adventures and I've been doing it for a while." She stayed at an eco lodge by the beach near the hatchery. Her overall favorite part of the experience was, "just being able to spend my time volunteering for a good cause."

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Big hopes for Wildcat Softball



Wildcats celebrate a home run from senior Neina Santer. Wilsonville is currently ranked #1 in 5A via OSAA. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

By Maddie Holly
Sports Editor

Wilsonville softball had a very successful 2021 season, finishing 10-1 in League and being ranked #1 in League via OSAA. With no state championship last year due to Covid-19, this team shares one goal this season: to win the state championship. All of the team are returning players, minus one senior who graduated last season. There are four seniors on the current 2022 roster: Natalie Adams, Maddie Erickson, McKennzie Platt, and Neina Santer. Wilsonville is currently ranked #1 in 5A via OSAA, and has come off of some impressive wins. Wilsonville is 6-2 as of right now before even starting league games. The Cats have played some tough 6A teams so far. For their first game, Wilsonville traveled to Westview to compete against a tough Westview squad. Wilsonville rallied back and beat the Westview Wildcats 5-4. Two weeks later, The Wildcats competed against the #6 ranked team in 6A, Oregon City. Much like the Westview game, Wilsonville came back and beat the Pioneers 5-3. Senior Neina Santer and junior Taylor Hadden led the Wildcats with two home runs. Senior Maddie Erickson also played a big role in this win from the mound.

“Winning state is a great goal, and I believe it is feasible for this group.” stated senior Maddie Erickson, a University of Michigan commit. Senior Neina Santer agreed, adding “We want to win state. It’s cool to share a common goal with your team.” Going into the season, Wilsonville was ranked #1. “Rankings don’t mean much unless you get the job done in the playoffs, but going into the season being ranked so high means we are the team to beat. We are looking forward to playing everybody’s best game,” said Erickson. While Wilsonville has looked strong thus far, there are always areas to improve on. “We need to work on connecting as a team and playing as one unit,” said Santer. Erickson agreed with Santer and added, “We need to work on figuring out how to deal with things we cannot control. We all have very competitive personalities and can easily get upset and riled up if things get out of control and affect us.” Even though The Wildcats have four seniors, the rest of this team is fairly young. There are four juniors and five sophomores. Sophomore Talia Valdez is one of the five sophomores who made varsity her freshman year. “The upperclassmen are amazing. They have confidence and you can trust them to make the

right decisions. They were intimidating at first but once you got to know them, they are amazing leaders.” said Valdez. Valdez also mentioned how supportive and helpful the upperclassmen are of each other and the great relationships the team shares. Wilsonville Softball has been a force to be reckoned with so far, and is looking to continue playing well through the league and into the playoffs. With a talented roster, Wilsonville is making big goals and is on the route to accomplishing them.

“Rankings don’t mean much unless you get the job done in the playoffs, but going into the season being ranked so high means we are the team to beat”
- Maddie Erickson

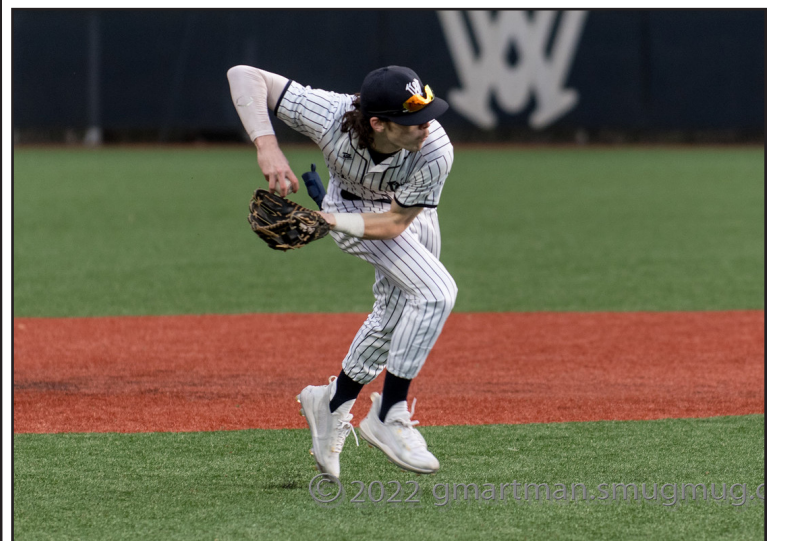
Look ahead : Baseball

By Mason Seal

Broadcasting Manager

As Spring rolls around, so does the yearly tradition of baseball around the country. All levels of baseball start during this exciting time, including the pros, minor leagues, college, high school, and little league. Wilsonville baseball looks to continue the success they have had in previous seasons. After a shortened season last year, and losing multiple seniors after that, Wilsonville has started the 2022 season hot. With multiple standouts across the diamond including Cole Hubka, Max Bledy, Rochne Beecham, and Jacob Ogden, Wilsonville looks to make a deep run in the playoffs this year. Senior Cole Hubka describes how the season has gone thus far “We have been playing good ball, been doing good on the offensive side, and the pitching is starting to come together— it has been fun.” Indeed, Wilsonville has had a good start to the season, with an overall record of 6-2. Also, as of April 7th, an OSAA ranking of 4th in 5a is nothing to scoff at. However the goals for this Wilsonville squad are much higher than that “We want a lot more wins, we plan on everyone doing their job playing team baseball, and we will do all we can do to end the season in a championship.” Keenan Sanford explained. After starting the season with wins over Cleveland and Centennial, Wilsonville suffered its first loss of the season against Tualatin. After that one run loss, Wilsonville bounced back with dominating wins over Grants Pass and Gresham. Rochne Beecham

got very hot during this stretch, including a 5 RBI game against Grants Pass and a mammoth two home run game against Gresham. Wilsonville then made the long trek to Pendleton and beat the Buckaroos 12-9, powered by Cole Hubka’s first career home run. Riding high on a big wave of momentum, Wilsonville started a three game series against the La Salle Falcons. As La Salle is Wilsonville’s biggest rival and a fellow member of the NWOC, this series would mean a lot as the time for winning conference titles rolls around. La Salle had lost 5 of their last 6 games heading into the series and that tough stretch continued in the first game when Wilsonville infielder Matthew Gomez had a walk off base hit to give Wilsonville the 4-3 victory. La Salle regrouped the next day however, and handed Wilsonville what was by far their worst loss of the season. A crushing 7-1 defeat for the Wildcats evened the series at one win a piece, and the rubber match will take place on April 8th. That game is massive for the outlook of both teams’ seasons, with both vying for NWOC title wins. After the La Salle series Wilsonville will play all league opponents, other than Bend and West Salem, for the rest of the year. Looking to the rest of the year this Wilsonville squad has high aspirations, after taking two of three from a good La Salle team they look on to the St. Helens series. Wilsonville looks to keep their hot streak going with just a month to go the rest of the way we will see how this team seeds heading into playoffs.



Cole Hubka fields a ground ball and fires to first base. Wilsonville beat Cleveland in this matchup 10-4. Photo provided by Greg Artman

Track and Field back to the top

By Connor Larsen
Staff Writer

The Wilsonville high school track and field program has developed some stellar athletes in the previous years and is continuing off the season with some early success. We are seeing upcoming talent show off and upperclassmen beginning to show signs of becoming state dominating

athletes. The team had their first official day of practice at the start of march, a very wet couple of first days to say the least. “I remember it being very cold, it was interesting seeing how happy everyone was to be together but the surprise everyone shared about the rainy weather was pretty funny to see,” said freshman Logan Amavisca. Their first meet was at home against our school district sibling:

West Linn High School. For our first meet of the season, it was a resounding success. The varsity boys came on top by a single point on the day with a score of 68-67. We also got to see a school record broken, as freshman Kylie Fox showed up big time at her first meet and set the new record at 137’4 feet in the girls javelin. The previous record was set in 2013 by Rebecca Wenz with a mark of 135’10 feet.

“I think Kylie’s record was a magical moment of a combination of the hard work she’s put in and the talent she has. She is going to be a real competitor this year, her main thing is to keep on striving for excellence and consistency rather than the number that she sees on athletic net after the meet,” commented Coach Finck. The next meet of the season was another dual meet, this time away at La Salle High School on

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Tennis starting strong

By Cole Hubka
Staff Writer



Junior Cameron Little serves against Tigard. He ended up winning this set 6-3. Photo provided by Greg Artman

The Wilsonville boys tennis team is off to a great start to the year. So far they have played Aloha, Crescent Valley, Springfield, Tigard, Cleveland, and West Linn. The team is led by Senior Porter Bowles and Junior Cameron Little. The Cats hope to continue from the strong performance from last year. The team has only a couple of seniors, Porter Bowles, Ben Pinoli, Miguel Tejada, and Jeven Lundberg. The Juniors are Cameron Little, Cameron Azizi, and Theo Buchwald. The sophomores are Lucas Anderson, Clayton Troha, Jack Miller, Gedde McKnight and Logan Miller. The Cats only have one freshman: JJ Bartlett. The boys got off to a hot start when they won their first match against Aloha and their second match against Crescent Valley. Against Aloha, the Cats placed their shots really well as a team, as they won 9-0. Against Crescent Valley, the score was a little closer being 5-3. This was the Cats' first real test and they held their own against another 5A powerhouse. Sadly the Cats suffered their first loss of the year in a match against Springfield. "All the matches were very close but we just could not pull away at the end," said Junior Cameron Little. The boys lost this match 3-5 in a very close contest. The boys tennis team then played Tigard, where they ended up winning 9-0. "We looked really

strong, everyone played really well in the first sweep of the year. Everyone looked very impressive," said Junior Cameron Little when asked about how the team performed. This was a big win for the boys because they bounced back in a big way after suffering their first loss of the year. Wilsonville then played West Linn where they lost 0-9. Logan Miller played really well and forced a third set but lost a close match. The doubles pair of Jack Miller and Gedde McKnight also forced a third set but fell short as well. Senior Miguel Tejada, shares how he feels about the season, "So far the season has been great. Tennis has been a great experience with the new coach as well. Coach Sundquist has given a lot of opportunities for athletes to move up the ladders and it has been good seeing competitiveness within the team, yet it's bonded together by him at the same time. Wilsonville boys tennis has been doing super well. I am proud of the season thus far and we hope to continue the trend of victory as the season continues." So far the Wilsonville boys tennis team has played very well, only losing two matches against very good 6A teams. The guys' next game is against the Hillsboro Spartans, where they hope to add another win to their record. We wish the boys tennis team great luck on the rest of their tennis season.

Swinging back to the season

By Emma Dougherty
97070 Show Producer



Junior Mia Combs putting on the green at Charbonneau Golf Club at the first match of the season. All of the girls played well, contributing to their first victory of many for the season to come. Photo provided by Greg Artman

The Wilsonville golf teams have started the 2022 season with a great number of athletes, even larger than last year. Because of online schooling, many athletes couldn't handle online school and golf at the same time. The girl's varsity team only had 3 girls for the entire 2021 season, and this made them unable to win matches since winners were chosen based on the top 4 scores from each team. This year Wilsonville has an official season and they are excited to be back. Wilsonville's girls team has 9 girls this year, and the boy's team has 14 members. In golf, the varsity team has 5 athletes, and they take the top 4 scores from each match. The teams practice 4-5 days a week and commute to golf courses in the area after school. The difficulty of being on the golf team is missing school weekly. From spring break to the end of May, golfers have to miss a full day of school once a week to go play in a match. Many find it difficult to take AP classes and miss school once a week, getting behind. Golfers have to multitask their school life and their golf life in practice. Some days they will go

out and play 9 holes quickly, while other days they putt and chip. Athletes have to show up early in the morning for their tee time to warm up before teeing off. Varsity players walk all 18 holes, while JV only plays 9. There are a lot of rules that come into play during matches such as: there are no phones and no talking to parents or coaches, as well as other complications. Both teams this year have had great success in their early-season matches. The girls are on a winning streak, the boys right behind in second. Trey Arzie, a senior team captain, shares how the season has been going for the boy's team: "We have a lot more younger guys that came and joined the program this year, which is great. It's good to see them getting out there and see the potential they have to grow in their golf game. I'm excited to see everyone's talent and their contributions, hopefully making it to state." Mia Combs, a junior team captain, also shared her experience this season. "It has been a really good start to the season, and we have gotten a lot more people on the team. From 3 players last year

to a growing team of 9, this year we have won all of our tournaments so far. Everyone has been working hard and excited for the season to start, but we have had a lot of fun together, helping and cheering each other on. This team is excited to see how far we go this year and hoping to be successful through the state." We can't wait to see what this year's golf teams have in store for us. We wish them the best of luck in their future tournaments.

"This team is excited to see how far we go this year and hoping to be successful through the state."
- Mia Combs

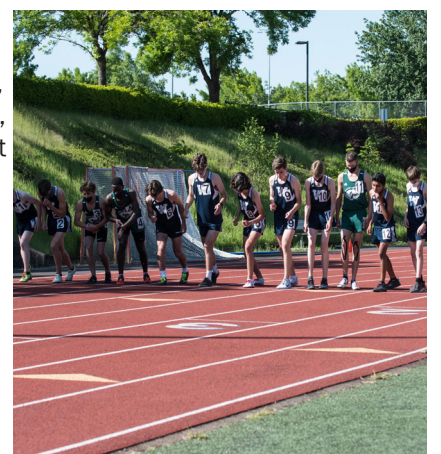
March 31st. Another set of PR's came from the meet as well, along with some more school leaderboard setting times. Although on athletic.net it only says that La Salle and Wilsonville were at the meet, there was also an appearance from Adrienne Nelson High School. Despite the extra school, Wilsonville dominated and both boys and girls Varsity and JV won. Senior Caden Edwards said, "I had a lot of fun in my events, my 1500 went out

fast and it gave me a perfect setup to run well, having my guys on my heels the whole time." Their most recent meet, which took place this Wednesday on April 6th, was a showcase, further domination of the district as well as more marks being put up on the school all time leaderboard. As of the conclusion of the third meet, the following athletes have placed themselves on the all time school track and field

leaderboard: Rocco Marshall, Mason Weisgerber, Logan Thebiay, Chase Hix, Cooper Becklin, Kellen Hartford, Luke Nelson, Lily Scanlan, Kiera Easterly, Avery DeVinenzi, Kylie Fox, Helena Tyberg, Faith Nashif, Caroline De la Motte, Grace Kelso, Cassandra Wedin, and Ashlyn Hartford. If you are interested in looking at the all time leaderboards, go to athletic.net, search up Wilsonville, and you can find all the cross country and track and field

records. We anticipate the Wilsonville invitational on Saturday April 16, 2022. First field event is at 1PM, while the first track events are at 10AM. Adult entry fee is 5\$ and student entry fee is 3\$.

Tension before the start gun for the boys 1500, Wilsonville is at home against Parkrose high school in a dual meet
Photo provided by Greg Artman.



ACADEMICS

By Lorianne Servignat
Academics Editor

AP testers take on the challenge

AP classes are special classes because they don't only offer a grade bump, but if you pass the AP test at the end of the year you can be eligible to receive college credit. As a junior, your class options, especially for AP classes, open up a lot because your schedule is more flexible.

AP classes might seem like a win in all aspects, but the workload is a lot heavier than a normal class. Though this can take up a lot of time and takes a lot more effort, many juniors and seniors take on this challenge.

The AP tests are what students work towards all year- and they are fast approaching, taking place in May. In Oregon, the AP tests approach a little faster because in most other states school starts a lot earlier. This makes



Ashley Sheirbon is studying for an AP test. She wants to be prepared so she can receive college credit. Photo provided by author.

Taking multiple AP classes, which many students do, can make studying a more complicated task. This is because you are studying and learning for multiple college-level classes. Junior Mia Combs says, "I feel like the preparation this year seems a lot less than other years and is different this year, especially coming back after two years from doing school in a different way due to COVID."

Meanwhile, some students only take a few. Junior Mikayla Hammond says, "I think I'm decently prepared." She is taking AP English Language and Composition and says the workload is "not bad at all." Especially because AP classes can be a challenge, it is good to take classes in what you really are interested in. This makes it so studying and learning about the topic is fun and

doesn't always feel like work. It makes the AP test at the end of the year seem less daunting. There were so many different things to get reacclimated to this year that creating study habits was a lot more difficult. Going into a big test like this can be stressful for many students, and many don't study a whole lot.

Most students like to trust that they know their stuff, which sometimes is a good strategy. If you don't know your stuff before the test chances are you aren't going to learn it overnight or even the week before. So enforcing study habits earlier on is more beneficial for this test. In the end though if you pass the test, it can save you money and time when you move on to college. These classes can be a really smart decision if you like a challenge and are academically driven. So start to study, because the test is just around the corner.

it so students in Oregon have less time to prepare for the test.

Junior Student Showcase

Driven students at Wilsonville conquer their classes and extracurriculars

By Elizabeth Harris
Staff Writer



George talks about the classes he's taken and some of the things he enjoys. He takes a lot of AP classes and is a very driven student. Photo provided by author.

George Peykanu has taken many AP classes here at Wilsonville High and is on the wrestling team. One of George's favorite classes at Wilsonville is AP Calculus BC, because Mr. Humphreys always shows the questions on the board and explains topics so they flow seamlessly from one to the next. George suggests that students take classes that interest them. Something that George loves to do is write, because it's a very engaging activity that can help you get to know yourself better. A fun fact about George is that he hates bananas because they have the worst flavor ever, and he doesn't understand how anyone could be a banana enjoyer.

Katelyn LeBlanc is currently on the varsity lacrosse team and the robotics team. She is also a member of the National Honor Society. Out of the many classes that Katelyn has taken she recommends that students take AP Psychology and AP Microeconomics because the teachers are nice, the workload is manageable and the concepts are taught in ways that are easy to understand. One tip that Katelyn gives to people in AP classes is to do your best not to procrastinate, because if you do it will make things a lot harder.



Katelyn excitedly talks about her AP class experiences. She has her hands full with a lot of work, but still finds time to do what she loves after school. Photo provided by author.

Cameron Azizi participates in the Red Cross Club, National Honor Society, Kids Making Miracles and Model United Nations. Cameron is also currently on the varsity tennis team. One of his unique talents is knowing how to cook. Two of Cameron's favorite classes are Physics and AP Language and Composition. He explained that both of these classes are applicable to real life, and Mr. Fitz is a great AP Lang teacher.

Ali Abdelwahed has taken many of the AP classes here at Wilsonville High School. In order to stay on top of the workload he makes sure that he has time to have fun and focus on school. He reminds students that the best way to do well in classes is to pay attention and if you don't understand something, research it further. The two AP classes that Ali recommends are AP Psychology and AP Language and Composition. Ali recommends AP Psychology because Mr. Eby is a good teacher and Psychology is a very interesting subject. AP Language and Composition is a great class because Mr. Fitz has such great energy. Ali states that a fun fact about him is that he is better looking than Cameron.



Cameron Azizi (left) and Ali Abdelwahed (right) pose together for a photo. They are both involved in the school, and love to learn. Photo provided by author.

ACADEMICS

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CTE classes provide students with previews of career paths

By Elia Bartlett
Managing Editor

CTE classes, or Career-Technical Education classes, are designed to prepare students for life after high school, and show them what certain careers can entail. While general education is important for all facets of life, CTE classes allow students to get a glimpse into possible career paths, and help them both get a feel for the skills required in that field, and their own sentiments about the topic. At WHS, the three CTE programs offered are Programming, Journalism, and Graphic Design. Each of these categories offers several classes that allow students to explore various subjects within that career path.

Graphic Design is one of the most popular CTE programs at WHS. The classes offered include introductions to Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign, as well as two photography classes. All of these are structured to teach students how to use these programs, as well as encourage them to work with their creativity to design something unique.

The photography department is a great blend of physical, tactical skills, and digital design. Students learn about artistic styles and concepts that can aid in composition of photographs,

such as the rule of thirds, color theory, and the depth of the photo. They then shoot their photos, learning how to work with both natural and studio lighting and how to use the features of their cameras, and learn how to use Adobe Lightroom to edit their work. Sophomore Mia Poppe said about her photography class, "I liked that the class went in depth about photography, you learned about the history and importance of it." Poppe recommends the class to those who haven't taken it, saying, "the skills are applicable later in life, especially if you're looking for a career in it."

Graphic design, and the basic knowledge of how common software applications work, is an almost essential skill to have as many companies and businesses move into fully digital marketing strategies. Knowing how to use a computer and how to edit photos and design posters, advertisements, and digital art is a skill that can benefit people in many different careers.

Another CTE program offered by WHS is Journalism. Most interested students start out with an intro level Journalism I course, in which they learn the basics of what makes a good journalistic article. They practice skills such as conducting interviews and writing news reports, and are able to get

insight into what the rest of the WHS journalism program is like. The next level class is Journalism II, alternatively called Journalism and Broadcasting, and known to students as the "WBN class." The class runs the Wilsonville Broadcasting Network by publishing school news on their website, printing a newspaper four times a year, and posting school updates on Instagram. Because of the student-run nature of WBN, the students involved get experience managing the program, and get to experience what a career in journalism might be like.

The third major CTE program at our school is Programming. This branch of classes delves into computer science and programming, and also includes the robotics program. In robotics, students work together to build robots and compete in competitions against other schools. Junior Katelyn LeBlanc is a leader of the business sub-team of the WHS robotics team. She enjoys being a part of the program because she is "able to specialize in business-related activities that directly relate to the business careers." Though the robotics program seems only beneficial for those who want to directly code and build robots, the separate units allow stu-



WBN member and director of the 97070 show Emma Dougherty sets up for her recording session. The 97070 Show is a weekly Youtube show informing the school of upcoming events.

dents to work in areas specific to their interests, like Katelyn does for the business team. She explained that "[her] brother had been on the team, and he was a part of the engineering side of things. This wasn't extremely interesting for [her], but [she] discovered that there was a whole business side to robotics." Other classes include Web Design, CAD, and AP Computer Science Principles A and B. These all fall under the um-

rella of programming classes, but all delve into different areas of the vastly broad subject.

CTE programs in schools are a great way for students to explore career path options. As WHS students forecast for their next year, many are trying to fit in classes that cater to their interests. Whether the class is journalism, computer science, or graphic arts, students can almost surely find something enjoyable about these career-based classes.

Riverside High School Opening fall of 2023

Regan Loonstyn
Staff Writer

The West Linn-Wilsonville School District has three high schools. West Linn High School, Wilsonville High School, and Arts & Technology High School. This school year is the last year for Art-Tech High School and a new high school, Riverside High School, will be opening fall of 2023.

Art-Tech High School was originally a charter school that offered more project-based learning opportunities for students that needed something different other than the comprehensive high school setting. Kate Gaede, the 9th Grade Success Coach, and TOSA shared that Art Tech, "really became a place for students to really feel comfortable in the big high school setting, wanted something different and a little more personalized. They got to know their teachers a little bit better, and they could really go at their own pace for learning."

Art Tech has helped build students' confidence and make them feel welcome at school. Kate said that Art Tech made people "feel like they had a place to go, feel like they belonged, feel like you could grow and challenge yourselves, and get ready for the next steps in the world." Kate had also shared: "Everyone was family there, and it was and still is with our last 15 students."

With the district growing,

West Linn High School and Wilsonville High School are starting to overflow. With that, the district needed a bigger space for students. Athey Creek Middle School is changing locations and the new high school, Riverside High School will be in their old building.

Nic Chapin, the Principal of Riverside High School, shared that the new school "will have similar aspects but it will not be Art Tech reopened. It is going to be a whole new vision for a third high school in the West Linn-Wilsonville School District." There is not a process set in place to attend Riverside High School as of now. However, students will be able to choose to attend for a variety of reasons. They could want to go to a smaller high school and have different academic offerings. The district will develop a set process and put it in place for those students wanting to go to Riverside for the 2023-2024 school year.

The building for Riverside High School is smaller than the other high schools in our district-by design. The district is opening a full comprehensive high school just at a smaller scale, so it will fit the needs for those students interested in the Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, and those looking for a smaller school. Riverside High School will offer some different classes than our other high schools in the West Linn-Wilsonville School District.

Nic Chapin shared, "One will be health occupations, for people interested in the health career field. There will be construction and architecture, which will be another option. And then business and marketing will be the third option. Those three new strands of CTE programs that we haven't offered in the district and don't offer at the other schools." The district is looking forward to this exciting new opening of another school to enrich the lives of students and prepare them for their future.



An ariel view of where the new school is going to be. Students are excited to move into the new oppritunity. Photo Provided by WLWV.



Pictured above is a concept design of Riverside High School. The new high school will be opening in the fall of 2023. Photo provided by WLWV School District.

Painting the sky

By Anthea Goh
Guest Writer

Over the years, students have decorated the walls of Wilsonville High School with their art. From paintings to photographs to sculptures, art can be found all around the school. Deciding to expand from the walls, several students this year have taken up a new trend—painting ceiling tiles.

Although there have been several teachers who have enlisted students to paint a few ceiling tiles in previous years, it was a relatively rare practice until this year. Mr. Slick had some painted ceiling tiles prior to the start of this year, but throughout this school year, several students have taken home ceiling tiles to paint them themselves. Slick mentioned, “The teacher before me used it as an end of the year AP project... This year, for some reason, students wanted to paint tiles. I love the idea so I let students run with it.” However the process may not be for every teacher, as Slick admits that it is quite the process to take down the tiles and sometimes they do not come back af-



Hannah Aldrich (left) and Sameera Yatham (right) with their ceiling tile. Each aspect of the tile represents a part in the book, from the background to the red string. Photo provided by author.

ter being distributed to students.

Recently, the WVHS Art Club decided to take up painting ceiling tiles as their current project. So far, they have completed one tile for the photography classroom, but they hope to create tiles for other classrooms in the future as well. Junior Rachel Lords, a member of Art Club, stated, “We decided to start painting tiles because we felt that it would add some artistic interest to the classroom. We also wanted to find a place to paint as a group where we could

display it, and what better place than the ceiling?” Art Club is currently in the process of painting two other tiles which connect the concepts of land and water with many more to come in the future.

Other students have taken a ceiling tile as a personal project to complete outside of school. Macy Moore, junior, painted a ceiling tile with her friends over winter break. The painting, an original design of two potatoes reading in a library, currently resides in Mr. Slick’s classroom. Moore stated, “The process of

making the tile was super fun, and being able to make something that could be showcased was a super cool experience... I would definitely recommend it for anyone interested in getting their creativity out there.” Several seniors were also able to leave their mark on the school by painting their own ceiling tile. Senior Claire Ihlenburg painted a tile, stating that apart from just being a fun project, “I wanted to have something that I made stay at the school after I graduate.” In some classes, paint-

ing a tile has become a possible option for creative project as well. Juniors Sameera Yatham and Hannah Aldrich decided to paint a ceiling tile for their AP English Language and Composition project. They decorated the tile with several different mediums to represent the book *Girl Interrupted* by Susanna Keysen. Inspired by other ceiling tiles around the school, both Yatham and Aldrich thought that painting a ceiling tile would be a unique way to present their project. “I remember seeing Guay’s ceiling and thought how cool it was to be able to look up and see different art pieces in one place,” Yatham stated when asked about her inspiration.

It has been a shared sentiment that painting ceiling tiles has created a new opportunity for many students to showcase their creativity and leave something at the school that will remain even after they graduate. As Moore stated, “I think that art and outlets such as these tiles are great ways for people to be able to express their emotion and ideas through something that will be on display every day.” And if this year has anything to say about it, painted ceiling tiles just might become a new tradition for students at Wilsonville High School.

Fine Arts at WVHS

By Jasmine Brown
Arts Editor

At our school, the fine arts make a huge impact on our school and its electives. The fine arts are arts that drive a person’s creative or mental drive. This can include performing arts, graphic arts, or the visual arts, which are seen all around our school environment. Whether it’s digital animation, orchestra, jewelry or any of the other classes that Wilsonville provides.

Performing Arts:

Performing arts and the types of arts given to an audience. This can include more musical arts, such as choir, band, orchestra, ect. It can also include arts such as theater or drama, which focuses more on the acting and emotional aspect. “I started band in 8th grade, playing the trumpet. But I switched to alto saxophone my freshman year,” Jocsan Ocampo, a junior who plays the tenor saxophone for symphonic band and an alto saxophone for jazz band, says about his past history with the hobby. “I’ve become really close to the kids in my class, especially the ones in the same saxophone section in jazz. A great memory I have from this year is being able to play in pep band for football games and basketball games.” These classes provide many opportunities outside of school to expand their students’ skills and abilities. Like mentioned before, band and other musical arts are able to perform outside of school, whether it’s during sports events or competitions. Theater also offers more chances outside of school, such as the seasonal performances or drama club.

Visual Arts:

At our school, our visual arts include jewelry, sculpture, and other artistic classes are offered to expand their knowledge and skills in the fine arts. Many of these students use these artistic hobbies outside of school, or possibly hope to continue it as a future career. “Right now, we are making paper mache masks with newspaper, recycled boxes, and clay to make masks that are similar to the ones hanging up,” Sophia Gordon, a student currently taking sculpture 2, says. “I think projects like these are definitely gonna prepare me for other projects I want to do, since I’ll probably create a portfolio to show my work for after high school.” Our school offers a wide variety of visual arts that students are encouraged to try, as well as more advanced classes to take later on to continue the subject and expand its students’ knowledge. With so many different types to experiment with and different varieties of styles, it’s a great way to drive our students’ creative minds and encourage them to experiment with something new.

Graphic Arts:

Graphic Arts, similarly known as graphic design, is a form of art popular at our school. Our classes offer technology to show a new way of art by using photography, photoshop, indesign, etc. Kiera Easterly is a sophomore currently taking the class as an elective to add more ease to her busy schedule. “Photography is a pretty fun class, I’ve learned the basics of using a camera and how to use photoshop,” she states. “I’ve also had to use photoshop and our other editing apps for some of my other classes as well, so it’s definitely come in handy.” There’s other classes that also focus more on the digital aspect of graphic arts, like CAD for example. CAD stands for computer assisted drafting, and focuses on using computers to create designs, like houses. “CAD has helped me understand how to use architecture design programs that I’ll be using if I become an architect,” Zarek Nowak, a sophomore who has taken the class in the past, says. “I also had a lot of freedom in the class, and I was able to design the way I wanted to.”



3 performers take to the stage for Wilsonville’s most recent performance. Left to right: Luci Clemo, Penny Burian, Kate Thomas. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

Performing arts return to playing in person

By Ainsley Mayes
Guest Writer



Junior Dane Wilson (left) and sophomore Melody Subotnick (right) play in the most recent band concert. The two are part of the flute section. Photo provided by author.

As WVHS returns to full-time in person school, leaving the hybrid system of the 2020-2021 school year behind, students involved in the performing arts have been able to meet for their first in person rehearsals in over a year.

Over quarantine, students in band, orchestra, and choir rehearsed and recorded their parts for pieces of music individually to be put together to create songs, as opposed to having normal rehearsals and concerts.

Students involved in band expressed their excitement to be returning to rehearsals with their peers, explaining that although individual practice is important, being able to play with and listen to a full ensemble makes the music they create feel complete. "The most important stuff happens when we play together, and not only play but lis-

ten to one another," senior Mason Hardbarger said.

This year, the band continues to showcase their resilience after having to move into the black box theatre while the current band room is under construction. A new space has meant new acoustics, as well as fitting into a much smaller room.

Students explained that sound in the black box carries much differently compared to what they are used to, and that the space picks up small noises quite easily. "The sound quality and tight space has really pushed all of us as musicians to become more disciplined," senior Alyssa Sun said.

Although the band still has challenges to face, many students are looking forward to activities they did not participate in last year due to COVID-19 constraints. One of these activities is pep band. "I can spend quality

time with other band members, and have fun playing exciting charts," Sun said.

Pep band is making its return along with in person concerts, festivals, and other programs outside of school. "I'm looking forward most to our festivals this year," Hardbarger said. As WVHS finally returns to relative normalcy, the opportunities to create music will only continue to grow, and the band is enthusiastically awaiting the year's coming events.

"The most important stuff happens when we play together, and not only play but listen to one another."
- Mason Hardbarger

A triumphant return to thespian state

By Claudia Molatore
Guest Writer

Thespian state marked the beginning of a new era for students involved in theater at Wilsonville High School. For the first time since the creation of the thespian state, this was all Wilsonville students' first time attending the state competition. Due to the inability for students to attend this competition for multiple years, the majority of students who attended were seniors. However, four juniors and one freshman also attended thespian state. One of the things that makes thespian state unique is that students who aren't competing are also able to attend. This allows for all students to grow and learn in a safe and welcoming environment.

Thespian state has competitions in the morning and afternoon, and holds classes during the evening in order to educate all the students in attendance. This schedule allows for students to not feel like they are constantly competing with everyone else, and helps everyone to come together and support each other.

Bonding between students is aided by the rubber duck tradition. The rubber duck tradition is the buying of your own rubber ducks and searching for your

rubber duck buddy who is owned by someone else. Students who have Shrek must find Fiona, and Romeo must find Juliet. This activity requires students to stop and talk with each other, which helps students feel connected and gives relief from the stresses of competition.

Although the thespian state competition is a friendly and happy environment, there is no better feeling than hearing your school's name announced as a winner. Wilsonville High School swept the competition, with three showcasing groups. For reference, when an act showcases it is representative of the group or person winning their category. Wilsonville High School's Large Group Acting (Cian Lister, Alex Wellborn, Jillian Dauth, Laura Jefferies), Stage Manager Book (Andrew Murphy), and Make-up Design (Noah Stanley) all placed at the top of their categories and showcased. These wins are extremely exciting and remarkable.

This triumphant return to state demonstrates the dedication and ability that all Wilsonville students have. Furthermore, this marks a new era for Wilsonville Theater because it allows for students to be involved in live theater again. There is no denying that these past few years have been very difficult for the performing arts department here at



Wilsonville thespians gather at the end of the 2022 state festival. Due to COVID, no one in this group has attended state before, but the trip this year has students already looking forward to the 2023 festival. Photo provided by author.

Wilsonville, however this event has reminded students what Wilsonville Theater can and should be. Thespian state represents the ability to overcome challenges,

and finally move past the difficulties we have faced these past few years. Furthermore, all students who are interested in the theater department or music in general

should look into the many opportunities available to them at Wilsonville High School.

BACK PAGE

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Back to the future with Wilsonville GLAX

By Alexis McIlmoil
Opinions Editor

The girls lacrosse team is on a roll this season, and they are not taking their foot off the gas. Coming from a shortened season due to COVID-19, the girls lacrosse team has begun the road to playoffs. The girls pre-season record stands at 5-1.

In the past, the lacrosse team has felt more recreational to the players. Lacrosse has never been as big on the west coast as it has on the east, and has never been a huge sport for Wilsonville. However, after the COVID season, even the incoming freshmen have brought their A game to the team. They are looking ahead to the playoffs this season with enthusiasm. They hope to change the mindset of those who push lacrosse to the side as just another game.

For the first time in 6 years, the girls lacrosse team has had enough players come out to have both varsity and junior varsity teams. "Playing lacrosse this season has been so fun. It's a great environment and all the players strive to be their best," says freshman Coco Hiday.

The team lost 3 seniors last season, but they have filled the holes in the webbing of the team gracefully. The loss of the



Varsity midfielders-- Fiona Dunn, Avery Lanz and Alexis McIlmoil-- stand posing with their awesome coach, Bruce Weber. As said by the team, "We won for Bruce." Photo provided by author.

awesome seniors was mourned by all, but there were changes that needed to be made. The new captains this year have stepped up to close the space between gaps. "We miss our seniors of

course, but they left us all with a winning mindset and honestly it's been a stroke of serendipity. We have the potential and the talent to win a lot this season," says Senior Bailey Wadell.

Avery Lanz, a senior midfielder and 4 year varsity player shares, "I'm excited for the season to play more competitive teams because our league is difficult." Girls lacrosse in Oregon is run through OGLA (Oregon Girls Lacrosse Association) and not OSAA (Oregon School Activities Association), so lacrosse is more like a club sport. The girls lacrosse team is a part of the Three Rivers League that intermixes 5A and 6A teams.

The team recently traveled south for a weekend to the Bend area. Both JV and varsity teams had games Friday night and Saturday morning, allowing for a team bonding overnight trip. Both teams won Friday night at Sisters, where JV played Redmond's Varsity, and Varsity played Sisters.

The varsity team was up 7-2 at halftime against Summit, but lost their heads a bit before securing the 9-8 win. Many girls realized that the team had the potential for greatness but they needed to play as a team and not as individuals. Sophomore Carly Crocker elaborates, "I think that this season we [the team] were all wanting to improve our game individually and as how we play as a team, and that has been shown on the field so far. I know a lot of us put in a lot of extra work

outside of practice to be more improved and that has definitely helped us. We need chemistry as a team and the Bend trip definitely brought us all closer together."

The Cats are excited to continue the winning streak they've started this season. Audrey Counts, a brand new freshman who has already played many Varsity minutes, says, "I randomly decided to join lacrosse this year and since then it's changed my life. As the third sport I've played this year it has kept me in shape and prepared for my other seasons. It's so fun to meet all the new people. I also like lacrosse because it is outside and hopefully I'll get a tan."

Audrey and many other underclassmen have taken Wilsonville by storm and really left their own pawprint on the team. "Our team's mindset is what really makes me excited for this year. We are hungry for respect and are willing to work hard as heck for that," says Lily Gloss, a sophomore and Varsity defender.

The season has just begun for the cats and they are not backing down. Playoffs are in sight, and they are not rolling over and letting the usual 6A dominated league catch them off guard. We are anticipating greatness from the girls team this year.

Boys lacrosse: taking big steps forward

By Keenan Sanford
Staff Writer

Lacrosse at Wilsonville High School is fairly new compared to the other sports at WVHS. And just like any new program, they have had their struggles. However struggles are to be expected, and this year, the boys team has shown great promise. As their program builds from the ground, they are looking to become a force in the Northwest Conference.

WVHS has a great foundation of experience that has stepped up this year. This year has been a "next man up" mentality due to injuries. There have been 9 injuries, which have caused some trouble, but they've been able to keep afloat during the hard time.

On their squad, they are led by seniors Wyatt Bedell and Donis Demonte, juniors Brennan Martin and Asher Buchanan, and sophomores Eli Nelson and Gavin Waddell, among other key pieces. Freshman goalie, Nathan Kim, has done his job and more, saving 9 of 21 shots and only allowing 7 goals. Coach Neal Bateman started

this first year with the program this year. He has had 20 years of coaching experience and has been involved in the Oregon Lax community as the director of Lacrosse Northwest for 9 years. "I'm extremely proud of these guys and the growth they have shown both as individuals and as a team over the start of this season," he stated.

As of now, they are about half way through the season, with league play on the way. As of April 5, they are 2-4, with a bunch of competitive games and close losses. They have some solid wins against Mountainside and Ida B Wells.

Wyatt Bedell, a senior defenseman for the WVHS Lax team, is currently injured, but was a large part of the success for the team. He explained how proud he is of his team and how they have grown. "We have definitely improved with our teamwork and just working together we have improved." Caeden Harrison, a senior midfielder, is in his first year as a starter and is one of the players who have stepped up in the absence of some of the offensive production due to injury. Similar to Bedell, he also men-



The boys line up for the national anthem before a game against Skyview, Washington. The Cats performed well and ended up winning the game. Photo provided by Greg Artman.

tioned how he was excited as to how much the team has come along since last year. "It has improved so much since last year."

Along with these performances, Senior Toshi Kondo has been very impressive, winning 88% of faceoffs taken and helping keep possession for the

Cats. Sophomores Eli Nelson and Gavin Waddell have been offensive catalysts with 25 goals and 10 assists between the two. Seniors Jackson Miller, Judah Lesh, and Huston Ellis, juniors Brennan Martin, Asher Buchanan, and freshman Lucas Thomsen have also stepped up in big ways.

In the coming years, it's looking exciting for the Cats as they return a lot of production on both ends. They do graduate a couple of seniors, but with the talent they have returning and talent on the way, there's lots of optimism to be had.