

# The NEW WILLITS WOLVERINE

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER - EDITION #3

Thursday, March 9, 2017



Above: At Kelseyville High School: Caitlyn Forrester, Madison Forrester, Sandra Walker, Bailey Ferguson, Alexis Reyes, Jaden Doak, James Brown, Ricky Carrillo, DJ Buzzard, Devin Heiken showing off their awards at the speaking competition.

## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD FOR FFA

By Keegan Reed & Ms. Bakewell

The WHS FFA (Future Farmers of America) students are always keeping busy and have some interesting and fun times coming up.

On Wednesday, March 1st, 11 students participated in the section competition held at Kelseyville High School. Competitions included: FFA Creed, Impromptu, Extemporaneous, Prepared Public Speaking, and the Job Interview.

Sandra Walker won at the job interview, and said: "The interview went well, and I was surprised that I won because I've only been in FFA for one week!"

Devin Heiken nailed extemporaneous. He explained: "Out of 20 topics we choose one, and mine was 'How has the use of pesticides changed with the use of technology?' Then, I had about 30 minutes to write a speech between four and eight minutes long. I discussed new computer technology as it relates to weeds, dosage to kill and GPS systems that are inserted right in the ground."

Sandra and Devin qualified to move on to the sectional level and compete against other students in the region on March 24th in Eureka. The North Coast Region consists of Humboldt/Del Norte County, Mendo/Lake County, Sonoma County, and Solano/Alameda County.

On March 4th, our livestock judging team competed in its first novice livestock judging contest this year. They placed seventh overall and will compete again at the State Conference in Fresno.

Congratulations are in order for Caitlyn Forrester, Bailey Ferguson, Haily Findley, Ben Branscomb, Devin Heiken and Morgan Riley, who will walk across the stage to receive their FFA State Degree on March 25th. A State Degree in FFA is a very high honor - it is the highest award at the state level and approximately only 3% of the membership receives this award.

On April 1st, our FFA Alumni are hosting their annual dinner at the Grange. The menu will most likely be tri-tip, roasted potatoes and a veggie. The alumni will have a silent auction and a dessert auction. All funds go directly to helping out the FFA organization.

On March 29th, our delicious tri-tip lunch is back again by popular demand. For \$10, you'll get a tri-tip sandwich, bag of chips, a drink and cookies for dessert.

The 89th annual FFA State Conference is being held on April 21st in Fresno, and the theme is "Limitless." As we know, FFA members push past their limits to achieve their personal best and uncover great opportunities.

WHS will send 15 students who will attend workshops, listen to guest speakers, make friendships that will last a lifetime, and enjoy a free concert by Brett Young.

For more information on any of the events that we are doing, please contact Advisor Mrs. Kelley Case-Brackett at [kelleycase@willitsunified.com](mailto:kelleycase@willitsunified.com) or 707-459-7700, x 1539.



Above: FFA members Sandra Walker and Devin Heiken.

Below: Beau Roberts, Kyleena Amador, Devin Heiken and Keegan Reed at the Redwood Resource Rally where we learned about the timber industry.

At bottom: FFA members DJ Buzzard and James Brown.



"It was good to go to Kelseyville High and try out something new to help my speaking skills."  
- Madison Forrester

"It was a great experience to try a new challenge and represent our FFA Chapter in the Kelseyville speaking competition."  
- Alexis Reyes

"It was a cool experience to go to my first speaking competition."  
- Jaden Doak



## SOFIA RIHKO

AN INTERVIEW WITH WHS'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM FINLAND

by Daisy Barrett, WHS Yearbook Editor

Sofia and I sit across from each other in ceramics, so I wanted to learn more about Finland and why she wanted to be a foreign exchange student. I couldn't even imagine going to another country where I wouldn't know anyone and I would be far away from my family. After talking with Sofia, I learned more about Finland: the people, customs, and everyday life.

WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO BE A FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT?

I wanted to come to America so I could work on my English. I also really enjoy traveling, and I wanted to see a new part of the world.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF WILLITS?

I was shocked at how small Willits is. I came from Raisio in Finland. It's much bigger, and there is everything that you could possibly need right there, different things to do like dance clubs, bowling, movies and shopping malls. I can ride my bike everywhere, and it's not far, or take a bus; sometimes my friends pick me up on scooters or motorcycles.

HOW'S SCHOOL IN FINLAND COMPARED TO AMERICA?

In Finland, we have five semesters instead of two. We have to study hard for seven weeks, and the eighth week we have exams. We take one exam per day, and we usually have five to eight classes per semester. One class is 75 minutes, and some classes could be as long as 100 minutes. We study the same subjects like math, history, chemistry, physics, and we are required to take Finnish, Swedish and English. We have elevators in school, but kids take the stairs. We have the best, free, nutritious and healthy school lunches. We only celebrate prom and don't have homecoming or quad dances. We also don't have any school sports like you do here in America. We do have sports, but they are a club after school. I play floorball - it's like inside hockey. I plan on trying out for track this spring.

HOW WAS YOUR FIRST HALLOWEEN?

It was great! I dressed up like a cowgirl, and it was pouring down rain. It was pretty cool that we could just go to a stranger's house for candy.

Finish "EXCHANGE" on page 5

## NATIVE AMERICAN CLUB TO HOST WHS AWARENESS & WELLNESS DAY ON MARCH 20

The Willits High School Native American Club (WHS-NAC) would like to thank the community for their generous donations made to the club at the Standing Rock event last month. WHS-NAC will be hosting a school-wide Awareness & Wellness Day on March 20th at the WHS with the purpose of motivating and educating our students on such subjects as Equality, Health & Healthy Relationships, and Native American Culture.

We are still very much in need of volunteers and donations to help fund the event. If you would like to support the WHS Native American Club, tax-deductible donations may be left at the WHS front office and made payable to WHS-NAC, attention Julie Orr. For more information, please contact our club advisor, Lucy Kyne at 459-7700 x1513. With appreciation, Tatyana Guevara, WHS Senior & NAC President



Advisor Lucy Kyne, with WHS students and members of the Native American Club, Elijah DeCent, Beau Betts, Nathan Maples, KC Brom, Janine Wright, Angel De Los Santos, Pablo Avalos III, Bianca Guevara, Takota Paulson, and Tatyana Guevara.

# CLASS NEWS

## FRESHMAN CLASS

We still have nothing to report, but we may still plan something sometime. Just keep your eye out for freshman activities. If you have any questions or ideas, you can contact me at lillianturner@willitsunified.com.

## SOPHOMORE CLASS

Our Father Daughter Dance is coming up on March 11! Our theme is "Frozen." Pre-sale tickets for two are \$25 and tickets at the door are \$30. It will be at the Willits Community Center. There will be food, drinks, a photo booth, a raffle, and a DJ! Come support the sophomore class and have fun! We are also doing a raffle on May 14th. \$5 for one ticket and \$20 for five tickets. The prizes are a load of gravel, a cord of firewood, a Yeti Hooper Cooler, and a \$200 gift card for pictures from Mphotographress. Call the high school at 459-7700 x 1539 for more information.

## JUNIOR CLASS

We are hosting a Masquerade Ball for the senior prom at the Community Center on April 29th from 9 pm to midnight. Next prom meeting is March 23 at 6 pm in the media center at Willits High School. Come help us make this prom the best one ever! We are looking for donations for our Yeti Cooler fundraiser; please contact morganriley@willitsunified.com or mitchellhollingsworth@willitsunified.com to donate money or fill the Yeti with fun surprises.

## SENIOR CLASS

March 7 & 8: Senior Portfolio Interviews  
March 28 & 29: Local Scholarship (Xerox) Application Night, 4 to 5 pm  
April 19 & 20: Senior Scholarship Interviews, 5 to 8 pm  
April 29: Senior Masquerade Ball, 9 pm to midnight  
May 30: Senior Field Trip to Great America and San Francisco Dinner Cruise  
June 1: Scholarship Award Night, 7 to 9 pm  
June 6: Senior Sob 7 to 9 pm  
June 8: Graduation 6 pm  
June 8: Sober Grad 9 pm



## WELCOME TO THE LITTLEST WOLVERINE

The Willits High School students, faculty and staff would like to welcome the littlest Wolverine – Amirani Lopez. She was born on November 11, 2016 to her proud parents, Susana Ramirez and Jose Lopez.

## INTERVIEW WITH MR. WESTERBURG

## SCHEDULE CHANGES ARE ON THE HORIZON

by Grace Horger, WHS Yearbook Staff

Next fall, new changes for student and teachers are coming to Willits Unified School District. At Willits High School, we will be going on a 3x5 trimester schedule for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Westerburg believes the new schedule will make things better for all of us.

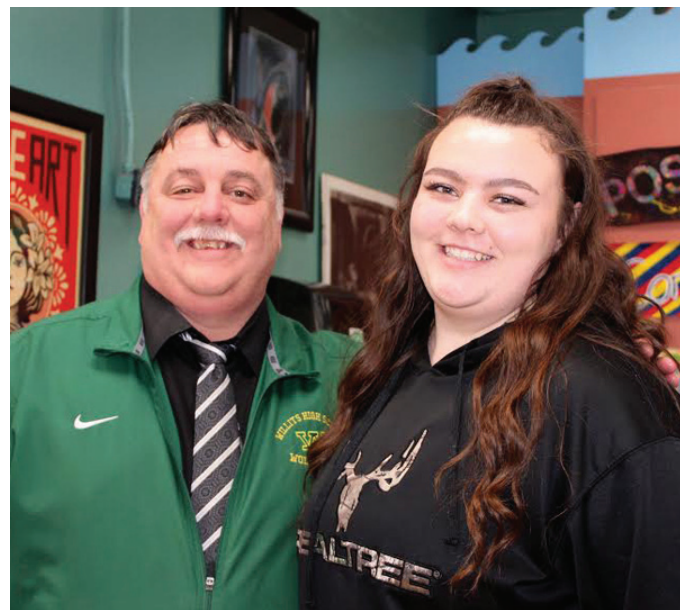
It will break the school year up into three distinct parts with 5 class periods a day and 60 days per trimester. In the new schedule, classes will be 75 minutes long, and students will have 15 minutes for lunch and 30 minutes for lunch each day. The new system will benefit students in many ways. For example, we can earn more credits per year as well as have more class choices, and the new schedule will make it easier to retake classes if needed. Some classes like Concert Band and Advanced Placement will be continuous and last throughout all three trimesters.

The positive sides to the trimester system include less homework, more time in class per day, greater chance to take more electives, more recognition for increasing grade point average and, as mentioned earlier, the ability to make up credits.

The trimester system has been tested nationwide and is considered highly successful. Evidence has proven that it increases student retention and lowers dropout rates.

"I'm looking forward to positive changes here at WHS. I think going to the trimester system will be cool because if kids get in trouble with their grades they can make them up quicker, and we'll have less classes to juggle and therefore less stress."

— Grace Horger



Mr. Westerburg & Grace Horger

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AP Environmental Science students: back row, from left: Tailine Gonzalez, Oren Silverstein, Mikayla Blake, Nicole Karkar, and Zachariah Dellet, Front row, from left: Yuseli Campuzano, Leslie Campuzano, and Aiden Bertolino-Haley.

## 'OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT'

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT BY AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS

By Mikayla Blake

For the science fair our Advanced Placement Environmental Science class (APES) did a project on "Our Ecological Footprint." In order to do our project, we released a survey with a bunch of questions asking about the students' lifestyles and added up the results to see what their ecological footprint is.

An ecological footprint is the effect you leave on our planet with the activities you do and the energy and renewable resources they use up. We had too many questions on our survey to put them all on the display board, so we chose a question from each subject. We had seven different subjects: Food, Energy Use, Water Use, Shelter, Clothing, Transportation and Stuff. We used the results to raise awareness of those at the high school and in the community of the impact of their actions on our environment. We hope that after seeing the results of this survey, people will be more cautious about their actions and the impact they have; also maybe they will help raise the awareness of others. Some things you could do to reduce your ecological footprint are to recycle and to buy locally grown food.

## FOOD:

Question: \_\_\_\_\_ of your food is grown locally. (All) (Some) (None)

Results: 5 people (3.4%) said all their food was grown locally; 114 (78.1%) said that some of their food was grown locally; and 27 (18.5%) said that none of their food was grown locally.

Conclusion: Most members of Willits High School buy some locally grown food. This result is surprising because of how much farming there is in the county.

## ENERGY USE:

Question: Outdoors today, I spent...? (7 hours) (4-6 hours) (2-3 hours) (2 hours or less)

Results: More than half of the students said they spend 2-3 hours outside a day, while less than a quarter answered they spend 7 hours or more.

Conclusion: Students need to go outside more.

## WATER:

Question: Shower or bath on a typical day is? (No shower/No bath) (1-2 minutes) (3-6 minutes) (10 or more minutes)

Results: Over 60% of participants shower for 10 minutes or longer; 30% take 3-6 minute showers; 4% take 1-2 minute showers; and 1% don't shower daily.

Conclusion: From this we can conclude that most of the survey participants take long showers daily even though we just got over a major drought.

## SHELTER:

Question: Do you share your home with non-family members?

Results: 14 people (9.7%) said yes; 130 people (90.3%) said no.

Conclusion: Roughly 10 percent of students at Willits High School live with non-family members. Though this is a small percentage, it is still more than would be expected of high school students who often live with their parents rather than a roommate.

## CLOTHING:

Question: How many times a day do you change your clothes?

Results: 74 (50.7%) only once; 63 (43.2%) more than once; 9 (6.2%) I keep my clothes on for more than once a day.

Conclusion: We can conclude that over 50% of the participants only change their clothes once a day; less change their clothes more than once; and a small portion only change their clothes every other day.

## TRANSPORTATION:

Question: How many cars are in your driveway?

Results: .7% of people have no vehicles; 15.4% have one; 29.4% have two; and 54.5% have more than two.

Conclusion: Students with higher quantities of vehicles are more likely to be upperclassmen because they can drive, while students with lower quantities of vehicles are more likely to be underclassmen since they cannot drive. Therefore, upperclassman have a greater ecological footprint in Willits.

### Today Determines Tomorrow

What we do, how we learn, and the skills we choose to develop really will affect tomorrow and our future experiences, students in Jessie Rees' special day class (SDC) understand that. In this hands-on learning environment, these kids are all working and improving their abilities and knowledge everyday. Ms. Rees teaches up to 16 different topics throughout the day and meets the needs of the students exactly where they're at. In other words, some students are working on math while others are working on basic motor skills and some are even studying economics and science. The SDC is designed to differentiate instruction by optimizing the student's education in the least restrictive environment. Many students venture out and take electives such as art or physical education and others take core classes like science or computers.

There is a happy feeling inside the SDC and a sense of accomplishment. Students enjoy the learning process and being together. The students run a student store and learn about money by selling pencils and snacks. These student do special things for our school community; for example, they keep our campus beautiful by picking up trash. They receive work experience by doing towels for Headquarters and Salon 707. Laundry is a skill everyone needs to master. Students also learn how to go grocery shopping and cook. These students are truly a gift to all.

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At top:  
WHS  
wrestlers:  
Coach Colvig,  
Dominick  
Bertolino,  
Mitchell  
Hollingsworth,  
Craig  
Stewart,  
Owen  
Sebastian,  
Colten  
Horger,  
Adrian  
Brito, Jacob  
Arms,  
Ethan  
Ferguson,  
Spencer  
Kendrick,  
Carson  
Miler, Tyler  
Vesey,  
d'Artagnan  
Meek,  
Patrick  
Turner,  
Dimetri  
Nova, Beau  
Roberts,  
Coach  
Bowles,  
Nicole  
Karkar,  
Triston  
Martin,  
Austin  
Andrade,  
and Jairo  
Carrillo.

At right:  
WHS  
Wolverine  
wrestlers  
just after  
they won the  
NCS Duals.

Below: WHS  
Wolverine  
wrestlers  
pose with  
their NCS  
pennant.



## WRESTLERS MAKE WILLITS PROUD!

WHS WOLVERINES BRING HOME TWO PENNANTS

By Coach Brian Bowles

The Willits High wrestlers competed through a perfect season this year. They went undefeated through their eight season dual meets, and they captured the North Coast Sections (NCS) team dual title, and then placed first as a team in the Coastal Mountain Conference Championships.

Two new pennants will be proudly hung in the Steve Short Gymnasium to honor these fine young men and wrestling champions. The last time the Wolverines won a NCS championship was in 2008, but they have hung second- and third-place NCS team pennants in the gym five out of the last eight years. In 2014, the Wolverines were co-league champions with Fort Bragg.

The Wolverines dominated the league, tournament after tournament. Every member of the varsity line-up wrestled for a medal. There were nine wrestlers in the finals and five going for third place. Over all, Willits sent 11 wrestlers on to NCS individual sections.

At individual sections, which encompasses the region from Del Norte in the north to Union City in the south, the Wolverines competed like champions as well. Every wrestler won at least one match, while Colten Horger, Triston Martin and Tyler Vesey each made it to the second day. Horger went 3-2 in the tournament, losing one round shy of a medal, while teammates Vesey and Martin battled back through the consolations to place seventh and eighth respectively.

This year, four seniors will graduate off the squad, and they will be dearly missed for their skill and leadership. However, the future looks fantastic as seven out of the 14 varsity weight classes were filled with freshmen.

Special thanks to coaches Chris Glenn, Mike Colvig and Jeff Andrade for helping lead this team to success.



"Consistency, work ethic, respect, and treating each other like family has led these excellent young athletes to evolve into champions. I am very proud of what they have accomplished both on and off the mat." – Coach Brian Bowles

### WHS WRESTLERS ROSTER

- 108 Carson Miler 2nd
- 115 Ethan Ferguson 4th
- 122 Owen Sebastian 2nd
- 128 Adrian Brito 2nd
- 134 Tyler Vesey 1st
- 140 Dominic Bertolino 4th
- 147 d'Artagnon Meek 2nd
- 154 Beau Roberts 4th
- 162 Jacob Arms 2nd
- 172 Triston Martin 1st
- 184 Austin Andrade 3rd
- 197 Bryon Bolton 4th
- 222 Mitchell Hollingsworth 2nd
- Hwt Colten Horger 2nd



The end of "EXCHANGE" from page 1

ARE YOU ENJOYING DIFFERENT FOODS HERE IN AMERICA THAT YOU DON'T HAVE IN FINLAND?

Yes! This was my first experience eating an In-N-Out Burger, and I love that place so much. I also had my first frozen yogurt at Scoops, and it was really good. In my country, we don't have chili, Sour Patch Kids, or Cheetos.

WHERE HAVE YOU TRAVELED?

Spain, Italy, France, England, Sweden, Norway, Poland, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, and in America I've been to California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon and Florida.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT OF YOUR FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE SO FAR?

I loved the trip to Florida that I took with my host family. We went to Disney World, Space Center and Universal Studios during our Christmas vacation. I liked meeting other foreign exchange students while we were on our trip to Florida, because we can understand and relate to each other's experiences in this country. Lake Tahoe was fun because we went there to go skiing. Ms. Jane Applebee took me to San Francisco where we walked around, saw a musical, and had great food. We took a trip to Oregon recently and skied on Mount Ashland. It was fun because we met up with other foreign exchange students in the program and had a super great time. I've also enjoyed meeting new people and making new friends.

HOW ARE PEOPLE DIFFERENT IN FINLAND COMPARED TO AMERICA?

In Finland there is no small talk. People tend to be more quiet, appreciate their privacy, and they aren't as outgoing. Whereas American people aren't afraid to talk to each other and are more social.

Are you missing your family back home?

Yes, I was OK for the first few months, but now and again I'm feeling a little melancholy, and I'm looking forward to going back home at the end of June.



## MAKE-A-WISH FUNDRAISER

Julia & Jamie Johnstone are hosting a "Make-A-Wish" fundraiser for their Senior Project.

"Ever since I got my wish in June of 2016 and traveled to Bora Bora with my family, Jamie and I have wanted to donate money back to the Make-A-Wish Foundation," said Julia, "and now is the perfect time to do that!"

We would like to invite everyone in the community to come to our Live and Silent Auction on March 25, 2017. Tickets are \$10 per person, and that also buys your auction paddle.

There will be a no host bar provided by Kiwanis, and Taqueria Ramirez will have tacos to purchase! Join us for a night of fun that gives to a great organization! If you are interested, feel free to text, call or email Julia at: 707-272-1480 or juliajohnstone@willitsunified.com.

Thank you all!

– Julia and Jamie Johnstone



Above, left: "I am extremely proud of myself because this was my first time getting all A's in high school, and it was a fun experience getting an award I worked hard for." – Daisy Barrett. Above, right: "I am proud that all my hard work paid off." – Ian Watson

## FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE SATURDAY, MARCH 11

The Father-Daughter "Frozen" Winter Ball presented by the Willits High School sophomore class

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE CLASS PROUDLY PRESENTS A COMMUNITY:

# FATHER DAUGHTER WINTER BALL

Saturday, March 11, 2017  
Willits Community Center  
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Advanced Ticket Purchase: \$25.00 Per Couple**  
(Sold as Price for Father and Daughter, \$30.00 Per Couple at the Door)

Price Includes: Couple's Admission, Two 4x6 Photos in Keepsake Cards, plus Two Complimentary Fancy (non-alcoholic) Beverages.  
Tickets available at JD Redhouse, Monkey Wrench, Shear Envy, and Willits High School (WHS) Office.

is this Saturday, March 11. It will be hosted in the Willits Community Center from 7 to 9 pm. It's a fun event for children of all ages. Girls, bring your father, grandfather, uncle or significant role model to share a delightful evening of magic, laughter, dance, and good things to eat and drink. Pre-sale tickets for two can be purchased at J.D. Redhouse, Monkey Wrench, Shear Envy, and the WHS office for \$25.

Tickets at the door will be \$30, and any extra person is \$12.50 more.



"Block W" honorees: top row, Rene Torres, Nicholas Helzel, Colten Horger and Tyler Austin. Middle row: Tia Lynn Grant, Nayema Sisemore, Naomi Strickland, Sara Strickland, Nicole Karkar, Ryan Hec, Camryn Christensen, Angel De Los Santos, Chanel Alexander and Casey Collicott. Bottom row: Karen Hernandez, Julia Johnstone, Isabel Gutierrez and Jamie Johnstone. Not Pictured: 9th Grade: Tyler Bailey, Java Cash, Belen Mendoza, Taylor Pardue, Nayeli Rodriguez and Emerald Waters. 11th Grade: Mitchell Hollingsworth, Cody Peterson and Stephanie Webb. 12th Grade: Caitlyn Forrester, David Henning, d'Artagnan Meek, Jordan Solis, Kaylah Stone and Wayne Waters.

## ACADEMIC, SERVICE AND ATHLETIC "BLOCK W" HONOREES

By Camryn Christensen

Congratulations to all the students who received an "Academic Block W" at our last rally! It's a real honor to be awarded the prized Block W because a lot of time, effort and hard work is required to earn it.

An Academic Block W patch is given to students who have earned a 4.0 GPA or higher for the semester. Once a student has received the initial patch, they will gain a "Lamp of Knowledge" patch for any subsequent 4.0 or higher GPA earned in the following semesters.

A Block W patch can also be earned for 100

hours of community service.

Students can also earn an "Athletic Block W" by completing a JV or varsity sport season. The athletic W's come in two sizes, a small "w" for JV and a large "W" for varsity. If an athlete is on a JV team, they will receive a small w patch. If the same athlete makes a varsity team, could be in the same school year, different sport, and they complete the season, the large block W patch will be given. An athlete will only receive one block w, whether it be JV or varsity. After that, each season the athlete will then earn an applique of the sport to sew on to the block W.

WHS is very proud of our scholars, athletes and good Samaritans.

At left: "This was my first time getting a 4.0, and I am pleased at the progress I've made." – Jairo Carrillo

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PG. 4

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CREATED BY WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND WILLITS WEEKLY STAFF

## 2016-17 YEARBOOK & WOLVERINE NEWSPAPER STAFF

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The new  
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PG. 5

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WHS Academic Decathlon team. Back row: Alisabeth Wilcox, Jace Atalg, Cheyanne Turner, and Katelyn Abernathy. Front row: Aiden Bertolini-Haley, Miranda Wilson, Ryann Hee, and Olive Campuzano.



# ATHLETES OF THE MIND CLOSE TO BECOMING REGIONAL CHAMPIONS!

by Miranda Wilson & Ms. Bakewell

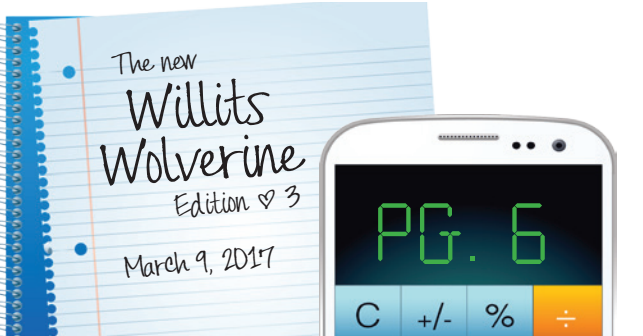
The WHS Academic Decathlon team are on their way to the State Championships! This is the first group to participate in Academic Decathlon since 2013. Under the guidance and direction of Ms. Mary Colvig, the WHS team is making its way to academic excellence in the California statewide competition. The theme under scrutiny this year is World War II. Our class is small but we're mighty, and we work well together. In our intimate learning environment we've studied every aspect of WWII. The science curriculum covers atomic and nuclear physics; in literature, we've read one long novel by Anna Seghers called "Transit" and several short supporting works. We've studied art, music and social sciences from the era, as well as economics, algebra and trigonometry. Finally, everyone on the team is required to give a planned and impromptu speech, write an expository essay, and go through an interview. We participated in regionals on Saturday, January 28. The competition went very well, and our team advanced to state! We placed third in super quiz, and many people on the team placed in several different areas.



The Willits High School 2016/2017 Varsity Girls Basketball Team. Back row: Angel De Los Santos, Cheyanne Walters, Hailey Findley and Araceli Arellano. Front row: Kiley Butler, Chanel Alexander, Vanessa Camp and Morgan Riley.

## VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL 2016/2017

This season the girls basketball team had its challenges due to personality conflicts. The players were fit and strong, and they worked hard on their layups, keeping their eyes up, and on defense. The girls did their personal best but fell short of their lofty goals. This year the team didn't really bond, which was unfortunate because if we had we could have achieved far more. Overall, our season record was 14-13, and our league record was 5-9. We ended up being seated 13th in the playoffs. The season came to a close with a tough loss against St. Patrick-St. Vincent.



To enhance our studies, the team recently went on a field trip to San Francisco, where we visited the Modern Art Museum. We viewed artists from the World War II era and had a great time seeing everything from Diego Rivera to Joan Mitchell. What's next? "This week we are busily prepping for state finals. On March 2nd students took their essay exam. On March 23rd, we'll go to Sacramento to compete in the rest of our events. We're memorizing our speeches, making final preparations for our interviews, and are reviewing materials for our multiple-choice exams." said Mary Colvig. Academic Decathlon is a statewide, non-profit annual academic competition, in which over 500 schools in California compete annually. We are grateful for the support we have received from the local area; we value and appreciate all that this community has done to help us succeed! We would like to especially thank the Willits Rotary for their recent donation of \$500 toward our state finals trip, as well as an anonymous donor of \$20. We are currently seeking additional support. If you're interested contact Academic Decathlon Coach Mary Colvig at marycolvig@willitsunified.com.

— Kiley Butler and Chanel Alexander

A special acknowledgement and congratulations goes out to Chanel Alexander for scoring 1,031 points in her high school basketball career! Chanel's been playing varsity basketball for the last three years. "I started thinking about making the 1,000 points at the end of my junior year, when I discovered how close I was to reaching that goal. My favorite part about the game is scoring baskets and I love the intensity and speed of the sport," said Chanel. Chanel has worked hard to become the person she is today and her future is bright. She plans on attending Anderson University in Indiana to become an athletic trainer.



"Academic Decathlon started as an extremely overwhelming class, but quickly turned into an amazing team. We have all worked hard to get the team where it is and plan to keep getting better. We're proud to represent Willits High School and to rank in events where small schools like ours are barely noticed. The team has made a positive impact, and I hope it keeps getting better each year." – Ryann Hee



"Academic Decathlon is pretty cool. It helps me with my other classes because we study seven different subjects." – Aiden Bertolini-Haley



"I enjoy all the things that Academic Decathlon has to offer, like hanging out with intelligent people and learning about WWII." – Eduardo Escobedo



"Academic Decathlon has been interesting because it's the first time WHS teachers or students have done it in a long time. Overall, it was fun and a lot of hard work." – Miranda Wilson



"Academic Decathlon helps me a lot intellectually and it pushes me to work harder." – Alisabeth Wilcox

## ART UNDER 20~'17

Reception: Friday, March 31, 4-7 pm  
Open: March 31 through April 2

[www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org)  
71 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490  
707-459-1726



## ART UNDER 20

18TH ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW OPENS  
MARCH 31 AT ARTS CENTER

The 18th annual Art Under 20 show will open on Friday, March 31. We hope to see you at the opening night reception for the artists. It will be held from 4 to 7 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts (next door to the Noyo Theatre).

Art Under 20 is presented by the Willits High School Visual Arts Department. Artists from Willits Charter School, San Hedrin High School, Laytonville High School and La Vida Charter School have been invited to participate. Approximately 125 young-adult artists will be presenting their artworks to the community. For some of them it will be their gallery debut.

This year's show is sure to delight students, family, friends and community members alike. It will be a wonderful experience for the artists who are exhibiting their work! AU20 has become one of the most popular shows at the Willits Center for the Arts. Last year's show was visited by over 1,000 people.

Please join us to celebrate the creativity, imagination and artistic gifts of our Willits and Laytonville teenage artists. Their artwork is impressive!

The 2017 show runs from Friday, March 31 through Sunday, April 2. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm. For more information, call Carolyn Bakewell at 459.7700 x 1533 (WHS) or 459-6769 (home).

At top: Casey Collicott, Jenna Wells, Julia Johnstone and Jamie Johnstone work on their art. Below: Carson Miller and Tyler Bailey working on their coil pots in the WHS art studio.



## REMEMBERING THE BIRTH OF ART UNDER 20



Just as the new millennium was arriving, Art Under 20 was born. As Chair of the Visual & Performing Arts at WHS, I had been yearning for a professional-level art show for my students for a long time. It was the one thing we were lacking for the Art Department.

But there was no place, no venue available for a quality art exhibition. I'd racked my brain for years considering restaurants, banks, stores and the high school itself.

But the businesses distracted from the artworks; they were too small or too busy or too disinterested. The high school had the hallways, but the wall surfaces at the time would not take pins or nails, and tape fails when the temperature fluctuates. And, there was a big security problem – how can we keep the artwork safe?

Then along came a miracle. The Willits Center for the Arts opened, and it was the perfect, made-in-Heaven solution. It was a real art gallery designed for exhibitions and opening night receptions with food and entertainment with a stable and secure space,

I was absolutely thrilled and immediately set about getting our show on the WCA calendar, calling for submissions from my students, making the postal-level art show for my students, ordering the mats, setting up the labels and the artists' statements, hanging the show with my advanced artists, and devising the schedules for participants to "sit the show" – the myriad flurry of activities that an art show requires. Whew!

And, off we flew! Everyone was so happy and excited. The reception was a blast! It was crowded with family and friends. The food and entertainment was spectacular. It was FUN!

Art Under 20 became the most popular show, year after year, that the Center for the Arts presents to the community. We have invited other high schools to join us. Art Under 20 is a hugely successful and highly prized annual event. Thank you, everybody!

— Kathleen Kirkpatrick. Chair of the Visual & Performing Arts Emerita. 1982-2007

## MAKE-A-WISH.

### Greater Bay Area

WHS Senior Project Fundraiser ★

Come Help Julia & Jamie sponsor a Child's wish!

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**  
Willits Community Center  
111 E. Commercial St.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.  
Live Auction at 7:30 p.m.  
\$10.00 admission  
Children 5 and under free

Dinner will be available for purchase, provided by Taqueria Ramirez.  
No host bar provided by Kiwanis of Willits.

If you have any questions, would like to purchase pre-sale tickets or make a monetary donation please call Julia (707) 272-1480



"If Donald Trump is the president and doesn't know anything about global warming, why should I?"  
- Kaylan Stone



"I think the earth warming up is just part of its natural cycle."  
- Grace Horger



"I think global warming is real because there is scientific proof that it is happening."  
- Emily Barbitta



"I believe that global warming is real and people are mostly the cause of it. Factories and cars are a big part of global warming because of gasoline and pollution."  
- Emmalee Harmon



"Yes, I believe that global warming is real because scientists have proven it with graphs that show the time-frame of centuries and years. Also, it's hard to ignore that our ice caps have been melting and polar bears are drowning in the ice cold water."  
- Shyann Hudgens

# IS GLOBAL WARMING REAL?

Compiled by Mikayla Blake and Carolyn Bokenell

WHS students were asked whether they believed global warming was real, and did they accept the scientific data concerning climate change?



## STUDENTS & NATURE

Ms. Jill Walton asked her AP English students to do a free write and type up their responses to share with you. Here are the questions she asked them and their responses:

1. What is your relationship with nature? 2. What are your thoughts on climate change?  
3. What is humankind's responsibility to nature?

My relationship with nature is quite an astonishing one. I care for nature, and I love the outdoorsy smell. When I go outside, I see the wonders and beauty of the whole world around me. Climate change is caused by a cluster of people that do not want to take care of their home. It doesn't matter if we have lived here on earth for so many years; the problem is these people don't think throwing trash down or oil spills affect the earth. Humankind's responsibility with the natural environment is to embrace it and to care for it like it was your own child. For instance, at stores they sell flower seeds, fruit, or even vegetable seeds, and you could give back to nature by planting them. Some plants help produce oxygen which helps us live in this beautiful world.

- Hailey Frahm

My relationship with nature is codependent. I rely on her for all materials in my life. Everything I use and need is acquired from nature. Also, I enjoy being outside in nature. I respect her and try to help. I attempt to do my part for keeping her clean and safe.

I believe climate change is an issue in the modern day and must be prevented at all costs. There is substantial evidence that global warming exists, and has negative effects on our planet, Earth.

All parts of society must work together to stop this issue of global warming. Everything we make, from my tea to my hat, comes from the earth. In re-

turn, we must pay her back by not destroying her! We owe everything to her; the least we can do is respect and take care of her.

- Nick Helzel

My relationship with nature is constant. I am surrounded by the forest and its wildlife. Whether I'm walking through the forest or through my neighborhood, nature is all around. The sights and smells of nature are everywhere in Willits. Recycling is a way of life here. Nature allows for our survival, so we try to do what we can to insure the same for it.

I believe that climate change is real and that it's a demanding issue that needs our attention. Climate change affects everyone and everything. To say that it isn't real is to say that science isn't real. Global warming and climate change can no longer be prevented, so we as a people on this planet need to solve this problem we have created.

Humankind owes everything to nature. Our food, our homes, the air in our lungs - we have all these things because of nature. We are rapidly destroying our planet and its resources. We are responsible for resolving the issues we have created. We need to reduce our emissions, our output and our destruction. We are responsible for the earth.

- Naomi Strickland

Finish "NATURE" on page 9



"Yes, there is too much scientific evidence to deny it. Why would scientists lie? It is foolish in my opinion to deny something that the majority of scientists already know as a fact."  
- Ryan Reed



"I think global warming is real, it might not affect areas where it's hot and cold but mainly affects places like Alaska and Antarctica."

- Alexis Reyes



"Yes, I believe global warming is a real thing because our icecaps are melting, and now the animals that live in the cold areas are getting too hot."  
- Heidi Herold



"Yes, I believe in the scientific evidence that human beings are in part responsible for global warming, but I think they're making a bigger deal out of it than they should."  
- Sequoya Swearingin



"My opinion is that the weather is changing, for example it hasn't snowed in Chicago since Christmas and that's my evidence."  
- Laura Herman

# VINTAGE CONTENT FROM WOLVERINE NEWSPAPERS 1966-1967

**in' for an answer...**

By Linda Gamble

Who would you like to see as the next president of the United States?

Linda Banthral — Mickey Mouse  
Diane Brown — Dr. Kildare  
Linda Camp — Abe Lincoln  
Joe Ceratto — Bobby Kennedy  
Marilyn Gibson — Mr. Oliver  
Pat King — Carol Doda  
Sharon Kroh — What? What kind of a question is that to ask me?  
Larry Martin — Charlie, my goldfish  
Connie Redenius — Peter Tork  
David Reeb — J. K.

**Junior High Boys Invade Home Ec**

If you had walked into the home ec room some time last week you would have been amazed at the sight of 25 boys grouped around Mrs. Louise Tuthill looking at a piece of butter.

This is all part of an experiment being carried out by the sixth period junior high woodshop and home economic classes. The classes traded for one

week, with the girls going to woodshop and the boys learning the arts of making a home. These are the only classes engaged in the experiment, but it may be extended to other classes, even in the high school if the program is well liked. There was, at one time, a boy's home economics class at Willits, and this may be a pilot for another boys' home ec. class.

The end of "NATURE" from page 8

My relationship with nature is personal. I live in a forest. From the moment I step outside in the morning to the moment I get home in the evening, I am surrounded by greenery. The lush trees make breathing an ease. Nature floods my senses. With my eyes, I take in the many shades of green. With my nose, I breathe in the scent of fresh blooming wildflowers. With my mouth, I taste blackberries, a sweet gift given by nature. I hear the birds whistling in the trees and the rush of a nearby stream, and I feel the ancient bark of a rooted giant redwood.

Climate change threatens my relationship with nature, my sanctuary. Global warming is what comes to mind when I think of climate change today, melting glaciers and extinct species. Not the changing of seasons, a natural process, but because of human beings' destructive actions.

Our responsibility to nature, as humans, is to take care of it. To try to reverse the damage we have done, and preserve what is left. We must set aside the greedy urge to reap nature of its resources and think of the causes. What kind of world are we leaving for our children? Are we leaving them a world at all?

- Sara Strickland

My relationship with nature is that I live in the forest, so I am in a nature setting every day. Many objects that I use daily are derived from natural sources. My thoughts on climate change are that it is real and, if humans as a whole don't try to stop it or sustain the environment, than the world is going to end. Human responsibility to na-

ture is to respect it and let nature take its course instead of trying to manipulate it to our advantage.

- Nicole Karkar

My relationship with nature is good, but it can improve. I don't interact with it as much as I can. I interact with nature when I go on runs. I like to go on long runs and breathe in the fresh clean air that it provides for me. It has become a lot easier to interact with nature now that I live in a place like Willits. I'm thankful for that, because if I lived in a place like Los Angeles, nature is harder to interact with there.

Climate change is real and it's happening at very fast rate. It's not just affecting animals and plants, it's destroying the planet we live on. Sooner or later climate change is going to kill us, and the only ones to blame are ourselves, because we as humans are the ones polluting it. If we don't do something to reverse the damage that we have created, we are no longer going to have a nice healthy planet to live on.

It's our responsibility to help reverse the changes we've created and help our planet get better. We need to stop polluting our planet; it's our responsibility to do so because we are the ones who created this problem in the first place. We cannot go on ignoring this fact or blaming it on others - we are all responsible. We created things like cars and factories that pollute our air and the air that plants and animals breathe. This situation is affecting every living thing on earth.

- Maria Sanchez



**Curt Remarks:**

**Locker Reflects Orderly Mind**

My locker is not in a state of mass confusion. It just looks that way. To prove that I keep my belongings in perfect order, I have listed them below.

My locker contains the following:

Several of my old socks  
Several of my friends' old socks  
Several of my old friends  
My pet rattlesnake  
Food for my pet rattlesnake if you reach in a little farther  
A genuine pickled worm from Mr. Dum's room.  
The report card I didn't dare bring home (I bruise easily)  
2000 yards of crepe paper from the last school dance (I'm sentimental)  
My copy of 101 Realistic Excuses for Being Tardy  
101 very realistic tardy slips  
A bale of blank assorted tests from last year - (buy now, only ten cents a copy)  
Today's lunch (Handle off!)  
Last month's lunch (Help yourself!)  
A stolen pencil from an electronically graded exam  
And last but not least - my turn-up resolution to clean up my locker.

By Curt Bryant

## Executive Council Makes Progress

Yes, it's true folks. Aside from getting out of class, the WHS student councils are accomplishing something!

Now that our student quad is completed, patio furniture for it has been obtained by the council. A protective coating for the furniture will be applied by careful brushes held by executive and advisory council members.

With the help of several high school clubs, WHS is in the process of acquiring a new, portable PA system.

For students who are unable to watch ABC's nighttime version of the Dating Game, the executive council is sponsoring its own version of the familiar game. Every week a boy and girl will be raffled off for a date that weekend. Tickets will be sold by council members for 25 cents.

Janet Prescott and Curt Bryant will have the honor of being the first two students to volunteer for a blind date for the first week's game. Their dates will take them out on Jan. 20 or 21.

Wednesday, a representative and an artist from Josten's came to WHS to assist student leaders in creating a coat of arms for the high school. Class officers from the junior, sophomore and freshmen classes presented basic ideas to the artist, which he transformed into a composite drawing of a WHS seal. At this point, the seal awaits the executive council's approval and the choosing of a school motto.



## TRAVEL ABROAD TO ENGLAND WITH MRS. WALTON!

We're going on an Education First (EF) tour to England next year! You are invited to participate in an exciting international travel opportunity to England in April of 2018. As our world becomes increasingly interconnected, it is critical for our students to become more culturally aware, explore new ideas and grow their potential. I believe that when students are able to see literature come to life outside the classroom, they develop a new and valuable perspective of the world. Some of the highlights of the trip are Shakespeare's birthplace, the Globe Theatre, Roman baths, Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament. For more information contact Jill Walton at [jillwalton@willitsunified.com](mailto:jillwalton@willitsunified.com).

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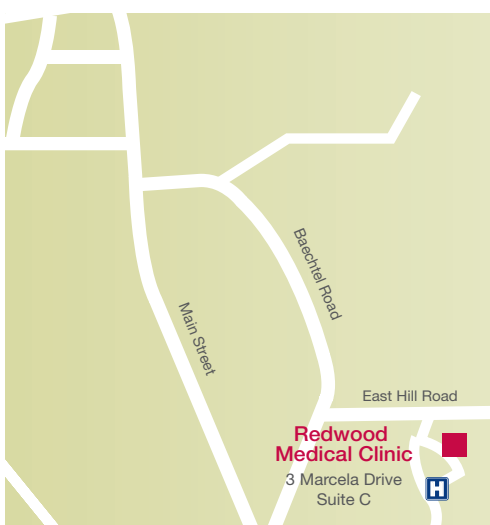
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