

The WILLITS WOLVERINE

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER - EDITION #10

Thursday, April 4, 2019



At left: Sophomore Honor Roll: From left, bottom: Briseia Espinoza, Myra Nova, Zandria Mondo, Isabelle Nunez, Liliana Acevedo, Zannah Sischo-Herbert, Mandy Thurman, Breanna Sanchez, Kelci Hernandez, Manuel Banuelos and Matthew Harries. Second row: Viviana Acevedo, Tayja Summers (hiding), Collin Spackman, Kaiden Butler, Nick Karkar, Jacobi Smith, Amanda Nunez, Adriana Rodriguez, Michael Frahm and Brandon Tehrani. Third row: Joseelyn Beebe, Alex Cesna, Kimberly Bush, Kailani Newbern, Sakora Scott, Nomiah Britton, Julissa Perez, Jada Smith, Cecilia Cramer and Alyssa Fraser. Last two rows: Christian Erickson, Alyssa Conrad, Aleen Hernandez, Martin Coughlin, Amarah Potter, Xander Jennison, Claire Case-Brackett, Devon Difazio, Alec Semich, Amy Andrade and Genaro Meza.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE "ON-A-ROLL" STUDENTS

WHO MADE THE WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

At, right: Freshman Honor Roll: From left, bottom: Danielle Barry, Tiana Dalton, Ariel Hertz-O'Brian, Arie Ochs, Lily Barrett, Neveah Loya, Austin Simms and Michael Kale. Second row: Isabelle Knight, Jason Cox, Sebastian Beauseau-Rodriguez, Victoria Hernandez, Paris Hansberger, Leticia Lopez and Hailey Vincent. Third row: Stormmie Fischbach, Cloey Sierra, Kiley Rose, Courtney Potter, Mara Moratti, Kyra Gibbons and Nicolo Joens-Poulton. Back row: Jensen Steege-Marbury, Paul Keough, Angel Homampha, Zeontrey Henson, Destiny Laurent, Aiden Ferreira, Rogelio Lopez and Hector Torres.



Above: Junior Honor Roll: From left, bottom: Alton Cooke, Emmy Villegas, Emerald Waters, John Focault, Odalys Lara-Lopez, Zoe Schoonmaker, Jessica Brown, Britney Patel, Belen Mendoza, Briana Evans and Jessica Buzzard. Second row: Lucas Branscomb, Maira Trujillo, McKenzie Hansen, Rachel Hageman, Mystery Person, Emmalee Harmon, Cameron Hernandez and Paul Quintero. Third row: Jaeva Cash, Tyler Bailey, Pablo Avalos III, Austin Andrade, Jacob Arms, Gwen Hernandez and Logan Simms. Back row: Kylei Polen, Mercy Village, Marissa Gutierrez, Maddie Forrester, Taylor Pardue, Sequoia Jones and Rachel Woods.



Above: Senior Honor Roll: From left, bottom: Bernardo Lopez, Isabelle Burton, Casey Ford, Janine Wright, Breanna Legere, Alyssa Harries, Sandra Walker, Elisa Zuniga and Orion Hernandez. Second row: Eden Hinker-Tye, Kiley Butler, Asia Grant, Guadalupe Santa-Maria, Karissa Cornwall, Ramneet Mann, Araceli Arellano and Jairo Carillo. Third row: Nicholas Amador, Melody Leon, Jasmine Mendoza, Karen Hernandez, Savannah Hofmeister, Jorge Carrillo, Heidi Herold, Torren Henderson, David Mann, Nathan Kim, Jose Lara-Lopez, Rene Torres, Trevor and Bailey McAlister.



WHEN YOU THINK SPORTS, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

By Arie Ochs

Do you think about your favorite game, exercise, competition, fun? I'm sure all those things crossed your mind, but have you ever really thought of the health aspect of joining a sport? Whether you're on a team or play for a hobby, you're not only training your reflexes and muscles, but you're also giving your heart and your brain a workout, too.

Finish "Sports" on page 2

The Academic Decathlon team gathers outside the Berkeley Playhouse, where they saw "West Side Story." Front: Savannah Hofmaister, Karen Hernandez, Mikayla Blake, Gwen Hernandez, Lilly Turner, Ariel Reyes and Joscelyn Beebe. Middle: Emerald Waters, Mackenzie Hansen, Ian Watson, Grady Williams and Micah Stamps. Back: Jaeva Cash, McKenna McNelly, Mara Moratti, Logan Simms, teacher and coach extraordinaire Mrs. Mary Colvig, Teo Labus and Tyler Bailey.



BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

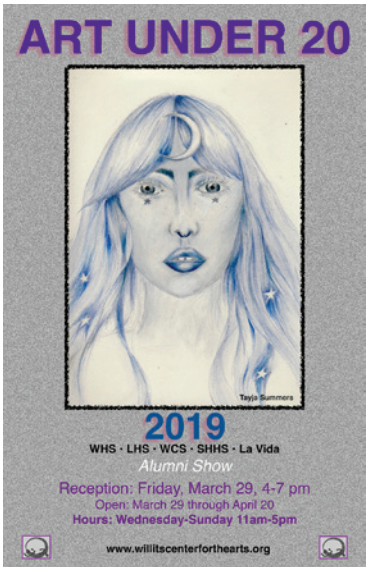
ACA DECA STUDENTS SHINE BRIGHT

By Joscelyn Beebe and Spencer Copperfield

Now that the second term has come to a close, Academic Decathlon has too. Over the trimester, we studied hard and long in preparation for the regional competition against Upper Lake and Clearlake on February 2. After four hours of testing with breaks in between and coming in and out of speeches and interviews, resulting in a successful take-home of first place, we finally were able to reveal which of us would be going on to Sacramento for the state competition the following weekend on March 22. The students who advanced to state were Savanna Hofmaister, Ian Wat-

son and Brieana Evans in Honors; Logan Simms, Spencer Copperfield and Micah Stamps in Scholars; and Makenzie Hansen, Grady Williams and Mikayla Blake in Varsity. After this reveal, the team members who didn't make state continued to support those who did and we even collectively got the chance to go to Berkeley to see a live performance of "West Side Story." As we waved goodbye to our teammates and wished them good luck, the state competitors went to Sacramento to face California's toughest teams in an academic blood-sport of visceral competition and ruthless mental combat. While every member of Willits' Aca Deca team fought their hearts

out, three notable competitors brought home medals: Mikayla Blake took third in Economics, second in Interview, and first in Speech. Grady Williams proved to be the champion of Essay Writing and Economics, claiming first in both; and Savanna Hofmaister took the medal for the highest score in the team. Academic Decathlon, with eternal thanks to Mrs. Colvig, was an enjoyable experience with a chance to create bonds with people you had only before seen walking in the halls. If you are considering signing up, every past member will recommend it as the class that will enable you to be a part of a team that feels like a family.



Above, from left: WHS visual artists Kiley Rose, CJ Powers and Claire Case-Brackett show off their focal-point collages. The "Art Under 20" poster was created by Tayja Summers. The "Art Under 20" hanging team: from left, Ms. Bakewell, Ashlynn Dudley, Tayja Summers, Carson Miler, Elisa Zelaya, Mara Moratti, Jada Smith, Remy Cottrell, Isabelle Burton, Jett Seaton and Alyssa Fraser.

ART UNDER 20

CURRENT AND ALUMNI ARTISTS OF WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL
SHOWCASE WORK AT WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

By Carolyn Bakewell

"Beautiful and artistic! These high school artists are not only talented, they're creative, imaginative, innovative and great!" said a visitor of the 20th anniversary "Art Under 20" exhibit at the Willits Center for the Arts. WHS students have been busily preparing their best artworks for the show. Some artists have shown their work in "Art Under 20" before, but for many, it will be their gallery debut and something to celebrate. Being in the show is a great accomplishment that should be added to your resume and included on college and scholarship applications. According to the Kennedy Center for the Arts, there are many benefits to an art education:

- Taking art classes helps teens enjoy and stay in school. Students can take the skills learned from their arts experiences such as discipline, patience and problem-solving and apply them throughout their lives.
- Taking classes in the arts helps teens graduate on time. For example, a recent report from the Center for Arts Education found that New York City high schools with the most access to and support for arts education have the city's highest graduation rates.
- Arts education can be a gateway to the future. Arts-related businesses provide jobs in creative fields ranging from advertising and video game design to fashion and theater management. The creative sector needs more

than just artists, too. It needs accountants, marketers, computer technicians, lawyers and many others. • The arts can help in applying to college. The College Board has found that students who take classes in the arts for four years in high school scored substantially higher on the SATs than students with six months or less training in the arts. Over 100 artists from Willits High, Sanhedrin High, Laytonville High, Willits Charter, and La Vida Charter are showing their work this year in the 2019 show. Additionally, to celebrate our 20th year, we have a special Alumni Show in the upstairs gallery. The show runs through April 20, Wednesday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

ALUMNI ARTIST PROFILES

Anne Magratten
Hawki (at right)

I am a graduate of Mills College and received an MFA in studio art at the University of Oregon in 2015. I am currently an instructor of painting and drawing at Linn Benton Community College. I also offer college drawing and painting courses within Oregon prisons and am a member of the Eugene-based artist collective Tropical Contemporary.

Additional aspects of my art practice can be seen at www.annemagratten.com and the website of the collective, www.tropicalcontemporary.space.

I am principally a painter, but I find myself making so many things. Folding screens, drawings and happenings have all come from my studio practice this year. I think art is an incredible kind of permission to think through making, to question what we respond



to aesthetically, and to be in a full state of embodiment.

Art can be a way to bring value and meaning to socially ostracized things. My paintings of landscapes, in this show, are all made on trash. I was spurred by my desire to make something of a material destined for our landfills. I am particularly interested in the concept of ownership and in the way materials, location, gender and class shape the value of art objects.

Avenlea Gamble
Cat right)

After high school, I attended University of the Pacific, where I completed both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in speech



language pathology. I now work as a speech language pathologist in the Stockton area. I work in both the early intervention field where I assist children ages 0 to 3 with language development and also in the medical field at the hospital where I assist adult patients following strokes, pneumonia, and other medical conditions.

My work is extremely rewarding, but it can be stressful, so I have found a creative avenue to relieve some of that stress, and acrylic pouring has become a way to relax out of work! I'm relatively new at pouring, and it sure can be messy, but life can be messy, and this is a mess that I can (kind of) control and mold into something beautiful!

Finish "Au20" on page 5

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MTH-77 GEOMETRY MTW 9:00AM - 11:50AM 3.0 units Snider, M (06/24-08/01)	RLS-161 REAL ESTATE PRACTICES - FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS ONLY!! FS 8:00AM - 6:20PM 3.0 units Gonzalez, I (06/14-06/28)



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Above: The Mendo-Lake honor band performs at Ukiah High School on March 23. Below: Remy Cottrell and Bernardo Lopez rehearse for the honor band concert.

HONOR BAND – MUSIC IS OUR LOVE

By Michael Kale

Willits High and Baechtel Grove Middle School students participated in the Mendo-Lake honor band on March 22 and 23. Band members were selected by their band directors to play more challenging music and to work together with students from other schools. Musicians met at Ukiah High School at 2 pm on Friday and practiced until 6. The next day we met again at 9 am and rehearsed until 4 pm. Then we had a break to eat dinner and performed the concert at 6 pm. “Honor band was a good experience for me because I got to meet other students who enjoy playing music like I do,” said Karina Brito. The musicians from Willits High were Karina Brito, Jaeva Cash, Remy Cottrell, Zeontrey Henson and Michael Kale. The middle school band director, Chris Olds, nominated Kate Austin, Shelby Perez Bowen, Kaira Mora, Sheyla Sanchez and Kati Williams. Fred Tempas, the junior band director is a retired band teacher from Arcata who currently teaches at Humboldt State University. The senior band was taught by Steve Dixon, a retired teacher from Monterey High School, whose students have performed several times at Disneyland Resort and the Reno Jazz Festival. Each band played four pieces of music at a variety of difficulty levels. The guest conductors pushed everybody to play their best. Most musicians came from smaller schools with not as many people in their bands, so it was a new experience and a whole new sound for them to play with about 40 people. “It was a really fun experience and it was great to play with a bigger group,” commented Zeontrey Henson.



Above: The new regional FFA officers including Claire Case-Brackett (third from right), the new Mendo / Lake vice president.

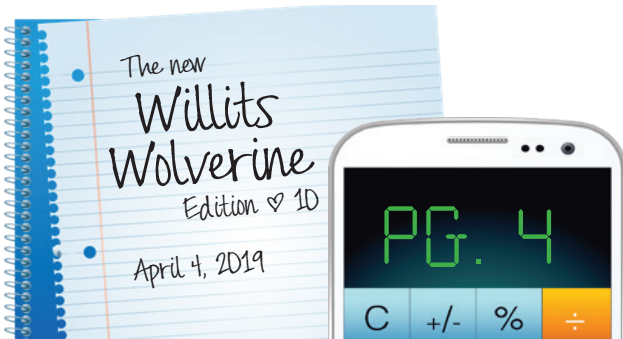
At left: FFA students hold their State FFA Degrees they were awarded at a regional speaking competition: From left, top, Jacob Arms and Lucas Branscomb. Bottom, Ryan Reed, Kody Brandon, Jessica Buzzard and James Brown. Not pictured are Jaden Doak, Madison Forrester and Cheyanne Paulson.

WRAPPING UP THE FFA YEAR

By Kelley Case-Brackett

Willits High School’s FFA students went to Livermore High School where three students qualified for the regional speaking competition: Claire Case-Brackett qualified in Impromptu, Ryan Reed in Extemporaneous, and Kody Brandon in Prepared Public Speaking. On March 23, nine students received their State FFA Degrees. The State FFA Degree is awarded to FFA members who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to the California State FFA Association and made significant accomplishments in their Supervised Agricultural Experiences. Approximately 1,800 State FFA Degrees are handed out each year. That number represents approximately 3 percent of the California FFA association membership, making it the state’s highest honor. In addition to their degree, each recipient receives a gold State FFA Degree charm. The North Coast Regional FFA has recently selected its new officers. Willits FFA was lucky enough to have one of our own on the ballot this year. Claire Case-Brackett won the spot of the Mendo / Lake vice president.

The North Coast region includes Humboldt / Del Norte section, Mendo / Lake section, Sonoma section, and the Solano / Alameda section. We are headed to State Conference in Anaheim April 24 and will finish out our year with the year-end banquet on May 15.



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The end of “Au2D” from page 3

Colleen Kamoroff (at right)

I graduated from Willits High School in 2007. I then earned a bachelor degree in wildlife fish and conservation biology from University of California Davis and a master's in natural resources from Washington State University. I currently work for Yosemite National Park as a wildlife biologist. When I'm not in the backcountry, I enjoy painting, drawing and sketching images of wilderness and wildlife.

I paint my surroundings and am lucky enough to call Yosemite's large granite walls and natural cathedrals my home. I paint cards for my family and friends – a little paint on paper to show my love.

Ericka Aldao Lorraine (at right)

For me, art is my persona. It's the very moment I feel at peace. It's a getaway like no other. It's the one thing I can't mess up on like the fresh start on a new day. As an artist, I choose to use mixed media, emotion, color and life experiences to take you on a journey within my soul.

I am currently happily living in Ukiah with my beautiful little family. I've been working for Adventist Health going on seven years and taking life one day at a time.

Ian Sophie

Since Willits Charter, I set off to UC Davis for forensic chemistry, and graduated with a B.S. in biological psychology and B.A. in theater and dance. While studying, I also performed, choreographed for stage, built scenery for department shows, and volunteered at the California Raptor Center.

I was a research assistant in a lab studying fragile-X syndrome, captain of the hurling team (a Gaelic sport), and sent peers on international internships through AIESEC. Over the summers, I worked as a teacher in Brazil for English, American culture and dance, and was a live-in intern at Belize Bird Rescue in Belize.

I now live in Santa Rosa and work in a residential treatment center for teenagers with mental health challenges and trauma histories. I volunteer with the Bird Rescue Center and Native Songbird Conservation and Care. In my free time, I travel (a month in Peru last year, and Japan this spring),



read, and spend time with my cat. In order for my art to feel truly mine, I like to work from photographs that I have taken myself. For the past few years, I have enjoyed the challenge of pen, and the dedication and acceptance that goes into working with it. I love to try and learn new things.

Kassy Aldao

Art alone has always been an escape for me. Whether that is creating a masterpiece or doodling on sticky pads. The sensation alone brings my heart peace and joy. It's always been a way to express myself without words. Words complicate things, sometimes it's hard to get what your heart is saying. With art there are no limits.

Since graduating from Willits High School, I've been living life with an open, kind and loving heart. I enjoy watching my sweet, amazing son grow into the wonderful little human that he is.



Malakai Schindel

All things are connected. There is no true separation. We reflect reality, perfecting illusions, creating explanations; reacting to the dream of existence. We are a universal mind discovering the limitless possibilities of expression. Patterns and archetypes await exploration, pioneering the endless combinations of form, color, shape, size, sound and feeling. All answers are within, awaiting the perfect time to become art.

Malakai is a multidimensional entity. He works in a spectrum of media. The art he creates is detailed and vast. From functional accessories to immense murals, there is no limit to his creations. He is a visionary and a pioneer in the infinity of expression. For decades, he has made this world a stranger and more beautiful place.

Maya Joy Griffin

After graduating from WHS in 2007, I went to college at the University of California in Santa Cruz and graduated with a B.A. in art and a minor in physics. Then I studied in Paris and Italy for two years before returning home to California to pursue my passion in the arts.

I started working at a street and graffiti

gallery in San Francisco, called the IAM Gallery, and was promoted to vice president. I curated all the major gallery exhibitions and events for several years.

In 2015 I realized I wanted to focus on my own art, so I moved to Louisville, Kentucky. I work as the manager at Revelry Boutique Gallery, a local business featuring over 100 artists. I have the freedom to explore my own artistic style and currently sell my art and jewelry at Revelry and two other local stores. I am continuing the explorative path of artistic creation and discovering what an “art career” is.

Peace Southard

I am currently studying classical fine art at Florence Academy of Art in Italy. My work includes detailed, highly rendered realistic charcoal and oil paintings of portraits and landscapes. For the past few years, I have been working with clients located in the Bay Area. My work has been selected and displayed at Academy of Art in San Francisco. I lost all of my artwork in the Redwood Complex fire, but am making new creations.

Noel Woodhouse

It's been over 20 years since I spent time in the WHS art studio as a student. Bit by bit, over time while working in the fields of architecture and construction, I have rediscovered my own artistic practice. I currently teach college-level courses in design and building at Willits High School and Laytonville High School. I also run The North Street Collective, a non-profit artist residence here in town.

These wall hangings are meant to highlight the beauty and value of salvaged lumber. With my woodworking and art, I tend to leave the work very simple. My intention is to highlight the materials and begin larger conversations surrounding the built environment, sustainability and place.

Alisa Smith

I graduated from Willits Charter School in 2012 and went on to study general biology at Mendocino College for three years. Afterward, I transferred to Humboldt State University and completed my bachelor's degree in wildlife biology.

I love studying nature and exploring the outdoors, but instead of pursuing a biology-related career, I am currently working as a paraprofessional at Baechtel Grove Middle School in Willits. In my free time, I like to hike with my dog, read, and, of course, draw!

I enjoy using colored pencils and experimenting with paints, but I am most comfortable creating art with charcoal and graphite. I doodle frequently, and often have trouble fully completing my artwork into finished pieces. However, when I finally do find my motivation and concentration, I become hyper-focused and work for hours upon hours until my project is done.

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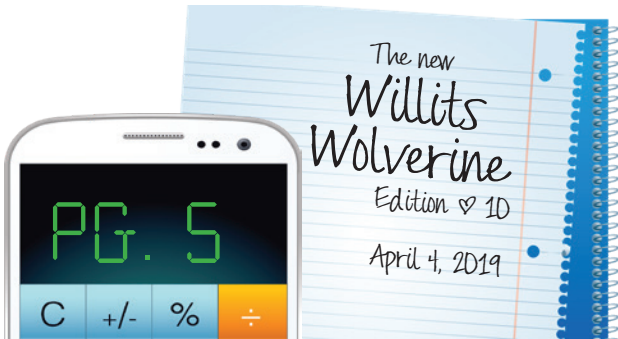
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CAT STROKES, NOT HEART STROKES

By Alyssa Fraser

Many people see cats as the ideal pet and find comfort in owning one. Not only can they be playful and loving animals, but they can also improve their owner's health according to several studies. Scientists have concluded that owning a cat can relieve stress and anxiety, which is known to help protect against heart disease by lowering blood pressure and reducing heart rate.

Adnan Qureshi, a professor from Minnesota University, conducted a study that took 4,435 adult participants ages 30 to 75. Half of the adults owned a cat, while the other half did not. After 10 years, the results showed that cat owners had a 30 percent lower risk of dying from a heart attack or stroke compared to people who didn't own a cat, even when accounting for factors like smoking, diabetes, cholesterol levels, and heart health.

Scientists believe that stroking a cat can cut the level of stress-related hormones in the bloodstream by releasing serotonin (a chemical that boosts feelings of joy). So, if you're ever feeling stressed, just remember that the simple act of petting your feline friend can make you happier, while lowering your stress level and protecting you from long-term health issues.

Fun facts about cats: kittens start to dream at about a week old. The more you talk to your cat, the more it will talk to you. Cats can make over 100 vocal sounds.

At left: Alyssa Fraser cuddles her friendly feline for good health.

WALKOUT FOR CLIMATE! STUDENTS TAKE ACTION!

By Teo Labus

On March 15, about 50 Willits High students walked out of school in solidarity with over a million students from around the world. Inspired by Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old activist who protests weekly outside her own parliament in Sweden and was recently nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, teenagers banded together for a global protest. We're upset that our elected leaders are not making climate change a priority.

At WHS, students quickly decided at 9:15 am, during brunch, that they would walk out at 10 am. We had little time to prepare, but we marched out anyway with a small Earth flag, no signs, no prepared chants, just one common goal ... to take action.

The crowd was a small but ecstatic one. Senior Sophie DeTreville commented, "The importance of the walkout was to raise awareness that we, as citizens, want our leaders to change how they handle the future of our planet."

We walked down to Commercial Street and over to City Park and then back to school. Ms. Lohne and Dr. Craig suggested that the students meet back in the auditorium to talk, spread ideas, and expand our knowledge of the subject, and we were happy to do so.

Back on campus we brainstormed ideas on how we might make changes in our lives at home and at school. The PeaceWorks! Club facilitated the discussion. Questions came up like, "What is climate change?"

Mara Moratti responded, "It has to do with fossil fuels and the way we're burning them at such an alarming rate. It's trapping all the gases in our atmosphere and heating up our earth slowly."

After the walkout, students wondered whether it was justifiable or not. Rhyann Whaley said "At least it introduced the idea that people are doing positive things to change and help our planet."

We all need to do something before it's too late, and little changes go a long way. Climate experts say we have 12 years to turn this around. The Green New Deal proposed by New York Senator Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has a strong and progressive approach to the climate crisis, among other things. It proposes that we move away from fossil fuel dependency and invest in renewable clean energy sources.

The PeaceWorks! Club is striving to make a progressive and positive change at our school and to make it a more earth-friendly environment. Everyone is welcome to join the club. We meet every other Thursday at lunch in the Art Studio.

"The walkout isn't going to change the planet, it's the people!" said Jada Smith.



Above: On March 15 students walked out of their classrooms in order to bring attention to climate change: left, Mara Moratti, Alyssa Fraser, Jada Smith, and Teo Labus.

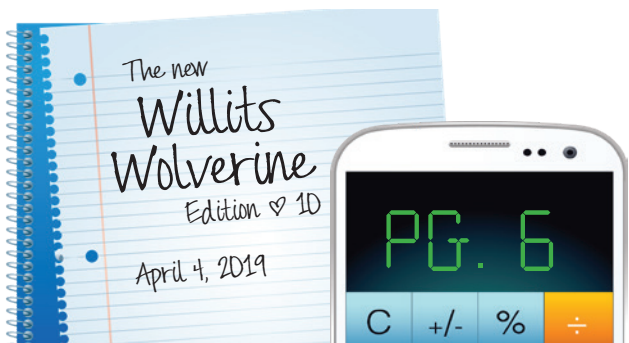
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