

The WILLITS WOLVERINE

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER - EDITION #11



Thursday, June 6, 2019



At left: The new ASB leaders: Historian Logan Simms, Vice President Micah Stamps, President Grady Williams, School Board Rep. Spencer Copperfield and Historian Jacob Arms.

Below: WHS's new ASB officers take a break from planning to gather for a photo: from left, front row, Taylor Pardue, Micah Stamps, Aleen Hernandez, Elizabeth Henning and Britney Patel. Back row: Logan Simms, Jacob Arms, Spencer Copperfield, Grady Williams and Nayeli Rodriguez.

LOOKING FORWARD WITH NEW ASB OFFICERS

By Jada Smith

With the Willits High School 2018-2019 year wrapping up, students are now preparing for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year! Elections for new ASB officers were recently held in the school's auditorium, giving several students the chance to fill a leadership role.

After a long assembly with a dash of humor, the Willits Wolverines selected their new leaders. For treasurer, Taylor Pardue was elected, Nayeli Rodriguez was chosen to be the new secretary, Micah Stamps took the place as vice president, and Grady Williams will be Willits High's new ASB president. Our new historians are Jacob Arms and Logan Simms, and our site council is led by Aleen Hernandez, Britney Patel and Elizabeth Henning.

Congratulations to these dedicated students for earning their important positions in the student body! There's a lot to look forward to with these talented leaders.

A note from the ASB president:

Hi, I'm Grady Williams and in my time at this school, I've noticed a need for a renewed sense of school spirit. The ASB plan for the upcoming year is to bring back school spirit starting with student engagement.

We plan on supporting new and existing clubs with both time and fundraising opportunities. We also plan on revamping the rallies, so that they become a point of entertainment for the school, and not just a matter of course.



These aren't the only things we intend to do, as we also want to open up dialogue with the rest of the school, so that everybody can contribute to the school if they have an idea worth sharing. Everyone involved in ASB is dedicated to making next year a year to remember!

A note from the ASB vice president:

As your next year's ASB leaders, our mission statement is to improve the campus culture and increase overall inclusivity. My role, as ASB vice president is to do this through rallies and activities.

Finish "ASB" on page 10



Photo by Maureen Moore

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2019!

SPORTS AT WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL



WHS BASEBALL

By Christian Erickson

This ball season was challenging but also a very constructive experience. As a team, we didn't have the strongest chemistry due to the fact that we had to bring up many younger players. It was difficult to play to our full potential with players we've never had as teammates before but as the season went on, our skills noticeably increased because we had finally started playing as a team inning by inning. Toward the end of the season, our growth as players showed us that we can compete with any team in our league and also have fun while doing it. I'm excited to see what the future holds for the seasons to come, I'm sure we'll come out stronger next year.

At left: The WHS baseball team takes a group photo outside the dugout: from left, front row, Beau Betts, Casey Ford, Drake Wisdom, Collin Spackman and DJ Buzzard. Back row: Sean Leslie, Keegan Reed, Craig Stewart, Matthew Licea, Martin Coughlin, Aaron Colvig, Christian Erickson, Stan Cooley and Aaron Branscomb.

NCS DIVISION DEFENDERS THIRD YEAR RUNNING

By Carson Miller

It's an absolute honor to be on the Willits High School wrestling team. Anyone can join, no matter their weight, height or skill level. The 2018-2019 team did an outstanding job taking over the league undefeated and also taking first in section duals.

Roger Garcia, Dominic Bertolino, Gabe McGinnis and Austin Andrade were individual leaders who came out on top in league. Garcia said, "I love wrestling because it's physical and I like to feel the adrenaline rush before the match and I like to beat my opponent."

Almost every weight class placed third or better in league and went on to sections. Sections is a big tournament played against all the other schools from the North Coast Section. None of our wrestlers were able to place in sections and go on to state, but many of them made it to the second day.

The season ended in two pennants for WHS and an amazing wrestling team. We're on a three-year winning streak thanks to our great coaches, Brian Bowles, Adrian Brito, Chris Glenn and Dana Karkar. Last year we placed second and won two pennants, and the year before we were first in league and won three pennants, one for Academic Scholar Athletes.



Above: The boys' wrestling team gathers in the gymnasium for a photo: from left, Dana Karkar, Briana Sanchez, Chris Glenn, Aydin Bernard, Nathan Samyers, Jared Thurman, Owen Sebastian, KC Brown, Geo Bertolino, Devon Difazio, Craig Stewart, Aaron Colvig, Justin Johnson, Dominic Bertolino, Brian Bowles, Gage Parker, Makayla Bush, Cameron Hernandez, Ariel Reyes, Taylor Pardue, Gabe McGinnis, Ethan Ferguson, Jasmin Wear, Mandy Thurman, Tyler Bailey, Hunter Ford and CJ Powers.

GIRLS TAKE IT TO THE MAT!

By Isabella Nunez

Girls wrestling has grown dramatically over the past decade and is continuing to grow every year. More and more wrestling programs and opportunities are opening up for girls.

This season, our WHS girls wrestling team was very successful. We all worked hard and had great sportsmanship at every competition we attended. Our team was made up of 8 girls as well as our wonderful coach, Dana Karkar.

Throughout the season, we all discovered new moves and improved our skills. Ariel's favorite and most improved move is the blast double. Taylor has become very successful at single legs. Elizabeth became a more aggressive wrestler and did very well with her takedowns. Briana was victorious at the blast double on many of her opponents this season, but she has improved most on the sweep single. Mandy's favorite was the double leg because she executes effortlessly.

The biggest tournament of the year was the Napa Valley Classic. Here we were faced with hard competition from all over Northern California. All of us were successful at this tournament; we learned what we could do differently from our matches and we worked new moves into our matches.

We have all created bonds and friendships throughout the season. Our long road trips and adventures have brought us closer as a team.

Coach Karkar is already looking forward to next year and said, "I am very excited to begin next season in the hopes of adding to my amazing squad of girls. I appreciate the support from WHS in adding an official girls wrestling program. Look out for fundraisers and wrestling tournaments."



Above: The girls' wrestling team gathers for a photo: from left, Coach Dana Karkar, Mandy Thurman, Isabella Nunez, Briana Sanchez, Elizabeth Henning, Taylor Pardue, Ariel Reyes and Makayla Bush.

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2019 LADY WOLVERINES

By Hailey Vincent

This year, Willits High School had enough players to have a JV and varsity girls softball team. Both teams did a great job, and even though we only won a few games, we kept our spirits up.

Yes, we had difficulties throughout the season with all the rain, injuries, and other things, but we also had a lot of fun at our games and practices, and we definitely made some unforgettable memories.

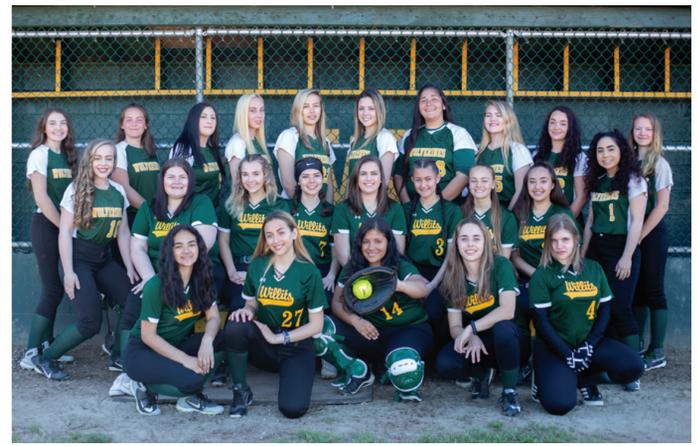
Our coaches Ray Britton and Magnum Forkner mean a lot to us. We thank them for stepping up and coaching the Lady Wolverines. This year, we have only one senior player, Eden Hinker-Tye, who has played softball all four years of high school. She made us laugh, and hit some nice home runs and balls that were almost home runs. Eden, you will be greatly missed and remembered.

This softball season, girls got bruised, broken and dirty, but they still kept their heads in the game. Some of the most fun memories for both teams this season were made on the bus rides. On route to our away games, we would always have a speaker with us and play our music really loud. Everyone would sing along and the baseball boys would join in too.

We definitely laughed a lot on the bus rides there and back and had just as much fun as we did at the games. This season we kept our spirits high, our trust strong, and we laughed even harder. Ladies ... we had an amazing season.

"In softball, it's not about how good you are, but how good you want to be."

- Author unknown



Above: The Lady Wolverines softball teams pose for a photo in front of the WHS dugout: from left, back row: Lily Barrett, Kailani Newbern, Cheyanne Paulson, Hailey Vincent, Sequoya Swearingin, Maddy Forrester, Star Brightman, Zoey Schoonmaker, Mandy Thurman and Cedar Lomham. Middle row: Eden Hinker-Tye, Taylor Quinliven, Courtney Potter, Amayah Alexander, Samantha Miller, Bella Galten, Kiley Rose, Destiny Laurent and Nomiah Britton. Front row: Nevaeh Loya, Jasmarie Steffen, Briana Sanchez, Amy Andrade and Paris Hansburger.

SWIM TEAM MAKES A SPLASH

By Michael Kale

The Willits High Swim Team had a very successful season this year, improving times and placing high in races. Even though the team had a late start, they jumped right into practicing and training for their first meet. This year the swimmers took third in the league for girls and fifth in the league for boys.

"It felt super short, but even though we had the least amount of time to prepare, we still beat our past times and made good placement in our events," commented Teo Labus while reflecting on the season.

Finish "Splash" on page 10



Above: The WHS swim team has fun at the pool: Taylor Pardue, Jairo Carillo, Rachel Hageman, Grady Williams, Sierra Corte, Savannah Hofmeister, Emma Crowe, Rhyan Whaley, Lucas Branscomb, Lillian Turner, Angel Avalos, Kyja Hendry



Above: The WHS tennis team huddles up on the courts: from left, Coach Conrad, Daisy Barrett, Aldo Perez, Emmy Villegas, Manuel Banuelos, Carla Van, Claire Case-Brackett and Vicky Hernandez.

TENNIS ANYONE?

By Manuel Banuelos

This year's tennis team was a blast! The start of the season was slightly rough for our new and returning players because of some complications with our top seven, but we were still able to clutch second place with our wins against Fort Bragg and the formerly undefeated Mendocino High at

the end of the season.

Our coach, Tim Conrad, helped each player focus and improve on certain aspects of their playing styles, while still keeping practice really fun. He even made a deal to jump in the pool if we managed to beat Fort Bragg!

As a team we got along very well with each other and hardly ever put each other down or said negative things toward one another. Following the season, a few players took the challenge to play in the North Coast Section tournament, where Daisy Barrett managed to get second place.

Overall, the year was very memorable and one that will lead to more success in the future.

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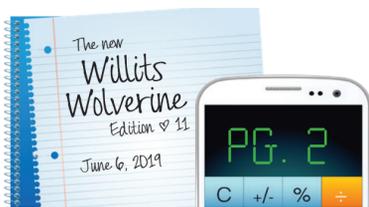
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MEET THE NEW CLASS OFFICERS

At right: Senior Class Officers: Vice President John Foucault, President Emerald Waters, Secretary Mercy Villegas & Treasurer Odalys Lara-Lopez.

Below, left: Junior Class Officers: Secretary Adriana Rodriguez, President Claire Case-Brackett, Vice President Callie Brown & Treasurer Julissa Perez.

Below, right: Sophomore Class Officers: Secretary Kyra Gibbons, Vice President Destiny Laurent, President Michael Kale & Treasurer Paris Hansberger.



Above: Mrs. Jennifer Barrett with her students who've been inspired to pursue a career in the medical profession: from left, Taylor Watts, Rammeet Mann, Melody Leon, Karissa Cornwall, Heidi Herold, Mrs. Barrett, Jairo Carrillo, Taylor Campbell, DJ Buzzard, Angel Avalos, Araceli Arellano, Bianca Anderson and David Mann.



At left: Clockwise, from back: Rene Torres, Ian Watson, Orion Hernandez and Jairo Carrillo display the dollhouse they built in physics.

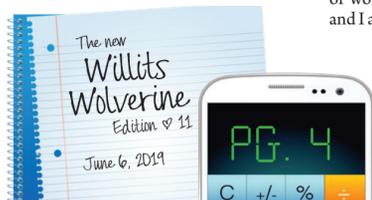
ELECTRIFIED DOLLHOUSES

By Amanda Laskovics

In physics class, the final project for the electricity unit required students to build and wire their own cardboard dollhouse. The boys and girls teamed up and the students spent about two weeks cutting cardboard, painting, gluing and decorating these dollhouses.

After the houses were constructed, it was time to figure out the wiring. Students cut string-lights apart, incorporated them into their dollhouses, and then rewired them into either parallel or in-series circuits. Many hours of work went into their projects and I am very proud of their work.

Above: Makayla Blake, Karen Hernandez and Savannah Hofmeister show off their electrified dollhouse.



SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT

By Carolyn Bakewell

Willits High School's Senior Awards Night ceremony was held Thursday, May 23 in the Allen Garcia Auditorium. Academic awards and scholarships totaling \$87,000 were presented to members of the graduating class of 2019.

A total of 70 seniors are in the graduating class, 39 of which received one or more scholarships. 59 seniors attended the ceremony and were recognized for either a scholarship, merit award and / or an academic honor.

"The Senior Class of 2019 is a great group of students who've done quite well in academics, sports and extra curricular activities."

A huge THANK YOU goes out to our very generous and supportive community, our local clubs, associations, organizations and businesses that have all contributed to the class of 2019 and helped give them a well-deserved and appreciated jump start on their future life journey! We are grateful!

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Above, left: Sequoia Jones, left, Danielle Barry and Aria Silveira, right, wrangle miniature donkeys for the kindergartners from Brookside Elementary School.

Above, right: Caiden Jepson, Petra Vandenburghe, Alithia Gallups, and Gabriel Unlata enjoy petting the donkeys at the Willits FFA Petting Zoo.

WHS FURRY FRIENDS PETTING ZOO

By Savannah Southwick and Danielle Barry

There's a fun little annual event that happened on May 23 at the Willits High School ag farm. Six kindergarten classes came over from Brookside Elementary School to experience the petting zoo!

Under the observant gaze of Ms. Kelley Case-Brackett, the children were able to greet sheep, goats, a horse, miniature donkeys, and a cow. Then under the watchful eyes of Mrs. Becky Bowlds, the kids planted pumpkin seeds, colored pictures, and rode on the big green tractor. The excited kids went around to every station and learned about each animal with the help of their WHS

ag tour guide experts. There were signs posted at each station that gave fun facts about the animals.

The kindergartners were eager to learn and pet the creatures and they asked excellent questions about them. For example: "What's the animal's name?"; "What do they eat?"; "How old are they?" And a lot of the kids wanted to know, "Is it a boy or girl?"

Plenty of smiles and lots of giggles were shared! Plus, there were games of tag and follow the leader as well as water and snacks to keep the kids happy.



Above, left: Willits FFA members, from left: Zeontrey Henson, Ryan Reed, Kody Brandon, Claire Case Brackett, Danielle Barry and Taylor Drew. In front: Brian Spackman. Above, right: Honorary Degree recipient for Willits FFA Chapter, Samantha Arms, poses with Jenn Drew.

At left: Willits FFA visits California Adventure: from left, back row: Matea Butler, Karissa Cornwall, Carla von Kallenborn, Demetri Novoa, Ryan Reed, Taylor Drew, Kody Brandon, Zeontrey Henson, Lucas Branson, and James Brown. Second row: Callie Brown, Taylor Watts, and Madison Forrester. Front row: Claire Case Brackett, Samantha Arms, Collin Spackman, and Cheyenne Paulson.

FFA WRAPS IT UP

By Claire Case-Brackett

The Willits FFA has been busy wrapping up the end of the year. In April, 17 students attended the State Leadership Conference in Anaheim where we heard from State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Secretary Ross with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and many more amazing guest speakers which instilled hope for the future of our program and of California agriculture.

Our students were able to meet new people, attend workshops, and visit California Adventure as a state FFA organization. On the way home, we visited Harris Ranch for an inside perspective of meat production. It was a great learning experience that our members plan to apply to their upcoming year projects.

When we got back home from conference, it was all hands on deck with our end of the year banquet on May 15, where we were able to recognize honorary members, star members within our chapter, and elect our new chapter officers with a dinner for everyone to follow. We focused on celebrating our theme, "A Year in Service," to show our appreciation to our community and local supporters.

Now we are gearing up for summer, with our second annual buyers' appreciation dinner on July 19th and the Redwood Empire Fair July 31 through August 4. We have 40 WHS students showing cattle, hogs, sheep and goats at the fair this year. We hope everyone has a fun, safe summer!

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photography by maureen moore

Congratulations to all the beautiful people from the Class of 2019!

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Emily Acevedo



Nicholas Amador

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2019



Bianca Anderson



Meghan Andrews



Araceli Arellano Sanchez



Angel Avalos



Ciaran Avansino



Daisy Barrett



Summer Breeze Beers



Jeffrey Behrens



Emerald Belville



Mikayla Blake



James Brom



Taylor Brom



Isabelle Burton



Kiley Butler



Darrell Buzzard



Taylor Campbell



Jairo Carrillo



Jorge Carrillo



Karissa Cornwall



Sophia de Treville



Trevor Didelot



Jaden Doak



Evan Flamer



Casey Ford



Lilah Garman



Davina Gomez



Asia Grant



Alyssa Harries



Samuel Heller



Torron Henderson



Karen Hernandez



Heidi Herold



Eden Hineker-Tye



Savanna Hofmaister



Nathaniel Kim



Jonathan Lara-Lopez



Breanna Legere



Melody Leon



Bernardo Lopez-Mora



Destany Loudermilk



Melissa Loya Castaneda



Essen Maki-Youngstrom



David Mann



Ramneet Mann



Nathan Maples



Eve Massey



Bailey McAlister



Jasmine Mendoza



Jocelyn Norgrove



Marlene Pena



Aldo Perez-Reyes



Trent Pfingsten



Ryan Rodriguez



Sean Rodriguez



Guadalupe Santamaria



Jose Adrian Soto Gonzalez



Yazmin Tafuya-Sanchez



Byron Torres



Christian Vaughn



Sandra Walker-Redenius



Ian Watson



Taylor Watts



Janine Wright

NOT PICTURED
Shayla Banzhaf,
Orion Hernandez,
Rory James, and
Michael Loudermilk

SANHEDRIN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Shira Adams



Aaron Colvig



Matthew Covig



Arnold Partridge



Christian Pedersen



Keegan Reed



Mariah SanDiego

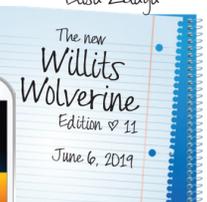
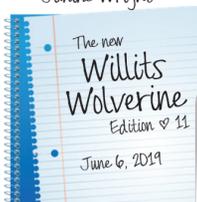
Not Pictured: Jesus Cabrera Lopez, Jayden Heilig, Yulissa Hernandez-Zuniga, Lucas Iverson, Jeffrey Jordan, Roman Knight, Corey Mayer, Ailee Parker, Oliver Castillo, Olivia Tolpar, Giovanni Alvarez, Michelle Sanchez, Chloe Sanchez, and Alondra Vasquez.

Photos by
Maureen Moore of
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Elisa Zelaya



THE WOLVERINE WINS AWARDS!

By Carolyn Bakewell

The WHS Wolverine newspaper came out on top once again this year when it won six awards at the annual Journalism Conference at Humboldt State University.

The team came home with a Best Feature Writer award that went to Joscelyn Beebe for her coverage of the "Peace By Piece" garden mosaic. Best Cringy Headline award went to Daisy Barrett for her "Needles to Say, the Doctor's on the Way" coverage of Mrs. Barrett's scrubs class.

Best Feature Writer award went to Teo Labus for his coverage of Journalism Day. Best Double Page Photo Spread Awards went to the whole crew for the 80s themed Homecoming 2018 events and happenings and finally I, Ms. Bakewell was honored with the award for Most Outstanding Journalism Advisor. Way to go Willits High School's Wolverine!



From left, front: Ariel Herz-O'Brien, Joscelyn Beebe, Teo Labus and Mara Moratti. Back: Alyssa Fraser, Jada Smith, Arrie Ochs, Daisy Barrett, Michael Kale, Carolyn Bakewell and Elisa Zelaya

TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

By Arrie Ochs

The Teacher of the Year award goes to Ms. Shawna Byrns! She is Willits High School's stellar math teacher voted in by her fellow teachers. "Our love for her is 1x infinity...she's amazing!" said Mandy Thurman.

Ms. Byrns said, "It was a surprise I wasn't expecting. I'm not an outgoing person, so I'm not quite sure how that one happened."

She said she has an interest in this school because of the size of it, "I really like the small school environment, it's very nice."

As we talked about school, I asked her what her teaching strengths were. She pondered the idea before saying, "I'd say I'm more real with the students than most teachers are." She also motivates her students with the same technique, not cutting around the edges, but being straightforward and to the point. Ms. Byrns is a very reliable teacher!

"I have a bachelor in mathematics from Sonoma State University and my single subject teaching credential from Dominican University."

Ms. Byrns tells stories about her time in college to her students to keep her classes interesting. Just like most teachers, she loves her students, "They're awesome!" She encourages students to learn and pursue math even though it seems difficult, to try and find the silver lining, she states, "I try to show them that math is not hard, you just gotta work hard at it."

It's obvious why her fellow colleagues picked her for teacher of the year! She is reliable, interesting, clever, and encouraging! Willits High is proud to have Ms. Byrns on our team!

Above: Ms. Shawna Byrns, voted Teacher of the Year by her fellow teachers, hangs out in her classroom, where she does an outstanding job teaching math.



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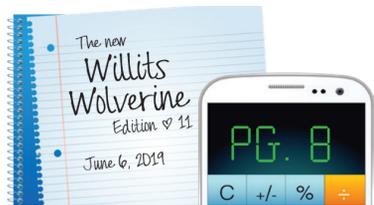
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SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The graduating class of 2019 would like to recognize Ms. Amanda Laskovics for her outstanding commitment and dedication to the students of Willits High School.

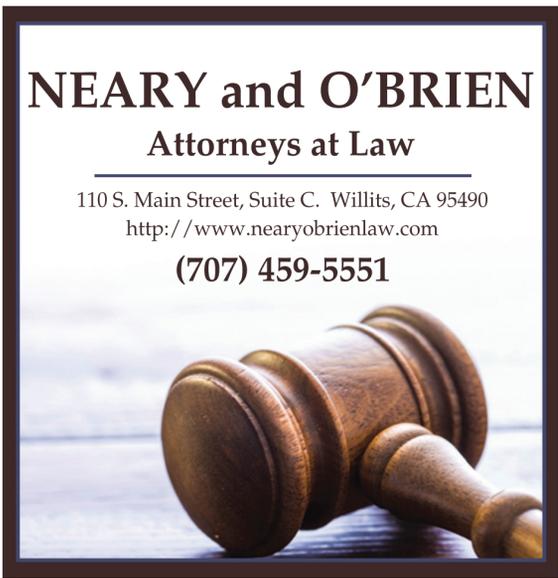
"Ms. Laskovics followed us up from Baechtel Grove Middle School and many of us have had the opportunity to have taken her classes several times," said Jasmine Mendoza. "She's very kind, cares about our education, and is always willing to help us out whenever needed." Ms. Laskovics studied at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and received her degree in biology with a minor in marine science. "Ms. Laskovics is the teacher that everyone is grateful for. She makes learning fun and interesting!"

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WHAT'S NEXT, SENIORS?



"After high school I am going to attend Stanislaus State to major in nursing to become a registered nurse."
-Ramneet Mann



"I plan on attending Mendocino College for two years, then I will transfer to Sonoma State to become a certified Veterinary Technician"
-Marlene Peña



"After graduation I am going to a four year university to study music production."
-Ian Watson



"I am going to Butte Community College, then transferring to a four year and becoming a LCSW where I will need to complete a six year Masters Degree."
-Sandra Walker



"I will be going to a community college, then transferring to a 4 year to majoring in biology in hopes of pursuing a job in the medical field."
-Araceli Arellano



"I'm going to Mendo to get my AA and then I'll transfer to UC Santa Cruz to get my PhD in science and become a college professor."
-Mikayla Blake



"I am going to pursue the health career pathway by attending Mendocino College and become a registered nurse."
-Bianca Anderson



"I am going to attend Mendocino College for general ed. I will apply for the RN program and apply at Ukiah Valley Medical Center to be a labor, delivery, neonatal nurse."
-Heidi Herold



"After graduating I have enlisted in the army, so that I can pursue my medical degree and help the servicemen and my country."
-Melissa Loya



"After high school I am going to Mendocino College and transferring to Humboldt State to become a CPS social worker."
-Lupe Santamaria



"After high school I plan to attend University of Nevada Reno to become a registered nurse and play baseball."
-Darrell Buzzard



"I am going to a union to learn about structural welding."
-Sean Rodriguez



"I will be attending Mendocino College to take business and nutrition classes. I will get my personal training certification so I can start a fitness program."
-Edgen Hincker Tye



"After I graduate I will be leaving for the Marine Corps on June 16th and in the future I will hopefully become an officer."
-Jorge Carrillo



"I'm going Mendo for two years to get my associates and then I'll transfer to a four year."
-Alyssa Harries



"I'm planning to go on to a four year university in California and pursuing a major in business administration."
-Karen Hernandez



"I plan on attending Mendocino State to study kinesiology."
-Jairo Carrillo



"I plan to go to Mendocino College and play soccer. I will study business and after two years I will transfer to Sac State."
-Aldo Perez



"After high school I plan on going to college to study medicine."
-Taylor Watts



"After I graduate I am going to go to Cal State Monterey Bay. I plan on majoring in communications and I will play volleyball as well."
-Daisy Barrett



"I will go to school to become a first grade teacher. I have chosen this career path because I love kids. I am also going to play soccer while I attend Mendocino College."
-Kiley Butler



"I plan on going to a four year university to pursue a career as an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher in foreign countries."
-Savannah Hofmaister



"I'm going to the gym!"
-Byron Torres



"I will be attending Santa Rosa Junior College and then transferring to Sonoma State University to major in nursing."
-Angel Avalos



"I plan on attending the Airforce after high school to get my degree in business."
-David Mann



"I hope to get a job working for Cal Fire during the summer and then attend school during the summer."
-James Brown



"After high school I plan to go to CC to weld."
-Ryan Rodriguez



"I'm going to Mendocino College to get my a-g done and then I will transfer to Sonoma to become a nurse practitioner."
-Isabelle Burton



"My plan after high school is to become a firefighter. Then if all goes good I will become a smoke jumper."
-Bailey McAlister



"I'm going to college to study computer programming."
-Sagen Vaughn



"After graduation I will further my experience working at the Willits Animal Hospital as well as going to school at Mendocino College."
-Jasmine Mendoza



"I plan to attend the Mendocino Culinary Arts and open my own business someday."
-Breanna Legere



"I'm going to try not to be a broke student. I will either attend San Jose State or UC Davis to further my education."
-Elisa Zelaya



"I am going to go to the military and then I will attend vet school."
-Asia Grant



"I'm going to Mendocino college for a year, then moving to Idaho to attend College of Western Idaho to finish my general ed; after that, transfer to Boise State University to study kinesiology"
-Taylor Campbell



"After high school I will go get a job at the casino, so I can learn more about technology."
-Casey Ford



"After high school I plan on joining an apprenticeship program to become an electrician."
-Ciaran Avancino



"After high school I am going to Napa Valley College to play golf and study psychology."
-Nathan Maples



"I'm going to Mendocino College to start my General Education, then transferring to a four year."
-Taylor Brown

WHAT THE RAP?

Jill Walton's AP English students wrote their own lyrics after reading and studying "Hip Hop Planet" (2007) by James McBride.

These expressive words are a product of an assignment to write their own positions on hip hop music in the form of rap lyrics.

These new rappers have no passion They jus' care about their me fashion They make money by the pile, But I don't look up to a pedophile.

By Rene Torres

Kids in poverty Government won't get off me Government won't be stopping I'm the best to ever be

Them Richie Riches They act like Bitches Can't they just be put in the I elect li'l pump The world's in a crisis

Family's shut out cause of "Isis" My brother asking "Why, Sis?" When she has to leave To make the bands that

Pay his phone bills Chills, the heat's been shut off But them Richies Riches they They seem nice an' warm chillin With their blond hair

But it ain't fair So that's got to change Rise up y'all and put an end to D-version of America.

By Brieana Evans

It's a shame the kind of state home that rap is in The crap that's on the radio I think is a sin

What happened to the politics and revolutionaries don't care All that's left is mumbling, in their layer

drugged-out, simple Where's all the soul and funky basslines Replaced with cheap beats that this derrange only costed a dime

But maybe there's a sliver, a glimmer of hope But the only thing I know is this rap ain't dope [mic drop]

By Ian Watson

Finish "Rap" on page 11

CONGRATULATIONS GRADS AND GOOD LUCK NEXT YEAR!



The end of "ASB" from page 1

Already, our team has been drafting and putting forth ideas to improve the hype of our rallies and spirit weeks. One major idea that we plan to see come to fruition is opening up the rallies to new areas, for example, a field rally with new games.

Another exciting thing coming to WHS next year is the introduction of a Club Rush Day in the early weeks of school. I plan to use this event to introduce people to all of the fun things available at the high school and get students more involved.

The plan is to have all the electives, sports and clubs congregate in the quad with demonstrations of what they do, then all of the students of Willits High School are free to roam and discover which club calls to them. This is one big project I intend to bring to Willits High as your vice president as well as encouraging all new clubs to start and add to the campus culture.

A note from the ASB secretary:

My name is Nayeli Rodriguez and I'm your new ASB secretary! I have always wanted to hold a class office and this year I decided to run and hope for the best.

I want to get more involved and be the first to know what's going on in our school. I have secretary experience from Latino Club, I work well with others, and I can also be an asset to all leadership members and my class. I will be there for them!

Leadership means I can help make better decisions for our school, and get everyone more involved in school activities. I want to help my peers make our last year of high school a year to remember and I pledge to make it our best. Let's all work together to make this year, our senior year, the best it can be!

A note from the ASB treasurer:

I'm Taylor Pardue, your new ASB treasurer! It's my job to make sure all the funds for ASB are in order. I'm going to make it my business to know where every single dollar is spent and I'll bring objectivity to what we spend our money on.

Communication and attention to detail are really important to me. I'm a good listener, I'm organized, and I can document what's happening during a meeting and make sure that our money is being spent responsibly. I'm excited to serve the student body and contribute to our school in this way.

A note from the ASB historians:

Hi, my name is Logan Simms, one of the new historians. My hopes for this next year are to encourage the student

body to participate in every single event, club or activity they can.

As a new student at Willits High school, I see a ton of potential with not enough action. I hope to leave this school with a positive impact on the community and school!

Hi my name is Jacob Arms and I am the second half of the historian duo. My second half being Logan Simms. Our goal in ASB is to cultivate change at our school. The culture and spirit has been on a steady decline in recent years and we are looking to break from that.

We are trying to develop a more functioning and participatory ASB. Hopefully, lines between roles will blur and everyone will have the ability to put forth something insightful. Logan and I imagine our duties will not be limited to just a video and morning announcements.

A note from the ASB site council representatives:

Hey, Willits High School, it's Elizabeth Henning, Britney Patel and Aleen Hernandez, and we're your new site council representatives!

We're all so glad to have this opportunity to step up and contribute to our school. We're here to represent the student body's best interest, and to be your voice in the upcoming school year.

We promise to take all of your wishes and ideas seriously and we urge you to express them thoroughly to us, because you don't have to be in office to incite change.

As ASB site council representatives our job is to attend the monthly meetings and embody Willits High School's best interests. However, it is your job to tell us what those are. Only after you inform us what you want changed in our school, can we share those interests with the site council at our meetings.

Alongside that, we will be expected to report back to the student body to inform you guys about what is actually happening in our school. Some of the new ways we're planning on implementing better communication between ASB and our peers are posters, whiteboards, online services, and maybe even a suggestion box.

The point is, we're going to do our best to make things better in ASB and to make things better for all of the students at Willits High. We want to ensure prosperity on our campus, and though our speech seems a little more serious than what's typical, it's time to start taking things seriously at Willits High School. Thank you.

The end of "Splash" from page 3

The swim team had quite a few new swimmers and all of them dropped time at the meets. When speaking about the team, Grady Williams, one of our new swimmers said, "It was pretty dope."

We have five senior swimmers who are graduating this year, Jairo Carrillo, Savanna Hofmaister, Angel Avalos, Melody Leon and Taylor Watts. They were honored at the Coastal Mountain Championships and received roses.

"The swim season was the most fulfilling because of my teammates, everyone was so nice and it was one of the best teams I've been on," expressed Savanna Hofmaister.

The swim team is one of the smaller sports teams at WHS and is always looking for new people to expand their team, place higher, and win more races.



Aca Deca students visit UC Berkeley: From left Jocelyn Beebe, McKenzie Hansen, Ariel Reyes, Ian Watson, Karen Hernandez, Grady Williams, Logan Simms, Mizah Stamps, Ms. Mary Colvig, Nick Hebel (WHS grad who is attending UC Berkeley), Mikayla Blake, Savanna Hofmaister, Elizabeth Henning and Lilian Turner.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR ACADEMIC DECATHLON 2019-2020?

By Jocelyn Beebe

We are now in the spring term, so that means everyone has chosen their classes for next year and summer break is on the horizon. We have our new applicants, which allows things to finally cool down and come to a close.

The new 2019-2020 Academic Decathlon team will meet with Ms. Colvig at the end of the year and students will collect their necessary materials for their summer studies. This also means that we can get a head start on our team's inside jokes.

We are looking forward to a predominantly senior class with a few returning and new juniors, and a sprinkling of sophomores. Unfortunately, we have had to say goodbye to the beloved graduates on the team this year: Ian Watson, Savanna Hofmaister, Mikayla Blake and Karen Hernandez. The team wishes them the best of luck on their journeys beyond high school.

Ms. Colvig is looking forward to the new 2019-2020 Academic Decathlon theme, in sickness and in health. Students will read Mary Shelley's book, "Frankenstein," as well as learn about the biology of cancer and a history of healthcare.

The 2018-2019 Aca Deca team experienced an adventure that spanned the 1960s, and team members were able to visit San Francisco for a themed magical bus tour, watch a live performance of "West Side Story" at the Berkeley Playhouse and participate in the heavily competitive Regionals and State Finals. Similar trips will be organized for the new Aca Deca team, along with a game plan to take the competition by storm.

We are looking forward to greeting the new members with open arms, forming strong bonds, and experiencing so much more next year. Those on the team will approach the new year with vigor and diligence, while we strengthen the ties within our academic family.

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POL 200	Section 0054	American Government & Politics	9:00-11:50AM	3 units
BIO 200	Section 0176	Concepts of Biology	12:30-3:20PM	3 units
PHL 230	Section 0068	Religions of the World	9:00-11:50AM	3 units
COM 203	Section 0084	Intro to Public Speaking	12:30-3:20PM	3 units
AST 200	Section 2003	Astronomy	3:30-6:40PM	3 units
AST 200L	Section 2004	Astronomy Observation	6:50-10:00PM	1 unit

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The new Willits Wolverine Edition ♡ 11

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2018-19 WOLVERINE NEWSPAPER STAFF

WHS Wolverine Staff: Jocelyn Beebe, Claire Case-Brookett, Alyssa Fraser, Aleen Hernandez, Michael Kale, Tio Lolas, Jada Smith, Lily Barrett, Amanda Laszloves, Jacob Arms, Danielle Barry, Manuel Bonuelos, Christian Erickson, Hailey Vincent, Aris Olds.
WHS Advisor: Carolyn Bakewell. Contributors: Brian Bowles, Kelley Case-Brookett, Mary Colvig, Elizabeth Henning, Taylor Pardue, Belen Mendoza, Carson Miller, Isabella Nunez, Logan Simms, Savannah Switlowick, Mizah Stamps, Vicky Hernandez, and Grady Williams
Willits Weekly Assistant Editor: Jackie Cobbs. Willits Weekly Art Department: Maureen Moore. Printer: Western Web.

At right: WHS students attend the 31st Annual Latino Student Retreat, presented at Mendocino College: from left, back row, Angel Jacinto, Belen Mendoza, Aldo Perez, Patricia Carrillo, Victoria Hernandez, Julissa Flores, Valeria Velasco, Juan Sanchez, Maria Barboza, Manuel Bonuelos, Jose Soto, Jairo Carrillo, Matthew Licea and Melody Leon. Front row: Karina Brito, Marissa Gutierrez, Mercy Villegas, Yessenia Rodriguez and Alvaro Mendoza.

LATINO RETREAT 2019

By Belen Mendoza

This year, students from Willits High attended the 31st Annual Latino Student Retreat, presented at Mendocino College. The Latino Retreat intends to educate students about social and cultural issues through various workshops and a motivational speaker.

Though the goal of the retreat is to promote social and cultural awareness among high school students, there is eating and dancing following the speech and workshops.

Students attended two workshops ranging from Student Activism, Latinas in Higher Education, Traditional Music, and many others. We also had the opportunity to hear from Yosimar Reyes, a nationally acclaimed poet, and public speaker.

The end of "Rap" from page 9

Hip-hop, superficial to the core, see money is the gain commercialism rules the world no one speaks their words on matters that inspire some change. When will rappers see their music can strike a chord? I see names, names, names brands and items to splurge, yet where is the support to the issues present in the world.

Hip-hop can do good, it's spread far and wide, but if money rules the word people keep that good inside. rhymes without reason, tunes that sound the same, don't write what

makes you men, cause money can't heal the pain...

By Savanna Hofmaister

We are polarized one against the other sister and brother when we should be standing together, watching the world collapse before our eyes laughing while the time flies by hoping nothing will touch our lives while we remain hypnotized by the ignorance of our time refusing to hear the call Call back later you say

By Belen Mendoza

Hip hop hardship, and rebellion in a form of art In this broken, dystopian place it takes part



Reyes was named one of the "13 LGBT Latinos Changing the World," discussing themes of migration and sexuality, not through a somber perspective, but rather through humor.

Students met various college graduates in their workshops where they were able to discuss their experiences as undergrads and explored the struggles and sacrifices that allowed them to pursue higher education.

Many of the workshops allowed students to have further insight into life in college regarding diversity and activism. After attending the workshops students were welcome to eat and dance.

We anticipate even more students will

attend the Latino Retreat in the following years, as it provides students with an educational and cultural experience, and they can meet new friends and engage in their culture.

QUOTES:

Mercedes Villegas, junior: "This year was my first year going, and all I have to say is that it was truly amazing! I met a few new people, and just the overall experience was great. Catch me there next year!"

Patricia Carrillo, junior: "I have gone for the past three years, and every year it's fun to meet new people and hear an inspirational speaker."



Above: The Willits High School band members hold their instruments: from left, front row, Celeste Mandujano, Cecilia Cramer, Alan Solis and Kira Gibbons. Second row: Miss Doorty, Austen Simms, Karina Brito, Bernardo Lopez, Owen Sebastian, Remy Cottrell and Zeontrey Henson. Back row: Jaeva Cash, Alex Cesena, Patrick Turner, John Foucault, Michael Kale and Jason Cox.

BANDING TOGETHER FOR BEAUTIFUL SOUND

By Michael Kale

The Willits High School band and choir performed their last concert of the year on Thursday, May 16 in the Allen Garcia Auditorium. The musical selections the band performed were: "The Tempest," "Bravura," "Algorithms," "Minecraft," and "Feeling Good." The Key ReCHOIRments chorus sang: "The Middle," "Take Me Home," "Rise Up," and "Believer." The band is sad to see Bernardo Lopez, one of our best tenor saxophone players and valued team member graduate, but we are very proud of him. "Bernie is a talented musician and good friend," commented Alan Solis. Lopez has been accepted into California State University, Chico where he will study to become a Fish and Game Warden.

The band is already excited for 2019-2020, and looking forward to Miss Meghan Doorty leading us into another great year of music. "The band's sound has come so far over the past three trimesters," said Miss Doorty, "and I cannot wait to see what they will sound like at the end of next year!"

Miss Doorty and Mr. Chris Olds, the music director at Beachtel Grove Middle School, are working together to help the eighth-grade musicians transition into the high school band smoothly. The size of our band will grow to at least 25 musicians next year, and hopefully get bigger every year after. The choir is also expected to quadruple in size!

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Alana Hastings brought her three-year old son, Rory to Adventist Health Howard Memorial's ER due to severe swelling. Thanks to the staff and with help from pediatric experts from UC Davis, they were able to diagnose and treat Rory's serious infection.

Alana is grateful for the coordination between the two hospitals and the ability to have access to experts locally. "It helps that we didn't have to drive four hours for a diagnosis. That reassurance and not having to worry is just priceless especially for a first time parent."

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