

# The WV Paw Print

*making our mark*

A Water Valley I.S.D. Publication

Issue No.2

A1

## Staff

### Editor and Chief:

Kenzie Jordan

### Managing Editor:

Kayle Chandler

### Copy Editor:

Emma Rust

### News Editor:

Vivienne Nelms

### Sports Editor:

Keegan Foltz

### Editorial Editors:

Calista Gibson

Elizabeth Currie

### Photo and Graphics:

Mason Lemons

Raylee Jewel

### Layout Designers:

Mason Lemons

Ethan Chapman

### Editorial Cartoonist:

Emma Rust

## News Feature

### Small Towns, Big Stories

*A Look Back at Water Valley and Carlsbad*

**By: Mason Lemons and Vivienne Nelms**

Water Valley and Carlsbad hold within their histories a wealth of information and complex stories of a past that is foundational for what we, as citizens, get to experience and benefit from today. Through historical appreciation of our past, we are better able to press forward in our future endeavors and developments. A town begins with a series of actions from one brick to another; from the depths of the depression to the establishments of businesses, schools, and churches. We are fortunate enough to inherit what was struggled to be built by the ones who came before us.



*Water Valley School Building 1978*

*Photo Courtesy of Barbara Wyatt*

Water Valley, Texas is tucked away along U.S. Highway 87. At first glance, the small town seems quite underwhelming. The post office sits close to an old, quaint school, and aside from that, the only other buildings are those of homes and other personal structures. Although Water Valley may be a small community, it's history is incredibly rich and fascinating. The small town of Water Valley started as an army camp called Camp Johnston in 1839. Then by 1878, David Williams, George Rappleye, and Jacob Knapp started a sheep ranch. David Williams



*Water Valley Park*

*Photo Courtesy of Barbara Wyatt*

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*The Water Valley School Building in 1924*

*Photo Courtesy of Herschel Ditmore*

was also the first postmaster for the first post office in Tom Green County. This post office was then designated to our area and named Yondell. The Yondell post office was located in the ranch home of Williams, which was four miles up the river of present day Water Valley. The post office was renamed here and there, but was eventually given a name that stuck; in 1888 the post office's official name was documented as Water Valley, by Judge J.O. Hanson.

Before the school was built in 1882, the meeting place was a hog shed and Water Valley's first principal was Mr. Abel. In 1882, the school house was built and the principal at that time was Mr. Hinkley. Six years later in 1888, the school house was moved to present day Water Valley. Forty-eight pupils were enrolled at Water Valley ISD by the year 1900, and only one teacher was hired to help all forty-eight students. Eventually in 1914, the old, red brick school was built.

Many of Water Valley ISD's current students live in Carlsbad, a town located about 6 miles south of Water Valley. Carlsbad was established in 1907, when a 60,000 acre ranch was purchased by T.J. Clegg and Ed Perry. The town's original name

was Hughes, and free land was offered to anyone willing to purchase a farm tract. Medicinal properties were soon found in the local water after a deep well was drilled. The town was then advertised as a health resort.

In 1908, the post office was required to be renamed. According to the Texas State Historical Association, the citizens chose "Karlsbad", after a spa in Bohemia, later changed to "Carlsbad". Population statistics show a population fluctuation based on job availabilities and climate. According to the Texas State Historical Association, the population of Carlsbad declined steadily in 1914 due to a three year drought that decimated both crops, and the community's livelihood. In 1934, the small community's population grew to 700 residents, after declining to 150 residents during the Great Depression.

While neither Carlsbad nor Water Valley have the most mesmerizing past, we do have a long history of humble and hard working people whose families and friends are still working to keep this community as astounding as it was over 100 years ago.



## A YOUNG AUTHOR IN THE MIDST

By **Kenzie Jordan**

Determination; an act of creativity turned into a published, final product. Third grader, Bailey Voss, started the process of developing and writing a story in the spring of 2017, without intentions of it going any further than the walls of her room. With the guidance of her dad, Christopher Voss, Bailey's unforeseen talent bloomed into a heart-warming book.

Inspiration stems from imagination and surrounding influences. The ability to write a book is challenging, but Bailey managed to compose a story from reigning in her inner author. "One day I went outside and it was spring. Then I saw ladybugs everywhere, and then I went inside and wrote that book," contributed Bailey. Just a touch of inspiration sprung Bailey's imagination into full force and she went to work. The wheels started to turn when she saw ladybugs in the warm sun after being cooped up inside coloring. After writing her "sloppy copy", as Bailey calls it, she didn't think too much of her creation becoming anything more than another one of her great stories she wrote and illustrated on printer paper. But then after being revised by her dad, they both were on the same page. "My dad was like, 'Let's go in my room and make that into a book.' He showed me how to use Paint (the computer program) to make the pictures." She was excited to put the words on a page, but her favorite part was definitely the illustrations. "My favorite was when Lilly visited the ocean," Bailey answered when asked which drawing she was most proud of.

Lilly the Ladybug is a friendly story that



*Bailey Voss Posing with all of her Passions*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*

portrays a ladybug's journey to find her long-lost family, with the encouragement of her friends. Lilly travels from coast to coast on her lengthy journey. "She is first, kind of at an orphanage, then she goes to find her family," contributed Bailey. When asked of Bailey if Lilly connected to her in anyway, she responded, "I would try harder in something if I was struggling on it, like Lilly does. She is brave too, because she went to three different places and she discovered that it was possible to find her family." The bravery Lilly the Ladybug portrays, reflects on Bailey's bravery to pursue publishing the book. Bailey went on to say that the moral of the story is, "To follow your dreams." Lilly follows her persistent dream of finding her family and succeeds because of her determination and dedication, and that is what Bailey thinks is most important about the story. "The most important thing is how

# News Feature

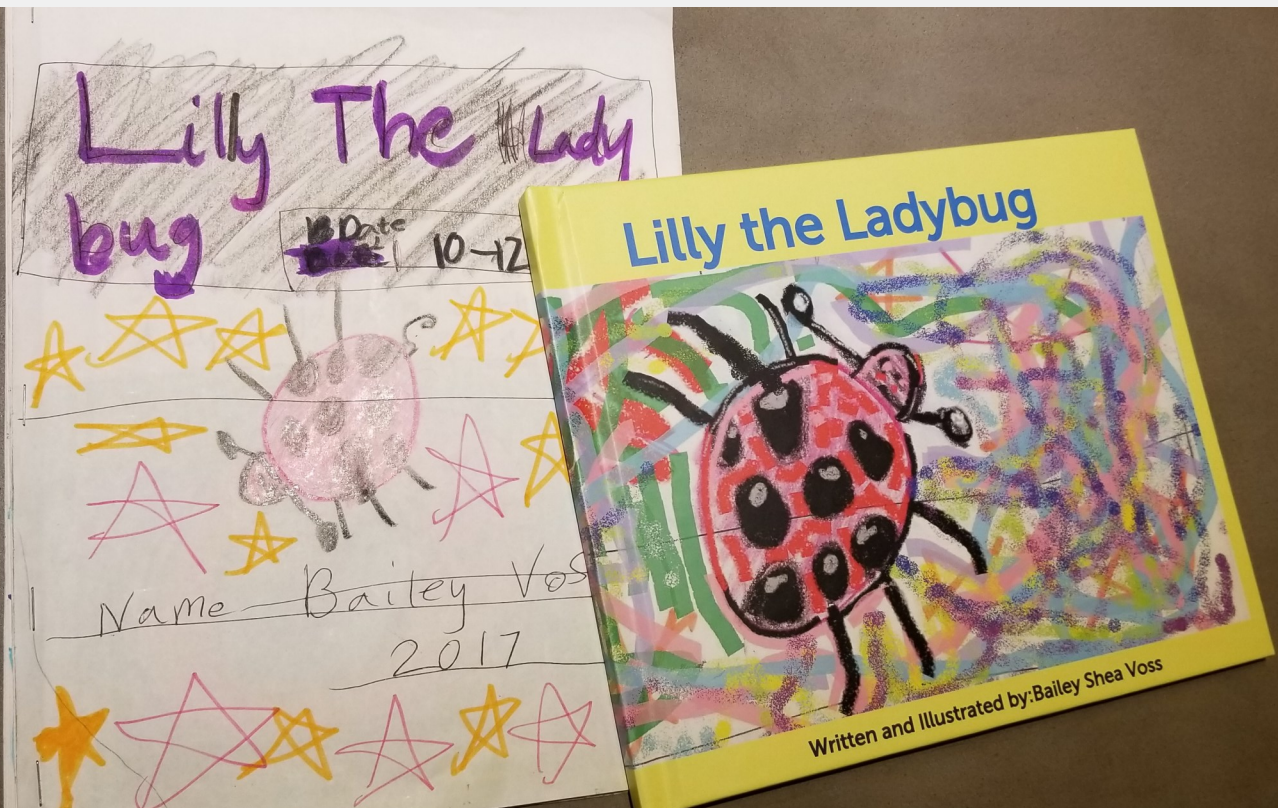
A4

(Lilly) found her family,” she adds. Family is a vital part of Bailey’s life. She loves her sisters Shelby and Zoie, because they make her laugh everyday. She wanted the same love and laughter she has with her family for Lilly the Ladybug, producing a happy ending.

We could all learn to bring out our unknown, inner talents like Bailey and have the drive to exceed beyond what is expected. When asked what she would say to another student to encourage them to write their own book, she replied, “It’s fun and you should try harder and harder, because it’s important to write.” Bailey wasn’t afraid to fail and her optimistic outlook only aided her endeavor. Her passion only continues to show through as she works on her second book that succeeds Lilly the Ladybug. Bailey’s work of art in progress is called Lilly the Ladybug Picks a Costume for Halloween. She gave us a synopsis of what the story might entail, “She would be trying on different costumes, and in the end, she might be a Lilly.”



Don’t miss out on getting a great children’s book that was written by a homegrown Water Valley girl. Lilly the Ladybug is available at <http://www.blurb.com/b/8933111-lilly-the-ladybug>.



Bailey Voss’s “Sloppy Copy” and Final Published Book

Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss



## Putting the Stress Invader in it's Place

By: The WV Paw Print Staff

There's homework due tonight at 11:59, a major test tomorrow, a project due Friday, and don't forget to ask mom for lunch money when you get home. Your planner is full of colored pen markings, but it still seems that you are drowning within all of the assignments you have to complete. Studies from the American Psychological Association show that almost half - 45 percent - of nearly all teens are stressed by school pressures. You may not realize it, but every minute you spend worrying about the next due date, the building blocks of stress start to stack up on top of each other. If we aren't careful, those blocks will crush us and not allow us to breathe. The stress of school builds up to an amount that can't be pushed aside; invading the mind. Many of us either don't know how to unwind or have the time to, but fortunately, there are many different ways to "de-stress" our minds and bodies.

Stress is the body's reaction when felt threatened. When stressed, the body responds by tightening muscles, increasing heart rate, rising blood pressure, and many other negative effects. Stress is harmful to the immune system as well. As stated by Forbes, "This isn't news; study after study has shown that stress raises our risk of cancer, heart disease, allergies, and susceptibility to



Editorial Cartoon By: Emma Rust

colds and flu." Mental health problems such as depression, anxiety disorders, and personality disorders can be prompted by constant tension. Eating disorders and diabetes can also stem from this. Being under pressure can induce acne breakouts and hair loss. Cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure, strokes and heart attacks are the more severe

side effects of long-term stress. Evidently, stressing can lead to the development of unhealthy side effects, therefore it's important to take a load off every now and then.

Stress can cause tightness in your upper body. The tension in your muscles can make you tired and less productive, therefore adding a little more stress to what you already have. However, a long,

**“This isn't news; study after study has shown that stress raises our risk of cancer, heart disease, allergies, and susceptibility to colds and flu.”**

**-Forbes**

warm shower can relieve that tension. If you want to get even more relaxed, go the extra mile and light some eucalyptus (a stress relieving scent) candles around the perimeter of a warm bubble bath. The mixture of a warm bath and the relaxing scent of eucalyptus creates a calm atmosphere and relieves muscle pain, in which all or many of us are prone to have at some point in the school year. Multiple studies have found that hot showers stimulate the release of oxytocin, which can reduce stress and anxiety, so set aside time to sit under steamy, running water that will loosen the stress-causing tension in your shoulders.

We are all created differently with diverse likes and hobbies, therefore when it comes to “de-

stressing”, we all require unique methods to help us relax. For the outdoorsy type, fresh air can do a world of good. In order to fulfill the health requirements, our body demands, making an effort to go out for a walk, relaxing on the porch with a glass of lemonade, or even grabbing a fishing pole and finding a pond can be great therapy. A Stanford University study found that going for a stroll outside can reduce stress and prevent depression. However, for those that enjoy literature and art, reading, writing, and drawing are great ways to relax. Dr. James W. Pennebaker, chair of the psychology department at the University of Texas in Austin, conducted an experiment involving 46 college students. They were asked to write about either trivial topics or personally traumatic events for fifteen minutes a day, and four consecutive days a week. After a six month check-in, it was revealed that the students who wrote about traumatic events used pain-relievers and visited the campus health center less often than the other students. Even if it's hard to talk about our issues to another person, writing or drawing out our feelings is calming to the mind. Some may say that the presence of stress puts pressure on one to improve performance and excellence.

Although the extra pressure can shape strong personalities, it can also tear down the frame of those who don't know how to handle it. Stress is inevitable, but it can be overbearing, especially as a teenager in high school with so many expectations. Use high school as a training mechanism to help prepare yourself for the future. There won't always be the safety net of lenient teachers and coaches, so take the opportunity to learn what best works in handling stress for future purposes. Go outside and breathe in the fresh air, write about your stressors, then relax all of the tension in your shoulders with a warm shower. “It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it.” - Lou Holtz. Stress isn't meant to be dealt with the same by everybody, so take the extra time to learn what is best for you to get rid of the invader and de-stress.



## Win the Day!

**By: Kenzie Jordan, Keegan Foltz, and Elizabeth Currie**

Win the day; living by those three little words is all it takes to make a difference in how you perceive success in life. The perspective of success stems from a personal point of view, and the same situation can be perceived differently by different outlooks. Each person can have a different perspective of what 'win the day' means to them. For some people, winning the day can be a literal win for a competitive game, but there is also the small day to day victories people face in the real world. Daily tasks like acing a test you have been stressing over for weeks, or cleaning and tidying your room that has been a disaster for months, can contribute to that feeling of victory. Winning isn't restricted to being defined as a 'W' put down in the scorebook after players shake hands and say good game; winning is also getting through the daily struggles of life, and say, "I have defeated the enemy of failure." Win the day means continuing to strive for success day by day, on and off the court, no matter your talents or ambitions.



*Celebrating a Set Point*

*Photo Courtesy of Angie Glass*

Wildcats had big teams on their schedule, and the Lady Wildcats had past shortcomings standing as an obstacle, he told them to focus on the daily tasks. Woolf inputs, "I thought it was appropriate for both girls and boys. We can't look down the road and see what's out there because we're never guaranteed what's going on if we don't take care of our business today." It has been impressed that on the road to success, it first takes small steps before the final destination can be reached. Focusing on



*Kendra Hoover Presenting her Art Thesis Lecture*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*

At the beginning of summer, Coach Woolf looked for a theme to focus on for the upcoming year; the main motto he laid before the athletes of Water Valley was 'Win the Day.' Seeing as the



*Wildcat Football Roar onto the Field*

*Photo Courtesy of Destinee Linker*



*The Wildcat Band Ready to Compete*

*Photo Courtesy of Calista Gibson*

the little things, like one quarter at a time or one set at a time, leads to the overall victory that has been intensely worked for. Through the particular attention of perfecting the baby steps, the little things ultimately make the big things happen on the field and the court. To see the impact of Woolf's challenge, we asked Junior, Varsity volleyball player, Chesney Baker, what winning the day meant to her. She replied, "It means that you don't look to the future and you don't worry about what's going to happen in the future. You worry about the day that you're in, the events that are going to happen that day, and how you are going to handle yourself and your team, and how you're going to lead your team to win the day." The tradition of winning each day in athletics has settled in, however, the limitations of little victories leading to big ones won't stop at the edge of those boundaries. There are goals worked for and met outside the lines of sports as well.

Winning a battle can apply to many aspects of life, whether it's your health or a job you have, it doesn't always have to pertain to sports. For instance, we asked teacher and band director, Mrs. Ziegler, what win the day meant to her. She responded with, "For me, I think it's just taking everyday and trying to do your best for that day, because everyday is different and you have different struggles; different good things that happen to you and different bad things that happen to you, so it's

just taking every day and making the most of it." Looking at the daily perspective of making the most of each day is a win to Mrs. Ziegler, proving that it doesn't take a tally in the books to count as a personal win. Things like creating a masterpiece to be admired in art, absorbing and portraying a character in One Act Play, or stumbling through strenuous dual credit classes are accomplishments within themselves, and there are many battles to be won in them, as well as the ones on the court or field.

As current football head coach of UCLA Bruins, and former NFL coach, Chip Kelly said, "It's not about being the best. It's about being better than you were yesterday. The rest will take care of itself." Going through the motions every day with a poor attitude of just wanting to get through the



*The WV Paw Print Press Core Celebrating Issue 1*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*

day, is not how you choose to take advantage of the limited days you are given and win the day. Making a daily effort to better yourself for your future, whether it be for your team, your own success, or your health, is contributing to your daily win. Every day only happens once; there are no do-overs, so have a purpose for everything you do. Living that day with determination, you find yourself successful, winning the day.



## Meet the “New Cats” on Campus

### Coach Clay Coston

**Coach and History, World Geography Teacher**

Coach Clay Coston was born in Seminole, Texas and raised in both Denver City and Greenwood, Texas. Coston was known in high school for his involvement in sports, particularly football, basketball, golf, and baseball. In high school, Coston loved any performance by AC/DC. His hobbies and interests include spending time with his grandkids, playing golf, and attending concerts. Coston attended college at Howard Payne University and earned a degree in History and Physical Education.

When asked who he would invite to dinner, Coston chose Angus Young, Brian Johnson, Billy Gibbons, Shania Twain, and Randy White.

If Coston had a final meal, it would include rib eye steak, French fries, salad, and coconut cream pie with tea.

Coston’s heroes include his dad, uncles, and his grandfather.



### Mr. JP Chavarria

**Agriculture Teacher**

Mr. JP Chavarria was born in Lubbock, Texas and raised in Floydada, Texas. Chavarria was known in high school for his involvement in baseball, and being involved in agriculture. Chavarria played football and baseball and participated in powerlifting, UIL events, track, and stock shows. He was also involved by being on many leadership development teams and livestock judging teams. In high school, Chavarria loved so many genres of music; he could not choose a favorite. His hobbies and interests include spending time around agriculture, evaluating livestock, and welding. Chavarria attended college at West Texas A&M and studied and earned a degree in Agriculture Education.

When asked who he would invite to dinner, Chavarria chose George Strait, Miranda Lambert, and Brian “Pig Man” Quaca.

If Chavarria had a final meal it would be steak.





# Faculty Focus

C2

## Mrs. Danna Dawson

**5 and 6<sup>th</sup> Math Teacher**

Mrs. Danna Dawson was born in Jacksonville, Arkansas and raised in Searcy, Arkansas.

In high school, Dawson was known for being on the drill team, in One Act Play, and in the talent show dance routine. Dawson qualified for state in debate during her sophomore year.

In high school, Dawson loved music by Prince, The Eagles, and Billy Squire.

Her hobbies and interests include reading, cooking, painting, going to concerts, playing with her mini-dachshunds, and gardening. Dawson attended college at Howard Payne University and studied Music Education.

When asked who she would invite to dinner, Dawson said she would invite to her table Audrey Hepburn, Leonardo da Vinci, Georgia O'Keeffe, Marilyn Monroe, and Hugh Jackman.

If Dawson had a choice for her final meal, it would include T-bone steak, grilled shrimp, a loaded baked potato, and asparagus.

Dawson's hero is her grandmother, Momma Pete.



## Coach Tracy Dawson

**Head Girls Basketball, Tennis Coach, World History, and Principles of Human Service Teacher**

Coach Tracy Dawson was born in Hale Center, Texas and raised in Cotton Center, Texas. Dawson attended a small 1A, six-man school which was the same school his grandparents attended. He even had the same teacher as his grandmother. In high school, Dawson was known for his involvement in sports, particularly football, basketball, track, and tennis. Dawson loved music by Motley Crue while in high school. Some of his

favorite songs were "Girls, Girls, Girls" and "Smokin' in the Boys' Room". His hobbies and interests include taking trips to the beach, grilling, and spending quality time with his family. He also enjoys watching sports and mystery movies. Dawson attended college at Wayland Baptist where he was working on a Business Degree, then switched to Education because of his love for coaching.

When asked who he would invite to dinner, Dawson chose his dad, John Wayne, Dalai Lama, Lucille Ball, and Johnny Carson.

If Dawson had a final meal, it would include prime rib, a loaded baked potato, asparagus, and a cold one.

Dawson's hero is his dad.





## Coach Jonathan Hood

**Assistant Coach, and HS Math Teacher**

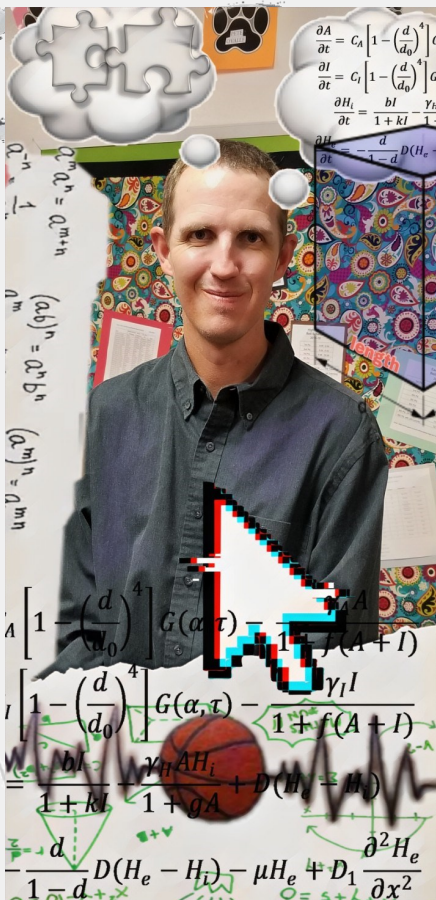
Coach Jonathan Hood was born in Abilene, Texas and raised in Merkel, Texas. In high school, Hood was known for his computer repair skills. He also played basketball, and competed in track. In high school, Hood enjoyed listening to the band, Alabama.

His hobbies and interests include anything having to do with using his mind, including building things, brain teasers, and occasionally video games.

Hood attended college at Angelo State University where he earned a degree in Mathematics and a Texas Certification to teach math.

If Hood had a final meal it would include prime rib with a baked potato, a salad, and peanut butter and chocolate pie for dessert.

Hood's hero is his Dad. According to Hood, his Dad taught him so many things that he applies to today. His Dad taught him so much, not just math but a lot of other things that have saved him a lot of money and headaches.



## Coach Tad Landin

**Head Boys' Basketball Coach, English, and Algebra Teacher**

Coach Tad Landin was born in San Antonio, TX, but moved to Brownsville, Texas when he was 6 years old. Brownsville was Landin's home for the next 17 years. In high school, Landin was known for being overly competitive at everything. He played every sport his school offered including basketball, soccer, track, cross country, and even co-ed volleyball. Landin also participated in Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Bobsledding Club, and the Patrons. In high school, Landin listened to Audio Adrenaline, Relient K, and Jeremy Camp. Landin's top songs were Audio Adrenaline's "Hands and Feet", Relient K's "Be My Escape", and Jeremy Camp's "Walk by Faith". His hobbies and interests revolve around sports and family. Landin's number one priority is his relationship with Christ. Landin attended college at the University of Texas at Brownsville where he studied Kinesiology.

When asked who he would invite to dinner, Landin chose Tim Duncan, his late grandmother, Charles Dickens, Bill Russell, and Chuck Norris.

If Landin had a final meal, it would include a medium rare rib eye steak, mashed potatoes, and a side of pizza.





# Faculty Focus

C4

## Mrs. Robin Smith

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade ELAR Writing Teacher**

Mrs. Robin Smith was born in Ft. Worth, Texas at the Carwell Air Force Base. Smith was raised in Sweetwater, Texas. In high school, Smith was known for her drawing skills and her ability to sing beautifully. Smith participated in choir all four years of high school, going to state in solo and ensemble three times in a row. Smith also participated in volleyball her sophomore and junior years. During Smith's senior year, she chose to be the trainer of the team. Junior year, Smith was inducted into the National Honor Society. In high school, Smith enjoyed the songs "Everything I Do, I Do it for You" by Bryan Adams and "To The Class of '99" by Wayne Watson. Her hobbies and interests include scrapbooking, sketching, singing, and supporting team sports.



When asked who she would invite to dinner, Smith stated that she would invite to her dinner table Thomas Jefferson, John F. Kennedy, My Papa 'C' and Mamaw, and Bette Midler.

If Smith had a final meal, it would include chicken spaghetti with green beans and garlic bread.

Smith's hero is her Dad, Kendall Kinney. He showed her the value of hard work as well as a love for God. He has also shown her the importance of writing and perseverance. He is a published author of "Tiger Tales" and is currently working on publishing his second book. Mrs. Smith loves and looks up to her Dad.

## Mrs. Katie Ziegler

**Band Director, Music Instructor**

Mrs. Katherine Ziegler was born in Houston, Texas and raised in Burnet, Texas. In high school, Ziegler was known for her involvement in band and debate. She qualified for state in debate during her sophomore year. In her high school days, Ziegler loved any music from the 2000's Pop playlist on Apple music. Her hobbies include dining at new restaurants, but Ziegler also enjoys hanging out with her husband and her two dogs, Charlie and Ziggy. Ziegler and her husband contribute their skills by playing flute for musicals at The Lyric Performing Arts Center in Brownwood, TX. Ziegler attended college at Howard Payne University and studied Music Education.



When asked who she would invite to dinner, Ziegler said she would invite to her table James Galway (a world-renowned flutist), Kevin Hart, Louie Armstrong, Leonard Bernstein, and Mozart Wolfgang Amadeus.

If Ziegler had a final meal, it would consist of anything traditionally served at Thanksgiving.

Ziegler's heroes are the kids she has the privilege of teaching. She sees them as heroes because of all the challenges they overcome daily to pursue music and to succeed in their educational endeavors.



# CHAMPIONS!

## Spiking for Success

By Keegan Foltz

The Water Valley Lady Wildcats' volleyball team is continuing to impress as they stack up victories at home as well as on the road. A fearsome victory in the house of the Lady Eagles included a 3 set sweep at Sterling City. An amazing effort has also shown through our Lady Wildcats at home as well, as they have piled up wins against the Veribest Falcons and the Miles Bulldogs, winning both games in 3 sets. With the end of district and start of playoffs looming, the Lady Wildcats aim to dominate while continuing their journey. A practice playoff game took place on Friday, October 26th against the Ladybirds of Crane to prepare them for the challenges ahead. They took them in 3 sets, but used the opportunity to get in the mindset that it could be their last game, so do or die. Entering playoffs, the Lady Wildcats' current record is 27-11 overall, with an astonishing 11-1 record in district.

The Lady Wildcats are more than ready to prove themselves as they enter playoffs. In the past three years, their journey has unfortunately been cut short at the regional tournament, but a new mindset has been taken place this year. Junior, Varsity Volleyball player, Kirstyn Greebon states, "This year we are going to set our mind as, not so far as state, but just that every moment and every second matters, so we are going to just do the very best we can and know that God has given us the abilities that we have for a reason, so just use them." This year's outlook has been to focus on one game at a time, making them count, and using each players' God-given ability for the better of the team. Each

player has been coached to be ready for anything in knowing that they could be used anywhere. With the multiple talents intermixed on the team, their diversity sets the Lady Wildcats apart from other teams. With the consideration that this group of



*Ladycat Volleyball team Celebrates their District Championship*

*Photo Courtesy of Jenny Sims*

girls has played together since the third grade, they have an unbreakable bond that definitely shows the chemistry on the court.

This year, the Lady Wildcat volleyball team is losing five seniors, and the clock is ticking to leave a legacy of playing every moment like it's the

last. The approaching entrance to the golden gates of playoffs means the stakes suddenly get higher and riskier each round, so putting in the work has pushed the girls to eat, sleep, and breathe volleyball. When asked what has got them this far and will take them further, Senior Varsity volleyball player, Shelby Kolls states, "Our hard work and how much we put into it whenever we get into practice, we don't just piddle around, we get in, we get what Coach Greebon asks us to do done, and we do it to our full potential." Holding each other accountable and not slacking, even when it seems easy too, is what has contributed to the success of the Lady Wildcats so far. This year they are taking their motto of 'Win the Day' on the road with them in hopes of making history for the volleyball program.

## *Running the Extra Mile*

**By Calista Gibson**

The Water Valley cross country program was successful this year, in terms of their achievements and what they have learned. This season of cross country was a year of change and growth, with a new head coach and some runners that have never competed in a mentally, and physically challenging sport before. This season was a learning experience for the runners, as well as Coach Tracy Dawson.

The girls' Lady Wildcat cross country team was a blend of veterans and newbies. As a team, Chelsea Melito, Elisanna Arhelger, Baily Dawson, Kirstyn Greebon, Kylie Bradley, Isabell Deluna, and Kalysta Minton-Holland earned 5th place at Dis-



*Luke Chappell Going for the Lead*

*Photo Courtesy of Dency McClure*

trict. When asked what the successes and failures were at the district meet, Dawson replied, "Having the girls advance would have been the ideal situation, but instead they focused on being competitive which is a reward in itself." The Ladycats learned a valuable lesson this season, and that is something to be proud of: it isn't always about crossing the finish line first, but what you take from the competition and learn from the season itself.

The Wildcat cross country team had one competitor advance during their season. Senior, Luke Chappell, had a great experience for his last year running at the Regional Cross Country Meet. Luke's passion for running was evident when





**“Having the girls advance would have been the ideal situation, but instead they focused on being competitive which is a reward in itself.”**

**-Coach Dawson**

asked how he felt about this being his third, yet last time, to participate in regionals. His response was, “It’s a little depressing, and I’m going to miss running as a Water Valley Wildcat.” Luke’s preparation for regionals was not only physical, but mental. He started to eat better, practiced lengthening his stride, and worked on self-motivating. Luke placed 71st out of 145 competitors, which wasn’t what he wanted. However, Luke was reminded that even qualifying for the Regional Cross Country Meet was an achievement and something to be proud of. Luke gained valuable experience from running three out of four years of his high school career, ending it on a positive note and in great stride.

Running cross country takes more than just stamina of the body; it takes heart and drive as well. State Qualifier of 1998-1999, Stephanie Wiese-Voss, also had the same passion for the sport as our runners did this year. Mrs. Voss stated, “I loved to run because it made me feel that I could reach my full, functional capacity while being in complete control. I strived to win every race because I wanted to make my family and school proud.” She, and the Water Valley cross country program all have the ambition to strive for success. Mrs. Voss not only trained for competition, but she took what she learned from cross country and applies it to her life

currently. The stamina and drive she had for cross country allows her to keep up with her three little girls, along with her successful business. All of the athletes part of the Water Valley cross country program have the opportunity to take more from cross country than just running, like Stephanie Voss. The experiences they have gained from running this year is something that can help them achieve their dreams, and will continue to aid their endeavors in life. As stated by Stephanie Wiese-Voss, “When circumstances happen, whether it be an obstacle in your path or a mind block of some sort, do not let it cloud your thinking, but let it increase discernment in seeking wisdom. Do not let it cause you to accept failure, but let it increase your drive to succeed. Lastly, do not let it be a roadblock, but rather, let it open a new path to an even brighter future.”

“When circumstances happen, whether it be an obstacle in your path or a mind block of some sort, do not let it cloud your thinking, but let it increase discernment in seeking wisdom. Do not let it cause you to accept failure, but let it increase your drive to succeed. Lastly, do not let it be a roadblock, but rather, let it open a new path to an even brighter future.”

**-Stephanie Wiese-Voss**



## “The Future of Water Valley: Looking Bright”

*By The WV Paw Print Staff*



*Kindergarten and 1st Grade Wildcat Flag Football Team Charge the Field*

*Photo Courtesy of Lacey Sears*

Amongst the many sports stories that come from Water Valley and its rich sports traditions, the Water Valley Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade Wildcat football teams have made their mark. These young men have persevered through injuries ranging from appendicitis to broken arms, and

from concussions to achieving successful seasons. The Water Valley Wildcat 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade team, coached by Ben Wiese and assisted by Chris Young, won the district title and a first seed playoff spot, while the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade football team, coached by Ben Wiese, Warren Baker, CJ Naylor, and Colby



Stovall have secured a playoff position as the second seed. Their playoff appearance was earned with a 4-2 record, including an impressive 20-6 victory over the Garden City Bearkats; a team that had previously beat the Wildcats 44-12. Coach Ben Wiese revealed what his football team and coaching methodologies are by stating, "I express to our players that hard work pays off. The boys have been improving each week due to hard work at practice. Leadership is also talked about a lot. I catch myself saying "be a leader" each and every practice and game. I believe positive leadership is a great asset for success. Hopefully, a hard work ethic and leadership qualities will continue to produce positive results for these players not only in sports, but in life itself."

The Water Valley Wildcats sixth grade team, coached by Colby Stovall and assisted by Cory Williams, David Crawford, Ross Sims, Cory Englert, and Chris Herzog, also beat the Garden City Bearkats 32-26, a double OT victory to move to an impressive 5-1 record. At one point in the game, the Wildcats were down 20-6 and clawed their way to victory. "These guys have worked their tails off, and I couldn't be more proud," stated Coach Colby Stovall. With all of the injuries on the football team, it was noticeable that they was prepared to perform whatever role was necessary to help the team be the best it could be



What a day for Water Valley football. Anthony and Landon fractured both their ulnar and radius.

*Landon and Anthony receiving treatment for Broken Arms*

*Photo Courtesy of Ashley Draper*

on the field of play. Stovall stated, "A lesson is to be learned for all players and coaches. We work a lot in practice with kids being moved around and put into different positions. I believe that all kids can excel as long as you give them encouragement and a chance. I don't like to coach predetermined positions for kids. I don't like to limit them to just one spot. The more they play, the more confidence they will achieve. I want to encourage youth coaches to give all kids opportunities to shine and have play time... It also teaches these kids that a team isn't just built around a select few players. It's built around all players. That's what makes a successful team. That's the true meaning of a team." The 6<sup>th</sup> grade Water Valley Wildcat squad claimed the district title, and will be looking to continue their success in the playoffs. Stovall further stated, "And I want to



*4th and 5th Grade Wildcats Pose Proudly after a Game*

*Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Wiese*



# Athletics

D6

**Leadership is also talked about a lot. I catch myself saying "be a leader" each and every practice and game. I believe positive leadership is a great asset for success. Hopefully, a hard work ethic and leadership qualities will continue to produce positive results for these players not only in sports, but in life itself. "**

**-Ben Wiese, Coach**



*Six Grade Wildcat Football Team*

*Photo Courtesy of Amy McMillan*

thank all of our players, coaches, volunteers, officials and Jennifer Wiese. These people put in countless hours for no pay. The Water Valley community has rallied around these players and it's just an awesome atmosphere to live in."

All of the Wildcat Football teams are playoff bound! This is such a testament to the coaches, parents, and students of this commu-

nity. The teams include the kindergarten and 1st grade flag football team coached by Tim Teagarden, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade football team, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade football team, and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade football team. All will be playing their playoff games in Klondike on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Super Bowl is slated for the following weekend in Westbrook on November 10th.



*4th and 5th Grade Wildcat Football Team make a Roaring Entrance.*

*Photo Courtesy of Lacey Sears*

**"The Water Valley community has rallied around these players and it's just an awesome atmosphere to live in."**

**-Colby Stovall,  
Coach**



## COMING OUT OF THE TUNNEL: THE LITTLE CAT CLUB IGNITES

**By: WV Paw Press Staff**

The Little Cat Club is up and running; bursting right out of the tunnel. From its startup in 2016, the Little Cat Club has offered elementary students the hands-on, game day experience. These behind the scenes encounters start with getting a t-shirt, giving the Little Cat members free admission into any Water Valley athletic event. As members, they got the prime opportunity to lead the Wildcat football boys onto the field, by running through the tunnel at the beginning of one of the home football games. At the conclusion of the game, they also had the chance to come back onto the field and interlock arms with the team to sing the school song. The Little Cat Club members also get to take part in an autographing session taking place in November. This exclusive autographing event will give the future of Water Valley an opportunity to interact with Varsity football players, cheerleaders, and even volleyball players.

The Little Cat Club was initially set up by

science teacher and cheerleading sponsor, Jenny Sims, as a way to connect younger students to athletes, while raising funds for the Varsity Cheerleaders. It has since taken off, and turned into a great tradition, fusing all students to take part in more roles of the community and campus. Through this program, it has built a sense of ownership for young students, thus giving them a sense of pride and value, with regards to the school they attend. Cheerleading sponsor, Jenny Sims states, "We envisioned it as a way to create an interest in athletics, and allow the elementary aged Wildcats to interact with our Varsity athletes. We wanted to start at a young age to build school pride, and give them something to look forward to when they finally get into high school. We also want to use our athletes as role models for these kiddos."

The Little Cat Club currently has 54 members, and continues to grow and make an influence on the culture being built.



*Little Cats Club Members Storm the Field*

*Photo Courtesy of Angie Glass*



## Wildcat Football Fights On

**By: The WV Paw Print Staff**

The Water Valley Wildcats' football team has continued to fight through adversity as they have taken on district. With an astounding 93-47 victory against the Eden Bulldogs at homecoming, the Wildcats made a statement about their tenacity and resilience through their effort. The Wildcats proceeded to dominate against the Paint Rock Indians, winning 52-6. As the Wildcats then began district, they fell short to the Sterling City Eagles at home and the Garden City Bearcats away. The Wildcats persistently push forward through the rest of district as it continues after their open week on October 26th. After a convincing victory against Westbrook, the Water Valley Wildcat Football team's record is 4 wins and 5 losses and 1-2 in district.



*Firing Off!*

*Photo Courtesy of Destinee Linker*



*Lining Up.*

*Photo Courtesy of Destinee Linker*



*Sending it Long*

*Photo Courtesy of Destinee Linker*



*Wildcats Attack the Field*

*Photo Courtesy of Angie Glass*

### Wildcat Football Scoreboard

**Water Valley 52 at Paint Rock 6**

**Sterling City 64 at Water Valley 18**

**Water Valley 6 at Garden City 64**

**Westbrook 63 at Water Valley 84**





*Chesney Baker and Kalysta Minton-Holland Defend at the Net*

*Photo Courtesy of Angie Glass*

## Lady Cat Volleyball Scoreboard

September 25, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Miles  
1st Set: 25-16 2nd Set: 26-24 3rd Set: 25-14

September 29, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Paint Rock  
1st Set: 25-2 2nd Set: 25-6 3rd Set: 25-10

October 2, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Rochelle  
1st Set: 25-5 2nd Set: 25-11 3rd Set: 25-16

October 6, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Bronte  
1st Set: 25-16 2nd Set: 22-25 3rd Set: 25-27  
4th Set: 23-25

October 9, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Veribest  
1st Set: 25-17 2nd Set: 25-10 3rd Set: 25-21

October 13, 2018  
Open Week

October 16, 2018  
Water Valley vs Sterling City  
1st Set: 25-14 2nd Set: 25-23 3rd Set: 25-11

October 20, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Miles  
1st Set: 25-10 2nd Set: 25-15 3rd Set: 25-9

October 23, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Paint Rock  
1st Set: 25-2 2nd Set: 25-7 3rd Set: 25-4

October 26, 2018  
Water Valley vs. Crane  
1st Set: 25-15 2nd Set: 25-12 3rd Set: 25-10

October 29-30, 2018  
Bi- District  
**District Champions!!!**

November 1-3, 2018  
Water Valley 3 Chillicothe 1  
**Area Champions!!!**

November 5-6, 2018 Coming Soon  
Regional Quarterfinals

November 9-10, 2018 Coming Soon  
Regional Tournament

November  
14-17, 2018  
Coming Soon State Tournament



*The Might Wildcat Band*

*Photo Courtesy of James Ditmore*

## UIL Marching Band: Division 1, and Done

*By: Ethan Chapman and Kayle Chandler*

October 20th was when the big, terrifying but exciting day for the band arrived. The harmony, melody, and the beat of the drums all come together to make the show of a lifetime. Judges are staring down at you, watching your every movement, and listening to every note being played. Eleven weeks of intense training and rehearsals, honing their skills, getting prepared for this big moment; the UIL Marching Band Competition. Everyday was imperative, one less practice that they had until contest. Almost half of the Water Valley Band is in 8th grade, so that means that they needed more routines due to the lack of experi-

ence. Throughout all of the long, hard hours put in, Mrs. Ziegler gave the band what she called, "tough love." She threatened them that they would do the movement again if one person made a mistake or didn't step off at the right time. Consequently, all of that hard work and tough love paid off in the end. It was a cool, Saturday morning; the ground was moist and a light breeze blew over the stadium. As the band arrived, ready for the competition, they unloaded the instruments and got dressed, then eagerly headed to the San Angelo Stadium parking lot. They ran through the show a few times while waiting to perform. Eventually, a staff member sig-





*Drum Major Selah Padilla Leads the Band*

*Photo Courtesy of Calista Gibson*



*The Mighty Wildcat Band Prepares to Perform*

*Photo Courtesy of Calista Gibson*

naled the anxious students to follow him to the waiting area. The band watched Bronte finish their final movement of their show and march off of the field. Finally, it was Mrs. Ziegler's crew's turn to show the judges what they had in store.

The band had five minutes to march onto the field, adjust all of their possibles, then warm-up. They were then ready to perform the show for the judges. Although the judges were very picky about movement on the field and wrong notes, the band played their show well and did all of the moves properly, which lead them to the possibility of earning a division one, the highest rating, for their performance. They left everything on the field, including a "snooty" look at the end for the judges, to display confidence.

"Water Valley... 1!" said the announcer as a sigh of relief flushed over the tense crowd. The band shouted in glee as Mrs. Ziegler came from the booth with a "2018 Division 1" trophy, screaming in excitement for their success. After the band congratulated each other, they headed out to the bus. Mrs. Ziegler exclaimed how she was genuinely proud of each one of them. They were then rewarded with some chicken at Raising Cane's, and went home with big smiles on their faces and pride in their hearts.

"The kids marched a great show and were awarded a Division 1 "Superior" Rating from the judges. This is the highest rating a band can receive, and not many 1A schools in our Region received this rating." Mrs. Ziegler said about that successful day. She went on by saying the following: "On behalf of the kids and myself, I want to extend a thank you to everyone at Water Valley. Thank you for those who prayed for us, or sent a positive thought our way. Thank you for being such great teachers, administrators, and staff members, who pour love and your heart into the lives of our students every day. We would not have seen such success this weekend without you!!"

## Silhouettes Combined

By: Ethan Chapman and Kayle Chandler

The Wildcat Gallery recently set up an exhibition, the Silhouettes Combined exhibition, that involved all of Art 2 and their 50 drawings of combined subject matter.

The exhibition contained a series of “silhouettes” with fifty drawings of some sort inside. These drawings were composed of two ob-



*Aleena Sweeten shares her Artist Statement*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*

jects that had been combined in a way that gave them a new meaning, rather than if they were observed individually. To challenge the artists, there was a requirement of using miscellaneous objects to understand the deeper meaning of the simple objects.

Each individual drawing was required to be different from the next. This may have been difficult for the artists, but they managed to complete the task with the endless amount of options they had to work with. The drawings were completely open-ended; they were allowed to be made out of anything from cardboard and paint, to bled ink and plastic wrap. In the aftermath of their work, the artists were left with elaborate pieces that handsomely complimented each other’s silhouettes.

The silhouettes all had deeper meanings than what they presented at first glance. Raylee Jewell’s piece consisted of a shark drawn repeatedly in variations of sprayed ink that drizzled down and created an aesthetic effect, but it it meant more than just appearance. It actually represented how water is so essential for sharks’ survivals and how they can’t live without it.

Another artist, Carlee Jo Sims, revealed that the horse and zebra in her silhouette weren’t drawn together to show how they were simply different. There were many diverse drawings of the horse, but the zebra was never changed to



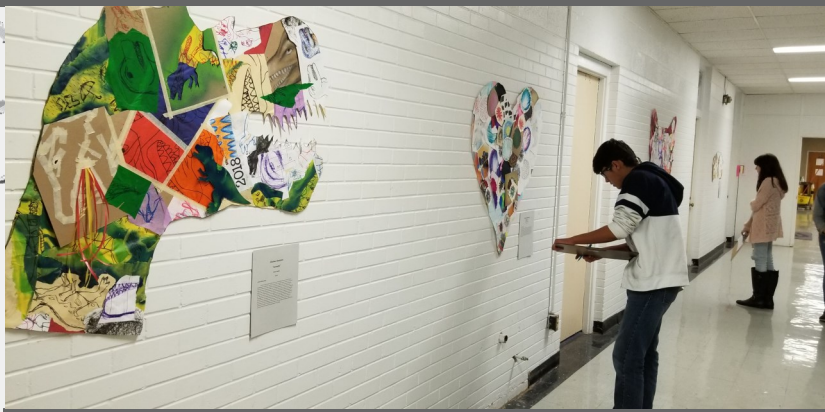
*Carlee Sims arranges her Collage*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*



# Fine Arts

E4



*Tristan De Luna Reviews the Exhibition*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*

look like something else. The contrast between the two mammals showed that no matter how hard someone tries to change themselves, they're still essentially their own unique self at the end of the day. In her artist statement, Carlee advised her viewers "Don't try to be someone else, embrace your differences."

The Silhouettes Combined exhibition wasn't completely limited to the Art 2 students' collages; three Art 3 students also showed their pieces. Ma-

son Lemons, Kelsey Humiston, and Luke Chappell studied the Symbolist Movement and presented their works alongside Art 2. At a point in the combined exhibitions, the pieces were voted on by all of the Water Valley Artist Society students. Mason Lemons won the "Best in Show" award with his symbolist study "Two Certainties", Carlee Sims won second place with her mixed media collage "Appearances", and Kelsey Humiston won third place with her symbolist study "Reflection".



*Mason Lemons Poses in Front of his Best of Show Winning Symbolist Art Work, "Two Certainties"*

*Photo Courtesy of Christopher Voss*



# Fine Arts

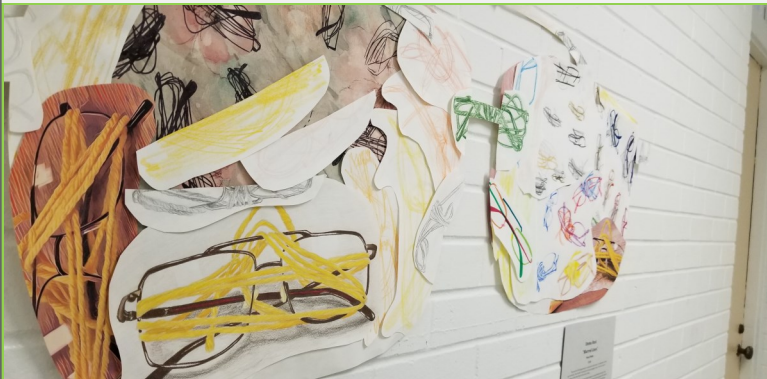
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Vivienne Nelms, "Cat's Eye"

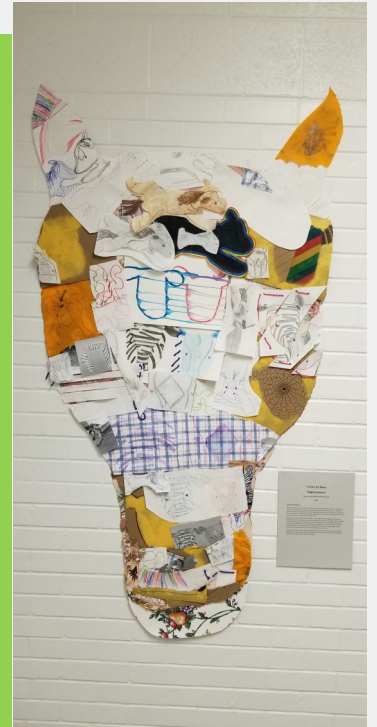


Aleena Sweeten, "Growth"



Emma Rust, "Blurred Lines"

"Silhouettes  
Combined"



Carlee Sims "Appearances"

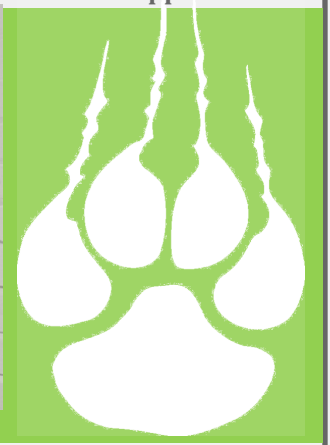


Summer Richardson "Delicate"

Wildcat  
Gallery  
Exhibition



Raylee Jewell "Misconceptions"

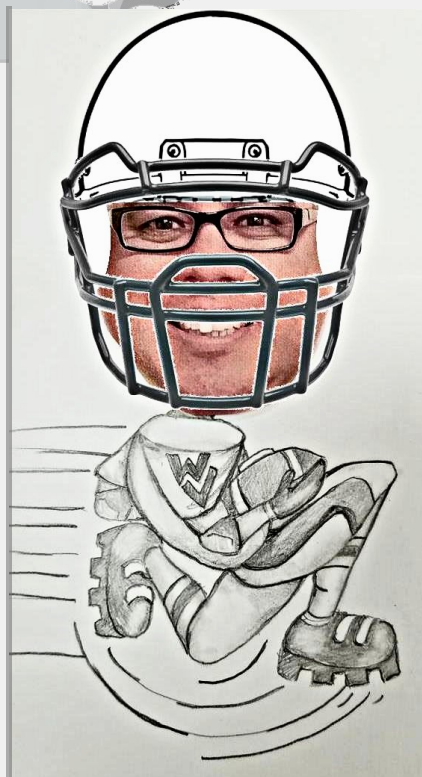




# Commentary

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## The GO with Gomez by Fabian Gomez, WVISD Superintendent



**Dear WVISD Students, Parents, Community Members, and Staff:**

This year has already been a busy yet successful for us Wild-cats. We have completed the first six weeks of school and rolled right into the second six weeks. We currently have plenty of activities going on in our district. I encourage you to come out and support or even volunteer at these events. We know that the key to a successful school district is everyone working together and supporting each other. Everyone plays a key part, in giving the best educational experiences to our children. As always, if you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the administration office so that we may get those answered for you. As we tell our kids, if you don't ask you will not know the answer or the why and how.

**"The core business of our schools is to ensure that every student, every day, is provided challenging, interesting, and satisfying work."**

**Dr. Phillip Schlechty**

