

The - Cat's - Dispatch

Are you sticking to your New Year's resolutions? There's still time to renew that Planet Fitness subscription!



Walnut Ridge, Arkansas
Lawrence County School District

www.bobcats.k12.ar.us

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~ Walnut Ridge High School supplement to The Times Dispatch since 1976 ~



Nash & Katie's Reign Begins

By Jordyn Jones

On December 15, Nash Gill and Katie Kersey were declared king and queen of the 2018 Winter Ball.

Winter Ball has been a WRHS tradition since 1984. For the last three years it has been held at The Studio on Main Street.

Mrs. Amanda Haynes catered the meal consisting

of strawberry salad, chicken strips, beef brisket, meatballs, twice baked potatoes, macaroni and cheese, rolls, cheese cake, chocolate cake, and Italian creme cake.

The music was delivered by Elite Entertainment, a special thank you to Mrs. Ross who hand-picked the judges for the big night.



The Faces of Winter Ball: From left to right (back): Chloe Bounds and Jackson Forrester; Garrison Doyle and Emma Richey; Landon Sain and Savannah Andrews, and (front) Nash Gill and Katie Kersey.

The Government Shutdown: What You Need to Know

By Graham West

On December 22, the federal government failed to agree on the appropriation of funds for the 2019 fiscal year. As a result, the government shut down for 35 days, the longest government shutdown in United States history.

On January 25th, the federal government reached a tentative agreement to temporarily reopen. The agreement will end on February 15th, when the government will apparently resume the shutdown unless an agreement is reached.

The shutdown comes from the disagreement of Congress and President Trump over the funding of the promised border wall between the U.S. and Mexico.

House Democrats refuse Trump's proposal of \$5.7 billion to fund the wall, but Trump has stated that he can and will veto

any bill that does not provide sufficient funding.

This disagreement affects far more than just the border wall situation. Due to the shutdown national parks and museums are closed, government employees face reduced or no pay, health inspections of food and the environment have halted, and food stamps have been cut off.

With no solution over the coming months, these situations will grow into enormous problems.

Keep your eyes peeled. There's a possibility that things will go from bad to worse.

**No School
Feb. 18
Presidents' Day**

Hoco19: May All Your Swishes Come True

By Malachi Tinker

Seniors Slade Dalton and Baylee Davis were chosen as 2019 homecoming king and queen.

Homecoming took place Thursday, January 24, when we defeated the Corning Bobcats in nail-biter.

The Sweetheart Court

included Knight of Honor Jordan Haynes, Senior Knight Charles Mabry II, Junior Knight Isaiah Mabry, Sophomore Knight Blane Wade and Freshman Knight Parker Papi. Slade's pages were Carstyn McQuay and Brik Jones.

Baylee's court included:

Maid of Honor Shelby Whitehead, Senior Maid Liley Holsapple, Junior Maid Maci Smelser, Sophomore Maid Hannah Harper and Freshman Maid Savannah Andrews. Baylee's pages were Avery Bullard and Reid Anderson.

February Birthdays

By Hailey Jensen

4th - Austin Rushing
 5th - Kai Cunningham
 Tyler Cunningham
 7th - Landon Brady
 11th - Brighton Brand
 12th - Olivia Ford
 13th - Raelea Vampran
 15th - Hannah Harper
 20th - Makenna Moore
 21st - Kel Slusser
 22nd - Tyler Ditto
 Ezra Villarreal
 23rd - Gracey Collins
 29th - Evan Gipson
 31st - Faith Mills

Bobcat Bio Tristin Hart

By Landon Hamilton

Class – Junior
 BFFs –
 Landon Hamilton,
 Liv Bickers,
 Garret Cook
 and Jace
 Turner
 Fave teacher
 – Mrs. Rob

Relationship
 Status –Single

Pet peeve –Lying

Favorite meme – Nash Gill

Guilty pleasure – Honey buns

Tech addictions – Snapchat

Last text – My mom

Last Meal Choice –Fatty steak

Freshman Flop – Landed on
 my face while doing a hand
 stand on a table



Valentine's Day
Thursday,
Feb. 14

Bobcats Make Late Surge

By Bryson Farmer

The Walnut Ridge senior high basketball team is glad to have new coaches. Blake Coffman and Peter Ryan have taken the reins to the lead the team.

Our team goals are to make it to Regionals and State playoffs. We have been very grateful to not have an injuries yet this season.

According to Coach Ryan, “When teams come play us they know they are in for a tough battle.” Guys who are playing well include Kai, Slade, Cade, Brighton, Nash, Jackson, Jace and Bryson.

At the time of this writing, the team comes in with a record of 6-6. We have had some good wins this season, beating Rivercrest at their place by 4. Other big wins have been against Ridgefield and Hillcrest.

We have had a lot of devastating losses as well losing to Trumann by 4, Osceola by 5, and Gosnell by 4, all games that we should have won. “We have competed well against everyone. We still have a long way to go, but we know that we can play with anyone,” said Ryan.

The team is led by seniors Brighton Brand, Cade Burris, Kai Cunningham, Slade Dalton, Bryson Farmer, Jackson Forrester and Graham West. Juniors are Isaac Biggers, Nash Gill, Isaiah Mabry, Connor Manning and Jace Turner. Sophomores include James Belew, Will Coker, Will Davis and Walker Hibbs. Managers are Jordan Haynes, Logan Blackwood and Nathan Simmons.

Strive to Be a Good Person

By Irene Hood

You should always strive to be a good person, so you need to have good qualities. Good qualities to have are honesty, respect, confidence, discipline and compassion. Some people have good qualities but horrible personalities.

From doing good in your

community by volunteering to smiling or waving at a person you don't know, it's not difficult to do. Always lend a helping hand. When a friend or classmate needs help with something, offer a helping hand. Sometimes a simple, “you can do it” can make someone's day better!



Welcome to the new year, folks! We hope your January was pleasant and not too cold (the snow was a nice touch, though!) Coming into 2019, we wish you the best year ever. Be kind and open-minded to others, be respectful of other people's opinions, and never believe sensational headlines you see on the news until you've done your own research. Stay classy, Walnut Ridge!

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Advisor – Stacy Rice

The Identity of These Mystery Students?

By Ty Flippo

This sophomore is a Zebra at heart,
Her basketball skills are off the chart.
In her last game, she scored 45;
She's what keeps our team alive.

You might see this senior in the hall,
He's not hard to miss; he's so tall,
This quiet guy plays basketball,
and gets his ripped jeans at the mall.

Answers on p. 14

The Most Important Things in a Relationship?

By Hannah Beary

Logan Dickson – Trust and forgiveness
Lissy McCandless - Trust
Raelea Vampran - Trust
Cannon Baker – Honesty
James Blew – Drugs
Kyle Russell – Opposite genders
Livvie Howard – Trust
Katie Jones – Honesty
Katie Kersey – Trust
Nathan Brown – Respect & care
Jenny Davis – Trust
Garrett Brown – Loyalty & respect

Your New Year's Resolution?

By Kate Cole

Jada Turner – Read the Bible more
Lilly Maple – Finish senior year
Nathan Brown – Hang out with my friends more
Brighton Brand – Enroll in college
Bryson Farmer – Not to cuss
Sheridan Smith – Worry less
Katie Kersey – Smile more
Sydney Burgin – Drink more water
Cade Burris – Workout more
Taylor McGinty – Be nicer
Jenny Davis – Live with no regrets
Claire Fisher – To not take Intermediate Algebra in college



Your Subway Order?

By Max Hibbs

Danielle Denham – Chicken Bacon Ranch on Italian Herb and Cheese
Mrs. Davis – Chicken Bacon Ranch on flatbread
Zach Stanfill – Meatball Marinara on white bread
Kristina Thomas – Spicy Italian on white bread
Walker Hibbs – Pizza sub on white bread
Manuela Akpan – BLT on white bread
Helen Brandon – Ham and cheese on white bread
Emily Gray – Chicken Teryaki on Italian Herb and Cheese
Katie Jones – Chicken breast on the Italian Herb and Cheese
Chloe Brown – Pizza sub on Italian Herb and Cheese
Hannah Ponder – Ham and cheese on Italian Herb and Cheese
Mrs. Howard – Turkey on Italian Herb and Cheese

Not Going to Be Missed in 2018?

By Slade Dalton

Baylee Davis – Pokey	Cannon Baker – Algebra I
Grady Privett – G-Money's Ex	Livvie Howard – Hoxie Alumni
Kaiden Stormes – Ugandan Knuckles	Jaden Darris – Eating Tide Pods
Cole Manning – Basketball	Sheridan Smith – Cheaters
Kolton Oglesby – Big Chungus	Kate Cole – Nothing at all
	Katie Kersey – Gas prices

Your Most Anticipated Movie of 2019?

By Mattie Craig

Reece Archer – Escape Room
Madison Scott – The Lion King
Olivia Ford – Avengers Endgame
Katie Kersey – Aladdin
Grady Privett – The Lion King
Sydney Burgin – Toy Story 4
Justin Nunally – The Lion King
Kristina Thomas – Escape Room
Marguerite Gill – The Lion King
Dakota Girard – Dark Phoenix

Your Favorite Winter Activity?

By Chloe Brown

Maci Smelser – Ice skating and drinking hot cocoa
Ezra Villarreal – Squirrel hunting
Haley Smart – Bonfires
Kristina Thomas – Wearing fuzzy socks and pajamas
Roger King – Duck hunting
Isaiah Mabry – Working Out
Christin Woodard – Sleeping
Jonathan Alba – Sleeping
Zach Stanfill – Drinking hot cocoa
Austin Stover – Throwing snowballs
Zoey Wilson – Making s'mores
Mrs. McKenzie – Making a fire and watching movies

Would You Rather?

By Brighton Brand

...Live without internet, or AC and heat?

Connor Manning – Internet
Nick Foster – Internet
Kyle Russell – AC
Jackson Forrester - Internet
Olivia Bickers – Internet

Abby's Alternative Anime

Abbigale Rounsavall is a 15 year old freshman at WRHS. She has many interests such as anime, music, books and badminton. She couldn't be who she is today without her best friend Skyla Henry.

Many others have helped mold her throughout the years. Her skills include speaking fluent English and roller-skating (although not well.) Sometimes she dresses like a grandmother, but it's just her style. She was once a submarine pilot; now she is just a student learning how to "successfully live in Donald Trump-land."



JoJo's Bizarre Adventure

JoJo's Bizarre Adventure was first released in 1987 in Japan. The series focuses around the mysterious adventures of the Joestar family across the generations, from the end of the 19th century to modern times. It's currently Shueisha's second largest manga series with 123 volumes and counting. This bizarre adventure

has over 100 million copies in print, making it one of the best-selling manga series in history. It has spawned a large media franchise that includes several novelizations, video games, action figures, a jewelry line, and even snack foods. From 2003 to 2005 the OVA was released in North America to resounding success.

Black Butler

The first volume of *Black Butler* was released in 2007 and as of July 27, 2018, 27 volumes have been released. The anime, however, was not released until July 2008.

As of right now, there are three seasons available. A little boy named Ciel comes

from the late Phantomhive family. He inherits the family's wealth and gets his tagline: "one (heck) of a butler."

Sebastian is very demonic and uses the devil's magic to protect his young master, little Ciel.

House of Five Leaves

Samurai Masanosuke is a skilled swordsman, but he is naïve. Hungry and desperate for a new master he agrees to become a bodyguard for Yaichi, the leader

of a group called "Five Leaves".

Put off by the gang's sinister activities, Masa begins to suspect that Yaichi's motivations are not what they seem.

My Love Story!!

Takeo Goda is a tall muscular student that has no luck with girls. He falls in love fast and hard, but all the females want his best friend. Until one Rinko Yamato comes along and quickly wins Goda's heart.

This story won an award for Best Shojo Manga at the 13th Kodash Manga Awards. I recommend this to all those people looking for a short little love story with a cool buff guy that likes baked goods.

Bleach

This anime/manga follows the life of Ichigo Kurosaki after he obtains the powers of a Soul Reaper.

His newfound powers force him to take on the duty of defending humans from evil spirits. He must also guide the souls

of dead humans to the afterlife.

The series, spanning from 2004 to 2012, has 366 episodes with a total of 16 seasons. Japanese TV Ranking has featured *Bleach* various times in the top ten anime series.

Food Wars!

Soma Yukihiro's dad runs a small family restaurant in the less savory part of town. Aiming to pass the skill level of

his old man, Soma hones his skills day in and day out, Until one day, his father enrolls him into a classy culinary school.

Nash Gill Can Shoot

By Tristin Hart

Nash Logan Gill, 17, is the son of Greg and Kim Gill. Nash loves to play football, basketball and baseball. He also enjoys walks on the beach, while listening to Miley Cyrus.

His dad got him started him playing sports and listening to music. He wants to be a pop

star after high school and if that doesn't work out, he will farm and go to A-State and major in Ag Business.

Nash doesn't expect to play college sports. His parents helped him succeed by taking him to basketball practices and vocal lessons. His advice to young athletes is "follow your dreams and work hard."

His most cherished moments are being able to play sports and singing his heart out. He understands the game and loves to sing. The best advice he has gotten is, "Shoot the ball!"

He says enjoy life while you can. He wants complete a triple double in basketball and be a successful singer, like Miley Cyrus.

Advisor's note: Nash is only a singer in his dreams.



Tigers Take the CFP Title

By: Cade Burriss

January 7, 2019 the college football season came to an end with the Clemson Tigers on top as College Football Playoff Champions.

Over the Christmas break, the college football season was in full swing, with 41 bowl games being played across the country.

On December 29, the first round of the CFP was played. In this match up, Clemson defeated Notre Dame in a defensive showcase with a final score of 30-3.

On the other side of the bracket, Alabama out lasted Oklahoma in an offensive shootout, ending with a score of 45-34.

With the matchup set, everyone was ready to watch round four of the Clemson-

Alabama matchup in the CFP.

Both teams made the journey across the country to Santa Clara, California to participate in the Championship game. Clemson head coach Dabo Sweeney and Alabama head coach Nick Saban prepared their teams to face off for the fourth year in a row, once again in the CFP.

On their first defensive possession, Clemson picked off Tua Tagaviloa's pass and returned it for a touchdown. Alabama responded quickly with a reception for a touchdown by Jerry Juedy. The high power offenses scored 2 touchdowns in the first 3 minutes of the game.

At the end of the first quarter the game remained close at 14-13. During the second quarter, Clemson began to pull out ahead of the Crimson Tide, going into the half leading 31-16. This trend continued throughout the third quarter, with the final score 44-16 Clemson.

The Tigers finished the game on a 30-0 run. Clemson's freshman quarterback, Trevor Lawrence, was named offensive MVP due to his performance and poise. He finished 20-32 passing, with 347 yards and 3 touchdowns.

The Tigers' star running back, Travis Etienne, had 14 carries for 86 yards, 2 rushing touchdowns, and 1 receiving touchdown.

Freshman receiver, Justyn Ross, tallied up 6 receptions for 153 yards, 1 touchdown, and highlight plays including an outstanding toe touch and one-handed catches.

Post-Season Honors for Burriss, Foster and C. Mabry

By Livvie Howard

Several WRHS students have been recognized for achievements in sports. Seniors Cade Burriss and Baylee Davis were the local winners for the Wendy's Heisman High School scholarship award. Cade continued on and was one of the 10 state finalists for the Wendy's Heisman.

According to the Wendy's Heisman webpage, this award "honors and inspires seniors who believe that good is never really good enough, settle, dig deeper, and reach higher."

Burriss was also named *Best Under the Sun* by the Jonesboro

Sun for his performance on the football field.

Several Bobcats football players were named to the 3A All-State and All-Conference teams. Nick Foster and Cade Burriss were named All-State. In addition to Foster and Burriss, Slade Dalton, Nate Brown, Charles Mabry, Andrew Brewer and Cole Manning received All-Conference.

Landon Hamilton was awarded Honorable Mention for All-Conference.

Junior Chariah Mabry was named *Newcomer of the Year in the Best Under the Sun* for volleyball.

Sydney Burgin was named to the *BUTS* Second Team.

M a b r y , Burgin and Katie Kersey got 3A All-State team and Sheridan Smith and Jordyn Jones got Honorable Mention.

Mabry, Burgin, Kersey and Jordyn Jones got 3A All-Conference while Sheridan Smith and Baylee Davis got Honorable Mention. Sydney and Chariah were also named *Glen Sain Players of the Week* during the season.

Holly Berry, Chloe Davis and Madison Scott received Jr. High All-Conference honors.



Keepin' it Real With the Villareal

By Alex Lishman



His best friends are Journey Moore, Christian Woodard and Garrett Brown. His favorite teacher is Mr. Rice. His biggest fears upon leaving school are bills and real world problems, and he is most looking forward to skipping college and heading straight to work in fiber optics.

His best advice for underclassmen is, "If you play your cards right, you can miss a day every 2 weeks and still get credit."

One thing he can't live without is his girlfriend, Tamera Trinidad. His role model is his dad, because he is a hard worker and a good man and that's what Ezra aspires to be. His dad gave him the best advice he has ever received, which is: "You get what you earn."

The man, the myth, the legend: Ezra Villareal. Ezra was born January 22, 2000, to Misty Dobbs and Mario Villareal. He has two sisters named Emily and Allie. He has gone to Walnut Ridge for 4 years, senior year being his favorite.

Ezra's Favorites

App — Guitar Tuner
 Pizza Topping — Cheese
 Movie — *Avengers*
 Class — Mrs. Rice
 Drink — Coke
 Store — Dollar Tree
 Book — "Psh... I don't read."

T.V. Show — *Supernatural*
 Entertainer — Kevin Hart
 Band — Lynard Skynard
 Song — *Sixteen* by Thomas Rhett

Restaurant — La Casita
 Ice Cream — Chocolate
 Food — Burger & Fries
 Holiday — Christmas

Bobcat Bio: Nathan Brown

By Landon Hamilton



Class — Senior
 Bffs — Ham, Garrett Brown, Rae and Hannah Beary
 Relationship Status — Taken by Rae Vampran
 Guilty pleasure — Sleeping in
 Favorite Teacher — Mr. Rice
 Pet Peeve — Arguing
 Favorite meme — Dalton Nelson
 Tech Addiction — Fornite
 Last Text — Ham
 Freshman Flop — Fighting Jackson Forrester

Bobcat Bio: Double Feature

By Baylee Davis

Hannah Beary



Class — Freshman
 BFF — Garrett Brown
 Favorite teacher — Mrs. Rice
 Relationship status — Taken
 Political View — Trump
 Pet Peeve — Fake people
 Guilty pleasure — 20s and 30s music
 Tech addiction — Snapchat
 Most awkward moment — When I dodge a kiss
 Last person you texted — My sister
 Least favorite artist — Drake
 Worst habit — Trusting the wrong people
 What would you choose as your last meal? Chick-fil-A
 Freshman Flop — Not studying

Kaci Kirksey



Class — Sophomore
 Club involvement — FBLA, Key Club
 BFFs — Baylee Davis, Gracey Collins, Emma Richey and Hailey Jensen

Favorite Teacher — Mrs. Davis
 Relationship Status — Taken
 Pet Peeve — People who take forever to text back.
 Last binge watch — *Insatiable*
 Favorite meme — "My whole life is a meme."
 Guilty Pleasure — Taking too many naps
 Tech Addiction — Snapchat
 Most Awkward Moment — Toilet paper video
 Last person you texted — My dad
 Least Favorite Artist — Sound Cloud Rappers
 Worst Habit — Biting my nails
 What would be your last meal? Chick-fil-A
 Freshman Flop — Bronco

FCCLA Attends District Conference

By: Max Hibbs

Walnut Ridge FCCLA members attended the District III Fall Leadership Conference meeting in December at Jonesboro High School. Hannah Ponder, District III VP of Programs, helped plan and execute responsibilities.

The Walnut Ridge FCCLA was recognized for raising money for the LeBonheurs Children's Hospital. Miss Arkansas, Claudia Raffo was the guest speaker. Her

platform is "New Life Saves Lives", umbilical cord donation.

Members attending were Hannah Ponder, Emily Gray, Katie Jones, Sydney Robinson, Madison Jones, Raelea Vampran, Haley Smart, Chloe Brown, Ezra Villareal, Triston Voyles, Leah Malewski and Danielle Denham. Assisting advisor, Dianna Howard, included Mrs. Janna Berry, Mrs. Christy Robinson and Mrs. Julie Fort.

First Lady of WRHS

By Skylar Louthan

Hailiejain Joelle Standridge is 18 years old, born on December 5, 2000 to Jason Standridge and Riki Morris. Her five siblings are Selena Farnam, 19; Skylar Louthan, 14; Honor, seven; Emma, three and Jaylynn, one.

Her best friends are Graham West, Shelby Whitehead, Krystin Wallace and Ashleigh Morris. She has attended Walnut Ridge High School for two years; in her senior year she was voted 2018 Senior Maid for football homecoming. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Haynes; she doesn't need to explain why.

Since freshman year she has become more outgoing and gotten taller. She is involved in National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Science Club, Student Council, Quiz Bowl, Key Club and FBLA.

She is looking forward to sleeping in after graduation, and attending U of A to pursue a psychology major. Her favorite quote is, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."- Dr. Seuss.



Hailie's Favorites

App – YouTube

T.V Show –

Parks and Recreation

Book – *The Fireman*

by Joe Hill

Holiday – My birthday

Ice Cream – Chocolate

Celebrity Crush –

Brendon Urie

Half the Battle is Just Showing Up

By Olivia Ford

Senior Kate Cole is 17 years old. She was born on June 5, 2001. Kate has attended Walnut Ridge High School for three years, where she enjoys learning from her favorite teachers, Mrs. Mckenzie and Ms. Pattin.

She is active with Future Business Leaders of America, as well as Key Club. She has had many memories at Walnut Ridge, with some of her favorites being honored as sophomore maid on homecoming court and becoming Winter Ball Queen in 2017.

Kate is most proud of her accomplishment of becoming Miss Lawrence County.

Kate's biggest fear going into high school was the upperclassmen, and her best piece of advice for underclassmen is to not steal seniors' parking spots.

Her favorite year of high school was her sophomore year, while the hardest thing she has ever had to do was getting up and coming to school, which



goes along with what she is looking forward to the most after graduation—not waking up at 8:00 a.m.

After high school, Kate plans to get a business degree from either Arkansas State University or Williams Baptist University.

Her favorite quote is "Enjoy where you are now," while she received the best piece of advice from her memaw, which is "Just do the best you can."

Ham, the Man

By Garrett Brown



When I say Ham I don't mean the pig; I mean the animal on the field, Landon Hamilton. Landon has gone to Walnut Ridge for one year where and when he played football.

His parents are Derek and Haley Hamilton. Landon's nickname is Ham. He has played defensive tackle and offensive guard for WRHS for one year. Before that he attended Westside.

Ham's favorite year in high school was freshmen year. His favorite song is *Freestyle* by Lil Baby. His plans for after high school are to go BRTC to get his basics and then go to A-State to be a coach for football.

His favorite teacher is Mr. Rice. His advice for underclassmen is "Do not drop out of high school." The one thing he can't live without is money.

Landon's Faves:

Class – Agri

Song – *Halloween*

by Kodak Black

Favorite

Entertainer – Lil

Baby

Restaurant –

B-dubs

Pizza Topping –

Pepperoni

Movie –

The Wolf of

Wall Street

Kate's Favorites:

App – Twitter

Pizza Topping –

Pepperoni

Drink – Sprite

Store – Steamroller Blues

T.V. Show – *Jersey Shore*

Band – Florida Georgia

Line

Restaurant –

The Cheesecake Factory

Ice Cream – Chocolate

Food – Cheesesticks

Holiday – Christmas

This Is Us



Best Dressed:
Olivia Farmer and Noah Roark



Best Friends:
Peyton Lee and Parker Brand



Best Glow Up:
Andrew Prestidge and Heidi Moore



Late For Graduation:
Skylar Louthan and Chloe Davis

The votes are in for the annual "Who's Who" and the freshmen are marking out their territory. This will be our stand-in for the monthly photo spread!



Drama King & Queen:
Jayden Hollister and Hannah Beary



Least Annoying:
Korwin Johnson and Julie Vance



Most Likely to Win the Lottery and Lose the Ticket:
Chloe Davis and Paxton Layton



Most Unpredictable:
Tara Wells and Bryleigh Morris
(Not pictured: Peyton Lee)



Shortest Fuse:
Mason Ashlock
and Raelea Vampran



**Most Likely to Be on
A Reality Show:**
Kel Slusser and Holly Berry



Quietest:
Kylie Bryant, James Davison
and Hunter Henry



Most Likely to Marry for \$\$\$:
Jayden Hollister
and Sydney Robinson



Future Presidents:
Savannah Andrews
and Landon Brady



Friendliest:
Jemimah Akpan
and Dagan Lillard



Loudest:
Mason Andrews and
Olivia Farmer



Most School Spirit:
Holly Berry and Parker Papi



Most Likely to Live in a Big City:
Garrison Doyle and
Sydney Robinson



**Most Likely to Fall
Asleep in Class:**
Chloe Davis and Kel Slusser



Teachers' Pests:
Mason Andrews
and Olivia Farmer

Teachers' Pets:
Savannah Andrews
and Landon Brady

A5SH: The Album

By Claire Fisher

Ashleigh Nicole Morris was born April 29, 2001. She is the 17 year old daughter of Lana Sullens. She has three siblings; Sassy, 22, Onyx, 12, and Colt, five. Ashleigh has two dogs, Gains (she got her from a body builder) and Lucy. Her best friends are Sassy and Bryleigh Morris and Claire Fisher.

Ashleigh has been putting up with Walnut Ridge public schools since seventh grade and she's thriving more than ever. Her favorite teacher is Mrs. Rice because they are so much alike.

Ashleigh's most embarrassing moment in high school was when her absolute best friend, Claire Fisher, hit her in the face with a softball and broke her glasses.

The accomplishment she is most proud of is reaching her senior year and she would have a good excuse for being late to class, but she is never late for class. The best advice she has for underclassmen is don't steal upperclassmen's parking spots because they worked really hard for those spots.

Ashleigh can't really remember how she changed since freshman year because they are two completely different people, and the one thing she would change about her high school life is her freshman year wardrobe. The thing she will miss most about high school is seeing her friends on a regular basis.

The hardest thing she has ever had to do in her whole life was fill out the Senior Spotlight Questionnaire for this story. She goes by many names, like Ashcat and Ash.

Ashleigh's favorite quote is "I'm too drunk to taste this chicken" by the late, great Col. Sanders.

Her biggest pet peeve is when people base their beliefs and actions off what's trendy."

Ashleigh's got big dreams for after high school and she's going to achieve them all. She plans to go to Arkansas State University and double major in Nursing and Spanish, minor in International Studies and study abroad in South America and Spain.

Her biggest fear upon leaving high school is not accomplishing the goals she has set for herself, but she will because she is the smartest and most independent person ever.

The thing Ashleigh is looking forward to after high school is having the freedom to make her own mistakes.

Ashleigh's role models are her mom and her sister because they've shown her that if you want something badly enough, you'll never stop working for it. Ashleigh's favorite year of high school was, well, none of them, because she thought all of them were purgatory.

Her biggest fear going into high school was that she was going to get stepped on by a senior, but now she's a senior



Remember When...

By Maggie Gibson

... Wizards of Waverly Place was a show?

...air pods weren't a huge deal?

...moth memes were a thing?

...the Kru had a sex change night?

...the band played baby shark?

...we had to go to school on Halloween?

...people liked Justin Bieber?

...Mrs. Holland messed up her knee?

...the Pride Band had a watermelon eating contest?

...Logan Blackwood played basketball?

...people traded animal bracelets?

Ashleigh's Favorites

App – CashApp (\$cA5SH)

Pizza Topping –

Pepperoni and Jalapenos

Class – Anything with

Stacy Rice

Drink – Sweet tea and

pink lemonade mixed

together

Store – Goodwill or any

second-hand store

Book – Wuthering

Heights (at the moment)

Entertainer – Kai Fisher

Food – Anything

chocolate

Holiday – Halloween

so all of the underclassmen better keep watch.

Ashleigh is going to accomplish everything she puts her mind to and nothing is going to stand in her way, because she will always have Claire to tell her that she can.

Kortney B is Ready to Graduate

By Hannah Wade



Kortney Marie Diane Beasley born June 5, 2000 has attended Walnut Ridge for 13 years. Kortney is the granddaughter of Carl and Sheila Midgett.

Her siblings are Sheila, Rocky and Carla. Kortney has four pets; three dogs, Precious, Tiny and Lulu; and one cat, Milo.

Her best friend is Ashleigh Morris and her favorite teacher is Mrs. Rachel, because she's a good teacher.

Kortney's biggest fear coming into high school was the older kids. Her nickname is Diane and her role model is her grandma Sheila because she is the best grandma.

Kortney's Favorites

Pizza Topping – Cheese

Movie – Hannah

Montana

Class – English

Food – Mac & Cheese

Holiday – Christmas

Drink – Sprite

Store – Walmart

Celebrity Crush – Justin

Bieber

One Hot Momma

By Ashleigh Morris

Jada Beverly Turner, an 18-year old senior, is counting down the days to graduation. She has attended Walnut Ridge School for eight years.

Her favorite teacher and role model is Mrs. Pattin because she sees the good in everyone and always has a smile on her face, something Jada lacks.

Jada is most proud of her artwork being hung in the Arkansas State University Bradbury Museum. She is an active member in the Art Club. Her favorite year of high school was her junior year.

If she could restart high school and change anything she would have taken her freshman year more seriously. Her biggest fear going into high school was upperclassmen. After high school Jada plans to major in history.

Jada is the daughter of Jeremy and Dawn Turner. She has four sisters, two brothers, and a dog named Blaze. Her best friend, her rock is Ashleigh Morris, whom she loves with her whole heart and would do anything for. Jada could never live without Ashleigh, her bed or food. Jada's celebrity crush is Ryan Reynolds.

The best advice she has ever received was from her father,



"When problems come into your life like non-stop rain, remember that your positive attitude will always be your umbrella."

Her advice for underclassmen is, "don't waste your time on something that isn't going to matter tomorrow."

Jada's Favorites:

App – Snapchat
 Pizza Topping –
 Pepperoni
 Movie – *The Help*
 Class – Art
 Drink – Vanilla Coke
 T.V. Show –
American Dad
 Restaurant – Sumo's
 Holiday – Christmas

Party with Farmie

By Slade Dalton

On July 28, 2000, the world welcomed a boy who would not be forgotten. The man himself, Bryson Coker farmer, is now 18 with two siblings: Olivia, 14 and Lucas, 9. His parents are Bryan Farmer and Jessica Light.

Bryson has attended Walnut Ridge since kindergarten. He has a wide variety of friends, including his best friends Tyler and Kai Cunningham, Zack O., Nash Gill, Cade Burris, Slade Dalton, Lil Charles Mabry, Brighton Brand, Drew Flippo and Hayden Andrews.

His favorite teachers are Mrs. Rouse, Mrs. Rob and Mrs. Holland, because of their ability to teach and work with the students one on one.

Going 3-7 in football for his junior year was his most embarrassing moment in high school. Upon entering high school, Bryson feared being picked on, but today his advice for underclassmen is, "work hard and do your homework." His favorite year was his freshman year.

He has a small fear of "being in the real world," but he is ready to take on BRTC and then ASU after he obtains his basics.



After graduation, he is ready to secure the bag in the agriculture industry on his family farm.

Bryson's Favorites

App – Snapchat
 Movie – *The Blind Side*
 Drink – Yellow Gatorade
 Store – Dillard's
 TV show – *Sports Center*
 Food – Mexican Chicken
 Song – *Survivor*
 by NBA YoungBoy
 Restaurant – Longhorn
 Steak House
 Ice Cream – Chocolate
 Chip Cookie Dough
 Celebrity crush – Beyoncé

The Procrastinator

By: Erin Hicks

The procrastinator, Johnny Edgar Hudson, is leaving after 13 years of education with no plans for the future.

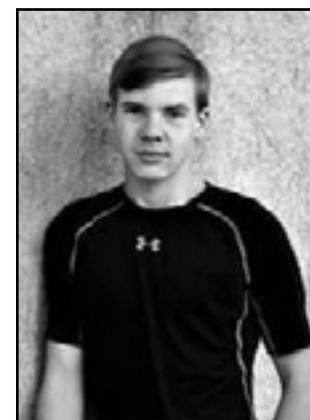
Born August 8, 2001 Johnny is 17. His parents are Wanda and Tim Hudson; he has a younger brother, Logan Hudson age 15, and a beloved dog. During school, Johnny had been

afraid of not passing everything. Now that he is leaving he is afraid of losing contact with his friends.

Although he has had trouble with procrastination, he claims to have gotten past it a bit through high school and implores underclassmen not to procrastinate either. The work won't disappear; it will only grow.

Johnny's Favorites

App – Snapchat
 Pizza Topping –
 Sausage
 Class – Firefighter
 Drink – Dr. Pepper
 Food – Mexican
 Ice Cream – Chocolate
 Restaurant –
 Rancho Bravo



Little Miss Firecracker

By Dakota Girard

Krystin Marie Wallace, 17, born July 4, 2001; daughter of Terry and Debbi Wallace. Krystin has two brothers and two half-sisters: Damon, 19; Wayne, 23; Melody, 42; Christina, 44. She has three pets: dogs named Molly and Rosie, and a cat named Sparkle.

Her best friends are Hailie Standridge, Shelby Whitehead, Graham West, Tate Anderson and Jordan Haynes.

She has attended Walnut Ridge all of her life and her favorite teacher is Mr. Haynes because he is really fun and nice to be around. Her most embarrassing moment in high school is that she has cried in front of multiple people a lot.

Her advice to underclassmen is to actually study and do your assigned homework. Her best excuse for being late to class was her being stuck behind a concrete truck going 20 mph. Her celebrity crush is Evan Peters.

The one thing that she cannot live without is pizza. Her biggest pet peeve is people being rude to waiters/waitresses.

She has changed tremendously since freshman year; she is now more open and outgoing than she was.

She will miss Mr. Haynes more than anything after she graduates.

Throughout high school, she has been in band, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Science Club, Future Business Leaders of America, Key Club, Student Council, and Quiz Bowl.

Her favorite quote is, "Whenever I'm about to do something, I think, 'would an



idiot do that?" and if they would, I do not do that thing." – By Dwight Schrute.

The best advice she has ever been given - by Mr. Long - was, "Don't take any wooden nickels."

Senior year has been her favorite year of high school. If she could start high school over again, she would try being more outgoing.

After graduation, she plans on going to ASU to major in Criminology and minor in Theater.

Krystin's Favorites

App – YouTube
 Pizza Topping –
 Pepperoni and Grilled
 Chicken
 Class – Student Council
 Drink – Sprite
 T.V. Show –
Under the Dome
 Band – Kodaline
 Restaurant – Pizza Hut
 Ice Cream – Chocolate
 Chip Cookie Dough
 Food – Pizza

Welcome to Petty Farms

By Baylee Davis

Petty Farms will someday be owned and operated by Johnathon Chase Petty. Born to Charles and Valerie Petty on November 29, 2000, he has two older sisters: Stephann and Christen.

He has a dog whose name is Bella. A few of Chase's best friends are Jett Ditto, Mason McEntire, Slade Dalton, Cade Burris and Dylan Aaron.

Chase has attended Walnut Ridge for 13 years. His most memorable moment was when Trump became president.

During his stint at the 'Ridge he has been involved in FBLA, Key Club, Student Council and track. He is most proud of his accomplishments in track, such as winning high point.

One thing Chase cannot live without is his favorite show, *The Office*. His biggest pet peeve is when kids make out in the hallway.

His advice to underclassmen is, "Do not procrastinate." He can gladly say that throughout his high school experience, he has learned how to manage his time.

The only thing that Chase will miss is being drug tested six times a year — Petty Farms has only the highest standards. His favorite teacher is Mr. Haynes, who teaches EAST. The hardest thing he has had to do in high school was quitting football.

His favorite year has been his senior year. After graduation, he looks forward to going to Arkansas State where he plans to major in finance.



Chase's Favorites:

App – Netflix
 Movie – *The Dark Knight*
 Drink – Fiji Water
 T.V. Show – *The Office*
 Restaurant – Longhorn
 Steak House
 Ice Cream – Vanilla
 Food – Pizza
 Holiday – Thanksgiving

Would You Rather?

By Brighton Brand

...Lose all your money and valuables or all of the pictures you've ever taken?

Slade Dalton – Pictures
 Ashleigh Morris – Money and Valuables
 Baylee Davis – Money and Valuables
 Claire Fisher – Pictures
 Kate Cole – Pictures

The Man, the Myth, the Legend

By Zack Osburn

Jackson Ellis Forrester was born on March 25, 2001 and is currently seventeen years old. His parents are Rhonda and Paul Forrester and he has a sister named Taylor, who is twelve years old.

Jackson's best friends are Trevor Teel, Mason McEntire and Dylan Aaron. He has attended Walnut Ridge for about thirteen years. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Rob because, "She makes me laugh when she's mad."

The best advice he can give to underclassmen is, "Don't be lazy. Get off your butts and do something." Jackson is known for his hunting and says it is the one thing that he cannot live without. Although Trevor Teel is his best friend, Trevor is also Jackson's biggest pet peeve.

Since freshman year, Jackson has grown five inches and put on fifty pounds. The one thing he will miss about high school is seeing all of his friends.

He is involved in FBLA, FFA and marching band. His favorite quote is, "Life is 10% of what happens to us, and the other 90% how we react to it."



Jackson's Favorites:

App – Instagram
 T.V. Show –
The Walking Dead
 Pizza Topping – Cheese
 Entertainer –
 David Spade
 Movie – *The Hangover*
 Class – Basketball
 Store – DNW
 Drink – Gatorade

On the Chase

By Victoria Swindle

Chase Alexander Moseley is the son of Jason and Heather Moseley and Crystal and Josh Brooks. He was born December 6, 2000. His siblings are Lauren, Ashlynn, Julianna and Amelia.

Chase has attended Walnut Ridge High School since 10th grade and in that time has made two best friends: Skylar Louthan and Victoria Swindle.

Since his freshman year he has cut his hair, joined the Army and become a better student. He advises the underclassmen to, "Just keep trying. Even if you want to quit, don't."

Chase is most proud of his ACT score and the fact that he passed Mrs. Rob's junior English class. He wouldn't be able to live without being active in life.

He is involved in several clubs and activities: band, Key Club, EAST, Arkansas Army National Guard and FFA. When asked who his favorite teacher is, he replies, "I plead the fifth."

His favorite year of high school has been his senior year. Chase's best excuse for being late was that he was caught by every train that went through town that morning. If he could start high school again he would work harder every year.



The thing he will miss most about high school is band. His biggest fear going into high school was getting held back, and his biggest fear upon leaving high school is going to basic training.

Chase's Favorites

App – YouTube
 Movie – *Dark Shadows*
 Drink – Orange Mango
 Body Armor
 Band – Seether
 Holiday – Halloween
 Song – *Stay Frosty Royal Milk Tea* by Fall Out Boy
 Restaurant – Kimono's
 Ice Cream – Vanilla

The True Baller

By: Lilly Maple



Liley Ambrosia Holsapple was born on August 18, 2000 and she is 18 years old. Her parents are Meridith and Andy Holsapple. Liley has a sister, Christin Ward, 25.

Her best friends are Taylor McGinty, Jordyn Jones and Kaci Kirksey. She has attended Walnut Ridge her whole life. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Haynes.

The one thing she can't live without is her phone. The advice she has for underclassmen is, "actually try and do your school work." Her best excuse for being late for class is that a teacher was talking to her.

Liley is involved in Key Club, FBLA and basketball. She was chosen as Senior Maid for the 2019 Basketball Homecoming.

Her favorite year of high school has been her senior year. She plans on going to either ATU (Arkansas Tech) or Ouachita Baptist after high school.

Liley's Favorites

App – Snapchat
 Movie – *The Greatest Showman*
 Drink – Sprite
 Store – Buckle
 Holiday – Thanksgiving
 Song – *Monster* by 21 Savage
 Restaurant –
 Wings To Go

BirdBox: See No Evil

By Skyla Henry

Based on Josh Malerman's 2014 novel, the Netflix Original adaptation of BirdBox was an unexpected success. The film is about a dystopian future in which monsters of unknown origins roam the planet, causing anyone who looks at them to commit suicide. The main character, Mallory, tries to reach safety but she and her children must stay blindfolded.

The two hour film was watched by over 45 million accounts in just the first week, making it Netflix's most viewed movie. Although many people watched the movie, not all of them enjoyed it. The film was met with much criticism and questions.

The movie scored a 63 percent on Rotten Tomatoes and was said to "never quite reach its intriguing potential, but strong acting and an effectively chilly

mood offer intermittently creepy compensation."

People seem to be truly split on the matter and it shows in the various reviews. Some critics are calling it a "classic" while others say it is "undercooked" and "a letdown".

Even though the movie is far from perfect, it still captured a huge audience. The cinematography was stunning and the performances of Sandra Bullock and John Malkovich were good enough.

With streaming services like Netflix and other becoming more favorable to cable TV and production companies, it is no surprise their movies are gaining credibility and traction.

Bird Box has many flaws, but it was a massive success and will likely be remembered, for better or worse.

Got EGOT?

By Olivia Bickers

John Legend is the 15th person to win an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar and a Tony, (EGOT) and also the first black man and second-youngest winner.

Since 2006, Legend has scored a grand total of 10 Grammys -- including Best New Artist and Best R&B Album. Legend first won Grammys in 2006 for his album *Get Lifted*. It

took just 12 years for him to claim his EGOT.

Legend won an Oscar in 2015 for best original song for *Glory* from the 2014 film *Selma*, and won a Tony in 2017 for producing *Jitney*, which won the award for best revival of a play.

In September, he took home a Creative Arts Emmy as producer of the televised *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert*.

James Harden Going Hard

By Tyler Cunningham

James Harden plays for the Houston Rockets. He has always been a dominant player, but until this year, he had no other All-Stars to help him.

Last year, the Rockets picked up Chris Paul, a dominant point guard. Paul is also an All-Star

and dominates at his position.

Having a decent player to help him out has made it more than likely that he will repeat this year as MVP. During his last six games he has averaged a triple-double including 40+ points in each game.

What WRHS Students are Saying about Birdbox

By Kai Cunningham

Nash Gill — "It's suspenseful."

Slade Dalton — "Great ace movie. R.I.P Charley; should have trusted the old man."

Cade Burris — "Kind of a copycat movie, but it's pretty good."

Chloe Bounds — "It was cool."

Graham West — "If you know anything about movies, you won't like this one."

Zack Osburn — "It's stupid."

Brighton Brand — "Never heard of it."

Baylee Davis — "Just like any other movie."

Swing "Into the Spider-Verse"

By Tate Anderson

Over the past few years, Spider-Man, everyone's favorite friendly-neighborhood web-slinger, has seen a critically-acclaimed revitalization with his introduction into the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), a new video game exclusively for PlayStation 4, and now, an animated feature-film titled Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse.

I recently went to see the movie and I can guarantee that this movie is worth every second of your time.

The best aspect of this movie is its stellar animation. The art style follows that of a comic book, complete with comic book panel staples such as visual thought bubbles and sound effects.

Sony also used a new digital technique, which is animating in 12 frames a second instead of 24, in order to get crisp movement from the characters on screen. The animation quality is so extraordinary, that Sony Pictures Animation is considering patenting the technique.

The story follows Miles Morales, just a typical teenager living with his family in Brooklyn until he gets bitten by a genetically-modified spider which recodes his DNA and transforms him into the next Spider-Man.

However, he quickly finds out that he's not alone whenever a super-collider is set off, creating a wormhole and sending five other Spider-Men and Women into his dimension. Now it's up to him and his Spider-Friends to defeat the Sinister Six, get back to their respective dimensions, and destroy the super-collider before time runs out.

This movie is one of the most engaging superhero movies I've ever seen. The story gets you so curiously obsessed with the lore, you'll want to spend hours reading up on all of the different Spider-Men. In fact, that's exactly what my father and I did as soon as we got out of the movie.

I would highly recommend this movie to everyone, even if you aren't a Spider-Man fan or just a superhero fan in general. The perfect combination of animation and story make this an enjoyable experience for moviegoers of all ages and types.

Answers: Mystery Students
Bailey Augustine and
Brighton Brand

He Said/She Said

By Hailey Jensen

- “Did you know that you could stress yourself out to the point of a heart attack? I need to calm down.” – Baylee Davis
 “I’m doing everything I can to make a better life for myself.”
 – Kate Cole
 “I’m gonna have a stroke.” – Hannah Wade
 (While working on PowerPoint over PT Barnum) “What does PT stand for? I should know that.” – Grady Privett
 “Maybe if I lose 10 pounds I’ll feel better about myself” – Allie Sherman
 Talking to a computer “It’s a school assignment!” *Something weird pops up* “Not my school assignment” – Kaiden Stormes
 “This Saturday I punted a baby in the mall.” *Punting sound*
 – Nathan Brown
 “Son of a motherless goat” – Tate Anderson
 Talking about a vision test “I got a 20/55” – Isaiah Mabry
 “There’s beans in the ice cream” – Anonymous
 “Honestly, that’s why I don’t want to get pulled over-- I can’t walk in a straight line” – Maggie Gipson
 (A conversation between Mrs. Rice and a couple students) “I have a Bachelor of Science” “Oh yeah? What’s the powerhouse of the cell?”
 “An amoeba.” “Uh, isn’t it a mitochondria?” “This is why I teach English.”
 “Noah Roark got Best Dressed? He wears camo every day!” – Brighton Brand
 “You might be smarter than me, but I’m a better person.” – Kate Cole, to Jackson Forrester
 “I’m like John Wick, except less cool... and more vibrant.”
 – Tate Anderson
 “You’re the next Hitler.” Jordan Haynes, to Hailie Standridge
 “Hey, smell me.” – Chloe Bounds
 “If I didn’t have my humor, I’d kill myself.” – Isaiah Mabry
 “I went to the doctor yesterday because I woke up.” – Grady Privett
 “Who is our vice president?” – Mr. Ford; “Uhhh... Mike... Pinkston”
 – Anna Claire Maple
 “If I get arrested, I’ll be in handcuffs.” – Zack Osburn

Monthly Horoscopes

By Victoria Swindle

- Aries (March 21-April 19): Despite the demands made on you and the responsibilities that may be building up, you can still find time for activities that may be building up you can still find time for activities that speak to your spirit of adventure.
 Taurus (April 20-May 20): The more someone tells you that you are being misled, the more you’ll likely go out of your way to prove them wrong.
 Gemini (May 21-June 20): The articulate energy of Mercury’s edgy link to Mars, may spotlight a difference in opinion.
 Cancer (June 21-July 22) : An offer may seem attractive and worth investing in, but be careful.
 Leo (July 23-August 22): If it seems you’re being sweet talked into something, you may need time to consider what’s best for you personally.
 Virgo (August 23-September 22): If you’ve been busy helping others and working to keep up to speed with your own plans, you may be feeling the pace.
 Libra (September 23-October 22): The focus on your sector of security, indicates a need for self-reflection.
 Scorpio (October 23-November 21): Networking and social activities can be compelling, and see you forging connections that could be useful for furthering our aims.
 Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): You could become resigned to delays and may begin to see a higher plan unfolding, even if you do feel frustrated at the pace of change.
 Capricorn (December 22-January 19): The coming days can be enjoyable, if intense, so if any scintillating invites come your way this may be a queue to accept.
 Aquarius (January 20-February 18): While the proactive Sun Pluto tie can see you eager to declutter and divest yourself of anything that’s no longer needed, a Venus influence might encourage you to hang on to certain things.
 Pisces (February 19-March 20): Perhaps the best thing you can do for yourself is to not take on too much.

Excellent Evan Gipson

By Jacob Buxton



Evan Wade Gipson is the 17 year old son of Terri Gipson and Heath Gipson; he was born January 29, 2001. Evan has only one sibling, Emma Gipson, who is 14 years old. His best friends are Ethan Willis and Bo Johnson.

Evan has been a Walnut Ridge Bobcat since his early days in Kindergarten. His favorite teacher is Mrs. Moore. One of Evan’s most embarrassing moments is when he squatted in the library and ripped his pants in middle school.

He is most proud of his multiple art awards. Evan’s advice for all of us underclassmen is, “Do good.” Evan said that his best excuse for being late was that he was “taking a tinkle.” The things Evan cannot live without are movies.

What he will miss the most about high school will be his friends. Evan says that his favorite year of school was his 11th grade year. If he could start high school again he wouldn’t be so anti-social. He believes that he will have no fears

upon leaving school. To his friends Evan is known by Dino and Kneecaps McGee.

Evan’s Favorites

- App — IMdB
- Movie — *Drive*
- Class — Choir
- Band — W.A.S.P
- Store — Spencer’s
- T.V. Show — *Justified*
- Book — *When the Sacred Gin Mill Closes*

The Captain of the Sparklez

By Chase Moseley

The great Jordan Maron, otherwise known as CaptainSparklez, Jardon, Jardonian, or Jar *smashes face on keyboard* onian is a YouTuber who dropped out of college in 2010 to pursue his dream of making YouTube videos.

He shocked his family with this move but has since received their support. Jordan now brings in an income large enough to live in California and own several sports cars, including a Ford GT and a McLaren.

Jordan runs seven

YouTube channels in which he posts Minecraft videos, Fortnite videos, let's plays, music videos, reaction videos, vlogs and music promotions, or as he calls them, "melodic tracks for your listening pleasure."

He has won a

Guinness World Record for the first working mobile phone in Minecraft. He also sells merchandise like clothing, action figures and the like.

As a result of recent YouTube "subscriber purges," (when YouTube removes inactive subscribers from channels), Jordan has hit 10 million subscribers at least three times since July 25th 2017, once being in the past couple of months.

Jordan Maron is proof that the American dream still exists. He dropped out of college to pursue his dream and became a huge success. Jordan is a beacon of hope for the newer generations. He shows that, despite what others may tell you, you can achieve your dreams if you work hard enough and have a natural talent for it.

You Voted For It: Minimum Wage

Pros & Cons

By Grady Privett

On November 13, the people of Arkansas voted to increase the minimum wage and now many are regretting it.

The minimum wage increase from \$8.50 an hour to \$9.25 went into effect on January 1. With this amendment, the minimum wage will continue increasing until it reaches \$11 in 2021.

The repercussions are already being felt as small businesses and large ones alike are having to raise their prices to pay their employees the new wage. However, individuals who have a salary are appalled that prices have jumped up while their salaries stay the same.

Students' Views

— **Ashleigh Morris** (*Wonderful Chinese Buffet employee*): "First of all, I'm a waitress, so I don't even make minimum wage! I think it's ridiculous 'cause they're raising everything else up, so no one's gaining anything. The whole point of minimum wage is to make things easier, but with the prices going up, it doesn't make any difference."

— **Claire Fisher** (*Polar Freeze employee*): "It doesn't matter. We get more money, but the prices go up."

— **Savannah Nelson** (*Hays employee*): "It is stupid because prices are going up too."

What is Roblox?

By Jacob Slankard

Finally, the game that all the students are playing in teacher's rooms, yet teachers still have no idea what it is, is explained. What is Roblox? Roblox is ushering in the next generation of entertainment, allowing people to play, create, and imagine together in immersive, user-generated worlds. That is why it's called the "Imagination Platform" and everyone is invited to play it.

Like all video games, the question is "Is Roblox safe for kids?" Well, let me explain. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), which regulates the information children younger than 13 are allowed to disclose,

is what Roblox abides by. COPPA also moderates chat sessions which automatically filters out chat messages that sound like attempts to disclose personal identity information like real names and addresses.

The three main components of Roblox are: the games, the catalog of virtual items for sale, (which also uses an online currency similar to Fortnite's v-bucks called Robux), the design studio for creating and uploading content created by the user.

Different games have different objectives. For example, the game *Jailbreak* is a virtual "cops and robbers" game where you can choose to either be

a police officer or a criminal. "Restaurant Tycoon" lets you open and run a virtual restaurant.

Roblox allows players to buy, sell, and create virtual items. Clothes can be bought by anyone but only players with a Builder's Club membership can sell them. Only Roblox administrators can sell accessories, body parts, gear, and packages under the official Roblox user account. Items with a limited status can only be sold on the catalog or traded with Builder's Club.

Roblox can be very fun and very addicting. I hope that you might start playing Roblox after reading this.

Surviving R. Kelly

By Haley Smart

Surviving R. Kelly is a docu-series Lifetime recently aired about survivors of the sexual abuse and assaults allegedly committed by R. Kelly.

R. Kelly is an R&B singer, songwriter and

record producer from Chicago. Known for his songs *Bump n Grind* and *Ignition*, he is recently better known for the sexual accusations that have resurfaced.

The sexual accusa-

tions date back to 1994, when he allegedly married a 15-year old. In 1997, he married another underage girl. In 2002, Kelly was accused of 14 counts of having child pornography but was acquitted in 2008.