

THE MAVERICK MAYHEM

MAKING A MUSICAL MELODY

BY ALYSON TAYLOR

The vocal and band students are feeling upbeat about their classes this year. With this being Mr. Middleton's first full year as a band teacher and his first year as the vocal teacher, there has been lots of progress made. Mr. Middleton said his goals for this year and all the years to come are "to build back the music program in the community and school." He explained how he continues to learn and grow every day and wants to bring a safe space to enjoy music for the students.

FINDING THE RHYTHM

The band students are still trying to find their rhythm with two very different class sizes, yet they are powering through and continuing to make great amounts of progress. The 6th/7th grade band has a cumulative total of about 40 students. 6th grade band student Brody Hoffman explained how he, "enjoys playing with students from other grades." The 6th/7th band class performed at the 5-8 Band Concert at the Twilight Theater on November 14th. 6th grade band student Ty Hatton said he, "enjoyed the results from all of the hard work I put in for the concert."

Though the 6th/7th grade band is quite large, the number of 8th grade/high school band students is small. 8th grader Justin Slade said he is impressed with, "how good we are for only having 13 kids." Justin explained how even though the class is small, he is excited to play fun music during basketball pep band performances.

SMALL BUT MIGHTY

BY ALYSON TAYLOR

This year's junior high vocal class has a small enrollment of seven, but they have not let that stop them. Though the class is small, Mr. Middleton has worked his numbers to create a 4-part harmony. 8th grader Amelia Barnes, a vocal student at Kiowa County Junior High, said she enjoys working with and getting to know students who are not in her grade. Amelia explained how she is, "looking forward to the competitions" this year and that she is impressed that even though it is a small class, "we have the talent to take us far."



Top Left: 6th-grader Ty Hatton plays his french horn at the 5-8 Band Concert.

(photo by Amelia Barnes)



Bottom Left: Mr. Middleton directs the 6th/7th band, while they perform at the Twilight Theater on November 14th.

(photo by Amelia Barnes)

Below: The vocal class attended the 5-8 Band Concert at the Twilight Theater on November 14th singing beautiful melodies for the community. Vocal also participates in singing the national anthem at various home basketball games.



Photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton

UNDEFEATED WITH DETERMINATION

GIRLS' TEAM OFF & RUNNING WITH A MOMENTOUS START



Top L): 8th-grader Amelia Barnes takes the ball up for a layup. Top R): 7th-grader Charlee Jantz shoots a mid-range shot. Bottom: The Lady Mavs hustle back to get on defense against the Buffaloes. (photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

BY FAITH COSS

Heart, hustle, hard work. The Junior High Lady Mavericks' Basketball team has put these three things to use to start their 2023-24 season. With a current A-team record of 4-0, the Lady Mavs are off to a phenomenal start. Led by Head Coach Katelynn Alderfer and assistant coaches Kyla McDonald and Ms. Engelcke, the girls have learned to work hard and work together.

The Lady Mavs Team first traveled to Kinsley, taking home their first wins of the season. Then, the team went to Pawnee Heights to come home with more heartfelt wins. As the ladies traveled to Meade to face the Buffaloes, intensity was on their minds. Although the B-team had a close game resulting in a loss, the A-team girls played hard to take home their third win of the season. It was a nail-biting game, even going into overtime; though the Mavs pulled out another win with a final score of 39-35. The ladies then had their first home game against the Satanta Indians, where they won once again.

Though the Mavs are off to a good start, Coach Alderfer stated, "there is always room to improve. Always." Coach Alderfer additionally mentioned that she has enjoyed working with the team as they continue to make her proud and that "the heart and grit that the girls show is so fun to watch, and even more fun to coach."

Be sure to catch the undefeated Lady Mavs as they continue to play with intensity, practicing their team motto, "All in."

LADY MAVS SCOREBOARD

11/6 @ Kinsley
A Team (W): 42-10
B Team (W): 25-6

11/21 vs Satanta
A Team (W): 56-14
B Team (W): 31-17

11/9 @ Pawnee Heights
A Team (W): 45-1
B Team (W): 15-3

11/16 @ Meade
A Team (W): 39-35 (OT)
B Team (L): 14-17



7th-grader Jemma Ploger traps the opposing Buffalo while 8th grader Norma Espericueta anticipates the turnover. (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

HASHING IT OUT ON THE HARDWOOD

BOYS' TEAMS PLANS TO OUTWORK THEIR OPPONENTS

BY BRODY HOFFMAN

"We didn't come here to work, we came here to outwork" is the 2023-24 Junior High Boys' Basketball Team motto. The team is off to a solid start, going 2-2 for the season so far. The team has one returning A-team starter, 8th grader Javan Oberle, who reported, "If we play smart, then we can be good." The Mavs are led by Head Coach Brad Lingafelter and assistant coaches Cale Thompson and Shayna Lingafelter. Coach B. Lingafelter says he looks forward to, "watching the boys have 'light bulb moments.' Those moments when they realize they can do the things we have been working on."

On Nov. 6th, the Mavs traveled to the Kinsley Coyotes' Den to take care of business, sweeping all of their games. The boys repeated this intensity against the Pawnee Heights Tigers on Nov. 9th. However, the Meade Buffaloes dished out the varsity team their first loss of the season on Nov. 16th, with the Maverick's B-team bringing home the only win of the night for the boys. The Mavericks then had their first home game against the Satanta Indians. The hot-blooded A-team game had the crowd on the edge of their seats, but the varsity boys sadly got handed their second loss of the season.

If you are in the mood to watch some roundball action, come on out to Protection on Dec. 14th and cheer the Mavericks to victory against South Central. This game is always a fan favorite, as the T-Wolves are one of the Mav's biggest rivals. 8th grader Keegan Blanton said he is looking forward to this game, as he concluded that the boys have a really good chance of bringing home another win!



Top: 6th-grader Brody Hoffman steals the ball for a fastbreak layup. Bottom: 8th-grader Sawyer Lingafelter take the ball up, resulting in a foul by the Buffaloes. (photos by Amelia Barnes)



7th-grader Thayer Zadina dribbles the ball up the court to set up the play. (photo by Amelia Barnes)

MAVERICK SCOREBOARD

11/6 @ Kinsley
A Team (W): 51-24
B Team (W): 24-11 (2 quarters)

11/9 @ Pawnee Heights
A Team (W): 44-12
B Team (W): 42-9
C Team (W): 9-3 (2 quarters)

11/16 @ Meade
A Team (L): 24-50
B Team (W): 20-25
C Team (L): 16-18

11/21 vs Satanta
A Team (L): 30-37
B Team (W): 53-9
C Team (W): 10-3
(2 quarters)



FUN FACTS

WITH THE 8TH GRADERS

Article & Photos
by Ty Hatton

ADAN COYNE



Adan is always up for a good time. Here he is acting goofy between classes.

Q: Would you rather live in the clouds or underwater? A: "Underwater. There are a lot of fish in the sea."

Q: Would you rather have purple hair or green hair? A: "Green hair"

Q: Would you rather sit on nails or sit on ice? A: "Sit on nails because I watched a YouTube video on it, and it said that if you sit on nails, it doesn't hurt that bad because of all of the small points."

Q: Would you rather go to school four days a week for 10 hours or five days a week for 8 hours?
A: "5 days a week for 8 hours"

AJ DERLEY



Scoring another bunny, AJ puts up 2 pts in her game against Pawnee Heights.

Q: Would you rather sing in front of the whole school or be in the spelling bee in front of the entire school? A: "The spelling bee. I don't like singing"

Q: Would you rather be three feet tall or eight feet tall? A: "Three feet tall"

Q: Would you rather never brush your teeth again or never take a bath or shower again? A: "Never brush your teeth because I don't want to be stinky kid"

Q: Would you rather win the lottery or live twice as long? A: "Win the lottery. I would rather be rich."

MASON DONLEY



Mason's favorite seats in ELA are the TV chairs. He thinks these help him focus more.

Q: Would you rather eat a dead bug or a live worm? A: "A live worm because I have heard they taste good"

Q: Would you rather have more time or more munny? A: "More time so I could use it to get more money"

Q: Would you rather be really hot or really cold? A: "Really cold because I wear shorts and a shirt everyday, even when it's cold. I never seem to feel or get really cold."

Q: Would you rather have green hair or green feet? A: "Green hair because green feet would look weird."

VALUING OUR VETERANS

BY PRESTON COSS

On Friday, Nov. 10th, the Maverick student body welcomed Veteran and 2013 KC Alumni Creighton McDonald for an assembly. During this assembly, the 6-12th grade students listened to Creighton tell what he does and his importance to our country. Creighton served in the Navy for five years and has been a Sergeant for the Kansas Army-National Guard for five years. He currently works as a Machine Gunner on an M-ATV in the Scout Platoon in Junction City, Kansas, where he is stationed. While Creighton was in the Navy, he worked on the USS Carl Vinson, a large U.S. naval supercarrier, and "traveled to the Philippines, Vietnam, Guam, and Hawaii. He also was stationed in San Angelo TX, NAS -Coronado CA, and served 3 years and under 2 presidents at Camp David," according to 6th grader Bodie McDonald, one of Creighton's three younger brothers that attends Kiowa County. Creighton has received many awards, including the Army National Guard Kansas Soldier of the Year. Creighton and his family traveled to Topeka on Nov. 15th and 16th to receive this award from the Kansas governor. Creighton is scheduled to be deployed to the Middle East in Jan/Feb of 2024, so be sure to keep him in mind as he continues to serve our country.

Below: L) As the students left the assembly, they looked at some of Creighton's military belongings. R) Creighton is explaining what his job in the military entails.



Photos by Amelia Barnes

AROUND THE SCHOOL

FEATURING ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN KCJH

BIG READ, BIG SUCCESS

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

On the 15th of November, the 8th grade English classes attended the annual Big Read Culminating Event that was held in Greensburg. The Big Read Event is an annual event where students in the SPIAA League, along with the league ELA teachers, come together to discuss a genre/theme of literature that they have been studying. The teachers work on and collaborate through monthly meetings and through the summer to plan the themes and events.

KCJH ELA teacher Mrs. Ballard reported, "think of the Big Read like the Science Fair for the English Language Arts world." She added that she, "really enjoys getting to see the creativity and collaboration that the students have while working on their projects and essays."

The culminating event consisted of 8 junior high schools from the league. The students first went to the Twilight Theater to watch "Remember the Titans." Then, students from different schools met in groups to discuss the movie and books they were reading. After that, the students completed an escape room and then compared and contrasted "The American Experience" theme for this year's Big Read in the movie and their books. 8th-grader Samuel Ramos explained how he "liked the escape room the most." 8th-grader Mason Donley also mentioned he "really enjoyed watching the movie and not have to do any work all day." All of the eighth graders will be creating a project over their book "The Outsiders" to be judged against other students' projects in our school and league. The awards and results will be announced at one of the January or February games, so be sure to look out for the announcement of placings in one of our upcoming newsletters!



Top L): 8th-grader Eli Roberts works with his group on the magic carpet activity. Top R): Ms. James works with 8th-grader Samuel Ramos and his group to help them troubleshoot during an activity. Bottom: Working on the escape room code, 8th-grader Garrett Kern confers with his group.

STATE LIMERICK CHAMPION

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

The Kansas Association of Conservation Districts has announced the 2022-23 KACD State Limerick Champion as 8th-grader Alyson Taylor. Aly competed against other junior highers from across the state for the One Water Limerick Award. Aly received a first-place plaque and 50 dollars. Now, Aly's poster will be going to nationals to compete against the champions from the other 49 states, so be sure to wish her good luck!

How Long Until
How long until the water runs out
It is something we can't live without
Changes are needed fast
If water is to last
Otherwise, we will all live in drought

-Alyson Taylor

Below: Alyson Taylor reads her "How Long Until" limerick at the State Conservation Meeting.



Courtesy photo

Photos all courtesy of Mrs. Ballard

KEEPIN' UP WITH KIOWA COUNTY

ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN GREENSBURG, HAVILAND, & MULLINVILLE

4-H HAS SOMETHING 4-ALL YOUTH

BY ADDYSON LOFGREN

“To make the best better” is what the Kiowa County 4-H sets out to achieve. 4-H leader Jennifer Janssen reports, “4-H is a great leadership-oriented organization that teaches children how to be responsible, and dependable and give back to their community”.

There are various projects and activities to participate in, including science, horticulture, baking, photography, and crafts. Outdoor projects in the barn include beef, goat, sheep, swine, and horses. The Kiowa County 4-H Fair is held annually in July. It boasts various activities for 4-H members to compete in, as well as community activities like the carnival, pedal pull, movie night, and meals sponsored by various businesses in the area. Cierra Price reported that her favorite part of 4-H was, “the opportunities that it gives me like leadership trainings.”

Kiowa County Junior High students participating in 4-H are Grayson Ballard, Elizabeth Brown, Charlee Jantz, Bodie McDonald, Cierra Price, Carson Roenbaugh, Justin Slade, Larston Higbie, and Lincoln Piester (Pratt County). These students participate in monthly meetings, community activities like the Lighted Christmas Parade, fundraisers, and other fun activities that are planned for the club like lake outings at Coldwater Lake.

Larston Higbie said, “The best part of 4-H is the fair, the community, and that we get to do a lot of fun stuff.”

The four H's of 4-H stand for head, heart, hands, and health. The four H's help the participants set and achieve goals, make good decisions, be accountable and have integrity, care for their body and mind, and help the community and others.

If you are interested in joining this program, visit the 4-H website at <https://www.kansas4-h.org/> or call the local Extension Office at 620-723-2156.

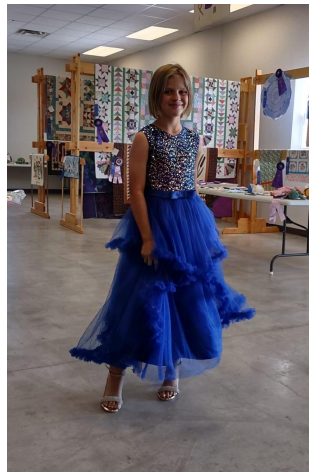


Photo by Larston Higbie



Top L): 8th-grader Justin Slade shows his heifer at the Kiowa County Fair. Top R): 6th-grader Elizabeth Brown models her dressy attire for the Fashion Revue at the Fair. Middle: The Kiowa County 4-H Club participates in the round robin livestock showing clinic. Middle L): 7th-grader Charlee Jantz prepares to set up her heifer, Elsa, for judging. Middle R): At the 4-H Achievement Banquet, Slade is presenting the speaker. Bottom: 8th-grader Cierra Price is showing her goat at the fair in July.(Courtesy photos from Kiowa County 4-H Facebook Page)

MEET THE PUBLICATION TEAM



Alyson Taylor
Grade 8
Editor



Faith Coss
Grade 7
Writer/Photographer



Preston Coss
Grade 7
Writer/Photographer



Sebastian Favela-Clayton
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Larston Higbie
Grade 6
Business

(Photos by InterState Studios)



Amelia Barnes
Grade 8
Head Photographer



Iva Brown
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Ty Hatton
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Nela Heide
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Brody Hoffman
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Mrs. Ballard
Junior High
Advisor

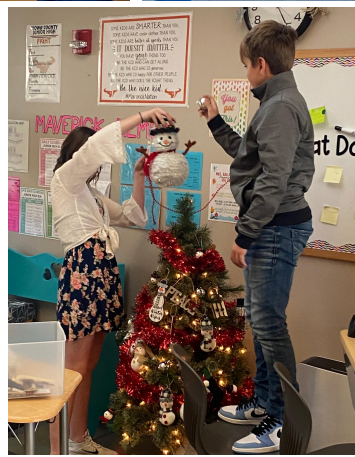


Addyson Lofgren
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



(Photos by Mrs. Ballard)

Top L): 8th-grader Samuel Ramos places a leaf on The Impact's Gratitude Tree. Students and staff wrote on leaves what they were grateful for. Top R) The KCJH Impact Leadership group participated in Greensburg's Trunk or Treat. They made a gumball machine for trick-or-treaters to get their "prize". Bottom R) 8th-graders Aubree Gilchrist and AJ Derley take advantage of the new slushie machines at the Kiowa County Pharmacy on a hot day. Bottom L) 7th-graders Ellie Hayes and Lochlan Gumpenberger help Mrs. Ballard put up her Christmas decorations. They chose to style this tree "The Snowman Tree".



HAUL OUT THE HOLLY

BY IVA BROWN & NELA HEIDE

As the season of Christmas rounds the corner, look out for local holiday events, such as the Lighted Christmas Parade. This parade takes place on Sunday, December 17th at 6:00 pm in Greensburg. The parade route begins on East Florida Street at the Courthouse and turns onto South Main Street. After the Lighted Christmas Parade, stop by the Youth Core Ministry building for a warm bowl of soup and to help support YCM!

Be sure to also stop by Candy Cane Lane, a drive-thru animated light display. Candy Cane Lane will be available to visit from December 16th-26th in Greensburg. The display is north 1 mile at the stoplight on 30th Avenue and is a fun view for all ages.

Another local Christmas event to stop by is Pictures with Santa on December 3rd at the Big Well Museum in Greensburg. This will take place from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Stay on the lookout for any other upcoming local Christmas activities to help support!

DECEMBER CALENDAR

BY ALYSON TAYLOR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1 KCHS BB @ Wichita Independent 8:30am: 3rd-5th Rehearsal @ Twilight 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	2 District Honor Band/Choir Performance @ Dodge City 9:00am: KCJH B Team BB Tournament
3	4 3rd-5th Rehearsal @ Twilight 7:00pm: 3rd-5th Vocal Concert	5 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: 3rd Annual Kiowa County Shootout	6	7 Western Kansas Careers Education Showcase 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: 3rd Annual Kiowa County Shootout	8 Inter-State Studio Winter Sport Pictures 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Hodgeman County	9 ACT Test Date 3:00pm: 3rd Annual Kiowa County Shootout
10 7:00pm: KCHS Band/Choir Concert @ Twilight Theatre 8:00pm: USD 422 Board of Education Mtg.	11	12 KCHS BB @ Bucklin	13 11:30am: SPIAA League Meeting	14 KCJH BB @ South Central	15 K-5 Art 7:00am: DLT Meeting 2:10pm: Pep Assembly 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 5:00pm: KCHS BB vs. St. John	16
17	18	19 KCHS BB @ Meade Last Day of 1st Semester Teacher Workday - PM 11:00am: School Dismissed	20 NO SCHOOL	21 NO SCHOOL	22 NO SCHOOL	23 KSHSAA Winter Non-Practice Dates
24 KSHSAA Winter Non-Practice Dates Christmas Eve	25 KSHSAA Winter Non-Practice Dates Christmas NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL KSHSAA Winter Non-Practice Dates	27 NO SCHOOL KSHSAA Winter Non-Practice Dates	28 NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30
31 New Years Eve						

To find upcoming events, information and more, go to usd422.org



Announcements

KIOWA COUNTY SCHOOLS FAMILY PASS \$120

A Family Pass will gain two Adults admission to all **HOME** JH and HS regular season games. Not valid for any SPIAA League Tournament or KSHSAA Postseason games that we may host. Contact any School Office to purchase one.



ON SALE NOW!

GREENSBURG LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE

Sunday, December 17th, 2023 6 pm



Join us for the annual Greensburg Lighted Christmas parade! Parade route starts on East Florida Street at the Courthouse then turns south Main Street ending at the Rec Gym parking lot for Youth Core Ministries Soup Supper!

Parade participants line up north of the courthouse by 5:45. There is no assigned order, so just line yourselves up!

After the parade enjoy a free will donation soup supper by Youth Core Ministries at Youth Core Ministries building on East Garfield. Then make a trip through Candy Cane Lane!

December 3 - December 10 - December 17
JH 1:00-2:00pm & HS 2:00-3:00pm



OPEN GYM

Kiowa County Junior High Important Dates

- * Fri. Dec. 1st: Early Dismissal 2:30pm
- * Mon. Dec. 4th: Reading FastBridge Testing during Advisory
- * Tues. Dec. 5th: Early Dismissal 2:30pm for HS Basketball Shootout
- * Thurs. Dec. 7th: Early Dismissal 2:30pm for HS Basketball Shootout
- * Fri. Dec. 8th: Early Dismissal 2:30pm
- * Mon. Dec. 11th Math FastBridge Testing during Advisory
- * Fri. Dec. 15th: AR Points due for ELA Class; Early Dismissal 2:30pm
- * Mon. Dec. 18th: KCJH Block the Door Day
- * Tues. Dec. 19th: AR Skating Party in Pratt; school dismissed at 11am

JUST FOR FUN

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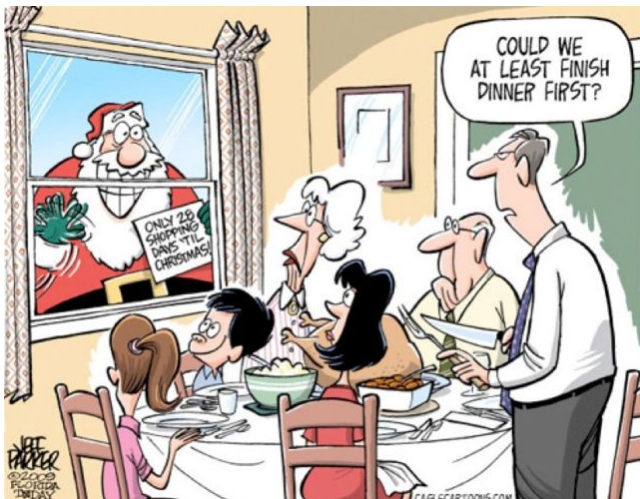
Thanksgiving Word Search

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AUTUMN
 FAMILY
 FEAST
 FOOTBALL

GOBBLE
 INDIAN
 PILGRIM
 STUFFING

THANKFUL
 THANKSGIVING
 THURSDAY
 TURKEY



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