

Vol. 97
Issue 1

The Guidon

October
2022

Hays High School | 2300 E. 13th St. | Hays, Kan. 67601



Another Opportunity

School adds competitive bowling
for fall, winter athletic seasons

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ON THE COVER



Cover, photos & photo illustration by Eric Lucio

ORGANIZATIONS

Travel Club tours Europe during summer trip

By Jake Wentz
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This past summer, from May 29 to June 13, the Hays High School Travel Club took its long-awaited biennial journey from the United States across the Atlantic Ocean to France, Germany, Portugal and Spain.

The club sponsors, foreign language teacher Lora Gallegos-Haynes and health office secretary Julie Pfannenstiel, originally planned the trip for the summer of 2021, however, because of COVID-19 travel restrictions, they moved the trip to the summer of 2022.

From Hays High, 14 students attended, along with the two sponsors, seven parents and six community members, as the Travel Club is open to anyone at the school or in the community.

Throughout the planning phases, the group raised money for the trip by selling koozies, running concessions and selling pizzas from Lomato's Pizza.

To attend, participants had to raise about \$6,500 each. If they could not raise money by working fundraisers or working on their own, they could not attend. However, they started fundraisers two years in advance, so the members had plenty of time to come up with the money.

The group left on May 29, flying from Wichita and landing in Munich, Germany.

Germany held many adventures, including biking through Munich, seeing the Neuschwanstein Castle, visiting old German houses and seeing historic cathedrals.

From Germany, the tourists were driven by bus over the border to France, where they visited the historic Eiffel Tower and the famous

Louvre Museum, which houses works from famous painters, including the "Mona Lisa" from Leonardo Da Vinci.

"France was incredible because we got to explore the Louvre, and it was absolutely amazing," 2022 alumna Grace Wentz said. "The paintings and sculptures are so detailed, that it is mind-blowing how real some of them look."

From France, the group took a train to Spain, which was full of music, dancing, culture and art. The members visited Barcelona and Madrid and saw sites, including the Cathedral of La Sagrada Familia, the Rumblyng City and the Amphitheater of Mérida.

"My favorite place was Barcelona, Spain, due to the beautiful landscape, the thrilling bike ride and the gorgeous beach we got to swim at," junior Andrea Zarate said.

After the bright country of Spain, the Travel Club took a train to Lisbon, Portugal, as their last stop. Lisbon, which is near the Atlantic coast, had many historical sites, but the group only had time to visit certain places.

Following the two-week trip, the Travel Club members flew back to Wichita, arriving in Hays on June 13. After the two weeks, the travelers were exhausted, but they also had a unique experience that opened their eyes to different cultures, foods and music.

For the summer of 2024, the Travel Club plans on returning to Europe, but this time, they plan to tour England, France and Germany, along with other possible places. For information on the upcoming trip, people can contact the sponsors, Gallegos-Haynes at lhaynes@usd489.com or Pfannenstiel at jpfannenstiel@usd489.com.



Photo courtesy of Lora Gallegos-Haynes

MAJESTIC PALACE

Travel Club members sit on the steps of the Heidelberg Castle in Heidelberg, Germany, on June 6. The group spent the day touring the castle.



Photo courtesy of Lora Gallegos-Haynes

FAMOUS LANDMARK

In Paris, France, the Travel Club stands in front of the Eiffel Tower on June 4. The group stayed in Paris for both Day 7 and 8 of the trip.



Photo courtesy of Lora Gallegos-Haynes

UNIQUE ART

On June 8, Travel Club members pose next to the Park Güell lizard statue in Barcelona, Spain.

STAFF

Twelve new teachers join Hays High School faculty this fall

By Jessica Feyerherm
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Eric Beckman – Integrated Science

"I went to Fort Hays and then Colorado State. At FHSU, I got a History and Education degree. I have a master's in Natural Resource Stewardship, focusing on Ecological Restoration. The last school I taught at was in Russell. My favorite part about teaching here has been the people."

David Buller – English Language Arts

"My undergraduate degree is from Tabor College in Biblical/Religious Studies. I obtained a Master of Divinity from Fresno Pacific University. Recently, I graduated with a Master of Arts in Teaching from Kansas State University. I have taught all ages in non-traditional settings for 20 years. There are great people here, and I am glad to be a part of it."

Jessica Clingan – English Language Arts

"I received a Bachelor of Science in Speech Language Pathology from the University of Central Arkansas. I received my Master of the Arts in Teaching from Kansas State University. My favorite part of teaching at Hays High is cliché, but it really, truly is the people!"

Moises DeLima – English Second Language

"I went to Fort Hays and to the Federal University of Lavras in Brazil. I have a master's in English with a concentration in Teaching of English as a Second Language and a bachelor's in Education focused on Language Teaching. I have been teaching ESL for almost 15 years now. What excites me is seeing the innumerable opportunities I have to connect and engage."

Sean Dreiling – Physical Education

"I went to Fort Hays State University, getting my bachelor's in Health and Human Performance and teaching and my master's in Sports Administration. I taught six years at Trego and coached basketball/golf there, as well as at Fort Hays. I just love representing the community of Hays."

Chelsea Haskett – Mathematics

"I went to Fort Hays State University, and I have an undergraduate degree in Mathematics and Education. I also have a master's degree in Mathematics Education. I taught math at Hays Middle School prior to being here. I really love seeing my old students in the hallway."

Brandon Hayden – Special Education

"I went to Fort Hays and Grand Canyon University. I've got a bachelor's in Science and Health and Human Performance. I'm also working on my master's degree in Special Education. I taught mild to moderate special education in Colorado for three years. My favorite part of teaching here is just being around the students."

Kate James – Social Science

"I went to Butler County Community College, then I went to the University of Arkansas and to Fort Hays. I got an associate's at BCCC, then at Fort Hays, I got a bachelor's in History and in Education. I taught at Victoria for four years. My favorite part of teaching here is the students."

Kip Keely – Social Science/PE

"I went to K-State and got a business degree. Before teaching here, I taught business classes at Chanute High School for two years. My favorite part of teaching

here is making connections with students and building relationships with staff."

Tim Markloff – Industrial Technology

"I went to FHSU, and I got a degree in Applied Technology and a minor in Education. I taught for seven years at Otis-Bison. My favorite part of teaching here is the community, the students and the teachers."

Mandie McKee – Special Education

"I went to FHSU, and I have a Bachelor of Arts in History. I was a SPED para here for a few years, but this is my first year teaching. My favorite part of my job is the students. They are why I am here."

Erica Smith – Special Education

"I went to college at Pittsburg State. My first degree is in Elementary Education, then I have a master's degree in Special Education. I also have a degree from K-State in public relations. I taught in Atwood, in a small town called Protection, and in Kansas City, Kansas. I love meeting all the new kids and seeing such a diverse population in one area."

Brad Tebo – Special Education

"I graduated from Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. I then taught two years at Wheatland Elementary School. I have been out of education for about 27 years, but am excited to be back."

Sam Voorhees – Mathematics

"I went to Bethany College and received a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Math Education. I taught at Salina Central and Victoria. My favorite part of teaching here is that the staff is a family."



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FINANCES

Students can prepare for school year by planning ahead during summer

By Madighan Norris
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For the past two school years, lunches for students in Kansas schools, including Hays High School, were free of charge. This year, however, the price of the basic meal at school has changed.

According to assistant principal Fred Winter, student lunches were free for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years because of federal funding for Kansas and all other states, due to the Coronavirus. After the government eliminated the funding, USD 489 reinstated lunch fees.

"After the federal COVID funding went away, everybody in the state of Kansas, to my knowledge, is paying for their lunches," Winter said.

Students are now charged \$2.95 for a meal, or \$0.40 for a reduced lunch fee, with extra milk costing \$0.50. Adult meals increased from \$3.65 prior to the COVID funding to \$4 this school year, a \$0.35 increase. However, student lunch prices did not increase nor decrease.

"We're actually cheaper than most schools," Winter said.

The COVID relief funding provided schools with the money to pay for food and drinks for lunches,

but without the extra funding, schools have had to charge students and staff again to cover the costs, hence no more free lunches.

"It's not good for our economy if everything is free," Winter said. "If not us, our taxpayers would be the ones paying."

In total, a student who purchases a basic lunch every day with no additional add-ons would pay approximately \$551.65 by the end of the school year; someone with reduced lunch fees would pay \$74.80. If every single student bought fully priced lunches every day, the total would be \$2,820.20 per student per year.

To apply for free or reduced lunches, parents or guardians can go to <https://usd489nutritionservices.com> to fill out an application. After the form is completed, they can turn it in at Nutrition Services on 323 W. 12th St. in Hays. Students who qualify for free or reduced meals also qualify for reduced enrollment fees.

"Personally, the lunch price changing doesn't affect me, but I could see how it could affect students and families with lower income," junior Ashlyn Moore said. "It probably makes it harder for them to budget."

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CHANGES

School implements new grading scale for 2022-2023 academic year

By Jessica Feyerherm
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While it was rumored last spring that Hays High School would change its grading scale, the school made the switch for this school year.

Previously, a 93 to a 100 was an A; an 83 to a 92 was a B; a 73 to an 82 was a C; a 63 to a 72 was a D; and a 62 or below was an F. This year, the school moved to a scale in which a 90 or above is an A, an 80 to 89 is a B, a 70 to 79 is a C, a 60 to 69 is a D, a 55 to 59 is an E (meaning eligible for the BOOST program for credit recovery), and a 55 or below is an F.

The decision to change the scale was made by the administration after getting input from the counselors, department chairs and other teachers.

From a student perspective, the change allows them to have better chances for college admissions and scholarships, especially those based on grade point averages, as compared to other students whose schools have a 90-80-70-60 scale.

Another feature of the new scale is the elimination of plus or minus letter grades.

"It's a bit easier on the nerves when you just see the letter because then you're not panicking because there might be a way you can get that minus in math to a plus before the end of the semester or year," senior Mary-Catherine Bollig said.

However, others said they miss the plus or minus markings. Additionally, some teachers worry that the change will lower standards and will cause students to give less effort.

"I don't particularly agree with the new grading scale," teacher Lindsay Hart said. "I felt the previous grading scale was more rigorous. And, I also don't agree with not having pluses and minuses for a variety of reasons. I feel like the students that put a lot of effort in and really work to get the plus really deserve to have a higher grade point average. Even 89.5 is going to be weighted and pointed the same as 100 percent. So, I feel that students deserve that higher point for working harder."

Despite that view, others say students will work as hard as they did before.

"I don't think expectations change," teacher Matt Brooks said. "In fact, I don't think it does anything to change what we do. I just think it's fairer for our students."

Mindset Monday lessons continue, but procedures change this year

By Tavia Wynn-Coffman
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In January 2022, Hays High School introduced Mindset Mondays, and although they have continued, the organization of them is different.

Mindset Mondays allow the school to meet the state requirement of having a Social Emotional Learning curriculum, which Kansas mandates for all schools.

During Mindset Mondays, which are every Monday during PRIDE Time, a lesson from the "7 Mindsets" is presented to students, including a slideshow with a hook, a quote, a video and a discussion, before students complete a journal on Canvas. The lessons are intended for students to learn about themselves, to

maintain a positive mindset and to learn about how to connect with others.

While last year, students completed the Mindset Monday lessons with their PRIDE Time classes, which are made up of freshmen through seniors, this year, the school changed the procedure.

Teachers are now grouped as "Arrowhead Teams," consisting of four to five teachers. Each teacher takes a grade level for Mindset Mondays, and those four or five teachers send their students to the teacher with the assigned grade level so that students are doing the Mindset Monday lessons with just their classmates, rather than all grades.

"We believe that this provides the best environment for students to have these

types of conversations," the new Mindset Mondays coordinator Cole Cherryholmes said.

Additionally, dividing the students by grade level allowed the Mindset Monday topics to be more relevant to each group; for example, seniors will focus on their final year of high school, their future after high school and so on, while freshmen will focus on adjusting to high school and preparing for the next four years. Juniors and sophomores will also have targeted lessons pertinent to them.

"Overall, I actually do like Mindset Mondays better this year because we know the people in our class better than our other PRIDE Time peers," senior Kendall Brous said.



A black and white photograph of five students (three men and two women) standing in front of a building. They are wearing NCK Tech t-shirts. A QR code is in the top left corner. The text "#TRAILBLAZERS" is in the bottom left. The text "VISIT CAMPUS TODAY" is in the bottom center. The text "ADMISSIONS@NCKTC.EDU 785-738-2276" is in the bottom right.



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Unified Bowling

Fall sport provides opportunity for bowlers of all abilities

By Corey Musil
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Hays High School recently added a new sport that is accessible to everyone – unified bowling.

Unified bowling pairs students who have disabilities with students without disabilities, allowing people of any ability the chance to compete.

“The reason I chose to do bowling is because I started to do it in the beginning of the summer and started to fall in love with it,” junior Will Linenberger said. “My expectations for the team are high, and I am looking forward to the season.”

The unified bowling team competitions occur during the fall sports season. Tryouts were held on Sept. 26 at Centennial Lanes after school, and the unified team will have at least three meets. Right now, the first meet is on Oct. 20 in Garden City, followed by another competition on Oct. 27 in Liberal and finishing with the only home meet on Nov. 3 at Centennial Lanes.

“The assistants and I are excited and nervous about the upcoming season,” head coach Richard Hodges said.

Before the start of the season, on Sunday, Sept. 18, the unified bowling team hosted the Unified Bowling Roll-Off, which was an awareness fundraiser at Centennial Lanes that started at 12:30 p.m.

Both students and adults joined the event, with students playing for free and adults paying \$25 to participate, and spectators were also allowed, paying \$6 for admission. All proceeds went towards funding the new unified bowling team.

At the roll-off, two adult bowlers, including a sponsor member and a bowling league member, were teamed up with a special needs student and an able-bodied student to form a four-person team. The teams competed against one another for prizes presented at the end of the fundraiser.

“It shaped up to be an exciting day for the program,” Hodges said.



Perfect Game

School adds boys, girls and unified bowling to athletics program

By Meg Taggart
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After years of rumors and months of planning, a new sport has been added to Hays High School. Coming this fall and this winter, students can participate in bowling, whether on the unified team or the boys or girls teams.

The last time a new sport was added was girls wrestling during the 2020-2021 school year.

Led by head coach Richard Hodges and assistant coach Trent Rose, who both compete on traveling bowling teams and in local bowling leagues, the boys and girls teams will both compete during the winter athletic season window. Tryouts will occur in December, with the first official practice being on Jan. 1, 2023, and the season will conclude on March 3 at the state tournament. Practices will be held at Centennial Lanes in Hays.

Hays High is the last school in the Western Athletic Conference to offer boys and girls bowling as officially sanctioned school sports.

Currently, the Kansas State High School Activities Association has 6A schools in their own classification while 5A-1A schools are all together. So, while during the season, the bowlers will participate with competitors from all classes, 1A through 6A, at the state tournament, they will just compete against 1A through 5A schools.

Bowling Lingo

- Kegler**
a person who bowls
- Strike**
knocking down all the pins on the first try
- Spare**
hitting remaining pins on the second try
- Double**
getting two strikes in row
- Turkey**
getting three strikes in a row
- Deuce**
game of 200 or more points
- Perfect Game**
game of 300 points by 12 strikes in a row
- Head Pin**
front pin or No. 1 pin
- Pocket**
area to the right or the left of the head pin
- Sleeper**
pin directly behind another pin
- Split**
pins with a gap between them

Infographic by Jessica Augustine

“Throughout the regular bowling season, all of our events are within WAC schools,” athletic director Lance Krannawitter said. “But, some schools, like Holcomb, who is a 3A school, will compete with us, too.”

After the school announced that bowling would be added, students were excited to learn more. At an informational meeting on Aug. 23, approximately 56 students signed up.

“I went to the bowling meeting because I really like bowling and wanted to see what all the bowling team would be doing this year,” sophomore Riley Dreher said.

What originally brought the sport to Hays High was the unified bowling team, which pairs a special needs student with an able-bodied student.

“Anything that we are able to do as a school to give our support services students an opportunity to compete, earn a letter and participate at a state tournament is great,” Krannawitter said. “But, it also didn’t make sense for us to have unified bowling and not offer regular season bowling.”

Krannawitter said that he is pleased with the interest of the students and the support of the community for the new bowling teams.

“Hays High is very excited,” Krannawitter said. “This is something we’ve been wanting to do for years, since I’ve started.”



Photo by Emmaline Leuschner (Indian Call)

TOWARDS THE PINS

At the unified bowling “roll-off” event at Centennial Lanes on Sept. 18, sophomore Holden Gottschalk watches as his ball rolls down the lane. The event kicked off the unified bowling season and raised funds for the bowling teams.



Photo by Eric Lucio

RIGHT ON TARGET

Aiming at the right pocket of the pins, freshman Will Clark bowls during the unified bowling team’s practice on Sept. 26. “I’m looking forward to trying new things and having fun while also learning new things,” Clark said.



Photo by Eric Lucio

MAKE A PLAN

On Sept. 26 at Centennial Lanes, bowling coach Richard Hodges discusses strategy with senior Luke Schmidt during the unified bowling practice. Unified bowling occurs in the fall, while boys and girls bowling happens in the winter season.

Praises

- iOS 16
- Live Photos
- KU Football
- Arnold Palmers
- Halloween Masks
- Sternberg Museum
- Dark Wash Denim
- Lemons
- Matcha

Protests

- Corn Song
- Applications
- Graphs in Math
- Uncharged AirPods
- Frank Ocean at Coachella
- Serial Killers
- Almond Milk
- Mosquitos

Staff

Recommendations

Jessica Feyerherm

"Cbat"
by Hudson Mohawke

"Nightmare Before Christmas"
movie

Eric Lucio

"Another Rainy Day"
by Corinne Bailey Rae

"Breaking Bad" series

Maddie Meis

"Doin' Time"
by Lana Del Rey

"The Lovely Bones" series

Corey Musil

"Aaron Burr, Sir"
by Lin-Manuel Miranda

"DAHMER" series

Madighan Norris

"Kitchen"
by Kid Cudi

"Shutter Island" movie

Meg Taggart

"Come On, Let's Go"
by Tyler, the Creator, Nigo

"The Florida Project" movie

Jake Wente

"The Gold"
by Phoebe Bridgers

"New Girl" series

Tavia Wynn-Coffman

"Satellite"
by Harry Styles

"Halloweentown" movie

Jessica Augustine

"wait in the truck"
by Hardy featuring Lainey Wilson

"Orange is the New Black" series



Cartoon by Meg Taggart

Recently approved bond issue was necessary for Hays schools

In May, Hays voters passed a \$143.5 million bond to improve the facilities in USD 489 and even build a new high school. Along with that, voters approved a half-cent sales tax to aid in paying for the bond.

While some Hays residents opposed the bond because of the increase in property taxes and sales taxes, we appreciate those who recognized that our schools and our students were worth the costs involved.

To start, the bond will fund the construction of a new high school east of the current building. The new school will be built for the capacity of 1,200 students, rather than the current high school's capacity of 862, which is much less than this year's official enrollment of 938 students. One of the most anticipated aspects is a new auditorium for both the high school and the middle school to use; currently, neither school has an auditorium, leaving the musical and play casts to use 12th Street Auditorium, where ceiling tiles fall to the ground and which is not air conditioned, and requiring the school to rent Beach-Schmidt Auditorium for concerts.

In addition, the bond will allow renovations of other buildings. The current high school will be repurposed into the new middle school, so that Hays High School and Hays Middle School will be one campus. The plan will also make the middle school into an elementary school, renovate Wilson Elementary School to house the district administration and Westside and close the Westside and Lincoln Elementary School buildings.

Along with educational facilities, updated athletic facilities will be built for the combined campus. Most of Hays High's facilities lag behind other conference schools and 5A schools. The addition of an on-campus football stadium and softball field will also eliminate the need to pay to rent athletic facilities, such as Lewis Field Stadium and Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex, saving the district money in the long term.

While the new high school facilities and the renovated buildings are in the planning and designing stages, ground is expected to be broken in spring of 2023, and the new building is anticipated to be opened for the 2024-2025 academic year. However, the half-cent sales tax increase took effect on Oct. 1 and will remain in effect for 10 years, increasing the city tax rate from 8.75 percent to 9.25 percent.

Again, despite the short-term sales tax increase and property tax increase, a well-constructed and thoughtful bond issue was long overdue for Hays schools, and we applaud the residents of Hays for realizing the importance of improving our schools.

Opinion of the Guidon Staff

Agree: 8

Disagree: 0

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Information/Policies

The Guidon print edition is published seven times a year by the Digital Media Design and Production class at Hays High School in Hays, Kan., and it is printed by Northwestern Printers in Hays, Kan.

The Guidon is a student-produced newsmagazine published to inform and entertain the Hays High community, to record the history of the school and to serve as an educational tool for journalism students. Under the supervision of a faculty adviser, journalism students have the opportunities to inform, investigate, entertain, interpret and evaluate in an open forum – all accepted functions of the traditional free press – and have the responsibilities to provide accurate, fair, objective and truthful coverage. Should unintentional errors in content be made, they will be retracted in the next issue of the school year.

The views expressed here are those of *The Guidon* staff and do not express the opinions of the USD 489 Board of Education, administration, faculty or staff. Advertisements must meet content, deadline and size requirements, and acceptance does not constitute an endorsement from the student staff or by the school district.

The staff welcomes letters to the editor, as long as they are not libelous, an invasion of privacy, obscene or copyright protected. Letters must be signed and must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

The Guidon print edition earned the Kansas Scholastic Press Association All-Kansas Award in 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022; received the National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker Award in 2009; was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2009 and 2011; and received the NSPA First Class Award in 2012, 2018 and 2021. *The Guidon* online edition earned the KSPA All-Kansas Award in 2017 and 2018 and was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2019.

Other policy information is available upon request by contacting adviser Jessica Augustine at jaugustine@usd489.com.

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LISTEN IN WITH ERIC

Steve Lacy's newest album impresses listeners with unique songs

Recently, I had the chance to listen to Steve Lacy's newly released album, *Gemini Rights*.

This is Lacy's third studio album, released on July 15. The album has an adequate run time of 10 songs, lasting 35 minutes total.

The album has been very successful in recent pop culture, reaching audiences that Lacy previously had not reached. Lacy has gained a lot of coverage due to TikTok, where videos with songs such as "Bad Habit" and "Static" have amassed millions of views. Currently, "Bad Habit" sits at No. 2 on the Billboard Top 100 Chart.

The album does a great job of including both mellow and upbeat songs, all containing a lot of guitar and drums. Lacy expresses his unique voice and production style, creating catchy hooks and choruses that I often found stuck in my head after listening, such as in the song, "Sunshine."

Lacy also expresses his emotions and

themes of relationships, both the positives and the negatives of them. Furthermore, he elaborates on the exploitation and toxicity within the relationships he has been in, especially in songs like "Static," where he wrote, "Hope you find peace for yourself, new boyfriend ain't gon' fill the void."

Lacy's production perfectly sets the tone of emotion in each song, showing a lot in songs, like "Give You the World," where the slow, simple beat is able to set the focus on the harsh lyrics in a soft tone. It allows the listener to really focus and take the message he is spreading. In "2Gether (Enterlude)," Lacy particularly shows off his ability to match the tone of his lyrics with his production, where the lyrics

are a repetition of the words "together" and "forever;" Lacy then adds echoes and harmonies to suck the listener into his world of affirmations, showing off the toxic side of him where he HAS to be with his significant other forever.



By Eric Lucio
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'Where the Crawdads Sing' film remains true to original novel

On July 15, "Where the Crawdads Sing" hit theaters and brought to life the novel written by Delilah Owens.

Starring English actress Daisy Edgar Jones and produced by American actress Reese Witherspoon, the film was a success for theater crowds, getting a 96 percent audience score on Rotten Tomatoes, although on the Tomatometer, it was given a 33 percent.

"Where the Crawdads Sing" has a run time of two hours and five minutes, and it is rated PG-13.

The plot of the film version stays true to the original novel throughout much of the movie, with only minor changes. It follows a young girl named Kya, played by Edgar Jones, who was abandoned by her family at a young age and who survives and studies in the North Carolina marsh.

At the turning point of the story, a popular young man named Chase Andrews, played by English actor Harris Dickinson, is found dead, and the townspeople of fictional Barkley Cove, N.C., turn on "the marsh girl" and

believe she is responsible for the murder. Throughout the story, Kya learns about fear, happiness, loneliness and love, not only through her relationships with Chase Andrews but also with Tate Walker, played by American actor Taylor John Smith.

Personally, I think that, because the film stays true to the original story in the novel, it makes it a very enjoyable experience for the audience – especially if you have already read the book. It does not make the storyline complicated to where it is hard to follow.

As someone who read the book before watching the film, it was very satisfying to see the story come to life. Edgar Jones gave a brilliant performance as Kya, and with the help of great supporting cast members, she made the movie into what it became. Without the strong performances of these actors, the movie might not have landed as well as it did with audiences.

The scenery within the movie are also quite pretty and really make you feel like you are in the marshland of the Carolinas; even though I have never been there before, it made me feel as if I had been.

Despite my personal opinion that the movie seemed to cater to middle-aged women more than it did to teenagers, as a heartwarming film, I still enjoyed it.

The plot was true to the original novel, the acting was impressive, the scenes were realistic, and the movie also had an amazing soundtrack, including songs by Taylor Swift and Mychael Danna.

I enjoyed this movie and would give it an incredibly good rating. If you like murder mysteries and like romantic stories, then I would recommend "Where the Crawdads Sing" as not only a book to read, but as a movie for you to watch.



By Jake Wenthe
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COMPETITION

FALL ATHLETICS

With more than a month of school done, teams continue competition

By Maddie Meis & Tavia Wynn-Coffman
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Photos by Jaynie Brooks, Maycie Holdeman, Arely Maldonado, Ava Schoenberger, Andrea Zarate (Indian Call)

CROSS COUNTRY

with coach Haley Wolf

How has the season gone so far?

"We've seen some good performances from our kids, and we've seen steady improvement from our team."

What has been best competition?

"We've been to Great Bend, Hesston and Dodge City, seeing some good competition, including teams that we expect to see at state."

What has been your proudest moment?

"I am excited about the rest of this season and can't wait to see our growth by the end of the season."

FOOTBALL

with coach Tony Crough

How has the season gone so far?

"We've played two state-ranked 6A opponents. So, I feel like we're doing pretty good, considering we've had some tough opponents."

What can the team improve upon?

"We need to we need to stop turning the ball over on offense, and we need to be a little bit more selfless, not as selfish."

What has been your proudest moment?

"Week 1 was a proud moment because everybody talked about how much we'd lost from last year. It was a really proud moment to see these guys succeed that week."

GIRLS GOLF

with senior Katie Dinkel

How has the season gone so far?

"The season is going great so far! Every girl on the team has improved a lot."

What can the team improve upon?

"Each girl has her own personal weak points, so if we all just focus on improving those, we could end the season really well."

What has been your proudest moment?

"My proudest moment so far this season was when the team broke the school record two days in a row. That was really cool and makes me excited for how we will do at regionals and state."

BOYS SOCCER

with coach Daniel Kelly

How has the season gone so far?

"The season is going well so far. We were 5-3 at the halfway point and went 3-0 at the Titan Classic Tournament in Wichita."

Who has improved the most this season?

"I believe that all of my players have improved, but the leadership from the senior class has made a huge difference for us."

What can the team improve upon?

"We are continuing to work on breaking down opposing defenses and creating opportunities going forward. I would also love to see more goals created out of open play."

GIRLS TENNIS

with senior Nia Kaiser

How has the season gone so far?

"I would say it is going well. We have a little over 30 girls, so it has been fun getting to know the underclassmen."

What has been best competition?

"I think the best competition has been Norton. They are a very well-rounded team and have some great players."

What can the team improve upon?

"I think the team could do more things as a team. We could definitely expand on our communication."

VOLLEYBALL

with coach Shannon Funk

How has the season gone so far?

"Our season is going okay. The girls are very driven and we get stronger every practice."

Who has improved the most this season?

"Each of our players have something within their game that they are working to improve, and every player has shown growth. I am blessed with a coachable group of athletes that strive to get better at each practice."

What has been your proudest moment?

"Beating TMP at our first tournament was a pretty proud moment for me. Also, when we beat Lakin and Sublette handily at a quad in Dodge City."



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ATHLETES
OF THE MONTH

Boys Soccer



junior Brantlee Staab

"Sports have taught me responsibility and respect for other people, and how to work hard. I think sports are important because they can take stress away, and they are a good time to spend with friends. The thing I am most proud of this season is winning the Wichita Titan Classic."

Volleyball



senior Rilee Schwarz

"Sports have taught me how to be resilient and be a team player. I think sports are important because of the connections you build with teammates, coaches and opponents. The things I am most proud of this season so far are my work ethic and positivity during volleyball practices and games."

PREPARATION

Athletes prepare for seasons in the summer

By Corey Musil
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Being a student athlete does not just mean that the athletes work during the school year. Instead, student athletes must prepare during the off-seasons, in the summer months and during their athletic seasons to help them be the best they can be when game day arrives.

Junior Malik Bah, a third-year varsity football player, said that he and his teammates dedicated their summer break to preparing for the fall football season.

"I worked hard with my teammates," Bah said. "We lifted, went to the field and held each other to high standards."

Bah, along with seniors Keamonie Archie, Kyreese Groen and Evan Lind, also attended a football camp at the University of Kansas in the summer to work on improving their skills on the field.

"We went and competed against some great athletes, and we got coached up by some good coaches, and you could tell they had some more confidence," Lind said about the KU camp.

ON THE RUN

Seconds into the game, junior Malik Bah takes the ball down the field for an 80-yard touchdown during the Hays versus Manhattan football game on Sept. 16. With four games completed, Bah has scored nine times by rush or catch, along with one touchdown pass. Bah committed his time this summer to lifting weights and attending football camps.



Photo by Kaylee Sustaita (Indian Call)

Like the senior football players, senior Carly Lang, a four-year volleyball player, put in effort over the summer to get better at her sport.

"For the summer workouts, I did weights with my teammates every morning, along with open gyms," Lang said.

Volleyball players also had the opportunity to play in a summer league, which allowed them to stay in shape, maintain their skills and prepare for volleyball in the fall.

With all their off-season commitments and in-season responsibilities, both Bah and Lang said that it was important to manage their time, balancing sports, school and fun.

"It is hard to manage, but it gets easier if you just stay consistent with what you do," Bah said, while Lang said, "With the busy lifestyle, I think I have gotten the hang of managing my time."

Being a student athlete in high school takes a lot of work and determination. Whether it is getting up early to lift weights or spending the afternoons at team camps, student athletes like Bah and Lang give it their all to be the best when the season starts.

IN HER POSITION

On Aug. 27 on the lady Indians' home court, senior Carly Lang prepares herself for the opponent's serve during the Maroon & Gold Invitational tournament. Lang, a four-year volleyball player, said that, over the summer break, she lifted weights with her teammates and practiced during open gym time in order to prepare for the fall volleyball season.



Photo by Maycie Holdeman (Indian Call)

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DJ NATE

Junior entrepreneur creates his own deejaying business

By Eric Lucio

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Hays High School is home to many young entrepreneurs and aspiring business owners, such as junior Nate Henderson, who runs his own deejay business, True2You DJ Service.

Starting the business when he was just 15 years old, Henderson has been managing his music service for more than a year now.

"I decided to start a DJ business because my dad's friend was a DJ, and what he did interested me," Henderson said.

Henderson said that he always wanted to be some sort of entrepreneur, and so, when he had the opportunity to start his own DJ business, he took advantage of it. However, he had to start from the ground up.

"I researched equipment, made a budget and took out a loan from a local businessman who was encouraging and nice enough to help me start up," Henderson said.

After approximately four months of buying supplies and testing the market with small gigs, Henderson decided to go forward with his business. He designed his logo, business cards and other materials to promote

his business. Soon enough, Henderson gained traction through more and more gigs around the area, working his way up to three to four gigs a month at this point.

Most of Henderson's work is in the Hays community, including being the DJ for many school events, including Hays High's Homecoming dance both last year and this year. He also entertains at regular theme night events at the Fox Theatre and performs at weddings and other private parties. Depending on the type of event, Henderson said he has multiple playlists he has created to fit the vibe.

Henderson said he hopes to expand his business in the future, planning to hire other DJs to work for him so he can make money from multiple events in a single day.

With the growth of his business, Henderson said it is sometimes difficult to balance time between his homework and his business events.

"There are times where I have gigs on school nights, making it difficult to balance schoolwork and business," Henderson said. "Luckily, most of the booking processes I do take place via email, and I can oftentimes do that work at school."



Photo courtesy of Nate Henderson

FROM THE STAND

Junior Nate Henderson deejays at the Fox Theatre. The venue hosts event nights with different themes, for which Henderson entertains.

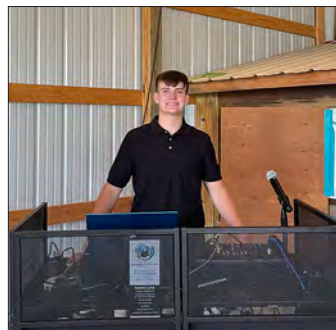


Photo courtesy of Nate Henderson

MIX IT UP

Along with the nights at the Fox, Henderson also deejays at different events, such as dances, weddings and other private parties.



Student Statistics

Most Popular Music Genre

(in a poll of 56 students)

Rap/Hip-Hop - 30 percent
Pop - 29 percent
Other - 17 percent
Rock - 13 percent
Country - 11 percent

Top Three Rap/Hip-Hop Artists

(among those who favor that genre)

1. J. Cole
2. Kanye West
3. Drake



Future Films

Oct. 7

"Luckiest Girl Alive"
"Project Legion"
"The Visitor"

Oct. 9

"Mortal Kombat Legends:
Snow Blind"

Oct. 14

"Emily"
"Game of Love"
"Halloween Ends"

Oct. 18

"The Loneliest Boy in the World"
"Three Wishes for Cinderella"

Oct. 28

"Holy Spider"
"Prey for the Devil"



Witty Wisecracks

Why do demons and ghouls always hang out together?

Demons are a ghoul's best friend.

What kind of food would you find on a haunted beach?

A sand-witch!

What does a panda ghost eat?

Bam-BOO!

What is a ghost's favorite desert?

I-Scream!

What do skeletons order at a restaurant?

Spare Ribs!

What is a zombie's favorite treat?

You might guess brain food, but it is actually eye candy.

ARTISTS OF THE MONTH



senior Crispin Vick

What's your favorite way to create art?

"I love to do art with pencil – just doodling until a page is full, giving a kind of peaceful chaos. Those are my favorite works, where you can just get lost in the chaos."

Do you have any advice for people wanting to start art?

"My advice would be my favorite Picasso quote, 'A good artist can copy, but a great artist can steal,' which is saying that you should use references but make it so different and unique that it's your own art."

What is your why?

"I do art because I enjoy it. Isn't that why you should do anything? I love to make people smile with something I can say that came from me."

When did you start doing artwork?

"There really wasn't any time where I wasn't doing something artistic."

What's your favorite way to create art?

"I enjoy painting, but I don't like limiting myself to one medium."

Do you have any advice for people wanting to start art?

"Just keep creating. There will be days when you think your art is the worst thing in the world, but making something you don't like is a lot better than not making anything at all."

What is your why?

"I create for a lot of different reasons. Honestly, it just depends on my mood; sometimes, I just need to relax, and other times, I'm actually inspired."



junior Addison Otte