



Bulldog's Bark

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Volume 33 Issue 3-2023-24

STANBERRY R-II SCHOOL

November 2023



Veteran's Day



By Brayden Hague
Staff Reporter

On November 10th, Stanberry R-II warmly welcomed individuals who have served in the U.S. Military. The elementary and high school student council organized a breakfast for the veterans prior to the ceremony. The ceremony took place in the gymnasium and was attended by the entire student body, staff, and members of the community.

It commenced with the presentation of flags and a rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner" performed by the junior high and high school band under the direction of Mrs. Cindy Clements. Kayla McQuinn, president of the elementary student council,

extended a welcome to all attendees. Speeches expressing gratitude to the veterans were delivered by Hannah McQuinn, Cooper Adcock, Vincent Smithson, and Trista Lager, students from Ms. Sarah Walker's speech class. The primary and intermediate students had been rehearsing for weeks to sing at the ceremony, and they delivered a wonderful rendition of "God Bless America." The band played "Lest We Forget," while the elementary student council presented the "America's White Table" ceremony. The intermediate students then performed the song "Grateful Nation." Members of the

National Honor Society and Student Council presented flags representing each branch of the military, accompanied by the choir singing "Armed Forces" and Ellie Dias performed taps. The Veterans Day Assembly concluded with the retiring of the flags.

Mrs. Kristi Porterfield, elementary Student Council Advisor, stated about the preparations, "We begin preparing for the Veterans Day breakfast and assembly about a month in advance. I search for a presentation for the Elementary Student Council and choose a song for the intermediate students to sing. I also send invitations to the Legion, ensure advertisements are placed in local papers, and keep track of RSVPs for the breakfast. To ensure a smooth

assembly, I coordinate with several other teachers to finalize their students' contributions to the program and the order of the assembly. Mrs. Strough also assists with hallway and gym decorations. During Veterans Day week, I schedule practice time for the primary and intermediate students, purchase breakfast supplies, and finalize the setup of the gym and cafeteria. On the day of the event, the Elementary and High School Student Councils collaborate to serve breakfast to the veterans. It is always gratifying to witness our school and community come together to express our gratitude."

Thank you to all veterans for your service and sacrifices to our country.

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2022-23 Yearbook Staff front row: Sylvia Redmond, Morgon Showers, Sidney Eckard, Advisor. Middle row: Marli Hilton, Bella Wright, Katrina Blessing. Back row: Kaedon Showers, Adam Jensen, Gavin Cameron, Lance Wallace, and Bladden Greenhalgh.



2023-24 Yearbook Staff front row: Maranda Evans, Bella Wright, Marli Hilton, Sidney Eckard, Advisor. Back row: Brayden Hague, Kaiden Keough, Reagan Heyde, Wyatt Taylor.

Stanberry Yearbook Program Achieves Jostens 2023 National Yearbook Program of Excellence

Jostens, the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, announced that Stanberry High School's yearbook program has achieved the Jostens 2023 National Yearbook Program of Excellence award at the Gold Level. The National Yearbook Program of Excellence recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies (ICT) literacy.

The Stanberry High School award-winning yearbook program is led this school year by returning Mass Media students Bella Wright and Marli Hilton. They are joined this year by Reagan Heyde, Brayden Hague, Kaiden Keough, Maranda Evans, and Wyatt Taylor. Last year Bella

and Marli worked alongside Kaedon Showers, Gavin Cameron, Lance Wallace, Bladden Greenhalgh, Katrina Blessing, Morgon Showers, Adam Jensen, and Sylvia Redmond to produce the award-winning yearbook. The yearbook and *The Bulldog's Bark* have been under the direction of Mrs. Sidney Eckard, advisor since the fall of 2020. Mrs. Eckard commented, "I am extremely proud of the hard work the yearbook staff puts in each year; taking pictures at events, writing articles for *The Bulldog's Bark*, and compiling the yearbook pages for the elementary and high school. A lot of details go into publishing a yearbook and the staff does a great job ensuring those details are accurate and all students are represented numerous times throughout the yearbook."

Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence Awards

are presented twice a year, in spring and in fall based on the yearbook's arrival date at the school. The award was presented to the Stanberry High School yearbook program for achieving defined criteria in between one and three of the following categories: creating an inclusive yearbook, generating school engagement, and successfully managing the yearbook creation process. This is the second time Mrs. Eckard and her staff have received this award in the past 3 years.

"Jostens is proud to recognize those individuals who have created an exceptional yearbook for their school and community," said Tammy Whitaker, Jostens VP and COO Yearbook Division. "These schools did an exceptional job on multiple levels, despite the challenges presented by this school year. Yearbooks are a critical part of

capturing and telling a school's story, and Jostens is dedicated to supporting yearbook staff members as they do their important work."

Founded in 1897, Jostens has produced school yearbooks for over 60 years. Schools rely on Jostens and their local Jostens representatives to provide a combination of journalism education and technology tools to deliver a learning experience that helps students develop 21st century skills in journalism, photography, writing and design, leadership and business while creating the permanent record of the school year. Jostens invests in state-of-the-art technology, best in class service, educational curriculum and award-winning print manufacturing platforms to plan, design, build and produce yearbooks.

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Cooper Adcock



Paige Campbell



Brody Carroll



Allison Cook



Maranda Evans



Decker Heyde



Marli Hilton



Jencie James



Brea Jensen



Kaiden Keough



Trista Lager



Colby McQueen



Lindsay Sherman



Gabe Simbro



Calvin Smithson



Hannah Stevens



Tamar Tateladze



Wyatt Taylor



Damien Webb



Payton Williams



Treston Williams



Paige Woods



Jordyn Wright



Devin Strawhacker

Class of 2025 Working Through Junior Year

By Maranda Evans
Staff Reporter

This month we are recognizing our junior class. With the first quarter completed, the juniors are starting to realize what kind of work they have cut out for them. Some are even taking dual credit classes on top of their required classes. Everyone has become well aware of the effort they are going to have to put forth as graduation nears. Between trying to keep up with all of their school work and also trying to be the best possible athletes they can be, many members of the junior class hold jobs they are also juggling.

The juniors have been busy this year. On October 3rd they attended a college fair at NWMSU. There the students were able to talk to many

different colleges that offered careers they are interested in. At this college visit there were also many different tech schools for those not planning to attend a traditional four year college.

This year for homecoming the theme was "Game Day," and the juniors made their class float over the game *Trouble*. The juniors ended up getting 2nd place out of grades 9-12. The juniors also got to attend a docudrama over safe driving. From this they learned many things about safe driving and what not to do. On Tuesday, November 7th the juniors took the ASVAB test for the military to explore other possible career options.

Decker said he was looking forward to his junior

year, "being able to drive and have fun with my friends that are leaving next year." Hannah Stevens stated, "I am looking forward to getting closer to graduating so I can start my career."

As a whole this class has been very hard at work and have realized what all this school year is going to take. This class is capable of so many great things and our school is proud to have them as a part of it. Good luck to the class of 2025 in the rest of this school year.

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Rylee Beggs



Justin Cook



Everleigh Crawford



Olivia Cunningham



Amanda Denney



Kaleb Dias



Cooper Fisher



Emma Gillespie



Madilynn Ledford



Addilyn Libby



Whittaker Lindner



Ava Luke



Carli Luke



Jayce Luke



Liam Luke



Mallory McQuinn



Bentley Mercer



Oliver Newman



Blakely Palmer



Everly Pierce



Claire Rosier



Lexi Runde



Brody Sego



Carter Strough



Clayton Weatherd



Aria Webb



Mavyrck Worley



Sawyer Gibson



Mrs. Shifflett



Mrs. Worley

First Grade Soars!



By Wyatt Taylor
Staff Reporter

The first-grade classes this year have been working hard learning how to add numbers within 20, read digraphs and short vowels, and they've even been learning how to use maps!

The first-grade class is split into two classes taught by Mrs. Danielle Worley and Mrs. Mackenzie Shifflett. Mrs. Shifflett's class has 14

kids, and Mrs. Worley's class has 15 kids, with a total of 29 in the first-grade class.

Mrs. Worley says one of her goals is, "To help [the kids] build social skills that they can use in all aspects of life." And Mrs. Shifflett hopes, "To end the year with strong readers!"

We expect to see great things from the Class of 2035!



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High School Science Teacher Mrs. Roxanne Hoover is shown with members of Gentry County Extension as they donate an apple tree to the school.

Apple Tree Donated

By Kaiden Keough
Staff Reporter



The Gentry County Extension Council is giving back to the county this year by donating apple trees for students and community members to access fresh fruit. Trees will be planted in Albany, King City and Stanberry.

The Extension Council purchased the trees, but planting of the apple tree and maintenance, such as picking up the apples that fall so they don't rot, mowing around it, pruning, will be

taken care of by Mrs. Hoover's high school environmental science class. The tree was planted on the north end of the high school. Senior Brayden Hague aided in the planting and stated "the tree was a generous donation to the school and it will help with the ecosystem." Mrs. Hoover commented, "I was happy to have my environment class plant and care for the tree, I hope we get apples from it!"

We look forward to the fruits of this tree!



Congratulations to Ellie Dias and Trinity Regalado for making the JH All-District Band! They will perform at Platte City on Dec. 9!



Congratulations to Decker Heyde for being named 1st Tenor Alternate for the 2024 Missouri All-State Choir!

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NEWS

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FFA Attend National Convention



By Marli Hilton
Staff Reporter

This year, members of the Stanberry FFA Chapter attended the 2024 National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana. These members included Morgon Showers, Cooper Adcock, Marli Hilton, Paige Woods, Brayden Dias, Hannah McQuinn, Dani Van Draska, and Mrs. Korinne Noble. The students loaded a charter bus at around 6:00 am on Tuesday, October 31st. They then picked up students from Worth County, Maysville, North Harrison, and Pattonsburg.

The group embarked on an eight-hour bus drive to Indianapolis, with a few stops along the way. Their first stop was at Union Station in St. Louis, where students had meals, shopped, and explored the various attractions. They also had the opportunity to visit the St. Louis Arch, where students rode up in groups to the top and enjoyed beautiful views and the sway of the arch. Running slightly behind schedule, they finally arrived at the hotel around 10:30-11:00 pm. Everyone was exhausted, but they all made it to their rooms and rested up for the long day ahead.

The following day, everyone dressed in their official FFA dress and headed to Lucas Oil Stadium, where they visited college booths and engaged in shopping until the open meeting commenced. The meeting began with a dance party and the state officers welcoming everyone to the event. There were many inspiring talks, including a keynote speech by Juan Bendana, who spoke about facing fears and not allowing

them to control our lives. Hannah McQuinn remarked, "He put into words the feelings we all have." The state FFA band and choir were also announced and performed a remarkable march onto the stage. Their performance was outstanding, showcasing their hard work.

After the session concluded, the schools returned to the hotel to change and then went to Koteewi Adventure Park. Here, students wore harnesses and helmets and navigated through various obstacles in the trees, including ziplines, wooden planks, and ropes. Everyone had a fantastic time and wanted to keep going. Since the group stayed out late almost every night, they had to order food from DoorDash for delivery to the hotel.

On Thursday, everyone boarded the bus and went to Fair Oak Farms for a tour of the facility. They learned about the operations involved in running a dairy and pig farm. The students toured the stall barns where the cows are kept and the rotary milking parlor where the cows are milked. They also witnessed cows being milked by robots and the advanced technology involved. After the cow tour, they visited the pig farm, where they learned about pigs and their life cycle. The visit concluded at The Cowfe, where they could enjoy food, ice cream, and purchase souvenirs. The group was then taken to the World's Toughest Rodeo, which began at 6:30 pm. The rodeo included bull riding, bareback riding, saddle riding, and stunt riding. There were many laughs, and everyone had a fantastic



Dani and Hannah pose as ham and bacon at The Cowfe restaurant.



Attendees travel to the top of the St. Louis Arch.



Mrs. Noble takes a selfie with the students at Koteewi Adventure Park.



Cooper, Brayden, Paige, Hannah, Morgon, Dani, and Marli sport their official dress for the opening ceremony.

time creating lasting memories.

On the last day, everyone packed their bags and loaded them onto the bus, finally departing at around 6:00 am. The bus made several stops for meals, stretching, and restroom breaks. After dropping off everyone, the bus returned to Stanberry at around 5:00 pm. Mrs. Noble shared that her

favorite part of the trip was "Koteewi Adventure Park because it was something new and took all of us out of my comfort zone, especially since we did it at night." Overall, everyone had a wonderful time, created lasting memories, and shared many laughs throughout the journey.

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SPORTS

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Treston Williams takes down Albany's quarterback during the Homecoming game.



The team huddles up to hear the play from quarterback Colby McQuinn during a home game.

POSTSEASON FOOTBALL AWARDS:

GRC West All-Conference:

Offense:

Colby McQuinn-2nd team-All Purpose Back

Decker Heyde-2nd team -Tight End

Tucker Schieber-1st team-Running Back

Defense:

Brayden Hahn-2nd team-Linebacker/DE

Colby McQueen-1st team-Defensive Back

Special Teams:

Treston Williams-2nd team-Return Specialist

Nate Giffin-1st team-Punter

Nate Giffin-1st team-Kicker

Football Wrap Up

By Reagan Heyde
Staff Reporter



The 2023 Stanberry High School Football season has unfortunately come to an end after a loss to King City in the first round of districts. The team was missing five out of their eight starting varsity players due to injuries throughout the year. This meant many young men were relied upon to step up and fill those spots, and that is exactly what happened.

In our Homecoming game against Albany, starting quarterback Colby McQuinn and starting running back Tucker Schieber suffered season-ending leg injuries, leading Head Coach Shane Hilton to replace them with Colby McQueen and Brayden Hahn. In the game against St. Joseph Christian, starting running back Treston Williams suffered a season-ending concussion, causing Decker Heyde to step up into his position. Offensive lineman Calvin Smithson and Brody Carroll suffered food poisoning from the team dinner on Thursday night before the game and could not participate on Friday. This meant Jordyn

Wright and Aiden Law had to fill in those positions. With the entire team being switched around and the Bulldogs only given one week of practice to prepare, they fell short to King City by a few touchdowns.

Despite the loss, the Bulldogs still had a very hard-fought season and put in work and dedication that will never be forgotten by any of the team members or coaches. The team had a great first half of the season, winning their first 5 matches with little difficulty. Everybody on the team maintained positive mindsets throughout the season and supported each other without fail. The Stanberry Bulldogs lost with their heads held high as the season was something to be proud of.

There were quite a few members of the team who received all-conference team titles. Tucker Schieber was awarded first team offensive running back, Nate Giffin was awarded first team special teams kicker and punter, Colby McQuinn was awarded second team offensive all-purpose back,

Decker Heyde was awarded second team offensive tight end, Brayden Hahn was awarded second team defensive end/linebacker, and Treston Williams was awarded second team special teams returner. Congratulations to all the recipients.

Starting tight end and team captain Kolton Dias stated, "There were a lot of injuries, but we battled adversity and fought hard regardless of our situation.

The underclassmen stepped up and exceeded far beyond any expectations." Starting quarterback Colby McQueen stated, "Our last few games were a lot of fun but different. It was a lot harder than it was supposed to be, but when life gives you lemons, you cut the tree down."

Congratulations to the senior players for a fun season, and good luck to the rest of the team in the future.



2023-2024 Bulldog's Bark Staff

Marli Hilton
Isabella Wright
Maranda Evans
Wyatt Taylor

Brayden Hague
Kaiden Keough
Reagan Heyde

Advisor: Sidney Eckard

Signed letters to the editor are encouraged and printed at the staff's discretion. Letters may be sent to Bulldog's Bark, 610 N. Park Street, Stanberry MO, 64489

SPORTS

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HS Boys' Basketball Preps for Season

By Isabella Wright
Staff Reporter



Bulldog boys' basketball is back with a new season, and they can't wait to show how hard they have been working in practice. The roster consists of seniors: Kolton Dias, Leo Fletchall, Nate Giffin, and Colby McQuinn; juniors: Cameron Affuso, Decker Heyde, Colby McQueen, Calvin Smithson, and Jordyn Wright; sophomore: Jaren Stoll; and freshmen: Konnor Keough, Parker Ginther, Aiden Graham, and Hudson Groomer. The team is coached by Nick Groomer and assisted by Austin Schwebach.

Coach Groomer was asked what he was looking forward to this season, and he stated, "I am looking forward to another exciting year with this group of boys." Their first practice was on Wednesday, November 1st. However, the Bulldogs are faced

with new challenges as key player Colby McQuinn will be out for the entire season due to a knee injury. When asked about his expectations for the season, Colby stated, "I will try my best to help all the boys from the bench and be a good role model for the underclassmen."

The jamboree was last Thursday in Conception, with their first game the 21st at home against Mound City. This year, the boys will work hard to win games and make the season fun for all the players, especially the seniors. Senior Kolton Dias was asked what he was excited about this season, and he stated, "To prove to everyone that we can be really good and make this season great."

We wish the best of luck to all the players and Coach Groomer for the rest of the year.



High school Bulldog basketball players front row: Decker Heyde, Calvin Smithson, Jordyn Wright, Nate Giffin, Colby McQuinn, Kolton Dias, Leo Fletchall, Colby McQueen, Cameron Affuso. Back row: Konnor Keough, Parker Ginther, Jax Heyde, Jaren Stoll, and Hudson Groomer. Not pictured Aiden Graham.



HS girls' basketball include front row: Bella Wright, Amelia Wallace, Katlyn James, middle row: Trista Lager, Macie Gibson, Lindsey Hailey, Eva Cameron, back row: Josi Moffat, Alana Evans, Brooke Robinson.

HS Girls' Basketball Kicks Off



By Reagan Heyde
Staff Reporter

Basketball season has finally arrived, and the girls are excited to get started. Each player was eager for the season to begin and is thrilled to finally get back to playing.

The team started practicing on Monday, October 30th, with Head Coach Taylor Wendt and Assistant Coaches Sadie Runde and Kelli Hilton. They have been working hard to prepare for their first game. Their jamboree was Thursday, November 16th, at Jefferson High School, where they competed against multiple teams in mini games.

This year, the team has 10 players. The starting varsity team consists of

sophomore Lindsey Hailey, junior Trista Lager, and seniors Amelia Wallace, Katlyn James, and Bella Wright. Other players include freshmen Alana Evans, Brooke Robinson, and Josi Moffat, as well as sophomores Eva Cameron and Macie Gibson.

When asked about her feelings regarding the season, Amelia responded, "I am excited to make many memories for my senior year. I think the team chemistry will be good, and we will exceed expectations." Bella stated, "I am really excited to get to play with the other girls this year, and I think we will do great!"

Good luck to the high school girls' basketball team in the 2023-24 season.

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NFL Recap: Weeks 8-10

By Kaiden Keough
Staff Reporter



Welcome back to my NFL recap, thank you for spending your time on last month's NFL recap. Let's get started rehashing the past 4 weeks of NFL action.

Week 8

Bills vs. Buccaneers. Josh Allen of the Bills had a good game with 2 passing touchdowns, 324 yards, and 1 rushing touchdown. Baker Mayfield of the Bucs had 2 passing touchdowns and 237 yards. The Bucs have a good team, but they miss Tom Brady, who retired in the offseason. The final score was Bills 24, Buccaneers 18. The Bills will play the Bengals during Week 9.

Rams vs. Cowboys. The Rams had a hard time playing against the Cowboys because Dak Prescott, the Cowboys' quarterback, was throwing the ball around and got 4 passing touchdowns and 304 passing yards. The final score was Cowboys 43, Rams 20. The Cowboys will play the Eagles during Week 9.

Chiefs vs. Broncos. The streak was broken; the Chiefs hadn't lost a game to the Broncos since 2015. This game was bad for the Chiefs because Patrick Mahomes was not feeling well due to having a cold, and it seemed to affect his performance as he had 2 interceptions and no touchdowns. The final score was Chiefs 9, Broncos 24. The Chiefs will play the Dolphins during Week 9.

Week 9

Chiefs vs. Dolphins. This game took place in Germany. Gossip online was the Dolphins were going to win, but that prediction was way wrong because the Chiefs' defense played really well. One of the highlights was when Trent McDuffie caused Tyreek Hill to fumble the ball, which was then scooped up by Mike Edwards. Hill tried to tackle Edwards, causing Edwards to lateral the ball to Bryan Cook, who then scored a touchdown. The Dolphins tried to come back,

but it was too late. The final score was Dolphins 14, Chiefs 21. The Chiefs have a bye week during Week 10.

Rams vs. Packers. The Rams had to start their backup quarterback, Brett Rypien, due to Matthew Stafford being injured. The Rams had a tough time as they scored no touchdowns and only 1 field goal. Jordan Love, the quarterback for the Packers, had 1 passing touchdown and 228 passing yards. The final score was Rams 3, Packers 20. The Rams will play the Seahawks during Week 10.

Texans vs. Buccaneers. CJ Stroud, the quarterback for the Texans, has been having a good rookie year and broke the rookie passing yard record with 470 passing yards. The old record was held by Andrew Luck with 433 yards in a game. It looks like CJ Stroud could win Offensive Rookie of the Year. The final score was Bucs 37, Texans 39. The Texans will play the Bengals during Week 10.

Week 10

Texans vs. Bengals. Texans quarterback CJ Stroud proved why he should win Offensive Rookie of the Year by having 1 passing touchdown and 356

passing yards, along with 1 rushing touchdown. Tank Dell has been slowly becoming CJ Stroud's number 1 receiver, and he had 1 receiving touchdown and 56 yards in this game. The final score was Texans 30, Bengals 27. The Texans will play the Cardinals during Week 11.

Lions vs. Chargers. The Lions had a good game with Jared Goff throwing 2 passing touchdowns and 333 passing yards. Jahmyr Gibbs also had a good game with 2 rushing touchdowns. The Chargers' quarterback, Justin Herbert, threw 4 passing touchdowns and 323 passing yards. The game was close until the end, with a final score of Lions 41, Chargers 38. The Lions will play the Bears during Week 11.

Broncos vs. Bills. It looks like the Bills are falling apart, with Josh Allen having the most interceptions thrown so far this season (11). The Broncos are trying to make a comeback in the playoff race as the rest of the AFC West is not having a good year, except for the Chiefs. The final score was Bills 22, Broncos 24. The Bills will play the Jets in Week 11.

Thank you for reading my NFL recap.



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OPINION

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By Isabella Wright
Staff Reporter

What is your favorite part about Thanksgiving?



**Seventh grader
Kenyon Affuso**



**Eighth grader
Allie Schieber**



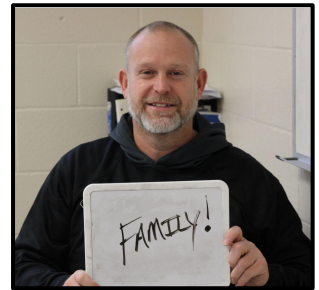
**Fifth grader
Laith Wallace**



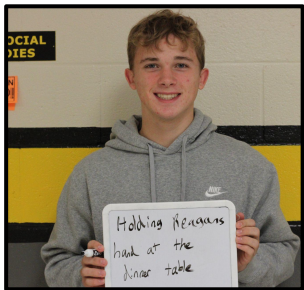
**Sixth grader
Kayla McQuinn**



**HS Science Teacher
Roxanne Hoover**



**HS Math Teacher
Jason Dias**



**Junior
Decker Heyde**



**Senior
Maci Duley**

Survey Results

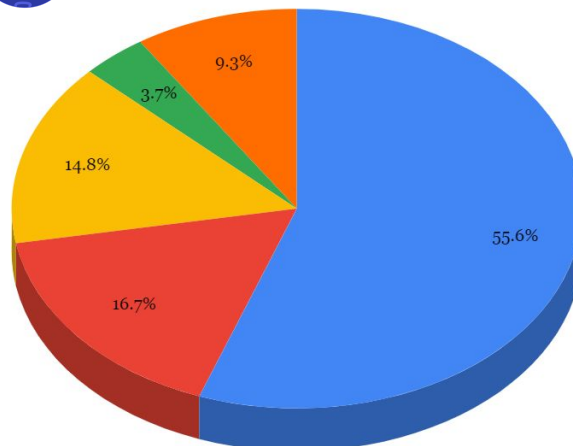


By Marli Hilton
Staff Reporter

Students in grades 7-12 were asked the question: *When do you put up your Christmas tree?* 54 students responded. Their options included

immediately after Halloween, the weekend before Thanksgiving, immediately after Thanksgiving, right before Christmas, or we keep it up all year round.

- Immediately after Thanksgiving
- Right before Christmas
- Immediately after Halloween
- We keep it up all year round
- The weekend before Thanksgiving



OPINION

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Album Review

By Brayden Hague
Staff Reporter

Noah, an album by Noah Floersch, is a 40-minute collection of thoughts. "My Name," the intro, is an acoustic 4-minute piece about Noah and his confusion regarding whether the love he is feeling is real, serving as a personal identity reassurance. There are two overlapping parts that come together to convey the main idea of his self-uncertainty, even about his "true" name.

"Memoryology," the second track, narrates how he has forgotten his home, relying on what people have described to him about it. The title "Memoryology" derives from this concept. In the outro, he also reflects on this theme.

"Ghost of Chicago" is a piece where Noah repeatedly sees a woman, referring to her as a "ghost" or saying, "she's haunting me." This seems to suggest that in this album, Noah is disillusioned, perhaps experiencing symptoms of schizophrenia.

"Silver Lining" is a song in which Noah talks about his past as a "soldier" and compares his significant other to a shooting star, stating that she "bleeds out blue and white." It becomes clear that Noah was never a soldier; instead, he uses "soldier" as a metaphor to explain his "inner battles" he fights.

"I Will Always Find You" is a more upbeat song with a creepy undertone. He describes going to extreme lengths to find "you," asserting that he will "always find you, wherever they hide you." He also recounts how "you" asked, "How did we get here," and Noah dismisses "you" by



Artist: Noah Floersch
Album: *Noah*
Release: 2023

saying, "don't question it." Midway through the song, there is a groovy breakdown that offsets the ominous lyrics. Noah finishes the song by softly repeating, "There's no need to take part in what they made. When the world breaks, I will make it okay. Hide inside. Don't look outside... It feels like war." It is an eerie conclusion.

"Thompson's Station" mainly revolves around the idea of "running away with you 100 thousand times" and his determination to do anything to keep his "you". He refuses his "you's" plea to go home, as he believes that "home is where you go when you have nowhere left to go, and ahead, we have an open road."

"Little Crooked Creek" describes a creek beyond the visible trees, after which Noah's voice is abruptly cut off, as if something stops his "tape" from playing. So far in this album, there have been several references to kidnapping and mental health. In the song "Mississippi," Noah expresses how he feels alone now that his "you" has left him in some way. He blames himself, saying, "it's all my fault," and drives to

find "you", eventually discovering "you" in the middle of the interstate. He attempts to console her with "All my fault, Mississippi in your arms, kiss me, kill me." RON, another artist, joins him in a duet, playing the part of "you".

"Long Gone" depicts his backstory with "you" and how he met "you" as a child, but now, his "child" is "Long Gone." He spirals into self-hate, stating, "You don't know what you want anymore, you don't know what you need, and what you need, it sure as hell isn't me." He distances himself from "you". This song may serve as a prelude to "Mississippi."

"Woman," my personal favorite, depicts his "you" in a poetic nature, describing how she "cries like a cloud does," "speaks like the wind," and even "dances like branches that swing on a tree." He concludes by listing many reasons why he loves her and why he should.

"Cup" portrays how Noah doesn't want to burden others with his problems, as "everyone has their personal hells." He suggests, "give me your cup" so

he can fill it, using "Cup" as a metaphor for love. He desires to fill his "you's" cup but doesn't want "you" to waste their time on his cup. He then expresses how he would give the world to "you" and give "you" everything.

"Open and Shut" is a song about his "you" crying, and he expresses reluctance to drive to see "you" because "you" frequently changes their mind about their love. He employs "Open and Shut" to characterize his time with "you," stating that their love was "open and shut, that's what it was, you made up your mind, and I made up mine." He even questions, "Isn't this how it's done?" implying uncertainty about whether his actions are normal or not within a relationship.

This questioning transitions back into the intro track, with Noah still questioning himself, not even knowing his own name. In an interview with Noah, I asked, "What is your favorite song out of the album?" He replied, "I don't like looking at the album like songs, they are just different chapters telling the same story."



Dr. Fallon L. Stiens, DDS

FAMILY DENTAL

(660) 783-2205

STANBERRY, MO

Check out the school website www.sr2.k12.mo.us for daily announcements, lunch & breakfast menus, monthly calendar, teacher websites, and much more! Also, follow Stanberry Bulldogs on *Facebook* and *Twitter!*

ENTERTAINMENT

Volume 33 Issue 3-2023-24

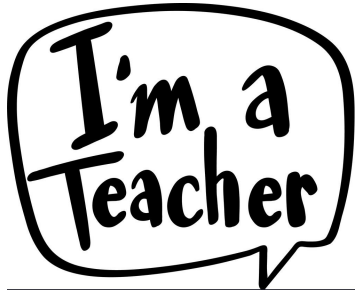
STANBERRY R-II SCHOOL

November 2023

Brutus' Corner

By Maranda Evans
Staff Reporter

Each month *The Bulldog's Bark* will feature a school staff member. It is your job, based on the clues, to guess who the staff member is. The answer will be revealed in next month's issue. In October, the featured teacher was **Ms. Sarah Walker**. Who do you think November's staff member is?



What activities were you involved in while in high school?

I was involved in volleyball, FBLA, FCA, Student Council, and Women's leadership council.

Where did you go to college?
I went to Northwest Missouri State University for college.

What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?
I love to go on walks with my dog and read in my free time.

What is your favorite color?
My favorite color is pink.

What is your favorite holiday?
My favorite holiday is the Fourth of July!

December Activities

Friday, December 1
4:30-Albany BB Tournament
6:00-VGW@ St. Joe Central

Saturday, December 2
9:30-VBW@St. Joe Central
4:30-Albany BB Tournament

Monday, December 4-6:30-Elementary Winter Concert
Tuesday, December 5-7:00-Winter Concert
Thursday, December 7-5:00-VBB@Ravenwood
Friday, December 8-5:00-VBB@Home vs. North Andrew
Saturday, December 9
9:30-VW@Polo Duals
6:00-All District Band Concert

Tuesday, December 12
5:00-VBB@King City
5:30-VW@Hamilton-Tri

Friday, December 15
1:00-VW@Sedalia
5:00-VBB@Home vs. Albany

Saturday, December 16
9:00-VW@Sedalia
2:00-VBB@Holiday Hoops-Orrick

Monday, December 18-7:00-BOE Meeting
Tuesday, December 19

5:00-VBB@Eagleville
5:30-VW@Albany Quad

Thursday, December 21
END OF 2nd QUARTER
12:39-Early Dismissal Christmas Break
CHRISTMAS BREAK DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 3RD

Artist of the Month

By Wyatt Taylor
Staff Reporter

This month's Artist of the Month is Caroline Gillespie. She drew a beautifully round pumpkin for Halloween. The detail in this artwork is lovely, and the grass looks great. Overall, this piece is absolutely amazing. The pumpkin and everything else were created using oil pastels and smearing techniques with a tissue.

Oil pastel can be challenging to work with as it can get everywhere, but this



Fourth grader
Caroline Gillespie

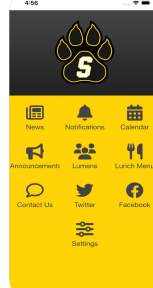
piece looks clean and well done. Great work, Caroline!

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