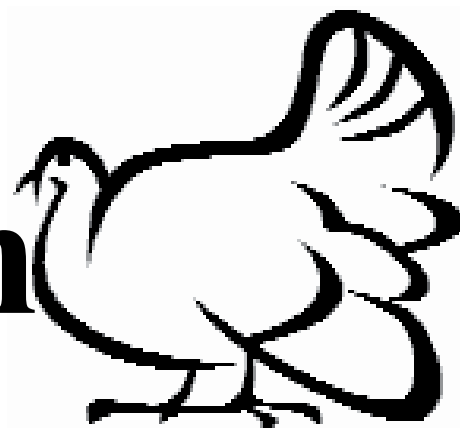




The Tom-Tom



November 2017

2700 Main Street, Sneedville, TN 37869

Volume 2 Edition 3

Coach McCoy Set to Fight the Largest Wrestler in the Business?

By ANASTEY SEAL

Now that my title grabbed your attention.. We all know about the infamous wrestling match, but I wanted to dig deeper. I wanted to get as much information as possible to hype it up even more! With that being said, here is what Mr. Greene can tell us about the wrestling match that's going to be held at Hancock High on November 4 at 8:00 p.m.

Q: What are your intentions for this wrestling match? Is it simply family fun, or will it benefit our school?

A: The purpose is to raise money for the school. The Ice Cream Supper is outdated and just wasn't cutting it anymore. There will be less disruption to the school day, and it will still be opportunity to have something for the community.

Q: What wrestlers will be involved in the matches?

A: Mr. Terry Landell and Tennessee Mountain Wrestling are putting together the match. I have no way to tell what wrestlers will be there. All I asked him to do was bring the best wrestlers he had in the business.

Q: There has been much talk of Coach McCoy and you being involved in a match. Is this true, and will you be wearing proper wrestling attire?

A: Coach McCoy is definitely going to be involved in the wrestling match. I will only get involved in the matches if I have to, to maintain order.

Q: Talk of a rodeo has also come about. What can you tell me about this?

A: The plan for the spring is to have a two night rodeo. That is all the information I can

give at this time.

Q: So do we need to stop and grab a bite before the match or will food and drinks be available?

A: Food, drinks, and live music will ALL be available! We would love to have as many people as physically possible around to watch people throw down!



Mr. Terry Landell, Mr. Brian Greene, and Mr. Nolan Campbell discuss the upcoming match

A Summer of Reading Pays Off

By STAFF

Tennesseans for Student Success recently announced the winners of Tristar Reads, an annual contest to encourage students across the Volunteer State to read for at least 20 minutes a day during the summer break.

A \$1000 scholarship was awarded to one elementary school (K – 5th grade) student, one middle school student (6th – 8th grade), and one high school student (9th – 12th grade) who participated in the Tristar Reads program, read, and logged the most hours over the course of the summer.

We are very proud to say that HCHS senior, Ms. Madison Brewer, was the 9th – 12th grade winner. Madison read 296 hours over the summer. A few of the books Madison read over the summer include the *Selection* series by Kiera Cass, the *Fallen* series by Lauren Kate, *First Love* by James Patterson, and the *Twilight* series by Stephenie Meyer.

Way to go, Madison! We are so proud of you.



Photo Credit: Brian Greene

Brewer receiving her award from Tennesseans for Student Success

North Korea Threatens Again

By THOMAS ELLISON

North Korea threatens the United States again. Rex Tillerson said to Donald Trump, "It will continue until 'the first bomb drops.'" Trump and Tillerson were talking, and Trump said that it was better just to not seek talk with Kim Jong-Un. Will we be bombed by North Korea? BBC News stated, "Mr Tillerson's remarks come as the US and South Korea begin their latest joint military exercise in waters surrounding the Korean peninsula, involving fighter jets, destroyers, and aircraft carriers." Thankfully South Korea will actually do something if North Korea tries to attack the United States. Trump will most likely just tweet about what is happening and not ever send forces to North Korea until the bomb drops on the United States. Do you feel that president Trump is just going to let North Korea bomb us before he ever sends something against them? Trump will probably never send troops out to North Korea. South Korea will

do more towards North Korea than Trump ever will unless he is pressured by the secretary of defense and other high ranking officials.

North Korea is planning to attack the United States. They have already started bomb tests, and most people don't even realise this. BBC News stated, "In recent months, North Korea has defied international opinion by conducting its sixth nuclear test and launching two missiles over Japan." North Korea can hit the United States despite popular beliefs. Most people try to say that North Korea can't reach the United States, but even though they can't hit us shooting one way, they can hit the United States shooting the opposite way. We are under threat and not doing anything about it. We could be hit today, tomorrow, maybe even next month, but even if it doesn't happen now it could eventually. We might never get bombed, but what if we do?

Thirty Days of Thankfulness

By TORI MARION

November is here and the aroma of dried leaves and warm fires are lingering in the air. We are approaching a joyous time of the year--a time when family comes together and friends celebrate each other. As the days of this chilly month pass, be conscious of the people, places, things, and ideas that make your life the beautiful thing that it is. Now is the time to celebrate each person that builds your confidence and amplifies your happiness. It is the time to be thankful for a warm home that hosts a holiday turkey and holds the laughter of family members reminiscing on the years that have drifted by. It is a time to be humble and appreciative and realize just how blessed each of us truly are.

Terror in Vegas

By THOMAS ELLISON

The Terror in Vegas has been one of the deadliest mass shootings in U.S. history. A gunman killed at least 59 people and injured more than 500 others. The shooter was in a Las Vegas hotel, the Mandalay Bay, and he was shooting at the people attending a Jason Aldean concert.

Who was the gunman? His name was Stephen Paddock (age 64). The Islamic State tried to claim that Paddock was with them, but they had no proof; the FBI couldn't find any ties between Paddock and the Islamic State. Trump condemns the shooting as an act of pure evil.

When the police searched the hotel room, they found 23 firearms, 1 of which was a handgun. They found many rifles, some with scopes; there were a reported 20-22 rifles in the suite, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, many AR-15 model rifles, 2 of which were on tripods with scopes. A sheriff stated that Paddock had brought 10 suitcases into his hotel room over time. Sheriff Lombardo said, "In addition to the weapons at the hotel, the sheriff said the police retrieved 19 firearms, as well as explosives, several thousand rounds of ammunition and "electronic devices" from Mr. Paddock's home in Mesquite, Nev." Paddock was out to get people.

Was this an act of evil or an act of mental illness? Stephen Paddock was out to kill hundreds, including himself. Paddock just wasn't as successful as he probably hoped, yet he still succeeded greatly. According to his family, he had no interest in weapons until recently. They said he had never even owned a weapon until a short period of time before the mass shooting. One of his brothers said that he was a wealthy man who went on cruises, gambled, and lived in a high class hotel room. So what exactly caused him to snap? Was he unhappy with his life of wealth?

Sneedville Chapter Secures A Spot at Nationals

By TORI MARION

On Thursday, October 5th, our local FFA chapter ventured over to Knoxville, Tennessee, to compete in the Regional Soil Judging competition. The FFA Soil Judging Contest educates students on how to evaluate the soil and land use for both rural and urban applications. Teams are required to evaluate each pit site for agricultural purposes and determine slope, erosion, soil texture, depth, and drainage.

The chapter brought along four teams, and out of those four, two advanced to the state competition in Milan, Tennessee. Those teams are 4H-A (Ellie Yount, Joce Ferguson, Devon Blevins, and Blake Lawson) and 4H-B (Kassidy Dean, Dawn Helton, Brooklyn Wilson, and Sarah Johnson).

At the state competition, team 4H-B won 2nd place and will be advancing to the national competition in Oklahoma City. Team 4H-A won 4th place. Congratulations to both teams on a job well-done. Good luck to team 4H-B in the national competition!

Club News

By EMILY HOPKINS

FFA

- November 1 End of fruit and pecan parliamentary sale
- November 16 District Parliamentary Procedure
- November 30 Smoky Mountain Sectional

4-H

- November 17-19 Fall Conference
- December 21 Honor Club Christmas Party

Student Council

- November 9 Veterans Service (breakfast for veterans)
- We are also planting a tree in honor of Nathanael Seal

HOSA

- We are making a tree for Fantasy of Trees.
- We need donations and supplies.

Fine Arts

- We are making a tree for Fantasy of Trees

Op-Ed: Global Warming: Often Overlooked and Frequently Hastened

By AMBER ESTES

Since the first human beings walked the earth, the world has been growing gradually yet steadily warmer. Although this is evident in infamous examples such as the slow melting of the polar ice caps, for some reason a vast majority of the population likes to pretend that it is not an actual problem or that it does not even exist; unfortunately for us, both of those notions are simply false. The effects of global warming might not be quite significant right now, but if we as a race do not make efforts to prevent the issue from worsening the consequences could potentially cost us the beautiful green planet that we call home. I encourage you today to simply consider a few things about global warming and try to take action to help lessen the ill effects that humans cause in the environment.

First of all, let me make myself clear: I am not

Op-Ed: NFL Kneeling During the National Anthem

By PRESTON HATFIELD

Today the United States is facing many problems. People have many different ways of showing what they think about it. For example, some NFL players have recently decided to kneel during the National Anthem in protest of racism and racial inequality. Colin Kaepernick was one of the first to protest the song. President Trump thinks that every player should stand for the anthem to show respect to the country and flag. Trump wants the NFL players to show some more patriotism to their country. Many people did not agree with Trump and did not like the comments that he has made, making things exceedingly worse. Trump explains that American people have freedoms, but they should not use them in a disrespectful manner. Some people throughout the world do not have the rights and freedoms like we do, and Trump explains how blessed of a nation we are. As Trump tries to stop all of these problems, they keep getting worse. Americans do have the freedom to express what they feel, but they should not do it in a way that



https://cdn-s3.si.com/s3fs-public/styles/marquee_large_2x/public/2016/09/11/arian-foster-dolphins-national-anthem-kneel.jpg

will cause even more problems. It will only make things worse for them. Even though this country is facing problems, it does not mean that we should disrespect it. The people in this country need to be humble and

realize they are blessed with the freedoms they have, and they do not need to disrespect the flag and our country.

College App Day

By DEBORAH GIBSON

College App Day was on October 5th. Fifty-six out of sixty-nine students completed at least one college or tech school application. This meets a requirement for TN Promise after completing the TN Promise application. Nine college representatives were here to talk about their college or tech school and help with applications. The institutions represented included Sandra Ella's Beauty school, Morristown Technology Center, Tusculum, WSCC, ETSU, Milligan, US Navy, Tn National Guard, US Marine Corps, US Army, South College, and Voc Rehab. This was sponsored by TNACHE, a grant to promote post secondary education after high school. All teachers were encouraged to wear college shirts and talk about their college experiences.

preaching to you, nor am I a flowers-in-my-hair obnoxious political tyrant. I just believe that if the human race were to be a bit more careful with their actions, we could easily avoid environmental problems that are in the foreseeable future. Assuming that the majority of readers know what global warming is and how it is caused, I will skip the basic information and get right into the effects of humans' irresponsibility with the environment. Because of global warming, not only is ice melting worldwide causing the sea level to gradually rise, but species of animals are becoming endangered because of the climate change in their ecosystems, such as the Adélie penguins in Antarctica; some animals are also migrating in an unnatural and unseasonal cycle. Hurricanes and tropical storms will likely become much stronger, and floods and droughts will become more common; essentially, extreme weather occurrences will increase drastically. As salty bodies of ice continue to melt, there will be less fresh water available, and some areas will lose access to clean water altogether. Diseases such as mosquito-borne malaria and the Zika virus will be more easily spread, and some ecosystems and species could be destroyed entirely; for example, scientists estimate that as sea ice thins and disappears overtime, polar bears will disappear with it.

Although global warming may still not sound like a very big deal (even after the very sad news about



Photo Credit: Harley Gillis

Dylan Bell and Shawn Delph, finished with their applications, give a thumbs-up.



Photo Credit: Harley Gillis

Many colleges were present to discuss options with students, including Tusculum College.



Photo Credit: Harley Gillis

Seniors chat with representatives from the National Guard



Photo Credit: Harley Gillis

Ashley Bell and Haylee Nichols work on applications

polar bears), just wait until you read the effects it can have on *you*. According to the Tennessee Department of Health, "Increased global temperature, rising sea levels, and precipitation changes, with more extremes in weather, are expected to have ill effects on public health." These effects will include increases in the following: respiratory allergies, malnutrition, water-borne diseases, forced migration, cardiovascular disease and failure, mental health deterioration, and contractions of diseases spread by wild animals, especially non seasonally migrating invasive species. Those are only a few of the detrimental effects that not taking care of the environment can have on humans.

The problem is becoming more and more obvious. When is the last time you remember it being eighty-plus degrees in October? Tennessee's climate is slowly changing as the years pass and as the earth warms. The air is dryer, making forests more susceptible to fires, and the temperature fluctuates frequently, causing flu season to last all year round. However, there are simple things that you and I can do that will not take away from our everyday lives and can help reduce the imminent effects of global warming.

Here are some easy ways that we can incorporate our love for the earth into a typical day:

- Drive less or carpool
- Use the three R's that Ms. Janie taught us in

third grade--reduce, reuse, and recycle

- Buy more energy effective appliances
- Reduce waste (literally, it is as simple as that)
- Turn off lights when you leave a room
- Plant trees (which can be a fun thing to do with friends)
- Use clean or renewable fuel
- Maintain your car's health (take care of your car so it does not release even more harmful toxins into the environment)
- Conserve water
- Use a clothesline to dry your clothes, and reuse your towels
- Eat and live naturally

Although I have only mentioned a few methods of combatting global warming, I encourage you to go online and do some research for yourself. I hope that I have supplied you with sufficient reason to become interested in our environment and how you can help the earth to thrive. I recommend checking out National Geographic's website and some government websites. This is just something that I would like to make you, my peers, more aware of. Global warming is something that we can all fight together.

Sources Used: <https://tn.gov/health/article/climate-change>
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/global-warming-effects/>

Turkey Day Treats

By HANNA KERLEY

Cinnamon Sugar Pumpkin Bread

Ingredients

Bread

1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
¼ teaspoon salt
¾ cup granulated sugar
¼ cup light brown sugar
¾ cup pumpkin puree
½ cup vegetable oil
¼ cup silk unsweetened vanilla almond milk
2 tablespoons mild to medium molasses
2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Cinnamon Sugar Topping (divided 3 ways)
3 tablespoons granulated sugar,
1 ½ teaspoons cinnamon

Directions

Preheat oven to 400°F. Spray three 5x3x2-inch mini loaf pans very well with floured cooking spray or grease and flour pans; set aside. Take a large bowl, add flour, baking powder, pumpkin pie spice, salt, and whisk together; set aside. Take a separate large bowl and add the sugar, pumpkin, oil, milk, molasses, vanilla, and whisk until combined. Pour the wet pumpkin mixture over the dry ingredients, and stir until just combined; don't over mix. Evenly distribute batter between the 3

prepared pans, filling each pan about ¾ full. Evenly sprinkle 1 tablespoon of sugar and ½ teaspoons of cinnamon over each of the 3 pans and place pans on a baking sheet. Bake for about 40-43 minutes, or until tops are set and a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean or with a few moist crumbs, but no batter. Start checking at 30 minutes because all mini pans, ovens, and climates vary. Allow bread to cool in pans of about 15 minutes before removing and placing on a wire rack to cool. Bread will keep alright at room temperature for up to 5 days or in the freezer for up to 3 months.

Brown Sugar Pecan Cookies

Ingredients

Cookies

2 cups all-purpose flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup unsalted butter, softened
½ cup granulated sugar
½ cup brown sugar
1 large egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup finely chopped pecans

Brown Sugar Frosting

1 cup brown sugar
¾ cup heavy whipping cream
¼ teaspoon salt
2 cups powdered sugar

Directions

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and salt; set aside. In the bowl of a stand mixer, beat together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla and beat until combined. Mix in the dry ingredients until just combined. Stir in the chopped pecans, cover the dough and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Once the dough is chilled, preheat your oven to 350 degrees F. Shape the dough into 1-inch balls and place 2 inches apart on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper. Cookies will flatten out while cooking if the dough isn't very cold. You may also choose to create your dough balls and freeze 5 minutes prior to baking. Bake for 10 minutes or until set. The cookies should just start to turn light brown. Allow to cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before transferring to cooling rack. Meanwhile, prepare your frosting. In a pot over medium heat, combine the brown sugar and milk. Bring to a boil and boil for about 3-4 minutes stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in the butter and salt. Then, stir in the powder sugar. Whisk or beat with an electric mixer until smooth. The frosting will firm up as it cools. Add about 1 tablespoon of frosting to each cookie. You must work quickly while the frosting is hot as it will immediately set. If it starts to get clumpy when you add it to the cookies, heat it slightly to bring it back to the consistency you like. Top with a pecan half and store the cookies in an airtight container once fully cooled and frosting has set.

One of the Town's Best Traditions

By ANGELA SINGLETON

The 41st Annual Hancock County Fall Festival took place on Saturday, October 7th, and Sunday, October 8th, and what better way to jump into the fall spirit? The whole town and more gathered at the Fall Festival site for an amazing time. It lasted from 10 AM - 6 PM on both days. The celebration consisted of a lot of wonderful events, including great gospel and bluegrass performances. The Tennessee Borderline band, Walter States' High Lonesome Senate, and the fantastic Step-in Out dance crew took to the stage on Saturday; on Sunday The Terry Collins Family, The Gibson's, The Hendrick's, and The English Family stole the show. Some amazing food was served as well, including the classic 4-H chickens and spiraled potatoes. For those who wanted to cool down a bit, ice cream and slushies were also available for purchase. There were a lot of interesting booths as well, including one of my favorites--the apple butter making booth, where you can get a handmade, fresh free sample. Grades 6th and under made crafts that were displayed as well. I believe it's safe to say the Fall Festival is a Hancock county tradition that has brought our community close together and will continue to do so for years to come.

Staff Spotlight: Hooping Through The Upcoming Season

By SAVANNAH HOPKINS

Basketball season is right around the corner. If you are like me, then you are counting down the days until you get to cheer on our Indians and Lady Indians. Since we are so excited for the upcoming season, we decided to interview Coach McCoy to hear his thoughts.

Q: What are your goals for this season?

A: "Our goals for this season are to continue to grow and improve as we have over the off season. Each and every year our goals and expectations should be championships, which is no different this season. Leave it all on the floor every night, and never be content."

Q: Who is your biggest rival, and do you look forward to playing that team?

A: "Our biggest rival has to be Cosby. They have won 7 of the last 9 district championships, so they're the team we are after each year. Always a game we mark on the calendar and look forward to each and every season."

Q: Do you believe you're going to have a

successful season?

A: "I know we will have a successful season. The guys have put in work through the spring and into the summer. I fully believe they will see the fruits of their labor. I expect big things."

Q: How do you motivate your players?

A: "I try to constantly remind them of what it means to wear that uniform. All the people who've come before them and put in the work. To know it means something to walk on that floor with Hancock County on their uniform, and make sure people know that we mean business each and every night we take that court."

Q: Why do you coach?

A: "I love basketball and love Hancock County, always have, always will; however, the main reason I coach is to try and help these guys develop as young men. To teach them hard work and respect, both on and off the court. I want to impact them in a positive way and make a difference somehow in their life."

Fall Break Fun?

By ALICIA SEAL

For my fall break interviews, I wanted to showcase both the fun, exciting aspects of a week off from school and the plain, ordinary aspects of everyday life. I talked with sophomore, Ethan Short, because his fall break activities consisted of things that most people may not classify as "fun." I also interviewed sophomore, Thomas Ellison, because he had a little more adventure than Ethan did over the break.

Ethan's Interview:

Q: What fun experiences did you have over fall break, if any?

A: "Well, over fall break I practiced football from 9am til 12pm everyday. Even

though we lost by 4 points on that Friday night's game against Unaka, I still tried my hardest. I scored a touchdown that night, and I'm very proud of my fellow teammates because I know they gave it their all. Over fall break, I also went to Echo Valley corn maze where I rode some hay rides and tried to find my way through some corn."

Thomas' Interview:

Q: What did you do over fall break?

A: "Over fall break, on Saturday I just had a small lazy day, and on Sunday I went to church. Then, we had a dinner and I played with my step sister...we played barbies. On Monday, we drove our big rig down to Florida, and we arrived in Lakeland at around 3am. Then, we went from Florida back up to a truck stop called Mr. Waffle in South Carolina. Friday, we went and rode around in Virginia then came back home."

The Dollywood Luminight

By MADISON HATFIELD

This year, Dollywood's Fall Festival was themed with illuminated jack-o-lanterns, thusly earning it the fun title of "Luminight." Timber Canyon was especially festive this year, as it was glowing with many lights and jack-o-lanterns which were contrasted by a thick layer of spooky fog. There were even lights on some of the rides, and the Drop Line was lit up in bright purple. The rest of Dollywood was decorated in the spirit of fall, too. The whole park was blanketed in shades of orange, red, yellow, and gold. There were many seasonal events and attractions, including a Glow Maze and character meet-and-greets. Among Dollywood's usual impressive and



Photo Credit: Dollywood.com
Dollywood Luminight 2017

extensive restaurant and vendor menus were new festive dishes and treats. They had candy corn cotton candy, pumpkin spice everything, and just regular pumpkin-themed foods, like cookies in the shape of little pumpkins with orange and green frosting. The park also sold lots of pumpkin- and fall-themed merchandise, such as t-shirts with pumpkins on them that read "Dollywood Luminight 2017."

The whole atmosphere of the festival was warm and gave all the guests a wonderful, whimsical excitement for the Halloween season. The carved pumpkins and lights were beautiful, the costumed workers were fun and friendly, and Dollywood's celebration of the season was a great success in its entirety--a great fall getaway for the whole family.

Thanksgiving Day Outfits

By ALICIA SEAL



www.ae.com

A grey sweater dress would be good for a Thanksgiving Day outfit because it is functional and easy to move around in. Even if your mom puts you on baby duty, you can run around catching those little boogers.



www.plyvore.com

A pair of black thigh-high boot gives you a sense of fashion; plus, you get to channel your inner Kim K-- hey, hey!



www.amazon.com

A plaid blanket scarf just pulls everything together and gives you a true fall color and look. Who doesn't love all those warm colors?

2017-2018 Basketball Schedule

By ALEIGHA NEELEY
By PRESTON HATFIELD

DATE:	OPPONENT:	TIME:	
Nov. 14	@Cherokee HOF	5:00	bGB
Nov. 16	Cloudland HOF	4:30	bGB
Nov. 20	Providence Aca.	4:00	gbGB
Nov. 27	Clinch*	6:00	GB
Nov. 30	@TSD*	6:00	GB
Dec. 1	Jellico*	5:00	bGB
Dec. 4	@Thomas Walker	4:00	gbGB
Dec. 5	Washburn*	5:00	bGB
Dec. 8	Greenback*	5:00	bGB
Dec. 12	Cosby*	5:00	gGB
Dec. 15	@Claiborne	4:00	gbGB
Dec. 19	@Cumberland Gap	5:00	bGB
Dec. 27-30	Christmas Classic		GB
Jan. 5	Berean*	6:00	GB
Jan. 9	@Washburn*	5:00	bGB
Jan. 12	@Greenback*	5:00	bGB
Jan. 16	Claiborne	4:00	gbGb
Jan. 18	@Clinch*	6:00	GB
Jan. 19	@Providence Aca.	4:00	gbGB
Jan. 23	TSD*	6:00	GB
Jan. 26	@Jellico*	5:00	bGB
Jan. 29	Cumberland Gap	5:00	gGB
Feb. 2	@Berean*	6:00	GB
Feb. 6	Thomas Walker	4:00	gbGB
Feb. 9	@Cosby*	5:00	bGB
Feb. 12-20	Districts @Washburn		GB

* District Games

HOF - Hall of Fame Games

Friday the 13th

By PRESTON HATFIELD

On October 13th, the Hancock County Indians hosted against the Unaka Rangers in a non-conference game. This was the second meeting between the two teams this season. Last game the Indians were fortunate to get the win with a score of 30-28. To start off the game, the Indians completed a huge pass from #17 T.J Poore to #13 Ethan Short for the Indians' touchdown. Indians failed the two point conversion making it 6-0. Unaka fired back with a passing touchdown, making it 8-6. The Indians answered back with a huge run by #34 Seth "Gummy" Hipshire. #22 Logan Sellers successfully got the two point conversion making the score 14-6. Unaka scored again making it 14-14. Indiana score again by #34 Seth Hipshire making the score 22-14. Unaka scored which makes the score 20-22 going into halftime. The Indians struggled to stop their passing game in the first half.

Right off the bat, the Unaka Rangers scored again making it 28-22 which gave Unaka the lead. Indians again answered back with another hard run by #34 Hipshire, making the score 28-28. Indians got the ball back and scored again. And again #34 Hipshire cannot be stopped with his 4th touchdown of the game making the score, Hancock 36 and Unaka 28. Unaka answered back and making the score 36-34. Hancock hauled in another touchdown with a good, hard run by #34 Gummy making the score Hancock 42 and the Rangers 34. The Rangers yet again scored a touchdown tying the game 42-42. The Rangers forced a turnover and score to give them the lead 48-42. The Indians did everything they could and the forced a safety by #4 Patrick Shelton making the score Unaka 48 and the Indians 44.

Logan Bailey's Final Season on Hancock's Court

By AMBER ESTES

Logan Bailey is a senior member of the Varsity Indians Basketball Team. He has been dedicated the sport since he was just a little feller playing on the elementary school PTO teams. Logan has worked hard at honing in his skills on the court and nurturing the bond between himself and his longtime teammates over the course of his lengthy basketball career. With the 2017-18 season swiftly approaching, Logan shared the following thought about his team and his prospects for the upcoming season--his last season as a Hancock Indian.

Q: How do you think this season will compare to last year's?

A: I believe between the two years we have come in as a team with an attitude of bringing Hancock County basketball back to what it was in the earlier years. I believe we will be just as dedicated but more prepared this year.

Q: What improvements are the team working on?

A: Our ultimate goal as a unit is to improve our teamwork. In the past two years, we have grown close as a team, and we want this to show on the court in our chemistry. We want to be prepared and stay united as a team on a mission.

Q: Who do you think will be the team's biggest competition this year?

A: Honestly, Claiborne County or Cosby. The Hancock-Claiborne rivalry is long spread across the years, as is the case with Cosby; however, breaking the losing streak to Cosby would be quite the accomplishment.

Q: What do you think the team's greatest

strength will be in the upcoming season?

A: Our physical fitness. Coach McCoy has been dedicated to bringing this program back to a winning state of mind, and we have all bought in. We have trained and will continue to do so to stay in the best shape possible.

Q: Do you think the team has any limitations this year?

A: Our only limitations will be ourselves. We can't get down early in a game and decide the outcome in our minds. Coach always says, "Your head is what costs you games," and if we can overcome this, watch out.

Q: How do you think the team will react to wins and losses?

A: We will take things game by game for the most part, but some games are just sweeter than others to get a win in; a close game tied in the fourth quarter--those are the ones where you'll see our full emotions on display.

Q: What are your personal goals for this season?

A: I want to improve as a teammate and player. It's my senior year, and I want to go out with a splash. My fellow seniors and I would like nothing more than to bring back a district title to its true home.

Q: What are the team's goals for this season?

A: District, sub-state, state, ending the streak--there are a lot. We want more than anything to come out with our heads high even in defeat knowing we left everything we could on the court, and at the end of the day, if we have done this, win or lose, we have achieved a goal.

Final Steps On Field For Seniors

By ASHLEY SMITH

Friday, October 20, the Hancock Indians football team took their home field for a game against the Rockwood Tigers. The game was Gold Out/Senior Night and was also being played on Nathanael Seal's birthday. (The team lost Nathanael in a car accident on October 31, 2016.) In his memory, a number "24" and a Cummins "C" were painted at the twenty-four yard lines. The usual captains were accompanied by honorary captains: Hannah South, Jeremiah South, Shane Gibson, Angie Gibson, and Shayden Gibson to honor those who have fought or are currently fighting childhood cancer. Farm Bureau partnered with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to sponsor the Gold Out Game, raising awareness and funds for the cause.

The coin toss decided that the Indians would kick off. The Tigers gained a touchdown right off the bat. In response to being stopped on offense, senior, #22 Logan Sellers broke up a pass meant for a Tiger. Clearly outnumbered and out-athleted, the Indians endured the rest of the first quarter with Rockwood scoring three more touchdowns, a 2-point conversion,

and an extra point. The score: Rockwood 27-Hancock 0.

In the second quarter, the Indians tried to score and, #34 Seth Hipshire had a few yard-gaining runs. Still, Rockwood dominated and scored two more touchdowns and an extra point, making the score, Rockwood 40, Hancock 0.

At halftime, the Indians presented Nathanael's parents, Dale and Angie Seal, a pair of yellow (Gold Out) game socks and a plaque. The school presented them with a school jersey with Nathanael's number. The team also released twenty four balloons in his memory. Afterwards, the Indians' senior players were recognized: #25 Micheal Johnson, #51 Andrew Parson, #22 Logan Sellers, #54 John Ross Wilson, #35 Austin Nichols, #61 Ethan Lawson, and, manager, Preston Strange.

In the second half, the Tigers were able to gain one more touchdown and an extra point with no returning touchdowns from the Indians. The final score was Rockwood 47 and Hancock 0.

Senior, Allison Hopkins

By EMILY HOPKINS

As basketball season is rapidly approaching we interviewed senior girls varsity basketball player Allison Hopkins on her basketball career.

Q: How many years have you participated in basketball?

A: I have played basketball for 13 years.

Q: What has been your motivation to play basketball?

A: I always wanted to be better than my sister, Alex.

Q: Out of all the sports you have played is basketball your favorite? Why or why not?

A: Yes, because it's so fun!

Q: What is your favorite basketball memory?

A: When we played Cumberland Gap freshman year, I hit up a three pointer, and someone made a layup putting us up by one point to take the W. We hadn't beat Cumberland Gap in at least 7 years.

Volleyball Districts

By SAVANNAH COLLINS

The Lady Indians volleyball team had their district games in the first week of October. The first game in the district tournament was against Happy Valley on October 3. The game started at 6 o'clock at South Greene High School. The girls arrived fifty minutes early, so they had plenty of time to warm up and get ready to play.

The Lady Indians were on the receiving end of the serve in the first game. It started out a little bit bad, but soon the girls brought their A game! They had a very good game after the first match. The girls started to win, bring themselves up, and play their best. When the game was over, the Lady Indians placed 4th in the District. They were very proud of themselves!

After that game, the Lady Indians had just one day for them to get prepared to play their next district game. The next game was on October 5. The team had to go to South Greene to play the Lady Rebels. The girls did not come out with a win, resulting in them not getting to move on through the districts. The girls were very disappointed that they did not get to move on through the districts. All in all, the team should not be too disappointed because they were a new team, and this was the first season that they had gotten to play together. Although the girls did not come out with the win they played their hardest and gave it their all.

So, at the end of all the games the Lady Indians came out with the spot of fourth place in the district games.

Featured Players

Featured players are nominated by coaches based on outstanding games or highest stats



#34 Seth Hipshire has had an impressive running game this football season.



#13 Karlie Bowlin had 11 kills and 4 blocks in a game.



#54 John Ross Wilson has done a great job in his position as center.



#18 Lillian Bunch had 14 assists in a game.



#13 Ethan Short has done a great job at catching some key touchdown passes this season.

Not So Blue Debut (Album Review)

By AMBER ESTES

1994--one of the biggest years in an era of grunge and sludge and hardcore rock n' roll when all the rockers were holed up in their basements, surrounded by smoke and the smells of toxic substances writing about grief and anger and tiredness and nothingness. The nineties was the decade of grunge, and it was simply wonderful. A new era had begun, separating Layne Staley entirely from Paul Stanley. Grunge had become the dominant power in the music industry, and hair bands were beginning to fade a bit from the international limelight. But what about the artists of the nineties who did not identify with the grunge aesthetic and style? What about the songwriters who simply enjoyed life and wanted to express that through their upbeat, happy tunes? Did they just wait until the 2000's when the era of grunge had passed? The answer lies in Weezer's debut album, known by fans as simply *The Blue Album*.

This album was released on May 10th of 1994, and the Big Four of Grunge (Alice in Chains, Nirvana, Pearl Jam, and Soundgarden) also dropped their own iconic albums that year. Thusly, 1994 was not an easy time for a band like Weezer to try to compete with the prominent genre of the era. However, after playing in local clubs and bars for a couple years and receiving less than satisfactory feedback from their grunge-smitten crowds, when Weezer began re-

leasing singles from their debut album, their audience's attitudes began to change.

The band released three singles through their label DGC Records-- "Undone (The Sweater Song)," "Buddy Holly," and "Say It Ain't So"--which brought them to mainstream success despite the overwhelming popularity of grunge and alternative bands. It turned out that the guys had simply been playing their songs in the wrong venues because, once their tracks were made available to the rest of the country, everyone seemed to be down with a little pick-me-up from the deep, emotional grunge scene. With the release of their self-titled debut album, Weezer no longer had to compete with grunge icons for fame because their music was the yin to grunge's yang--the light in the midst of the darkness. Eventually, over 4 million copies of the debut were sold worldwide, and the album went triple-platinum in the United States and dou-

ble-platinum in Canada.

The record had no title other than that of the band's name, and the cover only depicted the members standing against a calm blue background; thusly, fans began calling it *The Blue Album*.



Photo credit: Wikipedia

Despite the sad connotation of the color blue, the album is filled with bright, energetic tracks that seem to just make the day better when they come across the radio. The majority of tracks from this album still remain some of the band's most popular songs, like the three singles mentioned earlier (which are actually the band's greatest hits to date), "My Name is Jonas" (which is featured on *Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock*), "In the Garage," and "Only in Dreams." The instrumentalism on the album sets a mood of joy and contentment, and so do the lyrics for the most part, although there are exceptions in songs such as "The World Has Turned and Left Me

Here" and "Only In Dreams." Despite their lyrics about bad experiences with girlfriends and stereotypes of being losers and nerds, Weezer maintains an upbeat "shake it off" mood throughout the album, and that mood is especially evident in songs like "Surf Wax America" and "In the Garage" in which the lyrics are literally just about things that make the guys happy. The attitudes that Weezer present in their lyrics seem to be infectious because listening to *The Blue Album* is one of the easiest ways to find a bit of happiness in the middle of a bad day.

The songs on this album are some of the best sing-along tracks that the nineties ever produced; after hearing the album just once, the lyrics are permanently imprinted on listeners' brains. This album is perfect for long car rides, fun trips with friends, and times when you're stressed, angry, sad, or depressed. Basically, this album is good to listen to in every instance, no matter what kind of day you are having. It makes the good days better. It makes the bad days easier. Everyone could use a little Weezer in their lives, and *The Blue Album* is just \$3.99 right now in FYE... In all seriousness, though, this is one of my favorite albums of all time, which is saying a lot because I normally get into deeper, more interpretive music. I rate *The Blue Album* 10/10, five stars, and "would definitely recommend" simply because of how unintentionally powerful it really is.

An "Unforgettable" Night

By SAVANNAH HOPKINS

On September 30th, Gage and I had the opportunity to travel to Alpharetta, Georgia to hear my favorite country music artist, Thomas Rhett. The Verizon Amphitheatre was packed all the way back to the grass, and not a seat was empty.

To open up the Home Team Tour, Walker Hayes joined the stage to pump up the crowd singing a few songs including his top single "You Broke Up With Me."

Old Dominion then took the stage singing many of their new hits as well as "No Such Thing as a Broken Heart," "Written in the Sand," and "Snapback."

Then, Thomas Rhett finally entered the stage emerging in a cloud of smoke singing "Crash and Burn." Rhett continued singing songs from his previous album, as well as his newest album "Life Changes." His wife, Lauren, joined him on stage during the performance of his biggest hit as of right now: "Unforgettable."

A Race For Life

By LAUREN LINDEN

The book, *Race Across The Sky* by Derek Sherman is an inspirational story that touches the hearts of many people who have read it. Derek Sherman does an excellent job portraying the life of a runner in his book. Sherman depicts the hardships that the runners had to go through to be able to run ultramarathons, and he portrays the pain that they went through to get in that good of shape. This tragic story teaches readers to persevere, strive to follow their dreams, and fight for those you care about. Sherman explains the runners' lives and how the Happy Trails Running Club changed them. While this book uses some inappropriate language, I encourage those who struggle to find themselves to read this very inspiring book; they will find help from it.

In Sherman's book, a thirty-two-year-old man named Caleb Oberest left his hometown, his family, and his job to move to Boulder, Colorado to run with the Happy Trails Running Club. Caleb left everything to move to Boulder, and he had no way to contact people once he joined the club. Eleven years later, a woman

named June and her three week old daughter Lily arrived at the Happy Trails house. June came to see Mack, the leader of the Happy Trails Running Club, because her daughter was very ill and she believed that Mack's kinetic energy could "heal" her. Caleb started to love June and Lily while they were staying with the Happy Trails Running Club. June and Caleb took Lily to the doctor to find out that Lily had a genetic disorder called Alpha-one antitrypsin deficiency. After three months, Lily was not getting any better, so Caleb sent his brother Shane, who works for a pharmaceutical company, a letter asking him for help. In the letter Caleb writes, "Dear Shane, I hope you're well. I need to talk to you about something important. Do you want to come out here for a weekend? You can write me at my job" (Sherman

23). Shane makes the decision to help Caleb find a medicine that will cure Lily. Caleb and June have to decide if they want to leave the Happy Trails Running Club to help Lily or stay and see if Mack will help her as time goes on. Caleb is going to run the race of his life in Yosemite; unfortunately, it is his last.



Photo credit: Amazon.com

Call of Duty WWII Boots Return to the Ground

By THOMAS ELLISON



Photo Credit: callofduty.com

This Call Of Duty is the first one in a few years that we have been complete "boots on the ground." The past few Call Of Duty games have been with boost jumps, double jumps, or jetpacks. Most people will enjoy being back on the ground and going back from the space-age to the old times, where people died because of bullets, not the enemy's special abilities. This Call Of Duty, developed by Sledgehammer Games, is set during WWII in the European theatre. The multiplayer mode will have expansive maps, and zombies mode will be returning. Most people will be excited to hear that this Call of Duty will not have unlimited sprint like some of the other boots on the ground CoD games. The slide mechanic is being replaced by a hit-the-deck mechanic similar to the dolphin dive mechanic of previous games. This will be the first Call Of Duty since the original not to feature health regeneration in the campaign, so players must rely on medics to heal them and other squad members to provide them with ammunitions. Squad members can reveal the locations of enemies for others, soldiers can be captured, and wounded allies can be dragged to be covered and healed.

There are abilities that will help people out when choosing their play-style. These new abilities are called divisions, and they will

replace the create-a-class system. According to Wiki, the new divisions for Call of Duty WWII are as follows:

- Infantry: The most versatile division in the game, it is equipped for mid to long range combat. The special skill of this division is the bayonet charge, which can lead to brutal melee combat.
- Airborne: This division makes players move fast while remaining quiet. Players in this division can attach suppressors to submachine guns at any time during combat which allows for more stealth based gameplay style.
- Armored: This division has the heaviest firepower, being able to mount machine guns and carry rocket launchers as secondary weapons.
- Mountain: This division focuses on long range combat, making sniper rifles more precise with aim assist and improving the aim through scope by blocking out surroundings from player's view.
- Expeditionary: Shotguns used by players in this division have incendiary rounds that burn enemies to death"

Each class has different abilities, but they are untradeable.

Puzzle Contest

Complete your wordsearch. Put your name on it and place it in the box in the office or bring it to Ashley Smith for a chance to be drawn for an interview in the next issue of the Tom-Tom! Deadline will be November 15th and the winner will be notified.

Word Bank:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| CANDLES | FREEDOM |
| CARVING | GREETINGS |
| CELEBRATE | HOLIDAY |
| CHILDREN | MAIZE |
| COLONY | MOTHER |
| COOK | OCCASION |
| COOL | PRAYER |
| FALL | SWEETS |
| FATHER | THANKS |
| FEAST | |
| FESTIVAL | |
| FESTIVITIES | |



Notes from Guidance

By MS. DEBORAH GIBSON

- November 1
Priority application deadline for early decisions at UT Knoxville
- November 2
Lunch visit by UT Knoxville from 11 - 12
- November 3
WSCC Dual Enrollment Spring Semester information pick up at noon (all paperwork completed)
- November 8
Freshman Career Exploration in English classes
- November 27
EOC testing starts with English II & III and U.S. History

Jokes and Puns

By ALEIGHA NEELEY

- **Did you hear about the man that got hit in the head with a soda?**
He was lucky it was a soft drink.
- **Why aren't koalas actual bears?**
They don't meet the koalafications.
- **Have you ever tried to eat a clock?** It's very time consuming.

BIRTHDAYS

Autumn Moore	11/4	Lillian Bunch	11/14	Payton Neeley	11/27
Treybeon Cooper	11/5	Devin Martin	11/19	Brooklyn Kinsler	11/29
Levi Wilson	11/6	Tanner Dalton	11/20	Cassie Williams	11/29
Kendall Morgan	11/9	Mollie Martin	11/20		
Anton Johnson	11/12	Steven Depew	11/21		
Preston Strange	11/12	Terry Pitts	11/22		
Lexie Wilder	11/12	Meghan Holt	11/24		

MASTODON ROCKS!!!

By AMBER ESTES

The theater was dark and humid; smells of sweat and booze hung heavily in the air. The crowd was hyped and full of anticipation. Some dim blue lights suddenly illuminated the stage, and a thin layer of silvery fog rolled out into the pit. The first opening act, the heavy post-metal band Russian Circles, took to the stage and brought the crowd to life with their doomy, vocal-less tracks. There was plenty of headbanging, but only a few people were off their seats. However, the next act, the hard garage rock band, Eagles of Death Metal, brought the crowd to their feet with their energetic performance, upbeat tunes, and surprise visit by the headliner's own guitarist and co-vocalist, Brent Hinds. The crowd was almost fully hyped. Then, the stage went black.

The intermission was a trip. It was a storm of merch-buying, alcohol-indulging, and spilling drinks while running back to seats so to not miss the main event--the band we all came to see. Everyone settled back in, but the theater was far from relaxed. The crowd's anticipation was through the roof. Without warning, the deep purple stage lights came on, and Troy Sanders, Bill Kelliher, Brann Dailor, and Brent Hinds--the gods who make up the legendary progressive stoner metal band, Mastodon--sauntered out onto the stage. The audience went totally nuts. Brent gave a quick yet hardcore greeting, and the rockers began to play one of the biggest hits from their

album *Crack the Skye*: "The Last Baron." The entire crowd was completely insane, screaming, headbanging, and moshing while Mastodon shredded out the song and melted everyone's faces off. The show continued, and the band progressed by playing a diverse set which included songs from all



Photo Credit: Amber Estes
Troy Sanders muddering the bass

their albums from *Remission* to *Emperor of Sand*, the album for which the band was touring. They played all of their greatest jams except for "Blood and Thunder" (which kind of made me sad) and at least half of the songs from their latest album, including "Sultan's Curse," "Show Yourself," "Steambreather," "Andromeda," and more. All the while, the crowd never eased up. After each song, there were shouts of "H**L YEAH" and the crowd's best efforts at death-growling. There was not a single moment of calm, even when the band was tuning. Everyone was drenched with sweat--both their own and that of the people who were moshing

around them--and had half-broken necks from headbanging for the four-hour duration of the show. I, myself, had a sore neck for at least a week after the show, and it hurt just to "lean and look" while driving. Did I care? Not one bit.

At the end of the concert, after the band had played an encore choosing the devilish track "Motherpuncher," Mastodon said their goodbyes as the crowd cheered and screamed and longed for the show to continue. However, Brann Dailor, the drummer, actually greeted the crowd as his bandmates were exiting the stage because, of course, he had been in the back the whole night. He cracked a few jokes and revealed his light hearted nature. My boyfriend, Alex, a drummer himself, was at the concert with me, and he had moved closer to the stage because he kind of idolizes Brann. Then, Brann said his last farewell of the night as he threw his drumsticks out into the black sea of people. Everyone watched as they sailed through the air, fighting to be the one standing where the sticks were going to land. Time seemed to be moving in slow-motion when I realized that Alex had caught one of Brann's sticks. He ran back to our seats, screaming wildly, and we celebrated like madmen. Mastodon gave me one of the greatest nights of my life. This has been the story of the time I saw Mastodon, one of my all-time favorite metal bands, live on my last birthday.

2017-2018 BASKETBALL ROSTERS

BOYS:

Name:	Grade:
Logan Bailey	Sr
Tyler Mullins	Sr
Austin Surgenor	Sr
Shawn Delph	Sr
Josh Webb	Jr
Hunter Holt	Jr
Gage Maloney	Jr
Ryan Lawson	Jr
Branson Delph	Jr
Treybeon Cooper	So
Isaiah Maloney	So
Preston Hatfield	So
Austin Seal	So
Ethan Short	So
Tyler Johnson	So
Kip Collins	Fr
Tyler Harrison	Fr
Devon Blevins	Fr
Hunter Hatfield	8th
Joe Ferguson	8th
Dawson Yount	8th
Aaron Drinnon	8th
Nate Cantwell	8th

Team Assistants:
Ethan Maloney
Jaxon Neeley

Head Coach: Evan McCoy
Assistant: Nolan Campbell

GIRLS:

Name:	Grade:
August Baker	Sr
Madison Brewer	Sr
Tabitha Dykes	Sr
Allison Hopkins	Sr
Karlie Bowlin	Jr
Breanna Seal	Jr
Joce Ferguson	So
Aleigha Neeley	So
Payton Neeley	So
Lanie Dalton	Fr
Juliann Gibson	Fr
Leigha Murrell	Fr
Cassie Seal	Fr
Lexie Linden	8th

Head Coach: Kristy Cantwell
Assistant: Nolan Campbell

Real Talk

By ANASTEY SEAL

- "You have to be odd to be number one.. onto it."
- but you also have to be odd to be 3, 5, 7, etc"
- "The best thing for a broken heart is the right song."
- "You know what I know? None of this will matter in 10 years."
- "Don't dream little because if the dream comes true you only have a little dream and nothing to go for."
- "Why are you so concerned with how you look? You'll never see any of these people again."
- "Being a product of your environment is no better than trash sitting in a landfill and never getting recycled, damaging to the world and hurting everything around you."
- "If it doesn't make you sleep better at night and it makes you angry to think about, you're hurting yourself to hold