



PANTHER POST

WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL- BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

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Ball Fight

by Sierra Johnson



Senior Hassan Chabayta protects the ball as he goes down during the junior/sophomore vs. senior game.

April 8th was the start of something spectacular! Four groups participated in the student vs. teacher basketball game: freshmen (black jerseys), juniors and sophomores (white jerseys), seniors (purple jerseys), and teachers. There were three games total, each consisting of two, five minute matches. The first two games acted as an elimination games to see what grade level would play against the teachers.

The first game was the freshman vs. the juniors and sophomores. The juniors/sophomores started the game with two lightning fast scores. Freshmen were able to grab hold of the ball, but it was snatched back by the juniors/sophomores and they scored once again. Each team performed some nice spins while chasing after the ball, but the

juniors/sophomores obliterated the freshman with a final score of 21 to 6. The second game was between the juniors/sophomores and the seniors. Right off the bat one can see that was going to be a close match; the juniors/sophomores and seniors went back and forth until the juniors/sophomores got the first point. At one point during the game, the juniors/sophomores performed an outstanding dunk; however, they do not get the point. The game ended with the senior's victory of a final score 14 to 9.



The cheer squad pumps up the audience between games.



Coach Rob defends the basket as the senior team tries to score.

After an amazing half time performance by the cheerleaders, the final game arrived: seniors vs. teachers. This had to be the best game out of them all. The seniors did a good job blocking the teachers, but the teachers found a hole and made the first score of the game. This was a close game, much like the last one. One person who stood out in particular was Coach Lewis. He was, by far, the best blocker and proved to be a huge handicap to the seniors by scoring five times. The final score was 12 to 9, with the teachers being victorious.

SPORTS

Softball Season is over

by Rebeca Aguilar

The softball season ended with their last game against Livonia on April 7, 2016. Even though the panthers lost 9-4, the team worked together as a family and they tried to do their best and never gave up on the field.



The team gathers before the game to cheer each other on.



The softball team has fun as they pose for pictures.

After watching the game, I had the privilege to talk to the varsity pitcher, Lainey Eastham. She said, “This season was a lot of fun for me, even though we did not win some games. I not only made friends, but it brought us together as a family and you could see that in the last game of our season.” This season a lot of students went to see the softball games and cheered them on, which was good for the team. The Woodlawn students are excited to see what the softball team has for us next year.

Finishing Strong: District Track Meet Results

by Damian Jackson

The last track meet Woodlawn High had was the District Meet on April 20th. For the District Meet, Woodlawn came in third place for boys and girls, which contained events in sections such as throwing, like shot put or javelin, jumping, and running.

Individually, Brandon Williams finished first for the boy's 400 meter dash, Alexis Martin finished first in the girl's 3200 meter run, and Samaria Newton came in first for the 100 meter hurdles. As a group, Jordan Donald, Nicholas Bradley, Khidir Al-Mustafa, and Brandon Williams took first for the 4x400 relay team.

With the results from the District meet, Woodlawn had a total of 12 girls and 15 boys qualify for Regional, which was held on April 27th. At the Regional meet, track member Calah Williams qualified for State, which took place May 7th. Although no students placed at State, having students represent Woodlawn at that event is something to be proud of. Good job to all the Woodlawn Track Athletes for finishing the year strong!



The track team and coaches, especially Coach Fetter, are very proud of junior Calah Williams for qualifying for State.

OPPOSING OPINIONS

EOC Problems

by Fabian Coleman

Every student knows the End of Course test (also known as the EOC) is very important, but why should we be forced to take another test on top of the finals? The test, in some people's eyes, is to see what we have learned over the year but why do that when we have to take the ACT, mid-terms, and finals? Not to mention that we have chapter and unit tests all throughout the whole year as well. It seems like the EOC is to scare students into actually taking it more seriously than it actually is. On top of all the madness, if you don't pass you have to take the whole class over like you didn't just put in a whole year of work. It all means nothing if you don't pass one test!



If you ask me I think it's pointless when the time you spend getting ready for finals and summer vacation is disrupted because you're trying to pass a test that is just to see what you have learned from the whole year. Isn't that what a final exam is for? Yet all through middle school you thought that's what the finals were for in high school, well that was wrong.

It's not just that we have to take it and pass it, but the standards to pass are so low that a 5th grader *should* pass the test. That's silly to even give us the test if you're going to make it that easy for us. Even the LEAP we took in 4th and 8th grade had higher expectations for the students than that. You only need a 43% to pass the English EOC! We are in high school and getting ready to go into the real world; if schools make testing as important as they make it sound, then at least make it a little harder to pass. If not, then why have the test at all? It's wasting students' time.

EOC: Nothing is Free

by Alexis Martin

EOC, or end- of- course tests, may seem pointless but it helps students gauge where they stand after they have completed a course. It is very important when looking at grades, colleges, and getting a standard high school diploma. There are EOCs in six classes: Algebra 1, Geometry, English 2 and 3, Biology, and U. S. History. An EOC is meant to show a student what they have learned inside of a course and whether or not they understand the material. It is a great way for any school to see if you would make it at their university with your test taking, memorization, and coursework skills. An EOC takes up 15% to 20% of a student's grade. In other words, it could make or break the course grade. A student must receive a Fair or above on at least three EOCs to get a standard high school diploma.

Everyone is always stressed about their EOCs and never want to take them. Few understand or think about why they are such a good thing. Your EOC test could get you into a university, into a higher class, and also get your grade up to two grade levels higher. Before telling everyone how much you hate taking EOCs, think about all the opportunities you have if you do well on the End of Course test.



Parents: Student grades will be submitted and available for viewing on Parent Access on May 20th. If you need log-in information for Parent Access, your student needs to contact Mr. Broussard before the year is over.

CLUBS AND ACADEMICS

A Time to Remember: Senior Breakfast

by Sierra Johnson



Mr. Stevens and the senior class welcomed Mayor Kip Holden to the senior breakfast.

On April 25th, the senior class had their annual senior breakfast. Upon entry, all students received a small bag of Hershey kisses. Everyone then took their seats and a speech was given by our mayor, Kip Holden. The room fell silent as he inspired us with his words. “This is the last time you all will be able to do something like this with your fellow classmates. Most of you have known each other since elementary school, and soon you all will go your separate ways.”

Once finished, people were called, by table, to get a plate of food made by our school’s very own Chef Oubre. Gifts were then given out to the people who had a number on the Hershey bag that they received (not every bag had a number). The gifts ranged from a free Smoothie King smoothie, to a gift basket, to even two 1 hour passes to Area 51! The parents worked hard on gathering the gifts and making decorations; it was a great experience.



The seniors enjoy their breakfast prepared by Chef Oubre.

A Night of Honor

by Lillian Khemmanyvong

“Education is the most powerful weapon in which you can use to change the world”

-Nelson Mandela

On Monday May 9, Woodlawn High School held the Awards Night at the Woodlawn Baptist Church. This night is dedicated to students. The ceremony started at 6:30 with the choir singing the National Anthem, followed by the pledge and a moment of silence. The first award of the night was the Student of the Year award, presented by Woodlawn’s assistant principle Mrs. Brandy Williams, given to Sean Snowden. This was followed by the World American History Award, Accelerated Reader, and the Advance Placement award. The Advance Placement award was presented to Anaya Askins and De’Anthieus Clayton, for scoring a 3 or high on at least three AP tests, receiving the college credit. Students also received several awards given by military leaders (Sgt. Vitali, Sgt. Zimmerman, SFC Matherne, and SFC Dunn) for their leadership, academic achievements, and military abilities.

Many students were recognized for their accomplishments and character, but two students in particular were named Valedictorian and Salutatorian for having the highest weighted GPAs, who were Daniel Broussard (Valedictorian) and Michael Poor (Salutatorian). The night ended with Woodlawn’s principle, Mr. Scott Stevens, giving a closing speech thanking the parents for helping their children be the greatest they can be. Congratulations to the Class of 2016 graduating seniors and honored students!



Senior Katelyn Holmes happily accepts her award from the Daughters of the American Revolution.



Junior Dominic Messina accepts his award for Perfect Attendance.

STUDENT LIFE

Woodlawn School High School Prom 2K16

by Jyron Anderson



Students crowd the dance floor at prom.

On April 16, 2016, Woodlawn students celebrated prom at Stage One. The theme for the night was “Under the Sea,” featuring live fish! The lighting was low and if you looked at the ceiling you would have seen a projection that made it seem as though you were underwater. The ambiance overall was elegant, the music was upbeat and fun, and the students could not leave the dance floor.

The significant difference between this year’s prom versus last year seems to be the DJ. Last year’s main complaint was the music, ultimately making 2015’s prom a bust. This year’s music featuring old and new music to keep the audience on their feet, “The DJ was pretty fantastic, everyone was dancing and getting along having a good time,” says Jayda Drury. At one point he even started a soul

train line, and of course Mrs. Reed hopped in.

With such an event as prom, preparation can get pretty hectic, a least for girls. Most boys only had to worry about the right tux and a nice haircut. “Spray tan, hair, jewelry, nails, feet,” these were just a few things on Jessie

Martin's checklist. "It was a lot of preparation to feel beautiful for a few hours." Stage One provided the food and drinks, though not many students ate it as most of them when out to eat before and after prom. Alana Hopper, one of the mermaids of prom was offered one of the goldfish placed on the tables for decoration, she named him "Mr. Fish". The prom got good reception from the student body, proving it an overall success. Let's hope 2017's prom is even better.

Senior Fail

by Sarah Hayden



The seniors trashed the courtyard by covering it with toilet paper, knocking over trash cans, and breaking benches.

On May 9th, 2016 the senior class "pranked" Woodlawn High School. When students arrived this morning on campus they were surprised at what they found. The courtyard was trashed! Picnic tables were flipped and concrete benches were broken in half. Toilet paper was strewn across the yard and papers were thrown everywhere. As a result, the principle and faculty were not happy. The papers the vandals threw everywhere had their names on them.

Over all this prank was downright vandalism. The seniors destroyed private property. I do not feel like this was a successful prank, and they could have come up with a better and more creative idea. A senior prank should be funny, not destructive. Hopefully, the current junior class will have a better idea next year. This was a lame prank, and I am disappointed in the seniors.

FEATURES



The Jungle Book Movie Review

by Elizabeth Roquemore

Mowgli is the only human in the jungle; he was raised by a pack of wolves. What he has known all his life suddenly must change and he must be brought to the man village in order to escape Shere Khan, a ferocious tiger. Mowgli goes through a series of events trying to get to the village and suddenly finds Baloo, a free-spirited bear. While Bagheera the jaguar looks for Mowgli, Baloo and Mowgli share each other's company. As Bagheera finds Mowgli and convinces him to go to the village, monkeys capture Mowgli in search for the red flower. After escaping, Mowgli hears news from his wolf pack and races back to fight Shere Khan. The movie ends with the emotional, familial spirit of a pack.

The Jungle Book was an adventurous and emotional movie. The display of the jungle and animals gave viewers a good visual of the jungle kingdom. All animals had human characteristics that brought together the jungle like a human community. The symbolization of the red flower was inspiring; it gave a perspective of our effect on the animal kingdom. Favreau took the effect of the red flower, which we know as fire, and gave us a view of its advantage over animals and life. Each animal had a human trait such as aloofness, greed, playfulness, temptation, coldness, and even revenge. *The Jungle Book* was eventful and kept my eyes on the screen. It all played well together, incorporating the original movie into the cast, events, and feelings. It stars Neel Smith, Bull Murray, Ben Kingsley, and Idris Elba; it was directed by Jon Favreau. A fantastic eventful movie that can make audiences laugh and cry. This movie is a bit different from the original movie. The realistic views of the jungle, characters, and life bring out the jungle and the nature of the animals. Favreaust accomplished showing the nature of jungle animals and their fear of man all in a fantastic family/fantasy story.

Celebrating Earth Day

by Mya Kremin



The Earth Day festival was held in downtown Baton Rouge on Sunday, April 17. The festival was created to support environmental protection and to spread awareness against global issues such as global warming. At the festival they had food trucks, bands, belly dancers, and different booths where you could buy educational things. Some of the booths had animals and reptiles that you could hold. The festival started at noon and lasted all the way to 6:30 pm. It also had activities for kids and booths where they could create crafts and learn about the earth.

Different areas of downtown Baton Rouge were divided so that people could walk to different parts of the festival. The parts were divided into booths, music, food, and activities. Going to Earth Day is a great way to learn about the environment and to spread awareness about keeping the earth clean for generations to come.

ARTS



ARTWORK CREATED BY SIERRA JOHNSON