

EAGLE'S

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**GRACE HOLLARS OVERCOMES
EARLY CHALLENGES TO REACH
OLYMPIC SUCCESS. READ HER
FULL STORY ON PAGES 10-11**

Also

Mr. Orchard Pg. 2-3

1:1 Update Pg. 8

Featured

4-Star School Pg. 15

SmashCancer: 7.0 Pg.19

Life Takes You Unexpected Places

History teacher Paul Orchard relives through the history of his life

By Gavin Wilson

Seven jobs — construction, landscaping, working in a greenhouse, law enforcement, painting, installing inground pools, and working at the Village Pantry. Put together they form the experience of a teacher, Mr. Paul Orchard, who has been at Delta High School more than 30 years.

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but was raised 20 minutes away in Medina County, a place home to hills, ravines, ridges, valleys, ledges, and forests.

Orchard grew up with an older sister, Susan, two younger brothers, Mark and Nathan, his mom, Frances, and dad, Paul.

His low-income family was close, supportive and religious. His dad worked as a postal employee, while his mom was frequently being fired for being outspoken. His mom would self-medicate and abuse prescription drugs.

"Mom was bipolar and suffered from depression. She knew more than the doctors, so she'd just do anything she wanted with whatever pills she had, but we didn't understand it as little kids. We just knew mom was kind of weird," Orchard said.

He came to Muncie, Ind., in 1972 after receiving a full-tuition scholarship from Ball State University to play football as a defensive cornerback.

"I wasn't good enough to play (football) on the big stage, but at Ball State I felt like 'Okay this is where I could play a lot.' I really liked Ball State's campus compared to the other schools I went to," Orchard said. "It (football) was a job."

He first majored in criminal justice and corrections because he "wanted to work

with the feds someday." He also minored in history, unintentionally.

"I had a minor in history just because it was easy. If I needed to fill a time slot I would just take a history class. I didn't even know I was graduating with a minor in history until I saw it on my diploma," Orchard said. "History just comes so easy to me that it was like I was doing easy A classes.

It didn't matter if it was world history or U.S. history, I just liked it."

After graduating from BSU in 1976, he went on to be a Metropark Ranger in Cleveland. His favorite position there was being undercover for sex crimes. He said that "pervert things" went on in the park, off the roadways and trails, and in the public restrooms.

"We were out there just to keep a lid on things because it was pretty kinky weird stuff. There was a wide variety of inappropriate sexual behavior going on because of the cover of the park system," Orchard said.

Patrolmen work on different shifts. They could work 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 4 p.m. to midnight, or midnight to 8 a.m. Orchard was always put on the night shift because he was young and single.

"(Night shift) was more dangerous because we had one-man cars. You'd be out on traffic stops in the middle of the pitch black (night) on these reservations making a stop all

by yourself. Here you are stopping a van full of people all by yourself, with a .38 with six bullets in it. If people wanted to take you out, they'd take you out," Orchard said. "You were as careful as you could be because the time for back-up was extremely long, so you didn't want to get into a situation where you were over your head. You tried to call stuff in so that it

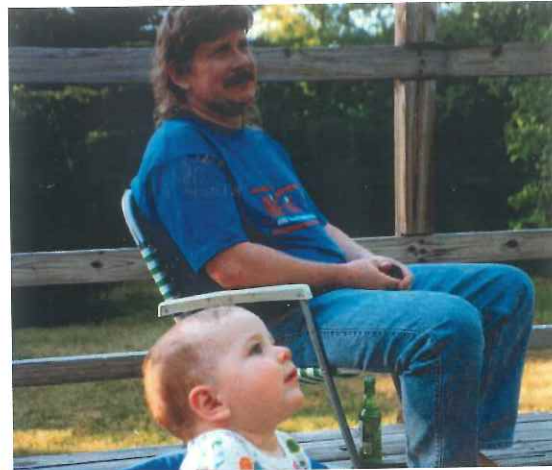
would give yourself extra time to plan ahead."

Orchard has many memories from the two years he worked as a patrolman. One memory that stands out the most to him is when he found a "dead guy in the middle of the night." He said: "It looked like a suicide, I'm almost positive

it was, but you don't know. It was like two o'clock in the morning, and I find this guy who had blown his brains out. Did he really or did somebody else shoot him and make it look like a suicide? So you're sitting there in the middle of nowhere, all by yourself, standing next to a dead body, and you don't know if he was murdered or if it was a suicide. So you're sitting there waiting for back-up to come and you know that the chief, the detectives, and the coroner are coming."

He resigned from the force due to disagreements with administration. "I got written up for doing stupid stuff," Orchard said. "I was 22 with a gun and a badge --that's a bad combination-- and a brand new Camaro. I used to, every once in a while, put the lights and sirens on just to get to Dunkin' Donuts."

After he resigned from the force in 1978, he went to work for the father of his first wife, Robin, on a 2,000-acre farm



History teacher Mr. Paul Orchard watches the sky with his daughter, Maren. The were visiting friends in Michigan. (Photo Provided)



Mr. Paul Orchard explains World War II to his World History classes. (Photo by Emily Warner)

for eight years. "We took care of about 65 head of horses, calves, hogs. A lot of times, I would say you worked 12-hour workdays, eight to eight, sometimes later than that," Orchard said.

As a way to become more independent from the farm, he went back to BSU and served as a graduate assistant coach for the university's football team, coaching the wide receivers.

In 1988, Orchard came to Delta High School to teach. He has taught a variety of classes ranging from physical education and health, to world history, U.S. history, and sociology.

Orchard's life at Delta consists of him often being at work until midnight and sometimes 1 a.m. He works more than 70 hours a week, which "is the amount of hours of two jobs," Orchard said.

Teaching has changed over the years, according to Orchard, by the state trying to regulate everything. When he first started he said that you could run your classroom the way you wanted without the state telling you what you have to teach. He also said that there have been



Orchard lays with his daughter, Amory, on the floor of his first house. (Photo Provided)

should be. Education should be enjoyable. There's so much testing now, it's ridiculous. They're going to have to adjust that sometime," Orchard said. "What you're getting in education now is big businesses want certain requirements. Well that wasn't the job of public education, that's not the mission of public education. We're not supposed to supply you with someone that is totally ready to go to work for you. We're giving a broad-based education, then you train the person for the job. They want us to train people nowadays. High schools can't do that, we can't get somebody job ready. That's ridiculous. Pay for your own training, you're making billions of dollars."

These changes not only affected his life but the life of his family too. His family is his everything and he does what he does so that they can thrive. Orchard is married to his second wife, Jennifer, who is a speech pathologist at Albany and Eaton elementary schools. He has two daughters, Amory, 2012 Delta graduate, and Maren, 2014 Delta graduate, and a son, Cade, senior.

Orchard said that

more requirements for teachers.

"I think the state has taken the fun out of a lot of it, which is the exact opposite of what it

parents try to be role models and inspire their kids to do whatever they set their minds to and to put confidence in their minds at a young age.

"It's (parenting) kind of like you have to instill that confidence in kids. Otherwise they don't go for it, you know, they don't try to grab the reins," Orchard said.

His closest friend was his brother, Nathan. As an adult, Nathan was diagnosed with lung cancer. Orchard watched as his brother went downhill after the initial diagnosis. Then he made a comeback where everyone thought he was cancer free. However, it returned and quickly spread to his brain. After a seven-year battle, he died.

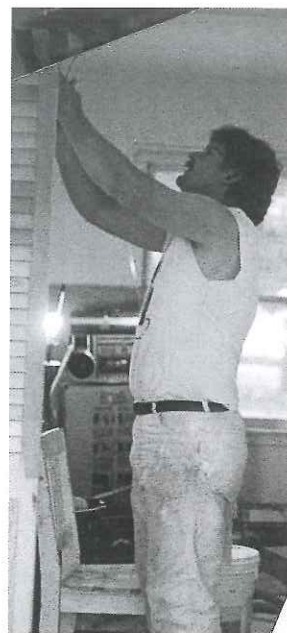
"I used to go backpacking with him a couple times a year. We were really close. Plus the fact that he married my wife's sister, so it was brothers married to sisters. We used to do a lot of stuff together. You really miss somebody that was one of my closest friends," Orchard said.

Although time has passed Orchard still continues to move forward and remembers the skills he learned from his other jobs, such as how to do wiring and carpentry, how to pour cement, how to put up pole barns, and how to paint houses.

"Anything that I could do was around a person's house. I can do a little bit of everything. Jack of all trades, master of none," Orchard said.

At the end of his 31 years of teaching, Orchard is set to retire after next school year. His wife plans to retire early so they can do more things together. He looks forward to doing things that he hasn't had the time to do: going back into the wilderness, backpacking, and working on his house before he can't.

"I'll be able to spend more time with friends and family. I'm looking forward to getting back into some of those hobbies and interests that I used to do that I don't do anymore, I just don't have the time (to do them now)."



Orchard enjoys fixing things around his first house. (Photo Provided)



Orchard poses for a picture with Coach Wolfe, who recruited him to Ball State. Orchard played for the Ball State Cardinals as a defensive cornerback. (Photo Provided)

Dusting the Days Away

Custodians do more than clean up after students

By Christian Lee

From cleaning our mess left from lunch to mowing the lawn, our custodians do it all! Five days a week, every week all year round, our building is being cleaned.

Yes, I said five days a week every week even in the summertime! Our custodians, Lisa Baker (head custodian), Bob Maxwell (maintenance technician), Jack Carter, Melvin Cole, Jasina Teal, Brian Tobias, Joshua Vance and Eugene Wolfé work around the clock in shifts.

Even in the summer they are here working to prep our building to the highest standards for new freshmen and returning sophomores, juniors and seniors and our teachers just so we can have a school that is clean and up to par. We may all believe that our custodians only clean things, but they do far more than just wipe tables.

"We clean all classrooms, bathrooms, sweep, clean glass and much more," said Cole, second shift custodian.

Baker added more details to the same question.

"We do all different repairs, a lot," she said. "Plumbing, scraping daily chewing gum off of desks, getting rid of the graffiti on desks, walls, bathroom doors, changing all the lights that go out, getting all of the bugs out of the vents, painting the sidewalks and curbs."

If this all does not wow you enough, then let's take a dip into the life

of our custodians in the summertime, while we are on a boat or tanning or playing basketball. The custodians are here at our high school during the day every day, cleaning all of the rooms in the building -- not just classrooms but also the office and athletic office and many more rooms we do not think of.

They pull EVERYTHING out of the classrooms and clean the carpets and floors underneath and

bring in big fans to help the carpet dry. Meanwhile they clean everything else in the rooms, turn desks over and clean them all head to toe for next year, redo the light fixtures, and repaint walls.

How can students make their job just a bit easier?

"Don't wipe poop

on the walls, no writing on the desk, and please no gum on the desk ... or the lockers," Cole said.

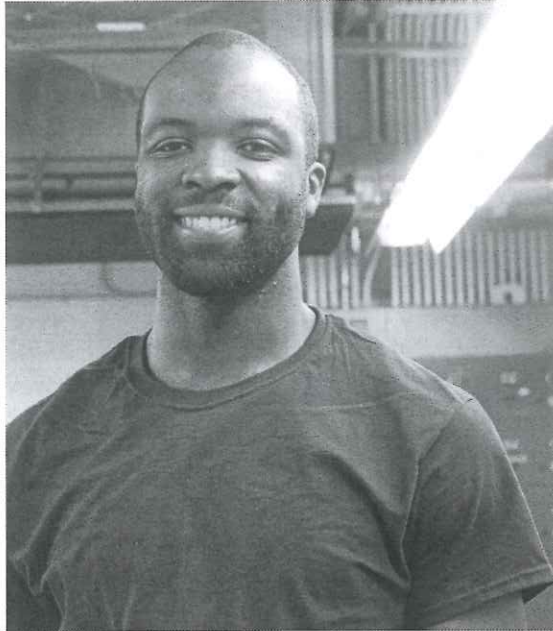
Baker had another approach to this question: "Oh boy! Please stop plugging the toilets and pick up after yourselves, but most of all please watch your language. I dislike hearing all the curse words when I'm out and about cleaning at lunch and throughout the day."

We may wonder what our custodians do when they are not here working. Baker, who used to be a sub custodian at Desoto Elementary School and in Albany as well, said she likes to go swimming, camping, gardening in her flower beds and shopping "because what girl does not like shopping?"

Cole said he is a full-time father when he is at home, helping his wife while they take care of their four children.

He has three-month-old twin babies.

"The boy is calm, but the girl, she is a pistol," he said, referring to his twin babies. "I get no sleep," he said, but he added that he loves being a father and a husband as well.



Custodian Melvin Cole poses for a picture before work. Cole cleans from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. five days a week. (Photo by Holley Cash)



Lisa Baker, head custodian, sweeps the floor after lunch. Baker works five days a week year-round.

CONCESSION STAND SALES AID IN DANCE EFFORTS

By Triniti Morton

Concession stands are what bring in money for the student body, allowing us to have school events such as prom.

"Students should definitely get involved in the concession stands because the money that is made directly goes back to the students," said Mrs. Suzy Fox, freshman class sponsor.



Betsy Marshall waits for customers to purchase items at a game. (Photo by Trinti Morton)

"Whatever the class wants, we are the people that make it happen," Fox said.

The junior class splits half of the profits from concessions

with the athletic department

Just last year the junior class made almost \$9,000 from concession stands. The money left over from prom goes toward the students' graduation expenses.

Working in concession stands provides students with an opportunity for job training. The students are able to experience working in the people business.

When students work in concessions they are able to take off \$5 from their prom bid. Betsy Marshall, a student who is able to go to prom free, says, "You get to practice your math skills when you are giving people the change, and you are interacting with people constantly, so you are always getting experience on what to say and what to do around them."



Tori King, freshman, stocks up on popcorn and other goods on the way back to her seat. (Photo Provided)

Having students working in the concession stands also helps the school with positive exposure.

"It shows that you have a student body that cares about their school," Fox said.

A good time to sign up would be during the beginning of the week or beginning of the month, but it depends on the activities. During fall and winter sports that's when concessions are really active. In spring there aren't any school concession stands, but track, softball and baseball boosters all have their own concession stands.

Plus during the time that students will be able to work in concessions some teachers give out extra credit, such as Mr. Kip Omstead.

The amount of time that these class sponsors put in is a lot.

For Mr. Brian Brewer, "it takes up a lot of time" because he is the only class sponsor for sophomores, but the students help with selling and clean up.

Helping with concession stands helps both the individual students and the school as a whole.

SAT Tips for Future Takers

By Cameron Levers

The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is a college admissions test and is one of the keys to what college that students get into. High school students around the nation take this test up to four times, and the students get to keep their best score.

Many seniors and juniors have different ways about taking the SAT's. Here are some things some upperclassmen have done, and some tips they have for the underclassmen preparing to take the SAT.

Cade Beckley, senior, took the SAT at the end of his junior year and again at the beginning of his senior year. He did not study a lot, but he did take the test more than once to get familiar with

her time was spent looking over the SAT book that she was given to study. She also made sure she had lots of rest the night before she took the test.

it. Beckley, who scored a 1210 out of a possible 1600, will attend Indiana University next fall.

"I didn't put in the amount of time I probably should have, but I scored alright on my last time taking it," Beckley said.

Matthew Schwer, junior, took a week to prepare for the SAT. Schwer took online practice courses and had some late nights up studying. He made sure he got lots of rest the day before the test and got to bed at a good time the night before.

"I think that it's important to be well-rested and have a good idea of what the test looks like," Schwer said. "This test determines your career and college so take your time."

Taylor Shaw, senior, took the test last June before her senior year. Shaw took some online courses, but most of

"Make sure to to take your time and study hard, because the test really is not easy," Shaw said.

The SAT is given seven times in a year: March, April, May, June, October, November and December. It would be smart to take the SAT more than once because the college will take the best score. Math formulas will be given to you before the test so do not spend a lot of time studying math formulas.

If you do not know an answer, it is actually better to skip the question because you are penalized less if you skip. You will receive 0 points if you skip, but if you get the answer wrong you will receive minus $\frac{1}{4}$ a point. If you do not know the answer and cannot narrow it down to an educated guess, it is better to move on.

For underclassmen preparing for the test, make sure to study and gets lots of rest.

On Duty

Class officers work together for our school's activities

By Jacy Bradley

Senior Josh Ford never planned to be class president. He only decided to apply last year, and then he won. Ford now has lots of responsibilities as the president, even for his first year as a class officer.

"I don't have terribly hard classes, but it has affected my workload because I always have to think about what could help everyone, what could help the whole class," Ford said.

Much of what the senior class officers must do is prepare and conduct Senior Ball. They also help prepare for graduation. They conduct voting for the class flower, motto, and song. They also pick teacher of the year.

To do all of these tasks, the officers must work together, but they do have separate titles for their jobs. There is the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

"As the president, I get the job to be in front of people and talking, being the spokesperson," Ford said. Ford also said the vice president, Lexie Manor, works with him when making decisions. He said the treasurer, Ryan Fox, and secretary, Grace Belangee, both work on financial and logistical sides of their work.

Class officers have big responsibilities, even in freshman year. All of the

classes have their respective duties and must represent the school in a positive way.

The class elections last year were in the beginning of May and should be about the same time this year.

The freshman class officers may seem like they wouldn't have many tasks since they are young, but they do have duties that keep them on their toes for a large portion of the year.

Freshman Sara

Cardemon is the president of her class. She and the other three officers, Luke Belangee, Mary Groover and Riley Brand, are in charge of planning, organizing, and setting up the Sadie Hawkins dance in the fall. They also work concessions for freshman and JV football games and the wrestling matches.

When facing these tasks, they will talk it over and think of the pros and cons of their options. They try to find the best option for their budget and find the best solution to any problems.

Sophomore Betsy Marshall, president of her class, was a part of setting up for the Sweethearts dance with her fellow class officers. The sophomore class sponsored the dance and was in charge of all concessions besides football and boys' basketball.

The officers have a busy sched-

ule and sometimes it can be hard to balance homework and their jobs. Marshall, being in her sophomore year, has many homework assignments. She works a lot of hours at the concession stands when she can, so she has to find time to do homework.

"I'm usually doing it between the quarters of the basketball games. I can't just sit down and do my homework all at once," Marshall said.

Junior class sponsor Mrs. Miranda Hummel and her class officers, Claire George, Blake Reynolds, Brooklyn Matheny and Cora Conatser, all have to take on the challenge of organizing prom. They collaborate to find the funding for the financial aspects of it, and they also set up the decorations on the big day. The officers are also in charge of concessions for varsity football and basketball.

When doing concessions, the officers divide up the games, and one officer will be there at each game. This way, all of the officers must put in the time needed for funding for prom.

This year, the junior class raised more funds for prom by selling apparel. They booked the Horizon Convention Center for the prom, which will take place on Saturday, May 12. After-prom will be at Union Chapel's Oneighty building.

"We fundraise for after-prom activities by asking local businesses and restaurants for donations," Hummel said.

Like the other classes, the officers all work together to reach their goals.

While never expecting to be the class president his senior year, Ford tries his best to set a good example for his peers and do what is right for his class.

"I'm always thinking, 'Is what I'm doing giving a bad outlook to other people?' and that 'I'm the representative of my class,'" Ford said.



Freshman Sara Cardemon, left, sophomore Betsy Marshall, center, and junior Claire George share a moment in front of the American flag. Class officers help out in concessions stands and other activities throughout the school year. (Photo by Darnell Scherrer)

Listen Up!

Senior Blake Shanayda achieves much despite hearing challenge

By Adam Navarro

There is a student at DHS who doesn't get much recognition because what he contributes to the school happens behind the scenes. This student also happens to deal with a special challenge every day. Meet senior Blake Shanayda.

Shanayda serves as the editor of the Eagle Zone News, plays on the golf and tennis teams, and manages to do those things and more dealing with one challenge every day.

Shanayda said that he likes editing the news because of "all the creativity involved" and he gets to be in control of "what the final product will look like." He said that's the main reason that he chose to edit the news.

Editing the news is more complex than it seems with a glance. It involves converting news around the school, sports news, any interviews, and the weather all into a 5-minute daily broadcast. He does this using iMovie software on an iMac computer provided by the school.

The job is made even more complex because he deals with a hearing challenge which makes it hard to do things sometimes that require vast amounts of listening. He said that he relies a lot on reading lips throughout his day.

In addition to editing the news, he has found a lifelong hobby in the game of golf. Shanayda says that he has been playing golf with his dad since he was born. He says that he goes to MD's Golf Academy, a driving range, almost every day to practice his swing.

"I have a schedule I follow," said Shanayda on how he balances school work and his activities.

He also enjoys working on cars both with and without his father, and playing simulation racing video games which comes from his love of cars.

Shanayda plans to attend Ball State University because it's "convenient and close to home."

Shanayda also said that he wants to work with his dad doing GIS mapping, which involves capturing and analyzing geographical data.

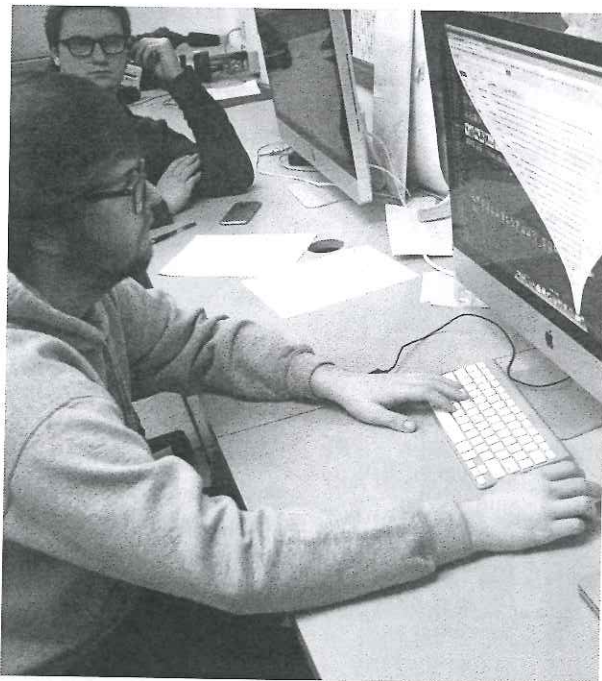
He also has two siblings: Preston, his younger brother, and Sidney, his older sister. One of Shanayda's closest friends, Jacob Carnes, describes him as, "Funny, interesting, and obsessed with

cars."

So Blake Shanayda is set for the future and is determined to not let his hearing challenge stand in his way.



Senior Blake Shanayda edits the Eagle Zone News in the back studio of the journalism room. Shanayda edited the clips using an iMac computer. (Photo by Andrew Proffitt)



Blake Shanayda closes a tab on the iMac computer in the journalism room. (Photo by Andrew Proffitt)

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Delta Students To Receive Chromebooks Next Year

By Jack Shafer and Wilson Thomas

The high school has some Chromebooks in various classrooms, but not every student has his or her own for the day. That is likely to change next school year.

Dr. Darin Gullion, assistant superintendent, said, "Our plan would be - and it is not finalized - but our plan would be for the middle school and the high school both to be 1:1 next year Our plan would be for students to all have Dell Chromebooks by the start of next (school) year."

This will bring a big change to the students' day-to-day activities. Some students may question, Why do we need this technology? How will this help us?

Mr. Greg Kile, the director of curriculum and assessment, said, "I think the new technology puts students in a position where they can learn in some important and relevant ways I think the answer is yes it will (benefit students), but I think what the students perceive that it will look like will actually be something different."

Many students may think that when we go to Chromebooks they will have nothing but the device and will stare at the screen seven periods a day.

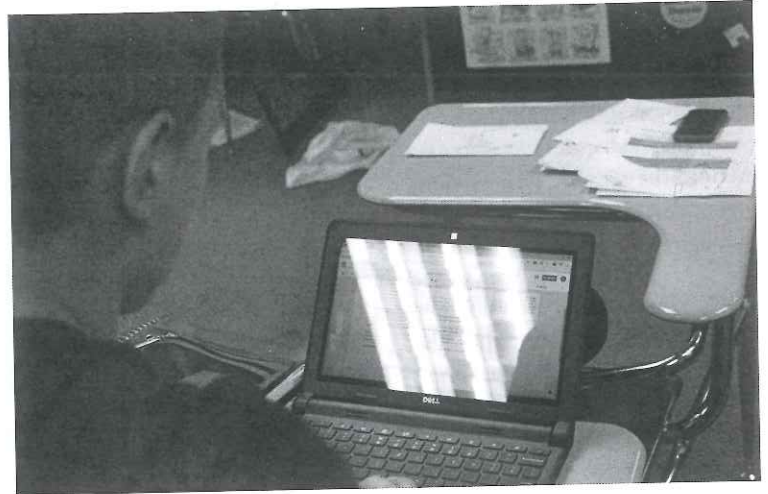
Instead, the plan is to have both textbooks and Chromebooks and to use the devices only when needed.

Some students may not enjoy Chromebooks because they do not want to look at a screen all day. According to Kile, the administrators do not want that to happen either.

"We do not want you guys to be looking at a screen all day," Kile said. "We want to provide you with the best education out there, and having these Chromebooks will help us accomplish that."

As we know there are going to be some changes for the students, but what some people may not think of is the change for the teachers. They have to transition to utilizing Chromebooks more often in class.

"We have been working hard with our teachers in a blended learning approach," Kile said. "What we mean by that is we want to utilize the best methods that exist and utilize the best resources that exist and the best learning strategies... so my hope is that the teachers will be able to play their strengths into this environment."



Junior Peyton Lehman uses a Chromebook in journalism class. Next year he will have his own. (Photo Provided)

This "blended learning approach" is being practiced by the teachers during the two-hour professional development delays once a month.

In the meantime, administrators are making specific plans for next year.

What if a student breaks a Chromebook?

"The discipline will be the same as if you break something else. You pay for it," Dr. Gullion said.

The real big question with the students is will they be able to take the devices home and work on assignments there. Instead of having to bring home heavy textbooks, can they just bring home a Chromebook?

The answer to this is still undecided. A test was done with the eighth graders in March to see if the Chromebooks and their filters would still work correctly away from school and if anything would go wrong with them.

A decision then will be made later on whether the devices will be sent home with students next school year.

It has been a possibility for many years now. Even though not all details are finalized, Delta High School students and teachers can be expecting to go to 1:1 technology by the start of next year.



Freshmen Wilson Thomas (left) and Jack Shafer (center) discuss Chromebooks in the teachers' lounge with assistant superintendent Dr. Darin Gullion (right) and Mr. Greg Kile, director of curriculum and assessment for Del-Com Schools. (Photo Provided)

'IDEAS ARE BULLETPROOF'

Students, teachers share opinions on school shootings controversies

By Kenzie Scudder

Yet another flashing "Breaking News" scrolls across the bottom of the screen. People all over the country dread what might come next. The news anchor delivers the heartbreaking news of one more shooting, one more school in peril, one more group of parents, students, teachers, and others in indescribable hurt.

Some call for gun control. Some for help with mental illness, still others look to school safety precautions, reaching even as far as arming teachers. Given all of these different options, one could become conflicted as to what would help and what wouldn't.

English teacher Mr. Andrew Richardson says, "The only thing that will help is getting to the source of the problem, getting to why and how the students are deciding to become shooters and going from there."

He continues, "Students have a lack of parental involvement, and schools try to fill that gap. If they're going to try to do that, though, they need to really attempt to do it. Get some more counselors and crisis counselors to talk to these kids when they're in bad situations."

However, there are others who believe that crisis counselors would not be as good as getting more armed officers in schools. Freshman Virginia Goul believes that teenagers won't want to talk to adults about their tough times. She says that armed officers would help better protect the school if a shooting were to occur.

Since Richardson has worked at Muncie Central as well as Delta, he also said, "The amount of armed officers necessary depends on the circumstances of the school. When I worked at Central,

there were several armed officers, and two of the best didn't carry guns. I think that the money would be better spent on trying to prevent the shooting in the first place or to help with the aftermath if it does. Having more than one officer at Central didn't make me feel safer or less safe than having just one, sometimes two, at Delta."

Another idea is that teachers should be armed instead, so that it will discourage

people to carry out a shooting. However, Goul, Richardson, freshman Alexis Randle, sophomore Isaac Brown, junior Print Barger, sophomore Jaigen Glaze, seniors Cameron Cle-

or prior student the next.

"I don't feel the people who are mentally trained to kill students should be teaching them," Clevenger said.



Senior Abby Taylor signs a poster made by senior Cameron Clevenger. (Photo by Evan Rogers)

Gun control and mental health are major focal points for how to prevent shootings as well as the reasons for them. Ideas include more gun laws, or ideas such as Barger's to

require semiannual mental health checks on gun owners. People such as Clevenger believe that raising the gun wielding age and adding in security systems to make schools harder to get into with a gun would help more. Though, while Clevenger believes we need to find a solution to this situation, he believes we also need to still reflect on and respect those who died in these shootings. He believes that

this and not just theorizing but taking action, will lead America to the solution for this problem.

To prove this, on Wednesday, March 14, exactly one month after



venger and Natalie Beach, and guidance counselor Doug Wilder all believe that this is not an effective way to prevent shootings. Richardson said it was an "absurd idea," and all students mentioned as well as Richardson felt they would be less safe with teachers being armed.

"You never know if a kid will try to steal the gun from a teacher," Goul said.

Clevenger and Richardson also brought up that teachers would be going from teaching a room full of students one moment and possibly shooting and/or killing a current



DHS students stand in silence for 17 seconds after Cameron Clevenger's speech. Clevenger spoke at lunch on March 14, one month after the Parkland, Fla., shooting. (Photo by Evan Rogers)

**CONTINUED
ON PAGE 18**

Farther than Belief

Grace Hollars shares story of Olympics and how she achieved her dreams

By Kaitlyn Overla

Pregnant as a freshman in high school doesn't leave much room for anything else. It is a general belief that after getting pregnant young, life will take a drastic change. It did for Delta High School graduate Grace Hollars, however not in the way she imagined.

At first it was a struggle.

"That summer was the worst time of my life," Hollars said. "I basically disappeared and refused to talk to anyone but my family and the baby's dad at the time."

She dropped out of school briefly and faced a choice: "I could

raise my son or (I could) place him for adoption. It was up to me."

She said she was not influenced by her family or the father of her child. They let her make the decision because it was her life.

"Though I wanted to be a mother, I knew the life I would give him was not the one he deserved," she said. "He's my flesh and blood and he deserved the world."

She gave birth to her son and left him with "two of the most amazing people I've ever met."

Her son, now age six, has spent a year of his life in France and currently lives in Indianapolis. Hollars still gets to see him, most recently on March 15.



Delta graduate Grace Hollars is accomplishing everything she's set out to do. (Photo Provided)

She shares her story because she knows she made a mistake when she was young. She wants nothing more than to make her baby boy proud.

She believed he deserved a mother better than her. That day she made a promise. She was going to "do something worth giving up her whole world for." That is why she wakes up in the morning, pushes forward, and she works hard. He deserves a mother worth bragging about.

"I am going to change the world. When I do, then maybe he'll understand," she said.

Hollars hopes that one day when he looks at her life that he will be able to see why she gave him up.

She is keeping her promise. Overcoming a stressful past of teen pregnancy and temporary isolation, Hollars flew farther than she could ever imagine.

Literally.

She flew more than 6,500 miles to Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Hollars is now a junior at Ball State University majoring in photojournalism. When journalism professor Ryan Sparrow had her to stay after class and asked if she wanted to go to the 2018 Winter Olympics she thought he was joking.

"It is not uncommon for him to mess with us," Hollars said.

It turned out that Mr. Sparrow was serious. He directs a program called BSU at the Games, which enables BSU communications students to work at the Olympics. The Olympic Committee emailed him asking if Ball State would like full press credentials for him and some of his students.

"(Grace) stood out to me as someone who has a lot of



energy and confidence," Mr. Sparrow said.

Mr. Sparrow went on to explain that he was only able to take five students: two writers, two videographers, and one photojournalist. He noted that he couldn't waste his picks on "maybe they'll do good," he had to be certain.

From knowing the work she did previously at the 2016 Rio Summer Olympics, it was an obvious choice for him to select Hollars.

She was honored to have the opportunity to represent Ball State Photojournalism at a professional and international level.

Leading up to the Olympics she felt an enormous amount of pressure. That didn't stop her. She turned that pressure into drive.

"I remember sitting there before we landed and I promised myself, I was going to make my community proud."

Preparations for going to South Korea were not extensive. They



Grace Hollars took this action shot of an American snowboarder in men's halfpipe at the Winter Olympics.

didn't have to get shots or go through any extensive security screenings.

The main fear looming in her mind was the camera equipment. Canon allowed her to borrow \$20,000 worth of equipment for the Games. She was worried she would forget something.

While traveling she stayed up for 48 hours to prevent herself from being on a weird time schedule. Along with this was the fear of getting sick while she was on the plane, so she got the "nasty" AirBorne tablet and took four of them before she boarded the plane.

Fourteen hours after boarding the plane, she landed in South Korea.

She stayed at a hotel in the middle of nowhere, Gangneung. She described it as a ghost town. Being in another country things were different.

Korea was different from what she was used to. The culture was rich and around every corner.

The obstacle she struggled with most was transportation. After hailing a taxi, she said a cab driver freaked out on her because she went to put her belongings in his trunk and she found crates of live squid.

The media busses in South Korea were party buses equipped with loud music and crazy lights.

Her daily food options consisted of Snickers and a cup of noodles.

It was worth it because she had full press credentials, meaning she was right there in the front row. She was directly behind the glass for the hockey games and was on the halfpipe for men's snowboarding.

Working with a short timeline Hollars was still able to have fun and enjoy herself.

"One of my favorite parts about being at the Olympics was hanging out with people who have the same interest as you," she said. "I mean you have your friends at home and you love them, but when you're in a newsroom with other journalists, you're with your people.

"We all laugh at the same things and we all are working toward the same goal. But we are also not afraid to go out and celebrate the day with putting chopsticks in between our teeth like a walrus."

There was plenty of laughter and fun moments outside of the games. But, there were also points in time where the Olympics were all she could focus on.

Her most exciting moment

involved American Shaun White, the winner of the gold medal on men's halfpipe in snowboarding.

"I had so many moments that I loved, like when Shaun White turned to my camera and screamed. I've never

had this happen to me, but the world fell silent," she said.

"I didn't hear the crowd, I didn't even hear him yell. I saw him turn to me and scream. I was in the right place at the right time. Even looking back at those photos knowing that I got that shot, brought me to tears. But my favorite moment was when Canon hung that photo on their wall. Truly, one of the proudest moments of my life."

It is moments like this that remind her of why she chose photography as a profession.

"I really don't do it for anything other than the impact my photographs have on people. I had no idea how much power my photographs can hold until I shot this photo of Shaun," she said.

"This completely changed the game for me. It's one small step to a greater goal of mine ... to change the world."

She didn't get to converse with any of the athletes except for White because she had to remain behind her camera.

Even with meeting White and catching that picture her favorite part of the Games was getting to meet people from all around the world.

Hollars describes herself as a social butterfly. This was her opportunity to meet people; she was in her element.

She made friends everywhere, even standing and waiting for a bus. She met photographers from Czech Republic



In this picture by Grace Hollars, Shaun White screams with excitement. This photo was hung on the wall of photography company Canon during the Olympics.

and Australia. Even some from U.S. cities such as San Francisco, New York, and Washington.

It was a bittersweet moment when they were saying goodbye. They told her to give them a call if she was ever in their area.

She was in South Korea for 10 days during which she took approximately 15,000 photos.

The Olympics ended more than a month ago, and she still cannot find the words to describe her experiences.

"When I came home and I saw my dad, I broke into tears. I just felt like I had this shine to my smile and a spring to my step.

"I worked really hard all of my life to feel this way, and it honestly feels surreal. I came home as the 2017 College Photographer of the Year, and I just checked off my second Olympics.

"I made my dad proud - so incredibly proud - and that is all I could've asked for."

Hollars only has one year of schooling left. In May she will begin an internship for the *Richmond (Va.) Times Dispatch* newspaper.

Her goal is Getty Images right after college. Getty Images is a stock supplier of photos and film/video for businesses and consumers. Even if that doesn't pan out she'll be just fine.

"I'm an old soul with a Gypsy heart. I'll go wherever the wind takes me."

Students Set New Record at Riley Dance Marathon

By Tynan Dishman

Riley Children's Hospital is more than just an average hospital. Riley cares about families, which is why everything they do is to improve health for children in a family friendly environment.

They are one of the nation's leading pediatric research programs, with doctors finding better ways to treat childhood cancer, diabetes, heart defects, asthma, and many other illnesses. This type of investigation isn't cheap. So for this to happen, many students across Indiana gather around to dance for those who can't.

It's a one night dance to raise money for a specific part of Riley Children's Hospital or to make it possible to get the study the doctors and nurses need to heal the patient.

Delta's Dance Marathon is one of the biggest dances of the year. They plan weeks in advance and put in hours of hard work to provide a good experience for the new people attending.

Delta High School's dance

marathon is open to any student who would like to attend. Seniors Grace Belangee and Lexie Manor are a big part in making sure students get the best experience possible.

Belangee, president of Delta's Dance Marathon, has many big tasks to accomplish



Riley Dance Marathon Committee members hold up signs showing how much was raised. Students exceeded their goal of \$10,000 for the first time in the three-year history of the event. (Photos by Kaylee McKee)



Sophomore Marissa Shaw hugs senior Grace Belangee after speaking at this year's RDM.

days before the dance. She first got involved in Dance Marathon because her sister, Kennedy, was involved in it. Kennedy then got involved in Ball State's Dance Marathon.

Grace said her sister has affected her view because she gave her new

ideas on how to run Dance Marathon.

"Seeing her success and hearing the Riley stories that she learned, encouraged me to get involved," Grace said.

She said that she would like to get involved in Dance Marathon at Butler University, where she will be attending in the fall of 2018.

"Butler's Dance Marathon will give me new ideas and inspirational stories that I will forever cherish," Grace said. "For the kids who are battling whatever they may have, Riley Children's Hospital is so welcoming and the doctors and nurses are really supportive. Just keep on fighting!"

Manor is also on the committee for Delta's Riley Dance Marathon. She was inspired to get involved by her cousins, Belle Brown and Danny Lynch. Belle and Danny both attended Riley Children's Hospital for treatment.

Belle has Kawasaki Disease, which is a rare condition that causes inflammation in the walls of some blood vessels in the body. Danny has been to Riley for multiple surgeries.

"Riley Children's Hospital has impacted both of their lives tremendously, and I'm so thankful that there is a place like Riley available to help," Lexie said,

She plans to be involved in Dance Marathon in college. She was encouraged to be involved by Madison Ashman, a Delta graduate, who is one of the organizers in Indiana University's Dance Marathon.

"Seeing how much she loves it inspired me to get involved," Lexie said,

Although balancing classes can be a tough task the week of the dance, Lexie said that she just needs to use her free time, aside of classes, to work on various activities for the dance.

"I would tell any Riley kid that they are in great hands, and there is definitely hope for the future." Lexie said. "Just seeing what my cousins had to go through it really opened my eyes about what other children with the same problems have to go through each and every day."



Students practice part of a line dance led by the Riley Dance Marathon Committee.

One Last Show

Delta Troupers seniors experience their final theatre production

By Evan Rogers

The stage is set for the final performance for the Delta Troupers of the year. The members see their work serve purpose as numbers of people file into their auditorium.

Some have been performing on stage since the start of their freshman year at Delta. Some have only started more recently in theatre. Some are actors, some are stagehands. You can find some building sets or some prepping the auditorium

for a large audience. Some are continuing next year and many are graduating this year.

No matter the differences between the people, one thing is made clear by the Delta Troupers: "There are no small roles in theatre," as Lizzie King describes.

Saturday, March 10, 2018, was for many theatre members, their last high school performance. For one of these seniors, it was about his 30th performance on Delta's stage.

Cameron Clevenger has been closely involved with the Troupers for eight theatre productions. Along with being an actor for the group, he also held the title as Music Director for the troupe. "It's really bittersweet because this has been so much of my identity, and who I've considered myself to be for the past four years, but I'm excited to find new opportunities."

He went on to say how he hopes that the next generation of theatre students can "surpass everything that I've done."

"He's really one of the people who built this place and made it what it is," said sophomore Abbie Harris. "Without him, there isn't going to be someone to just be sassy or be a big mentor to me."

Aiden Vandiver is also graduating with Clevenger and plans to possibly try out for productions at Muncie Civic

Theatre. He performed in four shows with the Delta Troupers.

"They always do a good job every year, and I'm excited to come see them as a Delta graduate," he said.

With the departure of the seniors in the Troupers, senior Cooper Sprague says that the returning students are "going to have some shoes to fill."

The shoes he's referring to are of actors, set designers, stagehands, and more.

"I'm excited to see the sophomores and freshmen of this year get to step up," Sprague continued.

For those considering joining theatre, Harris advises to "take baby steps," steps like taking the theatre class, watching people practice up on stage, or watching a live performance. Har-



Senior Cameron Clevenger (right) performs in his final show with Delta Troupers. The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 was his eighth production. (Photo Provided)

ris has been involved with all four of the productions in the two years she's been at Delta.

"I think my biggest problem is that I went all in and it got really stressful," she said.

However, if someone was thinking of join-

ing and auditioning for a character's role, Sprague says, "I know that it's probably nerve wracking being on stage and everything, but all I can say is give it your best shot. ... Leave your comfort zone."

The last performance of the year wrapped up the legacy for many seniors in Delta theatre.

"Everyone really brought something to the table, and everyone is just really important so obviously without these people, it's going to be a completely different dynamic going forward. It doesn't get easier," Harris said.

The curtain opens and the first pair of actors walk onstage. To the audience, this is just another show for their entertainment. For the seniors, it's their last chance to entertain; their one last show.



Performers give their curtain call at the end of the Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 play. (Photo Provided)

Academic Achievements

Academic Hallway project will honor students with academic success

By Stashia Brannon

The Academic Wall of Fame was just a thought in a Chick-fil-A meeting for impact projects from co-sponsor Mr. Tim Cleland when sophomore Zac Stanley helped make it bigger than a thought.

Stanley, Gavin Wilson, Allison Bell, Caroline Brown and Lexie Manor took several SRT periods to develop a plan for the Academic Wall of Fame.

The Academic Wall of Fame is a way to honor academic achievements of students at Delta. The goal is to honor students who go above and beyond in their classes.

The students will benefit by working to do better and more in each department of education.

"Delta revolves around sports, but nothing really represents academics, so this is a project to promote student achievement in all classes," junior Gavin Wilson said.

"I think it could inspire students to try harder in class to have a chance to be student of the month," Stanley said.

The Academic Wall is being built in the hallway between Room 130 and the main office.

On the office side, there will be a mural as well as two plaques for all valedictorians and salutatorians since the school opened in 1968. Also on the office side will be a painting of the University of Delta High School sign with different dual credit information.

Art Club members are painting the mural and the education-related quotes at the top of the wall.

On the wall closest to Room 130, there be the 14 plaques with student



Junior Gavin Wilson helps Tyce Stebbins, Del-Com Schools project manager, with the Academic Wall of Fame project. They measured out where to place the plaques and corkboards on the wall. (Photo Provided)

of the month for each department of education along with three corkboards. On the corkboards will be motivational and inspirational sayings, joke and riddles, and promotional material for upcoming student events.

The plan was taken to principal Chris Conley and was approved. Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy sponsors Mr. Cleland and Mrs. Cindy Hall got a grant from Del-Com Foundation for the project. The grant was for slightly more than \$1,000.

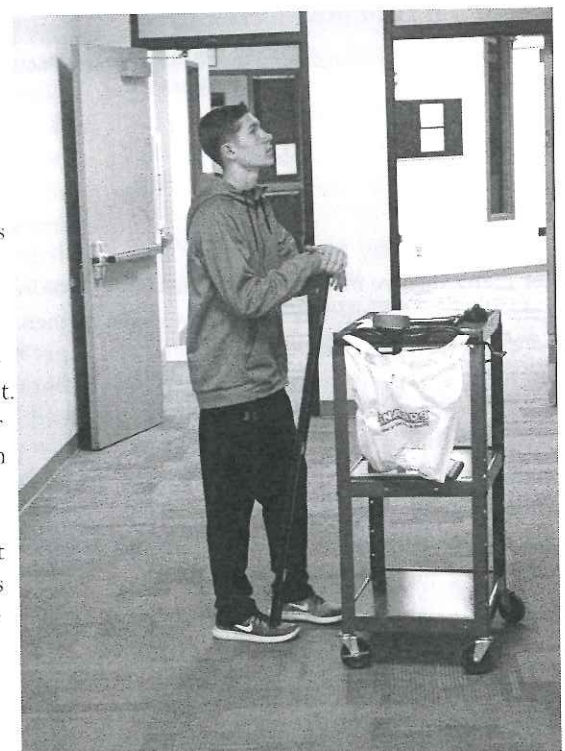
The committee bought 14 wooden frames for student of the month, picture frames, corkboards, plaques, nameplates and

magnetic frames for the wall.

It is estimated to be finished this month.

Each department chairman will select a student of the month for the final two months of this school year and then for all months in the coming years.

Delta revolves around sports, but nothing really represents academics, so this is a project to promote student achievement in all classes.
- Gavin Wilson



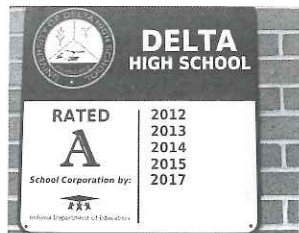
Sophomore Zac Stanley helps as Wilson and Stebbins work with laying out the wall. (Photo Provided)

Delta Earns Another 4-Star School Award

By Maranda Stotler

Being an "A" rated school, being Early College course certified, and having a 4-Star rating. There is only one school in Delaware County that has all of those components: Delta High School.

Out of more than 400 high schools in Indiana, only 63 received a 4-Star rating. The Indiana Department of Education gives the ratings to the schools. A 4-Star rating is the highest rating a school can get.



Delta must have tested at least 95 percent of students on English/Language Arts and Math. Schools then need a combined ISTEP pass percentage that must be 25th highest percentile for each grade tested to become an "A" rated school.

Delta must maintain ISTEP scores, attendance and college and career readiness. The career readiness goal for Indiana is 25 percent. Delta exceeded that by a lot, last year scoring 80 percent because of our large amount of dual credits.

Being rated an "A" school, having 4 stars and having Early College certification benefits Delta through public relations.

"It shows what good work our teachers and students are doing," said Mr. Chris Conley, principal.

Senior Bryn Marlow is one of many to have numerous dual credits. Bryn

has taken Physics, English, Calculus and Speech for dual credit classes.

Bryn is through her freshman year of college with all of her credits.

"It helps me with financial stuff," she said. "It gives students a great opportunity and allows students to get more ahead."

Delta promotes its achievements by posting on Twitter, conducting spring public events, and installing boards on the east and west entrance doors with our rating on it.



Current freshmen signed this banner showing their intent to graduate. (Photo by Maranda Stotler)

The only other high school in Delaware

County to have a 4-Star rating currently is Daleville High School.

Delta has been 4 Stars for two years in a row and three of the last four years, also.

"We let our teachers teach, and they do a great job of it and getting students prepared," Conley said.

SWITCHING THINGS UP

Transfer students tell why they come to Delta

By Delaney Pence

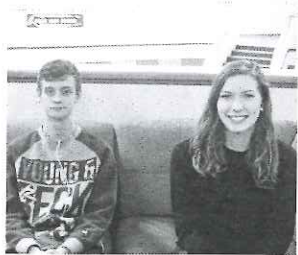
Have you ever transferred schools? How about driving a half hour or more each morning to get to school? For some students that's their daily morning routine.

Sophomore Morgan Gardner is one of the many transfer students at Delta. Gardner transferred from Blackford in Hartford City because she said she was getting picked on and made fun of at her old school.

Gardner drives 30 minutes each morning to get to school and leaves her house about 7:15 a.m. In the afternoon she has to ride the bus to her grandma's house and wait there until her dad picks her up at 5 p.m.

Gardner says, "Sometimes I regret leaving because I miss all my close

friends, but they didn't try to talk to me when I moved so it doesn't really affect me."



Bransen Cope and Kayla McKissack

Gardner is one of 85 transfer students at Delta. These students do not live in our district but choose to come here and pay tuition.

Freshman Kayla McKissack transferred to Delta at the beginning of her eighth-grade year. McKissack transferred from Blackford Middle

School because she said she was receiving threats due to the fact that her dad is a police officer.

McKissack's drive each morning is about 25-30 minutes.

She wakes up each morning at 5:30 a.m. and leaves the house about 6:45 a.m. if she's on time that day. McKissack tends to get home at 4:00 p.m. or 4:15

p.m. if there is little to no traffic.

"The hardest part about being so far away from school is waking up early because then I'm so tired at school because I lost an hour of sleep," she said.

Her dad made the decision for her to transfer, but she was happy to be leaving Blackford and having a new start at Delta.

Another freshman that rides 20 minutes to school is Bransen Cope. He is from Selma and decides to ride to Delta each morning. Cope moved here five months ago because he felt the teachers would be better and he would get an overall better education.

Cope hoped to play football, but he didn't end up playing because of his academic stance. Before Selma, Cope was home-schooled his seventh and eighth grade years, and before that he went to Royerton Elementary School.

So if you think your 7:30 a.m. wake-up time is tough, try waking up at 5:30 and then having to drive at least 20 minutes to get to school each morning.

JUMP START

Seniors serve internships to explore interests in different fields

By Madyson Cox

Optometry, advertising/marketing, youth ministries, theater production/office, physical therapy. No these are not just random occupations, they are all unique internships that some seniors have this year.

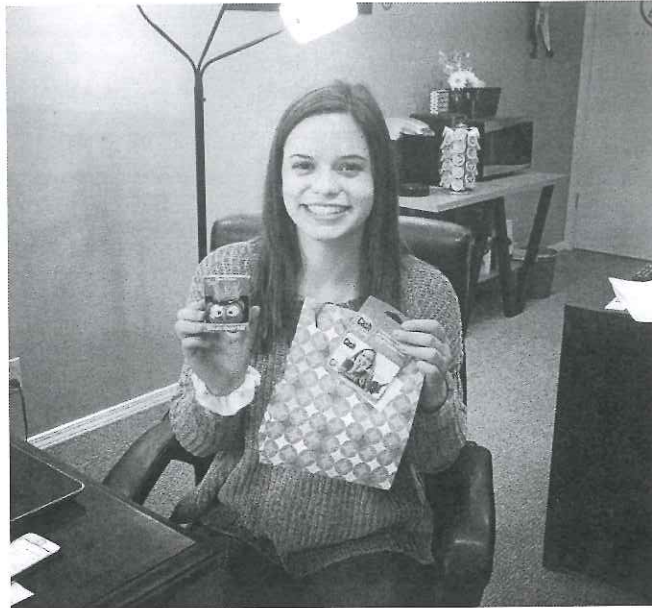
Forty-seven Delta High School seniors spend two periods a day at an internship. Business teacher Mr. Andy Lewman supervises the internship program and helps the students.

Grace Belangee is an intern at Family Vision Care, an optometry business in Muncie. Every day she goes into the office to open and sort contacts. She enjoys getting the perspective of an eye doctor, but she doesn't like that she can't work with patients since she is just an intern.

Belangee has wanted to be an eye doctor from the time she got glasses. She likes interning at Family Vision Care because she knows that becoming an eye doctor is her future career after attending Butler University.

Hailey Lambertson is an intern at Spotted Monkey Marketing, and her job is to make graphics for social media. She enjoys being creative, but she has a hard time not getting bored.

Lambertson has always liked art, and she was excited when her dad told her that he got the contact for her internship.



Carly Miller shows off an office prize she won at Central Indiana Orthopedics. (Photo Provided)

Avery Langdon interns at Muncie Civic Theatre. She works under the business manager so she gets to deal with customers and business items.

Langdon loves how the atmosphere at the theatre is so frenetic and upbeat but she has trouble managing her time and leaving time for herself.

Langdon says that "Muncie Civic Theatre is putting me in the right direction for where I want to go in life."

Carly Miller interns at Central Indiana Orthopedics where she helps with rehabilitation and physical and occupational therapy. She likes getting to know the patients, but doesn't like that she can't really work with the patients because she is just an intern.

Miller said she enjoys getting to know the patients and says she feels "one step ahead of everyone else," but said she has trouble managing her time.

Stella East is an intern at Union Chapel/Oneighty. She gets to be behind the scenes of the messages on Sundays.

East wanted to do this internship because she decided that she would like to learn more about her church during the week.

These five people have all taken the opportunity to get a jumpstart on their careers.



Hailey Lambertson sits behind her mentor's desk at her Spotted Monkey graphics internship. (Photo Provided)

Drills Prepare Students for Unexpected Occasions

By Tanner Barber

The alarms are blaring in your ears. You finally walk outside as the cold air hits you. Your class lines up as the teacher takes roll call and checks for any missing students in your class. Everybody has been through fire drills, but is it enough?

In the recent school shooting in Parkland, Fla., one reason the shooting shocked the world is how the student shooter used the fire alarm to his own advantage. During the fire drill he opened fire on students, and in the chaos of the people evacuating the building he snuck out with the crowd while posing as a student.

Principal Mr. Chris Conley

said he believes that there are enough drills put in place for students. There has to be one fire drill a month due to state law.

Conley stated that the least amount of drills we have are for tornado and lockdown events. The most well known, fire drills, are also the drills the school conducts the most.

Conley also said that sometimes students do not take these drills as seriously as they should. If ever there were a real situation, it's better to stay calm so your peers around you understand to not let panic set in.



Students take cover during a tornado drill in March. Students crammed into the Eagle Zone News studio of the journalism room. (Photo by Kenzie Reed)

Conley said that we would not leave the building if there were intruders because the state legislature has decided this is the best plan.

Spring Break Fun

Students experience different things while on Spring Break

By Salina Bell

Hanging out at the beach, shopping, and having dinner with grandma.

To many students, that may sound like a perfect day. For freshman Hailey King, it sounds like Spring Break.

King visits Florida every year to not only see the beautiful scenery but to visit with her grandma. One of the many events that King participates in is shopping.

While in Florida, of course you're going to need the proper attire so her family makes sure they get plenty of shopping time in.

King also spent her spring break with her close friends. Spring break isn't just a time for family, but it's important to share memories with

friends because the memories you make now will be memories that stay with you forever, possibly some of the best memories of your life.

King wasn't the only person who went somewhere popular this spring break. Sophomore Elizabeth Pearson took a trip to Florida with her close friend Maranda Stotler. Pearson visits Florida often because her grandparents live there. This year she decided to ask her friend to tag along.

Pearson loves Florida because of the warm weather and the beautiful sites by the water. Her vacation consists of hanging out with friends and family and also hanging out by the pool.

A lot of people not only enjoy hanging out by the water but a huge attraction at the beach is a taco truck called Yo Taco.

Most of the students at Delta who have visited Fort Myers in Florida know of this iconic taco truck. The truck has become an area where students enjoy their tacos and get to spend time together by the beach.

Some of the activities that Pearson participated in would include feeding bunnies, swimming, tanning, eating lots of food, and just enjoying the sunshine.

If you make a vote for where the most popular place to go for

Staying on Course

With track season underway, here's how they get ready for the season

By Peyton Lehman

As sophomore Wesley Stitt runs hurdles, the feeling of going to state feels within reach. The dream feels possible. As track kick-started its season into competition on March 3, Stitt said, "It was great to get out and run instead of practicing every day."

He feels confident about the team this year. The boys' track team has 34 athletes in running and field events.

Some of the goals Stitt has set for himself are to reach 21 feet, 6 inches in long jump, smashing his old record, and to help the team win sectionals and county.

Long jump is a narrow black track with sand at the end for the runner to jump into as he or she tries to jump as far as possible.

This is Stitt's fourth year running track, but he does not plan on continuing after high school unless he gets

offers. "I run track to get faster for football," Stitt said.

Last year the team lost in sectionals, but this year they plan on turning things around. "I plan to win in long jump this year," Stitt said.

The team plans to win this year by hard work and what they did in the offseason in the weight-room and running. After the track team had their first meet on March 3 senior Lea Daugherty said he did not have a great meet. "Personally I did not do great, but as a team we did well," he said.

In his second year of track, he is already throwing farther than last year.

He isn't done yet with a goal of throwing 45 feet. Lea set a personal record last year in shot put, throwing 44 feet 1 inch. Shot put is an 8-pound ball that the thrower must try to launch as far as possible without stepping over the line.



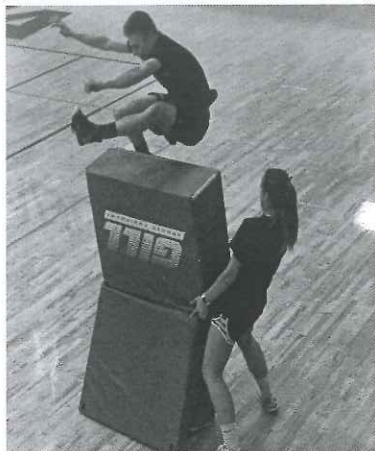
The boys' and girls' track teams warm up before practice in the gym.

Daugherty has a leadership role as he tries to help the team win county and sectionals.

"I have to make sure that everyone is doing what they are supposed to be doing and push-

ing themselves when the coaches aren't watching," he said.

The track teams will go against Yorktown and Jay County on April 12 at 5 p.m. Boys' track sectionals will start on May 17th.



Sophomore Wesley Stitt clears two practice hurdles at a track practice. (Photos by Darnell Scherrer)



Mackenzie Bell and Lea Daugherty train for the upcoming season.

Continued from Page 9

the Parkland school shooting in Florida where 17 people died and 14 were injured, Clevenger participated in the protest scheduled around the nation. Rather than walking out of class, he chose to make a poster for students to sign, which said "Ideas are Bulletproof" and organized a speech to make his statement. For Clevenger, "Ideas are Bulletproof" means much more than just that you can't fire a gun at ideas.

"To me, it means that

the movement for gun control will not be killed this time. It is not going to be swept aside or ignored, and it will not be 'shot down' by the NRA's lobbyists," he said.

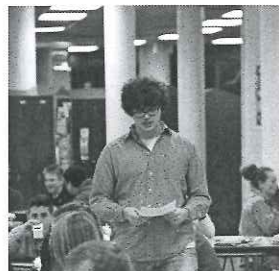
The speech was more than that, though. Clevenger talked about how the people who have lost their lives in school shootings were people just like students here at Delta.

"You can disagree with me, but I nonetheless ask that you join me in 17 seconds of silence in memory of those lives

lost. Don't speak. Listen to your pulse, and if your hearing is good, the pulse of your friend next to you, and then imagine what it would be like if that pulse was suddenly gone. For the friends and families of almost 7,000 children between 2012 and now, they weren't imagining it. It was their reality," Clevenger said in his speech during A lunch on March 14.

Clevenger hopes those 17 seconds, his speech, and his banner will ignite action in people. He believes that's the only way things will change

Clevenger said "I am a firm believer in the idea that change doesn't happen through wishful thinking. Real steps must be taken to make the world a better place, not just for us, but for those that come after us."



Senior Aiden Vandiver reads Cameron Clevenger's speech during C lunch. (Photo by Evan Rogers)

Race to the Cure

By Emily Warner

An event to help people, to feel good about yourself, and to have an experience of a lifetime -- all during this one event called SmashCancer.

SmashCancer has been a major spring activity since 2012. This year SmashCancer 7.0 will be on May 1 when Delta hosts Yorktown in a girls' tennis match.

SmashCancer has many purposes, one purpose being to support local people in Delaware County who are battling cancer. The second purpose of SmashCancer is to "expose our (Delta) own girl tennis players to the importance of serving others and to serving their community," said head tennis coach Tim Cleland, the co-founder of SmashCancer.

Senior Emma Snider believes SmashCancer's goal is to "raise awareness for all the different types of cancer and the different people in our community that have suffered cancer in their families and how everyone is affected by it," Snider said.

SmashCancer was created to focus on all different types of cancer and not just the one cancer that

we all know, breast cancer.

In the past six years the SmashCancer program has sold more than 5,000 shirts and sweatshirts and has raised \$26,000 in profits for three beneficiaries. Most of the money stays local, as the beneficiaries are the Cancer Center at IU



Delta tennis coach Tim Cleland poses with Mrs. Barbara Hubbard, grandmother of Tannon and Tynan Dishman. Mrs. Hubbard, a Server Survivor in the 2016 and 2017 SmashCancer matches, passed away last fall. (Photo Provided)

Health Ball Hospital, the Little Red Door Cancer Services of East Central Indiana and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

"Rather than sitting back and letting cancer win, we are going to fight it," Cleland said. "We can't raise millions of dollars, but we can contribute to battle the big opponent."

During year one 310 shirts were sold. The "last four or five years we've averaged about a thousand shirts per year," Cleland said.

During the last six years SmashCancer has "grown in exposure and it's grown in the amount of money we've

generated," he said.

Delta plays Yorktown because "it is the biggest attention in the match if you play your rival," Cleland said.

Delta and Yorktown have been rivals for decades. The schools have a large roster of 25 to 35 girls on each team.

"If you do it against a team that isn't your big rival, it's harder to come together and coordinate an event like this," Cleland said.

During an experience like this "we gain an understanding that life is bigger than just ourselves.... Many people can fall into a trap thinking that their own little world is all there is," Cleland said. "When you get into SmashCancer you realize the things the people go through as they are battling cancer."

We also often feel better about ourselves when we do a good deed or help out others in general.

"People who volunteer a lot and serve others in a significant way generally get a great deal of satisfaction out of that, and it helps you without even knowing it," Cleland said.

SmashCancer also helps cancer patients.

"If we have a person who is battling cancer, they can come out and hit an honorary first serve before the match," Cleland said. "It puts them on display where they understand that people do care about what they are going through."

As one goes through cancer there can sometimes be a lot of loneliness. People can be reluctant to come and visit because it may be uncomfortable.

"We don't pretend to know what they're going through, but we can at least show that we care and that we want to make an impact and make their life better and the lives of other future patients better," Cleland said.

Cancer used to be somewhat of a death sentence. "Being diagnosed with



The Dishman family rallies together at the annual SmashCancer event. (Photo Provided)

**CONTINUES ON
BACK PAGE**

Continued from Page 19



think that as time marches on that we will win more and more of that battle.”

As a Delta student we have the opportunity to help out in this event. Students are able to purchase SmashCancer apparel (shirts, sweat-shirts, and hats this year). Each color represents a different cancer in order to be more significant to the person who buys it.

“We try to make trendy designs that students would like and multiple colors so that students can match the color to the cancer...,” Cleland said. “That shirt has more significance if it’s green and it represents the cancer that the family member went through.”

Cancer patients can participate in the match by hitting a first serve or being a partner match with Delta or Yorktown.

Last year Tannon and Tynan Dishman had their grandmother, Barbara Hubbard, come out and be a server. She had terminal lung cancer. As frail and weak as she was, she was still able to hit a first serve over the net.

“She was bound and determined to make that serve over the net, and she even practiced a couple of days ahead of time,” Cleland said.

Since the last SmashCancer program their grandmother has passed away. “It is going to be a lot different because she is not going to be with us,” said Tynan Dishman, who is a freshman member of the tennis team this spring. “It is going to feel extra special because she is not with us anymore, but she said last year that this is going to be my last year that I’ll be with you guys so I just want you to remember me in a positive way.”

Attitudes like that serve as motivation to the participants in SmashCancer.

“It is an inspiration to me as a coach and to the players when you see someone and that fight that they still have in them,” Cleland said.



Players participate in the 2016 SmashCancer match at Delta courts. (Photo Provided)

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