

Smith expects great year

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Taylor Navarro
 Staff Reporter

His main goal is to insure all students are learning to their best ability and to make sure all students get a great education during their four years at WHS.

A concern to him is the large class sizes in some classes. This year WHS has more students enrolled in classes, which make the ratio per students to teacher larger than in recent years.

When Smith leaves to go home after school, it is hard for him to forget about things that happened at or during school. His job can be overwhelming at times, so he tries to get his mind off the negatives and relax to keep his sanity.

Guardian Angels

Marlenn Sandoval
 Staff Reporter

A Guardian Angels meeting was held by the ASB Co-Advisor, Jessie Proctor on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2011 to form the 2011-2012 Guardian Angels for this year's football team.

To become a guardian Angel, each potential angel must return a parent signed informational permission slip. This document included all things that were acceptable to be put in and on lockers, as well as the items prohibited.

Guardian Angels are students who choose to support our varsity football players by providing spirit based support. They either pick or are assigned a player on the varsity team. Once the football player is selected, the Guardian Angel provides the player with a well decorated locker representing the school's athletic appreciation and cheer them on for a win; food to maintain strength; sweets to reward them for a potential victory; and Gatorade or PowerAde a drink to replenish their bodies after a hard battle.

This year there are 26 Guardian Angels. They are seniors, Alexa Farris, Courtney Dicharry, Maira Jaramillo, Nidia Sanchez, Patricia Farrell, Emily Ellis, Jennifer Pentz, Glafira Hernandez; juniors, Miranda Bailey, Michaela Biggs, Rebekah Allen, Natalie Massa Esmerelda Perez, Brooke Lindell, Rebecca Jones; sophomores, Allison Brunner, Meghan Mendes, Teresa Biggs, Meghan Hughes, Lizeth Reyes, Lexxee Tapia, Elena Garcia; freshman, Natalie Clark, Allie Goforth, Miriana Valenzuela

Guardian Angels spend their own personal time and funds to purchase the items to provide for the WHS football players. These angels are the gifters of school spirit

Freshmen orientation provides first taste of high school activities

Approximately 80 freshman students attended the WHS freshman orientation where they were informed of the high school expectations and the schools fight song



Jessica Adhin, Yearbook Advisor

Freshman students listen to principal, Mr. Smith and vice principal, Mr. Perry as they explain the differences of high school life from the middle school routine.

Taylor Navarro
 Staff Reporter

The WHS held a Freshman Orientation which was held in the gym on Friday, Aug 14. This orientation not only welcomed the attending freshmen but provided them with valuable information about the campus. The ASB officers and the counseling department organized this freshman orientation.

All freshmen who attended entered the foyer of the gymnasium and were greeted by the ASB officers who registered them into a group.

The class were seated in the

designated rally area where Mr. Smith and Mr. Perry informed the new freshman class about rules, procedures, and expectations.

Mr. Smith introduced them to WHS Alma Mater and fight song that is sung at every sports rally. The ASB officers called students out of the bleachers onto the gym floor to play games. "It was kind of fun, since I got called out of the crowd for the game." Shawna Dollarhide explained

After participating in several rally games and listening to various presenters, the class was

taken on a guided tour around campus.

The ASB officers broke the class into five different groups, each identified by a stickers given to them during registration.

One of the designated stops was with counselor, Mr. Bryant, in the career education room. He spoke to each group about WHS teacher's expectations, office slips, and the various schedule changes students make during the first few weeks of school.

Another stop was at the library. Mrs. Amy Baker, the attendance secretary, informed them of the procedures in clearing their absence before attending their first period class. She explained the various colors of slips used and their purpose.

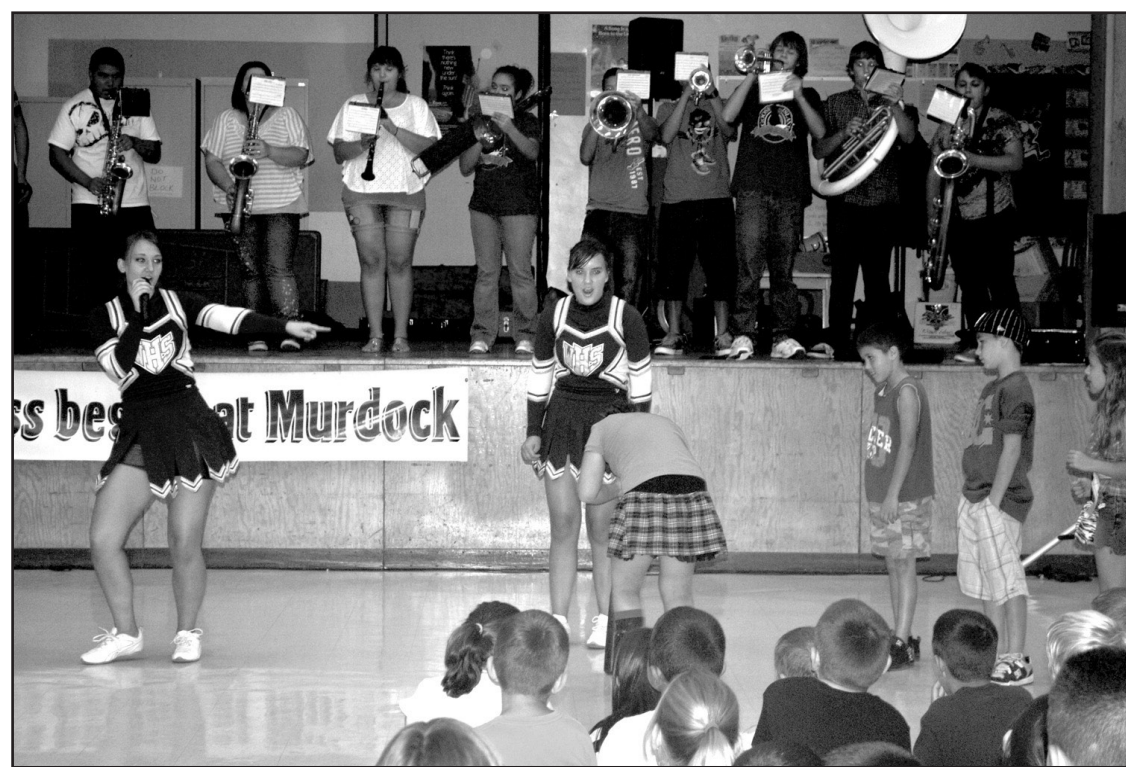
Baker also informed each group of the importance of their ASB card used as an ID as well as the various discounts it provides students.

Several classrooms were designated stops where there were different teachers in each room.

Many students found the day pleasant and fun especially when games were played in the gym.

"I thought this freshmen orientation went well and set a good example for them," principal Mr. Smith said.

Rally at elementary gives youngsters a taste of WHS spirit



Delainy Ward, The Honker

Murdock Elementary students and faculty saw first hand what the WHS Rallies are all about. Students sat on the floor as rally chairman, Michaela Biggs led the rally through the paces. Students participated in the games and learned the high school cheers.

Mickey Biggs
 Managing Editor

The WHS ASB team led by Nadia Sanchez, ASB president and ASB Officers, provided a fun filled spirit rally before the students and faculty at Murdock Elementary School.

Rally Chairman, Michaela Biggs lead the rally, cheerleaders and pep band to the school to show future Honkers what WHS rallies are all about.

"This event was more about informing upcoming Honkers about some of the fun events and activities held at the high school level throughout the school year," Biggs said.

It was also to encourage and include the students in school pride.

Murdock Elementary students and teachers gathered around the cafeteria/gym/stage combo room sitting on the floor

to watch and participate in some of the fun events.

The rally was an exact replica of what the rallies are at the high school. Sports players were introduced, the cheer leaders did a routine, and the band played several songs while standing on the stage.

The cheerleaders gave a cheer and rally competitions were played with the young students. Students volunteered to participate in the bat-twirl game placing their head on the bat handle as it is stood up-right on the floor.

A game that the elementary students played was the 'Spin around the Bat' game. Two rows of students lined up willingly to participate.

Spinning around three times and then running to the other side of the room and back while being dizzy was entertaining to all.

"It was funny to see them spin and run while being dizzy and they did it so well," The Honker photographer, Jolene Pozzi said.

Biggs kept pace with the time requirements and smoothly moved from one rally activity to the other. She informed them of what was going to happen next and even taught them a cheer. The students learned the schools fight song and the Alma Matter.

The event lasted for approximately one hour. The enjoyment was seen on the students faces as they watched and listened to Biggs.

This event fostered a great relationship with the students and the high school.

"It was fun to hold a rally at the elementary school. The students were so happy to see us there," Biggs said. "I hope we can do this next year only take the rallies to both the elementary and the middle school next year," she said.

Fall Cheerleading Report

Taylor Navarro
 Staff Reporter

The fall cheerleading season is well underway for the 2011-2012 school year. Becky Biggs, a two year cheer coach, returns for her third year coaching the cheer team. She is assisted by Kori Bailey and Mandy Baker. Bernie Francis helps out on her spare time.

The fall cheer squad is made up of four dedicated cheerleaders.

Their practice Monday-Thursday from 3:30-6 p.m. usually held in the cafeteria, between the classrooms on the grass, or once in a while in the gymnasium, where they practice dance for the rallies. They do not practice year around.

For those who are inquiring about joining this years fall squad, it is too late to join. In the spring there will be announcements in the bulletin announcing when next years fall cheer tryouts will commence.

Academic Decathlon

Marlenn Sandoval
 Staff Reporter

Mrs. Geri Mahood sent information to the 2011-2012 Academic Decathlon team members concerning focus categories for the Glenn County competition held February 4 at WHS.

This year's competition topic, *The Age of the Imperialism: The Making of the European Global Order*, involves four rounds of competitions.

The first competition is a scrimmage and will be held Dec. 1. The next competition is held on the first Saturday in Feb.

The winners of this competition will attend the California Academic Decathlon State Finals held in March. This competition selects the team that will represent California in the last competition, United States Academic Decathlon held in April.

This year's Aca Deca team consists of seniors, Nicholas Wood and Garrett Close and juniors, Damian Chanthapaseuth, Cole Bruer, and Michaela Biggs.

Each team member studies on their own reading the support materials provided to them from the Academic Decathlon committee.

This year the team is planning to do better than last year and bring home a trophy.

"Our goal is to win the whole competition, but at least to place higher than last year and for all team members to win in at least one category," Mahood said.

For extra reading support students are studying the novel, *The Heart of Darkness*. Mahood expects William Finch Charter School to be their strongest competition. Students in Aca Deca spend various hours studying for competition.

Mahood supports the students on the team by providing them with the required supplemental materials, teaching them to study to their strengths, teaching the novel *"The Heart of Darkness"*, and showing them the support video if one is available. Meetings and transportation is also organized by Mahood.

Students join the Aca Deca team for their own personal reasons. It is an experience of a lifetime to be able to represent their school in this competition.

"I enjoy meeting new people, learning more and doing new things," two year veteran, junior, Biggs said.

Lamb Derby "Super Ewe" planning has began

Mickey Biggs
 Managing Editor

Preparations for the 2012 Lamb Derby are well under-way as decisions are made by the Lamb Derby committee.

They have decided the theme for the coming Lamb Derby will be "Super Ewe". Any suggestions for future themes should be mailed to P.O. Box 902.

The committee has not yet decided on a Grand Marshal. They are asking for any suggestions to be mailed the P.O. Box mentioned above. The Grand Marshal must have done something to benefit the Willows community. There are no age limitations.

Sign-ups for the Lamb Derby Queen competition for junior girls will be in the WHS front office in December.