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UNDERclassmen

Mickey Biggs
Managing Editor

The under-classmen tend to get a bad rap, or reputation, mostly because they are younger and not as experienced. Many of them earn their reputation as well. When students entered into high school, they used to have a sense of humility considering they were the "newbies" of the school. They knew they did not understand everything that occurs at the school and were open to embracing the ideals within the walls of Willows High.

Lately, the incoming freshmen have abandoned all hopes of being accepted by the current students in time and have instead forced their induction. This happens when the students believe that they are better than or smarter than the older students for no justifiable reason.

Upper-classmen tend to find this annoying and unbearable in some cases. They have experienced life

as a freshman and know that they did not know everything they needed to, and understand better now what they did not know then. Do upper-classmen know everything? Absolutely not, but they understand more than they did as under-classmen.

As more experienced members of WHS, upper-classmen and teachers deserve more respect than the current underclassmen are offering. Underclassmen have valid opinions and points of view; however they do not have the expertise that only time on a school campus can provide.

The arrogant under-classmen have become a nuisance that many would rather avoid. These individuals need to realize that they do not own the school and have much to learn. If the younger students on campus are tired of hearing about their negative reputation, they need to be proactive and check themselves and see if they are part of the problem.

Go for the Gold

Mickey Biggs
Managing Editor

Many people see today's generation as lazy and unwilling to get any work done. However, there are many young people who are yearning to accomplish something. There is a fire burning within many youthful citizens that spurs them on to blazing a new trail. For those that have not experienced

unease in sitting by idly watching other people make a difference, you are letting life pass you by.

In the world today, there are many advances being made in the technological and medical fields but there is much work that needs to be completed. This requires a creative mind, a willingness to work hard, and the desire to make a difference.

Students Settling For 60%

Ok, here's my soapbox rant: students settling for "just passing" with a minimum 60% D- in a class. Some are even thrilled and cheer when they see their grades. Now, I am not referring to students who try their hardest, turn in every assignment, study for the tests and are doing the best they can do. I am talking about students who are perfectly capable but choose not to turn in or finish assignments, make due dates or bother to study. They then seem perfectly content to skim by a class with a paltry 60%.

Do they realize the long term consequences of this? If they were on the other end of this, would they be

content? For example, let's take the automobile. Most teenagers love to drive and look forward to the day when they can purchase a vehicle. How many though, would spend \$20,000 or more for a new vehicle if they knew it only had 60% of its wheels? (That's 2.4 wheels). Or if it was put together by people in the factory who only bothered to learn 60% of the skills needed? How safe is that? Yet, if you asked the employee why they only did 60% of the work, they would tell you they "just didn't feel like doing the rest" or they "were too busy". Beginning to get the picture?

Take this same automobile example. If you needed

engine repair and took it to a mechanic, wouldn't you expect them to fix all of it? What if that mechanic told you when you went to pay for the repairs that your engine needed 10 parts but they only replaced 6; not because they didn't have the parts, but because they just didn't feel like putting the rest on? But you must pay for the entire repair job. Not likely to be ok with anyone.

Finally, before I step down off my soapbox, I have to ask all the students out there who still think "just passing" is enough. Do you really think in today's economy that someone is going to hire you to do 60% of the work assigned, yet pay you

for the entire job? Or even keep you around? Employers can ask for school transcripts and your grades reflect your work ethics as well as your knowledge in a given subject. So step up, make the effort, and do your best so you can demand the best of others.

Well, that's my pet peeve and ranting for one issue. Think about the 60% minimum though, the next time you order food in a restaurant....made by someone who only knows how to cook 60% or run 60% of the machines. I don't think you'd give them the business twice. I wouldn't.

Teresa Woods
English Instructor

Foul Language on WHS Campus

Foul language used in hallways and walkways on WHS campus has gotten out of control. The profanity student's use makes themselves, the people around them, as well as our school look bad.

Do you have a dirty mouth? You know the old question, "Do you kiss your mother with that mouth?" Well do you? If you would not kiss your mother with a dirty mouth then don't speak with one either. By that I mean use appropriate language.

The language you decide to use now days is not going to help you look cooler or act cooler to those around you.

What does the profanity user do to stop vulgar language on school campus? I am not the one to answer that question.

At WHS we are all one big family. When high school students decide to use vulgar language, it makes the rest of the WHS

family members look as if they have little or any class. Using foul language spreads to those young people or pre-teens listening to what the speaker is saying. By that I mean that when profanity is spoken the future WHS students decide it is acceptable to use foul language. There could be a young child or little children around that likes to repeat what they hear and repeat the bad word.

The way high school students decide to talk right is setting a habit for the way they decide to talk later on in life. Businesses do not like to listen to profanity, and society as a whole does not like to listen to profanity spoken in their place of business.

I am asking students of WHS to make our school look like a better family. Please stop using the foul language while on our campus.

Shawna Dollarhide
Staff Reporter

How Bad Horror Movies Have Become

Ryan Zennith Lewis
A&E Editor

Most horror movies today are so predictable that a lot of people lose interest before watching the movie. Does anyone remember the good old scary movies where the viewer would think something was going to happen but instead something more suspenseful and unexpected happens? Movies today adopted this cycle where every step is predictable and the viewer can always know what will happen in each scene. An example of obvious stupidity, the main characters start running from the enemy and trips over something that could have been completely avoidable.

Almost all of the horror movies in this day and age portray the women as mindless idiots that run right into a trap

and die in an unneeded way. Every action taken in most movies today are mindless to where viewers can predict every move almost to the point that a person does not even have to watch the movie to know how it begins and ends. Basically, horror movies need to take a turn, become more thought out with better plots and more twists. An example of a way to fix stupidity is, lights go out and the phone rings, the bad guy speaks, then instead of the main character running and screaming in the direction of the bad guy like an idiot, she/he grabs a gun then shoots the bad guy instead. All in all, horror movies need to be more thought out and made with more mystery, that will leave an audience speechless and wanting more.

There are also more opportunities to own a small business whether it is local or online. This is one of the more difficult occupations to strive for during the healing of the recession; however with the many different areas a business can cover it is one of the most versatile.

There are an unimaginable number of possible occupations to work toward, and letting all of these options pass by is basically shunning life. In order to live life to the

fullest, a person must contend to come out on top. Work for what you want to do. Go for the gold. Reach for the stars. Aspire to be a person who follows their dreams no matter what obstacles may appear. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "I could not, at any age, be content to take my place by the fireside and simply look on. Life was meant to be lived. Curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life."

Going Green

As we all know, or at least should know by now, with the spread of global warming, more and more people are making a conscious effort to become more aware of their personal and global impact on the Earth and its environment.

According to www.livestrong.com, the term "going green" has become synonymous with certain behaviors, beliefs and practices that are considered to be eco-friendly. Green living is a personal choice and while it can mean different things to different individuals, going green is a broad concept that encompasses many environmental concerns.

The main benefit of "Going Green" is that it reduces the amount of affliction that is put on the environment and the amount of harmful pollutants that enter Earth's atmosphere. Peoples' health can also be positively affected when the environment around you is healthier. When the environment around you is cleaner, greener, and better looking, you will have a tendency to feel better and be more energetic.

When people think of "Going Green" they think of two things. 1. Wasting money. Everyone thinks

that going green is just an excuse for companies to sell expensive products that will supposedly help the environment. 2. Wasting time. People think that Global Warming is all a hoax. That they are going to put a whole bunch of hard work into helping their community look better, and then later they will find out that it was all pointless and all they did was waste their time and effort towards something that is either a scam that companies made up to sell products or something that they really never cared for anyways.

Even if you think Global warming is a hoax and that it is all just a scam to get media attention, shouldn't it be worth the effort you put in to it if it will help the environment and also help you in so many ways. I mean they have light bulbs that can lower the energy used to power it which will be less money on your energy bill, and are also good for the environment! So if you replace the light bulbs used in your house you will save money and help the environment. Could that be a better deal just for buying a light bulb?

Gene Smith
Executive Director

Differences

Makayla Chacon
Columnist

When we were first born, curiosity overflew our tiny minds as we glanced around the environment we were surrounded with for the first time. We saw faces for the first time, we were cleaned up and dressed for the first time, and we were held for the first time.

As the years progress, we grow from infants to toddlers, from toddlers to adolescents, from adolescents to teenagers, and then finally from teenagers to adults. As we grow, we change dramatically. We mature, our interests change, we gain more knowledge, and our personality changes.

When we first enter school, we see a lot of different everything. Different clothes, different skin color, different hair styles, different personalities, etc. Of course, none of that is abominable; it is a wonderful thing to be unique. Being different keeps us all away from

being similar. The only thing that is awful is how we treat these so called "different" people.

In this world we have a lot of discrimination issues. For example; being discriminated against for being a different culture, having a different sexual preference, being opposite gender, or even the little things like being discriminated against for having a different hairstyle. But, we as people have to grow up even more then we are forced to and realize that all people are equal. All people have the same rights and nobody is more superior then someone else. We all breathe, we all have emotions, and we all have the right to be safe, mentally and physically. We as human beings need to treat one another as we would want to be treated; it is the right thing to do. It is the mature and decent thing to do. All people are created equal; it is only people themselves who place themselves above equality.