

HOOFPRIINTS

VOLUME 60
ISSUE 4

Wooster High School
1331 East Plumb

May 20,
2022

Wooster designated as a Title 1 school for 2022-23

By Ed Murrow

Wooster's new designation as a Title 1 school for the 2022-23 school year will bring an influx of \$474,760 of federal funding to assist school programs and to help students meet their educational goals.

The change in status is based on economic factors of the student population where more than 75 percent of the population qualifies as being impoverished. This designation takes into consideration programs such as Medicaid, food stamps, free and reduced lunch and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

The assessment is made annually in October. Seventy-eight percent of Wooster students qualified under the provisions of the program.

"I'm really excited about getting this money," said Wooster principal Leah Keuscher.

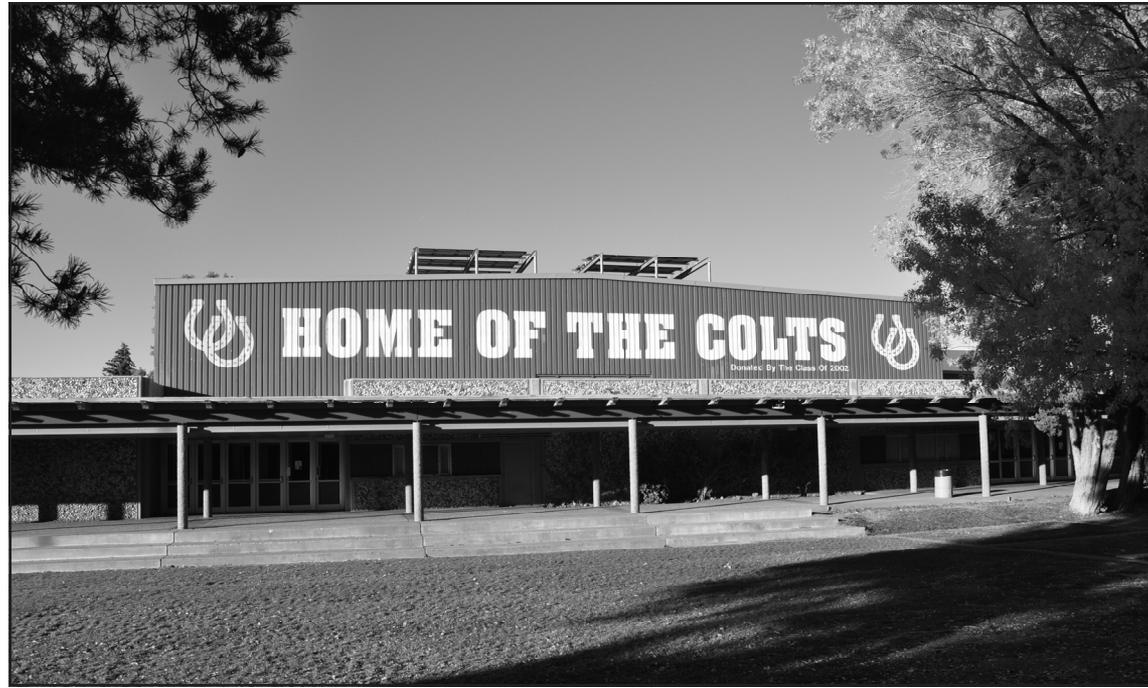
"Wooster's staff has done such an outstanding job of preparing our students and maintaining a high graduation rate relative to our school population, I'd like to see how much better we can do with this additional funding."

The influx of the Title 1 funding does not reduce any other funds the school receives from state or federal program. The state of Nevada determines the amount of Title 1 funds allocated to each school with the state and the school district overseeing the accountability.

Because Wooster was in the accreditation process during the current school year, the school performance program established through the accreditation program will be rolled over into the school's Title 1 accountability goals, Keuscher said.

The budget, which is formalized in October, allows the school to start spending funds July 1.

Wooster Title 1 budget plan was developed by school ad-



Wooster High School will become a Title 1 school with the start of the 2022-23 school year.

ministrators with input from all department leaders. The money must be spent in core-related subjects. The allocation of funds was divided into five categories including personal services-salaries, benefits, professional services and supplies with more than \$167,154 or 35 percent of the funds allocated to additional staffing including converting a dean of student position to an additional assistant principal position with minimum school financial expenditures.

"With adding any new staff positions that are not covered by state allocated funds, the school is required to pay all benefits for the staff members which will come out of the Title 1 funding," Keuscher said.

Under Title 1 provisions, one percent of the funding must be allocated to a parent liaison to assist students and parents with school-related issues.

General supplies and new laptop computers and computer carts make up the remaining

\$292, 605 from the Title 1 funds.

Another requirement of the program includes a provision that all paraprofessionals such as teacher aids must be highly qualified.

They must have at least 48 credit hours of education courses or in education-related fields or pass the paraprofessional praxis exam.

Part of the requirements of Title 1 funding requires the school to concentrate on its English Language Learners which will not be a problem for the school.

"Because we are a 'newcomers center,' the provisions won't really impact Wooster. We will continue to offer services for all our ELL students," Keuscher said.

With the purchase of the new lap tops, students and teachers will continue to transition to a digital learning model.

"With the trend to the Team approach to learning we've seen during the COVID-19 pandemic, laptop computers are necessary for digital learning," Keuscher said. "We are not going to one on one digital, but we must be able

to balance technology with traditional teaching methods. Both teachers and students must adapt if we choose to use it.

"I'm not sure if computers improve instruction, but we must be able to make the transition and that includes the have the technology available," she said.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act passed in 1965 established the federal Title 1 program which was designed to assist schools with a high percentage of low-income families. The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 revamped the ESEA act with expanded and more specific requirements for school Title 1 programs. The ESSA act went into effect with the 2017-18 school year.

While the full impact of Wooster moving to Title 1 status as a school has yet to be fully realized, Keuscher said the overall impact on the school, students and stakeholders will be positive and will allow the school and staff to offer its students the best education experience possible.

Wooster ranked one of Nevada's best schools

By Bill Amhearst

Wooster High School was ranked No.29 out of 187 public high schools in Nevada.

The ranking was part of *U.S. News & World Report's* annual school ranking that rates the effectiveness of schools nationwide. The school was ranked 4,187 out of 24,000 high schools nationwide and as the No.10 high school in the Reno-Sparks metro area. Nationally, Wooster was ranked No.323 in the magnet high school ranking.

"There is so much hard work happening in our schools, and this is a wonderful acknowledgement of those efforts," said WCSD superintendent Kristen McNeill. "Our district is committed to improve our academic outcomes by identifying and providing the resources and supports each of our 62,000 students needs to succeed. I am proud of our students and staff members."

U.S. News & World Report ranks schools using six factors. They include college readiness, 30 percent; state assessment proficiency, 20 percent; state assessment performance, 20 percent; underserved student performance, 10 percent; college curriculum breadth, 10 percent, and graduation rate, 10 percent.

The school's scorecard was 76.53 percent with the categories as follows: took at least one AP Exam: 51 percent; passed at least one AP exam: 29 percent; mathematics proficiency: 25 percent; reading proficiency: 37 percent; science proficiency: 22 percent, and graduation rate: 88 percent.

According to the report, Wooster has an 80.7 percent minority enrollment. It also has a 44 percent economically disadvantaged population and a 44 percent free or reduced lunch population.

Eight Washoe County School District high schools rank in the top 30 in the state.

Rotating bus routes continue to cause havoc

By Syd Massey

The ongoing, weekly, rotating school bus suspension continues to cause havoc for many Washoe County School District students and parents.

This reporter's little brother has to car pool with the neighborhood kids he is friends with.

This begs the question what do children who don't have people to carpool with do for the week

the bus isn't available? Walk?

My brother's school is a 33-minute walk away from my neighborhood and a 29-minute bus ride.

This just doesn't affect students

who have to ride the bus, this affects parents who either need to get up at the crack of dawn to either get their kids on a city bus or walk them to school as well

See Bus Routes, page 4

Options available for students to earn credit

By **Alycia Buchanan de Rodriguez**

Every break, Wooster high school has offered a program where students could go and catch up on their grades and missing work.

In the past, "catchup camp" has been available to students. Not so over the past spring break.

Instead of catch-up camp, there was spring intersession where students could make up a credit in a core class at intersession there was an open lab for edgenuity.

Tutoring club to help with English and math

From staff reports

Junior Anish Bayya has started a tutoring club to help organize student tutors in order to serve the Wooster community.

Assistant principal Trina Olsen said the club is trying to organize two weeks of tutoring after school just before finals.

"We need math students to help struggling students in the Career Center," said Bayya. "It is not mandatory for tutors to come every day and it can count toward volunteer hours or CAS experience for IB students."

Three Colts represent school at JAG nationals

By **Bill Amhearst**

Juniors Nadia Garcia, Jhunne Villanueva and Madison Panelli traveled to Dallas to represent Wooster High School and the state of Nevada at the first ever JAG National Career Development Conference held May 5-7 at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel.

Garcia, Villanueva and Panelli earned the all-expense-paid trip to the nationals by finishing second at the Nevada state career development conference.

The three will face students from across the country in the creative decision making competition.

The NCDC is the annual highlight providing and opportunity for National Career Association members to participate in general sessions, competitive events, educational workshops, leadership development training and college and career exploration.

The NCDC also serves as a recognition opportunity for NCA

Fifty students earned credit over spring break which was held March 14-18 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Right now, school administrators are working on some future catch up ideas.

"We will be doing tutoring after school more frequently and Saturday schools are coming. Students are encouraged to have conversations with their teachers if they need to catch-up in class right now," said Wooster assistant principal Trina Olsen.

Bayya also said that next year student who participate as tutors can earn a cord at graduation for logging a certain number of hours and it looks good on college applications.

"Anyone can tutor if they feel strong in there subject," he said.

If students are interested, they can send a list of names, student IDs and subject they are interested in to anishbayya@gmail.com.

The initial club meeting was help on May 2.



Nadia Garcia, Madison Panelli and Jhunne Villanueva, from left to right, will represent Wooster at the JAG National Career Development Conference in Dallas.

members to demonstrate the competencies gained in the classroom through the NCA National Recognition and Competitive Events program and participation in other NCDC activities.

Keynote speakers for the event include E.J. Carrion and Ashley Bendiksen.

Five selected for leadership program

By **Mark Pailey**

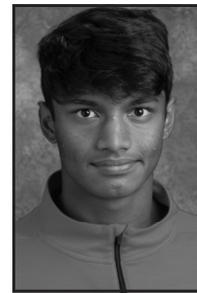
Wooster juniors Anish Bayya, Kanela Furuta, Bansari Patel and sophomores Danile Goldenberg and Lilian White have been selected as finalists in the Algerian Youth Leadership Program.

The program is a leadership development opportunity for Algerian and American students ages 15-17.

"We look for strong English to participate in academic and leadership session for our Algerian students, previous volunteering and school/community involvement, candidates who have a realistic idea of the problems in their home community and of potential solutions and that they are passionate about making a change in their communities," said Stacy Kinion of the Northern Nevada International Center.

Students will participate in leadership workshops where they will learn about their differing leadership styles and working with other leadership styles and form affective teams made of distinct types of leaders, Kinion said.

In addition students will learn about social entrepreneurship, teamwork, public speaking, pain management project planning and implementation, communication



Bayya



Furuta



Bansari



Goldenberg



White

and pitching a project or business.

The program also includes a five-day ropes course and visiting Washington, D.C. where they will meet with the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Professors from the University of Nevada, Reno present the leadership, project planning and social entrepreneurship workshops and students will complete a community service project in their communities by October 2022.

The Northern Nevada International Center which is a community-based member in the public diplomacy sphere has

been hosting similar programs for 22 years and youth programs since 2009. There is at least one community-based members in most states, Kinion said.

"The objective in all public diplomacy programs is to get people from different countries or regional of the world into the same room so that

they can (hopefully) realize that we are all just humans whose fundamental goals and values are very similar if not the same no matter where we come from; to think more open-mindedly and critically; that the information that mainstream and other media in all countries around the world may not be completely accurate, and it definitely does not apply to each citizen of a country," Kinion said.

Cadets shine at leadership camp

From staff reports

Twenty-two cadets from the Wooster JROTC battalion spent April 18-22 at the JROTC Cadet Leadership Camp learning both physical and supervisory skills.

All Washoe County School District JROTC programs participated in the camp along with cadets from Douglas High school.

The camp took place at multiple Northern Nevada and California locations including Fallon, Lake Tahoe, Carson City and Wedekind Park in Sparks.

The camp is designed to be a combination of adventure and



An unidentified Wooster cadet descends the rappelling tower.

leadership training," said Col.

Ken Stynen, Wooster's Senior Army Instructor.

Cadets participated in orienteering, water survival skills, obstacle course and rappelling.

Wooster freshmen Nadia Montejano and Bania Ticas earned the distinction of Distinguished Graduate for their extraordinary motivation and participation throughout the week, Stynen said.

"In addition to the fun and camaraderie, the attendees earned a significant amount of awards or bling to wear on their uniforms," Stynen said.

Booster Fund-raiser Successful

By **Isis Garcia Cruz**

The Wooster Boosters auction and BBQ fund-raiser held April 21-29 generated more than \$15,000 for Wooster athletics.

The auction started on April 22 and ended on April 29. The event culminated with a barbecue in

See Boosters, page 4



"A public forum for the free expression of students, faculty, administration, and staff of Wooster High School."

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Spencer, Garcia Perez are Military Ball royalty

By Alicia Buchanan De Rodriguez

Seniors Hunter Spencer and Celeste Garcia Perez were named king and queen respectively at the Wooster Military Ball held on March 4.

The Military Ball returned to Wooster after a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and was held at the Reno Elks Lodge.

In the past the ball was a district-wide event usually held in December with cadets from each high school able to attend.

Budget considerations also prevented the ball from being a district-wide event. This year, the Colt Battalion held its own ball.

According to Wooster Senior Army Instructor Ken Stylen, the school district is investigating the possibility of returning the Military Ball to a district-wide event next year.

Approximately 89 tickets sold for the event and 85 attended.

The ball had many things



Military Ball King Hunter Spencer and Queen Celeste Garcia Perez.

including dinner and dancing.

The Wooster JROTC cadets helped organize the event and there was a great turnout. The cadets and their dates had a lot of fun.

Kindness Week promotes a positive school culture

By Isis Garcia Cruz

Kindness week was an event held April 11-15 with different themes to dress in everyday, kindness necklaces being given out, and kindness T-shirts being sold during lunch.

“The goal was to help generate a culture of kindness on Wooster’s campus,” said counselor Erin Danielsen. “The students felt that even if one student changed their perspective, it was worth it.”

The themes were Monday Retro day, Tuesday Superhero day, Wednesday Cowboy day, Thursday Tie dye day, and Friday was to wear your kindness week T-shirt or Wooster gear.

The purpose of kindness week was to teach kindness to students and to hopefully see a shift in the school’s climate.

“Victoria Gomez Meza approached the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports Committee and the student advisory board to ask if we would support a

Kindness Week,” Danielsen said.

Both the committee and board facilitated the logistics and planning, Danielsen said.

The profits that came from the shirts went directly towards the fund-raiser for unified sports and the necklaces were passed out as a fun way for students to be kind to one another in a visible way.

Danielsen said the week was a success.

“I felt Kindness Week as a huge success,” she said. “I saw teachers, staff, students and even community members talk about what kindness meant to them and I saw several of them in acts of kindness throughout the week.

“I read so many leaves with positive messages. I loved that the activity was anonymous in nature because it gave everyone a chance to say what they felt and not be worried someone would judge them. I got to see other read those messages and light up with a smile,” she said.

Frogs are particularly interesting to both Pacheco and Rodriguez

By Makayla Ondelacy

Wooster juniors, Helen Ruby Pacheco Ramirez and Jennifer Rodriguez Reynoso both participated in a program called STEM Sisters, a program designed to steer students to a science career.

Both girls got to the program through different routes.

Pacheco Ramirez was contacted by Jamie Voyles who is a professor of Biology at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Voyles was interested in Pacheco Ramirez before the program was solidified.

Rodriguez Reynoso went through Upward Bound program which is a college prep program for first generation/low-income students.

Upward Bound let her know there was an opportunity for her to work with Voyles.

Voyles studies frogs and diseases. Pacheco Ramirez did a project which was based on lectures of thermobiology and immunology.

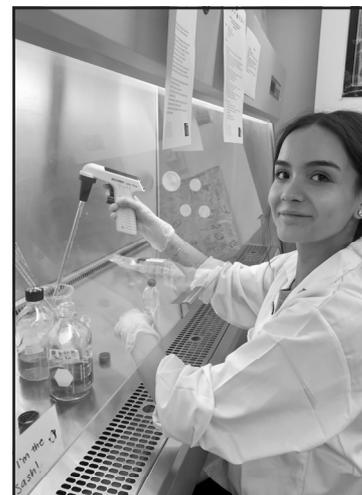
The first project was based on the effect of movement on exothermic role of the amphibian and the second project was based on exploring the microbiota of the frogs skin and observing the reaction of *Batrachchytrium dendrobatidis*.

“I found that more active models had a higher mean body and temperature than their less active counterparts for the first experiment. For the second one, I found that exposure to the pathogen led to no significant bacterial growth in the frog secretions,” Pacheco Ramirez said.

“Both experiments were fascinating. Out of this experiment I got not only hard skills, but expanded my intellect, my professional work, but also softer skills such as learning how to communicate scientific findings which a general public. Additionally, I got to work with people I really admire,” Pacheco Ramirez said.

This experiment made Pacheco Ramirez realize her passion for biology.

“However, since I am also interested in tech and engineer-



Helen Ruby Pacheco Ramirez at work in her lab at UNR.

ing, I plan to major in biomedical engineering in college.”

For now, she doesn’t know what college she wants to attend, but hopes it’s out of state.

“I ultimately thank Jamie Voyles for everything she has done for program and how supportive she is. She is one of my biggest role models,” Pacheco Ramirez said.

Rodriguez Reynoso also carried out different labs based on thermobiology and immunology.

“My first experiment was based on frogs’ body temperature, I made two sets of agar frogs, With one set of agar frogs, I replaced them in a food dehydrator to remove all the water from them and give them a “dehydrated” effect, and with the second set of frogs, I left them as they were,” Rodriguez Reynoso said.

“Based on the results from this experience, I took the mean body temperature of both sets of frogs and applied it to an infectious disease, *Batrachchytrium dendrobatidis* (BD), that is currently killing frogs all around the world.

“I then cultured this disease and placed them into two incubators at the mean temperatures from my agar frogs. I found that frogs with higher body temperature are more susceptible to getting BD and dying than those frogs with a lower-body temperature. I



Jennifer Rodriguez Reynoso working with her “frogs.”

also found that BD thrives best at 26 degrees Celsius, but after 27 degrees will die.

“From this experience, I was able to develop not only hard skills but also expand my softer skills such as learning how to properly communicate my scientific findings with the general public. Through this experiment, I was also able to apply my finding to the real world and understand why I should care about this,” Rodriguez Reynoso said.

This experience made Rodriguez Reynoso realize that she would like to pursue something in science, possibly biology or chemistry.

“For my future plans, I plan to major in Environmental Science, Ecology, or Biochemistry and hope to dual-minor in Spanish and Psychology,” she said. As for college I am not yet sure where I want to go. UNR is definitely at the top of my list, but if presented with the opportunity to study out of state I would love that chance.”

“At the end of the day, I am always grateful and thankful for Jamie Voyles, her lab crew, and Upward Bound for presenting me with this amazing opportunity and always supporting me in my educational career.

Both Dr. Jamie and Mr. Green, my Upward Bound counselor, are my biggest role models,” Rodriguez Reynoso said.

Career Fair has excellent turnout

By Syd Massey

The Wooster Career Fair on March 21 gathered just under 700 students visit and gave out 43 raffle prizes. It gave students a look at potential jobs and gave employers and opportunity to speak with possible hires.

J4NG donated \$300 in raffle prizes

and some were donated by vendors.

There were 30 vendors including local businesses such as Chick-Fill-A, Ijji noodle, Sam’s Club and Panasonic.

Colleges represented at the fair included the University of Nevada, Reno, Truckee Meadows Community College,

Career College of Northern Nevada and Paul Mitchell. Apprentice programs such as Sheetmetal workers and SW carpenters also had booths.

Armed forces including Army, Navy, and Air Force as well as Washoe County Health District

See Career Fair, page 4

Don't forget the YEARBOOK FIRE SALE. It's still on !!!!!
Old yearbooks on sale for only \$25 each!! See Mr. Baer in room C7.

At the Flicks

By **Alycia Buchanan de Rodriguez**

This is an outstanding time for movies coming to theaters in June. Currently, there are 16 movies scheduled for release.

The first new movie is crime thriller and a tale of love and violence when a man on his emotional last legs finds a savior seductively dancing in a run-down strip club. A life most certainly headed off a cliff suddenly becomes redirected - as everything is now worth dying for. "Frank and Penelope" opens June 1.

"Crimes of the Future" opens on June 3. A sci-fi thriller. As the human species adapts to a synthetic environment, the body undergoes new transformations and mutations which will change mankind forever.

On June 7, "Eraser: Reborn" hits the screens and is rated R. A story of a U.S. Marshal working a high-status witness protection program. Mason Pollard must fake the death of the witness he is protecting and move her off the grid to save her life.

However, the female witness has a different plan for her future. "Ms. Marvel" from Marvel Universe movie series will be coming to theaters on June 8. The story behind this superhero movie is Kamala Khan is a superhero fan with an imagination, particularly when it comes to Captain Marvel; Kamala feels like she doesn't fit in at school and sometimes even at home, that is until she gets superpowers like the heroes she's looked up to.

As expected there is another Jurassic Park sequel being released. This one is called "Jurassic World Dominion" and opens June 10. It take place four years after Isla Nublar has been destroyed. In this continuation, Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard star as Owen Grady and Claire Dearing and are joined Laura Dern, Sam Neill and Jeff Goldblum, who reprise their roles as Dr. Ellie Sattler, Dr. Alan Grant and Dr. Ian Malcolm respectively.

On June 14, Looney Tunes fans will get a new animated movie, "King Tweety" released on DVD. Everyone's favorite yellow canary unexpectedly becomes next in line for the crown when the queen of an island paradise disappears. His Little Highness' entourage includes motorbike daredevil Granny and sly Sylvester,

Question of the Month

By **Nathali Villanueva**

Have students lost respect for teachers and staff members?

Staff:

"Yes and no."

- Charlene Skelton



"Personally, I think the level of respect for teachers on behalf of high schoolers, in general is just about the same as I can remember from my youth. There is more publicized disrespectful acts, as we've seen on Tik-Tok this year. Also, we've got smartphones now in the mix, which are a distraction, and, yes, an addiction, and so students paying attention to them when they should be paying attention to us feels like a disrespect problem."

- Daniel Wexelblatt

Seniors:

"I think it's always best for students to respect teachers as well as teachers to equally respect students."



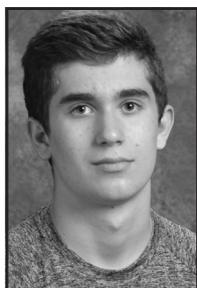
"Yeah."
- Cayden Niedzielski

All teens can question authority figures and have an attitude, but I hope teachers respect our differences in opinions so we can all coexist at school. Follow the golden rule!"

- Erin Martin

Juniors:

"Yeah, we're stupid. Teachers don't care."



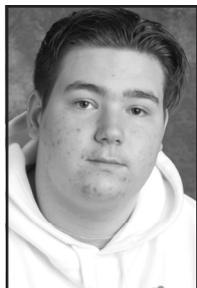
- Stevie Skelton

"Yes, completely yes."
- Kenneth Rather

Sophomores:

"Yeah."

- Belleteny Manzo

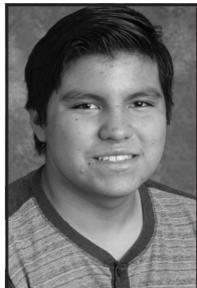


"Yeah, they just seem to do whatever they want now; Such as talking back and stuff like that."
- Hunter Bertone

Freshmen:

"Yeah, I've seen it."

- Dulce Martinez



"I don't know. I'm a freshman."
- Adrian Villanueva

whose allegiance is tested when he uncovers a sinister plot to eliminate Tweety for good.

"Lightyear" hits the screen on June 17. It is the definitive origin story of Buzz Lightyear

and follows the legendary Space Ranger on an intergalactic adventure. Stars the voices of Keke Palmer, Taika Waititi and Chis Evans.

Have fun in June At the Flicks.

June Calendar

Compiled by **Zayden Tittensor**

- 1 Semester Finals, First/Second Periods
Girls soccer, 4:30 - 6 p.m.
- 2 Semester Finals, Third/Fourth Periods
Multicultural Club meeting, noon A2
Boys Basketball, 5 - 7 p.m.
- 3 Semester Finals, Fifth/Sixth Periods
- 7 Student Tutoring, 2:40-3:25, Knowledge Center
- 10 Graduation, 2 p.m., Lawlor Events Center
- 11 Reno Elks Soccer Ball Kicking Contest,
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- 21 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.
- 22 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.
- 23 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.
- 28 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.
- 29 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.
- 30 Boys Basketball, 3 - 9 p.m.

Boosters

Continued from page 2
the school's west parking lot on April 30.

"The BBQ fund-raiser was super successful," said Wooster Booster president Hilary Vass. "We had planned to have an online auction, but we also wanted to have a community event, not only to raise more money, but to have our students, teachers and parents be able to get together and get to know each other better after two years of so little interaction," she said.

The auction had hotel stays, gift cards, school spirit baskets, and a party boat on Lake Tahoe from

Tahoe Blue Boat Rentals.

The spring community BBQ served a gourmet Angus beef hamburger from Butcher Boy Meat Market, corn on the cob, sides, desserts, lemonade and drinks.

There were also fun games and attendees could pick up their auction items.

Students were allowed to stop by and spend some money on games and raffles.

"All of the money raised will go toward new balls for all teams, uniforms, field paint and chalk, tennis windscreens and various other equipment that was requested," Vass said.

The Wooster Booster meet monthly in the school's Career Center.

Career Fair

Continued from page 3
for bike month also were in attendance.

Originally the event was going to be hosted outside, but as the weather was predicted to be cold the event was moved inside the

foyer of the gymnasium to be hosted during second period and seminar on a RSVP basis.

The career fair still went off without a hitch and there were 700 students attending or at least 700 raffle tickets sold with 43 winners announced on May 25.

Bus routes

Continued from page 1
as spending more money on fuel due to the lack of transportation. "One never truly appreciates something until it's gone, and the WCSD bus system is no exception," said Wooster senior Emily Jones. "Cancelling the bus systems has forced me to miss zero period classes to help take my brother to school; walking is not an option because we live four miles away.

"This month, I have a few morning IB exams and am unable to take him. My dad has to miss work to be able to drop him off by 7:30 a.m. In the afternoons, I have to miss class to reach him on time. Because of these inconveniences, my family is

truly appreciative of the bus system in the WCSD, and we hope the district will be able to hire more drivers next school year."

There are exceptions to the rotating schedule as mandated by law which include students who have transportation as part of their IEP and for certain after-school programs.

Currently in WCSD, there are 372 school buses and 413 white fleet support vehicles while there are only 303 bus drivers.

The district shortage is not limited to bus drivers. There is a growing number of teacher and support staff shortage in the district. As bus drivers rely on a 180-day school year and a split work day, many quit to find better employment options.

Ski team wraps up challenging season

By Kaitlyn Satterfield
Special to *Hoofprints*

This year has not been the strongest year for the Wooster ski team. At the beginning of the year, the ski team's future looked very much up in the air and returning skiers were not sure if there would even be a team.

Coming into this year, our past coach decided not to come back so find a new coach was going to be a challenge. Athletic Director, Dylan Mollendorf, struggled to find someone willing to take up the job.

Ian Satterfield decided to step and coach the team. Due to getting a coach so late, the team was not able to properly advertise and recruit for the team. In the end, only four returners and upperclassmen joined the team.

Although the season started off rocky, it was one of the most fun year of my high school skiing career. With only four skiers, there was no need for a bus, so the team carpooled to every training and race day.

These car rides were filled will



Wooster ski team, left to right: Kaitlyn Satterfield, Emily Chapman, Eli Povolny and Ray Brown

laughter and memories and a lot of coffee runs after a long day of skiing.

The whole team qualified for the state competition as individuals because there weren't enough members to qualify as a team. To qualify for post-season competition, each team was required to have at least six girls and six boys.

Wooster teamed up with Hug High School and helped our

teams equally small. The Hug coaches were kind and great coaches and for the first time in many years Wooster set up their own training course.

I'm sad to leave the team in such a small and unknown stage. I hate to leave my juniors in limbo and if they will get their senior season. I hope that interest in the knowledge about the team will grow.

Golfers work to improve their game

By Mark Pailey

The season for the three-man Wooster golf team has been nothing short of an exceptional challenge in most of the competitive aspects of the game.

But senior Alex Boga, his brother Matt, a junior, and freshman Kyler Molino have stepped up to meet those challenges.

"With only three players, we cannot compete as a team, only as individuals during every tournament," said golf coach Mike McKemy. "They are working on their golf abilities during every practice; learning how to play the game properly."

McKemy said the positives coming out of the 2022 season are two of the three will return with more experience.

"Kyler has completed in six of the eight tournaments this season," McKemy said.

Even with the small numbers, the team aspect of the game is important for the players.

"We work in practice as a team," McKemy said. "The more team members builds more individual competition within the team. We compete in tournaments as a team – team scores – against other schools, so all shots count to the team score."

While many see golf as an expen-



Wooster Golfers (l to r): Alex Boga, Kyler Molino and Matthew Boga.

sive "country club sport," Wooster players have a definite advantage.

"We have a great advantage at Wooster. We have been able to receive multiple sets of equipment to assist any player," McKemy said. "We have more equipment than golfers to use them. After the Washoe County School District fees are paid, lesson and play is free."

Coaching for Wooster is also a plus. "We have over 100 years of coaching/playing experience to share," he said.

Transportation to and from practice at Hidden Valley Country Club has been a challenge as the team practices from 3 to 5 p.m. daily, except tournament days.

Because McKemy is a teacher at Pine Middle School, it is a challenge to meet and talk to Wooster students about playing golf.

However, there are benefits. "Students can earn their PE credit by joining the team and we do NO running," McKemy said.

The Colts will not send anyone to regionals this season. However, the season has been positive.

"This season has been a learning experience for all team members," McKemy said. "We are working and building for future success - with more team members. Golf is a life-long sport. The more students learn how to play now, the more they can enjoy in the future."

Colts take six out of seven in season finales

By Nathali Villaneuva

The bad news is the Colts varsity baseball team did not make the regional playoffs.

Wooster finished the season in fifth place in the Northern Nevada 3A West league with a league record of 6-15 and an overall mark of 8-17.

The good news is the Colts finished the season winning six of their final seven games.

"Something changed the last couple weeks, I think. It was where we were able to make those routine plays and getting outs and hitting the ball," said senior Cayden Niedzielski. "Things started to come our way."

The Colts took the final game of the Sparks series and swept the Hug Hawks, scoring 58 runs and only allowing four.

In the final series of the season, Wooster took two out of three games from the third-place North Valleys Panthers, winning 6-3 and 12-11; losing the final game 14-4.

They've improved their play, but not only that. The players have improved playing as a team. Considering there were the



Senior Giovanni Crawford taking a lead off first base.

"new guys" and the "returners" everyone had their own groups. But after a while and bonding together, the groups finally melded as a team.

The Colts were led by seniors Niedzielski with 21 hits and Liam Durling who drove in 16 runs. Senior Giovanni Crawford led the pitching staff with a 5.25 earned run average.

Freshman Jay Bird led the Colts in multiple offensive categories with a .703 slugging percentage, a .593 average and a .633 on base percentage.



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'Can't Take It with You' leaves the audience with wanting more

**By Daniela Velazquez
Special to Hoofprints**

Opening night is always exciting, a full audience, actors and actresses ready to put on a show.

From the moment the Wooster Players came into my seminar class and introduced the production I was hooked.

I began to realize that in all my years of high school, I had never been to a play and am now a senior.

I had to go to a school play. I purchased my ticket and watched the play opening night. Walking into the theater I was amazed with the set and its design.

There were so many little details included. The filled drawers, the home décor and placement of objects on the desk.

"You Can't Take it With You" is based on two families. The crazy, overjoyed Sycamore family and the tight, business only, Kirby family. Alice Sycamore, and Tony Kirby, fall in love and must deal with the opposing attitudes of each family.

Alice being worried that her family isn't fit for the Kirby's, knowing her family is all sorts of wild with Essie ballet dancing,

Penelope on her typewriter, Mr. DePinna trying to figure out the right chemicals of his explosives and the nonstop visits from the government to Ed about not paying his taxes.

Of course Tony's struggles as well. His mother and father being in the series of businesses and into spirituality – a much stricter way of life according to the Sycamore family.

The performance was amazing overall. The confidence and all the energy put into the production is appreciated by an audience. I recognized some of the actors. Their performance was so well done I would forget it was just an act. From the facial expressions, to each movement and emotion put into their speech, I wouldn't be surprised to see some of our Wooster Players on a much larger platform.

Making a production come to life is also a huge job for the technical crew. The props being used, the set and all the costumes and various wardrobes of each character must be composed to the smallest detail.

A great dedication from actors/

actresses and crews of all sorts. This play made me regret not going to past productions. The Wooster Players did an amazing job among the audience, causing a ball of laughter, gasps and several heartwarming moments throughout the play.

Each intermission caused a heartbreak within me. I didn't know how a play works and each time there was an intermission, I believed the show was over. Nonetheless I was completely invested and was sad to see the production end despite its happy ending.

I left with the satisfaction of having had watched a great play that made me cry of laughter and wanting more of the Kirby and Sycamore family adventures. To the Wooster players and their technical crew, a huge thank you for performing "You Can't Take It With You."

I am excited for all of you and hope each one of you achieve those goals you have worked and continue to work so hard for. Thank you to Mrs. Gibbons and all of those who support our Wooster Players.

Loring and staff keep Wooster running

By Veronica Whitt

Ever wonder who fixes everything around school? Ask Site Facilities Coordinator Scott Loring.

What Loring does is oversees the janitorial staff and the projects that go on around school.

He makes sure everything around the school is safe for students and staff and that includes making everything healthy and that the facilities, the bathrooms and various other facilities are safe.

Is there anything that complicates his job?

"Unfortunately, since the school was built so long ago, it was built with asbestos which is really unsafe. When kids are kicking balls up to the roof during gym and all that stuff is falling off, that's really bad.

"Unfortunately because of the asbestos, we aren't able to do a lot with the actual structure of the buildings because the entire school was built with it."

Loring used to work at Sparks and Reno High schools before coming to Wooster. It's his first being a Colt.

A typical day begins early for Loring.

"Our day beginning at 5:30 a.m. where we check the HVAC systems, temperatures, dealarm and unlock the buildings and then check my calendar for all the events taking places that day at school and setting up accordingly," Loring said.

"Then I get with Paul our maintenance man and Bumper our grounds keeper to go over various projects that need to be done, addressed or completed.

"Of course there are always things that pop up as the day progresses pertaining to the buildings, fields and grounds. (On the day side) We try to call it a day when the last bell rings."

Since the building are older, they require a lot of maintenance, but that isn't the only reason to do repairs.

"Vandalism is another problem that happens at Wooster," he said. "Most of the student-generated problems come in the form



Loring

of students tagging the school and more recently destroying bathroom equipment. The things students vandalize are very expensive to repair and come out of my fixed budget annually."

Another significant challenge Loring faces is hiring and maintaining custodial staff.

"It's getting harder to hire custodians because of the abundance of jobs with higher wages than we offer. What we do offer is stability, paid vacations, sick time, flexibility, medical insurance and PERS benefits," he said.

"Although attractive perks are offered, we have been experiencing wide shortages making it difficult to complete nightly duties even where overtime is offered."

Once a custodian gets comfortable at a particular site, they tend to stick around, Loring said.

"Bob in IA building has been here for 15 years and Olivia, our nighttime lead has been here 10 years. They become an important part of the school structure and take great pride in the school and the work they do."

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Softball team edged out of regionals

By Ed Murrow

Despite finishing in second place in the 3A West league and having a better record than the Spring Creek Spartans, the Wooster Colts softball team was edged out of qualifying for the softball regionals.

"The Northern 3A uses a different point structure format for baseball and softball only," said head coach R.A. Hanson. "The information the NIAA posted was incorrect and we didn't get in because the cross-over games we played against the East early on were worth double the points."

The Colts finished with an overall mark of 14-11 and league mark of 12-9.

The Colts were led by senior Madeline Hunden who hit .433 with three home runs and an on base percentage of .527. Sydney Davidson led the Colts pitching staff with a .043 earned run average.

"We put up a bunch of runs on offense and kept getting better defensively as the season moved on," Hanson said. "Our biggest challenge was only being able to play one game against the eastern teams."

The Colts ended the season by sweeping the Sparks Railroaders



Senior leaders, left to right, Reese Viquez, Madeline Hunden and Avery Kittrell.

and Hug Hawks, but dropping three games to the North Valley Panthers.

Wooster will only be losing three senior leaders to graduation in Hunden, Reese Viquez and Avery Kittrell which leads Hanson feeling positive about next season.

"We had a great group of freshmen and a lot of speed in the outfield," he said. "We'll have a great group of returners next season and talented juniors from this season with Ciarra Foakes, Makayla Ondelacy and Julianna Gomez all returning."

Disc golfers looking to create competitive course

By Makayla Ondelacy

Math teacher Derek Vaughan is trying to get a golf disc course sent up for our students to be able to play this as a sport.

Disc golf is like golf but with frisbees. Players try to aim it into the basket in as few of throws as they possibly can.

"Getting a disc golf course that can be temporarily put up and taken down when not being used is a dream for the disc golf club to expose more students to the sport we all love," Vaughan said.

As of right now the club only has one basket but their goal is to get 9 baskets,

"Our goal is to get 9 baskets with wheels that can be easily moved around campus for a 9 hole course," he said.

The club right now has around 10 members.

"We are always discussing fund-raising opportunities," Vaughan added.

If the club is able to get a course, they want to try to hold tournaments at Wooster and possibly be able to compete against

other schools.

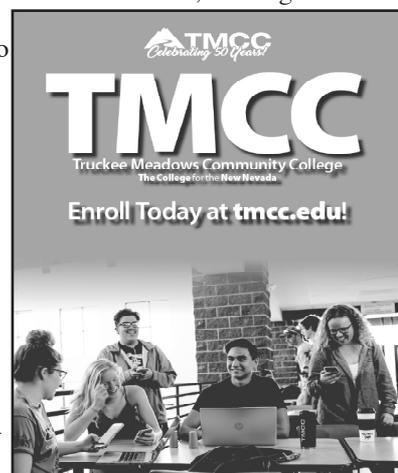
Junior Jennifer Rodriguez is a member of the golf disc club, she said that she heard an announcement.

"It sounded interesting, so I decided to join the club."

The club hasn't been able to do many fund-raisers this years.

"During lunch we do take out discs and allow students to throw them for \$1. We also sell crewnecks."

"I really enjoy playing. It has become one of my favorite hobbies. Playing with friends makes it even more fun," Rodriguez said.



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Discipline, student respect lacking

By Zayden Titensor and Haley Ward

With many students not attending school or not being physically at school and attending on a distance basis due to the pandemic, the lack of student discipline and respect has seen a substantial drop. Wooster's discipline is currently at question, with many students and staff claiming that it is not effective, with students ditching, loitering in the halls or in bathrooms, and students having excessive amounts of tardies or absences without consequence. Is this a problem only at Wooster? According to school district reports, it is a district-wide problem.

"Discipline is very broad and many of the school rules, regulations, and disciplinary actions can be found on the school website," said Wooster dean of students Tina Rosa. "Many decisions dealing with school discipline issues come from the Behavior Matrix, which is a book that administrators look at on how to discipline a student."

Various behaviors that are unacceptable at school are dealt with on an individual basis.

When it comes to vaping at school, if an administrator has reasonable suspicion, they have the right to search a student's belongings (not physically pat them down) and if they find any vaping material, it will be confis-

cated and not returned.

The vaping material will then be handed over to school police to test for THC or another illegal substance. If found, it will then lead to legal charges on the kid, and parents will be called to inform them of the situation.

Wooster's administration is working to compose a new regulation next year regarding tardies and absences.

"We are also working hard to stop the loitering occurring in the bathrooms by having constant bathroom sweeps, as well as monitoring our campus to stop ditching," Rosa said. "We simply do not have enough administrators to cover the entire school. Regarding discipline, we are just trying our hardest to build relationships with our students and discipline them in a safe and respectable manner."

In gathering information for this article, different perspectives from teachers to students were recorded. Student were evenly divided on the issue of discipline. Many students felt there was too much discipline while other felt there was a lack of discipline.

The subject of school safety was also a divided issue with how the school itself can be secure and safe place with fair and understandable discipline.

Many teachers expressed their concerns that school discipline is lacking, students are loitering

on campus and show a great lack of respect for teachers, staff and their fellow students.

One teacher expressed his frustration about finding students hanging out in the bathroom and using their cell phones rather than the facilities.

Many teachers have voiced similar complaints and have also expressed repeated concerns with student tardies.

Administrators are aware of the escalating student tardy and attendance problem and are working to develop a community group to help create new and improved ideas to reduce tardies. With absences, they are continuing to enforce the truancy rules unenrolling students who a chronic lack of attendance.

The daily average attendance percentage is 83.25 with an estimated 300 students absent a day. Freshmen were at 85.4 percent with sophomores at 83.6 percent, juniors at 83.9 percent and seniors at the lowest at 81.3 percent.

The administration is also discussing bringing back the 90 percent attendance rule for next year which automatically fails students who do not maintain a 90 percent attendance level. However, nothing is yet determined.

The school's administration is working with students and families with frequent meetings, phone calls home and home visits to better improve attendance.

Students insensitive to the Pledge

By Haley Ward

Due to the huge amounts of political and racial issues occurring in the United States, many find it hard to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Over time, many students have decided to stop standing for the Pledge at the beginning of the school day. Many students say standing for the Pledge is not something they agree with.

Kids who have experienced or seen the racial issues and political issues say there is too much "racism, discrimination, injustice, and violence."

Wooster's assistant principal Susan Schraeder confirmed standing for the Pledge is not mandatory allowing students to make their choice.

"The pledge of allegiance reminds me that I get to live in this country with freedom, peace, and education. I stand for it because it means that I get to live a better life," said sophomore

Bailey Long.

"Some people in other countries don't have nearly the amount of rights and freedom that we have. I am happy to be an American and I am happy to have the opportunities that I have from living in America," said Wooster science teacher Ray Swigart.

"My opinion on people who don't stand for the Pledge doesn't change. I'm not going to judge or hate someone for having different beliefs than me. Some students are scared to stand for the pledge now as they are afraid, they'll be targeted by others since the Pledge is seen more as a political thing," Long added.

"Students shouldn't have to feel afraid of expressing their beliefs or saying the Pledge. There were a couple times I was scared in the past to stand for the pledge because I was going to be the only one doing it. I thought I was going to be judged or hated upon for standing up for something I

believe in."

"With all the political issues going on in the world right now, I believe that the meaning behind the pledge to a lot of people has changed completely. Anyone who still stands for the pledge of allegiance has been affected by this new idea behind the pledge. Nobody should ever feel scared to stand for the pledge nor be judged for saying it," Long said.

"The flag and Pledge of Allegiance to me shows respect for a country that has provided me all the opportunities to get what I have. I feel bad for those who don't stand because they are naive for only looking at one negative perspective our country has," said Swigart. "Racism is a problem in America, always has been, but it has been greatly improving. When I was in high school during the 1970s, racism was extremely bad compared to today's society.

"We need to focus on the good,

Swim team qualifies nine for regionals

By Mark Pailey

Wooster qualified nine swimmers for the regional meet held on May 13 at the Carson Aquatic Center. Although no Colt swimmers made the state cut, there were some solid performances.

"Sean Ratfield was our top swimmer coming in sixth in the 100m fly barely missing a chance at going to state. He was seventh in the 100m back stroke," said swim coach Charlene Skelton.

The overall season was a good one for the Colts, Skelton said.

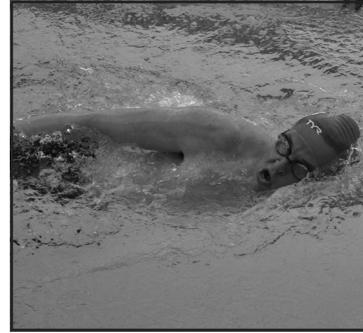
"Overall the season was a great success," she said. "We had one (meet) win on the girls and boys side with some exciting races and a lot of best times. We do struggle in the 5A, but the kids take it in stride and work really hard to achieve PR's and support each other.

"We are the best team out there for team spirit and camaraderie. We are consistently complimented by other schools and officials about how and exciting our team is," Skelton said.

Skelton said every team member contributed to the team's overall success at meets. The Colts were led by senior captains Sean Ratfield and Avery Redmon.

"Our most outstanding new swimmer would be Yash Sharma. He surprised us by making his regional cuts at the last swim meet in the 50m and 100m freestyle. He didn't make finals, but for being a first-year swimmer just learning this was a huge accomplishment," Skelton said.

Wooster will be losing five seniors to graduation: Ratfield, Redmon, Nicholas Bruk, Tammy Corpuz and Victoria Gomez Meza. "We will probably be around the same next year, but losing



Senior captain Sean Ratfield in action for the Colts.

these seniors is really going to hurt us," Skelton said.

One of the challenges facing the Colts is competing in the 5A league with school whose rosters are filled with club swimmers.

"I don't think we should be 5A. We are the only 5A team to not have anyone qualify for state. The 3A times are quite a bit slower and we would have a lot more make it. The swimmers are being robbed of an opportunity in my opinion," Skelton said.

The pandemic had a definite impact on the school's program.

"After COVID-19 we really bounced back with a whole new crop of swimmers trying out for the first time. However, we lost some really awesome returners that we'd work really hard with. The team does feel young and as if we're in rebuilding time period. We taught a lot of new kids this year who will be up and coming in the next couple of years," Skelton said.

Regional Results

Sean Ratfield: 6th 100m fly, 7th 100m back stroke
Ari Langer: 16th 100m breast stroke
Avery Redmon: 12th 200m free, 14th 500m free
Caroline Perry: 16th 100m free
Merryn Anderson: 16th 500m free
Andy Jia: 14th 50m free, 16th 100m free

Track wraps up season

From staff reports

Wooster senior Maurice Lapierre was the team's sole state 3A qualifier as he finished second in the 100m with a time of 11:65.

Twelve boys and 10 girls qualified for the 3A regionals on May 13-14 at Reed High School.

Strong performances for the Colts and a number of personal records were recorded for the underclassman-dominated team.

Team wise, the boys finished 11th like how America has taken in more immigrants than any other

in the 4 x 100m relay and 10th in the 4 x 200m relay. The girls team finished 10th in the 4 x 100m and 9th in the 4 x 200m relay.

Individual performances saw Eric Perez finish 23rd in the 1600m, Kubuya King 18th in the triple jump and Damien Guzman seventh in the pole vault and Kairo Castillo finishing 15th.

The top six finishers in each event qualified for a state berth.

country and provided billions of dollars in charity," Swigart said.