The Altus Swim Team has been dominating this year. The boys team dual record is 16-0 and the girls team record is 13-2.

The team competed at Regionals 2 weeks ago. The boys team won West Regionals by 197 points and the girls came in second behind Carl Albert by 133 points.

The boys team is expected to be very successful at state. Senior Chase Hubbard is seeded in the top three in both of his individuals for State. John Purdue has scored points for the team in the 200 team and 400 free. Sophomore Kaleb Shive is seeded second in the 100 free and 100 back. Junior Canyon Hart is also seeded second in the 500 free. He has continued to improve and drop time through out the year. Freshman Canyon Bain has done very well in the 200 Individual Medley and the 100 Breast and he qualified for state in 4 events.

The girls team has improved this year. The girls broke the Southwest Area Championship 400 Free Relay Record. This relay includes Carly Stork, Lynzie Herron, Sarah Scott, Kyle Allemier. They also shattered that time and broke the school record with a time of 3:57:58. Senior Haleigh Frith is seeded third in the 200 free. Senior Lynzie Herron has done great all season in the 200 Individual Medley and the 100 back. Senior Alyssa Hargis is expected to boost the team in points.

Coach Linda Wiginton states, “Hard work and the day to day grind are not always fun, but this is important to the process of winning in sports and in life.”

The Swim Team will be competing tomorrow and Saturday for State. Good Luck Bulldog Swimmers!
Aubri Hughes

Aubri Hughes is a junior at Altus High School. She has attended Altus High School since her freshman year. Aubri loves to play softball for the Lady Bulldogs. She received her letterman her freshman year and she started her sophomore and junior year on the varsity team.

She states, “My mom played softball in high school, she always pushes me to my best abilities.” Aubri loves traveling during the summer and staying in hotels with her traveling softball team. She plays for the North Texas Coyotes.

Aubri grew up in Altus. She lives with her mom, Jancie, her dad, Tom, and her younger brother Ajay. She also has a dog named Pixie. She has one older sister who goes to Oklahoma State University, Addy, and an older brother, Austin who lives with his son, Paxton and wife, Kennedy here in Altus.

Aubri plans to attend college at Southwestern Oklahoma State University to study psychology and child development.

Aubri’s favorite thing about Altus High School is Homecoming week and Sadie Hawkins. She states, “I love competing against the other classes.”

Aubri states, “I am always trying to make people laugh. I love having a good time with friends and making new ones.”

Aubri’s motivations in life are her parents always pushing her to do her best and her best friends.

Her favorite quote is, “It be like that sometimes.”

Derek Beach

Derek Beach is a junior at Altus High School. He has attended AHS since his freshman year. Derek grew up in Elmer, Oklahoma.

Derek is involved in football where he is the quarterback, and defensive back. He also plays varsity basketball. Derek is proud to be a Bulldog.

He states, “I am motivated by my brothers to do my best in sports.”

He is involved with FFA and he shows steers.

Derek had the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion steers at the 2016 Jackson County Livestock Show.

In Derek’s free time he likes to hunt, fish and help his dad on Beach Farms.

Derek states, “My family is my biggest motivation in life, they always push me to do my best.”

Derek is the youngest with three older brothers, Jason, Jordan and Kory. He has a sister-in-law, Mikala and a nephew named Daxton.

Derek lives with his dad, T.J. and his mom, Diane. He also has a dog named Blu.

Derek loves to watch OU football with his family.

He says his favorite thing about AHS is getting his education from the best teachers.

After high school Derek plans to attend Western Oklahoma State College for two years and then transfer to either Oklahoma University or Oklahoma State University.

One of Derek’s favorite quotes is, “Opportunity does not knock. It presents itself when you beat down the door,” by Eric Taylor.
Wrestlers to Regionals

The wrestlers will be traveling to Duncan this weekend for regionals. With just one week left in the season, the boys will have to battle it out for their ticket to state.

The team competed at Dual State this past weekend. This year was the 12th consecutive year that the team won district.

Coach Benson says the team has a little ways to go before they're at their greatest potential.

The 5A West Regional will be the tougher competition between Western and Eastern.

In total, 16 individuals will be looking to win and place higher than the other. Teams ranking from 3rd to 11th are in the same region as the Bulldogs.

Individually, the wrestlers have to place at least fifth to qualify for the state tournament.

Coach Benson and the team are looking for great things on the biggest of stages. While Coach Benson doesn't think it'll be hard to finish top three with the help of at least four state finalists, he does state, “It’ll be up to the seniors on how well we finish.”

The wrestling team is led by seniors Kobi Gomez and Dawson Loving. Dawson is a returning state placer, and Kobi leads the way as the defending state champion.

Gomez states, “It is a bittersweet weekend for us seniors. We are all ready and determined to bring all that we’ve got. I know our hard work will pay off in these last two tournaments.”

Along with all the good news, the wrestling team is also happy to be getting back Chase Epperson and Cabe Dickerson, who they believe will be a huge help with regionals.

Be sure to cheer on the wrestling team as they make their way to regionals this weekend.

Ready, Set, Program!

Botball is an organization offered here at Altus High School.

The main focus of the Botball Educational Robotics Program is to encourage students to work together as a team in the many skills it requires.

The team leader is Mackenzie Nall. Botball members are: Patrick Osborn, Jeremy Bankert, Ulber Ramirez, Keith Thompson, Kolby Rivas, Kayla Huerta, and Yamilet Benitez. The coaches are: Mrs. Clinton, Mrs. Lollis, and Mrs. McKenzie.

The robotics competition the team attends uses science, engineering, math, and writing skills to create and document hands-on projects.

Botball coach Mrs. Clinton states, “Botball is extremely challenging. It requires teamwork and thinking outside the box.”

The club has one competition that takes place on March 9th at the Oklahoma City Fairgrounds.

Mrs. Clinton states, “Last year was our first year. We made many mistakes, but learned a lot that aided us to be better prepared for this year’s competition. We have a lot of fun!”

After the challenge release that was announced in January, Botball meetings take place every Tuesday and Thursday after school. They also meet during the weekend on Saturday mornings.

Any students interested in joining Botball can attend the meeting in the fall.
Altus’ Future Doctors

Club Scrub focuses on exposing students to an array of health/medical careers by inviting healthcare professionals to attend. These professionals speak, show and lead demonstrations, and answer questions related to the topic of their career and lifestyle. Their teacher sponsor is Mrs. Neely.

Mrs. Neely states, “I love that this club provides unique opportunities to gain knowledge about medical careers of all kinds. I am learning right along with my students.”

Any student can join; all they need to do is come to the next meeting! Club Scrub meets in Mrs. Neely’s room (room 219) once a month from 3:15 to 4:15.

This month on February 21st an occupational therapist will be speaking, along with a physical therapist. These ladies spoke last year and many students interested in becoming an occupational therapist or physical therapist found this meeting very informative.

Club Scrub is a WOSC program. A college sponsor secures their grant funding, coordinates with Mrs. Neely, and provides snacks and drinks.

Club Scrub recently did a cow eye dissection led by optometrist Dr. Amie Straub. Mr. Mitch McLaughlin has spoken and shared lots of information about athletic training. Registered Nurse Mrs. Brandi Ward was Club Scrub’s first speaker this year. She helped many students begin their first steps with job shadowing.

“Club Scrub is a great opportunity if you are looking for a career in the medical field,” states Kiera Herebia.

Faculty Spotlight: Our AHS Nurses

Jennifer Pickett is one of our AHS nurses. She has been working for Altus Schools for 20 years now.

Jennifer graduated from Altus High School and went to college at Southwestern Oklahoma State University to become an RN. During her time at college, Jennifer ran cross country for the SWOSU Bulldogs.

Jennifer has a husband, Brad, and three kids. Her youngest, Simon, is a 13 year old seventh grader at AJH. Emily is a 17 year old senior at AHS. The oldest, Braden, is a 21 year old graduate of AHS.

Jennifer has a husband, Brad, and three kids. Her youngest, Simon, is a 13 year old seventh grader at AJH. Emily is a 17 year old senior at AHS. The oldest, Braden, is a 21 year old graduate of AHS.

Jennifer’s favorite thing to say to “sick” students is, “Here’s a cough drop.”
Kaylen Carroll is a senior here at Altus High School. Last week she signed with Western Oklahoma State College to play softball for the next two years.

She plans to obtain a liberal arts degree and then move on to a nursing program to become a registered nurse or RN.

Kaylen played softball for the Navajo Lady Indians her freshman and sophomore year and the team made it to state. She was also named all-district, all-conference, and all-area both years.

Kaylen’s junior year, she moved to Altus and became a Lady Bulldog. This year, she was named all-district pitcher and all-area player.

Kaylen has two siblings, Maddex and Jett. Maddex is 13 years old and Jett is 8 years old. Her parents, Morgan and JoDan, are very involved in everything.

Kaylen states, “I am very thankful for my family and appreciate all their love and support.”

Izaiah Hall and Danny Jamieson are senior football players here at Altus High School. February sixth they signed to play football at the collegiate level.

Izaiah signed to play for Sterling College in Kansas. He plans to play there for two years and then transfer to a bigger college to earn a psychology degree and hopes to one day go to law school.

Izaiah was named 5A All-District running back, 5A West All-Star Team, and All-State Honorable mention.

Izaiah has three siblings, Tyadrien, Ledrick, and Zarayah. His mom, Olivyah, lives in Georgia with his younger siblings. His dad, Ledrick, lives in Altus with Izaiah and Tyadrien.

Danny signed to Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma. He plans to major in Computer Science.

Danny started playing football his freshman year. At first, he struggled, but he is glad Coach Reyna and Coach Vargas convinced him to keep playing.

Danny lives with his grandma, grandpa, and sister. He also has two dogs.

Danny’s dream is to play in the National Football League, but it is not his main focus. He states, “I just want to do good in school and on the football field.”

Coach Terry states, “I am proud of both my players! I look forward to watching them excel on and off the football field these next few years!”

Mr. Coffman states, “It is very rewarding for coaches to see their athletes take their talents to the next level. Also, it is fun to see the excitement shared by the parents and athletes.”

We want to wish these Bulldogs the best of luck as they take the next step in their athletic careers and represent Altus High School! Go Bulldogs!
**Bulldog Bites**

By Bailey McLeod

What’s your ideal date?

Freshman Lane Snapp says, “A candlelit dinner.”

Sophomore Herman Rosas says, “Stargazing.”

Junior Brady Marple says, “Dinner at Sakura.”

Senior Koby Bates says, “Dinner and a movie.”

Senior Spotlight: Solimar & Ryan

Solimar Nieves is a senior here at Altus High School and has attended AHS since her freshman year.

Solimar was born in Georgia and lived there for eight years before moving to Texas for five years. She then moved to Altus and has lived here ever since.

Solimar's interests are fashion, cats, and travel. She also loves trying new foods.

Solimar lives with her parents, little sister, a dog, a cat, and a fish.

After high school, Solimar plans to attend Western Oklahoma State College in Altus and then transfer to Cameron in Lawton to obtain her degree and become a radiologist technician.

Solimar's favorite thing about AHS is the amazing teachers she has met here.

Something cool students may not know about Solimar is that her dad is from Puerto Rico and her mom is from Panama.

Solimar's faith motivates her in life. She says, "Sometimes I get tired and feel down, but I find strength in God and I know that He has great plans for me."

Solimar's favorite Bible verse is 1 Corinthians 16:14, “Let all that you do be done in love.”

Senior Ryan Sanchez was born and raised here in Altus and has attended Altus High School since his freshman year.

When Ryan isn’t playing baseball, he hangs out with his friends and family.

Ryan’s mom works at Bailey Headstart and his dad and brother work at Altus Air Force Base. He has an older brother, Justin, and two younger siblings, Carson and Kati, who are juniors at Altus High School.

After graduation, Ryan plans to play college baseball while studying to become a history teacher.

Ryan’s favorite things about AHS are how welcoming the students are, how friendly the teachers are, and his boy Kasen "Pork Chop" Davis.

Something interesting about Ryan is that he played at some DI colleges this summer with his team, SWAT Academy. He played at Baylor, Wichita State, and plans to play at more this coming summer. He also visited Texas A&M and OU while playing tournaments there.

Ryan’s family and friends motivate him to become the best he can be.

Ryan's favorite quote is by MLK, “If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.”

By Bailey McLeod
Senior Staff Writer