

# the altus high school's COLLAR

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## What's Inside Bulldog Nation

Student Features	2
Teacher Spotlight	3
Academic team	3
Soccer	4
Tennis	4
Bulldog Bites	5
Senior Spotlight	5

## February at a Glance:

- 5th—Swimming to region-als
- 9th—Bulldog Wrestling at Lawton Ike @ 6p.m.
- 11th—Parent teacher conferences
- 11th—Singing Valentines
- 12th—No school
- 13thBulldog Wrestling at Dual State
- 15th—No School
- 16th—Bulldog Baseball vs. Lawton Ike & Hollis

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## The Altus Animal Shelter

By Lilian Easter  
Junior Editor



Students in front of Altus Animal Shelter. Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Hamersley.

The Life Skills Class of Altus High School went to The Altus Animal Shelter on Friday, January 29. They left at 10 a.m. and returned at 2:30 p.m..

The Life Skills Class discussed the concept of donation and contribution to an organization.

The students voted to use their funds from The Bulldog Corner Store and cookie sales to donate to The Altus Animal Shelter.

As a class, the students chose to donate dog food, cat food, kitty litter, and pet toys, then headed to Walmart to make these purchases.

The students learned about the animal shelter and the importance of volunteer-

ing. They discussed as a class that they wanted to do more volunteer work in the future, especially at The Altus Animal Shelter.

The Life Skills Class wants to help the rescued animals by finding them new homes. They learned how to clean out pens, wash the animals' water bowls, and give the animals food.

For lunch, the students went to Whataburger with their sales from the corner store and cookie sales. Thanks to the corner store success, they get to try new restaurants in the community.

Mrs. Hamersley states, "This gives our students the chance to engage in society and practice their independ-

ence in society. This also gives the students ideas of job opportunities that are out there in their local community."

The Life Skills Class hopes to continue with the animal shelter on a weekly basis, but with a smaller group of two to three students at a time. They want to do this for about three hours a day once a week.

Mason Pickett and David Fortuna state, "We learned that we can volunteer at other places such as churches, hospitals, or public schools.

Kimber, the service dog came to The Altus High School on Monday, February first. Kimber belongs to one of the students. She is trained for his needs.

# Lexie Scott

By Savannah Shipman  
Staff Writer



Lexie Scott is a sophomore at Altus High School. She grew up in Altus and has attended AHS since her freshman year.

Lexie is the youngest daughter of Eric and Thu Scott. She has an older brother, David, and two older sisters, Rachel and Sarah.

Lexie states, "I have mostly tried everything, but the main activities that stuck with me are swim and band. My siblings are who inspire me to do everything because often I choose to follow in their footsteps. Although my family inspires me to push myself to do those activities, I've always enjoyed being involved."

Lexie is also the sophomore class president, a member of Advanced Treble Choir, and plans on participating in track once swim dismisses.

After high school, She either plans to join the Air Force through the Air Force Acade-

my in Colorado, majoring in nursing, or attending Stanford University in California to achieve a degree in Psychology.

Lexie's favorite thing about Altus High School is finding the teachers who will provide emotionally for students. Teachers that care about their students beyond their academic pursuits.

Something AHS students might not know about her is she has eleven cats and they all live indoors.

What motivates Lexie in life is her knowing that she can make a positive impact on someone's life. Lexie comments, "Even though I might feel like a mess, I can still use my light to spread love."

Her favorite verse is, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

# Tucker Taft

By Taylor Johnson  
Staff Writer

Tucker Taft is a sophomore here at Altus High School. He has attended Altus High School for two years and has grown up here in Altus.

Tucker lives with his parents, an older brother, and two younger sisters. He says his family is very hardworking and that they are always doing something.

Tucker says, "My siblings and I get along most of the time, but we have our disagreements."

He has played football since he was in second grade. His dad inspired Tucker from how successful he was in football when he was younger.

Tucker states, "It's just fun to go hit someone as hard as you can every play."

A few of Tucker's hobbies are hunting and fishing.

Tucker has a job at the Hollis Sale Barn.

Tucker plans to attend and play football for University of Oklahoma.

Tucker would like to become financially stable after high school.

His favorite thing about Altus High School is that he gets to be around a lot of his friends.

Tucker would like to let students know that if you have not taken an agriculture education class, you should, because you learn a lot, and you get to have fun with your friends.

Something that motivates Tucker in life is to be better than he was yesterday.

Tucker's favorite saying is "No one cares, work harder."





## Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Cramer

By Rebecca Borghinii  
Senior Editor

Tanya Cramer is the Spanish teacher at Altus High School, as well as the LEO Club sponsor.

She grew up in Friendship, Oklahoma, and attended Navajo Public Schools. She has been teaching for 15 years. She wanted to become a teacher for her love of the Spanish language and wanting to help others learn.

Her husband, Josh, is an aircraft mechanic at Altus Air Force Base. They dated for two years, and have been married for seven years. She has a son, Malachi, who is a sophomore at Altus High School. He is a talented singer and songwriter. She has a bonus daughter, Haley, who is a freshman at Altus High School, and is a lot of fun to hang around. She also has a

bonus son, Zachary, who is a sixth grader at Altus Intermediate School, and is very sweet.

Mrs. Cramer loves to read. Her favorite genre of books is paranormal. She loves cooking for her family and friends. She is also a member of the Christian Motorcyclists Association.

Something cool students at Altus High School may not know about Mrs. Cramer is that she was a cheerleader in high school. She was also salutatorian of her graduating class. She attended the University of Oklahoma and was selected as intern of the year her senior year. She also died having an emergency C-section, but was quickly revived.

Her favorite verse is Colossians 2:23, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."



## Academic Team to State!

By Adeline Perkins  
Senior Managing Editor

The Academic Team is headed to state. After beating teams at regionals and district, they will now head to state tomorrow.

At District, they competed against the MacArthur and Eisenhower teams and placed first. Moving on to regionals, they competed against Eisenhower and MacArthur again along with another team. They lost to MacArthur this time around placing second.

When they head to State, MacArthur will also be going into State competition.

At State, the scoring and process will be the exact same as it was at both Regionals and District.

While a team is made up of four players, they bring seven. At State, most of the



rules will be the same as the other competitions.

In the game, there are sixty questions that are divided into four rounds. In the first and third rounds, twenty questions are asked with ten seconds to answer each one. In the second and fourth rounds, players answer ten ques-

tions as a team within sixty seconds.

All of the questions throughout the game are worth ten points.

Key members of the team include; Captain Francesca Sacco, Wyatt Jensen, Morgan Beason, Ariel Browne, Sara Howard, Yamilet Benitez, and Alina Hiatt.



## Kicking Off the Season!

By Grayce Gilliam  
Senior Editor

This year's boys soccer team is returning seven starters from last year's short season. Some of the more experienced players will be moved to different positions. Some of the freshman players will have to step up and contribute.

Some of the senior players are Moses Rodriguez and Osmar Martinez. Other key players are Alan Chavez and Misael Castro. Soccer practice has just recently begun. Like most sports, the soccer team will have to adjust for players that will be out due to quarantine.

The boy's soccer team takes advantage of practices when they can, and they try to make the best of practices.

Coach Reyna wants his players to work hard to achieve their goals. Even though they may not, at the end they will be a better person. Coach Reyna states, "Every day is an oppor-

tunity to get better."

The Lady Bulldogs Soccer team is once again a young team with a lot of potential to build on and improve throughout the year.

Some of the key players are Anel Perez, Aliza Martinez, and Maya Sanchez. Like every other coach, Coach Loe lives each day waiting for a call saying we are going to be shut down for a week or two and have valuable preseason practice or eventually games taken away from them.

Coach Loe wants his players to learn to overcome adversity and to pursue their passions in life.

Coach Loe states, "Life rarely goes as you expect, and you have to be ready to adapt to the unexpected." He also states, "You have to start somewhere, and we are trying to build towards a better product each year."



AHS Soccer Practice.

## Get Served!

By Gracie Taylor  
Senior Editor

This year's boys tennis team has some players who have been playing since they were freshmen, so their match experience should not be an issue. The boys are hungry for competition and are looking forward to seeing what they can accomplish this year.

Mark Dabelstein is the head coach for the tennis team. Some of the boy's team key players are: Byke Burrow, Luke Finch, Tristan Gregg, and John Preston.

Dabelstein states, "I am grateful and honored that God chose for our paths to cross, and I couldn't be more proud to be their coach."

Social distancing isn't a big deal on the tennis courts, so the season hasn't been affected as harshly as other sports. An opponent may be better than them, but the players will never be out-worked. The team will be looking forward to two freshmen to step up and contribute to the team.

The girls' tennis coaches are Shelly Vinyard and Jessica Robin-



AHS Tennis Teams at Practice. Photo Courtesy of Ms. Robinson.

son. The girls have a very strong group of returning varsity players from last season. The key players for the girls team this season are Kayleigh Weaver and Lexie Kelley.

The girls just started in January, and the restrictions, other than students being quarantined, have not affected them just yet. One of the biggest struggles has been that

they did not have a season last school year due to COVID-19 and school shutting down.

Robinson states, "I think we coaches all hope the players develop a love for tennis. I also hope they take the sense of accomplishment that comes from commitment and competition with them!"

# Bulldog Bites

By Kylee Strickland

*"What is one thing you look forward to on Valentines?"*



Senior Skyiah Texidor states, "All the colors!"



Senior Aryanna Cruz states, "Every year my dad gets me flowers. I also have plans with friends."



Junior Bryce Kahla states, "All the love everyone shows for each other."



Junior Canyon Bain states, "The new Fortnite skins coming out."

## Senior Spotlight: Bailey & Robert

By Clarissa Lopez & Sara Howard  
Staff Writer & Senior Managing Editor



Bailey Bryant is a senior at Altus High School. She has attended AHS for three years and is graduating early.

Bailey's main interests are cheering and taking pictures with friends. She has been cheering for the Bulldogs for five years. She is also a Link Crew leader.

Bailey lives with her dad, Brandon Bryant, and her stepmom, Jessica Segreaves. She also has a brother, Brandon Bryant, who is a senior at AHS.

After high school, Bailey plans to attend Western Oklahoma State College for two years and major in

child development. She will then go to Cameron University for two more years, so she can become a social worker at the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

Bailey's favorite thing about Altus High School is the lifelong bonds you create in high school. She states, "I have a great group of friends who I've seen blossom into amazing people."

Bailey is motivated in life by her family. Her dad has had a big impact on Bailey by encouraging her to get involved in cheer and Link Crew at AHS. Her dad's words are, "High school only happens once."

Bailey's favorite quote is, "If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one." by Dolly Parton.

Robert Lockman is a senior here at Altus High School. Robert grew up in Altus and has attended Altus High School since his freshman year.

Some of Robert's interests include: making music, coding, laying with his cats, and pushing carts at Walmart.

Robert has an older brother, Glenn, and an older sister, Stacey. His dad, Gordon, works at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, and his mom, Tammy, works for the ACS Head Start programs. He also has four cats,

Tiger, Autumn, Pizza, and Kitty.

After high school, Robert plans to become a detective, earn his private investigator's license, and become certified in cyber security before retiring.

Robert's favorite thing about Altus High School is the music production class. Something interesting Altus High School students may not know about Robert is that he is going to college for criminal justice.

Robert is motivated in life by his grandma, dad, girlfriend, and himself.

One of Robert's favorite quotes is, "Despite everything, it's still you." by Toby Fox.

