

Altus High School's The Collar

Volume 17 Issue 10



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By Kenli Greer and Zoe Monterrubio
Staff Writer

POWERLIFTING



Powerlifting is a new sport here at Altus High School. Head Coach Craig Collins and Assistant Coach Chris Huckins took the team to Snyder on January 18 to their first meet.

Coach Collins states, "We had some early on success in this first meet at Snyder. We also got to go ahead and get the early season jitters and simple mistakes out of the way that will only prepare us even better as we head towards regionals and trying to make state." 26 individuals set personal records and numerous placed top in their weight class.

This is the first year in a long time that Altus has had powerlifting, and we are fortunate enough to have a few hardworking seniors and a ton of underclassmen that will

carry on the legacy when the seniors graduate.

There are some upcoming meets; Girls Regionals -2/27, Boys Regionals -3/3, Girls State -3/6, Boys state -3/10.

Coach Collins wants his players to live by the hustle, loyalty, and respect mantra. Dream big and then go out and take it.

He states, "Powerlifting is one of the most unique spots there is. You get to go crush your lift then hangout with friends, go crush your lift then go make new friends... it's a really intense and social event all at the same time, and it's an atmosphere like no other."

Coach Collins wants his team to dream big, work hard, and shatter records! Best of luck at regionals and state!

Student Features

By Trina Patel
Staff Writer

Madelynn Halpain



Madelynn is a freshman here at Altus High School. She moved here in 2012 from Tampa, Florida.

This is her first year at Altus High School. She is involved in swimming, student council, yearbook, choir, and the musical. Madelynn can play three instruments: the guitar, ukulele, and bass.

Madelynn is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. Her favorite subjects in school are English and Science. When she is not in school, Madelynn enjoys traveling and hiking, reading books, and listening to music.

Her parents are Trevor and Kacie Halpain. They are 45 and 41 respectively. Her Sister Jocelyn is 11 and goes to Altus Intermediate School. Her brother TJ is 9 and goes to Rivers Elementary School. She has two cats named Leo and Dax. She also has a golden retriever named Gus.

Madelynn's favorite thing about Altus High School is our kind and supportive swim team. After high school, she plans to attend Oklahoma University to study meteorology.

Madelynn states, "My friends and family motivate me to be a better person." Her favorite saying is to work smarter, not harder.

Student Features

By Dominic Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Ben Wu

Benjamin Wu has attended Altus High School since his freshman year. Benjamin grew up in Manhattan, New York.

He is involved in football and tennis at Altus High School. Benjamin's favorite subject at AHS is science.

Benjamin likes to hang out with friends and family in his spare time. Benjamin's family consists of his brother, Kai Wu, his dad, QiBing Wu, and his mom, Ami Xu.

After high school, Benjamin plans to attend college to further his education. His favorite thing about Altus High School is the freedom given to students in and between classes.

Something cool about Ben that people might not know about him is that he can speak fluent Mandarin Chinese.

Benjamin's motivation in life is the sacrifices his parents make. He states, "My parents sacrifice many things to make me what I am today."

His favorite quote is, "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it." -Confucius



Teacher Spotlight

By: Greyson Woodward
Staff Writer

Catherine Gover



Catherine Gover has been teaching for 22 years. She teaches Algebra I, Intermediate Algebra, and oversees ATI.

Mrs. Gover decided teaching was for her because she loves kids, and as a mom, it was convenient for her schedule. After her first year, she fell in love with teaching and wouldn't choose any other profession.

Mrs. Gover was raised in Altus and was a student at Altus High School. She also attended to WOSC, OSU, and Chapman College. Her father was in the Air Force and her mother taught at Altus High School before becoming the principal.

Catherine has 2 daughters, Rachel Gonzales and Morgan Gover. Rachel is a teacher at Altus Intermediate School and has two children, Lily who is 8 and Willow who is 6. Her husband's name is DJ. Lily and Willow like to call Mrs. Gover MeMe. Morgan, who lives in the Los Angeles area, has her own hat business. Catherine unfortunately lost her husband, Jim Gover, to covid in November of 2020 after being married for 38 years.

Mrs. Gover finds joy in quilting, gardening, and likes

to call the beach her "happy place." Her favorite puzzles are sudoku and kakuro. Along with completing puzzles, she also enjoys reading.

Altus High School students may be unaware that Mrs. Gover attended the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute in Modern Dance during her high school years. She has also been aboard and ridden in a ballistic missile submarine while deep in the Pacific Ocean.

Mrs. Gover loves traveling. She has been to several locations within the Caribbean and Mexico. Over this year's Christmas break, she spent her time in Ireland.

Mrs. Gover's favorite quote is "What we know matters, but who we are matters more." - Brene Brown

Bulldog Bites

By: Garrix Bauer
Senior Editor

Who do you want to be your Valentine?



Freshman Juan Ybara states, "Mr. Clothier."



Sophomore Neely Bonds states, "Micheal B. Jordan."



Junior Daniel Chavez states, "My grandma."



Ashlyn Garcia states, "myself."

Bulldog Sports

By Senior Editor and Senior
Managing Editor
Abi Beane and Taylor Johnson

AHS Swim



Photo credits to Jennifer Grice

Altus High School swim team's head coach is Linda Wiginton and assistant coaches Emily Jones and Michael Shive. Wiginton has been the head coach for 42 years, when the program was started. This year's swim

team is the smallest she has coached in many years. The seniors this season are Gunner Hamon, Lexie Scott, George Socha, Todd Duncan, Eric Loe, Brady Garmon, Grace Humble, and Shawn Ryan.

January 20th, the swim team hosted the Southwest Area Championships. The girls won with 159 points, and the guys won with 160. All swimmers contributed to the win with every point scored. Overall, the girls team is 12 and 4 in the dual record, and the guys are 14 and 3. The Bulldogs swam at regionals February 4th at Mitch Park YMCA in Edmond. The girls got fourth and the boys got second. Majority of the swim team will be going to state the 17th and 18th.

Wiginton quotes, "We have had a fun year while working hard. The

biggest drawback is the small number on our teams. Swimming is not only about swimming fast, but as far as the team scores are concerned, number of swimmers helps."

Our AHS swim team is really working hard and having a lot of fun this season. The coaches want their swimmers to learn that anything worthwhile is worth working hard to accomplish. "Life is a marathon and not a sprint. You have to keep pressing on when things do not go as perfectly as you thought they would. Learn to laugh a lot!" Wiginton states.

Club Scrub

By Senior Editor and Senior
Managing Editor
Grace Humble and Lexie Scott

Club Scrub is a club here at Altus High School for students who are interested in various healthcare fields and/or science professions. Students are introduced to the availability, demands, and rewards of health and science careers while participating in group and individual activities to further explore their future goals.

Currently, members are participating in the Child Care Certificate program through

Comanche County Memorial Hospital. Next month, members hope to work with Jackson County Health Department to bring awareness to healthy and positive teen dating.

Officers of the 2022-2023 Club Scrub include Kenny Schwingendorf, Abigail Reyna, Ashley Chavez Lucero, and Jazz Sidoi.

If any students are interested in joining, all they need to do is show up to a meeting.

Meetings are advertised through announcements, Schoology, and posters around the school. The next meeting is

scheduled for February 9th. This meeting will focus on childcare. See Mrs. Adler for more information and details about Club Scrub.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Taylor Johnson
Senior Managing Editor

ZOE GRUBAUGH

Zoe Grubaugh is a senior here at Altus High School. She has attended AHS since her freshman year. Zoe was born and raised in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Zoe has two younger brothers and lives with her mother and father.

Zoe was a team captain for the AHS Softball Team and participates in FFA. One of her many achievements includes being placed on the Superintendent's Honor Roll. She also enjoys CrossFit, playing the guitar, and working at the local museum.

Zoe's favorite thing about Altus High School is the teachers. She states, "They are always so encouraging and many of the teachers have a big impact on me."

After graduation, Zoe plans on attending Western Oklahoma State College to begin her nursing degree.

Zoe's motivation in life is her faith and her parents. She claims, "I want to do the best I can for them because of everything they've done for me." Zoe's favorite saying is "He walks with me" because "My faith in Jesus is such a big part of my life."



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Elizabeth Risinger
Staff Writer

ERICK KIRBY



Erick Kirby is a senior here at Altus High School. He has attended AHS since his freshman year. Erick was born and raised in Altus, Ok.

Erick is the son of Heather and Kory Kirby. He also has 2 siblings. His sister Kennedy attends college at Oklahoma State University. His brother Kaleb is a junior here at Altus High School.

Erick is involved in football, archery, powerlifting, and track here at Altus High School. He has participated in football and track since his freshman year of high school. This is his first year of powerlifting. He has also participated in archery since he was in the 8th grade.

Erick's favorite thing about Altus High School is the community. Something cool about Erick that you may not know is that he is very good at cornhole.

After graduation, Erick plans to become a bodybuilder and further his career in photography.

Erick's motivation in life is going to the gym and working out. In his spare time, Erick enjoys taking pictures, fishing, hunting, and talking to people.

Erick's favorite saying is "The day is what you make it, and if you put your mind to it, you can accomplish it."

BULLDOG CLASSIFIEDS

By Malachi Reyes and Gavin Glover
Staff Writers



Parent Teacher Conferences February 16

Singing Valentine

singing valentine fundraiser!!

Singing Valentine	
 Sing to make \$10	 Sing to make \$15
Song to make \$10	Song to make \$15
Sing a whole lot of love	
Name _____	
Fname _____	
Message _____	
Delivered to (friend address or school) _____	
2 nd Favorite Address _____	Phone Number of Recipient _____
Please Check Recipient's Lunch Box _____	
Please Write Recipient's Address after (Name, Grade, etc.) _____	
<i>All Valentines will be delivered on Monday, February 19th (please write performed time)</i>	
<i>Starting 5:30</i>	
<i>Circle Sing or Write Your Choice (we pick one for you)</i>	
If You Sing to Someone	A Bunch and a Peach
If You Sing to Yourself	M-I-A-M-I (Sing Along)
Love You (Singing Style)	Continued
Discontinued	And the Winner, You Love (Singing Style)

Prize Rules:


- 1. Winner will be randomly selected by a volunteer using a random number generator.
- 2. The winner is obligated to deliver Singing Valentines at the address given, but if unable to contact the address given, the organizer will be obligated to deliver to the address given.
- 3. The winner will be responsible for the cost of the prize and the winner does not receive the prize in an attempt to deliver.

Share With - *Area High School Choir*


Sent By _____

Delivered By _____

Time _____



Singing Valentine



Song #15 Song By: Phoenix #10
Song with Candy Bars: #15 Song w/without gifts: \$20
Song w/with gifts: \$25

To: _____ From: _____

Message: _____

Delivered to (Street Address and School): _____

Alternate Address: _____

Phone Number of Sender: _____ Phone Number of Recipient: _____

Please Give Student's Lunch time: _____ If student is not at lunch, where can we
 deliver Valentine. Address after school, Sport, etc.: _____

All Valentines will be delivered on Tuesday, February 14th (please class preferred time)
Morning 12-2
Afternoon 12-4

Circle Song or AHS Choir Choice (we pick one for you)


I P'YCH U ME M-I-N-I-ME You Are My Sunshine I Love You (Barney Style) Skidamaram	A Bushel and a Peck H-E-A-R-T (Bingo Song) Goodnight Sweetheart Just the Way You Are (Bruno Mars)
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Please Note:

- Valentines sent to schools will be delivered only during lunch times.
- We will make 2 attempts to deliver Singing Valentines at the address given, but if unable to contact recipient in person, the valentine will be delivered by postal mail.
- We will not deliver outside of AHS.
- No refunds will be given if we're attempting to deliver the valentine and the recipient is not at the address given, and the sender does not answer the phone in our attempts to deliver.

Thank You - Abas High School Choir

fold up
fold up
cut



EXPLORE **AHS**
at Bulldog
Bonanza

FEB. 8TH
5:30PM
CAFETERIA
TOUR OF
BUILDING
6-7PM


All 8th grade students and parents are welcome to attend. Current students and activity sponsors will be available to discuss their organizations and how your student can get involved at Altus High School.

AHS CAFETERIA

400 N PARK AVE

580-481-2167

8th grade students get to tour Altus High School on February 8th



*I've got
a crush
on you!*

AHS CHOIR STUDENTS HAVE

CHOCOLATE BARS FOR SALE!

6 DIFFERENT
FLAVORS FOR
\$1 EACH!

A stylized illustration of a hand holding a chocolate bar. The hand is rendered in shades of purple and blue with white outlines. The chocolate bar is dark brown with a grid pattern of six squares. Each square contains a white outline of a chocolate chip. The bar is tilted diagonally across the frame.