

# The Collar

Volume 17 Issue 1



## WELCOME BULLDOGS

By Taylor Johnson

Senior Managing Editor

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photo by Rhonda Garrison



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This year the Link Crew leaders and advisors, Jessica Robinson and Jennie McLeod, worked hard to welcome the class of 2026!

The focus of Link Crew is to help freshmen transition into high school. Link Crew hosts freshmen orientation just before school starts.

Link Crew Leader Kelli Valdez states, "The best part of orientation was getting to meet the freshmen." They do activities with the freshmen to get them comfortable and able to open up to the Link Crew leaders. The leaders also show the freshmen around the school and meet some of the teachers before school starts.

Advisor, Jessica Robinson, states, "Freshmen orientation went great! We had over 200 freshmen attend."

There are several activities held throughout the year for freshmen to participate in. Fun day Fridays are held during lunch throughout the year. Scary movie night is held in October, and Cocoa and Cram is held before finals in December.

The Link Crew program helps underclassmen with leadership skills and more. "Link Crew gives you the opportunity to become more involved in school," states Stephon Sterling.

Students may join by submitting an application.

# Student Feature

By Lexie Scott  
Senior Managing Editor

## KyLeigh McElwee



KyLeigh McElwee is a freshman here at Altus High School. KyLeigh was born in Altus, Oklahoma, and has lived here her entire life.

She is the daughter of Diana and Justin McElwee. Diana is a special education teacher at Altus Intermediate School and her dad, Justin, works at the correctional facility in Granite.

KyLeigh has four older brothers: Jacob Revilla, Aaron Harger, Braden Stobaugh, and Alec Harger. They all graduated from Altus High School in previous years. She also owns two cats named Mikey and Casey.

At AHS, KyLeigh is involved in swimming, choir, and yearbook. Her favorite subjects are history and math, and her favorite thing about AHS is the amazing teachers she's met and the friends she's made. Regarding academics, she has made the honor roll each semester.

Outside of school, KyLeigh enjoys writing music and dancing. After she graduates, KyLeigh plans on attending UCLA to major in drama and theater arts. KyLeigh's family and friends motivate her most in life; her favorite quote is, "this too shall pass." I John 2:17

Nathan Harvester-Glover is one of our incoming freshmen at Altus High school. He was born and raised here in Altus, Oklahoma.

He lives between his parents and has a younger brother named Elijah who attends Altus Intermediate School currently.

Nathan's favorite subjects are history and aviation. He has been listed on the honor roll throughout his education.

Outside of school, Nathan enjoys playing video games and watching shows with his friends.

His hair style is what brings

him to our student feature this week. When asked about his thoughts on being featured because of his hair he states, "I think it's a cool thing, I got the afro because I didn't think I could pull off anything this well. So noticing that other people find it interesting, they're talking about it, asking about it, it's amazing."

Nathan is driven to be the best version of himself by the thought there is always someone better than him.

His favorite quote is, "Who controls the past controls the future." -George Orwell, 1984

By Aubree VonDohlen  
Senior Editor

## Nathan Harvester-Glover





# Teacher Spotlight

By: Dominic Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

## Morgan Mitchell Young



Morgan Mitchell Young teaches Foundations of Art, Drawing I, and Art Appreciation for AHS. This is her first year as an art teacher for Altus Public Schools, but she also taught youth for 10 years and art at The Studio in Altus for one year.

Mrs. Young grew up in Bixby, OK and attended Bixby High School. She went to college at Oklahoma City University.

When asked about why she went in to teaching she states, "I love working with junior high and high school aged students, and I love art!"

Her husband, Mr. Young, teaches choir at AHS. They

They have two cats named Ruth and Francis. She states, "Our cats are fat and thriving."

One of Mrs. Young's hobbies is making art--anything from a painting to a stained-glass piece. She is also trying to learn to be a better gardener, and she loves going to the movies.

Something cool about Mrs. Young that Altus High School students may not know is that she went skydiving a few years ago.

One of Mrs. Young's favorite quotes is, "They tried to bury us. They didn't know we were seeds." By Dinos Christianopoulos

## MEET THE BULLDOGS

Altus High School and Altus Junior High students kicked off the 2022-2023 season with their annual "Meet the Bulldogs" event. This is a time for students to be recognized to the public and gain community recognition. On August 12, the following fall sports were introduced: football, pom, cheer, volleyball, cross country, band, softball, and athletic training. In true bulldog fashion, to commence the event, the students ended with the Altus Alma Mater and fight song.

By Lexie Scott  
Senior Managing Editor



photo by Rhonda Garrison

# Bulldog Sports

Elizabeth Risinger and Grey Woodward  
Staff Writers:

## Softball's Major Smash!

Jessica Robinson is the Altus High School Head Softball Coach along with her assistant coaches R. Hayes and B. Davis. Coach Robinson has been coaching at AHS and AJH for 6 years.

This season they have a strong team with many key members returning. They have some solid wins already. The girls started the season 6-3; after finishing 18-4 in summer league and camps. This group works extremely hard and they have a deep pitching staff including Chloe Hill, Jaycee Foster, Maci Hayes, and Memphis Thurmond. Along with their pitching, their defense is solid and they have the ability to really compete offensively.

Seniors players Baylee Pence, Chloe Hill, Jaycee Foster, and Zoe Grubaugh provide leadership and solid plays on the field. Robinson states, "Baylee is absolutely phenomenal behind the plate and one of the best catchers in the state." Chloe and Jaycee pitch, play 1st base, and have big bats. Sophomores Maci Hayes and Jenna Blackford lead the team in batting average and play 2nd and 3rd respectively. Melissa Tamez their shortstop brings experience, and according to Robinson is an absolute utility who can hit. Their outfield is a "no-fly" zone made up of Riley Hayes, Hali Denton, and Savannah Clothier.

Coach Robinson wants her players to take the JOY that you find in playing sports you love for your school throughout life.



Madison Mckee



Keeley Brown



photo by Jana Foster

## Volleyball's Big Hit!

This is Coach Garrison's fourth year coaching volleyball with the help of his assistant coaches: Vivian Freeman, Sarah Mowdy, and Kaitlyn Marrero.

They have been working diligently all summer and have already accomplished so many wins.

Coach Garrison puts an emphasis on how important teamwork is to their dynamic, his motto for this season being "One Team, One Dream, We Win as one, We Lose as One, We Grow as One... We are a Team."

The strong bond between Coach Garrison and his team is like family, every team member carrying their volleyball friendships with them through the school year. Coach Garrison states, "Hard work and dedication will get you far, but your love of your team and the relationships you make with them will last a lifetime."

With such a wonderful mix of seniors such as Aubrey Coffman, Kayde Rencher, and Taylor Johnson mixed in with the freshman players like Madie Whittaker and Ava Frieze, volleyball is sure to have an exciting season. The team is hopeful to have their winning mentality carry themselves and each other to greater heights.

Along with the friendships made, the fans have also increased. Our volleyball players love an audience and the mood of the game is always exciting.



# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Garrix Bauer  
Senior Editor

## ALLISON HOWARD

Allison Howard has been a student at Altus High School since 2019. Allison is involved in "That Altus Band," and she plays the Bari Sax. She has also been listed on the Principal's Honor Role. She takes a graphic design class at the SWTC. She plans on going into computer engineering after high school.

Allison is the daughter of Myndie and James Howard. Allison has an older sister, Morgan, that graduated from Altus High School in 2020. She also has a basset hound named Sophie, who is her pride and joy.

Allison's favorite thing about AHS is Mrs. Lollis. One interesting thing Allison has done that not many people know about is that she met Kanye West in London in 2017. Allison is motivated in life by Playboy Carti. Her favorite quote is "Life should be cherished, enjoyed, loved, and respected." by Quandale Dingle



## KYLIN MONDAY

Kylin Monday is a senior here at Altus High School. He has attended AHS since his freshman year. Kylin was born and raised in Altus, OK.

He lives with his parents, Adrian and Dustin Monday. Kylin has two sisters and a brother, Alexa, Brook, and Lane. He also has a dog named Sooner.

Kylin is involved in numerous activities here at Altus High School. Baseball is his favorite sport. Kylin plays 3rd base and is also one of their pitchers. He plans to attend Simulation Technology School after high school.

Kylin's favorite thing about Altus High School is seeing all of his friends in the hallway. When Kylin isn't playing baseball, he enjoys hanging out with his friends and playing video games.

By Kenli Greer  
Staff writer



## Bulldog Bites

**If you could change places with one person, who would it be and why?**

By Zoe Monterrubio  
Staff Writer



Freshman Damien Harmon states, "Steph Curry because I like basketball."



Sophomore Klara Gallagher states, "Nobody, I don't need to change."



Junior Avyn Brown-Branch states, "Jack Harlow because he's famous."



Senior Kaydence Bowen states, "Blake Lively because she's married to Ryan Reynolds."

# BULLDOG STORE

By Zoe Monterrubio  
Staff Writer



Altus Bulldog Cheer team will be selling shirts through-out the season. If you're interested in buying a cheer shirt please contact a current cheer member.



"That Altus Band" is selling homemade cinnamon rolls made fresh from Life is a Batch Bakery. You cannot get better than this! Ooey-Gooey, hot and fresh, never frozen, made to order, bought local, made local, sold local. 100% of the money benefits people from Altus! \$20 for a dozen baked in a 9x13 pan. Order through any high school band member or call the band office at (580)481-2664 to order your fresh dozen, or two today! Offer ends August 29th



## All-School Production Try Outs



Altus High School is proud to announce the upcoming audition for this year's All-School Production: Spongebob Squarepants! Anyone in the school can audition for the show; you do not have to be in choir or have any previous theatre experience to participate. Primary auditions are on Monday, August 29th and Tuesday, August 30th starting at 3:30 and ending whenever everyone is done. The sign up sheet is located in the choir room in the music building. There are 2 parts to auditioning: singing and dancing. There are 2 parts to auditioning: singing and dancing. Callbacks will take place after school on Thursday, September 1st in the choir room. There is a \$60 participation fee that covers costumes and other expenses in this massive show.