

The Collar

Volume 16 Issue 13

What's Inside Bulldog Nation

Student Features	2
Teacher Spotlight	3
Prom	3
Girl's Tennis	4
Boy's Tennis	4
Senior Spotlights	5
Bulldog Bites	5

- April 13— Lady Bulldog Golf @ Clinton NHS Sponsored Blood Drive T.A.B. OSSAA State Concert Contest
- April 14- AHS Tennis @ Clinton Bulldog Baseball @ Fredrick AHS Soccer vs. Lawton Mac Purple up! Wear Purple
- April 15— AHS Track @ Duncan
- April 15-18—Easter Break
- April 18— Bulldog Golf @ Duncan Bulldog Baseball vs. Sant Fe South
- April 19— AHS Tennis @ Durant

The Collar Staff

Advisor: Mrs. Rempel

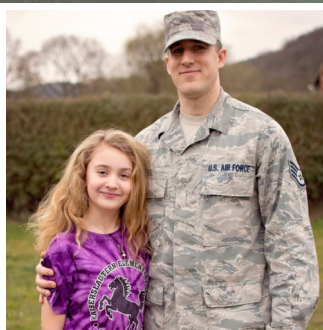
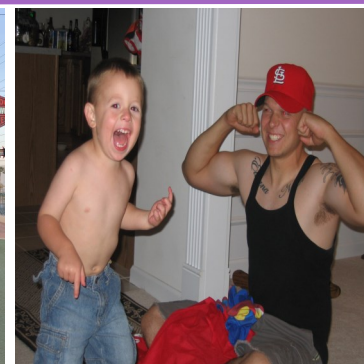
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Staff Writer: Angel Bence, Brooklynn Strickland, and Janise Rodriguez

Month of the Military Child

By Savannah Shipman
Senior Managing Editor



April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, recognizing the important role military children play in the armed forces community. The Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices and the challenges they overcome.

Bryce Wehmeyer (*top left*) is the son of Bryan Wehmeyer the Inspector General at AAFB. He has also served for almost 30 years as a pilot and multiple command positions. Bryan Wehmeyer has been deployed to Afghanistan and Qatar. The Wehmeyer family has lived in several places over the years, but one of Bryce's favorite places is Germany. He states, "It has beautiful landscape and delicious schnitzel."

Lauren and Logan Queen (*top middle*) are the kids of Bryan Queen, the Master Sergeant at AAFB. He works in the Logistics Readiness Squadron in fuels and as a supervisor for airmen. Bryan

Queen has been deployed in Kuwait, Qatar, and Korea. Lauren states, "Being a military child can be fun, but there are many hardships. Losing friends and not being able to fit in at a new school is the hardest part. Always be kind to new kids no matter their situation."

Noah Tesh (*top right*) is the son of Shawn Tesh, a mechanical engineer ranking tech sergeant. Shawn Tesh has been deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Germany, Korea, and Qatar. Noah states, "Being a military kid isn't all fun. We really have to be ready for anything to happen and be able to adapt because whether we like it or not, we don't get a choice."

Lillian Mickley (*bottom left*) is the daughter of William Mickley a retired Colonel at AAFB. He has been deployed to Turkey, Egypt, Qatar, and Kyrgyzstan. Lillian states, "One of the best things about moving around is walking into an empty house and seeing

new possibilities."

Kaylee Brown (*bottom middle*) is the step-daughter of Joshua Diel, the Dental Flight Chief at AAFB. Joshua Diel has been deployed to Iraq and Kuwait. Kaylee was born in Germany and lived there for 14 years. Her favorite German food is Germany's cheesecake, Käsekuchen.

Tuck Elliot (*bottom right*) is the son of Stephen Trent Elliot who is a doctor at AAFB. He has been deployed to Liberia and also around the U.S. to set up COVID vaccination sites during the pandemic in 2021. Tuck loves going to new places and experiencing their cultures. One of his favorite places is Germany because of the nice, cool weather and the people were so nice.

These are just a few students of AHS military families that we recognized. **Please wear purple tomorrow, April 14, 2022 to recognize ALL the military children and their sacrifices.**

Calista Pavelschak

By Emma Sasse
Senior Editor



Calista is a sophomore here at Altus High School. She grew up in many different states as a military child. She has been to South Carolina, Virginia, Illinois, and now Oklahoma.

Calista lives with her dad, Jason who has been a pilot for the Air Force for the last 25 years. Her mom is Colleen and is very active with the spouse group on base and volunteers with the choir and band. She has three older siblings Jocelyn 24, Cameron 21, and Dillon 18. They also have an 8 year old miniature American Eskimo named Khloe.

Calista has attended Altus High School for two years. She is involved with National Honor Society, Student Council, pom squad, KAY Klub, tennis, and Varsity Chorale. Her favorite subject in school is choir.

Calista has received the Princi-

pal's Honor Roll, Oklahoma High School Honor Society, Freshman Choir Royalty, All-Region Choir her freshman and sophomore year, Top Dog for the month of March her sophomore year, superior rating on freshman district solo, excellent rating on freshman state solo, and excellent rating on sophomore solo.

Something interesting about Calista is that she loves taking voice lessons and dancing at Cirque Dance Studio and Off The Wall Dance Productions.

Calista is motivated by her faith. It has always been a part of her life. Both of her parents are Catholic, so she was born into the Catholic Church. She has always put trust and fears into God and has always been motivated to learn more about faith and spread God's word.

Calista's favorite quote is, "When things go wrong, don't go with them."

Nathan Cuellar

By Janise Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Nathan Cuellar is a sophomore here at Altus High School. He has attended Altus High School since his freshman year.

Nathan was born in Altus, Oklahoma. He was raised in Vaquerías Jalisco, Mexico and moved back to Altus, Oklahoma in his younger teenage years. He lives with both of his parents, Roberta Cuellar and Luis Cuellar. Nathan also has two siblings, Victor Cuellar his brother and Amy Cuellar his sister.

Nathan is involved in soccer and has been since his freshman year. He states, "If it wasn't for the love of soccer I have, I wouldn't know what to do in life to motivate myself." He lettered in soccer his sophomore year.

Outside of school, Nathan enjoys sleeping most of the time and playing soccer when it's offseason to get better.

His plans after graduation are to attend a college for soccer and become a professional soccer player.

Nathan's favorite thing about Altus High School is interacting with new people and playing soccer for the Altus High School Soccer Team.

Something cool that Altus High School students may not know about Nathan is that he has been playing soccer since he was three years old.

Nathan is motivated in life by his grandpa. Nathan states, "He pushes me to be a better person everyday and to do my best at everything."

Nathan's favorite verse is, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm 73:26.



EMILY COX

By Kenzly Schmidt
Senior Managing Editor

Emily Cox is a new teacher here at Altus High School. Emily began teaching here at AHS second semester. She teaches biology.

Mrs. Cox grew up in Elgin, Oklahoma and is a graduate of Elgin Public Schools. She previously taught plant and soil sciences for three years in higher education, and this is her first year teaching biology.

Emily has been married to her husband, Garrett, for three years. He is an Altus High School graduate. They have an eleven month old daughter named Grady. Outside of school, Mrs. Cox also enjoys crocheting and graphic designing.

Mrs. Cox says her reason for becoming a teacher is because she really enjoys science and en-



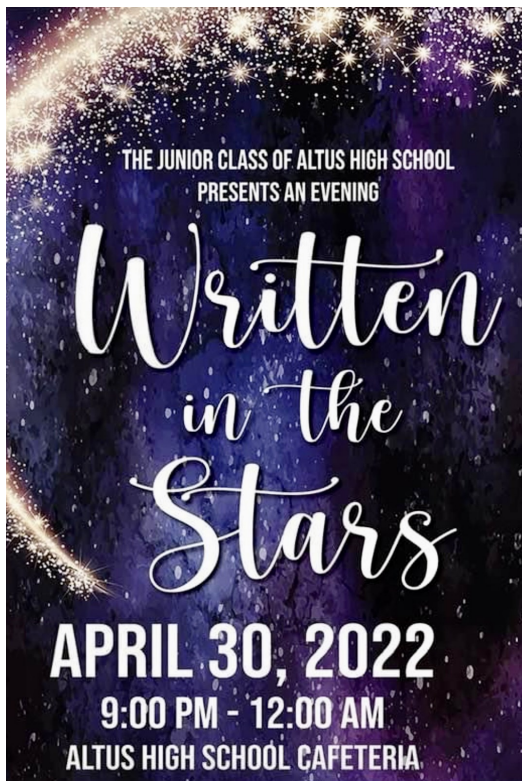
couraging her students to be curious and test their hypotheses. Mrs. Cox states, "I love seeing that 'light bulb' moment when things make sense to my students. They are able to connect things they have learned in life and apply their own critical thinking tactics to solve any problem."

One interesting fact about Mrs. Cox is that she really enjoys planting and gardening. She actually knows hundreds of Latin names for different plants.

A quote that inspires Mrs. Cox is by Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, 1813, "There is a stubbornness about me that never can bear to be frightened at the will of others. My courage always rises at every attempt to intimidate me."

A Night Under The Stars

By Lilian Easter
Senior Managing Editor



You have been invited to the "Written in the Stars" prom of 2022! The juniors are hosting this year's prom of 2022 for the seniors at Altus High School. The junior class hopes all juniors and seniors will attend and enjoy the night.

Prom will be held in the Altus High School Cafeteria on April 30th, 2022 from 9:00 PM until 12:00 AM. The night will be filled with music and dancing. There will be food and lots of fun! The dress code is formal attire.

You can purchase your prom ticket starting April 19th for \$20 during A and B lunches in the cafeteria. The Juniors are also selling t-shirts for \$15 during lunch. April 21st is the last day to purchase your t-shirts, and April 28th is the last day to pur-

chase your prom tickets.

The faculty will be providing snacks and drinks during prom. Shanda's Shots Photography will be taking pictures at prom!

Students who do not attend Altus High School will have to fill out a dance approval form that is located at the main office. Please return this form to the main office by Monday, April 25th.

Seniors will be voting for a Prom King and Queen this year. The juniors will also be voting for a Prom Prince and Princess. There will be a link posted on Schoology for students to fill out. Winners must be present to win.

Come out on April 30th to the "Written in the Stars" prom of 2022 and have lots of fun!

Girls Tennis

By Emma Sasse
Senior Editor

The Altus High School Girl's Tennis Team this year is coached by head coach Shelly Vineyard with her assistant coaches Jessica Robinson and Mark Dabelstein.

Coach Robison has coached for five years. She has coached junior high tennis and basketball. Now, she coaches high school softball and tennis. Robison loves both sports, and she loves the creating and building of relationships that last beyond the sport.

The girl's team is young this year. They are starting two freshman this year, Kebli and Kenli Greer, who are a big addition to the team. They are returning three starters Alyssa Pang, Aubrey Coffman, and Rylie Cline. They also have Baylee Pence who has made a big impact for her first year in tennis. She is a versatile athlete, and they are lucky to have her on the team.

The only challenges they faced this year were the weather, schedule con-



flicts, and limited court space to practice. The program still continues to grow, but they only have six courts to use for practices.

The future tennis matches for the AHS girls are May 2nd, May 6th, and 7th.

Coach Robison hopes the team

develops a love for the game and take the skills and experiences they have had throughout life.

Robison states, "We have a young team who has really put in the work to create a higher standard for Altus Tennis. I am excited to see their progress."

By Patrick Broughton
Senior Editor

Boys Tennis



The AHS Boy's Tennis Team this year is coached by Mark Dabelstein.

Coach Dabs has been coaching for 8 years. He has coached tennis for 6 years, football for 7 years,

and girls basketball for 5 years. The boys tennis team is young but has tones of talent. Some key players on the team are Tristen Greg, Kale Strickland, Luke Finch, John Preston, Racer Burrow and Alex Bianchi.

There have been many challenges the team has overcome this year such as weather, schedule conflicts, and limited court space to practice. The program continues to grow but they only have 6 courts to practice on.

Coach Dabs would like to challenge people that believe tennis is an easy sport and he states "It's way harder than it looks."

One thing Coach Dabs would like his players to take with them after tennis is "Your Coaches that hold you accountable for high standards care the most about you. We love our players and only want the best for them."

Coach Dabs states "Coach vineyard and Robinson pour their heart and soul into this program. They, along with our players, have worked hard to build Altus Tennis into contenders year after year. Our culture is definitely moving in the right direction."

Bulldog Bites

If animated characters were real, who would you date and why?



Neely Bonds states, "SpongeBob because he is great."



Erik Valenzuela states, "Belle because she is hot."



Baylee Pence states, "Prince Eric because he looks like my boyfriend."



Olti Islami states, "Princess Jasmine because I'm foreign like Aladdin."

Senior Spotlight: Bella Calise and Dillon Pavelschak

By Patrick Broughton Senior Editor
By Janise Rodriguez Staff Writer



Bella Calise is a senior here at Altus High School. She has attended AHS since her freshman year.

Bella is involved in Varsity Chorale Soprano I, Volleyball, and Advanced Treble Choir.

She was born and raised in Altus, OK. She states, "It's always been just me and my mom almost my whole life. My older brother lives in Michigan."

Her favorite interests outside of school are hanging out with her friends, watching movies, riding around town, and going on walks with family.

After graduation, Bella plans to

attend Western Oklahoma State College and get a degree in business.

One thing she likes about Altus High School the school spirit. Bella states, "Enjoy high school! It goes by a lot quicker than you may think. Stay young and don't rush it."

Bella's grandparents are what motivate her in life. She wants to make them proud.

Something cool about Bella is that she's been to thirteen states. Her favorite quote is, "Keep your eyes in the stars and your feet on the ground."

Dillon Pavelschak is a senior here at Altus High School. He has attended AHS since his junior year.

He lives with both of his parents, Colonel Jason Pavelschak and Colleen Pavelschak, and his sister, Calista, who is a sophomore here at Altus High School.

Dillon is involved in band, BluHarmonix, Varsity Chorale, tennis, and the All-School Productions at Altus High School.

Some things he enjoys inside of school is leading the Altus Drumline for "That Altus Band," singing at concerts and at events with BluHarmonix and Varsity Chorale,

playing for the AHS Tennis Team, and being a part of the All-School Productions.

After graduation, he plans to attend college at the University of Oklahoma and major in music education.

His fondest memory of Altus High School is performing with BluHarmonix VII at Cookies and Carols. He says, "It was a very fun performance with an extremely cohesive group."

Being a part of the music programs that are appreciated and supported both by the high school and community are what Dillon will miss the most at AHS.

