

The Country All

Volume XIII Issue 1 Williston High School October 2007

"Principal's Page"

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year. We are looking forward to a great year. To all the families of our new "Coyotes," I bid you a heartfelt welcome. The years we spend in high school are ones to remember and cherish. We hope that your son/daughter will enjoy his/her time here with us and be actively involved with their schooling and all the different activities that are available on campus.

School Codes

With the increase awareness of school safety, WPSD #1 has implemented emergency code procedures in order to protect our students and faculty. In the past few days, we have experienced first hand how these codes work. This is a synopsis of each code:

Yellow: This would be if a situation is happening at another school or determined by Administration.

Orange: This would include situations where police would be contacted. This code would not be used for non-violent situations when police are called on campus.

Red: High Alert. This would be an intruder on campus. The school is in total lockdown.

Early Dismissal

This year, we have several dates built into the calendar for professional development for our staff. The first early out date was September 12. Classes begin at our normal time but are only forty minutes in length. Therefore, students will be dismissed at 1:55 PM. The complete bell schedule is on our website at www.williston.k12.nd.us

Homecoming

Homecoming is early this year. It begins the week of September 17 with the Coyotes taking on the Braves from Mandan. We will be very busy with float decorating, the parade and football game. We have begun a tradition at WHS the past few years with the seniors getting together on the football field prior to the game and creating their year of graduation on the field. This year, we are looking forward to seeing the '08 picture of our kids up on third floor with last years graduating class. Next year, we will move the class of '07 picture down to the commons for all future graduates to see. One final note, we really need to have parents come to the float building areas to help the kids with the floats. If you can spare some time, stop by and assist our kids with their floats.

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Dates to Remember

October 17 – Early Release Day (1:55 PM)
October 18 & 19 – NDEA Convention
October 30 – End of the first nine weeks

Professionally,

Chris Kittleson Principal

Counseling News

Williston High School Miss Koperski and Ms. Forthun Counselors October 2007

Scholarships

The 2007 United State Senate Youth Program application and information for juniors and seniors is now available on our website at the following link:

www.dpi.state.nd.us/news/090606.shtm ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 20, 2007.

Horatio Alger Association annually awards more than five million dollars in college scholarships and grants. You can apply online at www.horatioalger.com/scholarships The deadline for the application is October 30.

Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation will be selecting its next class of Coca-Cola Scholars in the upcoming school year. Three million dollars a year is awarded annually to 250 students. The scholarship is based upon leadership, commitment to community and academic achievement. Visit the website for the application at www.coca-colascholars.org The deadline is October 31.

Prudential Spirit of Community Award is given for volunteer service in our community. Students in grades 9-12 may apply. The deadline is October 31. Apply online at www.prudential.com/spirit

Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) offers an SAE Engineering Scholarship for specific schools as well as schools in general. The deadline for the application is December 1. Amounts range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Information and the application can be found at www.sae.org/students/engschlr.htm

AXA Achievement Scholarship is for seniors who demonstrate ambition and drive, have determination to set and reach goals, who has respect for self, family and community and the ability to succeed in college. Go to www.axa-achievement.com to learn more about the program and to download an application. The deadline is December 15.

Alert Magazine offers a chance to speak out and win a \$500 scholarship. You must be a senior or will be a senior in the fall, have a GPA of 2.5 and plan to attend college after graduation. It is an essay about a personal encounter you or someone you know has had with drug and/or alcohol abuse. Information is in the counselors' office.

ACT Registration

Williston High School Code: 351-880

The number of students who register for the ACT online has steadily increased each year. Nearly half of the WHS students who wrote the ACT last year registered online. The flier is located in the counselors' office that will guide you through that process. The traditional method of registration can still be

done and those packets are in the counselors' office as well. The benefits of registering online are that your can complete your registration 24/7, you will get your admission ticket sooner and you will have access to the most up-to-date list of locations so you can get the best choice of test centers. The cost of writing the ACT is \$30 without the writing test and \$44.50 if you select to do the writing. The deadline for the October 27 assessment is September 21. The deadline for the December 8 assessment is November 2. To register online, go to www.actstudent.org

SAT Registration

The easiest way to register for the SAT is to visit their site at www.collegeboard.com You will get immediate confirmation of your registration. The cost of the SAT reasoning test is \$43. The SAT is given in Williston on November 3. Deadline to register for this date is October 2.

Dates to Remember

September 21 – Deadline for the October 27 ACT

October 2 – Deadline for the November 3 SAT

October 9 – ASVAB Assessment at WHS October 16 – PLAN for sophomore

October 17 – PSAT for juniors

October 18 & 19 – NDEA Convention (No School)

October 23, 24, 25, 30 & November 1 – ND State

Assessment for juniors

November 30 – NDSCS college visit in commons area From 11:30 – 12:30.

<u>testGear</u>

WHS has had a site license for testGear purchased by Student Loans of North Dakota. testGear is an online tool that gives students the practice they need to reach their full potential on the college entrance exam ACT. This online learning system adapts to each students needs by targeting their weaknesses and helping them to build necessary skills. Stop by the counselors' office to pick up your instructions on how to use the program. Workshops will be held this fall for students and their parents to attend in order to learn how to best utilize the program.

Knowledge for College

This resource addresses borrowing for college, finding free money for college, learning about the alternative to four-year school and a section just for parents. Check this site out at www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp

ND Scholars Program

This program recognized outstanding ND high school seniors for scholastic achievement as measured by their ACT scores. Those students who are selected must enroll in a ND college or university and will be awarded an in state tuition scholarship. To be considered, you must be scheduled to graduate from a ND high school in 2009, attend a ND college or university and take the ACT on one of the following test dates:

December 8 February 9 April 12 June 14

Information is in the counselors' office.

For Title IX-JOM Information:

Contact Lora Riveland at 572-5618, Extension 131 Or stop by her office At Williston Middle School, Room 212

DRESS CODE

(at school or school sponsored events)

Students are expected to have appropriate appearance at all times. Inappropriate appearance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Excessively torn or tattered clothing
- 2. Clothing which is in poor taste, too revealing (this includes both shirt and skirt length), clothing containing obscene words or pictures.
- 3. Clothing that promotes alcohol, tobacco or bars.
- 4. Hooters, Co-ed Naked, Big Johnson, Playboy bunny or similar items.
- 5. Spaghetti straps, tank tops, shirts that expose the midriff or décolletage.
- 6. Colored hair or body piercing that draws attention from the learning process.
- 7. Chains hanging from clothing.
- 8. No sheer or gauze fabrics.
- 9. Boys sleeveless shirts.

Violation of the dress code will result in these actions:

First offense: Student sent to administrative office and problem is corrected.

Second offense: Student removed from school and put into inhouse suspension.

Third offense: Suspension from school for three days.

Wearing of hats or caps by either girls or boys will not be allowed. Common courtesy dictates the removal of hats upon entering the building as a sign of respect.

Violation of the hat policy will result in these actions:

First offense: Surrender cap to adult requesting the cap. It will be given to administration and given back at the end of the day.

Second offense: Surrender cap to adult requesting the cap. It will be given to administration and parent will need to stop by and it will be returned.

Third offense: Cap will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year. Each subsequent violation will result in an additional cap being taken for the remainder of the year.

Attendance Policy

Please read and familiarize yourselves with the attendance policy that we will be adhering to for the 2007-2008 school year. It can be accessed on the WHS web page or in your student's handbook on pages 5 and 6. Thank you!

Donna Kennedy Attendance Secretary

ART CLUB MEETING...

Every other Thursday at 7 PM in the Art Department.

All students interested in the arts are encouraged to attend. You will be making art and raising money for your trip. If you have any questions, talk to Mr. Sundt or Mrs. Hoffman in room 122.

Atomic Learning

Atomic Learning has great resources for learning how to use software programs for both PC and Macintosh computers.

Teachers, students, parents, and community members can use it.

To use it at home, go to

www.atomiclearning.com In the login box in the upper right hand corner, enter the following:

login: willistonps
Password: (Please get this from your school's office)

After you have logged in, click on either the "Windows Tutorials" or "Macintosh Tutorials". Then select the program and the section(s) you want to view.

On the Right Foot

By Jim Geiermann

The year has just begun, and so it is time for me to start coming up with ideas for columns to write about. It seems like the first one is always the hardest.

Beginning – Each year is a new start. Some of the same old faces still haunt... I mean brighten the hallways of WHS. (Yes, I am talking about my old face.) Thankfully, there are always enough new ones to make it a fun challenge.

We have some new and pretty darn exciting changes here at WHS. Mr. Westphal's computer lab got a makeover. New computers and computer tables were installed, and the students are now all facing the front of the room. A new IVN - Interactive Video Network – room was out in Mrs. Hall's history room, so that students in the outlying areas can have access to classes we teach here at Williston High School. A new computer lab was installed in the reference room of the library which will greatly enhance the students' ability to research. Ms. Snyder, the head librarian at WHS, had a young lady named Meredith Blank come in and paint a mural on one of the walls in the library. It has a three dimensional look and feel to it and makes the library an even more welcoming place to visit. Several of the teachers on third floor got their rooms updated with new tile, desks, and cabinets. This is all part of Mr. Kittelson's plan to bring WHS into a more updated look. He seems to think many of the desks date back to the 1950's. I think if they do date back that far we should notify the Smithsonian Institute if we are going to be tossing them out. He has also been talking to the college about desks they are getting rid of and is replacing some of the older desks in the high school with newer desks from the college. I suppose going from the "50's" to the "70's" is an update.

Middle – It is important that parents and students be aware of the rules at the high school that they may not have had at the Middle School.

One of my students came to me and told me he was going to be gone on a trip for a couple days.

"Well, that means you may have to take some finals in your semester classes." I told him about the 2/4 rule for taking final tests in classes. He was unaware of that rule. I am not sure what he decided, but I hope knowing the rule will make him change when he takes the trip.

Those kinds of rules about absence slips and excuse slips for medical appointments and such are all put into the Student Handbook which is available online at http://www.williston.k12.nd.us/. Look on the left hand side for WHS and under Student Info is the link for the Student Handbook. There are also a number of other handy things there about the high school, including the dreaded AR list, which I found out is searchable. You can also check up on the announcements for the school and the lunch menu. It is also the place you go to access Power School which allows you to check on your student's grades and attendance.

Ending – Some of my students love to go off-roading after it rains. Their trucks come back looking more like mud than they look like a truck. I have seen too many pictures of trucks and ATV's with their wheels halfway down in the mud to make me want to go mudding and get stuck in that kind of mess.

Getting stuck is easy and fun they tell me! I hope I do not get stuck this year. As a teacher it is too easy to fall into the same old, same old that you have done for the past three years or five years or seven years...

Students can be the same way. "I have always done it this way." "I have always been like this." They think that they have no control over what they do or what happens to them in school.

Abraham Lincoln said, "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing." If things do not go the way you had hoped they would, resolve to find a better way, rather than be stuck in the same old patterns.

Here's to a new year, new challenges, and new victories!

SADD News

The SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) organization is off and running! Again this year, we will be meeting once a week at noon on Thursdays. Visitors and new members are welcome to join us at any time all year long. There are no dues, and, to become a member, students simply need to sign a pledge stating their commitment to remain alcohol and drug free. The students also agree to educate themselves and take a stand against all destructive decisions, but at the same time, promise to understand and support those who struggle with those issues. Another important role of SADD members is to provide positive peer influence.

Throughout the year, members can be as active as they want to be. SADD will be busy in September recruiting new members, the end of October with Red Ribbon Week and in November with middle school health classes during the Great American Smoke Out. Other opportunities available to SADD members include teaching Reality Check to elementary students and attending the state SADD Conference in the spring. There are opportunities to become a member of the state advisory board and past years' Williston High School SADD members have also had leadership roles at the national level.

The main reason for becoming a SADD member is to make new friends and just "hang out" with some great individuals who know how to have fun in a very positive way. Parents, please encourage your student to become a SADD member. It is an organization that will have a very positive influence on their lives during their high school years. If you have any questions please call Susan Forthun or Diana Fisketjon, coadvisors.

Susan Forthun Advisor

Check Out the Library!

Welcome to Biblio Island!

The surf laps the edge of our white beaches.

The sun shines golden on waving palms. And the books...ah, the books! They are as fresh and delightful as ever.

Some renovating happened in the WHS Library Media Center during the summer. Just inside the front door is a mural created by Meredith Blank of Blank Canvas Creations. Using paint and chalk, Meredith created a brick wall with arched windows framing a view of a tropical beach. If all goes as planned the next year, the mural will be extended, furniture purchased, and a reading garden created.

The Reference Room now has a 30-computer lab for classes to use. The computers can be reserved for research and projects while the reading room stays open for book clients. The new wood-topped tables, blue chairs, and black Dell computers give the old space a streamlined look.

Of course, with three months to spend money, many new books were bought—most of which have been already checked out!! With worldwide fanfare *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* ended J. K. Rowling's seven-book saga of the boy wizard. Yes, the AR test is available! James Patterson wrapped up the Maximum Ride trilogy, and *Eclipse*, the third book of Stephenie Meyer's vampire chronicles, flew off the book stands so fast that copies could not be found for a couple of weeks. Other new titles include westerns by Elmer Kelton; fantasy by Diane Duane, Jane Yolen, and William Nicholson; and sports by John R. Tunis, John Feinstein, and Carl Deuker.

The heat from that tropical sun is a little fierce, so I must seek some shade. Now, what should I read? *Endymion Spring* appears to be beckoning from under that palm tree.

See you at the villa on Biblio Island!

Miss Snyder Librarian

<u>FFA NEWS</u>

Wes Pepple, Advisor

State FFA Convention

We started the summer attending the State FFA Convention. The highlight of the convention was receiving the first place trophy for our Food for America program for the second graders. Some members also received Proficiency awards for their SAE projects. Aaron P. received District awards in Grain Production and Ag-Mechanics Repair. Ben O. received a District award in Specialty Crops. Nathan P. received a District award in Home and Community Development.

County and State Fairs

Members entered cleaned grain samples and projects constructed in class in both the County and State Fairs. Some of the top winners in the county fair were:

Derek O. – Grand Champion Ag. Mech. Exhibit Garred O. – Reserve Grand Champion Ag. Mech. Exhibit Nathan P. – Grand Champion Grain Sample Nevada M. – Reserve Grand Champion Grain Sample

Garth H. placed second overall in the State Tractor Driving Contest. The contest consisted of a written test, practical test and driving and backing a tractor and trailer through an obstacle course, which was base on time and accuracy.

District Leadership October 1 at WSC

Members will compete in leadership activities such as Chapter Parliamentary Procedure Contest, Greenhand Parliamentary Procedure Contest, Creed Contest, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Memorized Public Speaking, Demonstration Contest and FFA Quiz.

WHS Homecoming 2007

Karla Olson, Advisor

The Williston High School Student Council is proud to announce the event schedule for Homecoming 2007. Homecoming will be the week of September 16 – September 21. The football game will be with the Mandan Braves and the theme for this year is "Covote Country". This year, there will be no coronation. The King and Queen will be announced at the football game.

Sunday, September 16:

Hall Decorating from 7 PM to 9 PM

Monday, September 17:

Theme Day/Class State Day

Freshman – Hawaii Sophomore – South Dakota Juniors – Nevada Seniors – Kentucky

(Class floats will represent the above states) Float Building kicks off from 5 PM to 10 PM

Tuesday, September 18:

Duct Tape Day

King and Queen Candidate video during announcements Float Building from 5 PM to 10 PM

Wednesday, September 19:

Western Day

Vote for King and Queen (Entire school) **NO CORONATION**

Thursday, September 20:

Nerd Day

Float Building from 5 PM to 12 AM

Friday, September 21:

Orange and Black Day

Pep Assembly at WHS – 2 PM Parade – 4 PM Pre-game – Dakota Smoke Hogs Homecoming Game – 7 PM

Half-time – King and Queen crowned and announcement of float winners

Homecoming Dance – 9:30 PM (Rec. Center)

FLOAT CORPORATE SPONSORS

Freshman

Rvan Motors (Kirby B.)

Build at the Rec. Center Chairman: Alissa G. Co-Chairman: Megan F.

(There is a change in float building hours for FRESHMAN ONLY due to a concert at the Rec. Center on Monday night.)

Freshman only float building hours will be:

Monday, September 17 – 4 PM to 6:30 PM Tuesday, September 18 – 5 PM to 10 PM Wednesday, September 19 – 8 PM to 10 PM Thursday, September 20 – 5 PM to 12 AM

Sophomore

Nemont

(Sabrina R.)

(Leslie B.)

Build at the Nemont Building-West of Williston

Chairman: Ashley S. Co-Chairman: Karissa K.

Juniors

Mountrial Williams Electric

(Dale H.) (Mark N.) (Cheryl B.)

Build at the Multi-Purpose Building (Fairgrounds)

Chairman: Edward H. Co-Chairman: Ashlev B. Mollie F.

Seniors

Bethel Foundation

(Jim Y.)

McDonald's

(Carter M.)

Build next to the Agri (Fairgrounds)

Chairman: Hattie C. Co-Chairman: Stuart N.

CHAPERONES AND SNACKS NEEDED!! PLEASE CONTACT:

Freshman (Snacks) Sophomores (Both)

Deb O./K. Darcy K. Karla S Stacey T.

Freshman(Chaperones)

Cheryl P. Jeri K.

Seniors (Chaperones)

Dawn C.

Juniors (Chaperones) Bonnie G.

Seniors (Snacks)

Juniors (Snacks)

Marcy E.

Nancy B.