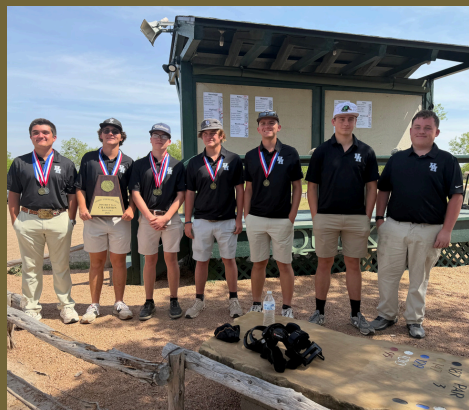


THE SWARM

5th Six Weeks Edition

Volume 2, Issue 5



Spring Sports Continue to Area, Regional Competitions

Story by: Chloe Kruser and Rhyder Glass

BOYS & GIRLS GOLF: The boys won the district meet, shooting a 365 to beat Westbrook, Hermleigh, Roby, Trent, Ira, and Loraine. Drew Muncy was your Individual District Champion, shooting an 82 at QuickSand in San Angelo. Chloe Kruser and Kolbi Morgan advanced as Individuals to Regionals at Shady Oaks in Baird, TX. They play Monday, April 13th.

BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS: This past week was an exciting time for the Highland tennis team! There were many participants this year at district, and a lot advanced to regionals! The teams advancing include Brianna Baucom and Chloe Kruser, 1st place girls doubles; Tatum Hedy and Kolbi Morgan, 2nd place girls doubles; Brayden Crain and Kaylene Ledbetter, 2nd place mixed doubles; and, Elliot Eaker and Jaxton Fullwood, 2nd place boys doubles. The girls got first place overall as a team. These players each fought hard to get to this position, and will get the chance to show their skill at regionals on April 20th-21st.

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK: District track in Hermleigh was exciting, with many advancing to Regionals. Davis Etheredge set a new school record in the 400m, and the girls 4x400 Relay team also broke the school record on their way to a gold medal. Boys hurdles, triple jump, shotput, 4x400 relay are also advancing, along with girls discus, long jump, high jump, 800m, 400m.

Twirling with Cheer into a New School Year

Story by: Ms. Hamlin

With the year wrapping up, plans are already being put into place for next year's events. That included getting the new cheerleaders and twirlers set for the upcoming football season. These young ladies tried out this past six weeks and made the roster! Congratulations to everyone because trying out for cheerleading and twirling takes a lot of courage and hard work. Each of the ladies did wonderfully!

Upcoming Events

- Apr 11-FFA judging @ Texas Tech
- Apr 13-14- Girl's Regional Golf
- Apr 15-16- Boy's Regional Golf
- Apr 16- Biology EOC, STAAR science
- Apr 19-Senior Sunday, Champion Baptist
- Apr 21- Algebra 1 EOC
- Apr 24- Pre-K/Kindergarten registration
- Apr 30- Safety City, 3rd Grade, Progress reports
- May 1- Bad Weather Day
- May 8- Bad Weather Day
- Mar 11-PTO Pickels and popcorn
- May 17- Baccalaureate
- May 22-Early Release, Graduation @7pm



FFA Judging



Story by: Cooper Cain

The Highland judging teams have had a busy spring, participating in judging events at Tarleton, West Texas A&M, Clarendon, Sweetwater, and ASU. The livestock team's best performance was in Sweetwater, where they placed 21st. The cotton team's best performance was also at Sweetwater, where they placed 7th. The dairy cattle team placed 13th in area and 2nd in district at Tarleton. The horse team placed 33rd at Clarendon. Alex Etheredge placed 45th individually at Clarendon. They have more events coming up, so we wish them the best of luck!

A Penny Here, A Penny There

Story by: Davis Drake



Every year, the PTO has a fundraiser for the elementary classes where they battle each other, seeing who can donate the most pennies. Dollars and silver change can also be given to "sabotage" the other classes. In the end, whoever has the most pennies wins. This year, the penny wars were very close. The 1st and 2nd grade went head to head, but in the end, the 3rd grade won the war. They were rewarded with a pizza for lunch and got to watch a movie in the activity gym. This event will come around next year, and the elementary will be very excited.

Gearing Up for DC

Story by: Brayden Crain

From May 26-29, the 8th-grade class is taking a trip to Washington, D.C. They are going to look at different sites, such as the National Mall, the U.S. Capitol, the White House, and many other places to learn the history of the United States. No doubt, they will also eat some different cultural foods while taking in many other sights. Mrs. Wehba and Mrs. Hale look to have a great time traveling with their group this year. It looks to be a fun event.



Now On to Act Three



Story by: Brodey Baxter

The high school One Act Play came out of their district competition as winners and advanced to Area. Prestigious awards went to actors such as Kolbi Morgan and Macie Taylor getting All Star Cast, Jaxton Fullwood and Carley Hughes got Honorable Mention Cast, Bryli Boil got All Star Crew for her behind the scenes work.

On April 9, they went to Area competition in Wylie, once again "breaking a leg" to get to the next level. The OAP troupe has advanced to regionals which will be held in at Angelo State on April 23rd. Highland sends a big congratulations to those who got awards for their excellency in the field of theater. We are wishing Mrs. Merryman and her group continued success in their pursuit for State.

Junior High's Track Record Looks Good at District



Story by: Brandt Skoviera

The Highland Junior High track and field athletes ended their season on Friday, April 3rd, at the District track meet in Hermleigh. Both boys and girls teams represented Highland well, with the boys placing fourth and the girls taking the third-place spot in the team standings. There were multiple appearances at the medal stand for the boys. Rhett Glass was the highest placing athlete during the competition, bringing home district champion in the 110 m hurdles for Highland.

On the girls' side, Ava Padilla was district champion in the 200m, and Alex Etheredge was also district champ in the girl's high jump, setting a new personal record, clearing a height of 4'11.

Coach Oliver and Coach Pyburn have had these boys and girls working hard and that will no doubt serve them well in the future. It was a super successful season for junior high track, and the coaches say they are excited to see what is to come next year.

High School Academics Shine at Ira

Story by: Zech Stuber

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR UIL
Regional Academic Qualifiers**

Calculator Apps - Ayden Peacock, Jaxton Fullwood
Calculator Apps Team - Ayden Peacock, Jaxton Fullwood, Jagger Fullwood, Kolbi Morgan
Copy Editing - Brianna Baucom
Current Issues & Events - Brodey Baxter, Max Shipp
Current Issues & Events Team - Brodey Baxter, Max Shipp, Zoe Velasquez-Adame
Editorial Writing - Bryli Boil, Brianna Baucom
Headline Writing - Tatum Heady
Informational Speaking - Jagger Fullwood
ID Debate - Sam Gratehouse, Hudson Cain
Mathematics - Elliott Eaker
Number Sense - Elliott Eaker
Number sense Team - Elliott Eaker, Hudson Cain, Kaylene Ledbetter, Aikman Anderson
Persuasive Speaking - Jaxton Fullwood, Allie Ashford
Prose Interpretation - Macie Taylor
Science - Max Shipp
Science Team - Max Shipp, Nolan Blackwell, Davis Etheredge, Alyssa Messer
Social Studies - Brodey Baxter, Carley Hughes
Social Studies Team - Brodey Baxter, Carley Hughes, Corren Wright, Nolan Blackwell

Our students traveled to Ira this past six weeks to compete in UIL academics. Highland won overall as a school and had many students make it to compete at regionals. Ayden Peacock and Jagger Fullwood were both regional qualifiers in the Calculator application. The Calculator team also qualified for regionals. Briana Boucom Qualified for regionals in Copy Editing and Editorial Writing. Brody Baxter and Zoe Velasquez-Adame both qualified for regionals in Current Issues. The Current Issues team also qualified for regionals.

Bryli Boil qualified for regionals in Editorial Writing. Tatum Heady qualified for regionals in Headline Writing. Jagger Fullwood qualified for regionals in Informational Speaking.

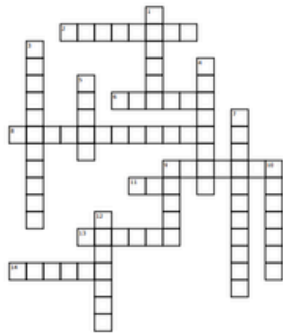
Sam Gratehouse and Hudson Cain both qualified for regionals in Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Elliot Eaker qualified for regionals in Mathematics and Number sense. The Number sense team also qualified for regionals.

Lead by the efforts and hard work of Mrs. Thompson, these students had a lot of success, showing their smarts.

Cross Words for Spring

Story by: Ms. Hamlin

April Events in Texas



Down:

1. listen to these instruments at this reunion and contest in Athens
3. these types of flowers are in bloom in April in Texas
4. take in this type of Hispanic dance in Kerrville
5. the little creature is the focus of the gardens in Palestine
7. the name of the place where you can go to pick tulips in April
9. the hobby you can do involving landscapes at this festival in Marble Falls
10. this type of tree blooms and is celebrated in Palestine
12. kick up your feet to this type of music at the music festival in Gonzales

Across:

2. Kemah is eating a lot of these creatures for their festival in April
6. an event in San Antonio that celebrates the heroes of San Jacinto and the Alamo
8. celebrate this event in Houston at the Space Museum
9. this old car is celebrated in Salado
11. meet up to drink this staple Texan beverage in Austin and Dallas
13. the town where the annual strawberry festival is held
14. this mystical beast is the focus of the trails in McKinney

With spring in bloom, Texas has a lot of fun events for people to enjoy. The crossword features hints to help you guess the topics of lots of celebrations and festivals around the state! No doubt, Texas has a lot to offer for those seeking!

Fine Dining at Highland

One area of the school that doesn't get talked about much is the cafeteria, where most students are ready to visit for a break in their day and to recharge. But what are the highlights they wait for? We have asked several people what their favorite food from the cafeteria is, and here's what they had to say. Payton Gillespie and Aikman Anderson said that their favorite food was pizza. Davis Drake and Hayden Blackwell said theirs were the quesadillas. Kase Colley said it was popcorn chicken. Corren Wright said his were the fries.



Story by: Carson Wright

Ayden Peacock has the steak fingers as his favorite. Max Shipp liked the chicken parmesan the most. Max Gillespie really liked the nachos, and Wyatt Drake preferred the mac & cheese. Delaney Jones likes the gummies. Generally, it seems that there was a decent variety of food that was most liked. Thank you, lunch ladies, for your hard work!

Highlighting the Hornets



Story by: Chloe Kruser

Beckon has been chosen as an outstanding student for Highland elementary. She is in third grade.

Beckon is one of three children, with brothers named Alder and Gunner who both attend Highland as well. Beckon not only loves to watch her tablet on her days off, but she also enjoys playing with her cousin Carver!

She loves to snack on chocolate chip cookies. Her superpower of choice would be teleportation, so she could travel anywhere and just show up at her friend's house quickly for a sleepover. Her favorite person to hang out with is Klaire Simpson, her best friend, who's in the same grade as her. Her dream job is to be a teacher, and she got inspiration from her very own teacher, Mrs. Martin, which shows what a positive influence teachers such as Mrs. Martin have on the younger generation. Beckon is a great student who loves this school and her teachers. I believe she has a great future ahead of her!



Story by: Davis Drake

Wyatt was chosen by his teachers as the Hornet to highlight for the second to last issue of The Swarm this year because he did really good work in his classes for the 5th six weeks. Wyatt has lots of interests. One of his favorite subjects is robotics, where he loves to go to the competitions to compete, and where they also made it to State!!! When it comes to food, he can't resist bacon. In his downtime, Wyatt enjoys playing video games, with Sea of Thieves being his favorite.

He said it is his top pick for video games. His favorite teachers are both Coach Brumley and Mrs. Shipp. Music is another passion for Wyatt; he loves playing the guitar, often playing his favorite tunes. His closest friend is Max.

Great job on being a good Hornet, Wyatt.