

Talking Heads

By Jadelan Cartwright



Affirmations

by Calora Cain

I am enough. I have enough.

I am in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.

I can do hard things.

I allow myself to be more fully me.

I believe in myself.

I am grateful for another day of life.

I am worthy of what I desire. I choose myself.

I see the best in others and myself.

Endless opportunities await me.

This moment is mine, and I am fully present.

I am complete as I am, others simply support me.

Current Events

By Maddy Marson-Compton

Monday the 18th

5th/6th-7th/8th VS Earlsboro

Semester Tests for 1st, 3rd, 5th, & 7th hours

Tuesday the 19th

Elementary 1st Semester Awards Assembly

Elementary Christmas Party

Semester Tests for 2nd, 4th, 6th, & 8th hours

Wednesday the 20th

End of 2nd 9 Weeks/ 1st Semester

Christmas Break Starts

Lunch Menu

Monday

Corndog, Mac n Cheese, Green Beans, Side Salad, Fruit, Milk

Tuesday

Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk

Wednesday

Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Doritos, Baby Carrots, Fruit, Milk

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Have a safe break!

Fun Facts

By Emma Bruce

3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. each year.

Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850.

It takes about 15 years to grow the average Christmas tree.

Alabama was the first state to officially recognize Christmas in 1836. Oklahoma was the last, in 1907.

Santa Claus is based on a real person: St. Nikolas of Myra. He is the patron saint of banking, pawn broking, sailing, orphans and New York City.

President Teddy Roosevelt, an environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.

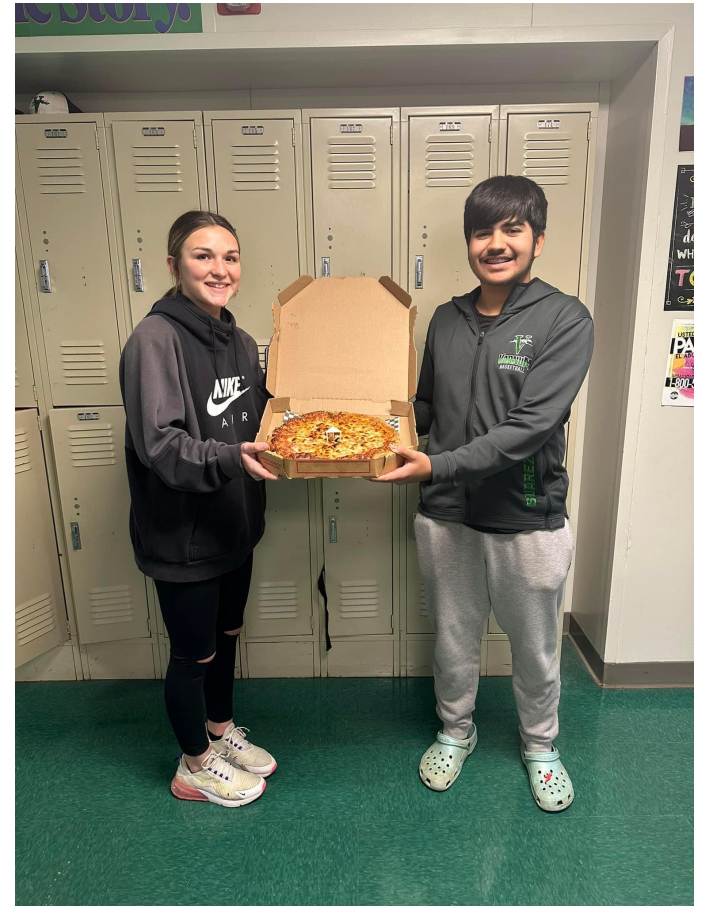
Approximately 35 million living Christmas trees are sold each year in the U.S.; more than 45 million are planted.

Holiday purchases account for one sixth of all yearly retail sales in the U.S.

Student of the Month

By Emma Bruce

This list of the Elementary School November Students of the Month should be right here, but there were technical difficulties with this journalist's submission. We will print November along with December Students of the Month when we return in the new year!



High school November Student of the Month, Benjamin Suarez and Middle school November Student of the Month, Riley Bachelor

Basketball

By Myhayv Salceda

Welcome back Whippets! I hope everyone has a great weekend. I know I am going to have a great weekend because we only have a half week of school next week. That's exciting, but there will be no basketball games or newspaper, which is heartbreaking. Now for High School basketball, we had a very exciting week of games. The week of December 4th had some adrenaline rushing moments. Last week was the LRC (Little River Conference) Tournament. This tourney was held at Seminole High School. This tournament is the second most exciting for the basketball teams, peers, and the coaches. The most exciting is the State Tournament, but that's still a couple of months away. We'll discuss that in early March, don't worry. Now onto the scores and opponents for LRC! For their first appearances, the Lady Whippets played the Mason Eagles and the Whippets played the Bowlegs Bison. These were two very brutal games. The scores were horrible. I mean, it was crazy. The girls won 58-6 and the boys won 78-28. Both opponents played their best, but they were no match for the Whippets. For their second round, the girls played the Sasakwa Vikings and the boys played the Paden Pirates. The girls won 76-54 and the boys won 86-76. No surprise there. Then, it was time for the final games, the championship games. The most exciting games in a tournament. The girls played the Moss Pirates. For details, there aren't many. The Lady Whippets were just too good. Without a doubt, they easily won 74-39. The Whippets played the Earlsboro Wildcats, their biggest rival this year. For the details, this game had everyone on the edge of their seats. I mean, both teams went shot for shot.

The Whippets played a fierce game keeping up with Earlsboro. The score was tied at the last seconds after going back and forth. At the final second, one of the Earlsboro Wildcats hit a buzzer beater three pointer. This was very upsetting for us. The buzzer beater was so good though. I couldn't help myself but to clap for him. The only important thing is that the Whippets didn't give up. Not once did I see one of the boys playing at their lowest standard. Not once did one of them play with bad attitudes or sportsmanship. The thing that mattered most is that they fought with their whole heart until the final buzzer went off. Their final score was 68-65. This was a great loss for the boys. I think they learned a lot. They gained more skill, and because of this loss they are stronger than they were before walking into the gym that Saturday. Now onto congratulations to some individuals, something to bring up the mood. Congratulations to Maegan Wildcat, Katherine Morgan and Nataleigh Beaver for each getting "Girls All-Tournament Team." Congratulations to Hailey Mack for getting MVP! Congratulations to Isaiah Wind, Kylan Mack, and Jase Stewart for receiving the "Boys All-Tournament Team," award. Very good week of basketball. Thank you for reading my article. I will update you all in 2024!



Baby Picture Round-Up

by Faith Cornett

Can you match up these little Whippets with their current teacher selves?

Check back for the answers in next week's Whippet Weekly



**Mrs.
Rushing**



**Mrs.
Macsas**



**Mrs.
Sheppard**

Staff Bios

by Dazia McCulley

For this week's staff bios I interviewed Coach Gunter. He didn't really want to teach but he did want to coach. Now he loves helping young people get ready for a successful life. He absolutely loves being a Varnum Whippet. His favorite thing about Varnum is how tight knit it is, the teachers, students, and parents. Coach G. is the head softball coach for both highschool and junior high, he teaches US history and economics. He is always a helpful hand when asked to do something. He received his associates degree at Seminole State then graduated with his bachelors of science and kinesiology from ECU class of 09. When asked if he would do anything differently for the school he said he wouldn't change anything and thinks the school is in pretty good shape but if he had to choose it would be the bathrooms and to add a little privacy to them. He isn't too sure about others' opinions on him. He says some like him and some don't so we would have to ask them personally. He makes relationships with the students so his discipline isn't a problem but he did say if you say any bad words you're doing push ups!! His motivational words for his students are, "Never let anyone tell you you cannot succeed if you are willing to put in the work". A challenge Coach G. had to overcome was being the third softball coach in 3 years while also being the first male coach in a while and not being native was also a difficult challenge. "Trust is not easily gained", he says. He has six blended kids Jessika, Gabe, Morgan, Bryce, Jakob, and his baby Maize. His significant other is Deanna which is his queen, the sunshine of his life with a little bit of hurricane combined. This is his first year here and he hopes the first of many. He truly loves being a Whippet. "Run as one!!".



Senior Spotlight

By Julieauna Marson





Name

Jase Stewart

Favorite teacher: Mr. Self

Favorite subject: Tech

About me

Jase Stewart came to Varnum his freshmen year. After high school Stewart plans on working. Stewart's favorite memory from high school is winning state.

Family / accomplishments

Mother: Cassandra Hooper

Father: Jared Stewart

Siblings: Jared Stewart II and Alisha Stewart

Congratulations class of 2024!




Two Truths and a Lie

By Julieauna Marson

Can you sort out the truths from the lie from these Varnum staff members?

The lies are in red.



Tara Lena

1. I played college softball.
2. **I'm the youngest of my siblings.**
3. I was once a princess.



Coach Gunter

1. I have six kids.
2. I was a professional drummer.
3. **I have visited all 50 states.**



Jack Horn

1. **I was born in California.**
2. I had a 4.0 GPA while attending the University of Oklahoma.
3. I have earned over 300 cars.

Bravery: Defined

On Monday students were asked to briefly explain what the word bravery meant to them. These are some of the students who Ms. Smith thought expressed themselves particularly well.

"Bravery to me is when you're a courageous person or do courageous acts. There are a lot of things people can do to be considered brave. Doing something brave would be any action that might be scary. For example, going down a big water slide that you had to build up the courage to go down would be a brave act. But, that doesn't make you brave in my opinion.

Continuously showing courage through adversity time and time again would make you a brave person. I've done many things that someone might consider brave, but I wouldn't exactly use brave as one of the first words to describe myself. We all do things in life that are courageous, because scary things are subjective. But someone who can continuously get through things in life that most of us would try our best to avoid is really courageous. Being the first to say or do something that needs to be done when nobody else will do it is real bravery." -Senior, Jace Stewart

"I think bravery means boldness. I was always told that you have to be bold before you can be brave. If I've ever been nervous about something it takes the boldness in me to convince myself I want to do it. Then it takes bravery and courage to get through it. I always think of these steps before a barrel race.

Some other good questions to ask yourself when you're nervous or scared would be "What am I afraid of?" or "Why am I hesitating?". If you feel a gut feeling like you shouldn't be doing it then go with it. Don't ever put yourself where you'll get hurt mentally or physically. This is all advice that took a long time for me to learn and that's not just with sports, but with boys and friends. I hope as my family and friends get older and grow that they develop boldness and bravery to get through some rough times." -Freshman, Maddie Schatz

"What does bravery mean to me? Bravery means how someone can step up to be something better than themselves. Bravery shows how strong and capable you are to others. Bravery doesn't really define like a superhuman or superpowers, but it shows how strong you are to go out your way to make a difference to other people's lives and how you can effect that. I had a lot of people I saw that had bravery when I was younger. It was always for people who helped out someone younger or older than they are and that's what made me feel better about myself. I try to have bravery everyday because I try to help everyone I can, especially younger kids who look up to me and see me as a role model. My dad was a great example of how I saw bravery. my dad went through everything helping people with whatever they have and we didn't have a lot but we still make people happy with what we have" -Junior, Kylan Mack

Dear Whippet

This article should be here, but the journalist who had it didn't submit anything. Dear Whippet will see you again in the new year. Have a wonderful break!



The holly! the holly! oh,
twine it with bay—
Come give the holly a song;
For it helps to drive stern
winter away,
With his garment so sombre
and long.

It peeps through the trees with
its berries of red,
And its leaves of burnish'd
green,
When the flowers and fruits
have long been dead,
And not even the daisy is
seen,

Then sing to the holly, the
Christmas holly,
That hangs over peasant and
king:

While we laugh and carouse
'neath its glittering boughs,
To the Christmas holly we'll
sing.

-Eliza Cook

Sitting under the mistletoe
(Pale-green, fairy mistletoe),
One last candle burning low,
All the sleepy dancers gone,
Just one candle burning on,
Shadows lurking everywhere:
Someone came, and kissed me there.
Tired I was; my head would go
Nodding under the mistletoe
(Pale-green, fairy mistletoe),
No footsteps came, no voice, but only,
Just as I sat there, sleepy, lonely,
Stooped in the still and shadowy air
Lips unseen—and kissed me there.

—Walter de La Mare

Love Incarnate, Love Divine,
Worship we our Jesus,
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

-Christina Rossetti

Calliope's Corner

By Calora Cain

Music I love - but never strain
Could kindle raptures so divine,
So grief assuage, so conquer pain,
And rouse this pensive heart of mine -
As that we hear on Christmas morn,
Upon the wintry breezes borne.

Though Darkness still her empire keep,
And hours must pass, ere morning break;
From troubled dreams, or slumbers deep,
That music kindly bids us wake:
It calls us, with an angel's voice,
To wake, and worship, and rejoice

-Anne Bronte

**This Calliope's Corner is all about
Christmas!**

**"Christmas will always be as long as we
stand heart to heart and hand in hand."**

—Dr. Suess

With all the little children, far and near,
God wot! to-day we'll sing a song of cheer!
To rosy lips and eyes, that know not guile,
We one and all will give back smile for smile;
And for the sake of all the small and gay
We will be children also for to-day.

Holly we'll hang, with mistletoe above!
God wot! to-day we'll sing a song of love!
And we will trip on merry heel and toe
With all the fair who lightly come and go;
We will deny the years that lie behind
And say that age is only in the mind.

And to the needy, in whatever place,
God wot! to-day we'll lend a hand of grace;
For where is he who hath not need himself,
Although he dine on silver or on delf?
And we who pass and nod this Christmas Day
May never meet again on life's highway.

But when the lights are lit, and day has flown –
God wot! there will be some who sit alone;
Who sit and gaze into the embers' glow,
And watch strange things that flutter to and fro –
The ghosts of dreams; and faces – long unseen;
Shadows of shadows – things that once have been.

-Virna Sheard

Varnum Vogue goes Vintage

50

Article by Jadelan
Cartwright

Female 50s Elegance

Decades of fashion come and go, but the 50s truly stand out. Popular sharp silhouettes and fun colors dominated the womens industry. Think of 1950s fashion as bright summer daywear and elegant dark nightwear, always including a dramatic skirt and a tiny waist.

Though it was increasingly acceptable for women of the era to begin wearing slacks and pants, it was still very important to be lady-like as well. Women would change into different outfits throughout the day to fit the occasion at hand. Slacks and fun breezy dresses at home, and evening wear for a night out.

A great example of this newfound evening wear would be the cocktail dress. The introduction to this new form fitting fashion was immediately a hit. Dior became very popular in this time due to the luxury of embellished pieces that many adored.



Not only Dior, but Chanel, and Balenciaga also made a large impact. No matter the time, occasion, or brand, women in this period stood out. Perfectly groomed hair, spotless makeup, and sets on sets of matching accessories. This era of style will forever be recognizable and strikingly infamous.

Nature Photography

By Mvhayv Salceda

Photos submitted this week by Breanna Holahta & Ayiana Brown



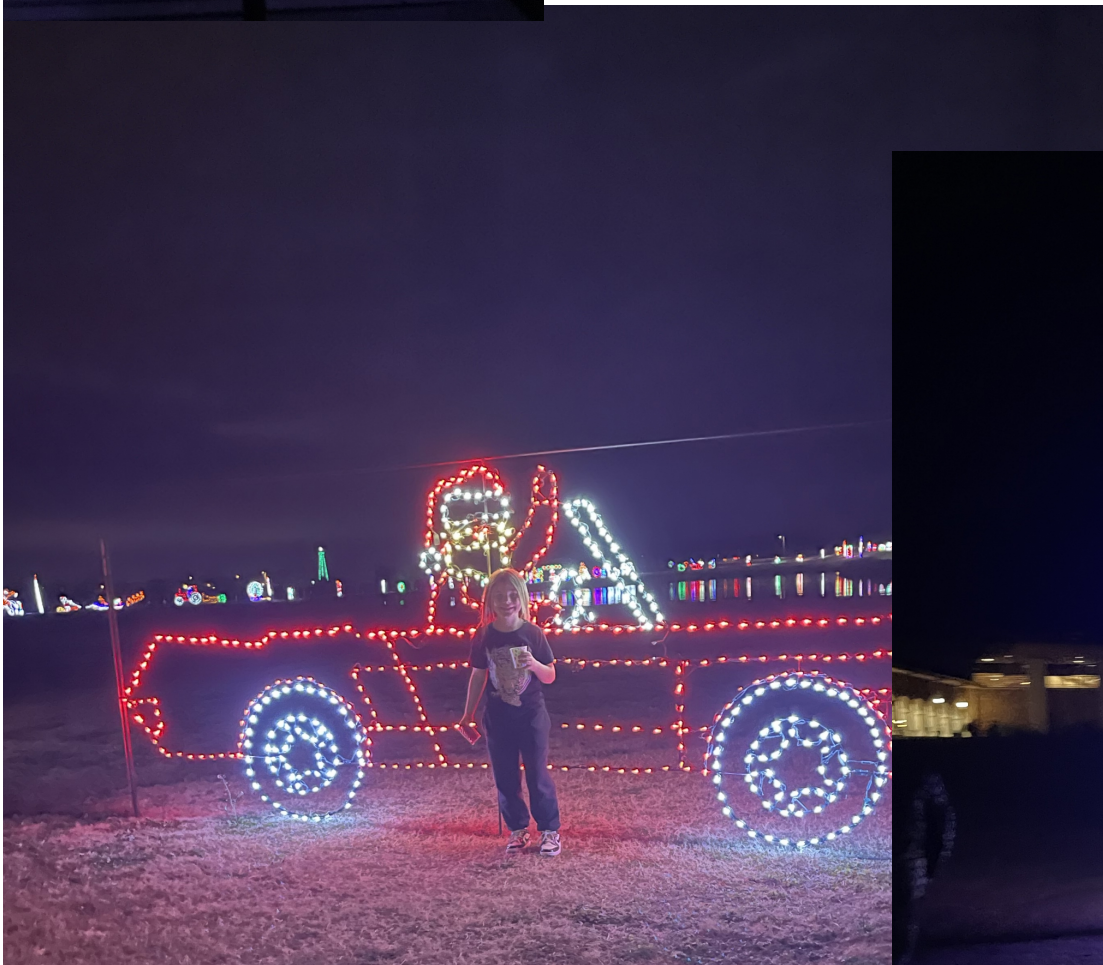
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-The Whippet Weekly Staff



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