



## **Middle school Robotics prepares for state** **by Kylee Wolfe**

Three middle school Robotics teams have earned spots in the VEX state competition March 13th-14th. Teams consist of 7th and 8th graders Isaac Hively, Jonathon Wollet, Zach Hoprich, Robert Birchler, Danny Novak, Aiden Deem, Carson Weber, Landon Hildreth, Abby MacKay, Brody Pancake, Henry Long, and Owen Lindsay. All teams have been working hard and staying strong while they build their robots. Now they are building robots and coding them so that they can be successful. In Mr. Weber's room they have been using teamwork to get through their biggest problems. The purpose of being in Robotics is being able to get knowledge with programming and learning how to go through the engineering design process.

In Robotics, students build robots to compete in the game Rapid Relay and try to win in qualifying matches and skills and autonomous matches. The students get a hands-on learning environment to apply their math and science skills while solving problems. It is problem based learning. It is very hands-on. There is not a lot of traditional paper pencil work. They do have an engineering notebook that they work on digitally, but for the most part they go through the engineering design process and it's a series of trials.

Weber states, "I would say to future Robotics students to be very focused, diligent and be ready to overcome adversity." To make robotics better and more successful Mr. Weber said "We could add more classes so 5th and 6th graders could do robotics too."

If any students decide to do anything engineering-based in the future, their foundation of knowledge in robotics will help them with mechanical engineering and all different types of things. They run into unknown variables while building the robots and coding the robots, so the motors don't always work like they want them to, the programming and coding doesn't always go how you think it would in real life, so depending on if the robot is heavier or not or if they are on level ground or if the motors are working at 100% capacity or the battery life is 100%, this can all affect how the robot functions.

For resources there is a VEX IQ website. There you will find robot designs and design pieces. Robotics students spend a lot of time on the website and get new ideas. You have to be careful because you don't want to do something that you have already done because doing it over again is just having to find out your problems that you could have avoided in the first place.

Excelling in Robotics requires teamwork. Students work through challenges by working together or talking to the coach. Advice for future students is to be expected to have to do things over again.



## **Crestview prepares for state testing by Kylee Wolfe**

State testing is an important part of the whole academic process. It affects classroom experience, and the results help teachers plan instruction. Once the results come back, teachers will delve into the data to dissect and see where the students do well and where the students did poorly; it's really what the teachers do with the results that impact the academic learning experience. This year at Crestview, high school testing will begin April 9th and middle school testing April 8th.

According to middle school principal Tim Pancake, if the school would change one thing about testing they would limit the amount of tests that the students get in the time allotment that they give the students because what happens is when we start getting to the end of the year, sometimes when teachers are teaching their curriculum they are not even through all of their standardized teaching before state tests are put into place.

To prepare the students for the tests there is a readiness assessment here in Ohio, so it allows any teacher and any tested subject to login and create a mock test for the students to create or participate in, like Edulastic tests and other practice that the students can use to prepare for the state tests at the end of the year.

Pancake's believes our new school building will help test more efficiently: "I am super excited about the future of state testing and our brand new school because I think we are going to be able to utilize our facility in ways we have never done before. The makeup of the building is going to allow us to pull even more small groups, and we are going to have more staff because we are going to be K-12."

For the students who struggle with anxiety or have special needs, there are IEPs and 504 plans that enable them to test in small groups or receive extended time for state tests. It helps these students improve and be able to do well academically.

Technology has really changed the landscape of state testing, especially within the last year with AI. State testing used to be paper/pencil, but now it is usually online. Assessment companies have to make sure that their website is secure and students aren't able to switch tabs and find answers to questions on the state tests.

Overall, state testing has a good way of boosting the students academic performance and experience. With the new landscape and the difficulties of the teachers trying to fit all content into their lesson plans, state testing is important to the community to expand the students' level of experience and knowledge. State testing is important for the academic performance and knowledge of students in our community so every student has a chance to succeed and accomplish their academic goals.

### **National Honor Society**

Congratulations to the following students who were recently inducted into National Honor Society!

Seniors: Amelia Blower, Kiersten Burton, Alli Howell, Luke Julian, Hayden Patrone, Marissa Smith

Juniors: Alaina Auer, Blasey Biser, Kaylie Blakeman, Laney Boano, Bridget Borchardt, Ava Bucey, Adrianna Hodge, Nathan Hoprich, Addison Rhodes, Sophia Stewart, Grace Weaver

Honorary Members: Mia Berndt, Victoria Jaudard

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## **Theatre program to put on “School of Rock” by Maci Price**

This year’s High School Musical is “School of Rock: The Musical.” The musical is about a wannabe rock star with big dreams. His name is Dewey Finn and he is played by Shane Bacon. He is living with his best friend (Ned Schneebly, played by Brayden Ensell) and his bossy girlfriend (played by Blake McCowin). The school is run by the very strict principal Rosalie Mullins played by Jayden Scheller. Dewey figures out that the students can play music. So he puts together a student band to win the huge competition “The Battle of the Bands.” The band consists of the two guitar players - Katie played by Rylynn Whitacre and Billy played by Kamron Beltempo. Then there is the bass player Freddie played by Wyatt Holmes. The drummer, Zack, is played by Ezra Olsen. The pianist is Florence, played by Kaia Griffith. The two backup singers are Marcy and Shonelle played by Taryrnn McCowin and Saphirra Hayes. The band manager is Summer played by Maci Price. Then lastly the lead singer is Tomika, who is played by Emmalee Owens.

The directors of this show are Eric Bable, Marcia Bable, Gretchen Olsen, Andrew Crawford, and accompanist Alyssa Titi.

One of the reasons why the musical department is a very welcoming environment is they all work together very well. The theater department is a helpful place, as it brings people out of their comfort zone by trying new things

According to Owens, “It (theater) helps people become more social and everyone is enjoying the same thing.”

This year, the theater department allowed the middle schoolers to join the cast. They are very

hard-working and they have been quickly adapting to the schedule.

According to Bacon, “They are adapting quickly and we are on a good pace.”

Then according to Bable, “I think it’s going really well. I think things are going to go really, really quickly.”

The dates for this show are March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Presale tickets are \$12 per ticket. Presale tickets may be purchased on the Crestview Music Department website. For students and senior citizens, tickets are \$10. All tickets purchased at the door are \$15 per ticket. Presale ticket sales end at 11:59 PM on Thursday, March 19th.

Attention all audience members: there will be some photosensitive moments during this show.

## **Heart Chase raises money for AHA by Dominic Dillon**

This year’s Heart Chase was a success, raising \$548 for people with heart disease. Rachel Lattanzio, the middle school Student Council adviser, states that it’s for a good cause, and she wanted people to sign up. During Heart Chase, you play fun games and get in costume with your group of 4-5 people. At the end of the day, there was a costume contest, and one group won that contest. Though not many signed up, they still had fun when they participated. Some of the prizes included a stress ball, water bottle, t-shirt, charging pad, and a karaoke microphone.

The Heart Chase is a fun way to raise a lot of money for the American Heart Association. So next year, Lattanzio recommends signing up for fun games, dressing up in costumes, and competing in friendly competitions to raise money for people who struggle with heart disease.

Lattanzio states, “Please sign up for Heart Chase. It’s for a great cause.”

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### **8th graders prepare for annual trip by Maryssa Feezle**

Crestview 8th graders will be going on a class trip to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg on May 7th-8th. The first two days they will tour monuments and capitals, and the third day they will go to Gettysburg.

“This is a good opportunity for the kids to make memories and have fun,” said Corey Hill, the trip adviser.

The total cost of the trip is \$518 and the final payment is due March 28th. Payments include cash, checks, or money orders. The final parent meeting will be held April 30.

If any students or parents have any questions, they should email or call Mr. Hill.

### **Student Council plans middle school dance by Isabelle Buckley**

The Crestview Middle School Student Council has planned a Valentine’s Day dance for 7th and 8th graders. The dance will be held in the Middle School Cafeteria on Friday, February 28. Tickets will cost \$8. Rachel Lattanzio, the Middle School Student Council adviser, states she enjoys planning the dance because they also plan it with the high school. Student Council members Tori Griffith and Cassidee Buckley said the same.

Lattanzio says the struggle of planning the dance is figuring out how to pay the DJ, Griffith says the struggle is figuring out the dress code and convincing Timothy Pancake, the middle school principal, to let the middle school do the dance, and Buckley states that the struggle is that there is a lot of pressure. Lattanzio states she hopes to make \$1,200 and split it with the High School Student Council.

Griffith states that there will be many activities at the dance for students to enjoy: “Mostly music, but there's also going to be concessions, and there's a photo booth with props.”

Overall, most of the students are looking forward to the dance, and the Student Council is very excited to be hosting and helping to plan it.

### **Lattanzio returns to the classroom by Isabelle Buckley**

Rachel Lattanzio, the 6th grade math teacher, has recently come back to teaching after the birth of her son, Luke. Lattanzio states she is glad she took as much time off as she did, but she also regrets not taking more time off. She also stated she missed teaching, and was eager to come back. During her time off, Lattanzio enjoyed her free time by doing art, as that’s something she enjoys doing. Coming back, Lattanzio’s students enjoyed seeing her again, and some 8th grade students made her a big “welcome back” card, with the help of Monica McDough, the 8th grade American History teacher.

Lattanzio says the only struggle with coming back is the schedule.

“Just trying to figure out the schedule, like how early I have to wake up to take care of my baby before I leave and then just figuring out all the things the kids need help with while I was gone,” Lattanzio stated.

Overall, Crestview is very glad to see Lattanzio again, back to doing what she loves - teaching.



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## **Work ethic leads to Rhodes' success** **by Karoline McGrath**

Addison Rhodes has built her legacy in just three years. She has made an impact on herself and others by constantly pushing her mentality and pushing her teammates to be the best versions of themselves as athletes. Rhodes has led her team to winning three MVAC championships in a row.

Rhodes is a walking legend in the making, an icon for basketball. Coach Aaron Blatch says, "Addison is a talented kid. Before I got to know her well, I think it was pretty well-known around the area how talented she was and that she had a tremendous feel for the game. When you get to see her every day and work with her, you'll get to see her work ethic is unbelievable; she's a very self-motivated, driven person. Addison is someone who wants to be held to a high standard. She leads herself, she leads her teammates, and she sets everyone to a high standard."

That sums Rhodes up not only as an athlete but also as the type of person that she truly is.

"One reason why she stands out, and also why I think she is going to excel at the next level in college as well, is because a lot of times a lot of high school kids are not vocal or confident enough; however, she can communicate every possession, whether that's calling out screens or talking on offense. She's just on an incredible level of communicating."

Rhodes also agrees in terms of communication; she's a very vocal player when it comes to getting the team to work together.

Rhodes has been playing since first grade and got serious about basketball in fifth grade. Rhodes says, "I just loved it a lot, it was something I always wanted to do."

Rhodes says she deals with self-doubt quite a bit; however, she says she knows when she needs to keep pushing herself no matter what.

She adds, "You're gonna make mistakes no matter what but you always gotta keep pushing through."

A mindset Rhodes has set for herself on the court is to give it your all every day, to continue to grow as a player, and to learn from your mistakes. She also mentions that Kobe Bryant inspires her mindset.

There are many strengths for Rhodes, but the way she can score points and lead her team to victory is what makes her stand out as a player. As far as weaknesses there aren't many; however, she feels she could be more physical towards her opponents.

Addison Rhodes is more than a player: she is an icon for Crestview Basketball holding multiple high school records only being a junior, while appearing in the state record book as well. And she will only continue to thrive and become known for her athleticism and versatility.



**Photo credit: Joel Hively**

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## **Lady Rebels complete another strong season by Karoline McGrath**

After another incredible season for the Crestview Lady Rebels basketball team, they had a heartbreaking loss against Canton South in the district, coming up short in overtime by four points. Besides this devastating loss, the girls had a phenomenal season growing as players and thriving off the feeling of success and triumph. The Lady Rebels finished the season with a 21-4 record.

Against Canton South, Addison Rhodes led the first four quarters of the game with 21 points and Luvrain Gaskins followed with 10. However, Canton South shot a three-pointer forcing the game into overtime, where they ultimately beat the Rebels.

Head Coach Aaron Blatch says, "It's been really nice to see the growth within our team, I think the girls have done a great job, we've tested ourselves against a challenging schedule, we had some good wins and a few tough losses as well. I think that sometimes when you face a little adversity, it shows what you truly need to work on and our girls have done a nice job of making some improvements throughout the year."

This year may have been one of the best Crestview has ever had. Multiple records were broken, over 20 games were won, and the team won the MVAC championship for the third time in a row. The Lady Rebels will miss a strong senior class of Gaskins, Myer Miller, and Lexi Blower, but they return a great core of underclassmen excited for next season.

## **Varsity boys end regular season with winning streak by Dominic Dillon**

The high school boys basketball team closed the regular season on a winning streak. On February 5th, they beat a LaBrae team that was undefeated in the MVAC 66-62 with a big comeback in the fourth quarter. On February 11th, the Rebels beat Liberty 73-36, and they followed that up with a 67-46 win at Southeast February 14th, bringing their record to 9-13.

Senior Evan Neff says, "LaBrae was one of our greatest accomplishments."

The season wrapped up February 22nd with a tough tournament loss at South Range. First-year coach Lou Mateo was proud of his team's effort at practice getting ready for the tournament.

Mateo says, "The hardest part of the season is it coming to an end. I'm going to miss our seniors."



**Photo credit: Joel Hively**

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### **Middle school girls wrap up undefeated season by Aliviana Valingo**

The Crestview 7th and 8th grade girls basketball team went undefeated and to finish out the season they won their MVAC championship this year. A lot of good spirit and teamwork was what kept the girls going. 7th grade was 14-0 and the 8th grade was 15-0.

According to 8th grader Jewlnetta Bradley, their basketball season was good and she was so thankful she got to play with her friends.

7th grader Madi Kyser attributes her team's success to teamwork.

"It was a really good season because we all had a nice connection because we all played together before," Kyser said.

Players and coaches both agree that one of the many reasons this year's basketball season was successful was that the girls had a team-first mentality. According to 7th grade coach David MacKay and 8th grade coach Kory Whitacre, the girls communicated nicely with each other on and off of the court. The Lady Rebels had an amazing season!



**The student section celebrates during the middle school championship game.**

### **Middle schoolers selected for art show by Jamie Melott**

Four Crestview Middle School students - 5th grader Chloe Burkett, 6th grader Charlie Louk, 7th grader Callie Harvey, and 8th grader Zoe Morris - were chosen to put their work into the County Art Show on February 27. The event took place at the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center.

Morris' work earned "Best of Show," while Louk received "Reserve Best of Show" and Burkett received "Honorable Mention."

All four of the students were chosen because they had good technical skills, or their work was visually, aesthetically pleasing.

"I don't use, like a rubric or anything... what I think has good technical skills and effort put into it," the middle school art teacher Jamie Perna explained.

The four students each put one piece of art into the show. Burkett created a landscape painting that had a silhouette of an animal in it. Louk designed a GIF of an animal. Harvey created a neo-graphic. Finally, Morris created a self portrait on a piece of plastic. Every piece of art is just as creative as the next.

"I think that it's a great opportunity for our district to show off the talents of our students," Perna said. The County Art Show is a great opportunity for these young artists. All four students said that they were very happy that they were chosen to have their work in the show.

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