

Crestview honors veterans by Judah Birchler

On Tuesday, November 11, 2025 a Veteran's Day program was held at Crestview School District. The high school choir and high school band played on stage for the program. In the program there were multiple guest speakers: 8th graders Chloe Houck and Michael Randolph were guest speakers who read poems on stage for the program; elementary principal Allison Lemaster and her uncle, Robert Akins, were two of the other guest speakers.

Delia Huston, a high school band member, gave her opinion on the program: "The program itself is probably the most important part of it. It allows people to reflect on the people who served our country and the ways we can thank the people and the veterans who helped our country to become the way it is today."

Natalie Davner, a choir member, gave her thoughts as well: "I think the band, choir, and the speakers did very well in the program. The guest speakers who read poems also did very well."



Chloe Houck and Michael Randolph speak at the Veteran's Day assembly.
Photo credit: Sabrina Weber

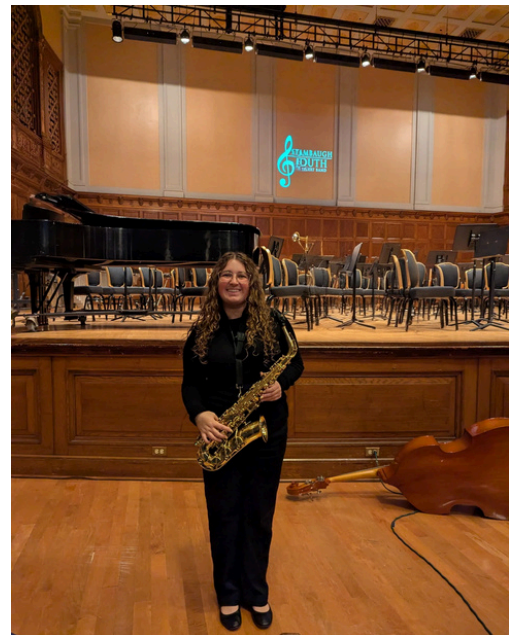
Biser performs in concert band by Staff Reporters

On November 11th, Crestview senior Blasey Biser performed in the Stambaugh Youth Concert Band. Biser, who plays the alto saxophone, earned this prestigious honor in an audition due to her talent and musical experience.

According to their website, the Stambaugh Youth Concert Band "provides extracurricular, high quality music education and performance opportunities for outstanding young musicians."

The SYCB was founded in 2001.

On behalf of the Crestview band and school district, congratulations to Blasey on this wonderful honor!



Senior Blasey Biser poses before performing at the Stambaugh Youth Concert Band.

Photo credit: Wayne Biser

Robotics earns recognition by Adelyn Hutmacher

Crestview's robotics teams have started their season on a high note. The seventh and eighth grade teams are confident because of their hard work and amazing robots.

8th grader Sydney Blevins was asked, "Are you confident in your team's abilities?" Blevins responded, "Very, actually. I think we have a very good chance."

When asked, "How do you think you'll do in future competitions?" Blevins responded with "Really good, really well".

On November 22nd, the robotics team had a competition. The team Dunkaroos, consisting of Abby MacKay, Brody Pancake, Owen Lindsay, and Henry Long, qualified for the VEX IQ Robotics State Competition. They received three awards: Teamwork Champion, Excellent Award, and Skills Champion. They should be proud of this great accomplishment.

Keep up the great work, robotics!



"The Dunkaroos": Owen Lindsay, Brody Pancake, Henry Long, Abby MacKay.
Photo credit: Steven Weber

Crowl gives perspective on principal role by Caitlin Clonch

As we progress through the 25-26 school year, it's important to get to know the Crestview staff working with our students each day. The focus of this article is no one other than Mr. Caleb Crowl, the high school principal for Crestview Local High School. He is currently in his second year supervising the school.

When asked about his thought process for delivering punishment to rule breakers among the school, e.g., two students getting into a fight during lunch, Crowl did not disappoint with his answer.

"Usually, there's probably witnesses [...] regardless of who started it, if they're throwing and landing punches, then they're both going to get in trouble."

His ultimate goal as the high school principal is to ensure that every senior graduates, while also juggling the responsibilities of keeping the lower grades on track, supporting and resourcing the staff, and maintaining the overall safety of the student body.

Even with his high staff status as a principal in the school, there are definitely some limits to his job, and there are many issues within his power that he just cannot fix. He addresses some of them in his response below.

"[I want kids to] show up every day, work hard, help improve the human culture; I don't think there's anything personal I'd want to deal with as of now, but I want to support staff and help students, then I feel like I'm making small improvements," he stated in the interview.

He also wanted to say support your local Rebels at sporting events, whether it be football, basketball, soccer, or anything else in season. Go gold, or go home! Go Rebels!

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Baltputnis reflects on announcing career by Nolan Collins

Andris Baltputnis, better known in the Crestview community as “Mr. B,” started his announcing career on a “one man's trash is another man’s treasure” kind of night. An announcer had left the job, which created an opening for Baltputnis, who was a teacher in the district, a great one at that. Baltputnis decided to take this opportunity. He thought it would be awesome to announce the wonderful teams and watch them play as well.

Throughout his announcing career, Baltputnis recalls many interesting stories. One time during a game, players were loading up and getting ready, but the parents were confused; it said on the website that the game was in Columbiana, so all the parents headed to the wrong game and didn't arrive until after the first quarter. Also, in another sporting event at the track, a relay team started strong, running to the end and succeeding, but something was wrong: they forgot the batons and ended up disqualified from the race.

Along with his teaching and administrative career, Baltputnis has been the voice of Rebel athletics. Between Crestview sports and opportunities at other high schools and colleges, he has announced football, volleyball, basketball, swimming, wrestling, track, baseball, and softball. Because of his contributions to Crestview athletics, the school’s new athletic facility has been named “The B.” Baltputnis said that the athletic facility being named after him wasn't planned; he said he never wanted the attention, but they insisted, which was a very nice gesture.

Baltputnis stated that he will continue announcing unless his health declines; we are privileged to have him announce here. Hearing stories of his announcing career are always entertaining.

He said that the reason he came here to Crestview was because of the great people and teachers who have been working here. He stated, “I came here because of the teachers and the nice, hard-working kids; I was really impressed.”

Our school is honored to have Mr. B announcing for us, and we are excited to honor him through the athletic facility!

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Sonic Synergy class provides unique opportunity by Chance Maier

Walking through the school hallways hearing music being played from the band room. Walking through city streets and hearing a man playing the saxophone. Even walking through your neighborhood and hearing a group of people playing music in a garage. Music is everywhere. For the last two years, Crestview High School students have had the opportunity to explore music through Sonic Synergy, a music class outside of just band or choir.

In the class there are "projects" that you select. You pick an instrument or something to learn either every nine weeks or a whole semester.

"It can be almost anything to do with music," the class's teacher Eric Bable says.

The class is very versatile.

"It's a very student-run class," Crestview sophomore Logan Preston says.

Grading is one of the easier aspects of the class. Bable says it's mostly built on how much progress you made. As long as students show improvement, they'll earn a good grade.

There's actually a lot you can learn from this class.

When asked what he learned, Crestview freshman Colin Wilcox responded, "Music isn't just about playing instruments. It's how they mesh with each other and how they collectively work together to make sound."

Bable says the idea for the class came from wanting to create something for students outside of band or choir: "We wanted to create another option for students that are interested in music and wanted to learn music but didn't want to be in the more traditional music class."

Sonic Synergy is available to all high school students, but before you join, some students attending the class have some advice for you: "Be prepared and have some thoughts of what you wanna do," Wilcox says.

Preston says "Pick an instrument, and have fun."

In fact, even Bable has something to say: "We would love to have you, and, if you like music, this is the place to be because we can explore it however you want."

Concert band prepares to perform by Caleb Juillerat

Crestview Local Schools are preparing for their winter concerts this December. The 5th and 6th grade band performs on December 11th, and the 7th grade and high school bands perform on December 14th. Each group has two concerts this year: two in December and two at the end of the school year.

Band director Eric Bable said he thinks the students will do well and that they have been working hard, especially the high school band, which has gone straight from summer practices into football season, Halloween events, the Veteran's Day program, and Christmas parades. Because of the busy schedule, he picks music the students will feel confident playing and the audience will enjoy, including familiar Christmas songs with a twist.

Bable admitted he still gets a little nervous before concerts but says preparation helps. Students feel a mix of nerves and confidence before performing. For anyone thinking about joining band, he encourages them to try it and mentioned that even his 93 year old grandfather still plays trumpet, proof that music can stay with you for life.

Lady Rebels enter with high expectations by Claire Crable

The high school Lady Rebels basketball team have been working hard and preparing for the 2025-2026 season. The girls have been practicing since October 24th and competed in various college shootouts this recent summer.

Head coach Aaron Blatch is looking forward to this season.

Blatch states, "I think as a team we have a really nice core of hard working girls that put a lot of time in throughout the offseason."

The girls have won three league titles in a row and are looking to collect their fourth one this year. Senior captain Addison Rhodes believes the biggest competitions for the girls this year are guessed to be LaBrae and Garfield.

Varsity captain Ava Bucey is working to achieve her senior goals this season.

"I think as a senior my goals are just to have fun and leave an impact on other kids," Bucey states.



The girls basketball team celebrates a recent win.

Photo credit: Aaron Blatch

Rebels working toward successful season by Jazzlyn Anderson

The 2025-2026 Crestview boys basketball team has been working hard to get a winning season. The Rebels are heating up this season, and we caught up with one of the players making big moves on the court. Braydon Gilbert plays as a forward/guard for the Rebels. Lately, he's been focusing on perfecting his jump shot at practice, making sure he's ready when it counts. When it comes to preparing for a big game, he emphasizes a cadence for example: dribbling, jumping, and footwork are all part of his routine to stay sharp. Teamwork is key for the Rebels, and Gilbert notes that communication is crucial.

"We try to talk things out and stay on the same page," he says.

Looking ahead, his goal for the season is clear to have a positive record and help the Rebels perform at their best.

The Rebels open the season December 5th against LaBrae.



Dylan Stoffer fights for a rebound.
Photo credit: Joel Hively

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Bowling coaches, athletes share goals by Jordyn Cibula

The 2025-2026 Crestview bowling team has been working hard for this season.

Coach Ron McCloskey said that he is mainly looking forward to “Blasey Biser and Olyvia Barnett to improve from last year, for the freshman to improve, and to see if we can break any school records.”

The assistant coach, Matt Mellott, said that he is mainly looking forward to “Seeing Crestview bowling team have a winning season and possibly advance through the season.”

Senior Brody Brubaker's goal for this season is to “Get a better advantage.”

Biser's goal for this season is to “Beat my average from last year and push for a 200 game.”

Barnett's goal for this season is to “get a 200 game.”

Coach McCloskey's favorite part about coaching is seeing all his players improve and get to their personal best.

Assistant Coach Mellott 's favorite part about coaching is watching the bowlers grow each year they play.

Brubaker 's favorite part about bowling is being around people having fun and that it is free.

Biser's favorite part about bowling is just being around people, and Barnett enjoys spending time with friends.

When asked about their goals for the season, the coaches mentioned winning sectionals, advancing to districts, and moving to state, while the players talked about the importance of consistency.

Rebels reflect on championship season by Claire Crable

The Crestview high school football team ended their season 10-0 winning the MVAC league. The team ended up losing their first game of the season to Garaway, knocking the Crestview team out of the playoffs

Head coach Dominic Perry believes this year's fans were extremely active.

Perry states. “I enjoy coaching these guys; community and fan support was awesome this year.”

Senior tight end Kyle Booth claimed that if he could describe his senior season in one word it would be “perfect.”

Overall, the team took a big step forward, winning the MVAC title and earning a spot in the playoffs. The team is looking forward to rebuilding their team during the offseason.



Football players huddle during a recent game.

Photo credit: Crestview Mom POV/Tisha Collins

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Volleyball wraps up strong season by Brayleigh Meier

The Crestview varsity volleyball team went 22-4 overall in the 2025 season and were first in the conference with Garfield in 2nd and LaBrae in 3rd. According to Max Preps, senior Alaina Auer has the highest hitting percentage and most kills in the Mahoning Valley Athletic Conference Grey Division with a 0.467 hitting percentage and is leading with 648 kills. Sophia Stewart led with 824 assists. Kerrigan Miller led with 73 aces, 4.2 digs per set with 357 digs in total. Sophia Dattilio with 35 total blocks and Alaina Auer close behind with 26 blocks.

The Rebels were defeated by Lake Catholic at the Medina Bee's home court on October 30th in 3 sets: 19-25, 16-25, 22-25.

Alaina Auer reflected on the loss against Lake Catholic.

"I've lost to them all four years, so I think we gave them a better fight than normal. I mean it was sad, but the fact that they ended up going on to states, it wasn't quite as bad."

Crestview is now ranked number #142 in Ohio and #22 in Ohio Division V. The Rebels ended their 2025 season with 1072 kills, 77 total blocks, 320, aces, 1382 digs, and 955 assists.

Soccer season highlighted by winning streak by Adelyn Hutmacher

Crestview High School's boys soccer season has come to an end, and the boys had an amazing winning streak. They had a great season this year and should be proud of themselves. Our team members are Alex Beveridge, Cy Magill, Jackson Dolan, Carson Barber, Mason Hayward, Wyatt Ervin, Aiden Frye, Carson Crable, Jaden Moore, Sawyer Zuch, Danny Novak, Aiden Deem, Jesse Higbee, Andrew Hodge, Corbin Davis, Drake Huston, Colin Mercer, AJ Milhoan, Riley Mercer, and Lucas Percing.

They had a total of 19 games this season. After losing their first two matches of the season, the team bounced back in a big way, culminating in a ten-game winning streak before a tournament loss to Lake Catholic. The team did astounding this season not only with the scores but with their teamwork and communication between teammates.

When asked "What is something the team could improve on?" senior Alex Beveridge responded with, "Playing through the middle and creating an opening."

Wrestlers sacrifice for success by Helen Garwood

The Crestview high school wrestling team has had a strong preseason. The season is just beginning and they had the first match on December 6th at Beachwood. They have been working to prepare for the season and hope to do good this season.

Wrestling is a lot about physical strength but the mental part plays a part as well. Some like Bo Julian have a mindset like this: "My mindset is just to get 1% better everyday; if you don't get better every day, then someone is becoming better than you."

This quote shows the mindset of certain players. Julian also states, "I'm not really nervous for a match. I'm just excited and ready to get out there."

Some players could be nervous for a match and that could affect the match. But when kept calm you can enter the match with confidence.

Wrestling requires lots of strength and you have to meet a certain goal weight. Players have to watch what they eat year round and train on and off season. Training every day can definitely take a toll on people not determined to win, but some who want it bad enough stick to it and excel. Constantly watching your food also makes people think twice but others don't mind it because they just want that feeling of succeeding.

The team has quite a few matches and lots of practices to go but so far everyone is confident in their abilities. Wrestling takes a lot but the people that have stuck with it enjoy it.

Swimmers off to a good start by Helen Garwood

The Crestview high school swim team has been working for a while now. They have had a few swim meets and are off to a good start. The season will be over soon. We have two swimmers (Kyla Pancake and Audrey Booth) who do an exceptional job and have fun with their team. They have a small team but the friendship is strong.

Swimming takes a lot of strength. There are personal records to break about swimming time and lengths and how fast your arms move. It's very complex but the people who do it love it. People on the swim team line up in lanes to essentially race. This, like all sports, takes a lot of strength from your arms and legs along with breath to get the quickest and best looking swim out of the people you race against.

Booth, who started swimming in 2023 states, "I feel I have been doing very well this season. The one thing I care about is improving my times, which I have been."

Showing personal improvement with her times and just overall.

So far practices have been going well and so have competitions. Swimming is very mental. You have to really want it to stick with it. Practices and meets can be long and grueling, deterring some people from sticking with it.

Booth says the following about her mindset: "I try to have a very positive mindset throughout the season. While it's difficult for practice, it's very important and a lot easier to be positive at meets."

Her positive mindset helps her get through practice and she gets to have fun at meets and it's easy to keep the positive attitude. As the season continues everyone's goals are to get better!

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CMS boys prepare for season by Callie Harvey

The middle school boys team is very excited to kick off their season. The boys are excited to work with their new team to become better players and better at the sport overall. The MVAC league is very competitive and full of lots of talent.

Brody Pancake, an eighth grader who has lead the team in scoring in the past, is excited to continue playing with his team and can't wait to see how the season will turn out.

Landon McLemore, a seventh grader, is also very excited to be playing for the school and playing with his new team.

Both teams have been practicing hard to get ready for the upcoming season. Come and watch the boys this season at one of their upcoming home games.

Go Rebels!



The middle school boys team warms up before a recent game.

Photo credit: Aaron Blatch

Middle school girls off to hot start by Judah Birchler

Crestview Middle School girls basketball members have been doing a great job this season and have had an amazing time playing against other teams. This year's girls basketball team has won almost all of their games.

Angelina Yates, an 8th grade teammate, was asked her thoughts on playing against other teams. She answered with, "I think it gives a good competition." Yates has worked together with her team to go on and win most of the games they played; she has also been an amazing sport!

Olivia Smith, a 7th grade teammate, was also asked her opinion on playing against other teams. She stated "Yes, I think it's fun". Smith has had a lot of fun playing with her team and looks forward to more games coming up in the future.

Yates and Smith both agreed that they need to work more on communicating with each other and working together more during their games. The team has had a lot of practice and has improved a ton from when they first started.

Everyone has done an amazing job on their games and contributed a lot to winning almost all of their games. Go Lady Rebels!

MS wrestlers share thoughts on season by Lyla Seddon

As Crestview's middle school wrestling team begins to practice and their first match comes up, the team is getting ready to win. We interviewed some of Crestview's very own wrestlers getting their opinion on how the season looks so far and if our team looks promising. The wrestling team has a high expectation to live up to because Crestview's sports are very successful.

8th grader David Wynn has been on the team for around two years. When Wynn was interviewed, he was asked how successful he thinks the team is going to be this year. He responded, "I mean I think it'll be an alright season."

Wynn was also questioned about improvements he thinks the team can make this year and he responded with the following: "We could probably work harder, like getting quicker at the moves the coach is teaching us."

8th grader Kameron Beltempo has returned back to his wrestling career after taking a break. Beltempo has high hopes for the team. When asked how practices are going, he said, "We've done good; sometimes not as well though."

7th grader Wyatt Swagger is in his fourth year of wrestling for Crestview. Swagger was questioned on his mindset going into matches and practices and he responded with, "I'm just trying to relax myself while also trying to move around."

Overall, the middle school wrestling team could make improvements based on the wrestlers' opinions but seems like they will have a strong season.

Teachers share after school hobbies by Callie Harvey

Have you ever wondered what teachers do when they're not in school? Whether they sleep at school like robots or go home to a huge palace and have a secret life? Well it turns out that they actually have normal lives just like us!

For example, art teacher Jamie Perna, likes to do cake art.

"I think my favorite thing about it is the joy my cakes bring to someone's special day. Whether it's my grandma's 90th birthday cake or my nine-year-old nephew's party, everyone always seems to enjoy the extra special touch," Perna states.

Perna has been with this for about 15 years.

Rachel Lattanzio, a sixth grade math teacher at Crestview, likes to repurpose/redo pieces of old furniture.

"My favorite thing about it is that I can make memories in every piece that I redo," says Lattanzio.

Mrs. Lattanzio started this hobby when she was a little girl. Her family got her into it and it has stuck ever since.

All in all, teachers do many very interesting things in their free time. These are just two examples of what some teachers may do in their free time. Next time you see one of your teachers, think about what they could possibly do in their free time.

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Wick excels at swimming by June Gentry

One of the many things eighth grader James (Jimmy) Wick is known for is his hobby of swimming, a sport he enjoys immensely and one he has participated in since he was young. We have interviewed him to gain his thoughts on the subject.

Wick has been asked a multitude of questions. One of the questions was how long he had swam for. "6 years," says Wick. "I swim at YMCA in Columbiana."

A few other examples of questions were how he got into it and what about it he enjoys. "I was forced to do it as a sport; my sister did it before me." Wick responded. "I like not having to sweat."

Overall, it has been interesting to learn about the story behind Wick's well-known hobby.



8th grader Jimmy Wick is a successful swimmer.

Photo credit: Aaron Blatch

Miller competes in YSN game by Karlisle Miller

Following a great junior year Kerrigan Miller got picked to be in the YSN volleyball game. It was truly a great opportunity for Miller. Miller said it was a great experience and it was enjoyable getting to play with other girls.

Miller states, "It was a great honor to get to play in the YSN game and it was fun getting to play with people I don't usually play with on the court."

Miller had an outstanding game even though she didn't get a lot of sets in due to lots of players involved in the game. Miller got to play with a bunch of different and talented girls on her team which led to some challenges while playing.

Miller states, "Yeah, there were like 30 girls on each team so it was kinda difficult, so you really didn't get to play a lot and everyone only really got one set."

Miller played the fourth set and did an amazing job and her team won 4 out of 5 sets which were called the "Stripes." Overall, Miller had an outstanding season with both the YSN game and her Crestview season. Her junior year Crestview stats were 73 aces, 4.2 digs per set, 357 digs in total.

Crestview celebrates Teachers of the Month by Jackson Yoho

This month's "Teachers of the Month" are sixth grade math teacher Rachel Lattanzio, high school math teacher Mark Fabian, and high school science teacher Scott Mickey. They were recently interviewed about this accomplishment.

Rachel Lattanzio

Q: "How did you feel when you got this reward?"

A: "I felt very, very grateful that any students at all thought that I deserved something that important."

Q: Do you feel that you get to connect with your students through your teaching?

A: "Absolutely, especially when students get to work in small groups with me."

Q: So, if students need a little extra help with some math you would help them with that during lunch?

A: "Exactly! And everybody needs a little bit of extra help sometimes. Even the kids that are the most confident in math will sometimes still have trouble and I get to work with them 1 on 1."

Q: What is your proudest achievement through your years of teaching?

A: "Definitely the amount of money we raised for the Relay for Life. We raised over two thousand dollars, so that was really really exciting."

Q: "How long have you been teaching?"

A: "This is my ninth year teaching, but I have been teaching at Crestview for three years."

Q: "Do you have anything you would like to add?"

A: "I would just like to say thank you to everyone that voted for me to be Teacher of the Month. It means a lot to me and it makes me want to keep trying really hard because it obviously means something to somebody."

Mark Fabian

Q: "How did you feel when you originally got this reward?"

A: "I felt honored."

Q: "Do you feel like you get to connect with your students?"

A: "I believe I do. I feel like that is my strength and building relationships with those kids."

Q: "What's your proudest achievement so far?"

A: "I don't think I have a proudest achievement yet."

Q: "Why did you decide to become a teacher?"

A: "My original nature was geology, and I like the earth, the rocks, you know, the whole aspect of that quite a bit so I thought, 'You know what? I think it will be interesting to share this knowledge with others,' so I eventually got into the education part of it and am fortunate enough to be able to teach, to do something I actually like."

Q: "How long have you been teaching?"

A: "This is year 36 and who knows what else from here?"

Continued on next page.

**Crestview celebrates Teachers of the Month
by Jackson Yoho**

Scott Mickey

Q: "How did you feel when you originally got this reward?"

A: "It's kind of a big deal to have your students nominate you to be Teacher of the Month, and I felt really grateful that I was given a chance to have this award."

Q: "Do you feel like you get to connect with your students through your teaching?"

A: "Absolutely. It really is great to connect with my students through my teaching."

Q: "What is your proudest achievement through your years of teaching?"

A: "Probably one of the biggest deals for me is during graduation, the students graduating and being proud of their accomplishments and even after graduation they come up to me and say that you're right."

Q: "Why did you decide to become a teacher?"

A: "I decided to become a teacher because I had good teachers and bad teachers. The good teachers were very good influences on me and they picked me up when I was down and showed me the right way and that led me to become what I am today."

Q: "How long have you been teaching for?"

A: "I started teaching eleven years ago."



Crestview teachers Rachel Lattanzio, Mark Fabian, and Scott Mickey were recently named Teachers of the Month.

Photo credit: Tim Pancake/Caleb Crowl

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