2024 Spring Awards

Georgia Scholastic Press Association March 25, 2024

Honoring:

Broadcasts, Newspapers, Newsmagazines & News Websites

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Special

Social Justice Reporting

Social Justice Reporting

Superiors

- "Funding The Future," Tory Ratajczyk, BluePrints,
 Cedar Shoals High School
- "Coming Out," Maggie Gillan, Blueprints,
 Cedar Shoals High School

Social Justice Reporting

All-Georgia

"Affirmative Action Ends," Tumelo Johnson, BluePrints, Cedar Shoals High School

Health/Medical Reporting

Health Reporting

Superiors

- "Healthcare certifications before or after graduation," Nyla Kërr, The Trail, McIntosh High School
- "From family pets to lab rats: the harsh reality of consumer goods," *The Chant*, North Cobb High School

Health Reporting

All-Georgia

"SFHS Students Raise Awareness for Eating Disorders through 'Nourish to Flourish' Campaign," Diya Maheshwari,

The Bird Feed,

South Forsyth High School

Environmental Reporting

Environmental Reporting Superiors

- "Biden approves the Willow Project," Luke Soule, *The Trail*, McIntosh High School
- "Too loud!: The problem of noise pollution," Rose Ordonio, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School

Environmental Reporting

All-Georgia

"Adopt-a-Stream rushes back to McIntosh," Lulu Vitulo, *The Trail*, McIntosh High School

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Broadcast

NEWS PACKAGE

Broadcast

News Package

Superior

"MHS competes at Georgia Tech Model UN," Wesley Harrison, Blue Devil News, Marietta High School

News Package

All-Georgia

"AthFest 2023," Cadence Schapker, ODYSSEY Media Group,
Clarke Central High School

IN-DEPTH NEWS/ DOCUMENTARY

Broadcast

In-Depth News/Documentary

Superior

■ "In the Drama Club," Gregory Papp,

Blue Devil News, Marietta High School

In-Depth News/Documentary

All-Georgia

"Strong: a Journey Above the Rim," Alyssa Weiszer and Freddrell Green, WJAG-TV, Cedar Shoals High School

FEATURE PACKAGE

Broadcast

Feature Package

Superior

"Marietta Meltyard open for business,"
 Olivia Thomas and Rose Hicks, Blue Devil News,
 Marietta High School

Feature Package

All-Georgia

"Chef AB," Leo Zeng, *ENN*, Riverside Preparatory Academy

PRODUCTION

Broadcast

Production

Superior

■ "Halloween Show Opener," Joshua Oguntomilade, Isaiah Shareef, Faith Halley, *Live @1575*, Greater Atlanta Christian School

Production

All-Georgia

"MHS Football Corky Kell Highlights," Kevin Resendiz, *Blue Devil News*, Marietta High School

SPORTS PACKAGE

Broadcast

Sports Package

Superior

■ "GAPPS Swim Meet-GSPA 2024," Chloe Preston, The Verve, The King's Academy

Sports Package

All-Georgia

"Volleyball State Feature,"
Myla Benton, Sydney Lucas and
Acire Hamilton,
Live@1575,
Greater Atlanta Christian School

PODCAST

Broadcast

Podcast

Superior

"Letter to my Younger Self: Maya Clement,"
 Maya Clement, ODYSSEY Media Group,
 Clarke Central High School

Podcast

All-Georgia

"The sensational six: Class of 2024 dominates softball senior night,"

Nathaniel Jordan,

The Chant,

North Cobb High School

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Newspaper/ Newsmagazine/ News Website

NEWS STORY

Newspaper/ Newsmagazine/ News Website

News Story

Superiors

- "CMS Owls take flight," Cadence Schapker, ODYSSEY Newsmagazine, Clarke Central High School
- "Learning Loss," Ruby Calkin, BluePrints,
 Cedar Shoals High School
- "Petition calls for replacement of superintendent, administrators," Aran Sonnad-Joshi, *The Southerner*, Midtown High School

News Story

All-Georgia

"Time after time," Wyatt Meyer,

ODYSSEY Media Group,

Clarke Central High School

IN-DEPTH NEWS STORY

Newspaper/ Newsmagazine/ News Website

In-depth News Story

- "The reality of empty classrooms," Jameson Johnson, The Chant, North Cobb High School
- "Vibrant Atlanta LGBTQ+ Community Confronts Modern Struggles," Connie Erdozain and Sierra Pape, The Southerner, Midtown High School
- "The Relentless removal of books in America," Ivan Mendoza, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School

In-depth News Story

All-Georgia

"Sour Notes: MHS Capital Improvements impact marching band," Savannah Hayes, *The Trail,* McIntosh High School

FEATURE STORY

Feature Story

- "Generating A New Canvas," Noe Venture-Catillo, BluePrints, Cedar Shoals High School
- "The Band Marches on," Ruby Calkin, *BluePrints*, Cedar Shoals High School
- "Making 'MisChief'," Luke Soule, The Trail,
 McIntosh High School

Feature Story

All-Georgia

"ESP for you and me," Janie Ripps,

ODYSSEY Newsmagazine,

Clarke Central High School

FEATURE PROFILE

Feature Profile

- "The art of education," Nolan Dennison, BluePrints,
 Cedar Shoals High School
- "Breaking barriers," Isabella Westrich, *ODYESSY Newsmagazine*, Clarke Central High School
- "A final salute," Cadence Schapker, *ODYESSY Newsmagazine*, Clarke Central High School

Feature Profile

All-Georgia

"A 'Good Wind Behind Your Back': Head Custodian Sam Tartic Shares His Story of Resilience, Focus," Saanvi Taipalli, *The Bird Feed*, South Forsyth High School

COLUMN WRITING

Column Writing

Superior

"My insight on the book review," Sydney Martinez, The Pitchfork, Marietta High School

Column Writing

All-Georgia

"Natalie's Not So Secret Diary," Natalie Damer-Salas, *The Messenger*, Northview High School

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

Opposing Viewpoints

- "Manifestation: Beneficial or Pseudo-Spirituality?"
 Valentina Gonzalez and Mia Kirkwood, *The Chant*,
 North Cobb High School
- "Faceoff: Is education too digital?" Everett Baumann and Emilee Leffew, *The Messenger*, Northview High School
- "ChatGPT artificial intelligence: harmless or harmful?"
 Zahra Samnani and Tanisha Johnson, *The Spotlight*,
 Druid Hills High School

Opposing Viewpoints

All-Georgia

"Butting heads on a bill," Rebekah Bushmire and Lulu Vitulo, *The Trail*,

McIntosh High School

HOUSE EDITORIALS

House Editorials

- "Charter School Funding Misused, Harms Public Schools," Liam Geissler-Norseng, *The Southerner*, Midtown High School
- "House Editorials: Humility encourages servant leadership, Selfless love modeled after Jesus' death on the cross," Caroline Walker, *The Verve*, The King's Academy

House Editorials

All-Georgia

"Our Take," Staff,

ODYSSEY Newsmagazine,
Clarke Central High School

COMMENTARY

Commentary Superiors

- "Technology: The beginning of our ruin," Nyla Kërr, The Trail, McIntosh High School
- "Thanks, you gave our program a headache," Rebekah Bushmire, *The Trail,* McIntosh High School
- "Dear teachers, It's Time for a Grading Due Date,"
 Parker Braswell, *The Warrior Wire*,
 North Atlanta High School

Commentary

All-Georgia

"Changing the cycle: Instituting menstruation education in health classes," Stella St. Clair, *The Southerner*, Midtown High School

CRITICAL REVIEW

Critical Review

- "Review: Royal REESE's Fluffernutter," Liya Taylor, ODYSSEY Media Group, Clarke Central High School
- "Everyone Deserves a Second Chance: The Truth About Lourde," Reginald Moorman, *The Forum*, The Paideia School
- "The MCU Has Been Snapped: What Happened to the Beloved Super-Franchise?" Della Singleton, *The Bird Feed*, South Forsyth High School

Critical Review

All-Georgia

"'Asteroid City' and a history of Wes Anderson's unique style," Luke Soule, *The Trail*,

McIntosh High School

SPORTS NEWS STORY

Sports News Story

- "The diamond from the rough," Cooper Jones, ODYSSEY Newsmagazine, Clarke Central High School
- "Braves Come Up Short After Promising Season," Bennett Davis, *The Forum*, The Paideia School
- "XC Girls Dominate," Sydney Hernandez, The Pitchfork, Marietta High School

Sports News Story

All-Georgia

"Boys soccer makes team history," Carolyn Harty, *The Southerner,* Midtown High School

SPORTS GAME COVERAGE

Sports Game Coverage Superiors

- "CCHS vs. Oconee County High School Varsity Football," Wyatt Meyer, ODYSSEY Media Group, Clarke Central High School
- "Sweet revenge: Warriors beat 15-time champs to secure another state title," Nathaniel Jordan, The Chant, North Cobb High School
- "Varsity girls win first ever GAPPS championship title," Evelyn Lubben, *The Verve*, The King's Academy

Sports Game Coverage

All-Georgia

"A game of runs," Ethan Greene, BluePrints, Cedar Shoals High School

SPORTS FEATURE STORY

Sports Feature Story

- "Time for adaptation," Cadence Schapker, ODYSSEY Newsmagazine, Clarke Central High School
- "Knocked down, but not counted out," Connor Lafontant, The Trail, McIntosh High School

Sports Feature Story

All-Georgia

"Old-school, new school," Wyatt Meyer, ODYSSEY Newsmagazine, Clarke Central High School

SPORTS COLUMN

Sports Column

- "Name, Image, Likeness Deals," Amber Ryan and Ady Grace Miller, *Pitchfork*, Marietta High School
- "Tell Me, WY," Wyatt Meyer, *ODYSSEY Newsmagazine*, Clarke Central High School

Sports Column

All-Georgia

"Saudi Arabia, Sports, and Human Rights," Carter Willis, *The Messenger*, Northview High School

HEADLINE WRITING

Headline Writing

Superiors

- "MLB has a spending problem, No Cap," Matt Craig, The Bird Feed, South Forsyth High School
- "Quavo finally takes off with 'Rocket Power',"
 Nathaniel Jordan, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School

Headline Writing

All-Georgia

"Dr. Faulk un-rapped: the rhythm behind the preaching,"
Gabriel Potter,
The Verve,
The King's Academy

CAPTION WRITING

Caption Writing

Superiors

- "Comfort amidst the cliche: the effortless joy of Hallmark Christmas movies," Ciara Whimbush, The Chant, North Cobb High School
- "Powderpuff Breaking News," Jonah Sykes, The Verve, The King's Academy

Caption Writing

All-Georgia

"3 Cutlines," Jonah Sykes, *The Verve*, The King's Academy

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Editorial Cartoon

Superiors

- "Hey, Buddy!," Phoenix Rivera, *The Oracle*, North Springs High School
- "Spot the Difference," Jacquelyn Carter, The Oracle, North Springs High School

Editorial Cartoon

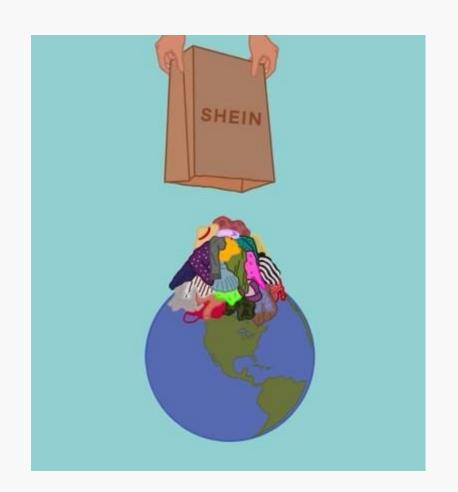
All-Georgia

"Fast Fashion is Ruining our Consumer Culture,"

Connie Erdozain,

The Southerner,

Midtown High School



SPORTS PHOTOGRAPH

Sports Photograph

Superiors

- "Flipping to the Field," Skylar August Moss, The Trail, McIntosh High School
- "Powderpuff Tournament Ends with Seniors on Top," Katherine Lubben, *The Verve*, The King's Academy
- "JV volleyball rebounds from early loss," Tori Poliak, *The Prowler*, Starr's Mill High School

Sports Photograph

All-Georgia

"Pop at the plate,"
Ethan Greene,
BluePrints,
Cedar Shoals
High School



NEWS PHOTOGRAPH

News Photograph

Superiors

- "Code Red: left in the dark," Rebekah Bushmire, The Trail, McIntosh High School
- "Board vote removes 'sexually explicit' books,"
 Sydney Martinez, The Pitchfork, Marietta High School

News Photograph

All-Georgia

"New Year brings major changes to Thursdays,"
Samuel Hoar,
The Verve,
The King's Academy



FEATURE/ENTERTAINMENT PHOTOGRAPH

Feature/Entertainment Photograph

Superiors

- "NC's Science Club cultivates curiosity within the student body," Ciara Whimbush, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School
- "Marry Me, Mamma Mia," Ryan LeVan, *The Trail*, McIntosh High School
- "Golden notes," Sonya Pandya, The Messenger,
 Northview High School

Feature/Entertainment Photograph

All-Georgia

"Soprano Singing,"
Aza Khan,
ODYSSEY Media Group,
Clarke Central
High School



PHOTO ESSAY

Photo Essay

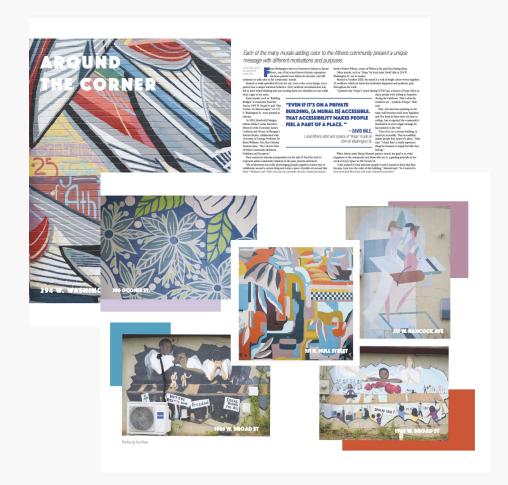
Superior

- "Battle of the Pitchers: South's Softball Team Takes 'Home Another Win," Zethan Ajayi, *The Bird Feed*, South Forsyth High School
- "Marietta Moment: Food Truck Wars,"
 Wesley Harrison, *The Pitchfork*, Marietta High School

Photo Essay

All-Georgia

"Around the corner," Aza
Khan and Janie Ripps,
ODYSSEY
Newsmagazine,
Clarke Central
High School



INFORMATION GRAPHIC

Information Graphic

Superior

"Christian Music," Lydia White, *The Verve*,
 The King's Academy

Information Graphic

All-Georgia

"Countdown to Prom 2023: Masquerade," Lulu Vitulo, *The Trail*, McIntosh High School



ILLUSTRATION

Illustration

Superiors

- "Sexual Violence in Schools image,"
 Phoenix Rivera, *The Oracle*, North Springs High School
- "The deplorable state of a distracted mind," Ema Vogli, The Verve, The King's Academy
- "Banana Boat," Antonio Starks, *ODYSSEY Newsmagazine*, Clarke Central High School

Illustration

All-Georgia

"Moral codes changes as worldview evolves," Samuel Hoar, *The Verve*, The King's Academy



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Photo Illustration

Superior

- "Hands Up!: An article about gun violence," Jasmyn Mitchell, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School
- "Why Atlanta needs to stop Cop City,"
 Ivan Mendoza, *The Chant*, North Cobb High School

Photo Illustration

All-Georgia

"The lost sports of Northview,"
Kevin Xiang and Hritvi Ahuja,
The Messenger,
Northview High School



DOUBLE-TRUCK LAYOUT/DESIGN

Double-truck Layout/Design

Superiors

"CMS Owls take flight," Maya Clement, ODYSSEY Newsmagazine, Clarke Central High School

Double-truck Layout/Design

All-Georgia

"Diamond from the rough,"
Wyatt Meyer,
ODYSSEY
Newsmagazine,
Clarke Central

High School



ADVERTISING DESIGN

Advertising Design

Superior

"MHS Literary Magazine," Sydney Martinez, The Pitchfork,
 Marietta High School

Advertising Design

All-Georgia

"iliad Posters,"
Olivia Hendershot,
iliad Literary Magazine,
Clarke Central
High School





SOCIAL MEDIA STORYTELLING

New Media

Social Media Storytelling

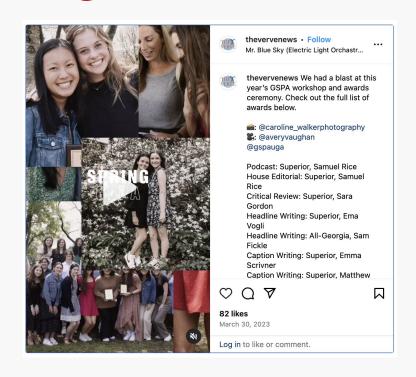
Superiors

"Guess the staffer interview reel," Sadie Reddish,
 The Verve, The King's Academy

Social Media Storytelling

All-Georgia

"Spring GSPA,"
Avery Vaughan,
The Verve News,
The King's Academy



SOCIAL MEDIA BREAKING NEWS

New Media

Social Media Breaking News

Superiors

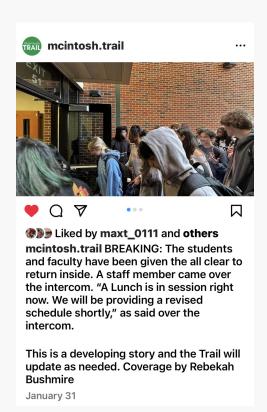
■ "PowderPuff 2023," Jonah Sykes, *The Verve*, The King's Academy

■ "Film Students win first place," Wesley Harrison, The Pitchfork, Marietta High School

Social Media Breaking News

All-Georgia

"Fire Alarms End: Students
Back in building,"
Rebekah Bushmire,
The Trail,
McIntosh High School



SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTION

New Media

Social Media Promotion

Superiors

- "Black and White Dancing Reel," Sadie Reddish, The Verve, The King's Academy
- "Application for the 2024 Publication," Staff,
 The Messenger, Northview High School

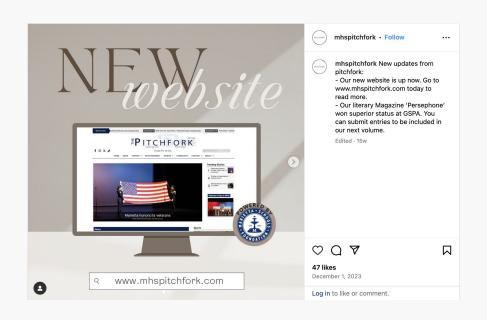
Social Media Promotion

All-Georgia

"Website Promotion,"
Wesley Harrison,

The PitchFork,

Marietta High School



EMERGING MEDIA

New Media

Emerging Media

Superiors

"Abbots Bridge Station Review," Milly Miao, The Messenger, Northview High School

"Homecoming Week Theme: Barbie,"
Avery Vaughan, *The Verve*, The King's Academy

Emerging Media

All-Georgia

"Beyond Boundaries: the legacy of Black inventions," Staff, *The Chant*,
North Cobb High School



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

BROADCAST

Achievement

WJAG-TV,Cedar ShoalsHigh School



Achievement

Central Scene,Forsyth CentralHigh School



Vervecast!
The King's
Academy



Eagle News
 Network,
 Riverside
 Preparatory
 Academy



■ *Live@1575*,

Greater Atlanta

Christian School



Knight View,MidtownHigh School



Blue Devil News,MariettaHigh School



Medium School

Knight View

Midtown High School

Adviser: Thaddeus X. Roberts

Large School

Blue Devil News

Marietta High School

Adviser: Josh Dempsey

ALL-GEORGIA

BROADCAST

KNIGHT VIEW

MIDTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

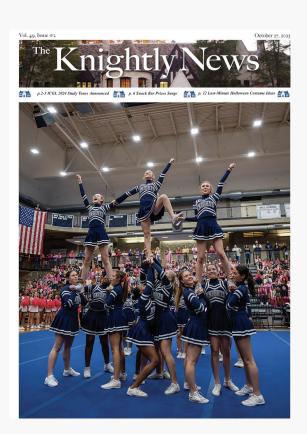
NEWSPAPER

Achievement

Warriors' Word,Southwest GeorgiaAcademy,



■ *The Knightly News*, Pace Academy



■ Green and Gold, Wesleyan School

Green & Gold



Volume XXVIII. Issue I

EDITORIAL

Wesleyan students embarked on the "Great American Roadtrip" to homecoming

"Newspapers were a staple in most Americans' daily

lives" Editor-in-chief Henley Davis reflects on

the decline of print journalism in America because of new technology.



mark grade level stations for the dance. day, Sep 18 and ended with the home football

ne on Friday, Sep 22. All high school stu-Check out this year's dents were invited to attend the homecoming dance, which was from 8-11 nm on Sen. 23 at the endcap of the football field

FEATURES



Pg. 4-5 Homecoming is the highlight of the school ear not only for high school students but for the entire school community. Student Activities oordinator and American government teacher Brian Krehmeyer says, "Homecoming is a celation for many areas of the school. It sets the level of school spirit and enthusiasm for the ear, and the momentum brought forth from necoming will hopefully last throughout the

The homecoming theme for this year was The Great American Roadtrip." Krehmeyer es. "I love the creativity that comes from al-

The homecoming week festivities, including lowing the student government to choose the field. The homecoming dance was not always the per rally, powderrouff football, the king and theme. Each year I challenge them to do some-held on the endcap. In years past, the dance was

school loved the surprise and the risk student outdoors based on the idea of prom that is held government took with the theme. The theme outside on the quad. With the dance being on ture, and patriotism that go along with a road ing football game are better tied together. trip through different states across the U.S. the student body during a special meeting on rations were road-trip themed, and members

Aug. 23 by playing a video that showed Wolfie of the student government met two weeks be nicking up the members of the student body acwear for sophomores, and hiking in Georgia for ing to the dance each year to see the decorations High school students danced the night away

under the stars at the endcap of the football

usen pageant, and the parade, began on Mon-thing unique by finding new ways to celebrate held under the football stadium in Wolffrackstudent life and the Wesleyan community that er Plaza, but the size of the high school outhaven't been done before." Students in the high grew the size of the space. The dance moved compassed the feelings of friendship, adven- the football field, the dance and the homecom-

> The homecoming dance created many life-Student government revealed the theme to long memories for students. The dance decoording to the grade level dress up day themes. Members of student government set up the The Friday themes were Hawaiian for seniors, dance decorations Saturday morning before the Colorado skiing for juniors, Texan western dance. Junior Bailey Rayburn says, "I love goand everyone having fun dancing."

(cont'd on pg. 15)



Juniors Will Jamieson and Caroline Peebles spray painted tires that were displayed at the

Students traveled across the world over Mission trips shape students and teachers

man enjoyed playing with the kids on their mission trip to Ecuador last year.

and teachers to travel during their spring break, whatever way he has. I expect that students and houses on their mission trip. March 9 through March 18, to different counteachers' lives to be changed like my life was.' tries like the DR and Ecuador to help those in Pg. 17-19 need by completing services and spreading the

word of God. This year students and teachers will travel to the DR. Jamaica. Chattanooga Belize Feuador Annalachia Italy and Guatemala in groups to provide for the people there The Spanish practicum class members will also continue to go on mission trips to Spanish ountries to assist the other students in commucating with the locals and leading worship.

According to Assistant Director of Christian Life Jen Shepard, who oversees the mission trips this year, there will be some new things to get excited about when deciding to go on a mission trin. When asked about what her exnectations for the missionaries were, Shepard (1 to r) Seniors Anne McSweeney, Michelle stated, "I'm trying to go in with a hands-open Custis, Mamie Pridgen, Frannie Alembik, approach by trusting God that he will use us in and sophomore Tanner Damm painted



Check inside for more details about mission trips

SPORTS throughout the middle

■ The Warrior Wire, North Atlanta High School



NORTH ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL The Warrior Wire



November 2023 For All Things North, Read the Wire!

Teenagers Existing In the Age of Loneliness: Can There Be Adequate Support in Counseling?

By LYDIA DUKES

month for raising awareness of suicide, suicide remains a leading cause of death among beyond academic arenas. young people, A 2021 survey (NIMH) revealed that 1 in 3 people aged 13-18 in the US dealt with anxiety, and 1 in 5 experienced a depressive episode in 2021. In exploring friendships, social pressures, and personal challenges, a question emerges as a source of hope: Is counseling the bridge that can shorten the gap between isolation and

Digital Age Woes

In a society thriving on connectivity, while likes and comments replace conversation, a paradox has emerged-unparalleled loneliness. Pressures of the digital age and the isolating weight of loneliness remind us of the urgency for practical solutions Narrowing the scope to fit

within the context of school, North Atlanta has several oncampus resources-in the form High School. of grade-level counselors-to She urges combat students' general concerns, such as scheduling reach

The problem arises, however, with students seeking support While there is a vague idea of mental health resources within the eleven stories, little emotional management to no students have been experience gained from urged to utilize them. decades of teaching and

On-Campus

Georgia, mandated reporters are required to report There is help out suspected situations there for students. f abuse or student Counselor Shellie Marino serves as teachers an a beacon of hope for the future of combating mental assistance health through counseling. Marino, a mental counselor, concerns plays a among crucial students. role in While addroseina the mental health needs of students at North Atlanta students to

training, teachers are

mandatory reporters. In

and post-secondary options. out for help when they lack connect students with the support enthusiastically. appropriate resources and offer a listening ear or even Another less obvious but effective resource is a shoulder to cry on during a North Atlanta's teaching difficult time staff. Along with years of Mental Health Justice

For any expansive institution like a high school, there is always room for improvement, Mental health justice should be a collaborative effort involving parents, students, and the local community. The struggle danger, This makes for mental well-being often goes unnoticed, and we excellent means must recognize the unsung for acquiring heroes like Shellie Marino to advocate for a more open and accessible support system and addressing reduce the stigma associated with mental illness within our educational institutions. The bridge between isolation and support does exist, and by shedding light on this critical issue and encouraging they may dialogue, we can work together to ensure that no student feels alone in their journey toward mental wellbeing. Let September be a month of awareness and action as we strive to build a counselors. brighter and more supportive future for our youth.

Anonymous Students' Testimony With Mental Health

- O: Can you briefly summarize what you were feeling at the time in which which you felt your lowest?
- A: I have severe anxiety and depression which is made worse when I am overwhelmed. And I tend to get overwhelmed eas-
- ily. School is a factor that has the potential to overwhelm me and can make my anxiety worse. Specifically during a time-period that was one of my lowest, I was having a lot of friend issues. A word of advice is to find good friends that can help be a
- A: The resources that I use are medication and therapy.
- A: Insurance covers the majority of my medication if not all of it, although the American healthcare system is not free so infortunately. I have to pay for therapy out of pocket.

■ The Verve, The King's Academy

THE VERVE



hoedown of the year and the only middle school dance: the square dance."



thorns and thistles of this world turn optimistic vouths into pessimistic adults."



throne in front of me."

Hamas terrorists invade Israel

As the sun rises on the pastures of

Israel, a missile disrupts the auburn sky. The Iron Dome activates, and sirens reverberate throughout Jerusalem. Jewish families take refuge inside their homes yet proceed with Shacharit, the morning prayer. Hamas militants activate charges set along the Israeli border wall and begin to rush through on motorcycles and pickup trucks. Terrorists move from house to house. Over 1,400 citizens are killed, and 245 are taken captive and carried back to Gaza. Israel is at war. "Our fighters are ready to wipe out

the bloodthirsty monsters who seek to annihilate us." Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a cabinet that we would come apart, but we will dismantle Hamas."

Hamas is a terrorist group whose of the Israeli Defense Forces. charter calls for the complete and apartment buildings, using their citizens war, gets put upon Israel, rather than total destruction of Israel and the as human shields. The current cycle of the government which has initiated the establishment of an Islamic state from the violence in the middle east is perpetuated conflicts and sealed their fate in a missile Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. by a wave of international condemnation that always has the homes of the innocent elected by the Palestinian people.

they would use to achieve that goal." there."



Since Hamas' attack on Israel, there has been an outbreak of pro-palest college campuses. Students wave signs, arguing for the United States to cut off all funding

Johnson said. "I don't think that the refugee camps," history teacher Mr. abolish. Palestinian people support what they did Steve Fox said. "Israel recently bombed in their latest attack against Israel, but a refugee camp to take out the leader of alongside the Palestinian people, yet this they do support a nation of Palestine. Hamas, Yet I don't think the Palestinian land was promised to them by God." Mrs. They elected Hamas with statehood in people blame Hamas for hiding there. Johnson said, "When you look at the mind but didn't realize the means which I think they blame Israel for bombing Middle East, Israel is a sliver surrounded

Since Hamas's election in 2006, there This pattern of condemnation conflict has more to do with eradicating of the throne room of has been no open election for any office continues to fuel the fire of antisemitism the Jews than anything else." God, I was scared to look in the Gaza Strip, and they continue to and anti-Israel rhetoric. Hamas was up because...I would see initiate conflicts with careless disregard elected because it was able to shift blame the Almighty God on a for international law. While Israel builds for the plight of the Palestinian people to hide in the basements of overcrowded poverty and the promise of perpetual

Yet in 2006, they were democratically whenever Israel makes the moral marked as its return address. Hatred of determination to accept these inevitable. Israel does not end with Hamas. It is a "Hamas is trying to push for a state casualties and strike back against Hamas. cultural cancer, an ideology which the of Palestine," history teacher Mrs. Anna "Hamas is hiding in hospitals and United States's government has pledged to

> "The Israelis are willing to live by a great sea of Arab nations. The current

> > continued on page 2

TKA to shift from GAPPS to GISA

by Charlie Parker Singleton, Sports Editor Entering its 25th year, art, athletic and academic



The King's Academy has competitions.

officially decided to switch The move comes in the its high school athletics wake of GAPPS's decision and academic competitions to stop offering 11-man from GAPPS (Georgia football. Of the nine schools Association of Private and participating in 11-man Parochial Schools) to GISA football, many lacked the



■ The Forum, The Paideia School



own Connector, aims to area. This project is planned to upcoming infrastructure aiming to for Southern Equality. These

so the neighborhoods surrounding repair these issues. The Statch will be fully completed by 2002, and support the environment in Adamu.

Source 14 acres of the Connector construction is set to begin next. The Beldline is an outdoor space seems to trees, community gardens.

Atlanta's budget is also expanding

One Year Out, Presidential Race Heats Up

were intentionally built through as an attempt to force many people out of their homes and separate

The 2012 U.S. previousle feeting the properties of the control of

Israeli-Hamas War Causes Fear and Anxiety Throughout the World

by Gabe Elkinson amd Daniel the conflict. One student who wishes Managing Editor and Online Editor terror are never the answer and not to "I will never forget Saturday, Oct. 7. of people is persecuted and confined to

southern foracl as over 2,200 tockets that insocrat coviius don't deserve flew in from the Gaza Szep, freed by the to die, and those were beatal torroris errorist organization and government attacks." of Caza City, Harms. The rockets killed "Jew Crew," the Jewish thab at around 1,400 femilis, the most Jews Paidein, as well as other affinity grouns

killed in one day since the Holocaust such as the Asian-Asiacrican Alliance beach Prince Minister Benjamin boated meetings for students on Friday hysoth Gepx Finling from the polity and the polity of the

On among the the debel protection of the control of



■ The Spotlight, Druid Hills High School

The SPOTLIGHT

1798 HAYGOOD DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30307 VOLUME 86 ISSUE I

Metal detectors invoke modified morning schedule



Dress code undergoes favorable changes,

students rejoice

Ishita Sammani, Ella Wade

A significant shift in DeKalb County schools' dress code policy this year has triggered a vigorous community debate. The changes were spearheaded by a Lakeside High School student organization that proposed the change to DeKalb County in February of 2023. The recent reforms address concerns that the previous dress code exhibited gender and racial bias. While opinions on these changes are sharply divided. the revised dress policy specifies that clothing should not be transparent and should provide adequate coverage for undergarments. Additionally, it forbids students from wearing pajamas, sleep

pass with no end in sight, until, eventu- school day. This was the scene during the first week into the school buildings.

dollar contract with Evolv Weapons this environment." Detectors to utilize weapon detectors. With the new security system, struggling to make it to their 1st period ed to dress code violations

and students have learned to comply structional time.

all filed together, trying to make it to other exterior entrances through the late."

ally every student has passed through DeKalb and Druid Hills want to class before the bell. the Evolv weapons detectors standing ensure every student's safety so there "In the beginning, before they school is the time or place for backs,

of school across DeKalb County. Since "I hope it's providing students with so realistically you couldn't really While some argue that dress code then, changes have been made to the a feeling of more security that the build- get started until about 8:30ish," math reforms may lead to distractions, data daily schedule to alleviate affected class ing is more secure, principal Mark teacher Eric Winchester said. "Once from the Government Accountability time at Druid Hills High School. Joyner said. "I believe that the [metal they altered the schedule then more Office shows schools that have adopt-The new morning routine comes detectors] are a deterrent for students people are there on the scheduled time, ed more lenient policies suggest other as a result of the DeKalb County board bringing weapons into the school and and it's definitely gotten better after the erwise. Schools that have moved away which voted to approve a \$8 million therefore it helps all of us to feel safer in first week."

or metal detectors, in all middle and there is still the struggle with students on time.

Since the first week, line queues schedule to help students arrive to class outside of the buildings have shortened on time and to protect teacher's in-

with what is needed to be taken out. "By changing the start time it acof their backpacks such as binders, tually helps us to accommodate stu-changed the policy and allowed kids to Chromebooks, umbrellas and objects dents arriving at school between 7:55 dress however they want. I'm not hap-Students line up and down the that have certain amounts of metal in and 8:10, Joyner said. "We were have py with this change, and I'm not happy main building staircase, Chromebooks them to pass smoothly through the deing several buses arriving between 7:55 in one hand, backpacks in the other as tectors. Students only enter through the and 8:10 and because of that we were Jackson said. the crowd gets larger. The sea of peo- detectors before first period through getting congestion at all of our entrancple becomes a restless wave of students, the three designated entrances as the es, and that was causing students to be

their first period on time. 30 minutes: buildings are locked until later in the With the new adjusted time, it has allowed students time to get to their because there is a time and place for

within the main building threshold. are not any students bringing weapons altered the schedule, not everybody breasts, bellies and booties," Thompson could be there til maybe 8:30 a.m. said.

Students were welcomed to them at ongoing district-wide bus driver short- time at 8:20, we don't really get started incidents related to dress code violathe main entrances to the main buildage. until 8:25," social studies teacher Cartions decreased by 20% within the first rie Staines said. "The reality of the sit year of implementation according to id Hills has implemented a new bell uation is, I don't have every one of my the Government Accountability Office.

Continued on pg. 3

voices similar concerns.

"I am concerned about these young adults when they get into the real world certain things, and I don't think that

from strict dress codes have reported a However, some students are still decrease in disciplinary incidents relat-

In neighboring Gwinnett County, high schools throughout the district. getting to school on time because of the "Even though we have a later start" which similarly revised its dress code, until 8:25," social studies teacher Car- tions decreased by 20% within the first

Continued on pg. 2

The Southerner,
 Midtown High
 School



■ The Pitchfork, Marietta High School



Black History Month: Reliving the Renaissance

Staff Writer

Marietta has a tradition of creating vari-ous programs celebrating diversity. In the month of February the lens is focused on the history that cultivated a space for the Black students who attend MHS. Ms. Godwin. MHS assitant principa recalls a time when Black history wasn't

> celebrate or give light to the cultural difthat someone could take for granted as i

events throughout the month, and it end with a schoolwide annual Black History Month Program. This year's theme is "The Renaissance: African Americans an

"I'm just continuing the tradition that



took place is Mrs. Rudolph's art room.

Jade Mackin (V) paints a silhouette at the Black History Month paint night. Students gathered in Mrs. Rudolph's art took place is Mrs. Rudolph's art room to create art work that will be displayed in the media center for the remainer of the month. Phose by Alexandria K

"The just containing the tradition that one last at teacher Kess Hooley strates in cellularists with the Black History Proclater Barred Osmar's Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred Osmar's Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred Osmar's Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred West Smithwarm and Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred West Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred West Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between Proclater Barred West Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between the last vey between the proclate Barred West Smithwarm for MIS kild between it's a vey between the last vey between th

Month committee, which the was a part portrain in Wardstappen Dr. Cite portrait

"Wardstappen Dr. Cite portrait

"Wardstappen

Student athletes commit on National Signing Day



Lily Konigsmark Social Media Manager

ional Signing Day takes place on the first Wednesday of February for student athletes to commit to playing at the collegiassemates, family and friends to witness a

relect group of athletes receive recognition from universities and colleges. rom universities and colleges. The survey of the NCAs Division I level.

Signing day is a massive investment in the NCAs Division I level.

Not all students that commit to schools after high school are featured on National dvance in their skills and reach for their

tudents and their teammates in the MPAC while the rest of the school watched via livestream. Coach McKinney, Athletic Director of Marietta oversees all sports and

was proud to host the event and see stu-

Statistics show that nationally one is three of high school students participate over seven percent of high school athletes two percent, approximately 1 in 57, play at

make with plenty of factors that one has to

Kids and social media

S



Worship at school



The 66th Grammys



GENERAL EXCELLENCE WINNERS

NEWSPAPER

Small School

The Verve

The King's Academy
Adviser: Shannon McGahee

Large School

The Pitchfork

Marietta High School Adviser: Andrea Lyons

Medium School

The Southerner

Midtown High School

Adviser: Del Ellerton

ALL-GEORGIA

NEWSPAPER

THE SOUTHERNER

MIDTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

NEWSMAGAZINE

The SpeculatorChattahoocheeHigh School



WindowsNorth AtlantaHigh School



BluePrintsCedar ShoalsHigh School



ODYSSEY,Clarke CentralHigh School



THIS ISSUE INCLUDES A PROFILE ON CCHS 2023-24 TEACHER OF THE YEAR BRAD WILLIFORD AND HIS NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CCHS.

ALL-GEORGIA

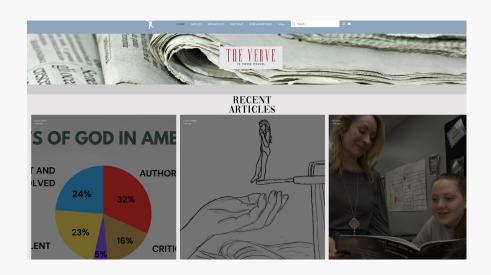
NEWSMAGAZINE

ODYSSEY CLARKE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

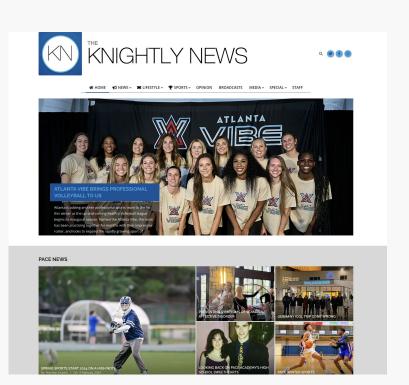
GENERAL EXCELLENCE

NEWS WEBSITE

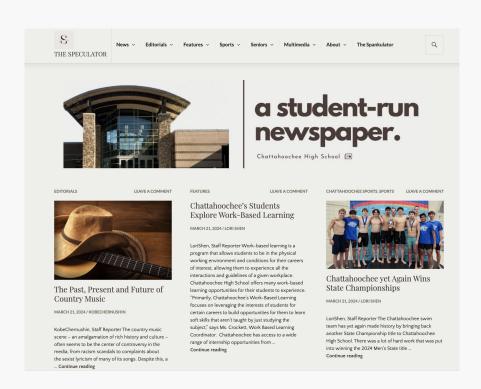
■ *The Verve*, The King's Academy



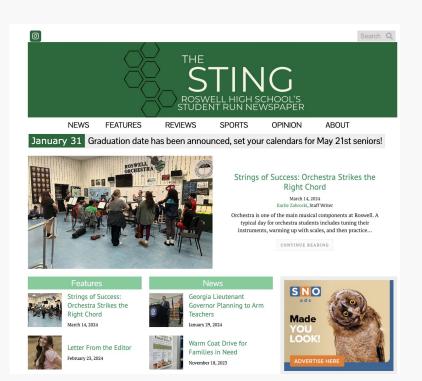
■ *The Knightly News*, Pace Academy



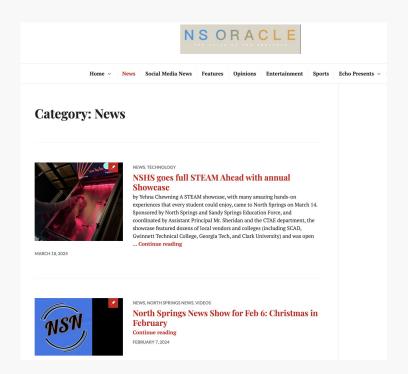
The Speculator, ChattahoocheeHigh School



■ *The Sting,*Roswell High
School



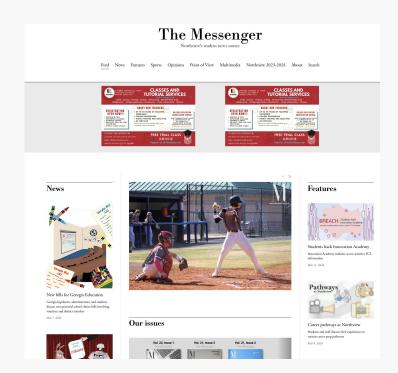
Oracle,North SpringsHigh School



The Warrior Wire, North Atlanta High School



■ *The Messenger,*Northview
High School



The Pitchfork,MariettaHigh School



■ *The Bird Feed,*South Forsyth
High School



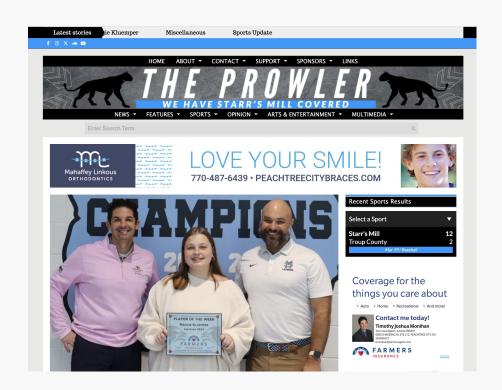
BluePrints,Cedar ShoalsHigh School



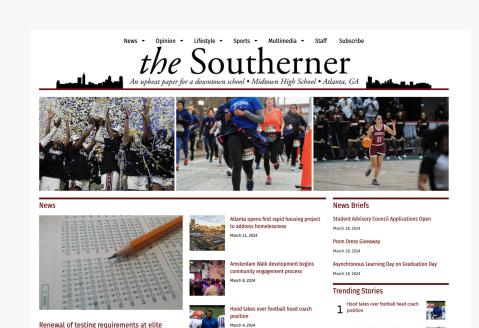
The Trail,McIntoshHigh School



■ *The Prowler,*Starr's Mill
High School



The Southerner,MidtownHigh School

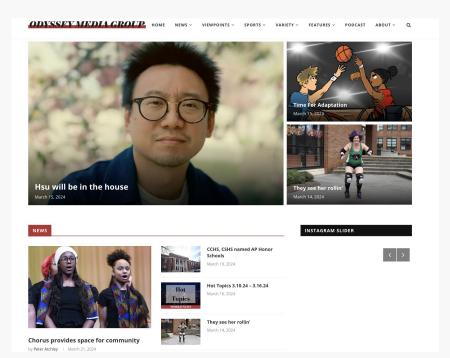


universities stirs controversy

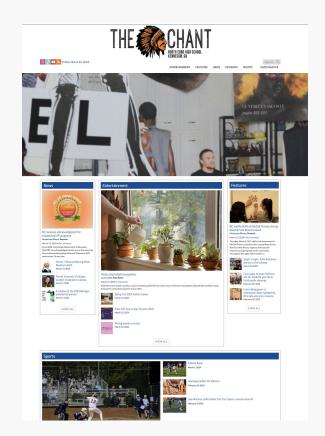
1986 Grady girls basketball team

2 reminisce Final Four playoff run

ODYSSEY Media Group,
 Clarke Central
 High School



The Chant, North Cobb High School



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Large School

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North Cobb High School

Adviser: Rebecca Zavala

ALL-GEORGIA

NEWS WEBSITE

THE SOUTHERNER

MIDTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

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