

The GreenWaveNews

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Leeds High School Quill and Scroll Society

International Honor Society for High School Journalists

November 2009

Volume 4, No. 1

Published Quarterly

Superintendent John Moore officially opens Leeds High School with ribbon-cutting ceremony



Leeds City Schools Superintendent John Moore prepares to cut the ceremonial ribbon to officially open Leeds High School as LHS Principal Andrew Briskey (left), government officials, school board members, and representatives of the city council assist. (Photo by Susan Stovall)

Principal Briskey reflects pride of new high school

By Brandi Montgomery

Principal Briskey is thrilled with the new high school facilities — both the middle and high schools, have added so much to the City of Leeds and surrounding communities.

“One of the best things about the new school is that it gives our children a clean and modern facility with advanced technology which makes the environment conducive to learning,” Briskey said.

Briskey also stated, “The faculty, staff, and students are very proud of our new school which translates into more productivity.”

There is a noticeable difference in the atmosphere at LHS. Students and teachers beam with pride and enjoy the new “learning” environment. Something worth having is definitely worth waiting for as in the case of LHS!

LHS to induct 50 Honor Students in The GreenWave News Journalism Society

By Hayleigh Rylant

The Leeds High School Chapter of the International Quill & Scroll Honorary Society of Journalism will induct a record 50 new honor students who will be writing for *The GreenWave News*.

“Members must have a minimum GPA of 3.0, be interested in all aspects of journalism (print & photography),

and be recommended by the faculty selection committee. Additionally, students must be juniors, seniors, or in the 2nd semester of 10th grade at induction ceremonies. Members will submit articles to our editors for review and approval prior to publication,” explained Sponsor Maggie Shannon.

“We have amazingly creative

senior writers who were members of Quill & Scroll last year and will serve as editors,” Shannon added.

The returning Senior Editors are: Lacey Crawford, Ebony Harris, Laura Lovett, Brandi Montgomery, Kayla Pool, Bianca Prinsloo, Hayleigh Rylant, and Christopher Warner. Cody Ashley and Drew Hicks are also senior members.

Assistant Principal Hall assumes new duties

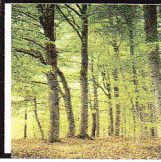
By Christi Carr

Stephen Hall, the new LHS Assistant Principal patrols the hallways calling attention to un-tucked shirts and hair-dos of many colors. And this is just the *fun* part of his action-packed day. Coming to LHS from LMS, Hall’s background includes math and special education instruction at

Thompson Middle School in Alabaster. This Florida native has a bachelor’s degree in science and public administration as well as a degree as an educational specialist from Samford University. He earned his master’s degree in education from Holy Family University in Pennsylvania. Hall was twice offered posi-

tions in law enforcement, but declined both offers, saying, “I enjoy teaching. It’s valuable and important, and it drives me to be successful in my career each day.

He and his wife, Nina, a graphic designer, have two daughters, Amanda, 11, and Melissa, 8.



Opinions and Viewpoints

To Tree or Not To Tree — That Is The Question!

By Alyssa Merrell and Milan Kennard

Surely everyone has noticed the de-forestation occurring at the front of our school. Here's our logic: trees improve the quality of air by trapping carbon and other particles of pollution. We think one can put 2 and 2 together and realize what this could mean for the future of our community if we keep "cutting" down this same path.

The worst part, to these two reporters, is that there seems to be no practical reason for this needless destruction. Apparently, some community members feel the need to de-green the Wave to

"see" the school from the highway; however, you have to glance quickly through one open path to catch a glimpse because there's still a small mountain blocking the view. As we all know, a careful driver should keep his eyes on the roadway while driving.

There are other factors that play into this destruction. According to unnamed sources, it appears that this project cost \$23,000. Not only did *some source (s)* pay for the needless "clearing", the "land-scraping crew" made off with all of the timber. Will this timber be sold? Who gets that money? It was also reported that

LHS will receive a portion of any mulch that is available and the LHS environmental science class will receive funding of \$3,000 to *rebuild the unbuildable!*

Does it outrage anyone other than us that the environmental science class tagged several trees that were to be preserved including a 100-plus-year-old hemlock. According to one source, the hemlock was one of the first, of many trees, to be *de-tagged* and cut down.

Call us "tree huggers" if you wish, for being agitated at losing the beauty of our campus and our city, but it's your loss too.



BEFORE

The Forest That Disappeared

By Christopher Warner

It seems we have now lost a very important forest. Our new school was formerly snugly planted in a pleasant forest atop a mountain with an overall awesome view. A beautiful and irreplaceable ecosystem was thrown into oblivion by a group of hired tree assassins to produce a better view of the school to travelers.

Regretfully, this "great view" for passing traffic has annihilated the incredible view for the students who are here five full days a week.

Why would anyone have a problem with driving up a *walk-able* distance on the newly-paved road

to see the school?

Not only did students pay the price for this latest maneuver, many trees and the animals who lived in and around those trees have paid the price to the cold, stoic blades of saws and bulldozers! And, who else is paying the price...the school system, tax dollars from the community?

When and where will it end? Are there more trees on the endangered list? What is the long term benefit of this? Only time will tell. However, there appears to be no plausible answers to this new slash and burn era as of now.



AFTER



AFTER



AFTER



BEFORE

Photos by John Windham

The GreenWave News

7160 Coosa Avenue
 Leeds, Alabama 35094
 205-699-4510
 Fax: 205-699-4515
 Email: mshannon@leedsk12.org
 Advisor: Maggie Shannon

Senior Editorial Board

Senior News Editors: Bianca Prinsloo
 Senior Academia Editor: Hayleigh Rylant
 Senior Opinions/Viewpoint Editor: Christopher Warner
 Senior Features Editors: Lacey Crawford
 Senior Sports Editors: Laura Lovett & Kayla Pool
 Senior Arts, Fashion & Leisure Editors: Ebony Harris & Brandi Montgomery

Purpose

The focus of **The GreenWave News** is to provide a school and community informational service highlighting activities of Leeds High School. Additionally, the publication seeks to provide a public forum for the opinions of students, the newspaper staff, and faculty. Articles and opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of Leeds High School nor the City of Leeds Board of Education. The editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Staff.

Corrections:

Errors appearing in **The GreenWave News** should be reported to the advisor. If a correction is warranted, one will be published in the next edition.

"Leeders" Program: LHS Ambassadors of Goodwill

By Hayleigh Rylant

The Leeders Program is the newest addition to the extra-curricular activities at Leeds High School. This program is composed of seniors who serve as ambassadors for the school. John Windham, LHS science teacher and yearbook sponsor, is the founder and 'brains behind the operation' of the Leeders Program. "This group was organized to be a representative sample of students who epitomize the qualities of a true Leeds student," Windham said.

The members represent LHS throughout the community and welcome visitors and new students to the school. In the process of creating this group, Windham secured the approval of the administration and the central office. The plan

was approved on the spot and Windham was told to, "go with it" by LHS Principal Andrew Briskey. The initial program design lists both young women and young men to serve.

The Leeders Program was formed to welcome new students to the school, give tours of the campus, and make new students feel at home. The Leeders also serve as goodwill ambassadors for the school. Currently there are five members in the program: Hayleigh Rylant, Bianca Prinsloo, Kaylee Campbell, Shaniqua Knox, and Ebony Harris.

Students interested in becoming a "Leeder Ambassador" must be a rising senior with a minimum 3.0 GPA and be punctual in attendance for all designated functions. Students must also be well-mannered and respectful of all rules and regulations of the school.

Students – guys or girls – who feel

they can fulfill the requirements should contact Mr. Windham for an application. The selection process requires essay submissions describing the student's desire to serve as an Ambassador and an interview by the selection committee.

When asked if he was proud of the success of the innovative program, Windham responded, "This being our charter year, I believe we have gotten off to a great start. We have some excellent Leeders who are doing an incredibly amazing job."

The Leeders Program is currently looking for opportunities to represent the school. Should any community group be interested in showcasing the Leeder Ambassadors at future events, you are encouraged to call the school at 699-4510 with a message for John Windham who will return your call to schedule the event.



Lead the Way at LHS
Apply to be a
"Leeder"!
See Mr. John Windham
for more details.

GreenWave keeps rolling on to STATE

By Kaylynn McCombs

This year the Leeds Green-wave football team started their season off with a perfect record. They had to cope with a big transition from last year's team to this year's team. On dealing with this change, Head Coach Keith Etheredge said that his coaching is about the same as last year except with more individual attention to each player and less "messaging around". There is a lot more discipline and leadership among everyone as a team. Some players, such as juniors, Charles Miller and Jesse Turner, are more vocal than others when preparing for games, but everyone is a leader on the field.

To prepare for games, the team watches films of their opponent's games to see what they are up against.

Coach Etheredge said, "We prepare the defense on what they run. Offensively, we try to execute over obstacles and make them adjust to us." The starting center for the varsity football team, senior Cody Ashley, was injured at the beginning of the season in the jamboree game. When asked about the effect of not

having Cody play, Etheredge said, "Cody was one of the leaders. It's hard losing someone like that, and it makes it harder for everyone else."

On September 25, the Leeds football team played St. Clair County High School. This game broke the perfect winning record the team had going. This loss affected the coaches and the whole team. Coach Etheredge said, "You don't like to lose to anyone, but it just shows the team isn't bullet proof and anyone can beat us."

Coach Etheredge describes the team this year as being immature with regard to youth but improving a little each game. He added, "There are eight sophomores and ten juniors starting, so we are pretty young."

Coach feels like the team is looking good this year. "They are making some mistakes, but they are playing very hard." He believes the team will always have a chance at another state title; they just have to continue to play hard and execute a little better. This group of boys is very young but has the heart to make it all the way to the state

championship game. Go Greenwave!

Winning Scores to Date:

34-21 over Oak Grove
29-0 over White Plains
27-7 over Walter Wellborn
43-0 over Weaver
49-18 over Pleasant Valley
30-15 over Glencoe
14-13 in OT over Piedmont
9-7 over Tarrant

Our only loss was to St. Clair County in a close game ending with a 19-14 score.

In a pre-Halloween game, we "treated" the arch rival Moody Blue Devils to a slim one point win.

Next up....STATE!

Roll GreenWave Roll!!



Recovering from surgery, injured Cody Ashley is comforted by Cheerleader Laura Lovett as he valiantly continues his studies!

Photo by Ebony Harris

2009 Homecoming Court

Queen: Harley Hamer
12th Grade
Madison Garner
Ebony Harris
Bianca Prinsloo
T'Ana Williams
11th Grade
Erica Cowan
Carmen Smith
10th Grade
Chasity Carr
9th Grade
Corrie Musgrove

2009
Fire Prevention
Queen
Brittany McDonald

Runner-up
Sydney Pearsall

New teachers bring new ideas to Leeds High

Amanda Beason English Department

By Haley Reinhardt

Mrs. Beason is new to LHS but not to education. This is her 17th year as an educator.

"I am thrilled to be a member of the faculty at Leeds High School, and I look forward to the positive changes taking place," Beason said.

Beason teaches English 9, 11, and Dual Enrollment English for LHS seniors earning Jefferson State Community College credit.

An Alabama graduate, Beason earned her BS, EdS, and MA in Secondary Education, Language Arts — completing her Masters at Oxford University in England. She has taught at Spain Park High School for the past seven years where she was happy and established but felt "God spoke to my heart to make a change" and that brought her to LHS. She is thrilled to be teaching in her home community.

Her husband of 13 years, Bobby, is a Leeds High School and Auburn University graduate. They have two daughters, Allison, 10, and Emily, 8.

Leah Whitten Business Education

By Casey Collins

Ms. Whitten teaches Business Tech Essentials and Applications. This marks her fourth year in teaching.

Whitten earned her degree in management and her Masters in Business Education at UNA and is currently working on her PhD at Auburn.

She is excited to be a part of the LHS faculty. "Leeds definitely has more of a home feeling. Everyone seems to know each other and the parents actually seem to want to be involved in the educational process," Whitten said.

When she finds spare time, she races mountain bikes, plays the guitar, and going backpacking.



New teachers (l to r): Jonathan Downey, Mandy Beason, Leah Whitten, and Greg Anderson. (Not pictured Richard Tidwell and Zack Blume). Photo by John Windham.

Jonathan Downey Exceptional Education

By Christopher Warner

Following his service with the Navy, Mr. Downey taught high school for 15 years in Maryland. A graduate of Jacksonville State University, Downey is also coach of LHS Soccer. An experienced coach, he said, "Soccer rocks!"

Downey's advice to students is "Learn to type (not just texting) and plan on a college career — the skills base you develop in college improves your life in every facet."

Downey and his wife, Jessie, have two daughters, Sammy, 12, Haley, 7, and a son, Colin,

Richard Tidwell Physical Education

By Bianca Prinsloo

Coach Tidwell's favorite color is *green* so it is fitting that he now coaches the mighty GreenWave! In addition to his coaching duties, Tidwell teaches the government and economics classes at LHS. A graduate of the University of Alabama, he has been teaching for five years — at Hoover High School and Pell City, but as a resident of this community, he wanted to become part of the growing Leeds schools system.

"Working with students is rewarding because I enjoy the conversations I have with them. They seem to have a good comprehen-

Greg Anderson Chemistry

A graduate of Troy University with a degree in Chemistry, Mr. Anderson teaches chemistry, physical science, and physics.

Anderson is impressed with the new LHS facilities and said, "It reminds me of college buildings."

Anderson and his wife, Andrea, have two children, Lily, 3, and Logan, 2.

He has interesting hobbies which include posing for renaissance type still-life paintings and maintaining a web site on the dangers of dihydrogen monoxide in schools.

sion and understanding of today's issues," Tidwell said.

With ten years of coaching experience, Tidwell's teams have earned one state championship and a runner-up spot in championship play. When asked about working with last year's LHS state champs, Tidwell said, "I am excited to have the opportunity to work with this new group of guys and see their potential develop." It's apparent that Tidwell is ready for a repeat championship performance.

Tidwell and his wife,

Zack Blume Chemistry

By Sarah Wentworth

Mr. Blume teaches Algebra I and ACCESS. A graduate of Jacksonville State University, he majored in math. Blume was drawn to education because of his desire "to have a positive impact on the lives of young people." He notes that he is also interested in coaching.

Blume learned about an open math position at Leeds Middle School at a career fair and applied. He landed that position but later moved to an open position at the high school.

When it comes to humor, he has a lock on the subject. He added these informative notes: He has two dogs, Ryno & Santo, named for Chicago Cubs players. He is single and not currently taking applications to change this status. He is a great singer — but only in his car or his shower. He is the worst dancer on the planet but is awesome at bowling and golf in his spare time (which he never finds). He'd choose chicken nuggets in an all you can eat contest. Blume played rugby at JSU and still plays for a Birmingham team. He co-hosted a JSU radio program, International Radio Show of Hebrew and Fosh. Most importantly, his dream job is to be a beach bum in the Caribbean! He repeatedly reports that he likes to party!

Lynette are expecting their second child in early summer who will join their son, Cole. Tidwell and his family love to travel, and he especially enjoys "southern style comfort food."

When asked what he would pursue as a career if not teaching, Coach Tidwell responded, "I would be our next congressman!"

Roll
GreenWave

“Old” teachers have great ideas too!

Anatomy

By Bayley Headley

Anatomy at Leeds High School is taught by Mr. John Windham who did not initially want to become an anatomy teacher. Windham originally wanted to become a pediatrician but chose to get his masters degree in education instead of going to medical school. He was a life science major and taught other subjects of science until he was offered a job with anatomy. He has taught anatomy – the study of the human body – for twelve years. In his anatomy class, you

cover the scientific history of the body and the eleven organ systems and how they work. His class does not always consist of just book work. Students work with models and dissect pig fetuses, eyes, a brain, and hearts. This class is open for juniors and seniors and there is no prerequisite for taking his class. When asked if he believed his class was hard, Windham replied, “No. I feel that if a student is serious about the course, pays attention in class, and keeps up cramming the night before a test.”

English classes “Go” to Hungary

By Carmen McKittrick

Students in the 2nd block classes of Beason and Shannon are communicating with students in Hungary. A former student of Beason’s at Spain Park, Anna Nichols, is teaching Conversational English in Hungary and developed the cooperative project of connecting with American students via email.

Topics incorporated into this exciting project are: cultural differences, sports, academics, family activities, and politics. It is intriguing that Hungarian etiquette differs quite drastically from American manners. For example, it

is rude to sniffle but not rude to blow one’s nose hard and loud in class. The same differences hold true for some rules of modesty. In Hungary, it is not unusual for people (especially men and children) to change clothes – right down to underwear in public.

LHS students are currently responding to the Hungarian emails and enjoying this international learning experience.

Both Beason and Shannon are excited about this opportunity for the students to enjoy this beneficial activity to learn more about the global community.

Nichols graduated from Birmingham-Southern with a BA in English.

So you can read a newspaper, now try a book

By Jessica Dilley

Truancy by Isamu Fukui – This novel about Tach, a boy living under a corrupt government. Truancy is a group rebelling against and attempting to correct the shady administration. Tack joins Truancy to get revenge on the government for the death of his sister. The prequel is *Truancy Origins*. Both books are suited for grades 8-10.

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow – The day Marcus, a 17-year-old student, decides to skip school is the day his life changes. Being in the wrong place at the wrong time, he ends up in a whirlwind involving The Department of Homeland Security when he caught near the sight of a terrorist attack on San Francisco. Suited for grades 10 and up.

If I Stay by Gayle Foreman – Mia had everything – great parent, good friend, a boyfriend, and an amazing talent as a musician until one car accident throws her life off course. In a comatose state, she “sees” herself and has to decide whether to fight to continue her life or just give up. This book is targeted for ages 14 and up.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky – Charlie is not popular, not a jock, not a geek; just a wallflower. He narrates the novel as a letter written to a friend covering aspects of his life’s drama enduring high school dramas such as crushes, drugs, and the suicide of one of his friends. This novel is suited for grades 9 and up.

It’s cool to be a nerd

By Chasity Carr & Jessica Dilley

Being a “nerd” is cool at LHS – that is if you are a “Book Nerd”. The club’s sponsors, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Freeman, introduced the idea last year and the club has grown to over 40 members.

The club meets at 7:30 AM on Tuesday mornings twice a month. Thomas, Freeman, and club members collaborate on the reading choices. *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martell and *Salvation on Sand Mountain* by Birmingham author Dennis Covington are the upcoming selections. Additionally, when questioned

about the ultimate selection, Thomas jokingly explained, “Divine intervention plays a major role in book selection. I look for popular, difficult yet interesting, and fun but challenging books. And, with the input of students, the final choices just come to me.” Members read at least one book per month.

Plans are in the works for a guest author to speak at a future meeting.

Mrs. Thomas conducted a successful “Cash for Clunkers” fundraising campaign recently and raised over \$400 to purchase new library books.

The members are also planning a Christmas service project of Gift Bags of Books for Leeds Welfare recipients.

The photo at the right is a “tongue in cheek” reprimand by the librarian that doors to the library should be open, not locked. A reason given for the locked side doors is that a sudden opening of the outward swinging doors could pose a hazard to students passing in the hallway. (See story on page 8)

You are always welcome to join the Book Nerds Club, so check in at the library and, while there, why not take a moment to check out a book!



Superintendent John Moore back home at the GreenWave



Superintendent John Moore visits with reporter Jesse Turner following interview in the new LHS Library.

(Photo by Emily Thomas)

By Jesse Turner

WOW! The Mighty Green Machine has a new Admiral at the helm! A former Leeds High School administrator, John Moore has returned home as our new Superintendent.

"I have completely enjoyed being back home. It has been nice to become reacquainted with so many old friends," Moore said.

"I have tremendous memories from growing up in Leeds: playing baseball and basketball at the Civic Center, learning to swim at the Leeds City Pool, attending First Baptist Church, and going to homecoming parades — these are just a few of the wonderful childhood memories I have of Leeds. Now, my own children, Kate, age 3, and Jacob age 6, a first-grader at LES, will share some of those same experiences." Moore added.

A graduate of Auburn University with a degree in Secondary Education in Spanish and history, he earned his Masters degree in Secondary Education in Spanish. Moore later added a Gifted/Talented Endorsement from the University of Alabama, an Administrator's Certificate from UAB, and an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Adminis-

tration from UAB. "I completed the University of Alabama's Superintendents' Academy in 2007," Moore added.

"I guess I knew I wanted to become a teacher when I was in elementary school. I had so many positive influences from my days at Leeds Elementary, I just knew this profession was for me. When I first started teaching, my goal was to become a principal. I never dreamed that so many doors would open up for me to rise to the level of superintendent," Moore explained.

When asked about his goals for our school system, Moore said, "I want the Leeds City Schools to be recognized as one of the best school systems in the State of Alabama. I want our students to be known for their academic abilities of course, but I also would like people in the greater Birmingham area to recognize that a high school diploma from LHS means something. I want our school system to continue to grow and to grow its academic offerings. Young people today are entering a world full of so many possibilities. Traditionally as educators, we have always thought that all kids should aspire to a four-year degree. I believe that is still a noble aspiration, but the vocational field is full of opportunities for young people with good communication, technological, and people skills. In the 21st Century, people are far more interested in finding the best experts to solve complex problems. Those answers come digitally, so many times. In Leeds and in any other small towns in the world, we have to continue to think of the entire world as a marketplace of opportunity for selling human skill and knowledge."

Moore added with a big smile, "I love the Leeds City Schools. We have so many wonderful students and teachers. They

make all the hard work worthwhile. Everything in Leeds is looking upward. With our new schools, I know we will continue to provide our students all the necessary 21st century skills they need. This is a great place to be!"

LHS faculty members are as excited about Moore's appointment as he is.

Miriam Turner said, "I am so excited that Mr. Moore is here! He has strong ties to the Leeds community and truly cares about our students. He is a man with a strong moral character, who is honest, fair, and highly motivated. The teacher institute he organized this year was the most refreshing, motivating institute I have been a part of in 25 years of teaching."

Coach Jeff Thomas noted, "Mr. Moore is a true educator at heart. He deeply understands the needs of students and teachers and he loves Leeds."

Emily Thomas echoed her husband's comments by adding, "He is a breath of fresh air!"

Bryan Swift added, "He is very professional, intelligent, and articulate. He represents the very best that is Leeds. He is an excellent boss."

Mandy Beason pointed out, "Mr. Moore is a visionary and an exceptional educational leader. His commitment and expertise will lead the LCS system in a fresh, new direction."

"I'm excited to know from comments by other professionals how strong a supporter for the arts Mr. Moore is. I'm also pleased to know, from our first handshake, that there is an open door for communication. He reflects youth with wisdom which will lead Leeds City Schools to a position as a model for education in Alabama," said Gudrun Rominger.

But it's not all work and no play for our new leader, the

superintendent was happy to share his relaxation techniques with this reporter.

"I have lots of hobbies. I enjoy fishing and boating and basically any activity that revolves around the water. I truly enjoy all activities that involve my children like riding bikes, reading, and playing outside. Many people who know me well know that I enjoy cooking, especially the outdoor BBQ kinds of dishes," Moore explained.

As for other Saturday activities, "I am a *nut* for Auburn football," Moore concluded.

Basketball Schedule 2009-20210

Nov. 12 Pell City @ LHS
Nov. 16 at Ashville
Nov. 19 at Shades Valley
Nov. 24 Walter Wellborn @ LHS
Dec. 1 Tarrant @ LHS
Dec. 3 Homewood @ LHS
Dec. 7 at St. Clair
Dec. 8 Ashville @ LHS
Dec. 11 at Indian Springs
Dec. 15 at Walter Wellborn
Dec. 17 Shelby County @ LHS

Dec. 30—Jan. 2 Homewood Metro Tournament

Jan. 5 Altamont @ LHS
Jan. 7 Shades Valley @ LHS
Jan. 8 at Tarrant
Jan. 12 Indian Springs @ LHS
Jan. 19 LHS @ Altamont
Jan. 21 LHS @ Pell City
Jan. 26 at Homewood
Jan. 28 at Shelby County
Jan. 29 St. Clair @ LHS

Feb. 4-6 — Girls Area Tournament

Feb. 5-8 — Boys Area Tournament

Feb. 11 Girls Sub-Region
Feb. 12 Boys Sub-Region

Feb. 15-20

Regional Tournament

Feb. 23-27

State Tournament

Head Coach: Ashley Allen
Asst. Coach: Richard Tidwell
Asst. Coach: Ryan Shell

**ROLL
GREENWAVE
ROLL!**



PINK FOR GREEN

Crystal Green Nelson Leads Greenwave Loves You!

Leeds High School students support Breast Cancer Awareness Month and former LHS teacher & coach, Crystal Green Nelson, who is under-going treatment in Houston, TX. Teachers Windham, Turner, and Shannon organized the photo taken by Susan Stovall. Love and Luck go to Mrs. Nelson from all students, faculty, and staff.



Crystal Green Nelson

Healthcare: an ongoing issue

By Sarah Wentworth

Pros: No one — man, woman, or child, should have to live without healthcare. If you are like me and have family without healthcare, I'm sure you've had a hospital refuse proper care for you or a family member. It's unacceptable by all standards. We all need

Someone to step up and make it happen.

Cons: This health care bill may do more harm than good. Sharing sounds good on paper, but look back at history. The Soviet Union decided to "share" and it fell apart. In North Korea, people decided to "share" and look at that country's economic status. Sharing just means that more people are going to suffer from uncharacteristic negligence and no one will be able to do anything about it. Under the new healthcare bill, the government will be able to decide your treatment and even whether you get to receive treatment that could save your life. Does that really sound like something we need in our country?

CLUBS and ORGANIZATIONS

National Honor Society

By Bianca Prinsloo

The National Honor Society is sponsored by Mrs. Wells, and is an active organization at LHS. The members are involved in numerous service projects with the most popular being the interaction with Leeds Elementary students once each month. The members serve as "Big Brothers" and "Big Sisters" to the younger students academically inspiring the youngsters with fun educational activities.

ties.

The Society is based on four principles: service, leadership, scholarship, and character. Selection for membership is based upon these principles and a student's GPA. Induction ceremonies are conducted in the spring each year.

Officers are: President, Bianca Prinsloo; Vice President, Lacey Crawford; Treasurer, Mirah Postlewait; and Secretary, T'Ana Williams.

Mu Alpha Theta

By Milan Kennard

Mu Alpha Theta, a national mathematics honor society, is sponsored by Mrs. Freeman. Freeman established the club to promote math, to inspire students to recognize the academic importance of math, and to offer students another extra-curricular activity with a purpose.

"A member must maintain a 3.0 GPA, be enrolled in or planning on taking upper level math classes, and have

have completed Algebra I and geometry," Freeman said.

The club participates in "peer" tutoring, math competitions, and fund-raising like the "Pi Day" bake sale.

Officers are: President, T'Ana Williams; VP, Kayla Pool; Secretary, Ebony Harris; Treasurer, Jesse Turner.

If you are interested in math, this club will benefit your academic career. Applications are currently due for the 2010 induction. See Mrs. Freeman ASAP for more information.

POETRY

Healing

Healing is something that really takes time
no matter how great the pain
no matter how much you can't stand those words.
God is working the artist
molding me into who I am
showing me what to do and where to go.
Never once did anyone say the scars wouldn't remain
there to remind us of the pain
there to show us the lessons we've learned.
Sometimes we are like a wounded soldier
still trying to fight with something missing
still feeling the pain though the wounds healed.

No my wounds are healing
going away but leaving the scars
reminding me of the pain.
Showing me the lessons I've learned
slaying me everyday until I've healed.
But no matter how much I hurt
how much I wish it was healed,
I can't rush the hands of the Almighty
I'm still learning. I'm still healing.

~David Snell

Behind Your Eyes

Behind your eyes all I see is hurt,
You act like your heart will burn
Yet you plaster on a smile,
As if you're walking into trial.
I can't see you what you're hiding from me,
What keeps you from being free?
Do you not trust what I will do,
Or is it that you don't trust you?

~AMR

Miriam Turner is busy with “Foods and Nutrition” classes, FCCLA, and LHS Cheerleaders

By T’Ana Williams

Family, Career, & Community Leaders of America, sponsored by Mrs. Turner, is an LHS club that helps students develop career skills while learning to balance career and family responsibilities. Members also focus on the skills needed to become productive and responsible citizens.

The club devotes countless hours to service projects throughout the year: Race for the Cure, Relay for Life, March of Dimes, Letters to Soldiers, Leeds Welfare Christmas Kids, Canned Food Drive, Board of Education

Dinner, Diabetes Walk, and Community Clean-up.

Club officers are President Alyssa O’Steen; Roosevelt Morgan & Jesse Turner both serve as VP; Secretary Danielle Watkins; Historians Alyson Brown & Carsyn Whitehead; Membership Anna Robinson; Community Service Amber Henson; Public Relations Carmen Smith. See Turner for info about joining FCCLA.



Turner’s Girls

There are Banned Books, but have you ever heard of a Banned Library?

By Christopher Warner

Did you notice the photo on Page 5 of the locked library doorway? Can you possibly guess why we aren’t allowed to access the library through this gigantic, metal double doorway? Our librarian says, with neutrality and, perhaps, some exasperation, that the door is now an emergency exit for fire and other emergencies.

The entrance (oops, exit) has been locked under restrictive ordinance, adding 60-78 steps (depending upon your stride) to the single entrance. It stands to reason, should an

emergency occur, no one will be standing in front of the doorway to block the exit — they will be heading to safety. This locked exit/entrance prevents easy access to the library for students attempting to return and/or check out books during class changes and has thus led to a minor decline in book checkouts.

The library was built exclusively for the students’ use and is centrally located for easy access. This locked door issue is obvious; but, if no one speaks up about it, there is no reason to alter the situation.

Foods and Nutrition

By T’Ana Williams

“This is a course that all students seem to enjoy because we cook a variety of foods, from sweets to *Soul Food*. Hopefully, this course pre-

pares students to take care of themselves and their families for years to come,” Turner explained.

Turner added, “This course is totally *hands on*, and it

teaches teamwork, responsibility, and the importance of planning. Turner also noted that many of the dishes prepared were not totally healthy, the class does focus

on the importance of having variety in your diet.

If you are one of the lucky students in this class, you have the opportunity of enjoying the delicious meals prepared in class.

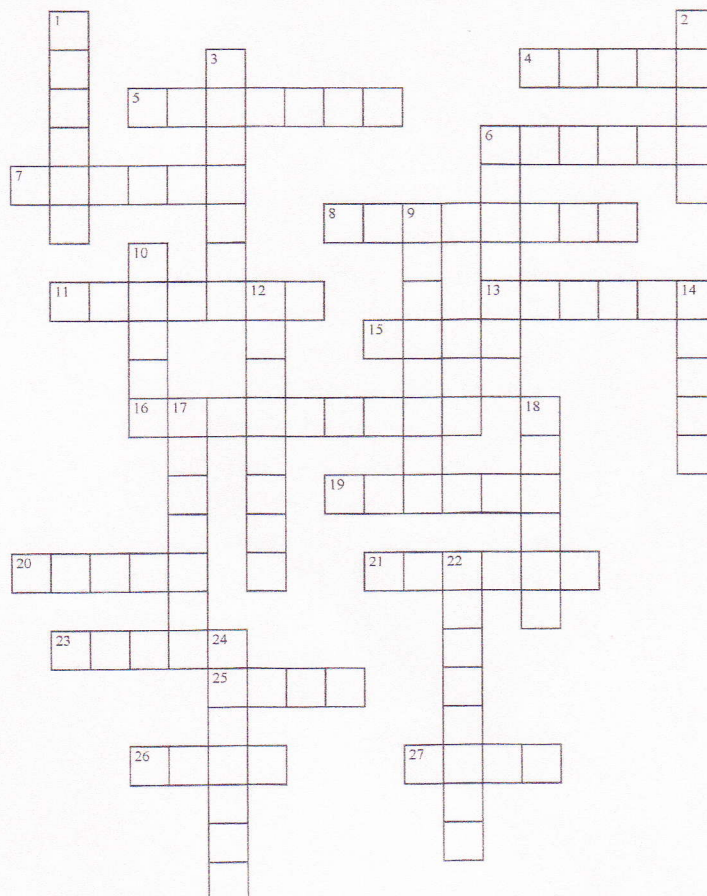
Did you see these two “weird” creatures out on Halloween?

Windham, “the Mad Scientist” being chased by Shannon, “the Wicked Witch”



Cartoonist Jon Brooks

Name that Teacher



ACROSS

- 4 Hittin' on Whitten?
 5 "I love you, I love you, I love you, and there is absolutely nothing you can do about it."
 6 YouTube Dancer
 7 Country bumpkin' that loves to hunt
 8 Tells the same tear-jerker story every year on Halloween
 11 "No pun intended."
 13 In his class, you "write don't speak."
 15 Started the Sanford band?
 16 He always has a Mountain Dew.
 19 Sleeps with a teddy bear
 20 Drives a Beetle "Bug"
 21 Tells parents which way to drive
 23 Can out run you!
 25 Gets up at four A.M. to workout before school
 26 Has a huge stuffed green alligator in her room
 27 Part of the punk rock band called the "The Wires" that set Arkansas on fire!

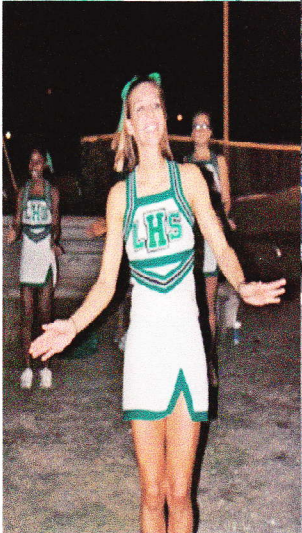
DOWN

- 1 She turned a cartwheel at a pep rally.
 2 Auditioned for Dream Girls?
 3 If you touch his water, he won't drink it.
 6 Her class won the "Cash for Clunkers" competition
 9 She is an artist!
 10 Man of courage for getting in a car with LHS students
 12 He's bi-pedal
 14 Famous for Hawaiian shirts
 17 Loves "Ultimate Frisbee"
 18 Cooking and cheering with a "Kate" hair-do
 22 Had geometric shapes on her wedding cake
 24 She will give you bonus points just as quickly as she will take them away

Crossword Designed by
 David and Laura Adkins



Homecoming



Glamour



Good Lookin' Girls Lookin' Good!

By Ebony Harris & Jessica Jenkins
In order to do your best, you need to look your best!

Leeds High School has definite **Dress Code Rules** which include wearing clothes that are appropriate for school: jeans must be clean and have no open holes above the knee; no shredded jeans are allowed; no muscle shirts, tank tops, backless tops, halter tops, tops with spaghetti straps, or any other tops that are physically revealing are allowed; comfortable school-appropriate shoes are required while flip-flops and house slippers are prohibited; hats, hoods, sunglasses, and caps shall not be worn at any time inside the building; skirts and/or dresses may be no shorter than four inches above the top

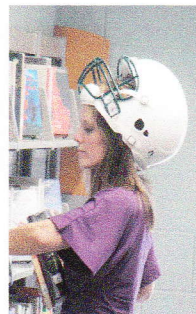
of the knee; any fashion accessory with spikes, studs, or chains is not allowed; trench coats, overcoats, or other large bulky coats are to be stored in lockers at the beginning of the school day; clothing with inappropriate slogans, advertisements, or derogatory suggestions are prohibited.

According to the Leeds City Schools Code of Student Conduct Handbook, "Any student who fails to dress appropriately will not be allowed to attend class until proper clothing can be secured. If necessary, parents will be called to bring proper clothes to school, Non-conformity to the Dress Code is a Class I Offense."

You should express your style in a conservative manner during school activities. Look as successful as you are!

Definite Glamour DON'T's

Struggling to tear free! Ms. Shannon wears this footwear!! Mrs. Thomas???



Who are these strange women?

This is too Scary.....



A Definite NO-NO at LHS!

Counselor's Corner

By Wesley Hudson

Mrs. Lisa Hudson, LHS Counselor
Call 699-4510 for an appointment

For scholarship and financial aid information:

- www.finaid.org
- www.yahoo.com/education/financialaid
- www.collegeaid.net
- www.fastweb.com
- www.studentaid.ed.gov
- www.pellgrant.com

Dates to Remember

- Oct. 31 — Coca-Cola Scholarship Deadline
- PLAN (the practice ACT) test for all 10th-graders during the last week of Oct.
- Nov. 6 — ACT Registration Deadline for December test
- Nov. 14 — Tuskegee University Fall Open House. The Birmingham Area Tuskegee Alumni Association is coordinating a bus trip for students. See Mrs. Hudson for more information.
- Nov. 17 — Jacksonville State University will meet with interested senior during 3rd Block
- Nov. 21 — Alabama A&M University — High School Senior Day Program
- Dec. 7-11 — AHSGE for seniors only
- Dec. 12 — ACT Test
- Feb. 17-23 — ADAW
- March 1-5 — AHSGE

Apply
for Scholarships
Now

Seniors: Mrs. Hudson met with seniors to discuss graduation requirements and college planning. Students were given a checklist to keep track of progress and upcoming deadlines for testing, admissions, and financial aid. To be "on track" for graduation, seniors should have a minimum of 20 credits. If they have less than 20 credits, they should be enrolled in an additional class through Distance Learning. Some seniors might choose to enroll in night school classes at another high school. Mrs. Hudson will begin meeting with seniors individually to evaluate his/her transcript. In late November, parents of seniors will receive a letter from Mrs. Hudson that analyzes the graduation status of their student.

Juniors: In a meeting with Mrs. Hudson, juniors were given an information sheet and a junior year checklist. Students planning to apply to a 4-year college should check online sources www.act.org and www.collegeboard.com and make plans for taking the SAT and/or ACT tests in the spring. Both sites offer practice tests and test strategies. All 4-year colleges require the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT. Juniors should plan ahead so that this testing is completed by the end of the junior year.

Sophomores: The PLAN test is a practice ACT test and a good career indicator that all sophomores will take in late October. These test results will be compared with the 8th grade EXPLORE test to measure growth which will be reviewed by students with their parents and with Mrs. Hudson. Sophomores should be thinking about the education & training certain career require. Students should also get involved in extracurricular and community service activities, start gathering college information, and continue saving money for college expenses.

Freshmen: This year provides the foundation for academic success. Students should develop solid study habits, monitor grades, and take advantage of after-school tutoring. Eligible sophomore classes are often determined by the grades students make during the freshman year.

H1N1

"BE PREPARED, NOT SCARED!"

By Cortney Tyler

The H1N1 virus is another name for swine flu. It spreads quickly. The symptoms are common to the regular seasonal flu, which includes a high fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, muscle aches, diarrhea, and vomiting. If you have any of these symptoms, or think you are getting sick, go see a doctor or the school nurse.

The latest government data shows that children and young people, ages five to 24, are more prone to swine flu than any other age group.

Prevention is the best medicine so practice pro-active personal hygiene by washing your hands throughout the day with soap and

warm water and use hand sanitizer. Also, cover your mouth when coughing and sneezing. This virus is very contagious. If you notice that someone around you is exhibiting flu-like symptoms or already has the flu, stay away.

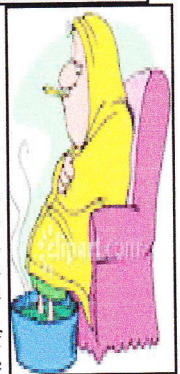
LHS School Nurse Melisa Lail reported that a number of cases of swine flu were evident during the first week of school and those students were sent home immediately. "A vaccine should be available for students in November and, with parental consent, will be given," Nurse Lail added.

Some advice our school nurse gave was "stay at least six feet away from anyone who is coughing or sneezing." She also agreed

that the number one way of prevention is hand washing.

"We are expecting a second and maybe even a third wave of this flu and it could possibly even mutate into a more severe case. Keep yourself healthy," she added.

School Nurse Lail is available in the school office every day from noon until 3:00 o'clock.



If You Feel Like This,
STAY
HOMR