

### **WOODLAWN HIGH SCHOOL**

### A MOUNTAIN OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR FBLA

Story by: Gracie Shopinski

To some students, the idea of a 4-day conference in a different state away from their parents scares them. To three senior FBLA officers, the National Fall Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado sounded like the opportunity of a lifetime. Future Business Leaders of America is one of the more popular clubs at WHS; FBLA holds meetings every month at different locations, while also organizing several events throughout the year. At the start of the school year, the FBLA officers held the annual Back to School Bash (B2SB). The money earned from the B2SB is then put towards the officers to go to the NFLC, which is different from any other conference FBLA attends. The conference is filled with so many opportunities for life changing experiences and to make memories. This year, Jacy Knox, Brooke McKay, and Gracie Shopinski attend-

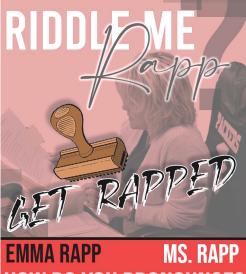


ed, along with Mrs. Owens. Each officer chose a track to and learned so much during this experience. Knox followed the leadership track and attended a presentation workshop; her biggest take

away was that, "Confidence is key while also knowing your audience and maintaining your emotions." The conference came with a lot of new experiences. Some of Shopinski's best memories came from the out of the conference experiences. She told how they had the opportunity to take an Uber ride in a Tesla while singing karaoke. They also had the chance to see the mountains in Golden. McKay also had a life changing experience. A quote that stuck with her throughout the weekend: "There are too many people in the world to change who you are for one person," and it came from the keynote speaker Brian Collier. This conference was an overall great experience for the officers. The chance to take once-in-a-lifetime

Ubers, make new friends, and learn new things is not opportunity that comes often in high school.





follow during the conference HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE? **AMERICA OR 'MERICA** 

> **WASH OR WARSH** LAWYER OR LOYER **BOTH OR BOLTH**

**CRAYON OR CROWN** 

OBVIOUSDY OR OBVIOUSHLY

COYOTE OR COYOTED

ARMEL OR CARAMEL PECONS OR PECANS

(OU-UHVU) OR(EWYVILLE) **ILLINOIS OR ILLINOISE** 

## CLIP OF kindness

"I was collecting the Penny Wars jars off the table and had my hands full, Jackson Smith saw me struggling and immediately opened the office door for me. His kindness was greatly appreciated!"





Start of Christmas **Break** 

Dec. 25 **Christmas Day!** 

Jan. 4 First Day of 2nd Semester

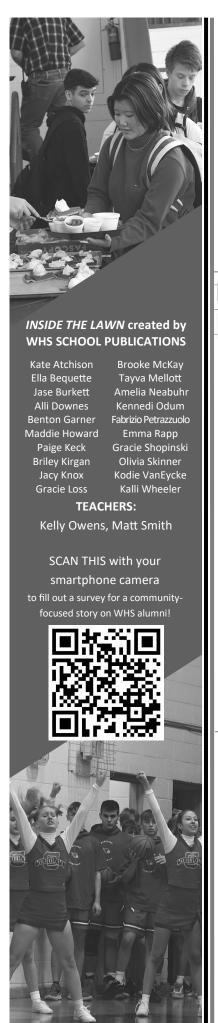
Jan. 13 **Noon Dismissal** 

Jan. 16 **NO SCHOOL** MLK Jr. Day

FOR FULL ATHLETIC SCHEDULES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, VISIT US ONLINE AT:

WOODLAWNSCHOOLS.ORG





### **HEAD TO HEAD WITH COACH COOPER**

Story by: Gracie Shopinski

The Cards are back - spread the word. After a rough season last year, the boys basketball team is back and looking to build. They are starting off the season with a new head coach, Luke Cooper, previously the assistant coach. Coach Cooper is eager to see what the boys can do this season, and he believes with full confidence that if they stay healthy they can win games. The team is bringing back several juniors and seniors to the team with experience. The team also has several underclassmen who are

showing up ready to prove themselves. The young coach also says that last year the boys really matured and learned how to compete at the varsity level. When asked who their biggest competition this season is, he tells how it is everyone in the Midland Trail Conference. Every game is a big game for the boys and each game matters. Win or lose, the boys will learn and become better. Coach Cooper wants to remind everyone "to remain patient with the boys and trust the course. Building a program does not happen overnight." Make sure to come support our boys and their young aspiring coach this season!



# GIVER Christmag ME A Solition

Story by: Benton Garner

What are your favorite holiday traditions? Here are some different ways our students and their families may celebrate or enjoy one of the most wonderful times of the year:

- Emily Smith: "My family has a pickle ornament that someone hides in the tree. Whoever finds the pickle first wins 5 dollars!"
- **Jackson LeGrand**: "My favorite part of the holiday is seeing all the decorations."
- Sophie Maddox: "My favorite part of the holiday season is spending time with family that I don't get to see everyday. It's always nice to know what they have been up to."
- Hollie Ard: "A tradition in my family is Dirty Santa. Everyone who has a job buys a present boys buy for boys and girls buy for girls. You draw a number out of a hat and that's how you decide who picks a gift first; you can steal from people, but you can only steal the same present three times."

Regardless of whatever traditions or customs you and your loved ones follow, School Pub hopes that your family enjoys the holiday season, just as our students will. Merry Christmas and happy holidays, with love!

WHAT ARE WHS STUDENTS LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS MONTH?

Avery England:

LISTENING TO CHRISTMAS
MUSIC, CHRISTMAS GIFT
SHOPPING, AND SPENDING
TIME WITH RELATIVES
I RARELY SEE

Rylee LeGrand:

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MARSHMALLOWS AND LOOKING AT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Fabrizio Petrazzuolo:

SNOW, OPENING PRESENTS, AND CHRISTMAS BREAK

**Graphic by: Gracie Loss** 

### SNEAK PEEK: WHS TRAVELS TO LATIN AMERICA Story by: Ella Bequette

The summer of 2024, Woodlawn High School is offering a trip to Costa Rica and Panama! Previously, WHS offered an overseas trip to Europe in the summer of 2022. Students had the opportunity to go visit the Windsor Castle, see the Eiffel Tower, visit the Louvre, and go to the Canterbury Cathedral. The 2024 trip is nine days in which you can go snorkeling and visit Rincon de la Vieja National Park in Guanacaste. Students could travel to the Arenal Region where you would get the opportunity to zipline through the rainforest and go kayaking. There will also be opportunities to visit La Fortuna Waterfall and Arenal Hot Springs. La Fortuna Waterfall is one of the most visited waterfalls in Costa Rica. You could travel to Sarapiqui and San Jose where you would go whitewater rafting. Then fly to Panama City, Panama, and visit the Biomuseo, a museum focused on the natural history of Panama. Students will get the opportunity to spend time on the beach and even have the opportunity to learn how to surf. You could take a boat ride on Gatun Lake in the Panama Canal and see Monkey Island; it has many different types of monkeys, as well as crocodiles, toucans, sloths, iguanas, and numerous exotic birds. Students will spend an evening learning about the rich cultural traditions of the region and learn an interactive dance. Go on this once in a lifetime trip so you can swim in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean on the same day! Kennedi Odum from the Europe trip says, "Learning about another culture is mind-blowing and such a great experience."