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Class of 2023

SENIOR NEWS

LEADERS OF THE CLASS: VAL & SAL PROFILES

Staff Writer
Josh SanJavier

Jennifer Bozeman, Valedictorian



Jennifer Bozeman is an intelligent talented student who is the highest performing senior. Jennifer's highschool career started before she entered AHS, being in MAPs and humanities both programs only a select few can be accepted in during junior high. Her passion for art gave her an additional advantage as she was also enrolled in high school art as an 8th grader. Not shying away from challenges that exposed her to higher levels of education, Jennifer did a writing and logic intensive summer camp through Yale. With such impressive dedication at an early age to school, one would assume Jennifer was putting her personal life on hold for

school, which couldn't be further from the truth. "I would say I actually have a decent life/school balance, I really just took classes I mostly enjoyed," Jennifer said. Coming into high-school Bozeman always dreamed of going to a highly selective school, so she pushed herself to make this dream a reality. Such a goal would be stressful, advanced college level classes are meant to be loads of work. "Of course I can be stress over a test or homework, but I really try to stray away from only focusing too much on school, my parents really don't care as long as pass, they don't like me stressing myself

out," she said. Outside of school, Bozeman has creative hobbies such as art, crocheting and theater. On her off time, Jennifer is altruistic having over 150 volunteering hours well also being drama club and NHS VP. Bozeman had time for all this well completing almost all AP classes, Jacketeers, Theater Production classes, and AP art classes. Bozeman wrote a college entrance essay to Stanford that included the Muppets, one of her favorite things and claims she is one of the franchise's biggest fans. "Animal, Ralph, and Kermit helped me realize that life's beauty lies in its flaws," she said.

Edward Parker, Salutatorian



Awarded the honor of being Alvin high-school salutatorian of 2023 is Edward Parker. Parker is joining the ranks with his older brother, a former AHS valedictorian, set a standard for him to achieve. To avoid giving his brother bragging rights and because he has a desire for a good future, Parker pushed to meet his parent's expectations as he worked all through high school to be involved in many physical activities and sports, as well as maintaining high grades. Parker puts in 100 percent of effort into everything he does, as he has talents both inside and outside the classroom

"I don't really have a life outside of school, sports, and the gym. I am giving all my energy to my future," Parker said. In order to attain and maintain his spot in the top two of the graduating class, he knew he needed to take many AP credit courses. He completed AP computer courses, algebra 1 and geometry in 7/8th grade, AP Human Geo, World Geo, US History, Government, and Economics. Advanced Algebra 2 and Pre-calculus, AP Calculus 1 and 2. Advanced Eng 1 and 2. AP Eng 3 and 4. AP seminar, AP research, dual credit Spanish. AP physics 1 and AP phys-

ics C. AP Environmental science. Advanced Biology and AP Chemistry. He also spent his four years as a proud member of the Yellow Jackets football team and JROTC cadet. Eddy plans to attend the Naval Academy to have a career in aviation with the hope of being able to pilot jets in the future. It is a difficult and lofty goal to graduate in the top two, but Parker is proud of his effort and hard work to get where he is. He is excited about his future and all he will succeed in.

ONCE MORE CHANCE TO PLAY ALL DAY

Staff Contributions

The Yellowjacket annual Kid Day has come and gone, and was a memorable day for seniors. Kid Day is the opportunity for seniors to reminence about their younger selves and celebrate how far they have come and where they are now. Many students dress up as their younger selves and compete to win prizes for best costumes. Then, the group heads to the park for an afternoon of play and fun. Easter egg hunting was an exciting activity this year. "Kid day had a lot of activities I liked, and I enjoyed the freedom they gave us. Also it was nice they provided drinks," senior Carson Morgan said.



Kid Day Fun Day tradition of Kid Day at AHS goes back several generations. This is an event that is looked forward to by seniors each year.

photos by: Yellowjacket Yearbook

SENIOR NEWS

Reflections From 2023 Top Ten Grads

Co- Editor in Chief
Allie Najacht



#1 Jennifer Bozeman
“I plan on attending Stanford University to major in Chemical Engineering paired with Earth Systems. I hope to do renewable energy research in the future, mainly in the realm of solar cells. I solidified my place and took 16 AP classes, went to tutorials when I did not understand a topic, formed good relationships with teachers and sometimes studied. Prioritize not always taking yourself so seriously, have fun, do your best in school, just don’t let the stress of school come between you and friendships. Mental health matters.”



#2 Edward Parker
“I plan on going to the United States Naval Academy to pursue a career in Aviation. I have always wanted to be a Navy Pilot. I would love to be able to fly jets. I have been interested in aviation since the first time I was introduced to the movie Top Gun and knew that was an option for my future.”



#3 Giselle Ibarra
“I plan on attending University of Texas to major in Neuroscience. My family has a history of Alzheimers and my mom has Epilepsy, so I want to learn more about the nervous system and how it works. Securing my place in top ten came with making sure to keep up with all my homework and when tests came up, I worked on the things I struggled with the most.”

Photo unavailable



#5 Hailey Clingan
“I plan on attending University of Texas at Austin to major in Environmental Engineering. Environmental Engineering has interested me and been my primary career choice for years. More specifically, however, I have been especially magnetized to the matter of environmental sustainability. As a student who mainly has prioritized dual credit classes, I have had to work extremely hard for my spot.”



#6 Carolena Lara
“I plan on attending Tulane University in New Orleans to major in Biochemistry. I have always had a love for science. I also have interest in becoming an eye doctor. Securing my place in top ten came with always trying to turn in homework on time and studying for tests to make a difference in the long run.”



#7 Jaretzy Loera
“I plan on attending University of Texas at Austin in order to major in Biochemistry. I like that it is a major with many different options for the future. I’m not entirely sure what I want to do yet and I saw that biochemistry is less limited because there’s more fields you can go into with that degree. I was also encouraged by my biology and chemistry teachers who were great and helped me when I struggled with some concepts in class.”



#8 Jose AnayaMelendez
“I plan on attending Carnegie Mellon University to major in Information Systems. I have been interested in the computer science studies for quite a long time. I think it really started when I was a kid and my mom worked with computers all the time. That is definitely what spurred my interest in computers.”



#9 Devon Baxa
“I plan on attending College of the Mainland to major in Theatre Performance. I have been performing since I was in the third grade. When I found myself thinking of other careers, such as some in the STEM field, I realized how much I would miss it since my life has been surrounded by the arts. I finally landed on wanting to be a high school theatre teacher. I decided to attend community college because it will allow me to perform for a little longer before I dive into the education part of my studies.”



#10 Gracey Kettler
“I plan on attending Austin College to major in Environmental Science. I want to help preserve wildlife and help better the environment by finding more sustainable agriculture. In order to preserve our way of living and maintain the beauty of our earth and nature, I hope by going into environmental science, I can help the world. I wouldn’t be where I am if I hadn’t taken many AP classes and spent most of my hours doing homework and pushing myself to be my best.”

Remaining Top Ten Percent Grads:

Carli Borsche, Jacob Meza, Aracely Peregrina, Isabela Recendez, Jackson Marek, Ellison Overby, Jaimie Mistretta, Veronica Harrison, Finnegan Madding, Amy Chavez, Kameron Marvel, Amanda Jett, Takoda Ordonez Jacobson, Mackenzie Strban, Lauren Jeffrey, Sydney Poulter, Jackson Spencer, Gloriangelie Gonzalez Guiets, Isabel Serna, Christabel Bass, Denisse Limon, Kendyl Nordenstrom, Seanna Helton, Christian Batty, Katherine Limon, Cordelia Tingle, Brianne Wetmore, Cecilia Dale, Kandice Kazmiroski, Sophia Grisso, Kristyn Busch, Roberto Amezcua, Jake Priddy, Kurtis Heidenreich, Erick Rivera Lenarduzzi, Bradley Eernisse, Alfredo Rios, Jacob Alaniz, Marielena Rangel-Mandujano, Randi Beckham, Reagan Jones, Miguel Garcia, Mia Withers, Alexander Vo, Tyler Phillips, Austin Boyd, Slade O’Hair, Bianca Hinojosa.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: Graduation Night Plans

Graduation will be held on Friday, May 26, 2023 at 7:30 pm. Graduation will be held at Freedom Field at Heritage Complex. Freedom Field is located at 10855 Iowa Colony Boulevard Iowa Colony, Texas 77583. Graduates must report to Liberty Alumni Hall between 6:00 pm and 6:30 pm. Graduates may drive themselves or be dropped off in front of Liberty Alumni Hall. All graduates must be dressed according to the Alvin ISD Commencement Cer-

emony Dress Code listed below to be permitted to participate in the ceremony. Graduates will carry in their cap and gown and put it on once they have been checked for dress code. Once they have checked in, graduates will receive a gallon sized zip lock bag to put their belongings (keys, phone, and wallet) in. No other bags or purses will be allowed. Stadium gates and seating will open at 6:00 pm. Parking is free of charge. Parking passes

are not required. No tailgating is permitted. Wheelchair seating is available on the concourse. Information regarding drop-off areas will be communicated closer to the event. The clear bag policy will be enforced. Please see the specifications of the policy below. Please notify all of your guests that the following items are prohibited: outside food or drink, strollers, alcohol or tobacco products, weapons of

any kinds (knives, guns, chains, etc., electronic or vapor cigarettes, flags, balloons, noise-makers, air horns, laser pointers, fireworks, roller blades or skate shoes, animals other than service animals, and tripods. Signs or banners are allowed but must not exceed the size of a standard poster board (22 in.x28 in). Signs must not have any negative, inappropriate or vulgar wording. Umbrellas will be allowed prior to the start of the cer-

emony. Umbrellas must be put away when the ceremony begins. Umbrellas are highly recommended for those sitting on the visitor side. Project Graduation 2024 will sell water for all guests. Closer to the ceremony, your graduate will receive their seating assignment, we highly suggest you park and sit on the same side that your graduate is sitting on.

SENIOR FEATURES

Jacket’s History Making Player

Staff writer
Paola Renteria

Football player Dayshawn Peterson earned first team all state honors for this season, and he is the first since 1968 to earn this accolade. He boasts an impressive record with 2,710 yards rushing and 29 touchdowns over the last two seasons.

Playing the fullback position, Dayshawn makes his impression on history with his recent award, and looks forward to playing Division II football at Eastern New Mexico University. In addition to a recent invitation to play in the annual Bayou Football Classic this summer, he also acquired one more chance to compete at the high school level. He also was named the second team all state at the end of his junior year.

“Nine years of football and I’ve gone back and forth with the defense of end and fullback position. My favorite thing about this sport is the excitement I possess and the team I play with. This team gives me an amazing feeling that I can always have a true memory of our time. I feel like I accomplished what I have achieved in my years of playing football and the hard work I put in for it,” Peterson said.

Varsity head coach James Gage has been impressed with Peterson since the beginning.

“Dayshawn is a TEAM FIRST player. He wants to see the team succeed more than himself. He is willing to do whatever it takes to see the TEAM be successful. He was 100% bought in and we never had to worry about Dayshawn not doing what he is supposed to do.”

Peterson is proud of his football experience and Alvin High team, after his stellar record and the work the whole team participated in to improve the football team and record as a whole.

“I feel like I accomplished what I have achieved in my years of playing football with my work ethic and the desire to be a better player for my team,” Peterson said.

Gage said Peterson is a quiet and laid back individual who doesn’t like fame and doesn’t like being in the spotlight. As humble as Peterson may be, he does, however, enjoy being a guide to others.

“He has set the example of what an Alvin Yellowjacket and JPND looks like. Kids look up to him and realize how special he is. His name will be a name talked about for a long time in Alvin,” Gage said.



Peregrina’s Pot of Gold

Staff writer
Elliott Jannise

Her palms were sweating and she began to feel nauseous as everybody hovered over her and her phone. She took a deep breath in and she braced herself as she opened the email. She took a few deep breaths before she began to read the email that would change her life forever.

Aracely Peregrina attained a full-ride scholarship to Notre Dame using Questbridge, a rigorous college prep program that helps match students to colleges that fit individual’s needs. She is ready to become a Fighting Irish.

The application process was long and tedious, starting in her junior year with Questbridge then her senior year, she was able to match into Notre Dame and begin her application. She said she is hoping to get a degree in STEM. She had help with the application process from staff members across campus. Counselor Kimberly Butler, and teacher Guy Faith for her recommendations. English teacher Chad McWhirter and Dr. Pauley helped with ed-

iting and her essay. Then, there is Engineering teacher Veronica Gonzalez, who was her most enthusiastic supporter.

“Mrs. Gonzalez has been one of my most supportive teachers and mentors. She was among one of the first teachers that I told about my acceptance to Notre Dame. Her genuine joy after telling her the news was kind of the first moment that I realized that this was genuinely happening and I had worked hard and deserved it,” Peregrina said.

Gonzalez was Aracely’s engineering teacher for two years as well as her mentor. She helped her find her passion for engineering and was one of the first people to make Aracely feel confident in her decisions.

“I was proud of her for getting in because she is extremely intelligent, a hard worker, and a natural leader; I knew she would be able to get in,” Gonzalez said.



Tale of Two Friends

Staff writer
Elliott Jannise

Childhood Best Friends Prepare to Graduate

They put on their small colorful backpacks and grabbed their lunch kits as they walked out the door. They climbed into the backseat, and their parents drove them to school. The drive to school was nerve-wracking because they didn’t know what to expect. Once they arrived, they hesitantly walked toward their kindergarten teacher who greeted them and directed them toward the classroom. As they walked towards the room, they were pleasantly surprised to see a familiar face of a friend in kindergarten

Nowadays, it looks a little different as they grab their backpacks and keys and walk out the door to drive to school. Once they get to school, they walk toward their first-period classroom and sat down. The each look around the room, happy to see a familiar face. They have seen each other’s first day of school ever and now look forward to sharing their last.

Seniors Jackson Marek and Finnegan Madding have been lifelong friends thanks to the close friendship between both of their fathers. Over the years, their friendship has grown stronger due to their shared enthusiasm and devotion to sports. Now, for the first time, they will have to be best friends

with distance between them.

“We have been friends forever because of our dads. It’s like we have been attached together since birth,” Madding said.

Since they were young kids, they have played football, basketball, and baseball together, and they have continued to do so through high school. They have seen each other’s progression and growth. They will be apart for the first time in their lives since they are attending different colleges across the nation.

“He has always supported me; it’s going to be hard living so far apart, but we will manage. Hopefully, we will see each other during our breaks from school,” Marek said.

They both have a big step in front of them. They will continue to play football and baseball in college and get their degrees.

“I’m going to become a mechanical engineer and play football in college. It’s going to be a big step but it’s an awesome opportunity to play at the next level,” Madding said.



C/O 2023 CLASS FAVORITES

Live In the Moment

FLOWER: ROSE

COLORS: BLACK & WHITE

SONG: WHEN WE WERE YOUNG



SPORTS

Behind the Scenes: Track & Field

Staff writer
Gabby Nieto

Occurring at the end of the school year, track and field teams are active Yellowjackets, who work and train hard for success. Women’s coach Mikiyta Stepney and men’s coach Shannon Munson are both key inspirations behind the track and field teams. Each coach has different reasons for coaching track. Coach Stepney says wants to give back to students.

“For me growing up, track was the outlet for my trouble at home life and so the people that inspired me the most were my coaches so I just wanted to be able to do that for my youth growing up. It inspired me wanting to keep that legacy going,” Stepney said.

Coach Munson found his reason through a way to cope with extra energy, and eventually, he was led to a career.

“I was hyper when I was younger, so it was a way for me to burn off some of that energy and then I realized, during that process, I was pretty good at it, so I just kept at it,” he said.

Both teams experienced a successful season overall, with several boys team members advancing to area. Girls 4X4 fell just short of Area, with a 5th place finish. However, they did run their season best time at district meet. The boys 4X100 and 4X200 both advanced to Area as well. However, this track season was also not without challenges.

“We’ve been bitten by the injury bug quite a bit this year, we had to adjust and alter a lot of races and are relay team. But for the kids it hasn’t really affected nor fazed them much. They get out there on the track and compete. We take that next man mentality, next person up,” Munson said. “Track is a team, but it’s a team sport made up of individual races. It’s hard to hide out on the track. It can be very humbling, so it takes a very unique individual to be willing to put themselves out there and give everything they got out on the track, all eyes are on you. When it’s a team sport, you can kind of blend in to the rest of the team.”

Both coaches have enjoyed the season very much, and are excited about the goals the team is setting, and the records teams and individuals are breaking.

“My short term goal is probably for them to do better than last year. I don’t want to put any pressure on them to do anything outside of just being better than they played before,” Stepney said. “We are very family oriented, we treat each other like brother and sister, we don’t beat anyone down, tear anyone down. If there is a mistake, we are literally a family, we laugh together, cry together, we motivate together, we have defeats together, and we have wins together.”



Seniors Hang Hats On Final Performance

Staff writer
Natalie Horton

Tears fill the eyes of parents and daughters alike in the Performing Arts Center as the stage lights shine brightly on the Jacketeers’ sequined hats and the seniors take the stage and hang their hats for the audience one last time.

Since Spring Show is the last show of the Jacketeer season, it is an emotional performance for all of them. It is most emotional for the seniors though. It’s their last time performing together on stage in front of their friends, family, and dance instructors Eve Robinson and Abigail Winkenwerder. This year’s theme was “Through The Lens,” with two nearly sold out performances. The junior highs, AHS dance classes, Studio G Dance and Chara Christian Dance Academy were guest performers.

“I’m going to miss a lot of the girls, Ro and Wink of course,” senior Cecilia Dale said. “I’m not dancing anymore so it’ll definitely be a change from what I’m used to. Even though it’s my last, I’m excited for my last time dancing in the lights.” The Spring Show isn’t all crying and emotions, though.

The girls prepare for weeks beforehand setting dances and lights on stage and laughing and bonding behind the scenes.

“I love setting stage lights and backdrops and seeing our spring show shirts and decorating the auditorium,” senior Isabelle Ortiz said. “I know I might be crazy, but I love the long practices because they make time go by slowly and the slower it feels the

longer I can spend with my friends laughing and having fun backstage.”

This year, the Jacketeer senior officers each performed their final solo during the Spring Show. Each one was emotion filled and held a lot of meaning to the dancer, and that really shined through during their performances. Dance is more than a way to move your body, it’s something that connects you with the people around you and expresses your feelings without having to say a word.

“It’s something special for my family, especially my mom, because it’s a song that’s important to my family,” senior Lauren Jeffrey said. “It’s weird to think I won’t be doing solos anymore after this.”

As the season comes to a close for the Jacketeers, Spring Show gives the seniors one last opportunity to shine on stage, show off their talent, and revisit memories as the senior slideshow plays before the last dance.

“None of it feels real. You never really think the day will come until it does,” senior Siana Spruill said. “As you watch the senior slideshow, standing beside all of your senior friends, you begin to feel all of the emotions. You sink into your boots and wish that you had one more time.”

The Jacketeer team truly is a family. Everyone on the team looks up to the senior girls so much and enjoyed their last dance with them.

So long, seniors. And see you real soon..



photos by: Samavia Shahzad, Yellowjacket Yearbook

OPINIONS

TAKE A CHANCE TO FIND YOU

Staff writer
Josh SanJavier

Sometimes it's better to not have any expectations, you'll be told thousands of things about high school: the friends you'll make and lose, the cliché coming of age stories and how fast it'll go by and to enjoy every moment of it. But there's a duality to high school. Beneath the laughter and smiles you'll find yourself in holes of self pity and despair... it's not all such a bad thing though. After all those moments of stillness you'll realize the meaning of it all.

Throughout my last two years of high school, I always found myself looking back at an English assignment I had my sophomore year. I never turned it in because I couldn't find how to finish it, even now I don't know how. The essay read, "Nothing is ever forsure, we're different, we grow, we change. I believe it's your choice to define your perfection. The only person who can sympathize with you, is you."

Perfection. What is perfection? Is it the image our parents set for us or

is it how society expects you to be? Do you have a choice in what you believe? I used to think we were defined by how close to perfect we were. That we had to be as close to perfect as we could, even if that meant furthering ourselves from what was us. Now how does that make sense?

I believe you can be anything you want. Who cares-it's your life, why let a bunch of strangers stop you from wanting to live. You control your own life. I believe that.

So what's stopping you from being who you're supposed to be? High School is meant for you to find out how you're going to live your life. You can't just follow the same route as everyone else just because they look happy. You're not everyone else. You are your own person. You just have to find yourself. I found myself questioning every decision I ever made in high school. I questioned if I really needed to do this, or if this is what I wanted to do. If it ever meant anything. All that questioning

just halted my progression from finding myself. Who I was and what I was supposed to be. At the end of the day, I'd question it all again, that if all I did was just a trick that I didn't win anything for doing it. I realized I was just still; I wasn't moving on with my life. I had to accept that I had wasted my time. It was wasted trying to find tunnels that avoided debating who I was supposed to be. Trying to avoid those internal debates put me in the position I'm in now.

It took me many long nights to make up for all the procrastination and loss of credit. But I managed to not fall behind and still go into senior year with two off periods. I didn't take them because I wanted to try to fix my gpa. I wanted to be able to look back and say I did something for myself, that those previous 3 years weren't just moments in my life. You shouldn't have to go through long periods of stagnant feelings if you take the chance to find yourself.

A Picture of Perfection...

Co- Editor in Chief
Stephanie Garcia

Before participating in the Academic UIL, Mrs. Tompkins gave us a few things to distract ourselves with while we waited for the upcoming challenges ahead of us. Some Starbucks drinks, snacks, and a little hand-made paper booklet with a tiny watercolor palette. I started to use paint immediately. Eagerly mixing the watercolors with the dinky little brush with the mini water bottles.

In between events, I worked on replicating an image of a kitten "drinking" soda from a fast food cup that I had saved on my phone. Started with a pencil to put down the image and shapes, then applied some light colors for the base, put in some shapes in oranges and yellows for the kitten's stripes, for the shading some faint oranges and blues for larger areas, and then went in for finer details. I was completely engrossed in the process. Each milestone I reached I showed off to Mrs.



Tompkins and my peers.

Having a hunger for appreciation and validation has me a borderline perfectionist. Everything I make has to be the closest it can be to flawlessness. My ability to take any critique is essentially nonexistent. Critism assassinates my passion and made me hate everything I do.

I learned that I place my worth in what I can provide for others. Nothing I did was for myself, which is healthy to a certain extent. I placed others and their view on me above my well-being. The ultimate people pleaser.

I try my absolute with every ounce of my being to make do/do the best I can with what I have with everything I do.



As I grow older, my passion for the things that I love slowly seeps away. I am realizing that I'm human and that I have been setting myself up for failure my entire 17 years of life is something I needed to accept. I'm still struggling to understand that.

Trying to unlearn my perfectionism and accept that not everything I do is perfect and doesn't have to be for others is a much more daunting task than I anticipated. There is a lot of work I have to persistently put in order to make any progress.

I am still learning to enjoy myself and the things that I can do for myself, but I am happy I learned something about myself throughout my high school journey.

Here For the Spooky Stories & Creepy Crawlies

Staff writer
Josh Lopez

I have often thought about how much history Alvin High encompasses. Built in 1894, there decades of stories to tell about events and people who have walked the halls of these buildings. Much of the campus has changed over the years, but there are stories that fly around the halls that remain the same. Stories of spirits, ghosts and unexplained phenomenons.

I decided to investigate further and was given the opportunity to talk to faculty along with campus police about stories they've heard. Also, I asked if I could explore the closed facilities on campus. Associate principal Aaron Webb and a police officer were happy to help me out.

When exploring the old auditorium, originally built for the first part of the school, I noticed the shift in air pressure, the old floors, the older tiles, and the murmuring and buzzing of old electrical systems turned on for the first time in almost 3 years.

Entering the main building by the horseshoe, you can peer through the

glass.

Walking down the stairs instead of going up leads you to a series of hallways and rooms with a series of items including an electric keyboard piano, a variety of other audio equipment, and discarded and torn clothes left and forgotten, more than likely off an old smelly costume from the back rooms of the stage.

Equally, the same sized room was visible from a doorway that had no door on it. Immediately to the left there was a table that had a red scarf, maybe a part of someone's costume, or old clothing item left locked away.

The variety of rooms and old corners you can find leading to other areas left alone,

You could hear cracking and old pipes in the walls along with the feeling of something cold around your neck and the pressure of something on your shoulders, the glare of your conscience turning around searching for the feeling of eyes on top of you.

This is what theater teacher Laurie Wilson, felt one evening while

giving a lesson after school when directing her students.

"I felt a presence," she said. Then, a loud bang was heard to the left of the stage when her students went to investigate along with her, no one was there. I felt a cold feeling in the old auditorium, so its better for it to stay locked away.

A similar encounter was shared to me in the "LK" building through audio-visual teacher Hampton Fox. A custodian once told him when she was working late and it was starting to get dark that she would hear noises coming from classrooms she'd cleaned and locked or that she would hear banging in the restrooms. The custodian told Fox, "I didn't feel like I was alone."

Whatever presences that are being disturbed, just roam the halls during the closed cold periods of the day, and the empty buzzing lights of the hollow halls. Maybe you'll feel the unseens things in the walls and think about the old stories and places that haven't been touched in years.



photos by: Josh Lopez



Historically Scary
Old stories are often told of the vacant and older buildings on campus. I took a ghost finding adventure to explore some of these places on campus. I didn't find any ghosts, but I did hear some spooky stories. Here are photos from the abandoned auditorium.

Glitz & Glamour Memories From Prom

The 2023 prom season has come to a close for the Yellowjackets, but memories were created to last a lifetime. Night at the Casino was the theme of the prom, which was held on April 1 at the Galveston Convention Center.

Planning prom is a huge undertaking, but senior sponsor Stephanie Tillery was happy to do it. Thankfully, the school has many departments which help play a role in the success of prom.

The floral department, led by Courtney Webb, created and designed all of the flower arrangements for the night. The red and black rose arrangements covered the tables. Also, construction classes, led by Raymon Mayo, built flower stands and painted them in metallics to go with the theme.

Several teachers showed up early to help decorate for the event. Students enjoyed putting on fancy clothes and getting ready for a night of fun.

“Prom was great! Had loads of fun, food was better this year. Though there wasn’t as many slow dance songs as last year, which was a bummer,” senior Kaden Gibbs said.

The prom king and queen was announced and seniors Cecilia Dale and Nathan Hicks were crowned.



Photos by: Ronaldo Reyes

Razzle Dazzle
Juniors and seniors enjoyed their time at prom in April in Galveston. “It was a new experience I’ve never thought I’d be apart of,” senior Izaiah Perales said.

Taking Her Final Bow: Longtime Theater Teacher Retires

*Co- Editor in Chief
Stephanie Garcia*

Laughter can be heard over the chatter of the students in front of her. As long time theater teacher Laurie Wilson sits behind her desk laid back in her chair, her mind gently sinks back into her stagelight filled memories. She is ready to retire from AHS and turn her stage over to someone else.

Starting her career in 1995 with 28 years under her belt, she has taught theater and honed her craft. She has had Regional Qualifiers every year of her 28 year career, as well as several State and National Qualifiers and finalists. Her goal for the future is to develop more theater programs at the elementary level.

She found her passion early on and she began acting in elementary school, then started to take theater more seriously in junior high. The rest is theater history. Now she is preparing to retire after 28 years teaching thespians.

“Alvin ISD has been like a family for me and watching my students grow and become successful is a lot like watching my own son grow and develop into a successful adult,” Wilson said.

Having devotion and

being a pro at her work, she had always worked towards creating a nice and comfortable family culture in her classroom. With so much time spent interacting with each other in class, everybody learned to be extremely supportive of each other. Picking each other up when they fall, feel defeated, or hurt. Principal Karen Taylor speaks warmly and highly of Wilson.

“She has a passion for theater, but also for her students. She builds that rapport her classes become like a family,” Taylor said. “She’s a nice kind person who’s easy going and brings positivity everywhere she goes.”

One of Wilson’s favorite aspects of her job has been helping to grow young people and helping them get through life.

“Getting to know students and learning what kinds of obstacles they have to overcome to be successful (or even just to make it to school every day) has changed me; it has motivated me to keep coming back and try to be a constant for kids when other parts of their

life are so unpredictable and challenging,” Wilson said.

When Wilson leaves for retirement, current assistant director John Grimmett will become the new head theater director. Currently, Alvin is now recognized as a premier theater school district making us one of only three Texas districts recognized.

Grimmett played a critical role in completing the application process and acquiring all the necessary data and Wilson contributed by being lead theater teacher for many years and helping to develop theater programs and mentor teachers at all the junior highs and other new high school campuses. This is just one example of Grimmett’s drive and determination he has already put into Alvin ISD. Wilson is ready to hand her role over.

“I feel that my original goals have been achieved for the most part, and it is time to “pass the torch” to the next generation of theater teachers who have more modern skills (and more energy) than I do,” Wilson said.



NEWS

Advice From Seniors For Freshmen

Staff writer
Tatum Peters



"Don't be mean."
-Destinee Boltz



"Stay focused."
-Michaela Hite



"Enjoy because life goes by fast."
-Miguel Garcia



"Stay on top of work and get involved."
-Christabel Bass



"Do well on grades, work hard, get a job, be nice."
-Jesse Flores



"First 2 years are hard last 2 are review."
- Alexandra Soto



"Always believe in yourself because if you don't, then who will."
- Makenna Resendez



"Don't fight for no reason."
-Marielena

Jacket News Bids Adieu

The 2023 news staff would like to thank all of the readers at AHS for supporting our news media. We love publishing the paper so students have a piece of Alvin High to keep as a memory of their time in high school. We appreciate the tips, and ideas for students to showcase in our paper. If you love to write, or share stories, then please consider joining our staff next year. We always welcome new faces. It's been a great year and we shall see you next year.

Best wishes to the class of 2023 and to future Yellowjackets who are about to join our nest. - Clarion News staffers



See You Next Year!

Congratulations 2023 Graduates



- AHS News Team

Congrats to our seniors!

Stephanie Garcia

Joshua SanJavier

Alvin High School

the Clarion



Natalie Horton
Tatum Peters
Gabriel Nieto
Joshua San Javier
Miriam Lara Hernandez

Joshua Lopez
Elliott Jannise
Tomas Ochoa
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The Clarion is a publication of Alvin High School. It is created by the 2021-2022 student newspaper staff for student information. Opinions expressed are purely opinions of the staff, not the school.

Looking Ahead Tips for Upcoming Seniors

Class of 2024, it is ALMOST your time to shine. As you work toward the start of your senior year of highschool, we have compiled some tips and tricks to help your senior year run a bit smoother and be enjoyable at the same time.

ter & Facebook . Then, sign up for the senior class newsletter through senior sponsor Stephanie Tillery. Then, make sure your parents do the same. Your parents want know know what is going on and how to help you navigate senior year.

1. Keep in mind- this is NOT the easiest year as you think it will might be. Senior year has a lot of pressure. Pressure to keep grades and attendance up, as well as pressure to meet all your graduation criteria and deadlines. You will also begin planning for the rest of your life. That is not easy!

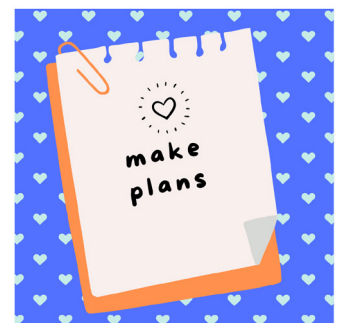
2. Participate- Do all the things offered to you as a senior. Senior sunrise, Kid Day, Powderpuff, Prom. Partipate in these events and make some memories to last a lifetime with friends.

3. Get your parents involved. It is important for you and your guardians to know senior news and information. Follow the senior class on Twit-

4. Begin your plan- research ideas on future careers and jobs and what it may take to fulfill those goals. Talk to your guardians, teachers and trusted mentors about these ideas and where they can take you. Tour some colleges.

5. Take all the tests- The school offers SAT and ASVAB, free to students. Take these tests if offered. ACT is also a good option, as it is a slightly different test than the SAT and you may do better on one over another.

6. Spend time with all your friends. After graduation, many of you will go in different ways. Treasure the last time you have with your friends all together



Moving Forward
Class of 2024 is ready to carry the torch forward as the next AHS graduating class. Here are some tips to help.