

The GreenWaveNews

*Inside the Wave Big Man on Campus, Pride of the GreenWave, Key Club, Heritage Panel, Wrestling Leads High School Quill and Scroll Honor Society (established October 10, 1947) December 2015
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2015 State 4A Champs



Football Photo courtesy of Amanda Pritchard

The State Champion GreenWave football players raise the 2015 AHSAA Super 7 Class 4A trophy in the air for the fans as they surround Coach Keith Etheredge and the coaching staff.

CONGRATULATIONS GREENWAVE....AGAIN!!!

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Football Photoscourtesy of Amanda Pritchard

The Vision of Leeds City Schools is Promoting Achievement, Respect, and Success.

Big Man on Campus 2015-16 — Alex Nickell



Photo courtesy of Crown Photography



Photo courtesy of Crown Photography

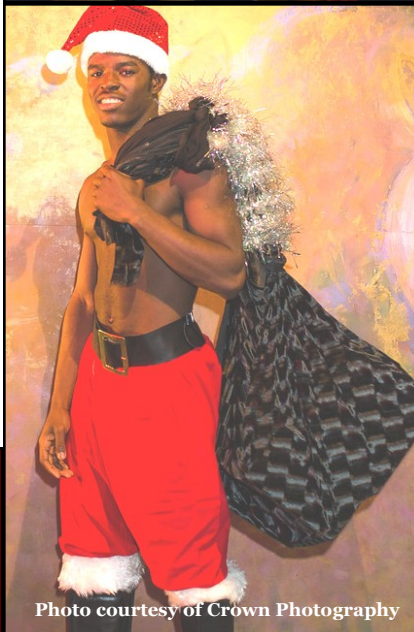


Photo courtesy of Crown Photography



Photo courtesy of Crown Photography

Photos in this edition were provided by *The GreenWave News* staff, the LHS Yearbook staff, Amanda Pritchard, and Crown Photography.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Leeds City Schools is to develop confident, productive young people and enable them to become independent life-long learners. We will accomplish this through a dedicated professional staff committed to continued learning. A relevant curriculum will be taught based on thinking and reasoning skills. This will take place in a positive environment recognizing the individual differences in children.

The GreenWave News

1500 Greenwave Drive
 Leeds, Alabama 35094
 205-699-4510
 Fax: 205-699-4515
 Email: mshannon@leedsk12.org
 Maggie Shannon, Sponsor

Senior Editorial Board

Anna Warner
 Sydney St. John
 Kalei Whitson
 Macy Vandergrift
 Franki Piazza
 Gaby Towrey
 Aaliyah Abernathy

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.

2100 miles—nothing to Coach Hyde



By Kaci McClendon

Coach Natalie Hyde is planning her 2100-mile hike through the Appalachian Mountains. The trail starts at Springer Mountain in Georgia and ends at Baxter Park in Maine. The mountain range covers 737,000 square miles with an elevation of 6,683 feet.

Hyde's hike will begin shortly after her softball coaching season is over in May of 2016. She will spend roughly five months hiking and will finish October 15th, 2016.

The cheapest cost of this hike is \$1,200 which does not include sleeping arrangements and food.

Hyde's mother will send "Care Packs" of food to towns along the route for Hyde to pick up. She will sleep in tents for the majority of the time but can pay to stay in hotels or inns in towns along the hiking trail.

About 4,000 people attempt the hike but only 25% finish. Hyde plans on taking videos throughout her experience to send to the high school.

To prepare for the hike, she runs four to five times a week. She adds weight to her backpack to prepare for the hike itself. While this hike is for her own benefit, she is also raising money for the Scleroderma Disease Foundation. She has sponsors who have pledged money for each mile completed.

Coach Natalie Hyde is excited about the experience and is looking forward to finding herself in nature.

If your group is interested in pledging funds for the 2100 mile hike and the Scleroderma Foundation, please let Coach Hyde know.



LHS Ambassadors celebrate holidays at last meeting of 2015



By Katelynn Shadoan

The award winning Pride of The Greenwave Marching Band, under the direction of Chip Wise, performed at three competitions this marching season — Spain Park High School, Hoover High School, and The University of North Alabama.

The most notable awards were Best in Class Soloist at The Spain Park and Hoover shows and winning Best in Class Band at The Hoover Invitational. The band also won Best in Class Percussion, Majorettes, Dance Line, Music and Drum Major.

At all three competitions, your Pride of the Greenwave received superior ratings. Though the outdoor competing season is over, the Indoor Season is just beginning!

The Pride of the Greenwave is excited to once more take the floor in competition this winter!

This indoor season there feature four competing groups: Indoor Winds, Drumline, Winter Guard, and Competition Dance. These competitions will be similar to normal marching band, but the groups will

be separated. All performing groups will be in gymnasiums or theaters and with performances on tarps so the floor is will not be damaged.

Although Winter Guard, Indoor Drumline and Competition Dance have participated in Indoor Competitions in previous years, this is the first year for Indoor Winds.

The LHS GreenWave Marching Bank lives by the motto: The Pride of the member is the strength and the strength of the member is the Pride.



Juniors.....PAY ATTENTION

Tips for the entire year

The majority of the things you'll want to do to prepare for college aren't specific to a period of time.

Selecting a school

Start/continue your college search.

This includes attending college fairs and college financial aid sessions. Start to think about visiting some college campuses to see which ones suit you.

Continue to research colleges through their websites, college fairs, admissions representatives and applications, books, and college guides. By doing this you will get an idea of what's required and take the mystery out of the process.

You may want to research military academies and colleges. Review websites and meet with military representatives when they visit your school or visit the schools. Most military academies and colleges start the admissions process earlier than traditional colleges and universities. You may need to take the ASVAB test as part of the admissions process.

- **Explore career interest paths.** Discuss possible career paths with your guidance counselor, based on your interests. Ask your counselor about a computer-based career and educational guidance system.

- **Create a resume.** Your resume should talk about yourself outside of school. The school to which you are applying will already know your grades and test scores since these are included on your school transcript. Items that should be included are:

- school activities,
- community activities/service
- sports,
- awards and recognition,
- hobbies, and
- work experience.

Admissions and preparation

- **Make note of registration deadlines and prepare for the upcoming SAT I and SAT II tests and the ACT assessment.** When researching colleges, be sure to note whether they require the [SAT I, SAT II test](#) or the [ACT assessment](#). Some colleges will require or recommend one or the other, others accept either. Your counselor also can provide guidance. Prepare for the test(s) you plan to take. Some states require all public school eleventh-grade students to complete the ACT assessment.

- **Meet with Mrs. Hudson to ensure you are on track for college with your course selection.** Are the courses you are taking or are scheduled to take in high school meeting college admission requirements? Talk to Mrs. Hudson about taking more challenging courses such as honors, college prep, or Advanced Placement courses. Ask about any courses that you can take that may help you decide if a particular career direction is right for you. Discuss whether or not you should take the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests. Also, remember to maintain good grades.

- **Read, read, and read some more!**

- **Stay active in extracurricular activities.** While your grades in high school are important, colleges also look at what you do outside the classroom. They like to see that you are involved in sports, student government, and community activities, and that you take on leadership roles when available.

Paying for school

- **Discuss college finances with your family.** When performing your college search, you need to know how much your family will be able to contribute towards your college education. Always remember, just because a college may seem expensive and out of your reach, never assume anything. There are several types of financial aid that may enable you to attend a college that may seem too expensive.

Save, save, save, save, save, save money for college!

Attend a financial aid night to learn the basics of financial aid. Many schools will hold financial aid nights in the fall. Make sure to attend one. You can also search the Internet to find out additional information or contact the Department of Education. If you haven't already, start researching scholarships through the Internet, local businesses, and your guidance counselor's office. If you have already started, continue searching. Register for free online scholarship searches and [visit scholarship search sites](#).

Open a checking and savings account if you have not already done so.



Happy Holidays

2015
December 18
Holidays begin

2016
January 4
Classes resume

From the grass to the class, he's got it all: Life of a Student Athlete

By Anonymous
and totally approved by Ms. Shannon

At Leeds High School, sports are at the highest competition. At the peak of the competition is stand-out athlete and community leader Michael Rankins. Sports are important to Rankins, but sitting down and getting to know him, I stepped into something more than just sports.

Rankins: "Education is so imperative to life's success. The things you learn, how you grown intellectually, and the experiences of education create opportunities and aspects never imagined!"

Anonymous: If you had the choice of the two to keep forever, which one would you choose?

Rankins: "Education definitely! My legs could go away at any moment, but in my brain, I will forever have imbedded the power and knowledge that I gain."

Michael went on to say how playing sports has helped him learn valuable life lessons that will benefit his success in the future.

Michael is currently number 2 in his graduating class with a GPA of 4.325. He wants to go Stanford University and medical school to become an Invasive Cardiologist, saving lives one heart at a time.

Michael has many opportunities to play football at the next level and even at some Ivy League schools. He believes that wherever he may end up, his goals and passion for the game and for education will never fade.

It is because of people like Michael Rankins that the world is slowly becoming a better place. With his passion there is no doubt that the world will be in safer hands.

Michael is not only a good representation for himself and his family, but for the community of Leeds, and essentially, the world!

From the grass to the class, Michael Rankins pretty much has it all. Watch out science, he's ready to roll.



SGA President Michael Rankins

LHS students have some WEIRD characteristics

- I am OCD and have to brush my teeth in a certain way.
- I like cheese dip and ketchup on my chicken fingers.
- I cannot leave the house without everything being unplugged.
- I'm afraid of vacuum cleaners.
- I hate pineapple but love Hawaiian pizza.
- I could live eating only avocados and sour cream .
- I hate soup.
- I have nervous habits of picking at scabs and biting my nails.
- I like to freestyle in the shower.
- All of my clothes in the closet face the same direction.
- I'm afraid of goats.
- I leave the house every time my mom vacuums because I can't stand loud noises.
- I dislike being in the sunlight and avoid it to the best of my ability.
- I wear pink underwear on game day (this is from a guy!)
- I was on Prozac from 6th to 8th grade and don't remember a thing.
- When I eat, I'll eat each portion of food on my plate completely before I eat the next portion.
- I am very emotional — even my bones cry.
- I can't go to sleep without hugging something.
- I like the smell of trees in the woods.
- I talk to myself...a lot.
- I suck my thumb when I'm tired.
- When I was a little boy, I collected stuffed animals.
- I pick the skin off the sides of my fingers.
- I put hot sauce on mashed potatoes.
- I put honey on everything I eat.
- I'm scared of birds.
- When I was little, I was called "Fat Boy".
- I like to bite my toenails.
- I can't climb trees.
- If I wear a shirt in August, I won't wear it again until October because I don't like to repeat my clothes too often.
- I'm afraid of pine cones.
- I wrecked my first car when I was three.
- I don't eat pie with fruit in it.
- I like the smell of new shoes.
- I have a tendency to draw on my hands and often all the way up to my shoulders.
- I like the smell of gasoline when it is being pumped.
- I get sick at the smell and taste of pork.
- I like females to touch my ear lobes.
- I hate for anyone to touch my ears.
- I have trouble trusting the government and wonder what those in government might be hiding.
- I am very interested in beards and facial hair.
- I have weird toes — one of them never grew at all.
- I like drinking hot Cokes.
- I can go to sleep anywhere.
- I hate the smell of vanilla.
- I can't taste salt.
- I'm in high school and still afraid of the dark.
- My right eye is shaped like a football.
- I used to sleep at the end of my bed.
- I like to hang upside down.

One small step for man, one giant leap for Gibson (and LHS)



By Vanessa Layfield

Ever one for progress, Leeds High School Librarian Terri Lee Gibson is pushing the boundaries of our library once again, hoping to add another positive resource to an extensive list.

Beginning as early as the second semester, the library will offer a student-led Writing Lab during fifth and sixth periods, allowing students to come in and get assistance with their research papers and essays for class. This addition, paired with the newly added AP courses, will further student education and preparedness for college. The program is similar to one at Homewood High School that has prospered for many years and proved invaluable aid to both students and teachers.

Many students would cite writing as their most difficult area and with most AP exams using writing as a strong assessment of skill, a student's ability to write a paper properly has become a point of discussion.

The Writing Lab will allow students who need help to seek it out. Student tutors, trained using *The Bedford Guide for Writing Tutors, Sixth Edition*, will be present throughout the

period to help with grammar, point out errors in formatting, and assist with weak points.

However, it should be stressed that the Writing Lab will not be a computer lab, punishment for students, homework helper. Student tutors will not be writing the essays and research papers for the students. It is a tutoring program and Mrs. Gibson will not hesitate to send any students not working on papers back to class.

Funding for the program has been secured and the larger details ironed out, but it is still a work in progress. It might not be up and running until the 2016 school year is under way!

Whatever the time frame though, Mrs. Gibson is excitedly looking forward to the day she can open the Leeds High School Writing Lab to students.



Boone gives the KEY to success to students

By Anna Riddlehoover

Key Club has been a successful community service part of LHS for three years. It was officially chartered in 2014 through the efforts of

Sponsor Ann Boone.

The first Key Club meeting was in May 1925 in Sacramento, CA. During this time period, fraternities were banned from schools. In fear of Key Club being considered a fraternity, two high school administrators, members of the Sacramento Kiwanis Club, decided to classify it as a junior service club. Kiwanis Club is the parent organization of Key Club that began with promoting the exchange of business to its members and transformed into the service oriented club it is today.

The Sacramento Key Club began by giving male students vocational experiences with weekly luncheons and meetings with business men within the community. The club soon grew from a junior service club to a service organization that also served as a social program.

Fifteen years later, fifty Key Clubs were functioning. In 1939, a convention was held in which officers were elected. In 1946, Florida was the first Key Club district setting the foundation for the first Key Club International President, Malcolm Lewis.



The Key Club International emblem is used as a signature of Key Club.

Annual conventions were held each year after Lewis was elected. On April 27, 1946, the third annual convention was held and delegates approved the Constitution and Bylaws — officially launching Key Club International.

The Leeds High School chapter has high hopes this year. On Organization Day, September 10, 113 students signed up for interest. Our Presidents, Anna Riddlehoover and Tania Alvarez are looking forward to this year's service projects and to making our own Key Club history.



Math matters

By: Emmanuel Rodriguez

Some students in Ms. Cox's classes might complain about the work, but those students need to pay attention to former LHS students. Some former students still come back and claim the benefits of taking Ms. Cox's class. Those students, now in college, still prefer to ask Ms. Cox for help in their collegiate math courses.

Ms. Cox says, "Some think that the workload is stressful, yet they have expressed that they understand the reason behind the work. Overall, I believe we have parents who also want the best for their children."

Ms. Cox has set up a group chat on Groupme to help students understand and complete their homework better.

The ACT scores of Ms. Cox's students who had Ms. Cox as a teacher went up by an average of two to three points this past year and several of her students improved their scores by eight to ten points. She is at school for an extensive amount of time tutoring the students who need it — giving the opportunity for all stu-

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$$

$$= \frac{24 - 30t^2}{(5t^3 - 12t)^2}$$

$$= \frac{24 - 30t^2}{5t^4 - 12t^2}$$

$$= \frac{(5t^4 - 12t^2)(5t^3 - 12t)^2}{t(5t^3 - 12t)^3}$$

Students of the Month



September Students of the Month

9th: Emmy Beason & Dalton Cates; **10th:** April Alvarez & Austin Cardwell; **11th:** Kaci McClendon & Dawson Anderson; **12th:** Sydney St. John & Austin Glass.



October Students of the Month

9th: Whitney Vandiver & Leonell Torres; **10th:** Cassie Crocker & Brett Isbell; **11th:** Melina Rose & Jordan Garrett; **12th:** Emily Farrington & Michael Rankins.



Heritage Panel

Communication is the key

By Kyroon Sierra

Never judge a book by its cover. Everyone has a story and they should get the opportunity to tell it. On November 19, Leeds High School hosted their first Heritage Panel assembly for the 2015-16 school year.

Many students walked into the assembly not knowing what Heritage Panel represents or stands for.

When asked what they thought Heritage Panel was, Sonya Mansilla, a tenth grader at Leeds High School said, "I believe that it is a coming together of people from different backgrounds to express their way of life by communicating with others."

Jeff Thomas, the Heritage Panel sponsor, has a diversity of students who enjoy participating in the program.

Diversity creates unity in many ways. With communication, understanding, and involvement, students can learn about each other.

Some of the day's panelists who shared their stories included: Trenton Harrison, Spencer Gray, Denise Wilson, Joanna Mar, Gaby Towery, and Jordan Brown.



Panelists preparing for the assembly.

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
I want to meet Harrison Ford.
XOXO
Katelynn Shadoan

Dear Santa,
I need \$309 to finish paying for my cruise so please wrap it and put it under my tree!
Love,
Kaci McClendon

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a puppy that never stops being a puppy!
Love,
Yazmin

Dear Santa,
I'm planning on getting multiple undergraduate degrees and at least one doctorate so if you could help me keep a job or qualify for student aid, I'd really appreciate it.
Sincerely,
Vanessa

Dear Santa,
I'd like more sleep and less stress from AP.
Your friend

Dear Santa,
I want a robot that makes cotton candy and world peace.
Love,
Catherine Moore

Dear Santa,
I want a chocolate fountain in my room.
Love,
Lindy

Dear Santa,
I need a new phone case.
Dawson

Dear Santa,
Can you send me back to Disney World with a lot of guest passes?
Anna L.

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year, I really would like to get college paid for because I'm broke.
Your friend

Dear Santa,
Please restore my faith in humanity.
Your friend

Dear Santa,
All I want is a great Christmas together with my family.
Thanks,
Allison

Dear Santa,
Can I get a new box of crayons and a Star Wars coloring book with extra stickers?

Dear Santa,
I don't want anything.
Your friend

Dear Santa,
Please bring love & kindness to the world!



Coach Hicks presents State Championship Wrestling Ring to LHS Supporter Toby Banks

By Lindy Pilkington

After winning the 1A-5A Wrestling State Championship in Huntsville in February 2015, the LHS wrestling team looked forward to one thing: the ring.

Nine long months later, the rings finally arrived — one for each wrestler, mat maid, coach, and the people who helped the program become what it is today.

Of course, there was also a ring ordered for Leeds super fan, Toby Banks.

A ceremony was held on Friday, November 6, 2015 for the entire student body. Coach Matt Hicks spoke of the accomplishments the team this past season which included: winning the Sectionals Tournament in Montgomery, qualifying eleven wrestlers for the State Tournament, and winning nineteen dual matches before losing to 7A Tuscaloosa County, and many more.

This was the first season for Hicks as head wrestling coach and the first state championship in wrestling for LHS.



Counselor's Corner

GRADUATION
May 26, 2016
7:00 pm

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



SENIORS

This is an exciting and BUSY year for you. There are many things to do and think about before graduation on May 26, 2016.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Most college applications are online now. You may start filling these out immediately. An application fee may be required. Be sure to check deadlines for all schools that are of interest to you.
- If you are a college-bound senior and have not taken the ACT, you need to get registered ASAP. Online registration is at www.actstudent.org. Check the website for test dates and registration deadlines.

Remember to check out school activities on the school website:

www.leedsk12.org
or
www.leeds.al.lch.schoolinsites.com

December 17th

*Last Day
Before Holiday Break*



LHS Seniors of "Olde"