

The GreenWaveNews

Inside the Wave Views/Opinions, SGA, FCCLA, Field Day, SOTM

Leeds High School Quill and Scroll Honor Society (established October 10, 1947)

International Honor Society for High School Journalists

May 2015

Volume 9, No. 3

Published Quarterly

Bittersweet

By Elise Turner

As senior year comes to an end, it is bittersweet. As I sit down to write my last article as the Editor of Quill and Scroll, I reminisce on my time at Leeds High School.

I remember the first day, all of us walking in, trying to find home-rooms while also trying to look like we fit in. The bigger kids walked by, all having their own style and friend group.

Soon the anxiety of being a freshman wore off and we were just more faces in the hall. It wasn't long before we were balancing schoolwork with a variety of awesome extracurricular activities that Leeds High School has to offer. I couldn't have done it without motivational speeches from Coach Thomas, long hours of tutoring with Ms. Cox, and lots and lots of coffee.

As I come to many "lasts" this year, I think about those who made these "lasts" possible: the wonderful staff. I could not possibly ever repay the teachers for what they do.

Continued on Page 4...



Inside this Edition

Viewpoints & Opinions Distracted Driving	2
Self Art Rankins to Governor's School	3
2015-16 SGA Officers	4
FCCLA Keeps on Winning	4
FIELD DAY 2015	5-8
Students of the Month	9
The Back Page	10

2015-16 AP Juniors have their "Thinking Caps" on

Leeds High School earned a coveted spot with the ALSDE/A+ College Ready program beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. Administration, teachers, and students are excited to take advantage of the opportunities offered through the program.

Pre-AP courses will be offered to 9th and 10th grade students who have met the benchmark on an ACT-based assessment. Pre-AP classes for these students include: Physics, English 9 & 10, Biology, Chemistry, Geometry, Algebra II, and Calculus.

AP courses for 11th & 12th grade qualifying students will include: Calculus, English Language (11th), English Literature (12th), Chemistry, and Biology.

Teachers in all Pre-AP and AP disciplines will attend summer training sessions in preparation for the new courses.

LHS staff and administrators will be working closely with ALSDE/A+ College Ready to ensure Pre-AP and AP students are meeting/exceeding goals on their paths to successful college and career readiness.

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

Opinions and Viewpoints

Demolishing Distracted Driving at LHS

By Gaby Towery

Statistics show that 75% of all American teens, ages 12-17, own a cell phone, and 66% use their phones to send or receive text messages.

One in three (34%) texting teens ages 16-17 say they have texted while driving. That translates into 26% of all American teens ages 16-17.

Half (52%) of cell-owning teens ages 16-17 say they have talked on a cell phone while driving. That translates into 43% of all American teens ages 16-17.

48% of all teens ages 12-17 say they have been in a car when the driver was texting. 0% say they have been in a car when the driver used a cell phone in a way that put themselves or others in danger.

These are all examples of distracted driving among today's teenagers. All of these examples are capable of so much more than what they may seem to be. Simply changing the radio station or looking down at your floor board to find something you dropped can be the determinant of losing or keeping your life.

On Wednesday, April 15, the entire LHS student body gathered in the school auditorium to witness and also discuss the consequences of

distracted driving.

Throughout the school day, several students from the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades were "arrested" because of some form of distracted driving accident.

The auditorium stage was set up to resemble a court room where the "victims" stood behind the defendants and then the sentences for the "accidents" were given by the presiding judge.

It was a very traumatic and emotional thing to watch, but the truth cut deeply. I believe that the my fellow schoolmates will now think twice before they pursue any form of distracted driving.



Photos in this edition were provided by The GreenWave News staff, Terri Leigh Gibson, and Susan Stovall & Julie Hubbard of 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@lecdsk12.org
Maggie Shannon, Sponsor

Senior Editorial Board

Senior News Editor:
Elise Turner

Junior News Editors:

Sydney St. John
Anna Warner

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.



Self Art

By Macy Vandergrift

Each year Mr. Thomas (Coach Thomas) assigns the same unique project for one of his nine week exams. This project is based on the students' lives, values, beliefs, etc. Students are given the opportunity to express themselves in almost any way as long as it follow the school's code of conduct!

Coach Thomas said that he assigns this project in the middle of the year because it gives the students time to warm up to each other and also allows him see how each individual has developed.

I asked several students in Mr. Thomas' class how they felt about the project, and they all seemed to have positive feedback about it.

"I really liked it because I could express myself in any way I wanted to and not be judged for it," this coming from Chandler Burleson who also added, "I also liked the variety of work that was presented, because everyone felt comfortable in sharing a piece of themselves."

Chandler went on to say that it was one of the best "exams" he's worked on.

Not often do you see students show so much positive feedback from an exam, but when it comes to this one in particular, it tends to

pop out!

Coach Thomas and this project seem to really have a very positive influence on others, and it's amazing how creative the mind can be.

Often students do not look forward to exams, but in Coach Thomas' class, people are given the chance to really step outside of the box.

Cason Faulkner had an interesting opinion on the project, "Making something that represents ourselves gives us a better understanding of who we are. It also has a way of teaching us something about ourselves whether it be a view upon a topic or an emotion toward a subject."

Faulkner also said this project really opened his eyes to the people around him. It's amazing to see what people are capable of once you get the chance to actually sit down and listen or watch. The intelligence at Leeds High School is astonishing. It seems to be that Mr. Thomas has a great way of teaching students to be themselves.

"I enjoyed the freedom we were allowed. Rather than grading us for facts or memorization, he allowed us to learn from ourselves instead of a textbook," stated Anna Warner.

Leader in Training



By Rebecca Strange

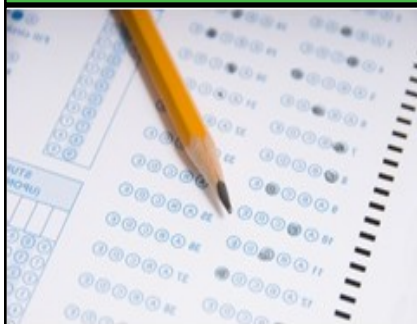
In high school, most people know which of their peers is going to be successful. Future engineers, politicians, and doctors are found in the midst of your own school class.

Michael Rankins, LHS 2015-16 Senior, is on his way to success. Alabama Governor's School is a 13-day program held at Samford University. The committee at Samford selected Rankins from among many applicants as one of the attendees for this summer program.

Students attending this session are rising seniors who have met a variety of requirements such as exemplary ACT/SAT scores, excellence in academics and performing arts, leadership skills, the ability to solve critical thinking problems to name just a few of the selection criteria. The chosen students will participate in sessions on various educational topics and hands-on activities.

Along with this achievement, Rankins was chosen to be a part of the National Youth Leadership Forum Medicine Program.

This program is a 9-day event held at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He will further his knowledge in medicine and humanities as he observes and participates in activities with UCLA medical students.



Test Day?!

By Kyroon Sierra

ACT coming up? Are you beginning to get butterflies in your stomach? Do not worry! These tips and tricks may ultimately help you be prepared for the next upcoming ACT.

Tip 1: Always check the night before your scheduled testing date, to ensure that you have your ticket, I.D., and any other materials ready. You do not want to wait until the last minute to find your items required.

Tip 2: On the night before, make sure to go to bed earlier than your normal time just to make sure you get enough rest for the test day. Set an alarm! You may think that you do not need it, but what can go wrong with an extra hour of sleep, right?

Tip 3: Rise and shine. Wake up early in the morning and eat breakfast. A full stomach is a full mind! You can focus more on your test and do much better with a good breakfast. Not only will you stay awake while testing, but you would not have to worry about people beside you hearing your stomach growl.

In conclusion, the ACT can be very stressful or very easy. It depends on your readiness and preparation. Are you ready to take the next step toward your future?

Congratulations to Sophomores who brought ACT English scores UP — Increased scores 2 to 7 points!! You're ROCK STARS

2015-2016 Student Government Association Officers

Senior Class

President: Michael Rankins
Vice President: Toren Pollard
Secretary: Gaby Towery
Treasurer: Daniel Guess

Junior Class

President: Shelby Hicks
Vice President: Kaci Moses
Secretary: Tia Garner

Sophomore Class

President: Sam Purkey
Vice President: Christina Atencio
Secretary: Christina Clark



FCCLA just keeps on winning

By Sydney St. John

FCCLA is an organization promoting community service, awareness of family, and leadership.

Rachel Goodwin, a sophomore at LHS was elected as an Alabama FCCLA state officer at this year's state meeting, making her the fifth consecutive Alabama state officer from Leeds High School in the last five years, following Casey Collins, Evan Kennedy, Emily Goodwin, and Elise Turner.

A state officer's duties include helping conduct all state meetings in Alabama and on a National level, helping organize STAR events, and making decisions for the Alabama State Chapter.

Goodwin became a state officer because she wanted to be more involved in FCCLA on the state level and be able to represent Alabama at the national conference.

Goodwin said, "I chose to be a leader in my community and improve my onstage presence. I'm excited for the year ahead of me and the friendships I will gain through this position."

Leeds High School also had many other victories at this year's STAR event completion (Students Taking Action with Recognition.), where several students qualified for the national competition and received overall gold medals.

These students will be presenting their projects in Washington D.C in hopes of winning first place in their divisions.

...Bittersweet continued

Not only do our teachers give us tons of knowledge that we will need in college, but they also go the extra mile to make sure that we understand it.

Often people look down upon smaller schools. They think that we don't offer as many courses, or that there is tons of drama, but I don't think that's the case at all. At Leeds, students get the opportunity to build relationships with their teachers. This is an opportunity you might not be able to have at larger schools.

The pride I have in Leeds High School is tremendous! I am so thankful for all of the teachers who have made me who I am today. I will soon follow in their footsteps and major in Early Childhood Special Education and hopefully make a difference in a child's life, just like the difference they made in mine.

Now, it is almost time to graduate. I will walk across the stage with all of my friends who have stood by me the whole time and with them get that little piece of paper. That little piece of paper will be a symbol for what we have accomplished. It wasn't easy, but we made it guys, and we didn't do it alone. To those who helped us along the way, thank you so much.

Roll Greenwave forever.



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography

Field Day Fun 2015



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



Photo by Crown Photography



February Students of the Month

Outstanding students for February selected by the faculty are (left to right): 12th grade Hugo Hernandez and Sarah Moore; 11th grade Austin Glass and Mayra Cruz; 10th grade Clayton Connell and Tania Alvarez; 9th grade Sam Purkey and (not pictured) Felicity Kirk. (Photo Credit Mrs. Gibson)



March Students of the Month

Outstanding students for March selected by the faculty include: 12th grade Cody Elmore and Kayla Skinner; 11th grade Noah Anderson and Brianna Haisten; 10th grade Jordan Sherman and Tia Gulley (not pictured); 9th grade Tucker Hines and Crystin McGraw. (Photo Credit Mrs. Gibson)

Counselor's Corner

GRADUATION

May 28th
2015
7:00 pm

Mrs. Lisa Hudson, LHS

Call 699-4510 for an appointment

Spring Semester Exam Schedule Last Day for Credit Recovery, May 14th

Senior Exams to be given in during the regular school day - no modified bell schedule.

Thursday, May 14th - English and Science

Friday, May 15th - Math and History

Monday, May 18th - Electives

Tuesday, May 19th - Make-up and Re-takes

Underclassmen Exams to be given on a modified bell schedule - morning exam time frame, students may check out following their last exam of the day

Wednesday, May 20th - 1st and 2nd period exams

Thursday, May 21st - 3rd and 4th period exams

Friday, May 22nd - 7th and 8th period exams

Sunday, May 24th - Senior Awards Night

Monday, May 25th - SCHOOL CLOSED
for MEMORIAL DAY

Tuesday, May 26th - 5th and 6th period exams

Wednesday, May 27th - Make-up exams

Thursday, May 28th
Graduation Day



**Remember to check out
school activities on the
school website:**

www.leedsk12.org
or
[www.leeds.al.lch.
schoolinsites.com](http://www.leeds.al.lch.schoolinsites.com)

Modified Bell Schedule for EXAMS

	7:55 - 9:43	9:48 - 11:31	11:36 - 12:26	12:31 - 1:21	1:26 - 2:15	2:20 - 3:10
05/20/15	1	2	5	6	3	4
05/21/15	3	4	5	6	7	8
05/22/15	7	8	5	6	1	2
05/26/15	5	6	5	6	7	8