



WICK LEAF

Issue 3
Spring 2017

Wickliffe High Schools 60th Annual Student Government Day Nick Ciancibello

Student government day is a day designated for the seniors to shadow, and to learn about their favorite government official. The seniors have a chance to learn outside of the classroom and learn the ropes of any government job, first hand!

Student government day is held on April 24, 2017.

Once they are finished we have a big assembly where the students present speeches about their experiences and how it affected them. sit with their government official showing everyone who they shadowed. “Being able to be represented by our public official is an honor,” Katie Kehn stated.

Justin Nobbe says, “I can’t wait for students government day, Luke are you doing it?” and Luke responds “Yeah”.

The students get to decide if they want to shadow a police officer, a member of the court or anything in between. Individually, they go out with their selected official and witness all of their day to day activities.

Learning about these officials’ jobs and tasks really helps you realize how our city works behind the scenes. It gives you a better understanding of their struggles and hardships faced throughout the day. Helping the students grow and possibly help them realize what they would like to do with their life.





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Turn on The Spotlight! Brent LeBlanc

A spotlight shining on someone is most likely a good feeling, especially when you're in the senior spotlight at Wickliffe High School. Christian Martinitis and DeJane Davis have the privilege of being in the spotlight due to their hard work, dedication, and leadership. Both consider themselves to be leaders in many ways. Christian and Dejanae set examples for people to follow and try to take initiative when needed.

One accomplishment that Christian is proud of is when he helped lead the football team to an 8-2 regular season record, and making it to the playoffs for Wickliffe for the first time in 13 years. It brought the community together and gave the students a sense of pride that Wickliffe has been lacking for over a decade.

One accomplishment DeJane is proud of is her 3.0 GPA for most of her high school career. She is determined and a hard worker which is shown through her grades. School is an important part of her life. If Christian could change one thing about Wickliffe High School, he would change the length of classes.

He would rather have three or four classes a day, each class lasting an hour instead of eight classes a day that are forty minutes long.

If DeJane could change one thing about Wickliffe High School, she would make sure learning is aimed more towards knowledge towards what you would actually like to pursue in college, instead of passing state mandated tests that don't do much in a long run.

When Christian is in a difficult situation, the first thing he does is goes through several different scenarios in his head and then makes the best decision possible. This usually results in him talking it out.

When DeJane is in a difficult situation she takes a deep breath, then confides in someone she trusts to get a better perspective on how to handle the situation. The end result is usually talking it out and then coming to an agreement.

After high school Christian will be attending a four year university and getting his degree in biology where he will then go to dental school and become a dentist.

DeJane's goals after high school are still undecided, but she knows she would like to attend college and then graduate school. She wants to be a successful role model for the younger people in her family to show them that if they try hard enough you can succeed.





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Student Spotlight

Junior Dominic Motta By: Jenna Rouse

The junior spotlight for Wickliffe is Dominic Motta. He was chosen because of the hard work he puts in during school. His favorite thing about being at Wickliffe is that it's a small school, so you know everybody.

Dominic's favorite class in school is personal adjustment because in that class they talk about things that people normally don't talk about in other classes. Also, personal adjustment is the class that will most help you in the real world.

Nassan Wallace describes Dominic as "a great teammate, a hard worker on the field, smart, funny and a very good friend." Dominic's girlfriend Jillian said, "Dominic is very driven, and outspoken. I also think he is intelligent, and displays a sense of humor that comes off as stupid."

In Dominic's free time, he likes to play baseball, a sport he has grown up playing. He thinks the sport is enjoyable and it's his favorite sport at Wickliffe, because he's always played it.



Who is Johnny Abramaczyk? By: Jonas Svarcas

Johnny Abramaczyk was nominated for notable underclassmen. He is in 10th grade and plays soccer, basketball and baseball. He is funny, nice, and a happy person. He gets good grades and is liked by everyone.

Johnny said, "Gym is my favorite class because it lets me be active in school." Mr. Gribovicz is his favorite teacher because he is fun. His favorite sport to play is soccer and to watch is football.

His favorite memory is playing in the semi-finals for soccer. Dallas Zollars said, "Johnny's good quality is he is funny." His favorite memory is playing basketball together. Kindness is one of the qualities making Johnny a good friend.





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All About Julia Slattery **By: Mark Trefzger**

Julia Slattery is a hard working, smart and intelligent young girl. She always gets her work done early and is focused more on school instead of talking to her friends and fooling around. Julia is a freshman this year.

Julia's favorite part of school is seeing and talking to her teachers. She says "My teachers are really nice and they never give us a ton of homework. Also they let us do most of our work in school."

Science, history, and math are her favorite subjects in school. These subjects allow Julia to "interact with the material and have fun while learning at the same time."

Ice cream is Julia's favorite food right now since summer is coming. CSI is one of her favorite TV shows. "I like all of the twists and turns with the plot. Also, I like trying to figure out the crime."

In Julia's free time she likes to hang out with her sister and jump on the trampoline. She also likes to play a popular computer game called Minecraft. "It's fun to challenge myself on what to build."

She likes to make sure her friends stay on task and she can help re-explain assignments to her classmates.

Julia wants to learn more about the Russian Revolution. "I want to learn about how far behind they are in advancements".





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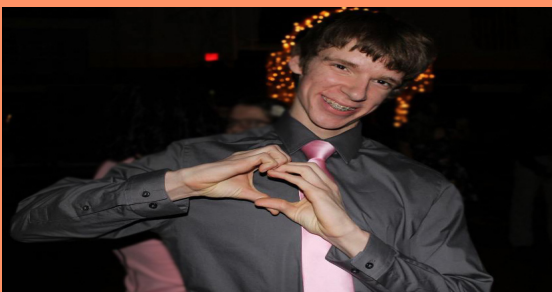
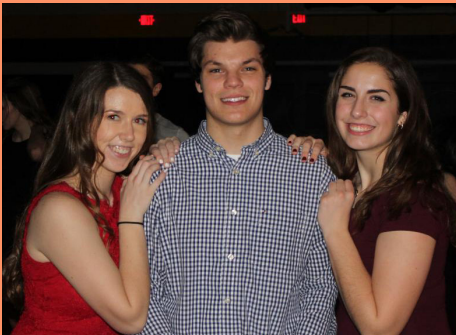
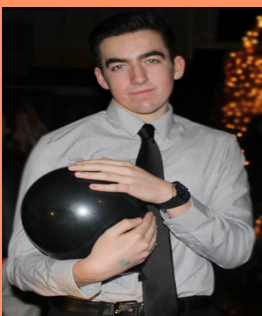
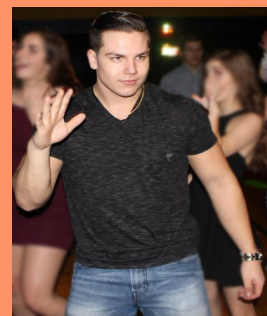
Winterfest By: Nate Taylor

The 2016-2017 Winterfest dance was a huge success. The magical Harry Potter theme gave life to this year's dance.

The amazing detail in the decorations made it feel as if you were actually at Hogwarts. The atmosphere and great music kept everyone up and dancing. It was definitely a night to remember especially for the court winners.

The girls that won are: *Queen* Gianna Casella, *Princess* Taylor Whittington, *Duchess* Brook Gregal, and *Countess* Ana Stjepanovic. The guys that won are: *King* Jesse Sidhu, *Prince* Riley Pugh, *Duke* Johnny Abramczyk, and *Count* Mason Pugh.

It was a fun filled festive night and one to remember. The students appreciated all of the work that went into planning Winterfest. Kelsey Lauriel said, "Can we all thank Rhiannon for planning this Winterfest? I had a great time!" Those who did not attend definitely missed out on a good time. We hope to see a lot more faces next year.





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One Band One Sound **By: Brenna Hillyard**

On March 4, 2017, the Wickliffe Symphonic Band traveled to Mentor High School with three pieces, ready to perform in front of the judges and hoping to bring home the highest rating. Symphonic Band competitions consist of two parts: performing the prepared pieces and sight reading. The prepared pieces consist of two picks from the judges' list and a choice of their own.

In sight reading, an unknown piece is distributed to every member including the director. There are a total of eight minutes before performing the piece for the sight reading judge.

The first four minutes consist of the students silently looking over the piece while the second four minutes are the director speaking to the members about dynamics, time signature change, key signature change, and who has the melody.

After putting all of their instruments away and they are ready to leave, the director may receive the rating sheets from both the performance and sight reading. At competition, there are three ratings you may receive. The first rating is a three. A three is the lowest rating. The second is a two, which is the middle rating and the third is a one, which is the highest rating.

The band performed their first three pieces in front of the judges earning them a two; then the band headed over to the sight reading room where they also scored a two. Their scores in performance and sight reading lead them to an overall two rating. The same rating as they had received in 2016.

Mrs. Pamela Graves agrees and says "she would have given the band a two also, regarding the fact that the band did an excellent job, but could have done more to exceed the expectations from her and the judges." Both the judges and Mrs. Graves commented, saying "all of our pieces, prepared and sight reading, contained great tone quality." Overall, the competition went well in the members and the directors eyes, yet they will strive for the rating of one next year.



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Athletics **Wickliffe Winter Sports** **By: Nicole Carroscia**

There are four winter sports teams at Wickliffe: boys basketball, girls basketball, wrestling, and bowling. All of the teams had very successful seasons and we look forward to see what they have in store for us next year.

The boys basketball team led by coach, Craig Austin, and their three senior captains, Lucas Thomeier, Justin Fortkamp, and Jaysen Lewis went 15-8 in the regular season.

Senior captain Jaysen Lewis broke the three point record during the Beachwood game Monday, February 13, 2017. Also, senior captain Justin Fortkamp was the leading rebounder, followed closely by senior Michael Moore.

The girls basketball team went 4-12 which is an improvement from last year. The captains of the team were Mary Burkett, Brianna Rypinski, and Nicole Carroscia.

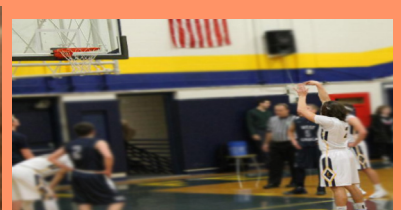
The team was coached by head coach, Anthony Wilson, assistant coaches, Howard Drake and Karrie Hopton.

Stephanie Martin and Mary Burkett were the leading scorers on the team. Mary was also the leading rebounder while Nicole Carroscia followed closely behind.

The boys bowling team was coached by Don Hill. Their leading scorer was senior, Howie Taylor with a total of 198 pins. Howie also bowled 11 strikes in a row, one short of a perfect game.

Senior Matt McCafferty was the second leading scorer on the team with 177 pins. They placed first overall in their division.

The girls bowling team was coached by Vicki Hill. The girls placed fifth in their division. Susannah Tippen placed first overall in districts which qualified her to go to states. Bowling states takes place in Columbus, Ohio on March 3, 2017.





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What's New with Wickliffe Baseball this Year

By: Nassan Wallace

Last year, the 2016 Blue Devil baseball season was one to remember. The team was lead by seniors Dom Zingale and Phil Goth; the squad put together a 22-6 record finishing second in Chagrin Valley Conference. They made a playoff appearance but lost in the first rounds of districts by the Beachwood Bison.

The 2017 baseball season brings high expectations for the team despite losing five seniors. This year's talented juniors and seniors are ready to take a leadership role. Starting 2nd Baseman Dylan Ward says, "the team wants to win 20 games once again this year, and raise a CVC banner." Long time head coach of the team, Coach Motta has high and attainable goals for the season. Coach Motta's goals for this season is to, win the CVC and or to surpass our 22-6 record.

Coach Motta wants to improve pitching, he says, "we need them to step up and contribute more this year help win more games." Coach Motta also wants the team to keep working hard in the off season and to attend practices all of which will make what happens in the game that much easier.

"It will be a successful season if we meet our goals and improve as the season goes on," says Coach Motta. This upcoming season will be no different than how Coach Motta has always wanted it to be: work hard, never quit, grind, and take it one game at a time.





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A Sneak Peek into Girls Softball

By: Abby Greig

The girls have already started preparing for the 2017 softball season. They started workouts and conditioning in December with mandatory practices starting on February 20, 2017.

During the 2014 and 2015 seasons, the team won the Chagrin Valley Conference. Last year the girls had a good season overall. They came in second place for the CVC. Most, if not all, of the girls are scholar athletes. They have the highest team GPA in the state, with a 4.122.

The girls have been working very hard preparing for their season and are expecting to have a successful season. Most of the girls seem to be dedicated and have positive attitudes.

Head Coach, Ms Mucciarone, has been pushing them to do their best. They are determined to be successful this year, and they all have the drive to do well. Ms Mucciarone believes that the ones who are the most dedicated show the most improvement.

Ms Mucciarone says her goal for this season is to win the CVC again. She said it feels great to win and it helps promote girls to be a part of a winning team. It also helps the girls feel a sense of accomplishment.

