



DECEMBER 16, 2013 - VOLUME 1 - ISSUE 3

WARREN TRAVIS WHITE HIGH SCHOOL
4505 RIDGESIDE DRIVE - DALLAS, TEXAS 75244

Richard Dillon had huge impact on students

BY JACKIE JONES
OPINION EDITOR

On November 7, AP Economics and U. S History teacher Richard Dillon lost his battle with cancer and passed away at the age of 47.

He had a huge impact on his students' lives every day with life lessons peppered into his course content.

He taught his classes for 14 years at WT White and impressed his fellow teachers with his great intellect and personality.

Here are some thoughts from his students:

Hearing news about Mr. Dillon's death was so heartbreaking He was an amazing person and a great teacher who believed in challenging his students. Even though I only had him for a little over six weeks, I learned more from him than anyone else. His wisdom and advice will forever impact his students and allow them to challenge themselves. He will forever be missed.

- Sujata Ojha

Mr. Dillon was a unique and excellent teacher. Not only could he explain economics in multiple analogies that ensured that you as a student would understand. In addition, he taught us how to survive in the real world by getting a college education, being an educated citizen who participates in political problems and to be aware of global events. He was a top tier teacher and will be greatly missed.

- Brandon Painter

Mr. Dillon was one of the realest teachers I have ever had. He was honest, straightforward and told it like it was. Not only did he teach the curriculum, but he would tell us hilarious stories and lessons he learned in his life. He was a fantastic guy and a pleasure to be around.

- Graham Marshall



Although I didn't have Mr. Dillon for a long time, he taught me a lot. He always shared many of his life stories that helped me understand him as a person. He was an amazing person and I am truly honored to have known him.

- Nghi Huynh

He was straightforward with you, never sugar coated what he said. For this reason, he was one of the most respected teachers at the school.

- John Strother

Mr. Dillon was a very good man. He had so many crazy, hilarious stories and always shared the blunt truth about things. I am privileged to have had him as a teacher. He will be dearly missed.

- Rafael Ramirez

He will always have a place in our hearts and his words of wisdom will be planted in our thoughts for the rest of our lives.

- Nadia Lopez

Mr. Dillon made us truly think about our future and we will fit in society.

- Jorge Barrera

I'm grateful to have had Mr. Dillon as a teacher. He was a very funny man who could easily make us laugh, nobody can be like Mr. Dillon. He will be missed dearly.

- Nancy Cruz

See **RICHARD DILLON** on page 6

JROTC program dedicates new portable building in ceremony

BY JULIO NAVA
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Finally after hard work and dedication the JROTC program has a portable suited to its needs. The ceremony on November 14 was dedicated to the donors and veterans who supported and financed the building.

The ceremony started with Lieutenant Colonel Erick Lamas who said "This gives us a sense of pride and accomplishment; a dream we waited for."

The previous building, which was a regular sized portable was holding more than 450 trophies and more than 200 cadets.

Corporal Ifeanyi Anyaoha said, "Finally we're getting recognition; we're going to keep winning first place trophies and do our best to improve this program."

Marine Corps veteran Master Gunnery Sergeant Polly Weidenkopf is the person to whom the building was dedicated. Weidenkopf's family donated a large amount to the project.



BY JULIO NAVA, PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Senior Ashley Valadez gives instructions during part of the dedication ceremony.

Chief Warrant Officer Ronnie McPhatter said, "Actually, the husband did it without the wife knowing."

Superintendent Mike Miles was also present during the ceremony. He said "I'm excited for the JROTC program. I was in the Army, so it's good to see young men and women in uniform."

Great Day of Service gives students volunteer opportunities

BY ZELES VARGAS
OPINION EDITOR

On November 9th, dozens of W.T. White students participated in the annual Great Day of Service, which was organized by instructional coach Jason Wallace and his leadership class. Registration started October 23rd in the cafeteria, where students could volunteer for a wide variety of community service projects, making the day a sort of charity melting pot. Students could sign up for either the Albertson's Food Drive, Brookhaven Head Start, Genesis Women's Shelter, Lee park's Conservancy, North Dallas Shared Ministries, Paul Quinn College Farm, or the Promise House.

As many of Dallas' food pantries lack protein, Albertson's offered to

host a protein canned food drive, which benefits North Texas Shared Ministries.

At the Albertson's Food Drive, students promoted the event to Albertson's customers and solicited canned protein and other goods. NTSM is the cooperative result of fifty-two congregations who have the mission to help poor families.

Brookhaven Head Start was created to offer students free child developmental services. The event there consisted of students cleaning and beautifying the school and the areas around it. Likewise, Genesis Woman's Shelter is an organization that was built to stop abuse and raise the awareness of domestic violence.

See **DAY OF SERVICE** on page 4

High school: a time for learning how relationships work

Most learn the ups and downs of a relationship during high school. It's that time in your life when you begin to experience things for the first time, such as a first kiss, first date and first relationship. So how do you know if a person is right for you and you're in a good relationship? Well first thing first, if you are in an abusive relationship such as physical, sexual, and emotional abuse it is not good for you and you should never put yourself in that situation.

In a Youth Risk Behavior Survey in

2009, 9.8 percent of students reported being physically hurt on purpose by their partner in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Before you enter into a good relationship, you have to be stable and know yourself. The reason most teenagers can't stay in a relationship is because they are always changing and molding themselves. When you and your partner are changing you can't expect the other person to make the same changes as you do.

Some relationships end short

because of pressure to be sexually active. According to the risk behavior survey conducted in 2011, 17 percent of high school students in DISD indicated they'd had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life compared with 15.3 percent nationally. You should make your own decisions and not feel pressured into a sexual relationship.

To be in a healthy relationship, you should be able to respect each other's differences but not be afraid to express your opinion, you don't want to

keep everything bottled inside or else your relationship won't end well. You should also be able to compromise and find a solution to satisfy the both of you and be able to communicate that. You should respect each other's privacy, you don't have to spend every moment with your significant other, you should take time to spend with family and friends, don't change your ways just because you want to please the other person.

BY KALEY MARIONI
GENERAL EDITOR

Correction:

An article on page seven in the November 8th issue of *The Hoofbeat* highlighted the events of Red Ribbon week, but failed to credit the Business Professionals of America (BPA) with the organization of the week's events and dress days.

The students of BPA sold ribbons as a fund raiser for The Phoenix House, a substance abuse treatment facility. BPA sponsored the week's events, and the editors of *The Hoofbeat* apologize for our failure to report that information.

Choose the right college major to prepare for your career future



BY DIAMOND BLAYLOCK
NEWS EDITOR

Attention W.T.W. Class of 2014! As the end of the school year creeps up on us, it is time to consider what you'd like to major in when

you go off to college. If you're interested in computers, programming, or anything techy, you may want to look into computer science.

Computer science is one of those majors that many people overlook. When majoring in computer science, you have a substantial amount of hands on projects that include debugging, installments and testing. This major is a difficult one, but if interested in writing, working or supporting software, computer science is for you.

If you are one who enjoys literature you could major in English. English majors are under appreciated and not as common as business or psychology, however, you could stand out and possibly have a major that you could use to get a stable career. Some of these careers include, teaching, law, journalism, or publishing.

Do you love skiing, visiting national parks, spending the day at an amusement park or any other kind of leisure activity? Then you could try recreational management. Recreational management prepares you for owning your own leisure location or a non-profit organization in which

you offer programs that teach children or beginners how to do recreational activities.

If you're one who is intrigued by the meaning of life, or one who asks questions like "How did we get here?" or ones similar to "Why are we here?" majoring in philosophy would be a logical selection. Philosophy is a great preparation for careers in law.

Of course if you're interested in being a doctor, you could major in anatomy, premed, or biochemistry.

If you're reading this and you're an aspiring pro athlete, you may not be thinking about your major. What you have to realize is that if, God forbid, you get injured and your career is over, you won't have anything to fall back on. Some majors that might appeal to one interested in sports could be some of the following: athletic training, physical education and sports management. All of these majors are ones that educate students on subjects regarding health, sports, and athletic improvement. All of which prepare you for a career in training and coaching.

Whatever you decide, make sure you love what it is, and that it's something you'll want to do for the rest of your life. Don't let anyone discourage you or influence you to stray from the dreams you have made for yourself. You can be anything your put your mind to.

If you need any further information on majors that may work for you or advice on what to choose, stop by your counselor, they will be glad to help. *Horns Up!*

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The Hoofbeat is published several times during the school year by the Journalism Department of W. T. White High School, 4505 Ridgeside Drive, Dallas, Texas 75244. Total circulation is approximately 2,500. Editorial comments are those of the writers and do not reflect the views of the Journalism Department, W.T. White High School or the Dallas Independent School District, its faculty or administration.

For advertising information visit wtwhoofbeat.org/hoofbeat or phone (972) 502-6290. Advertising rates are \$10 per column inch prepaid or \$12 per column inch billed.

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Toronto mayor sets disturbing example, maintains approval



BY IAN McMINN
GENERAL EDITOR

Finally, at last I have seen the light. That is, the light of Rob Ford's recent charade: the mayor of Toronto defending his crack smoking habit, saying that it was due to his "drunken stupor." At least

he's honest right?

Honesty is probably the only positive attribute presented by the recent

quick claim to fame Canadian politician.

In an interview, Ford's family defended him, saying "he's got a problem, he's got a huge weight problem."

Hmm, I'm not sure if the verdict for his drug habit is due to his weight. He is denying the public the right to intervene with his public office position, saying it is purely "a personal issue." The Toronto city council has taken steps to reduce Ford to a figurehead, losing most of his powers and budget.

Ironically enough, when he refused to resign, his approval rating was boosted almost equal to our President's level: 44.5 percent, Obama's newest low in all the years of his Presidency.

It is now obvious what our President must do to be truly loved by the people; he needs to go off the deep end. His old cigarette habit maybe?

All joking aside, the implications of rising popularity over choosing to remain in office after being exposed over a crack scandal is

a truly depressing indicator of what we value in terms of a political figure.

If we were as concerned with the goings on of the world as much as we are at the clownish doings of Mr. Ford, we would be a lot better off in our ethical and moral ground.

In addition to these allegations, it has also been made apparent that not only was Ford aware of the incriminating crack tape, but he also hired a hacker to attempt to destroy it.

Ford failed to do so, obviously, and is now facing greater criminal charges as the Toronto council is making motions to try him in court.

IT IS NOW OBVIOUS WHAT OUR PRESIDENT MUST DO TO BE TRULY LOVED BY THE PEOPLE; HE NEEDS TO GO OFF THE DEEP END.

If we were as concerned with the goings on of the world as much as we are at the clownish doings of Mr. Ford, we would be a lot better off in our ethical and moral ground.

Students should try to resolve conflicts early

Conflicts and confrontation between students can go from verbal to physical in seconds. Often, the reasons behind conflict are unknown. The real question is why do people fight in the first place?

Senior Claire Fagin seems to have some idea, "People don't know how to communicate verbally." She said the only verbal thing they seem to do is yell at each other.

Freshman Carlos Juarez thinks it's because people want to dominate, and they think, "no one will mess with me if I get into a fight."

Others like senior, Medami Madrano think it's just a random occurrence and, "not planned out." Some like junior, Carlos Hernandez thinks it is something specific that we can't see on the surface. He said people get into confrontations because of associations and friendships, and "it depends on grade, age and differences. Or just because they had a bad day."

Assistant principal Lindy Perkins had a logical explanation for conflicts at school: social media. She said, "It's a lot of he said, she said, and the sad part is they don't know each other." With the world like it is today with Facebook and Twitter, there is a conflict on the computer screen every minute. Text messages from one person talking about another can be saved and put on social media in seconds, and the next day in

school, a confrontation may occur.

The time before a conflict is the most important time to talk to someone about it if you are threatened or feel pressured. Lead counselor Katherine Evans says that the best thing to do is to "tell someone- a teacher, counselor, or a parent." It seems easy enough but some students don't want adult help and want to solve it in their own way. Evans wanted to be clear. She said, "The counselors are here to help."

With more freedom and responsibility than we had in middle school, high school is a stepping stone to adulthood, and we all have to go through it the best way we can. School administrators, counselors and teachers are here to help us along the way.

Youth Action Officer Miguel Medrano says that even with monitors in the hallways and cameras around the school, "The best source we have is the students. Info from them is the best way to keep the school safe." Medrano continued, "Lots of communication is the best solution."

When dealing with conflict, Medrano said the best way to handle it is to "go to someone you feel comfortable with," be it teacher, friend or principal. He recommends that students talk to someone before the situation gets out of hand.

BY JACKIE JONES
OPINION EDITOR

Photo poll: How do you prevent conflict between you and a classmate from escalating?



I take a deep breath and be mature about it and pretend like it never happened.

DAYSI ARBAIZA
SOPHOMORE



Just stay as far away from them as possible. They'll soon enough forget about it.

MICHAEL VALDERAZ
SOPHOMORE



Before it escalates any further, I just walk away from them or ignore them for the rest of the day, because I don't like to argue or fight.

VIVIAN PEREZ
SENIOR



I try to avoid them and when everything cools down I go up to them and talk calmly about what happened and try to solve it.

PAULO ARANDA
SENIOR



I wouldn't even care to begin with. I will not waste my class time for someone who wants to be immature.

HA KIM TRUONG
SENIOR



You can talk to your counselor about it to avoid problems and get removed from class to another period or just ignore them to prevent a fight.

ANA VASQUEZ
SENIOR

Barefoot in the Park: successful first show opened in new black box theater

BY CRISTINA REYES
FEATURES EDITOR

Barefoot in the Park was the first show to be performed in the new black box theater in 219, Mr. Edgin's room. The cast consisted of Rina Arguello as Corie Bratter, Dru Miers as Paul Bratter, Jesus Gamez as Victor Velasco, Jailyn Bell as Ethel Banks, and Calvin Cashen as the Telephone Man. This comedic play was originally written by Neil Simon and directed by Lisa Cotie.

The play had a funny and lively beginning. All of the cast became their characters which made the play extremely believable. Cashen, who played the telephone man, had the best comb over ever.

Arguello and Miers as Mr. and Mrs. Bratter worked very well together. Miers had a lot of humorous lines in the script, which he delivered well. The atmosphere was full of laughter and the audience seemed to love the production.

Considering it was the first show they have ever performed in the black



BY MAGGIE RIOS, PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Jesus Gamez playing Victor Velasco offers an appetizer to Rina Arguello and Dru Miers, who play Mr. and Mrs. Bratter. Jailyn Bell, who plays Ethel, looks on.

box theater, the performers seemed a little loud at times. This was probably because they are used to performing in the auditorium. The fight scene was a little too loud, but it did not take away from the brilliance of it. Surely, the theater department will excel the art of performing in small areas, such as the black box theaters, like they've

excelled in acting. The argument scene contained a lot of action and it was a turning point in which all the actors were exceptional. Overall, every one of the actors executed their roles superbly. The play was a wonderful inaugural show to be performed at the black box theater and it set a great precedent for the next shows to come.

Enthusiasm and more school spirit necessary from students who attend school athletic events



BY AUSTIN CAPPS
SPORTS EDITOR

and the "Let's go to the game to support our teams and get rowdy!" kind of fan.

I think it is obvious which type of fan is better, and if you're second guessing, I'd suggest to re-think why you call yourself a fan in the first place.

I may seem harsh, but let's face the

In the world of High School sports, there are two types of fans. The "Let's go to the game to hang out and talk" kind of fan,

facts, people. When people show up to the basketball games to sit down the whole time and talk, they usually don't want to support their team; they just want to talk to their friends and hang out.

That's not the type of student support that our sports teams need. They need to hear the crowd getting hyped; that's what pumps them up to win.

W.T.White needs more school spirit desperately. Here's a word of advice for those that have been slacking on their spirit.

1. When there's a specific theme for a game, such as "Orange Out" which means you WEAR orange.

2. When it's time for tip-off, pre-game, or a close game; you go crazy and cheer for your team.

3. If it's a major game, play-off

qualifier, or a rivalry game; you ALWAYS cheer louder than the other team.

It's not rocket science, people.

Come out to the Basketball games this season.

Wear Orange. Get Rowdy. Throw your Horns Up.

Day of Service brings out student volunteers

Continued from page 1

"We organized the thrift store for four hours," said senior Jesus Cabrera. Lee Park's Conservancy, which is dedicated to maintaining the preservation and maintenance of Lee Park and Arlington Hall, is where students helped clean up and maintain a healthy environment.

The Paul Quinn College Farm was created to benefit and address the lack of affordable, healthy food options available to under-resourced communities throughout Dallas. "It was amazing. We harvested sweet potatoes, fertilized trees, and fed chickens," said junior Juan Hernandez. "It was actually really fun to see how they turned their football field into a garden to help all the people in their community," said leadership class member Megan Miers.

Promise House is a place where runaways, homeless, and at-risk teens seek support for a healthier life. Through crisis-intervention, an emergency shelter, and education services, the Promise House reaches out to the teenagers who need a place to call home. On the Day of Service, students took inventory, organized donations, and cleaned up storage.

Wallace said a single day in which any student could participate was better than having a club which did work throughout the year. The day is a wonderful opportunity "to get as many students involved in a voluntary experience," said Wallace, saying that the Day of Service was "a great way for us to give back to the community" and "get out there." Regardless of grade level or affiliation of any kind, all students were welcome in the Great Day of Service.

WT White's Literary Magazine
will be published this spring

Open
Range

Submit

- Poetry
- Prose
- Artwork

to wtwhitmag@gmail.com

You must make submissions via email.
You must include your full name.
No anonymous submissions will be considered.

Night of dance dazzles audience, highlights talent



BY JULIO NAVA, PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Middle school dancers perform at the W.T. White Night of Dance on November 21st. Multiple dance groups performed in the auditorium.

BY JULIO NAVA
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

On Thursday, November 21st, W.T. White students showed off their dance skills at the Night of Dance in the auditorium.

The night kicked off with the cheerleaders, followed by the Caballeras, and then by Dance company, Momentum Dance, Walker Middle School Dance Corporation, and finally Marsh Middle School Dance.

The performance began with a healthy dose of school spirit courtesy of the cheerleaders and the drill team.

Music from a variety of styles matched the exuberant choreography of all the dancers. The cheerleaders readily warmed up the crowd, and were excited about the role they played in raising school spirit.

Varsity cheerleader, Allison King shared her enthusiasm. She said, "I like the variety of music and dances. It was cool."

The Caballeras also performed demonstrating their teamwork and their discipline, not to mention their great flexibility. Caballeras first lieutenant Angelica Ortega said, "It was great. Everybody performed with so much passion."

Dance Company and Dance Mo-

mentum, headed by Hillary Rinella and Krisna Martinez gave a performance that demonstrated the time and effort it took them to perfect those dance moves and their choreography.

Junior Dance Company Member Yadira Vazquez said, "It's a good way to show people our hard work, and it helps us prepare ourselves for Dance Explosion."

Dance Company started smooth and maintained that same image throughout the performance.

Varsity Caballera and Dance Company member Lorena A. Ramirez, was thrilled to participate. She said, "Night of Dance is the time where I could express what I feel, and also demonstrate it to the public." She said, "Every time I set foot on the stage, I get an adrenaline rush, and it's not just an ordinary rush."

With the solo performances of Seniors Alyssa Cisneros, Alexis Newland, Vanessa Chavez, and Chelsea Williams and a duet by Gammy Duenez and Lee Ann Lara, the night dazzled the audience.

A special presentation by middle school dancers was included as well, which represented great potential for the future of the dance program at W.T. White.

began with a speech welcoming everybody, after which the audience was entertained with performances by the drill team, dance company, and cheerleaders.

After the presentation in the auditorium, the audience was directed to walk around and look into any of the booths set up around the school. Dozens of school related activities had booths in which they advertised their club, group, or extracurricular activity. There were academic clubs such as debate and junior world affairs, sports group including tennis and football,

Hailey Teguns selected for premed student program

BY IAN MCMINN
GENERAL EDITOR

Senior Hailey Teguns has been selected for the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Washington D.C. This is an honors program for those wishing to pursue a career in medicine. Its purpose is to motivate those students to follow their dreams and go through with a pre-med major as well as other mandatory schooling.

The program is also meant to lay out a clear and concise plan to help participants reach their goal. "It's the first year of the program, so I'm excited to see if it's the real thing," said Teguns. Dr. Connie Mariano, the Medical Director of the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists chose Teguns for the program based on her outstanding academics as well as her potential as a leader to serve in the field.

According to a press release from The National academy, "During the Congress, Hailey will join others from across the country as they hear Nobel Laureates and National Medal of Science Winners talk about leading medical research.

Participants will also receive advice from Ivy League deans on what to expect in medical school; witness stories told by patients who are living medical miracles; be inspired by

fellow teen medical science prodigies' and learn about cutting-edge advances and the future in medicine and medical technology."

Teguns says she is excited to be able to ask questions during live surgery. "Plus I get to miss a couple days of school as well so that's really great," Teguns said, "I'm probably going to stay an extra day to do some Capitol sightseeing."

"This is a crucial time in America when we need more doctors and medical scientists who are even better prepared for a future that is changing exponentially," said Richard Rossi, the Executive Director of the program. "Focused, bright and determined students like Hailey Teguns are our future and she deserves all the mentoring and guidance we can give her."

The Academy offers free programs to all focused on the medical field. Some plans to be launched this year and in 2014 include social networks through which doctors can communicate with students involved.

The program was chartered as a nonpartisan, taxpaying institution to help address the need for those to enter into medicine.

Teguns hopes to finish medical school and become a dermatologist.

Nicole Wolfe wins DSG award

BY CRISTINA REYES
FEATURES EDITOR

Nicole Wolfe was awarded Outstanding Educator of the Year by DSG, Down Syndrome Guild of Dallas.

Wolfe had a student last year, Cormack Currin, who she helped develop skills in everyday tasks such as doing

the laundry and answering the phone. It was then that Currin's mother nominated Wolfe for the award.

Talking about receiving the award Wolfe said, "I was shocked. There had never been a nurse that received the award, so I didn't think I was [going to] get it."

Wolfe said she just helped Currin with job skills and communication which is what helped her receive the award.

"He learned how to do things his mom was convinced he was never going to do," said Wolfe. She believes this award "mainly reiterated that all [students] on campus, AP students to our special needs students, can all become something."

Wolfe is also a runner up for Nurse of the Year in D Magazine.

She said the DSG award reminded her of why she does her job and why she loves being a school nurse versus any other job.

Meet WTW night welcomed community

BY ZELES VARGAS
OPINION EDITOR

On the November 19th, parents, eighth graders, and anybody thinking about coming to White next year could have a look around and learn all about White. Meet W. T. White Night is a chance for W. T. White to acclimate potential Longhorns to what White has to offer. All attendees were welcomed and greeted by Janine Amy, who was head of registration.

The night began with a presentation in the auditorium. After people became settled, Principal Michelle Thompson

and other interests such as theater, student council; and cheer leading as well as various spirit groups and other organizations.

According to instructional coach Jason Wallace, Meet W. T. White Night was "an opportunity for eighth graders or anyone that's ever thinking about going to white to come and get a feel of what White has to offer. White competes against Townview, Booker T, and private schools so we want to show the community and other kids that W. T. White offers just as much if not more than some of those private schools."

Homework club provides students a place to complete work, get help



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students stay after school in a session of the Homework Club in the library. Science teacher Brian Ellis assists a student with an assignment.

**BY KALEY MARIONI
GENERAL EDITOR**

Every Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30 to 5:30pm, the homework club is open to any student at W.T. White. It has been around for two years, and instructional coach is Jason Wallace in charge.

Senior Megan Igoe attends the homework club. She says, "It's a good environment to concentrate on your school work with no distractions."

Teachers and students get together in the library to study, get tutoring and get their homework done. Students

can have their own study groups with other students and complete whatever school work they need to get done with the help of teachers.

The homework club has made a great effort to help students get the assistance they need. Additionally, anyone who goes to homework club gets a coupon to Taco Bell for a free burrito or taco. After students are done studying at the homework club, they can go get a fast food meal. Any students who are interested in some quiet study time or extra tutoring in the homework club are welcome to attend.

Richard Dillon's passing leaves a void in the lives and hearts of his students

Continued from page 1

Mr. Dillon was honestly one of the best teachers I've ever had.

- Stacy Edosonmwan

Mr. Dillon was an amazing teacher. He was always kept the energy in class. He was a unique teacher, and I'm very happy to have had him in my senior year.

- Jennifer Martinez

Mr. Dillon has been one of the most unique teachers I have ever met. He would always say some of the realest stuff that is happening to this world instead of the lying "bull crap." He would also keep us entertained with his stories. Mr. Dillon will always be our and the school's heart.

- Peter Dang

Mr. Dillon was a great teacher, and a very nice and funny person overall. He would treat us like adults, but at the same time he showed that he cared. He wouldn't sugar coat anything, he was really straight up.

- Areli Uribe

Mr. Dillon really cared about us being organized, he made us take a different type of notes. He was one of the best teachers here in W.T. White, he will be greatly missed.

- Javier Arreola

Mr. Dillon was a very intelligent teacher and I am pleased that I had him as a teacher. I am fortunate to have been his student, even if it was for a short time.

- Samuel Sanchez

Last winter musical for Mike Parker marks the end of an era

**BY DIAMOND BLAYLOCK
NEWS EDITOR**

Mike Parker, W.T White's Choir Director, has been teaching for 41 years. Out of those 41, 17 have been spent at White. It has become a tradition for Parker to compose and direct a winter musical each year in which his choirs come together and perform.

The show this year, called Winter Songs, was the last one directed by Parker who will retiring at the end of the year. Some of his current students shared their thoughts.

Junior Derrick Lewis said he was sad when he found out Parker was retiring. He said, "He's been here so long, and it's his last musical. We want everyone to feel his love for music."

Parker's reputation precedes him. When senior Vivian Perez initially joined the choir, she had heard from her older sister about the teacher she



would have. She sees the progress her class has made in choir, "Just like every other class, he's watched us grow."

Senior Reagan Stevens credits his involvement in choir with giving his life direction. He said Mr. Parker's choir changed his life and his career path. "Without Showstoppers," he said, "I probably wouldn't be happy where I am now."

Though he may be leaving W.T White he will always be recognized for the great work that he's done.

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Fifty years later, Dallas remembers JFK Assassination in somber downtown ceremony

BY JOHN KUZMICK
FEATURES EDITOR

November 22nd marked the 50th anniversary of a dark day in the history of Dallas and our country. President John Fitzgerald Kennedy was assassinated while riding in his motorcade through Dallas at the now infamous Dealey Plaza.

To mark the anniversary of this tragic day, the City of Dallas held a memorial for President Kennedy at the very place he was shot. The memorial started at 12:10 pm with The Star Spangled Banner, sung by Monica Saldivar, a recent graduate of Booker T. Washington High School.

To open the memorial, Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of the Catholic Diocese of Dallas gave an invocation, speaking of how Kennedy's religion affected his political life.

When the Bishop finished his speech and prayer, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings gave a speech detailing the growth of Dallas as a city and community since that day in late 1963. Near

the end of his speech, Rawlings read the final lines of the speech Kennedy was scheduled to give that day at the Trade Mart, which are now engraved into a memorial next to the sixth floor museum.

"Neither the fanatics nor the faint-hearted are needed. And our duty as a Party is not to our Party alone, but to the nation, and, indeed, to all mankind. Our duty is not merely the preservation of political power but the preservation of peace and freedom. So let us not be petty when our cause is so great. Let us not quarrel amongst ourselves when our Nation's future is at stake. Let us stand together with renewed confidence in our cause — united in our heritage of the past and our hopes for the future — and determined that this land we love shall lead all mankind into new frontiers of peace and abundance."

At 12:30 pm, the time that Kennedy was shot 50 years ago, everyone paused for a moment of silence accompanied by the tolling of bells. After the

brief moment, the U.S. Naval Academy Men's Glee Club sang "America the Beautiful," drawing tears to people's eyes.

After the song ended, historian David McCullough gave a speech about Kennedy's presidency in accordance to the changing culture and life that was occurring in the early sixties. Midway through his speech, to honor Kennedy's memory, McCullough read a portion of the famous "We choose to go to the moon" speech he gave at Texas' own Rice University, September 12, 1962.

At the close of McCullough's speech, the Naval Academy Men's Glee Club sang the Battle Hymn of the Republic, leading into the closing prayer, given by Pastor Emeritus Zan W. Holmes, Jr. of the St. Luke Community United Methodist Church of Dallas.

To close the memorial the Naval Academy Men's Glee Club sang The Navy Hymn (Eternal Father, Strong to Save), before leaving the stage.

Sophomore class holds successful pizza fund raiser

BY CHRISTIAN COLE
SPORTS EDITOR

The class of 2016 held a successful fund raiser, thanks to the support of California Pizza Kitchen in Preston Center. The fund raiser was organized by the Sophomore Executive Board and took place over homecoming weekend in an effort to cut graduation costs.

The class promoted the fund raiser by distributing flyers to the school at home football games and at local businesses, and by placing promotional material in posters and in social media.

With over \$2500 in meals eaten on behalf of W.T. White, they raised a total of \$546.46 to put towards their graduation expenses.

Pedro Gonzalez, a representative on the sophomore executive board said, "The sophomore class would like to thank everyone for their support."

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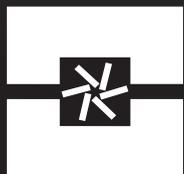


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Fall sports season wraps up

BY CHRISTIAN COLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Football: Under a new Athletic Director, the Longhorns have been spending extra time in their new weight room getting in tip top shape for the move to 6A next year. W. T. White is currently a 5A school, but next year, we will be moving up a level in our UIL grouping.

This move for W.T. White looks to be a change in classification only, as most likely we will be playing the same teams. There is some talk that R.L. Turner may join our group. However the move to 6A is mainly a change that will even the playing field in other divisions moving to the new classifications.

With a record of one win and nine losses, there is room for the returning football roster of 30 to move upwards.

Volleyball: Girls' volleyball finished the season with a strong fifth place finish in District play.

Cross Country: The Cross Country team did well throughout their short season with both boys and girls

teams placing in the top three spots at a number of meets.

Swimming and Diving: The W.T. White Varsity Swim Team has two championship meets left in January. The Dallas ISD City Championship Meet is January 10th and the District 10-5A championship meet is January 25th, both at Loos Pool. This team consists of dedicated and disciplined athletes who train year-round for swims that are decided by fractions of a second. The team is led by senior captains Frances Adams, Natalie Chong, and Austin Musselman, along with Junior Co-Captains Elena Ring, Quentin Butler, and Jack McKay.

In other pool news, the 2013 District 10-5A diving champion is our very own senior Stewart Brackett.

Tennis: The Fall Tennis team was our most decorated team thus far with three players getting District honors: Kalee Kuhn, senior at Townview, 2nd year in a row All-District, Brandon Painter, senior, 2nd Team All-District and senior Bryan Park, Honorable Mention All-District.

Longhorn basketball season opened with wins over Red Oak



BY CHUCK STEWART, CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

Xavier Land dunks the basketball during the season opener versus Red Oak. The Longhorns won the first game of the basketball season.

BY AUSTIN CAPPS
SPORTS EDITOR

On the cold night of November 12, two basketball programs, W.T. White and Red Oak, battled it out in intense games. The match up took place on our home court, and the Longhorn freshmen, Junior Varsity and Varsity teams emerged victorious. At the start, the Longhorn freshman team won 55-45.

Darrell White lead the team with 14 points. Kylan Harrison put six shots up on the board for a total of 12 points. Mike Lawrie went hard in the paint to add 10 points to the Longhorns' win.

The JV team fought on the hardwood in back-to-back scoring on both sides of the court. Daniel Salter hit the buzzer-beater to win the game for the Horns.

Afterward, the Longhorns' fans led a stampede onto the court, and dog piled on a humbled Salter. The

Junior Varsity won 51-50.

The Varsity squad duked it out with Red Oak for the win, with a score of 73-83. Roland Conner led the team with 24 points, Ike Agusi put 22 points on the board, and Xavier Land had 10 points, which included a massive dunk.

Of the match up, Agusi said, "It was a great season opener. I like how everybody came out and went hard." He said, "Man, I love the support, and everybody just did their job tonight."

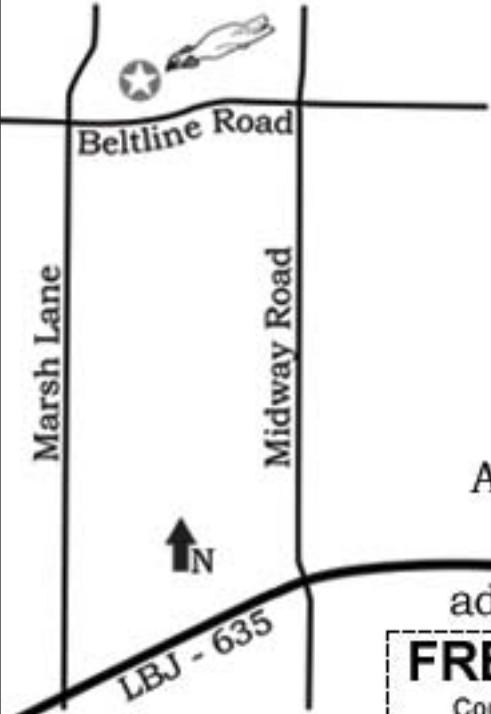
To win upcoming games, Coach Craig Bankhead said, "We just got to play good basketball, be in control, match the intensity of the opponent and try to surpass it."

Fans should arrive early and get rowdy.

The regular basketball season lasts through February, so check the schedule with a player or online and come out to support our Longhorns.



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