

THE BLACKSONIAN

REPORTING THE NEWS AT BHS SINCE 1927.



KayKay dribbling down the court as a teammate runs behind her.

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

Bailey Parris

This issue's athlete spotlight is Kaylan Dawkins. She likes to go by KayKay. KayKay is a junior on the BHS Girls Varsity Basketball team. She has been playing for 13 years, and two of those years are on the varsity team. She wears jersey number 1 for Blacksburg. The 2024 Girls Varsity Basketball record is 13/12 and 9/1 for region play.

KayKay was asked, "What motivates you to play basketball?" Her response was "My family and coaches motivate me." She enjoys playing the sport of basketball because it helps her get away from all the problems in life. One of her favorite parts about the sport is all the people she has met while playing. KayKay was asked, "What is your most memorable moment while playing the sport?" Her response was "I don't have a favorite moment; I cherish every one that I have." After graduating from Blacksburg High School, she wants to attend an HBCU (Historically Black College or University) to get a nursing degree and become a labor and delivery nurse.

DISTINGUISHED YOUNG WOMAN

Isabelle Cole

DYW is an organization that is hosted by Blacksburg Women's Club. DYW stands for Distinguished Young Women of Blacksburg. According to the Distinguished Young Women website, the program's mission is to "empower young women to develop their full, individual potential by providing scholarships, personal development opportunities, and a positive peer network." Being the largest and oldest national scholarship program for high school girls, the program offers an incredible opportunity to win scholarships. They offered over \$1 billion in college funding opportunities last year.

In 1958, Distinguished Young Women, previously known as America's Junior Miss, was established to honor the achievements of senior high school girls who aspired to become students in higher education. Girls volunteering at the organization come together to perform various activities to highlight their talents. The girls and their "little sisters" perform an opening number for the event, followed by a fitness portion before the girls showcase their individual skills.

Abbe Kate Wisher was our 2023 Distinguished Young Woman, and she recently gave the title to Madalyn Satterwhite, our 2024 Distinguished Young Woman. We would like to congratulate all the previous and current winners and wish all future competitors the best of luck.



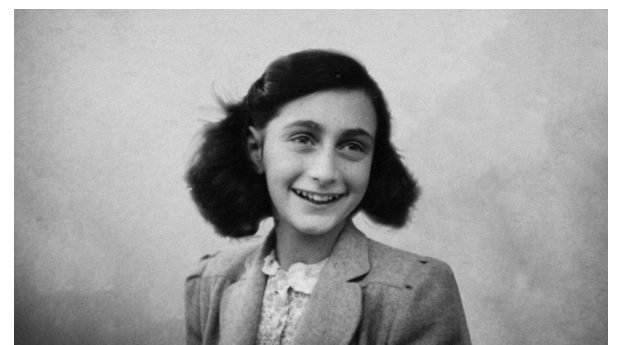
Madalyn Satterwhite after winning Distinguished Young Woman 2024.

ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT

Kayleigh Triplett

Blacksburg Middle School is hosting an exhibit titled "Anne Frank - A History for Today" from February 20 to March 8. The exhibit tells the story of Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl who lived through the Holocaust in an attic before being discovered and taken to a concentration camp. The story of Anne Frank is told all over the world. The exhibit has been presented more than 300 times a year.

The Anne Frank House is in charge of organizing the worldwide exhibit. On May 3, 1957, Otto Frank, the father of Anne Frank, helped to establish the Anne Frank House. This



independent non-profit organization aims to raise global knowledge of Anne Frank's life story. The Anne Frank Foundation specially trained Blacksburg Middle School students to serve as tour guides for this exhibit. While visits may be done after school hours upon request, they were available during school hours. For those of all ages, this exhibit is a fantastic way to learn more about Anne Frank and her life.

SPORTS



SOFTBALL SCRIMMAGE

Bailey Parris

On Thursday February 15, the varsity softball team played against Chester. They ended up pulling out the win of 12-6. They were thankful for the ten runs scored in the sixth inning. Lucy Thayer started out pitching for the Wildcats and only allowed six hits and three runs throughout four innings. She struck out four and walked one. Taylor Tessner, Charley Oglesby, and Stormi Harris each drove in two runs. The Lady Wildcats accumulated 11 walks for the game. All together, nine bases were stolen in the game. Along with many satisfactory contributions to the game, Charley Oglesby homered to center field to help her team pull out the win against the Cyclones.

BHS VS LEWISVILLE

Elijah Campbell

The Blacksburg High School Baseball Team participated in a scrimmage against Lewisville on February 21st. Every sport has scrimmages, which determine where a team is skill-wise and what the team needs to improve on. Lewisville is a high-ranking school in many sports, so the fact that BHS defeated them demonstrated just how good our team is. The scores were Blacksburg 11 and Lewisville 7. Head coach of the baseball team Chase Norman, said in a statement, "As a team, we have a lot to improve on, but it was our first time out. Our younger guys stepped up, especially the younger pitchers." The team is destined to go far this season and baseball is considered one of Blacksburg High School's best sports. Senior Levi Barrett led the team in scoring with two runs. We're eager to see what this season brings. Let's go Wildcats!

NEWS & EVENTS

FISH FRY SUCCESS

Ayson Secrest

The Blacksburg High School Band hosted the Fish Fry on Saturday, February 17th. It was served in the Blacksburg High School cafeteria where everyone came together to eat and have fun. They provided delicious food, including catfish and chicken. The meal was delicious, and many guests had a fantastic time. The band also did an excellent job of serving food to the crowd, and they enjoyed seeing all the individuals who supported them. The band appreciates everyone's support and for showing up to the band's fish fry and making it a great experience.

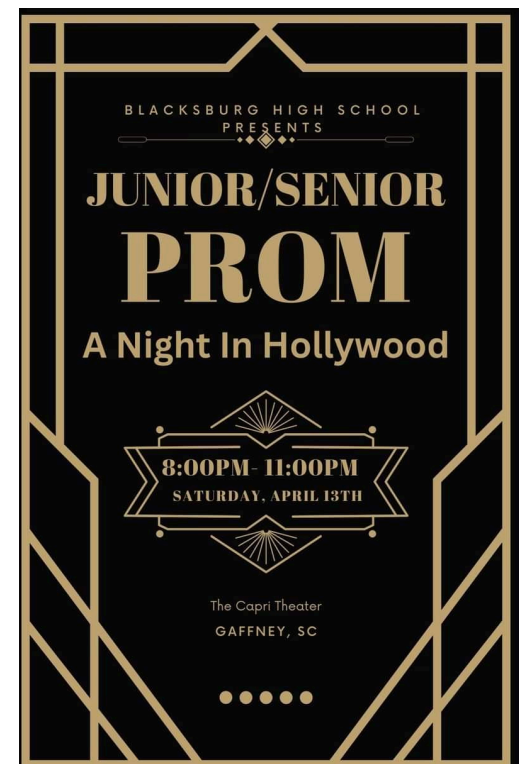


WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Kayleigh Triplett

Every year, March is dedicated to Women's History Month. The celebration started locally in Santa Rosa, California, in 1978, planned and executed by The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women. President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the week of March 8th, 1980 as National Women's History Week. President Jimmy Carter stated, "Too often the women were unsung, and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength, and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well." It continued to be proclaimed as National Women's History Week until March 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designated March as Women's History Month.

Each Women's History Month has its own theme. Women's History Month 2024 theme is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion." This theme honors women around the country who recognize that we must eliminate bias and discrimination from our institutions and daily lives to create a better future. We should pay tribute to the women in our community, both past and present, who have taken the initiative to demonstrate the significance of change and to establish stronger laws, policies, and safeguards that uphold these principles. After years of oppression, we must honor women who strive for basic rights, equality, and inclusion.



PROM IS HERE!!!

We hope that everyone who is able to attend will come to celebrate prom with the people they have shared years of memories with throughout their lives.

SUPER BOWL RECAP

Lacey Shelton

The 49ers took a harsh loss by 3 points in the Super Bowl on Sunday, February 11th. Super Bowl 2024, however, was more than just a showcase of football; it was a platform for creativity in advertising. This year's Super Bowl saw various commercials with humor, brands, and celebrity cameos. Brands leveraged the massive audience of the Super Bowl to announce new products, promote their brand, and entertain audiences around the world.

At halftime, the energy soared to new heights with an amazing performance by global superstar Usher. With jaw-dropping choreography, special effects, and top-hit songs, Usher delivered a show for the ages. The halftime show of Super Bowl 2024 will be remembered.

Something else that will be remembered this year in the 2024 Super Bowl is the moment Travis Kelce got extremely upset with the Kansas City Chiefs coach. "It was a frustration at our team's struggle to win, our turnover rate, and my position on the sidelines", according to Kelce. When he shoved Andy Reid at Sunday's Super Bowl, Travis Kelce acknowledged that he had gone too far and called it "unacceptable." One last important highlight of the night was at the end of the game where Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce had a heartfelt moment celebrating the BIG WIN for the Kansas City Chiefs.

LIFESTYLES

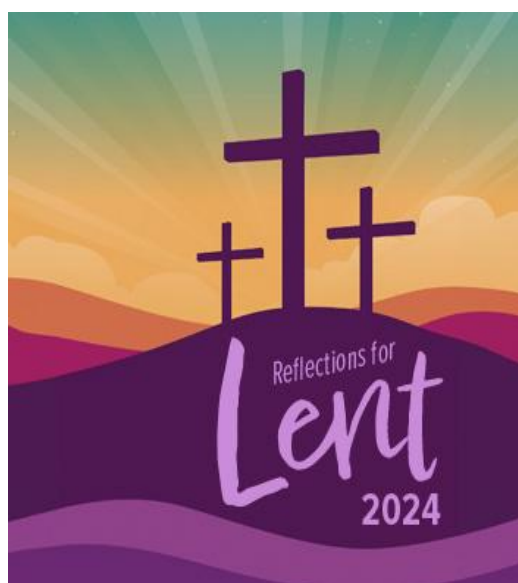


MEN'S FORMAL WEAR

Cohen Moss

Men these days simply don't dress as well as their ancestors have done in the past. Men currently dress and come to school wearing blue jeans, work pants, boots, hoodies, Hey Dudes, Crocs, and other things of this sort. Men these days simply do not understand what "fashion" would be or what appropriate clothing would be.

While Timberlands and Birkenstocks can look decent and nice, they would never be considered formal or dress attire. Men's dress and wear have been broken down into multiple "aesthetics." Some of these include old money or soft money. Formal clothing has also become misconstrued, as some men now would consider flannel as formal clothing. Nathon Kong has said, "Formal wear, at least in the West, is what you would wear to events such as weddings, certain formal parties, funerals, dinners, and balls. For men, formal clothing includes trousers, a dress shirt (and maybe a waistcoat or vest), a suit or tuxedo jacket, some form of neckwear accessory, and dress shoes." This is what would be considered formal and dress wear for men.



THURGOOD MARSHALL

Ayson Secrest

Thurgood Marshall was an American civil rights lawyer and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1967 until 1991. Thurgood Marshall became the first African American to be appointed to a Supreme Court justice position when the Senate approved him on August 30, 1967. He was an attorney who fought for civil rights, leading the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Marshall was a prominent figure in the movement to end racial segregation in American public schools. He won 29 of the 32 civil rights cases he argued before the Supreme Court. His biggest accomplishment was being the lead lawyer in the Court's landmark 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which rejected the separate but equal doctrine and held segregation in public education to be unconstitutional. Marshall convinced the Supreme Court that separate but equal educational facilities were fundamentally unfair and unconstitutional through his persuasive arguments and extensive research.

LENT

Mackenzie Childers

Lent, the solemn religious observance observed by Christians around the world, holds profound significance in the liturgical calendar. This calendar is observed by Catholics as a series of seasons and feasts observed in the liturgy over a year. It marks a period of spiritual reflection, repentance, and preparation for the celebration of Easter. The origins of Lent can be traced back to the early Christian Church, where it was initially observed as a period of fasting and penance in preparation for Easter. Over the centuries, Lent evolved into forty days, symbolizing Jesus Christ's forty days of fasting in the wilderness. It traditionally begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Central to the observance of Lent are various practices aimed at deepening one's spiritual experience. Fasting, often in the form of abstaining from meat on Fridays, serves as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice and encourages self-discipline. Many Christians also engage in prayer, attending worship services, reading scripture, and participating in acts of charity to cultivate a spirit of compassion and generosity.



RUBY BRIDGES

Bailey Parris

Ruby Bridges was an American Civil Rights activist. She was born on September 8, 1954, in Tylertown, Mississippi. When Bridges was little, she attended an all-white elementary school, William Frantz Elementary School, in Louisiana. By being the first African American to attend an all-white school, Bridges helped pave the way for Civil Rights activity in the American South. When attending this school, Ruby faced racism every day. Parents left their kids at home, people threw objects, and she was threatened by many just because she was in attendance. It got so bad that Federal Marshals escorted her to school to keep her safe.

As Ruby grew older, she started to figure out what she wanted to do. In 1999, Bridges set in place The Ruby Bridges Foundation to further tolerate and generate change throughout education. In the year 2000, Ruby Bridges was made an honorary deputy marshal at a ceremony in Washington, DC. Ruby Bridges made significant contributions to the African American community and drastically changed the course of history.

MICHAEL JORDAN

Elijah Campbell

African American basketball player Michael Jordan is regarded as one of the all-time greats in sports history, not only in basketball. On February 17, 1963, James R. Jordan and Deloris Jordan welcomed Michael Jeffrey Jordan into the world. One of the most important figures in both the African American community and sports as a whole is Michael Jackson, or simply MJ. He can undoubtedly be regarded as one of the all-time great basketball players, having scored 32,292 points in his career. However, his skills extend beyond the game to the business world. He has a variety of companies, such as automobile dealerships, steakhouses, and even a NASCAR team. His connection with the shoe manufacturer Nike, where he has his own line of shoes that might be regarded as the most popular brand they offer, is one of his major business ventures. MJ demonstrates that if you have the drive and determination to see your goals through, pursuing those goals can lead to greatness.

ACADEMICS



REGISTRATION

Isabelle Cole

Registration is crucial for ensuring that a student takes the appropriate classes to graduate on schedule and avoids placing them in a class they won't enjoy, which would discourage them from working as hard. To register for your 2024 Fall classes, you first need to find out who your guidance counselor is. It will be either Mrs. Dula or Mrs. Cook. Mrs. Dula takes last names A-L and Mrs. Cook takes last names M-Z. Parents are able to schedule their child's Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) meeting in person, via email, or by phone at 864-206-243. We may have some new options for dual enrollment here on our campus, but those classes aren't set in stone yet. I2 is adding new classes, such as Electricity 1 and 2 as well as Equine Science. Make sure to sign up as soon as possible to ensure you get the classes you want before they are filled.

AP WORLD HISTORY

Ayson Secrest

AP World History Modern is a college-level course offered by high schools all over the nation. The College Board helps run the whole AP course and is a very challenging course for high school students. Danny Scruggs teaches Blacksburg High School's AP World History, and it is a year-round course. At the moment they are learning about arising conflicts and global tensions from 1900 to the present time. They are in Unit 7 learning about the Russian-Japanese wars, and the Bolshevik Revolution. They learn to write DBQs (document-based questions), SAQs (short answer questions), and FRQs (free response questions). The test is 3 hours long and is very difficult. To pass you need at least a 3 to pass. If you have any questions, you may ask or email Danny Scruggs, or one of your guidance counselors.



CHORUS PERFORMANCE

Konstantin Foster

The Blacksburg High School Honor Choir was able to sing the National Anthem at the Gardner Webb basketball game on January 31st. They did a wonderful job and had a great time representing Blacksburg High School. We are very proud of all their hard work and dedication.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Konstantin Foster

The student spotlight for this issue is Emma Barton. She is currently a senior at Blacksburg High School. Emma is part of several extracurricular and community service organizations. She is in the National Honors Art Society, Empowered Girls Club, and AVID. She was involved with AVID community service projects such as a community clothing drive, cleaning the clothes closet, staff-wide bullying presentation, and teacher appreciation gift bags.

We asked what her plans are after high school, and she replied she plans on going to Converse College and even has an \$8,000 scholarship lined up with hopefully more to come. She will major in Art Therapy and minor in Pre-Veterinary. We asked what inspires her, and she replied "I inspire myself. Without me holding myself to the standard I do, I would not have accomplished what I have and what I will in the future."



FORENSIC SCIENCE

James Reed

Forensic Science is the study of the use of scientific methods or expertise to investigate crimes or examine evidence that might be presented in a court of law. Forensic science is used to examine and analyze, which then can help develop a scene.

DNA analysis stands as one of the most powerful tools. The genetic code contained in DNA provides information for specific individuals. Fingerprint analysis is another great tool in forensic science. The ridges and bumps of the fingertip are unique to every individual. Another example is forensic toxicology. This is the analysis of drugs, poisons, and other substances in the body. When scientists study bodily fluids and body tissue, they can determine if drugs or substances were a part of the act. The last thing is ballistics and firearms analysis. By examining the castings, projectiles, and firearm residues, the experts can determine what type of weapon was used, who the owner was, and reconstruct the shooting. Overall, forensic science extends the realm of physical evidence.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kayleigh Triplett

Did you know there's a secret vault that holds nearly every type of crop seed? It's the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, which is situated on an island in the Svalbard archipelago between Norway and the North Pole, in one of the world's coldest regions. This far-off place provides the natural permafrost chilling required for the world's largest collection of crop diversity to be properly stored. This seed vault would be useful if the zombie apocalypse happened or if farmers' fields began to dry up.

Editorial and Staff

SPRING

We know when daffodils start blooming, spring is close. Following the months of gray skies and cold mornings, daffodils bring bright sunshine and color back to our lives.

The daffodil symbolizes rebirth and new beginnings, which is why it is the perfect flower to represent the end of winter and the beginning of spring. The flower also symbolizes hope, joy, resilience, good luck, prosperity, memories, and forgiveness.

The daffodil bulb can tolerate below-freezing temperatures; it is typically planted or dormant during the winter. The daffodil is therefore a powerful metaphor for conquering challenges and rising above hardship.

The daffodil shows that even after the darkest, coldest winters, nature will be reborn and life will go on. As a result, the American Cancer Society sponsors annual Daffodil Days when bouquets are sent to families of cancer patients.

Let's picture ourselves as daffodils emerging from the previous season's difficulties and challenges as we enter the new season. What will you accomplish in this new season?

The Blacksonian is the student-written, edited, and published newspaper of Blacksburg High School in Blacksburg, SC. For information concerning the publication please contact Mr. Blackburn or one of the editors.



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