

THE GROWL

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Fall sports gearing up. Page 4

Choices abound

Involvement offers many opportunities

By: Taylor Boyd
Growl staff

The upcoming school year holds many opportunities for excitement, success, and making new friends. One way to make the most of these opportunities and this school year is by joining groups and clubs around the campus. From music to arts to academics, there are many organizations around the school in which to get involved.

Students who are passionate about music can join choir. The choir, directed by Johnny Miller, has its own class period where they rehearse songs for concerts and practice for competitions.

“Choir is one of the most successful programs in the school,” Miller said.

Not only does choir encourage close friendships, but it also encourages the people in it to become more of a family.

“Choir hasn’t just helped me develop relationships, it’s given me a place where I have always felt loved and at home,” senior Brittaini Anderson said.

Another group that offers amazing opportunities is speech and debate, taught by Cody Duncan. Speech and debate is a group that competes in tournaments in three different organizations: UIL, Texas Forensic Association, and the National Speech and Debate Association.

“We travel, win trophies, and



Band director Kevin Kuehler directs the band at the Christmas concert in the auditorium.

Photo by: KayLea Burris

build up resumes for scholarships,” Duncan said.

Along with speech and debate, Duncan also teaches theater. This year, the theater department has three student directed plays, as well as an end of school “message” play.

“Theater is about learning how to work as a group to take a performance and an idea, entertain an audience, and make that audience walk away with a new perspective,” Duncan said.

Another group is the Digital Communications Society, also known as graphic design. Most of the members in this group are also a part of the class. Graphic design is a type of art class that focuses on working with Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator.

“I don’t know what the students will decide to do this year, but I’m sure it will be something creative,” teacher Julie Kerr said.

The skills Kerr teaches her students could eventually become a career.

“Having access to Illustrator

and Photoshop while learning to use them effectively can be useful in a lot of graphic design type jobs,” senior Kathryn Grieb said.

Students who want to get involved with the school by recording the goings-on throughout the year can join the journalism program. Adviser Robyn Line said journalism offers a wide variety of ways for students to use their talents and skills.

“Students in the journalism program write, design pages, take pictures, even sell advertising,” Line said. “There’s something for everyone.”

Junior Haylee Phillips, who serves as one of the yearbook business managers this year, said being part of the yearbook is a great experience because of all the memories the staff gets to share.

Other organizations available include academic UIL, band, Art Club, Future Farmers of America, Future Teachers of America and many others. Ask around, and make the most of school.

Borger High area’s best

Welcome to Borger High School and the 2015-16 school year. Here are some things that make Borger High School the best high school in this area:

- The students: We have great students. I will often tell our staff that the students here are only

held back by the limitations that the teachers themselves create. Our students will perform at the highest levels if given the freedom to do so.

- The teachers and staff: When we interview for new staff members we always look for people with a heart for kids. We tell them we can make them a great teacher, but if they do not have a heart for kids, we can’t help them. This current staff at Borger High School has that heart for kids.

- The FPC connection: More college courses offered than any school in the area. Our concurrent college class offerings and enrollment have quadrupled in the last three years.

- Community Service: Our students are involved in the community in multiple ways through mentoring, Juvenile Diabetes, Day of Caring and numerous projects through our classes and organizations.

Have a great year!!!

Matt Ammerman is principal of Borger High School



Letter
Matt Ammerman

Survival of the fishes

Tips to help 9th graders get through their first year

By: Sara Barnett
Growl staff

Switching from middle school to high school has always been a scary transition, but it's not as intimidating as it seems. Being the underclassmen is rough at times, so here are eight simple tips to help you get the hang of things and know what exactly to expect.

1. Keep your grades up: This is where it begins. Every grade counts until your senior year. Now is the time to start focusing on your future, so you must be able to pass your classes and STAAR tests. Your GPA is what is important.

2. Get to class on time: The school is not as big as it seems. You'll get the hang of it within the first week. But no horse playing in the halls. There are consequences.

3. On campus lunch is temporary: We get it, you're tired of eating in the cafeteria. On the plus side, you will get to go off campus for lunch throughout the year. That is if you stay out of trouble.

4. Get involved: Don't be afraid to try new things! There are so many opportunities in high school that you

didn't have in middle school. Join different clubs/teams and find where you belong.

5. Don't stress over the little things: It may be difficult, but always remember that you're not alone in this. Friends will come and go, the only thing that matters now is your work ethic.

6. Make the most of your high school years: You only get four years and then it's over. With that being said, make memories worth looking back on. You will laugh, cry, and meet so many new and wonderful people.

7. Always remember who you are: Doing what the "cool kids" do is definitely not cool. You will see many people change, even your closest friends. Don't let their decisions influence you to do the wrong thing.

8. Enjoy yourself: High school is not as bad as many make it out to be. Have fun, and never forget that you have many people around you to support you in whatever you choose to do.

With that being said, the biggest thing to take away from it all is don't over think everything, don't worry about people's opinions of you, just have fun and make the most of your high school years because they go by faster than you may think!

Students say....

Q: "What are your expectations for this school year?"

A: "What I expect during my senior year is nothing but positive. I expect to do my best in everything I do school-wise whether it's an athletic performance or an academic performance. I expect everyone to get along and leave all the bad baggage in the past. We only have less than a year together. I expect to make the best memories and have the best year possible. I have high expectation and goals for this year." **senior Vincent Hearon**

A: "I expect to expand my education further than I have. I expect Borger to go further in sports than we have, and I expect us to grow as a school" **sophomore Lauren Hogan**

A: "I expect that everyone will be nice to one another and help other out with their problems; for everyone to get along and treat others with respect. No drama and no rumors should be tolerated at all." **freshman Jamie Wells**

A: "I expect to make as many memories as possible. It's my senior year and I want to remember it as being the best year so far. I want to be able to look back and see that I made the best of my time with the best people, whether it was in academics, my community or my peer group." **senior Miranda McIntire**

A: "I expect a little difficulty, but not much. It's going to be a good year." **sophomore Kylee Browder**



Junior KayLea Burris, left, freshman Madison Line, and senior Emily Dickerson plan the 2016 yearbook at the Gloria Shields All-American Workshop in June in Dallas.

Photo by: Robyn Line

Journalism students ready for new year

The saying goes that high school goes by in the blink of an eye. The best way to capture the memories is ordering a 2016 Borgan yearbook.

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$55. Orders can be placed online at jostensyearbooks.com, or order forms can be gotten from Robyn Line in Room 206. The price of the yearbook increases throughout the year.

"So much work has already gone into this book before the year has even begun," said senior Emily Dickerson, Borgan co-editor-in-chief. "We hope to make a book that people will treasure for years to come."

The Borgan editors-in-chief are Dickerson and senior Micheal Laswell. Assistant editors are junior KayLea Burris, sophomore Kristen Baker, and freshman Madison Line. Photo editor is sophomore Chris Valdivia, and business managers are juniors Alex Gutierrez and Haylee Phillips.

If students are interested in purchasing a 2015 yearbook, books are on sale in Room 206 for \$75.

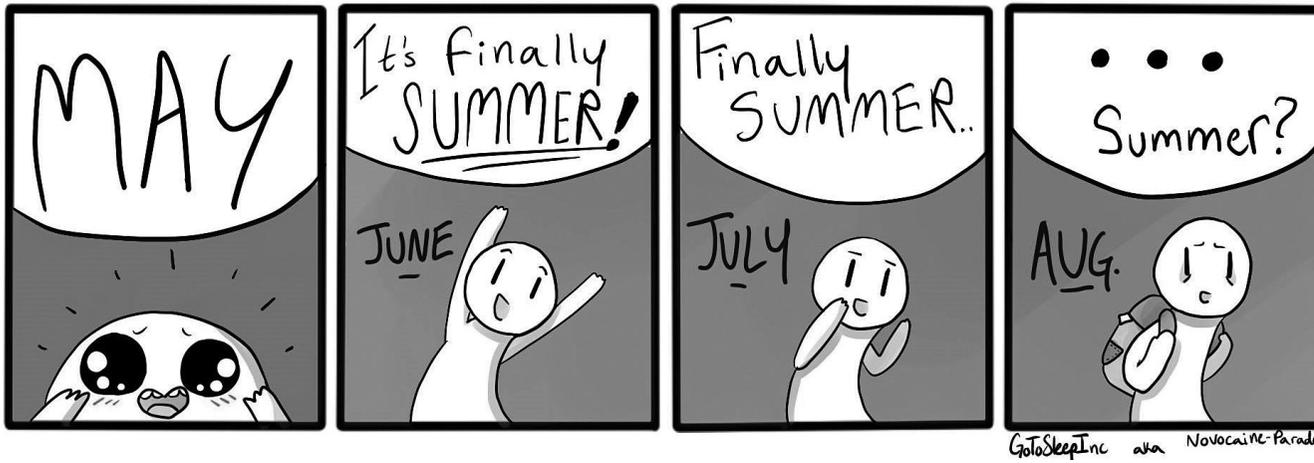
The Growl has a new look for the upcoming year, and will be published more frequently. Copies of The Growl can be picked up in the front office, the library, in front of the library, and at the top of the stairs in the 200 hall.

"I'm excited for this year, I hope to do something different with the paper and make it something everyone wants a copy of. We're already working really hard on making it into a great paper," said junior Lauren Gillespie, Growl editor-in-chief.

Junior Jayden Eddins will also serve in a leadership position on the Growl staff as photo editor.

The upcoming year is going to be a year of changes for the Borger High publications.

"We are working toward making the yearbook and newspaper more updated and more representative of our audience," journalism adviser Robyn Line said. "We've got a creative staff, and they've already been working really hard to make quality publications."



Summer classes renew focus

Spending your summer waking up early, going to class, studying and doing assignments? Most kids would rather go on vacation and sleep until noon. Although vacation and sleeping in sound appealing, so does getting a major head start on college and graduating with an associate's degree. I, along with 23 other students, got the privilege to start college classes early and the opportunity to graduate high school with an associate's degree. That means all of us will start college as juniors instead of freshmen, and it's good to start early with everything.

This summer we took Humanities and speech. So far, the classes have been fairly easy. College classes are like high school classes, but they do have their differences. Such as, in col-

lege, everything really is up to you. For example if you have a paper due at 9 a.m. on Monday, you have to have it turned in by that time, no matter what. With most classes you have to upload your assignments online into the student portal, and if the portal closes before you upload it, you get a zero, no exceptions. But in high school, we all know that you can turn in papers late and it not be nearly as big of a deal.

Another thing about college classes is the professors have higher expectations for your work. The quality of your work is expected to be higher than average in order to get the grade you want. You have to put more time and effort into your assignments. In high school classes you can do the bare minimum and get a

decent grade as long as you meet all requirements. With college you have to go above and beyond with it.

This experience so far hasn't changed my outlook on high school classes much. It has made me work harder and not depend on others as much for help.

Next summer is going to be quite a bit harder, though. We have to take college algebra and college trig, and math is a lot harder for me than Humanities and speech. I feel like next summer will be more of a challenge for everyone.

Even though getting up early and missing out on vacation time doesn't sound too appealing, being a college graduate and a high school graduate at the same time sounds pretty good to me. This has been a great experience so far and I'm excited to continue with the program.

Lauren Gillespie is a junior and Growl editor-in-chief.



Want to voice your opinion?
Drop off a letter to the editor to Room 206. Let your voice be heard.

Student involvement provides opportunity

High school is the time to learn and experience as much as you can. We have many different opportunities throughout the four years we are here to explore careers or talents we may not have known we had. Students should make sure to take advantage of the extracurricular activities offered.

Getting involved in extracurricular activities not only helps you figure out what you enjoy, but helps you get your mind off of the stressful core classes you're required to take. Extracurricular classes, or meetings, provide a good brain break throughout the day and give you a chance to

connect with other students. As Shia LaBeouf would say, "just do it."

Having a positive mind-set will help you reach the goals you are working to achieve. Whether it's studying hard to raise your grades, or practicing daily to better yourself at your favorite sport, you must be able to tell yourself you can do anything. You only get out what you put into it, so be as positive as you can and you'll have a great ex-

perience.

The extracurricular activities are for your enjoyment, but you should take them seriously. You still get grades in those classes, and they still count toward your GPA. If you're in the class just to get the credit, don't slack off, enjoy the time you have in that class and try to learn something.

Overall, just make the most of your years in high school. You only get one chance. Live your teenage years to the fullest. Meet people who will change your life and most importantly, be yourself, and love whatever you choose to do.

THE GROWL

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The Growl is a student publication written, edited, and composed by the journalism students of Borger High School, 600 W. First St., Borger, TX 79007. The Growl is researched, designed and written in order to serve both Borger High School and the Borger community. The Growl strives to provide a forum for staff reporters, faculty, and students to exchange ideas. The Growl strives to educate, inform, entertain, and provide for its audience through written and researched news articles, editorials, and feature stories. The Growl is a member of the Interscholastic Press League Conference (ILPC), Columbia Scholastic Press Association and The Quill and Scroll International Journalism Honor Society. The Growl welcomes signed letters to the editor. The right to edit the letters will be reserved based upon content and length. Letters should address issues of concern to audience members. The staff reserves the right to accept or reject advertisements. Advertisements, excluding illegal or obscene products, wills, prophecies and libelous statements will be sold per issue. Since The Growl is a member of the news media, it is guaranteed freedom of the press under the First and Fourteenth amendments of the Constitution. As a scholastic publication, it is under the jurisdiction of the Hazelwood Decision.



The football team lines up Perryton during a game in the 2014-2015 season.

Photo by: Micheal Laswell

Fall teams already at work

By: Lauren Gillespie
Growl editor-in-chief
& Isabella Stalcup
Growl staff

Hard work for the fall sports season began before school even started with summer camps, two-a-days, Beast Camp and time in the weight room. All players are taking the field, court, or track with the goal of excellence.

Senior JyUius Bumpus said he plans to enjoy this football season, build a brotherhood, “and for every player to be a leader not just on the field, but in the classroom.”

Junior football player Hagen Young said his goal is a state championship.

Laura Putts, junior golf player, said her goal for this year is to make her coach, her team and herself proud.

Senior golf player Jessica Hiberd said she wants to repeat the success of last year.

“I (want) to win district with my team again and make it to regionals for my senior year,” she said.

Tennis team members are aiming to do even better this year than they did last year.

Senior tennis player Lauryn Ammerman said she is definitely planning on winning state this year with her doubles partner senior Aaron Madden.

“That’s always been the goal, but since it’s my last year I’m really pushing for it,” Ammerman said. “I know it’s not going to be an easy ride there, but we’re all going to work extremely hard in order to get as far as we can. Basically I’m expecting my toughest year but also my best year yet.”

Cross Country runners plan to go the dis-

ance this year.

“I expect hard work from everybody, including myself, and that we just go out there and give it our all,” senior Joe Rodriguez said.

Cross Country coach Leslie Young said she expects every member of the team to give their all and run their best on race days.

“If you have not given your best practice each day leading up to those race days, you won’t be able to perform at your highest level during a race,” Young said. “Cross Country is a team sport, and for us to have the type of season we want to have, it takes everyone knowing their role and doing their part.”

Young said that to be a team, members must encourage each other, push each other, and put in a lot of time and a lot of effort.

“I always tell my runners that they will always get much more out of CC than they can ever put into it,” she said. “I want them to be proud of the work that they do and realize the importance of representing our school, our community, and our families.”

Junior volleyball player Destiny Miller said she expects her team to grow as a family on and off the court.

“We are coming back stronger than ever and we are ready to take on any challenge put in front of us,” Miller said. “As we grow as a team, our effort, work ethic and accountability grows with us to push us to our ultimate goal of being named champions.”

Junior volleyball player Victoria Nunez said schedule changes have made competition harder “but I think that will better prepare us for district working as a team and playing together.”

The beginning of the year brings with it a clean slate and the opportunity to excel.

Fall sports schedules

Varsity football

Aug. 28	Canyon
Sept. 4	@ Dalhart
Sept. 11	Bushland (Homecoming)
Sept. 18	@ Dumas
Sept. 25	Perryton
Oct. 1	@ Lubbock High
Oct. 9	Estacado
Oct. 23	@ Levelland
Oct. 30	Pampa
Nov. 6	@ Seminole

Varsity volleyball

Aug. 27-29	Argyle Varsity Tournament
Sept. 1	@ Caprock
Sept. 5	Canyon
Sept. 8	Highland Park
Sept. 12	@ Hereford
Sept. 15	@ Dumas
Sept. 19	@ Tulia
Sept. 22	Amarillo High
Sept. 29	@ Bushland
Oct. 3	Dalhart
Oct. 6	@ Pampa
Oct. 10	Perryton
Oct. 13	San Jacinto
Oct. 17	Bushland
Oct. 20	@ Dalhart
Oct. 24	Pampa
Oct. 27	@ Perryton

Cross country

Aug. 29	Borger Invitational
Sept. 5	Wolf Creek Classic Perryton
Sept. 12	Amarillo Invitational
Sept. 19	Lubbock Invitational
Sept. 26	Rebel Run Amarillo
Oct. 3	Canyon Invitational
Oct. 10	Spearmen Invitational
Oct. 16	District 1-4A HS Meet Perryton
Oct. 17	District 1-4A MS Meet Borger
Oct. 26	Region 1-4A Meet Lubbock
Nov 7	State 4A Meet Round Rock

Team tennis

Aug. 29	Borger @ Dumas
Sept. 8	Randall @ Borger
Sept. 26	Pampa @ Perryton
Oct. 1	Borger @ Pampa
Oct. 3	Borger @ Perryton
Oct. 8	Perryton @ Pampa
Oct. 15	Pampa @ Borger
Oct. 17	Perryton @ Borger
Oct 22 & 23	Area Tournament Lubbock
Oct 30 & 31	Regional Tournament Abilene
Nov 11 & 12	State Tournament College Station