

UCHS says goodbye to four senior cheerleaders

Cassidy Davis, the daughter of Eva Jean Welch and Rusty Davis, has been a football cheerleader for four years. Cassidy is the captain of the football and competition cheerleading squads and has been selected as the Best Base for two years and Best All-Around among the cheerleaders. In addition to football cheerleading and competition cheerleading, Cassidy is also a basketball cheerleader.

She currently serves as the Sr. Vice President of Student Council, Vice President of Students Against Substance Abuse and is a member of the Beta Club, the Yearbook Staff, and the United Community Bank Junior Board.

Cassidy was awarded the Senior Superlative of Miss UCHS and elected by the student body as UCHS Homecoming Queen this year. Cassidy plans to attend the University of Georgia, move to Great Britain to marry Prince Harry, become best friends with Kate Middleton, and have a lot of babies, all while becoming a doctor.

She would like to thank God for giving her all her strength, her family for their support, the Plott family for opening their arms and home to her, Mrs. Stuart for being the best forward roll coach and person in general, Mrs. Atkins for all the pep talks, Mrs. Shelley Thomas for all the many years she has given her, and her team for standing behind her and picking her up when she was down.

Chelsi George is the daughter of Steve and Sondra George. Chelsi has been a football cheerleader for two years and has received the Panther Pride Award, the Coach's Award, and the award of Most



Spirited Cheerleader. She has also been a basketball cheerleader for four years. Chelsi currently serves as President of the Unified Partners for Special Olympics Georgia, Vice President of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America, represented Blue Ridge Mountain EMC on the 2012 Washington Youth Tour, and is a member of the Beta Club. Chelsi was voted Most Spirited of the Class of 2013.

In the future, Chelsi plans to major in Early Childhood Education at either North Georgia College and State University or Young Harris College. Chelsi wishes to thank God, her family, and friends. Thank you to Mom and Dad for always being there for her, to Mrs. Plott for being a supportive coach through all of her years of cheerleading, and all the cheer girls for making her

senior year a great year.

Mikala Jones, daughter of Lycia Marie and Mike Jones, is the Co-Captain of the football cheerleading squad. This is Mikala's fourth year as a football cheerleader. She has also played soccer for four years. Mikala serves on the Executive Committee of the Beta Club and is a member of the United Community Bank Jr. Board, Student Council, Key Club, and Students Against Substance Abuse.

Mikala plans to attend the University of Georgia where she will major in English Education. Mikala would like to thank her parents for their support over the years, her sisters - Ashton, Kelci, and Erin - for being the best sisters she could ever ask for, Mrs. Plott and Mrs. Stuart for being amazing coaches, and God for all of the blessings He

has given her.

Chalonda Gail Strickland is the daughter of Johnny and Yolanda Strickland. This is Chalonda's third year as a football cheerleader and she has received the Panther Award for three years. Chalonda has also been a basketball cheerleader for four years.

This year, Chalonda was voted the Senior Superlative of "Class Favorite" by her classmates and had the honor of being on the 2012 Homecoming Court.

Upon graduation, Chalonda plans to attend North Georgia College and State University. In the future, she would like to marry her "Noah" from The Notebook and have a baby on the TV show "Toddlers and Tiaras". Chalonda would like to thank God, her family, and her friends for their support.

Pride of the Mountains' Senior Class

Maggie Wimbish is the daughter of Shaffer & Marla Wimbish. She has been a member of the color guard for the last two years. After high school, she plans on attending Athens Tech.

Kayla Fortenberry - she is the daughter of Shelly & Roy Fortenberry. She has been a member of the color guard for four years. Kayla plans to attend Athens Technical and study veterinary technology. She is the color guard co-captain this year and was the quartermaster in her Junior year.

Eryka Lager - she is the daughter of Keith Lager & Mary Ann Cook. She has been a member of the color guard for four years and plans on attending the University of Georgia and majoring in Animal Science. She hopes to one day open her own zoo. Eryka is the color guard captain this year. She has been awarded the most dedicated Color Guard member award.

Carli Kidd - she is the daughter of Sharon Kidd & Charlie Kidd. She has been the drum major for the Pride of the Mountains Marching Band the last two years and has played clarinet in band for seven years. She plans on attending Young Harris College to pursue a music degree. She hopes to one day teach high school drama. She is the local 4-H vice president and also been selected for district honor choir.

Kasey Combs - she is the daughter of Bobbie Combs. She has been in band for seven years and plays the flute & piccolo. Kasey plans on attending the University of Georgia and majoring in medical science. Her honors include membership in the North Carolina State Honor Band and district honor band.

Gloria Bowen - she is the daughter of Linda Bowen-Hughes. Gloria plays the flute and served as the high woodwind captain this year. She has been in band for seven years. She plans on earning a doctorate in Biomedical Science. Her honors include being a member of the Beta Club Executive Committee and Treasurer of the United Community Bank's Junior Board.

Alyssa Sinkler - she is the daughter of Gina & George Burnette and Jon & Christina Sinkler. She has played flute in the band for seven years. Alyssa plan on attending Truett-McConnell College and following God's will for the rest of her life.

She is the Flute Section Leader and is a member of the Youth Leadership Council at Antioch Baptist Church.

Kristin Dahncke - she is the daughter of Barbara



& Charles Dahncke. Kristin plays the saxophone and has been in band for seven years.

She plans on obtaining a degree in Mechatronics Engineering and work in the robotics field. She is the Low Woodwind Captain and has earned her Girl Scout Silver Award.

Wesley Murphy - he is the son of LaNora Murphy and has played saxophone for seven years. He plans on attending culinary arts school and opening his own restaurant. Wesley has served as the POTM Load Captain this year.

Ruth Mull - she is the daughter of Christi & Mark Mull. Ruth has played the trumpet for seven years in band. She plans on attending North Georgia Technical School and earn a degree in nursing or possibly mechanics.

Luke Loggins - Luke is the son of Jenny Loggins and his grandparents are Lavonda & Freddie Meeks. He plans on pursuing a criminal justice career and hopes to one day become a GBI, FBI or Narcotics agent. Luke has served as the trumpet section leader and high brass captain of the POTM Band.

Danielle Phillips - she is the daughter of John Gibson and her grandmother is Virginia Phillips. Danielle has played the clarinet in band for five years. She plans on going to college and becoming a paramedic.

Tucker Knight - he is the son of Carol and Lee Knight. Tucker has been in band for seven years and plays the Baritone. He is the band's

stage and equipment manager. He plans on attending Southern Polytech and major in Computer Game Design and minor in Computer Engineering. Tucker is the president of the UCHS Chess Club. He has earned his Eagle Scout Award and is currently an assistant scoutmaster for Troop 101.

Jeff Dyer - Jeff is the son of Jennifer Dyer and Jeff Dyer. Jeff has played the Baritone for seven years and is the section leader. He plans on majoring in music at Young Harris College after graduation. His band honors include Most Improved Player.

Seth Gowen - he is the son of Kathy & Seth Walker. Seth has been in band for seven years and plays the Tuba. He plans on attending college and earning a degree in Criminal Justice.

He hopes to become a FBI agent. He has been awarded the most outstanding Junior Award for Band and is a Sergeant in the Sheriff's Office Explorers.

Seth Wheeler - he is the son of Holly Turner and Adam Wheeler. Seth has played the Tuba for seven years. He plans on attending college and hopes for a life-long career.

Victoria Thompson - she is the daughter of Tom Thompson. Vicky has played percussion in band for 4 years.

She plans to attend college but is undecided regarding her major. She is a Band Uniform Captain and a Skills USA officer.

Sean Patterson Jr. - he is the son of Sean Patterson Sr. Sean has played percussion in the band for seven years. He

is the percussion captain for this year and was awarded the Outstanding Junior Band Member Award. He plans to attend college and enjoy life to the fullest.

Luis David Lara - he is the son of Sandra Lara. Luis has been a percussionist with the band for seven years. He plans to major in music in college. He is the Percussion Co-Captain for this year.

Stone Spiva - he is the son of Gene Spiva. Stone has been a member of the Pride of the Mountains Band for two years. He plans on attending college and eventually starting his own record label.

Gabriella Aleman - she is the daughter of Naomi Nelson & Michael Aleman. She has been playing French Horn since the 5th grade. Gabi plans on traveling to Nashville to explore her interests in music and photography. She later plans to return to Georgia and attend college.

She is also a member of the UCHS Chorus Advanced Ensemble and has earned the Coaches Award for Swimming.

Katie Rittenhouse - she is the daughter of Julie & Kerry Rittenhouse. She has played the French Horn for seven years. Katie plans on attending Georgia Southern University and major in Public Relations.

She is the Local 4-H Chapter President and a Northeast District 4-H Board Member. She has received the Daughters of American Revolution Outstanding Citizenship Award and is a member of the United Community Bank Junior Board.



Joe Collins

Tips from the Range

Avid golfers know the thrill of anticipation. It is exciting to know that a round of golf is scheduled for Wednesday or that the gang is getting together on Saturday morning for a skins game. We know that our skills will be challenged in one of the most demanding arenas in sports, and we want to score well and not embarrass ourselves in front of our playing partners. The challenge of trying to control both desires can be overwhelming but the desire to play golf is stronger, so we get our backs up and get ready to go for it. Now what?

There is a phenomenon in golf, in that, we can control how high our score will be, but you can't always control how low it will be. Food for thought!

Preparation will guarantee you a good day on the course if you do it correctly. Keep in mind it is much easier to prepare a round in your mind if you know the course, but you can still be ready when it is time to tee it up, even if it is the first time you are playing a course. You simply take the round that you are going to play and break it up into segments.

Know your strengths and weaknesses before you start your attack plans. Use those on the parts of the course you will play, to your advantage. Most courses have the holes drawn out somewhere so pay attention to the layout and how it fits your game, especially if it's your first time there.

When getting ready for that first tee adventure, think about the things you do well and not the things you are scared of. If you hit the 3-wood better than the driver, use that ability to your advantage at the right place on the course. If you play a 9-iron better than a wedge, then find the approach shots that you can play a 9-iron from. Play a club off the tee that will leave you with a 9-iron distance to the hole. Distance is not always the key to scoring lower but proper

distance can be. Only plan on hitting shots off the tee that leave you a comfortable yardage on the next shot. Many times I saw players hitting different clubs off the same tee when I played in competition. It was not uncommon to see one player with a driver and another with an iron on certain par fours. It all depended on how they were hitting the other clubs in their bags. You could rest assured they felt that was their best play and they weren't afraid to play what was better for them, on that hole, on that course, for that day.

A full round of 18-holes can be exhausting both mentally and physically so look at the round as a series of six 3-hole courses. It really helps you to play better if you lower the span of concentration to a shorter goal. Plan on being no more than one over after the first three holes and the same on all the rest of the "three hole" courses. This takes the pressure of expectation off your shoulders and allows you a little break every three holes to re-evaluate your strengths and weaknesses. It is acceptable to change the game plan as long as it is the way you're feeling about how you are swinging the club. You will need to really be in tune with your game to make a change in your attack plan so be careful.

Golf is played one shot at a time and each shot affects the next. A course has many twists and turns and can be played from several different angles so plan your round so that you play from the areas that fit your strengths. If you're scared of a shot on a certain hole, plan a shot that you can be comfortable with and that will help you with the rest of the holes. If you start playing badly, shoot for the highest percentage areas and don't keep battling the same bad shot all day, plan your "bale-out" areas for just such an emergency. Take your time and think things through when planning your round. A round of golf should take around four hours and a half, so don't get in a hurry. Plan your shots to play your best and the round will be enjoyable even if the score is not your lowest.

Good luck and I will see you on the course!

UCMS Wrestling



Coach McCann gets an up close look at one of his UCMS wrestlers. The UCMS wrestling team had another successful tournament at Towns County. There were several individuals wins. Tyree Mackey finished 4th in the 84 pound weight class, Isaac Tritt finished 3rd at 98, and Bo Lynch finished 2nd at 152.

UCHS Wrestling upcoming meets

Nov. 28 - @ Riverside Military 5 p.m.

Nov. 30 - @ Towns Co. 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 - @ Towns Co. 9 a.m.

Dec. 4 - vs Hayesville, NC 5 p.m.

Dec. 7 @ Towns Co. Duals Tourney 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 18 vs Murphy & Andrews 5 p.m.

UCMS Wrestling upcoming meets

Dec. 1 - @ Pickens Co. 9 a.m.

Dec. 4 - vs Hayesville, NC 5 p.m.

Dec. 11 - vs Fannin and White Co. 5 p.m.

Dec. 14 vs Towns and Fannin 5 p.m.

Dec. 15 - League Traditional Champ. 9 a.m.

Dec. 18 - vs Murphy & Andrews 5 p.m.

UCHS Beta Club serving Thanksgiving Day meal



The Union County High School Beta Club assisted Neighbor's Hand, a local ministry, in preparing and serving Thanksgiving Day meals. The Beta Club worked in shifts throughout Thanksgiving Day serving others.

Students working the first shift were: Front row: Richard Rivera of Neighbor's hand, Emily Cumming, Allison Edwards, Marissa Akins, Andorah Collins, and Emily Arrant. Second row: Kaitlyn Wasko, James Row, Kyle Wade, T Bentley, Jeremy Webb, and Chris Delapiano.