The Arrow

Sequoyah High School -- 4485 Hickory Rd, Canton, GA -- Fall 2020 -- Volume XVII Issue 1



Photo by Grayson Belanger

Students balance school and a global pandemic



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Volleyball team sets up the new normal (pg. 3)



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TikTok is dancing its way up the charts for pop culture (pg. 12)

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The Arrow • Fall 2020

Ingram looks to have a breakout junior season

TI Murphy

Junior Aiden Ingram, a member of the boys' cross-country team, is heading into his third high school cross country season with high expectations. He has already set some high standards for himself this year.

"This year I am hoping to improve significantly and finish in the top 25 in each race especially towards the end of the season when it matters most," Ingram said. "By the time the Cherokee County Championships roll around, I expect to place top 10 if not top 5."

After breaking the 18-minute mark over 3.1 miles last season, Ingram placed in the top 15 at the county meet. This year, however, he expects to improve his time.

"My best finish last year was at the varsity county meet where I placed 14th out of 42 with a time of 17:34 for 3.1 miles," Ingram said. "By the end of this season, I hope to have a new PR of 16:30 for a 5k."

As for the rest of the team, Ingram sees a lot of promise for the upcoming season. He believes that the team's strong core of runners, as well as the upperclassmen's leadership will lead to a successful year.

"As of now, we have a strong top 3 in me, Josh Helms, and Jake Labasi," Ingram said. "As the season progresses, I expect the team to become stronger. The seniors are doing a great job leading the team and accepting all the new additions to the team this year."

After a successful sophomore season, Ingram expects to have an even better one this year. As for the team, he believes that it will be a great season.



Junior Aiden Ingram races his teamates after a nine mile run. Ingram placed 14th out of 42 at the varsity county meet. Photo by Grayson Belanger

Athletes in qurantine Q & A

By TJ Murphy



Photo by Grayson Belanger

Conner Gelatt

Football- 11th grade

Q: What did you use to substitute a lack of gym equipment?

A: "I would line up trash cans, and I would throw the ball into them to work on accuracy."

Q: Did you follow a consistent diet?
A: "I followed a weight gaining diet, and it helped gain muscle mass."



Photo by Darby Rose Photography

Martha Isley

Volleyball- 12th grade

Q: What did you use to substitute a lack of gym equipment?

A: "At home I have a set of dumbballs."

A: "At home, I have a set of dumbbells, and sometimes I would use resistance bands to build up my shoulder muscles."

Q: Did you learn anything new in terms of fitness?

A: "If I do the moves right and concentrate on the muscles I'm targeting, I found that I was burning more fat and building more muscles than before. So I learned that every move has a purpose, and if you do it right, it will serve its purpose."

Photo by Grayson Belanger

Laurel Blase

of fitness?

Swimmer- 10th grade

Q: Did you learn anything new in terms

A: "I learned how to stay in shape in

different ways other than my sport. As

a swimmer, it was strange for me to be

getting much of a swim workout in, so

it was interesting to see the difference

staying in shape like other athletes do. '

A: "I followed a semi-consistent diet I'd

say. During the first part of guarantine

I didn't eat too healthy, but the second

half, I was snacking a lot less and eating

more fruits and veggies.

Q: Did you follow a consistent diet?

running for almost an hour a day and not

Volleyball team sets up the new normal

By Grant Davis

2019: a year that will be long remembered. In the first half of last school year, Sequoyah had two teams go the State Championship game within two months. One team was the Flag Football team who made their school debut memorable by getting to play their last game at Mercedes Benz Stadium in the State Playoffs, and the other was the Lady Chiefs Volleyball team who had not been in the state championship match since 2015.

Last year's volleyball team made it to the State Championship Match but lost to Allatoona 3-2. Even though the team did not win the championship, the experience of being in that final match was a very exciting and memorable moment for many of the girls on the team.

"The rush of being in the state playoffs and the joy of being with the team. Getting hype in the locker room and feeling the support from the team. The bond we made impacted all of us in an unbelievable way in my opinion, and that's one of the best moments all season," senior Kelsey Cedro said regarding the feeling of playing in the championship game last year.

Martha Isley is another senior who was on last year's volleyball team, and she found the whole playoff experience to be exhilarating.

"Playing Pope in the elite eight at [Sequoyah] was my most memorable moment from last season," Isley said. "The band was there, and the energy was insane!!! The student section was crazy."

With such a long and successful season last year, this coming season looks to be bright for the Lady Chiefs. The girls on the team all have high expectations and big goals. "[This season] is my last season, so I am just looking forward to having fun with my team and seeing how far we can go in the playoffs this year," senior Emma Bjerke said.

While she is looking forward to all the memories and having fun, Bjerke also has high expectations for her team.

"As a team, even though we have a few new people, we have a lot of the same players as last year, so our goal is to make it as far as last year and to win state instead of being runner up," Bjerke said.

Not only does Bjerke have goals for this season, but the entire team does, from the freshmen all the way up to the seniors: from wanting the team to improve on little things like their serves, to wanting to make it back to where they were last year. For Isley, it is all about their second chance at the state title.

"[I am most excited about] getting the chance to redeem ourselves from last year. We all really want to win state this year," Isley said. "My goal is to give maximum effort every time I step on the court."

With all these hopes and goals there has been one big wrench thrown into the middle of the volleyball season, the Coronavirus. The virus has caused this year's season to look, and feel, a lot different than last years'.

"We can't be in huddles, we have to use hand sanitizer every time we get water, we can't give high fives after plays or really even touch each other, we have to wipe down every ball after every practice, and fewer people can come to games," Bjerke said regarding the new guidelines that GHSA has put in place to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The virus has not only caused a change



Emma Bjerke stands next to Coach Edwards, who is wearing his mask, in a socially distanced huddle. Mask wearing and social distancing are two of many guidelines that were put in place to maintain safety during this season. Photo by Grayson Belanger

in the physical aspects of the game, but it also has taken a little bit of a mental toll on the

"We can't give high fives this year," Isley said. "This is hard for us because we are very energetic and interactive players. We all hate not being able to hug and high five."

All though safety is the number one

priority everywhere right now, it can be tough mentally to get used to these new ways. With an exciting season coming up for the Sequoyah volleyball team, the players are ready to see just how far they can go during this new normal we are living in.

Taylor Pecht

Volleyball- 10th grade

Q: Did you learn anything new in terms of fitness?

A: "Yes, it was actually really fun for me because my brother Collier was home, so I got to join in with him for some workouts sent from his football coaches. I learned how to lift because we never really did that during the season."

Q: Did you follow a consistent diet?
A: "I definitely realized that I was going to have to start eating healthier because I wasn't burning nearly as many calories as I would be during club season, so I began eating less chips and snacking on



Tomus Satterfield

Wrestler- 12th grade

Q: What was your weekly routine to stay in shape during quarantine?
A: "My weekly routine during quaran-

and doing some sort of workout."

tine was running at least 3 times a week

Q: Did you do any mental preparation?

A: "The mental preparation I did was I watched a lot of college wrestling and I did watch some of my own matches and tried to see what I did wrong and fix them."

Sarah Squillace

Softball- 12th grade

Q: What was your weekly routine to stay in shape during quarantine?
A: "I would wake up around 10:30 and do a 45 min ab workout and finished with a

a 45 min ab workout and finished with a mile run. I would also hit for an hour off the tee every day."

Q: Did you do any mental preparation?

A: "I watched a lot of workout videos on TikTok and kind of mashed them together to make a workout that worked for me."



Dylan Wolle

Basketball- 11th grade

Q: What was your weekly routine to stay in shape during quarantine?

A: "I woke up every day and went to lift at Coach's house with Nick Lee and Fisher Mitchell. Then I would get a basketball workout in with my trainer or with my dad. I would either rest the rest of the day or go play pickup with my friends at night."

Q: Did you learn anything new in terms of fitness?

A: "I learned that when you stay with the program you'll see true results as long as you stay consistent and focused on the grind."



gether to mak for me."

Softball seniors slide through high school

By Jack Blackman

Lauren Anderson

Second Base

Varsity Experience: 4 years

Travel Team: Georgia Power 18u



Favorite Memory-

"I would say my favorite memory was the very last practice of junior year. Whitley put a huge tarp on the field with soap and water so we had this slip and slide and that [was] all we did the whole practice."

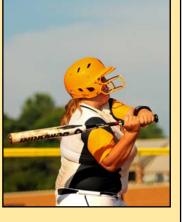
Commitment: undecided

Hannah Rivers

First Base

/arsity Experience: 1 year

> Travel Team: Titans Softball Academy



Favorite Memoru-

"My favorite memory is hitting the game-winning hit."

Commitment: undecided

Macy Robinson

Pitcher

Varsity Experience: 4 years Travel Team:

Firecrackers



Favorite Memory-

"My favorite is beating Allatoona my junior year."

Commitment: undecided

Sarah Squillace

Short Stop, Second Base

Varsity Experience 4 years

> Travel Team: Georgia Impact O'Neal



Favorite Memory-

"My favorite memory was my sophomore year when we beat Allatoona who was #1 in the state and swept Dalton in the same week."

Commitment: Samford University

Katie Vansword

Second Base, Outfield

/arsity Experience: 4 years

Travel Team: Georgia Impact



Favorite Memory-

"My favorite memory is all of the Creekview games because they are always interesting and high intensity."

Commitment: undecided

Cadance Winder

Third Base, Catcher

Varsity Experience: 4 years

Travel Team:

18u Vipers



Favorite Memory-

"Creekview game sophomore year when we almost beat Creekview, we were all having so much fun."

Commitment: undecided

Flag football girls redefine football gender norms

In 2019, the Sequoyah flag football team had their inaugural season. The team did not disappoint by any stretch of the imagination. They won the county championship and went to the Mercedes-Benz Stadium for the unofficial state tournament, where they lost to Collins Hill High School. While at the Benz, it was officially announced that for the upcoming 2020 season, flag football would be adopted as a GHSA sport.

This announcement meant that the state of Georgia would now recognize the sport statewide, and more counties and schools will create teams. This is a great moment for young women across the state and hopefully for the whole country in the coming

In a sport that has been seen as a lane for men only in the past, the women are finally getting a chance to shine. Sequoyah's new head coach, Lane Ryan, calls it, "yet another outlet for young women to compete

From a player's perspective, this is a huge moment. Sequoyah wide receiver, Joy Karimi, is very pleased with GHSA's decision regarding flag football.

"Now female athletes have been provided the opportunity to play a predominantly male sport and dominate it," Karimi said.

As special as it is for everyone, it could also mean more competition and trouble for the Chiefs. Karimi views the change in a different way and thinks the team is still at the top of the competition.

"Unlike the new teams, Sequoyah does have past experience which puts us a step ahead in comparison to the joining teams," Karimi said. "Our previous knowledge of the game is a key to how we compete this season."

The extra experience does play a big factor in important moments, such as the playoffs, but the increased competition is still relevant. Coach Ryan sees the new competition as a challenge for the girls, and she acknowledges the abundance of talent and athleticism across Georgia; however, she expects the girls to live up to the challenge.

"We saw such tremendous success (last season), so I want to set the standards even higher for practice each day in order for us to achieve that same success," Ryan said.

Last season, the state playoffs resulted in a loss in the final four for the Chiefs; they hope to bounce back and make a deep run this year as they build on the foundation that was set last year. They are dedicated to win this season, regardless of any new obstacles in their way. The team is locked in and ready to

New football coaches look to add spark against new region competition

Everyone handles change differently. Some people may be uncomfortable with the situation, while others love the challenge. However, for Sequovah Football's new coaches heading into the 2020 season all four of them hold the same goal - to win.

A great coach of any sport can prove to be one of the most influential figures in the busy life of a high school student athlete. Football offers a perfect example of the mark that a coach can leave on a player, on and off the field. The new coach of the defensive backs, Coach Ryan, strives to leave each player he coaches with valuable life lessons that they can utilize off the field.

"I believe in being a mentor and role model to the young men I coach," said Coach Ryan. "I also hope to teach them what it means to be a self-disciplined and hardwork-

Coach Ryan is confident in his ability to put the players he coaches in the best position to succeed by providing as much football knowledge as possible. Furthermore, Coach Ryan holds the key to an extremely important collection of knowledge that can help the Sequoyah Chiefs tremendously in the upcoming season: experience against the brand-new region opponents.

"Coming from Centennial in 2019, I have coached against almost all of the Fulton County schools that are now in region 7-6A," Coach Ryan said. "There are a lot of talented athletes on the rosters of Johns Creek, Chattahoochee, Centennial, and the rest of the new

Coach Ryan holds high expectations for the 2020 Chiefs football team. He believes that the mix of young and veteran talent gives the team a legitimate chance of winning the new region. However, with the uncertainty that fills each day in fall sports, each player knows that any one play might just be their very last.

"We have preached to our guys that with the ongoing pandemic, each game may be the last...so we have to practice and play like it is. They have taken it to heart and it's starting to show in the way we are preparing and practicing," Coach Ryan said.

The relationship building with the athletes on the team is something that new offensive line coach, Coach Barrett, finds extremely important in his first year with the squad. He holds the obvious goal of team success but thinks that there is more to being

ing young men develop skills from football that will make them successful in life," Coach Barrett said

Coach Barrett considers himself

"The greatest part of my job is watch-

extremely passionate about improvement. He wants to build a unit of offensive linemen that functions as one rather than individually. He believes this starts with him being the first one there and the last one to leave. Concerning the new region, Coach Barrett likes the sound of trading away Harrison, Allatoona, and Dalton for three new teams.

Coach Collins, the new defensive line coach, believes that his experience and knowledge of the game can be of huge help for Sequoyah football in 2020.

"I have been blessed to be a part of many successful programs in my career," said Coach Collins. "Sequovah can now be added

He anticipates the players to play hard, fast, physical, and disciplined. If that is done, then winning will take care of itself. Like the other coaches, Coach Collins takes pride in building relationships with his players, holding them to high expectations, and making it known that he expects nothing but their very best. He knows that in sports, goals should always be set for the stars. He looks to win the region championship and move on to the state playoffs.

Coach Brown, the new coach of the slotbacks, sees himself as a player's coach. He thinks that the coaches and players around him view him as a cheerleader and teacher

as opposed to a tyrant on the field. One of his main goals is to do a great job for the coaches around him and all the players that he is surrounded by. Coach Brown believes that perfecting the little things are vital to Sequoyah's success in the upcoming football season.

"If we're doing the little things right and eliminating mistakes in practice, we will have a chance every Friday night," said Coach

Coach Brown believes that the new region offers a great opportunity for Sequoyah to be competitive every Friday night, regardless of who the team faces. However, he thinks that losing the two teams in Sequovah's last region that played for the state championship is a good start on paper.

Being a coach is one of the most challenging roles that anyone can accept; but the new coaches of Sequoyah football are all in, prepared to take on the challenge. Coaches Ryan, Barrett, Collins, and Brown look to contribute to the team's success in the new region. They also strive to leave a lifelong impact on every player that has the great opportunity of being a part of the 2020 Sequoyah Chiefs football squad.



Covid-19 from a Senior's Eyes

By Sydney Pate



Due to Covid-19, the senior class of 2020 definitely had their fair share of unforeseen circumstances and disappointment. So much so, that many students did not get to experience their final prom or even have a graduation celebration. Because of this, several communities rallied around them to make sure they still felt celebrated for their accomplishments. But what about the senior class of 2021?

Originally, most of us assumed that our quarantine situation would only last at the maximum of a few weeks and that Covid-19 would be gone as soon as it came. However, we now know that this is not the case. As the class of 2020 has moved on to continue their lives outside of high school, the senior spotlight has shifted onto the class of 2021. Many of us have serious concerns if we are actually going to get the senior year that we have been working towards since we began school so long ago.

I think that the majority of the class of 2021 has come to the understanding that it may not be the year we expected, but we are still hopeful to have a year in general. Many seniors this year are playing their final season of their beloved sports and concluding their final year of a club they have been involved with. If we go digital again, these things may not get to happen, and many of us will be left without a chance to say goodbye to the things that we love. Although it may not seem important to everyone, many of us seniors have been counting down the days util our final games, prom and graduation, and it would be

devastating to not be able to experience those. Because of Covid-19, all of these things are at risk. Thankfully, there are several ways to actively participate in stopping the spread of this devastating virus.

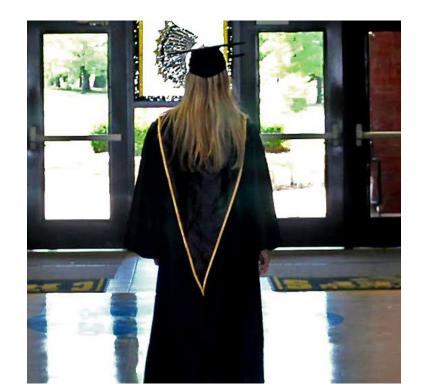
As most of us are probably already aware, one of the biggest ways to stay healthy and help keep others healthy is to wear a mask and practice proper social distancing. I know that this may sound repetitive and that everyone has been told this over and over again, but it really is important. Although there have been debates over the effectiveness of masks since we do not fully understand Covid-19 yet, there are some simple proven benefits of wearing them.

According to the CDC, "masks are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the mask coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice."

Although some still might not be convinced, or simply not care if they contract Covid-19, think about it like this. For Sequoyah High School, if one person is diagnosed with Covid-19, every person deemed to be in "close contact" with them must be quarantined for ten days. If a certain percentage of the student body is diagnosed and/or quarantined at one time, the school is subject to close and be required to switch back to digital learning until further notice. Although this might come to be the best option we have, I am quite sure that many students, especially seniors, would much rather have a full, normal year.

Finally, if you still need one more reason to be careful, consider this. Even if none of these reasons seem to apply to you, I am almost positive that nobody wants to go back into quarantine where we felt isolated from the rest of the world. If you do not do your best to practice safe habits, you will be more at risk for contracting Covid-19, even if it is not a severe case.

For all of these reasons, I encourage all of you to continue or start wearing a mask and to maintain proper social distancing regulations so that we can all help to make this year a great one.



Saving America's favorite fall pastime

By Jack Piskorz



Who would have ever pictured the fall season without college football? In the midst of the craziness of Covid-19, the Big Ten, Pac-12, Mid-American, and Mountain West Conferences have all canceled their fall college seasons. Whether that means postponing or cancelling altogether, the decision by each conference's respected athletic directors to cancel the fall season is one thing and one thing only: wrong. Everyone in support of calling off the fall season holds the same argument of safety for the players. However, what if I told you that playing the sport they love so dearly would actually keep them even safer?

For the months prior to the cancellation of college football in the fall, every university has and still follows a strict set of rules and precautions to ensure the safety of the players and staff. Mandatory mask wearing, social distancing, sanitizing, and frequent testing were actions taken religiously to make certain that college football was a safe environment. Even with the team Covid statistics, which were extremely impressive and posted weekly, athletic directors and presidents made the decision to call off the season in multiple conferences. Not to mention, the CDC confirmed that hospitalizations for Covid nationwide are now at their lowest point since March. It is extremely understandable the sheer pressure that those of higher power hold, and while it is impossible to please everybody, the safety of the players always comes first. However, their safety is at the highest point when they are following the strict guidelines in the shielded environment of their facilities. With the fall season rolling around, the numbers are about as low as a country as large as American can hope for, yet so many stadiums across the country will be dead-silent come the first Saturday of the fall

The statistical evidence backing the support for a fall season is tremendous. It is worth noting the population that college football deals with: 18-24 year olds that are in the best physical condition of their lives. These same athletes spend nearly 16 hours of their day around the same members of their football team, rarely being exposed to anyone outside the facilities. Cancelling the fall season would remove the players from that safe environment and throw them right

back into the outside world, where the safety precautions are less commonly followed and exposure is at a personal all-time high. In a new study from the CDC, only 6% of deaths can be directly tied to having died from Covid as opposed to with Covid. Therefore, 94% of others who have sadly lost their lives died having other pre-existing health problems. Given the age and prime health of college football players, how many of these athletes have a pre-existing co-morbidity? Given the fact that .2% of college-aged people have died from Covid, where is the big safety risk that these athletic presidents are so concerned

Even more crushed than the fans are the players and coaches, who have worked tirelessly the past few months just to have their efforts squashed right in front of them. Players and coaches from all different conferences affected have spoken up about their desire to have a fall season, meaning that they do not see their safety in any jeopardy whatsoever. Rather, they are having a higher power make the wrong decision for them, giving them no say at all. Protests have broken loose, petitions have been created, and statistics have been pulled, all in hopes of reversing the decision of the conference presidents. Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh continues to fight for his players and staff, releasing a statement that included the team's Covid statistics. Michigan football had zero positive tests out of the last 400 administered, including zero positive tests among the coaching staff in the past eight weeks. Similar stats are held by other teams across the country, proving the college football environment to be safer than the decision to cancel the season It is without a doubt that the Corona-

virus is a serious pandemic that should not be ignored. Many people across the world have unfortunately passed away because of it, and it is always of athletic presidents' best interest to keep players and staff as safe as possible. However, in these unprecedented times, the presidents of college football are sadly failing to open their eyes and see the bigger picture, and instead making the mistake of canceling the fall season. This is a decision that can be reversed or improved upon, and that is what so many fans, players, coaches, and families so deeply long for. Committees from each team meet regularly within their conference to discuss any possible new changes that should be put in place. With the possibility of a new decision always on the horizon, hopeful players and fans aspire to hear the news that the fall season is back on and only delayed a few weeks. Not only is college football such an important part of so many athlete's lives, the environment around their team and in their facilities is the safest environment possible. Now, all the college football world can do is sit back and wait, hoping that the right call can finally be made. After all, what's fall without college football?

-Staff Editorial -About the Arrow

Sequoyah High School is made up of 2,052 students with different interests, passions, problems, and beliefs. We have 170 faculty and staff members who devote their time and effort to bettering our futures, while still caring for their families, acting as mothers, fathers, husbands, wives, and friends. We have coaches, club advisors, pathway teachers, and trip advisors who put in extra time to make it possible for our students to be involved in more than just the education aspect of high school. They make it possible for us to build friendships, play sports, participate in clubs, get volunteer hours, and make memories that will last forever.

As the school newspaper, we care about the variety of passions and perspectives of our student body. We believe it is important to let all our students voice their opinions and talk about more than just

learning. Our goal is to cover Sequoyah in the most widespread way possible, and to keep the SHS community informed on each feature of our school.

The Arrow has three sections: entertainment, news, and sports. Our entertainment reporters write about many popular topics including trends, activities, fashion, film, and music, while tying it all to the students of Sequoyah and the trends seen around our school. Our news section interviews students and teachers to write articles about a variety of events, from world news to changes happening on our campus. Lastly, our sports reporters cover each sport at Sequoyah and focus on some of our star athletes, but also write about college and professional sports. In addition to the three sections, we have dedicated photographers who attend almost every sporting event and extracurricular opportunity to provide The Arrow with the best visual coverage possible.

Each member of our staff is here because they enjoy writing about our school and want to share their love for Sequoyah with the student body. We put so much time and effort into each article, and we work to make sure every newspaper we produce will apply to each student at Sequoyah and be an interesting read for everyone. As COVID-19 has changed our world in the past six months, it has also affected the way that we get to share our articles. Unfortunately, we cannot currently print the newspaper due to the risk of everyone touching the prints as we pass them out; however, it is still so important to us that our articles are read and seen by the SHS community. All of our articles are posted on our website; take a minute to check it out!



Editorial Policy

The Arrow is a student-produced print and online news publication that strives to provide information and entertainment to the Sequoyah

High School community. The Arrow does not knowingly print anything that is libelous, obscene, or a violation of privacy or copyright. This publication follows the district student publications policies. Although the majority of the print and online news will cover events in an objective manner, both will have an opinion section. Columns are opinion pieces that reflect only the writer's opinion on a topic. Editorials are opinion pieces that reflect The Arrow's editors' opinion on a topic addressed in an article in the publication. Finally, The Arrow encourages Letters to the Editor where our readers can express their opinions on the topics from our publication. All opinion pieces will be in the Opinion section of the print or online publication.

The Arrow sells ad space in order to afford production costs. Costs of advertisements vary based on size. We do not publish ads for products illegal to minors or political advertisements. The Arrow reserves the right to refuse any advertisement if it is deemed by the editors to be inappropriate for our readers. Please contact us at shs.arrow@cherokee.k12.ga.us if you are interested in advertising in our publication.

Although the students who produce The Arrow always strive to be completely accurate, we make errors sometimes. We encourage readers to contact us or our adviser, Marla Hooper, if they notice an error.

Letters to the Editor

If our readers have an opinion about something they read in our publication, we encourage them to write to us. Each letter must include a valid name and email address. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar, and length. We will not print any letter containing obscenity or threatening language. The Editor-in-Chief may decide which letters to print based on available space and the desire to provide a balance of different viewpoints. To submit a Letter to the Editor, email us at shs.arrow@cherokee.k12.ga.us.

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Outer Space + Military = Space Force | Teachers adapt to new normal

By Sydney Harvey

Towards the end of 2019, a new branch of the Armed Forces was added: The United States Space Force (USSF). This was known as the Air Force Space Command (AFSPC), but on December 20th, 2019 it was renamed the United States Space Force. Just like the other Armed Forces, the USSF has its Headquarters located inside the Pentagon. Any person that was a part of the AFSPC was transferred to the USSF. However, the people that were transferred, are still Airmen of the U.S. Air Force. This service was created to protect the United States and their allies while

Senior Ashley Kanga, a member of ROTC, has been studying up on Space Force

"The Space Force is a symbol of possible opportunity and growth for the United States. It only goes to show that we, as a nation, are entering a time where space security and research has become more important than it has in the past," Kanga said.

Some may think Space Force is taking over NASA's job. Senior Yair Reyes, also a member of ROTC, has recently gained knowledge on Space Force.

He stated the reality of "the USSF deals with Space Warfare against other countries while NASA deals with peaceful applications of space science and space exploration," Reyes said.

Although, USSF and NASA may do similar things and have similar missions, they are still different and have their own jobs. Space Force "will be focusing on the tracking of NEOs (comets, asteroids, etc.), along with overall protection of space," Kanga said. "NASA is a civil research space agency. Their function does not really include major space security and warfare." Kanga believes that "satellite tracking and protection from possible foreign warfare is important" is where the USSF comes into play. NASA would not be able to complete this type of work alone.

Reyes believes that with the addition of the United States Space Force, "we could definitely get much further than we have ever gotten to colonizing Mars." We would have the opportunity to "send men and women to parts of space that we never even thought could be possible." With the USSF and other agencies that are involved with space, the knowledge of what we know here on Earth, would drastically be increased, which could lead to larger and more in-depth space explo-

With this new addition to the Armed Forces the United States could see/learn new things about space that we never knew existed. With this being said, the USSF could lead to huge new beginnings for us and for the

While students scrambled to adapt to old routines and schedules with the announcement of school reopening, teachers were faced with a different challenge; how do you adapt to teaching within a health crisis? How can you assign group projects when students are encouraged to socially distance from each other? What can be done to make sure quarantined students get the same quality education as their peers in the building? For social studies teacher Paul Peacock and English teacher Cathy Murphy, grappling with questions like these defined a large part of navigating this strange new world of teach-

Trying to plan engaging, collaborative assignments for the classroom is a challenge when new factors like contact tracing and social distancing are thrown in the mix. Mr. Peacock feels that his inability to plan these types of assignments has restricted a lot of in-class activity.

"It was a challenge with social distancing in class- it has limited and created challenges to student centered, creative, interactive learning that I have always done in the past," Peacock said.

Dr. Murphy shares a similar opinion about the difficulty of collaborative learning in the age of the coronavirus. Contact tracing makes things especially difficult.

"This year, I've been hesitant to partner students with people they don't already sit near. I feel like they're constantly discussing with the same people, so they're not getting

the variety of perspectives I'd like them to get. For Dr. Murphy, planning for teaching distanced learning in and of itself posed its

own unique difficulties. "(One of) The main differences [in planning was I that I was constantly thinking about how the lessons and activities could be modified if we went digital." Murphy said.

She also worried about the effectiveness of online learning because the experience of being in class can't be replicated in the digital space.

"It's tough to recreate what happens in a classroom. The point of a debate or a Socratic seminar, for example, is to have a chance to articulate your views and hear how your classmates may see a topic differently. Online discussions are less natural and exploratory," said Murphy.

Mr. Peacock says relying on digital platforms so heavily has been a challenge for

"Familiarity with Canvas and how to find things, and of course motivation and communication [are challenges]," said Pea-

Both teachers seem to have gleaned one thing from the interesting circumstances of this year: the future of teaching looks a lot

"Who knows what the future may hold. I can say that technology and its use will continue to be a very important part of education; even more so than pre-COVID," Peacock

What's really happening in Yemen?

Opinion by Saylor Davies

From Instagram videos to Twitter threads, it is hard to miss the trending, "Crisis in Yemen." However, what many people might not know is that this crisis is a true tragedy that has been going on for 6 years. The starving children seen on social media have been suffering, and we, Americans, can make a difference.

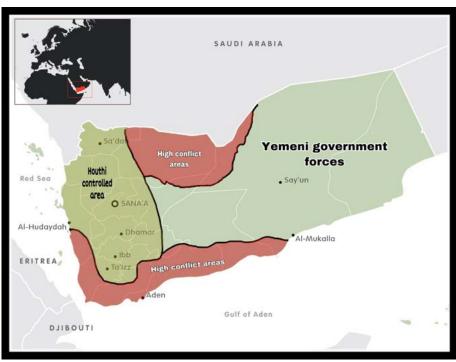
The state of the country began to decline as a transfer of power occurred in 2011. Longtime president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, was forced to pass off his power to current president, Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi. Problems arose from the start but did not begin to erupt until 2015.

It was at this point when a group named Houthis, who were rebellious and supported Saleh, took over the capital city. This caused Hadi and other important government leaders to flee. Saudi Arabia then began to get involved. They built up a Saudi-led coalition and military campaign, to achieve the goal of regaining control of Houthi-led areas and give the power back to Hadi.

Since then, the conflict has only grown and become more disastrous. Due to the constant air war. Yemen has, and continues to face, one of the biggest humanitarian crises of our time. Citizens all over the country are being killed daily, and buildings

and other infrastructures have been destroyed in battle. A study done in 2019 reports that more than 12,000 Yeminis have been killed because of the war since 2015, and the numbers continue to grow every day.

to survive. Places such as hospitals, communication towers, and buildings used to generate power throughout the country. This led to Yemen's already broken economy to become even more destroyed.



The destruction of many important buildings and other infrastructures throughout the country is leaving civilians without jobs and Yemen without crucial equipment and places needed for the country

Thousands of families have become jobless and no longer have a steady source of income, leading to extreme poverty. Recent reports have shown that 2/3 of the country do not have access to clean water nor

enough food to keep them healthy. Hundreds of thousands of young children are dying daily because of the lack of nutrients. Many Yeminis have fled the country in hopes of finding safety, but many civilians are trapped inside of Yemen living in crowded, damaged homes with no food or water.

The people of Yemen have been suffering for years and many Americans have no idea. Yemen needs all the support it can get, which means we as Americans need to step up and help them in this time of need. Doing as much as donating can help to rebuild and support the country as well as the people in it. Organizations such as Save The Children and Project Hope make it easy for anyone to donate at any time.

Situations such as these show just how important it is that Americans be aware of what is going on in places other than the US, so we can come together and do something to support them. It is important that we spread the word, while truly understanding what is happening.

For that reason, it is important to continue to share the stories as much as possible. So, educate yourself, educate your friends, and donate to make a difference in the Yemen tragedy and others.

Student activists take a stand

By Delaney Harrison

Over the summer, many new political and social issues came to light and many people took action through a series of different protests and events. Although protests have been a form of activism throughout history, over the past few months these events have become more common. Students from across the school raised their voice by participating in these protests and other events that have happened within the past couple years.

Downtown Woodstock hosted a series of peaceful protests in reaction to the multiple murders and race-related hate crimes that happened across the United States. The protests had an abundance of students in attendance, including junior Ellie Clay and a sophomore who chose to stay anonymous.

Clay explained that she decided to attend the event because "[she] is very passionate about human rights and was devastated to see [her] brothers and sisters being [persecuted] for no reasons other than their skin color." While the anonymous sophomore thought "it was the right thing to do, although [they] are not a person of color, [they] have a lot of extended family that are black or mixed."

While Clay only attended once in June. The sophomore stated "all the protests I attended were in Downtown Woodstock. Although I don't remember the exact dates, I attended consistently for the first two weeks of June. I think I spent a total of 15 hours protesting over those two weeks."

Another student, junior Alex Lammens attended Pride 2019, which is a festival-like event that is meant to bring together members of the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate diversity and differences. This event took place in Atlanta during the weekend of October 12th. When asked why she attended she explained "[She] had never went to pride before and wanted to be surrounded by people with similar beliefs and experience and interact with the [LGBTQ+] community."

The Downtown Woodstock BLM protests were described as "generally positive" by

The sophomore stated that "there was absolutely no violence and there were a lot of supporters driving by and honking their car horns. Everyone at the protest was very inclusive and it was very empowering to be around everyone. Although some counter protesters showed up a few times, they were respectful and nothing bad ever happened.'

Clay contradicted this statement

"There were counter-protestors who threw glass bottles at us and angry men yelling and spitting in my face for simply holding a sign with Breonna Taylor's face on it, [but] It was a beautiful thing to see people of all races kneeling, preaching, and crying out for the lives of black people to stop being taken for no reason. It was a very powerful thing to fee the love from people who just want black lives to matter too, [and] choosing to stand their ground peacefully and not fight hatred with

Atlanta Pride is an extremely large event, attracting more than 320,000 people. Lammens explained that "[the event] was quite stressful in the beginning due to the fact that [she] is not good with big crowds, but then got more comfortable as the day went on and got more expressive and outspoken."

While these events were advertised as peaceful, all three students described their parent's emotions as "worried" and "concerned for their safety" yet "proud." Clay's parents attended with her, allowing her to voice her opinion safely.

With the world changing right before our eyes, society needs a new voice to express opinions, and that voice belongs to our generation of students.



Junior Ellie Clay holds a protest sign with Breonna Taylor's face on it. She attended protests in Dowtown Woodstock in June. Photo proveided by Ellie Clay



Protesters gather together in Downtown Woodstock. The protests were mostly peacful except for a few counter protesters. Photo provided by student who participated in protests in Downtown Woodstock

Students cast their vote for the upcoming election

As the election nears, some students at Sequovah are beginning to finalize decisions about who they are or who they would like to be voting for. In this election, Joe Biden will be running against Donald Trump for the seat in the Oval Office.

Senior David Ramos knows exactly who he will be voting for this election. Ramos supports candidate Donald Trump because "he has all the right enemies" Ramos said. He also said that Trump stands out to [Ramos] because "he thinks like a businessman and says what he wants to say."

However, other students who lean towards the left, like sophomore Troy Scott, have faith in Joe Biden as our forty-sixth president. Scott said he supports Biden because "he will improve the lives of all Americans. [Biden] believes in the lives of people of color and LGBTQ+ people."

Senior Christopher Cox is a proud Trump supporter as well. But, it was never that way at first, "Me and my family never supported [Donald Trump] at first. What was brought to the table was incredibly impressive and I instantly saw that what [Donald Trump] was vital for this country," Cox said. Cox also feels sorry for what President Trump must face. He believes "[Trump continues to face hardships and obstacles given to him by the opposition, but he has overcome these obstacles and continues to strive," Cox said.

Sophomore Taylor Pecht also leans to

the right along with Ramos and Cox. Pecht agrees with Trump in that "people should have to work for what they get." Pecht has always been open to other ideas but said "she has always supported Trump" and believes "America would be an awful place [with Biden as president]."

Scott has not always been a fan of Joe Biden, "At first, I never supported Biden, I was strongly supporting Elizabeth Warren."

"TikTok and multiple generation Z media outlets keep [Scott] informed on problems in the current administration," Scott

Cox has found that supporting Donald Trump made him realize many things. Supporting Trump made Cox realize the importance of money; "money is the driving force of keeping a country alive rather than our own sanity. Money is an essential to live, and it is very important to handle it well and make good decisions with it," Cox said. He believes Trump has done well for our economy.

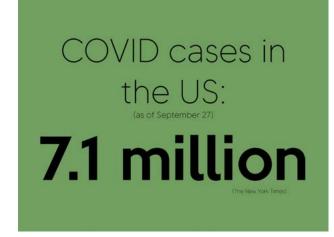
For Ramos, supporting Donald Trump has led to realizations in life.

Ramos said, "finally deciding [who to vote] for has led to a new outlook on individuality. You have to be your own person."

Students around Sequoyah seem to have all around different political opinions. Elections will be held November 3rd, 2020. If you're eligable, be sure to vote!



Coronavirus facts and statistics



COVID cases in Georgia: 298,000

COVID cases in Cherokee County: 6,066

COVID cases in each county:

Do you have COVID?

1. Fever/chills 2. Chest pain 3. Cough

4. Sleepiness

5. Low blood pressure 6. Loss of taste and smell 7. Headache

If you have any of these symptoms, stay home and consult with your

Tips for coping with the coronavirus

- 1. Take frequent breaks from social media
- and other upsetting content.
- 2. Reach out to friends and family.
- Go for walks outside.
- 4. Seek help if you feel overwhelmed.

Online vs. on-campus learning: Did you make the right choice?

At the beginning of the year students were faced with two options: whether they should go back to school or give online learning a try. Making this decision did not come easily, especially considering the pros and cons on both sides.

Online school seemed to be an option that students were wary of choosing for a multitude of reasons. Students didn't really know what to expect since they barely had any experience with digital learning and didn't know how it would affect their grades.

Freshman Ella Schipscke said, "I made the choice of doing school digitally because it was the safest option for me and my family."

She also expressed that she enjoyed having the freedom to wake-up later than usual and the ability to work at her own pace.

Freshman and first-time digital student, Cayla Johnson, said, "Online was the best option for me because my brother is immunocompromised, and I didn't want to put him at any risk."

Johnson also explained that she liked that the online schoolwork has been fairly easy for her, so she's been able to get ahead in her classes.

Most classes that online students are taking are all about working at their own pace, but its implied that they should still be doing their work and advancing every day.

Johnson pointed out some of the disadvantages about online saving "since most online classes are self-paced it makes it more difficult to keep yourself in check." She also commented "I have to remind and push myself to do my assignments and make sure that I'm not going to fall behind. Which isn't an easy task it requires a lot of self-discipline, and this is something lot of people may have trouble with, especially procrastinators like

Overall, both Schipske and Johnson

said that digital learning was more of a place holder for school until everything with the pandemic cooled down.

Making the decision of going back to school in-person wasn't any easier. Parents and students were worried about whether it was safe enough to return, but one of the reasons that many did choose to go back was because the core classes are harder to learn through online teaching programs.

Junior Will Sloan chose to come back to school because of the difficulty level that some of his classes were and the dilemma of not being able to comprehend it digitally.

Sloan commented "classes such as math are much more difficult to learn through a screen".

He also added that being able to see his friends and peers again was another factor to his return to school

Sophomore Kimberly Burgos decided on coming back to school because of the teaching methods that the school offered.

Burgos said, "In person teachers can provide me with a much better teaching method, than I would receive if I had chosen to do school digitally."

During quarantine many students were having trouble with their mental health because they weren't allowed to hang out with their friends and socialize very much. Sloan and Burgos both added that being able to see their friends again also played a significant role in their decision on returning to school.

The biggest disadvantage that in-person students faced was the close proximity that would happen between hundreds of students every day.

Sloan and Burgos explained that their main concern about returning was the possibility of getting the COVID-19 virus, but they decided that the benefits of going back were better than the possible outcome.

For teachers, this year has taken them



Freshman Ella Schipscke sits at her desk as she works on her digital learning schoolwork. She chose to go digital because it was the safest option for her and her family. Photo provided by Ella Schipscke

quite a bit to adjust to. If it were any normal year, they would be assigning students to groups for projects, and making connections with each of them. As most people know though, this isn't any normal year. They've had to take precautions, one of them being socially distancing.

English teacher, Mr. Dayton said that at this point in the year he would normally be putting students into groups. However, students have had assigned seats and aren't allowed to move around as much.

Mr. Dayton said, "[They're] kind of stuck working with whoever is near them".

This makes teaching a little bit more challenging for the teachers, but not unachievable. The bonds between students and their teachers is something that most look

forward to every year; however since some students are digital learning, it's been more difficult to make those bonds

Virtual math teacher, Mrs. Nichols teaches her class through APEX. This method does not require much instruction on her part. Students email her with any questions or concerns that may arise with their lessons.

Mrs. Nichols said, "I feel that students can grasp concepts better when they have a connection with their teacher."

Overall, everyone learns differently and what might work for one student might not necessarily work for others, which is why choosing between online or in-person school is entirely subjective. It's been a rollercoaster and the ride is just getting started.

Safety Precautions put in place to prevent outbreak of COVID-19

By Delaney Harrison

Since the beginning of the school year and reopening of Sequoyah, various measures and methods have been taken to ensure the safety and health of students and staff.

The county has required certain procedures such as requiring all teachers and staff to wear a face mask or shield throughout the entire day, as well as the use of plexiglass barriers in areas such as the nurse's office, the attendance office, and the lunchroom.

A mandatory seating chart is required for all classes, enabling close contact tracing in order to notify students quickly if quarantine is necessary. Lunch is now split into two sessions per lunch period, with the inclusion of a study hall period. During lunch, students are only allowed to sit in every other seat and must scan a QR code in order to maintain a seating chart in the lunchroom.

Sequoyah has taken an assortment of extensive measures. For example, hand sanitizer is provided in majority of the campus hallways as well as several reusable water bottle filling stations that can be used as a substitute to water fountains.

The county provided each school with stickers promoting social distancing and maintaining a six-foot distance between one another; these stickers can be found around the school in high traffic areas and near vending machines. Posters including the

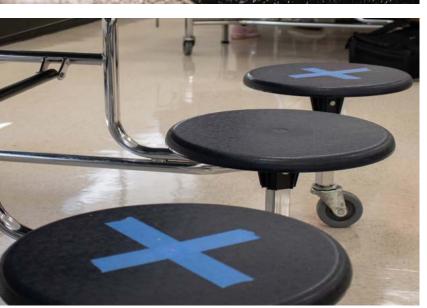
symptoms of Covid-19 and precautions that can be taken can also be seen posted around the school.

Many teachers have made modifications to their classrooms in order to promote and maintain social distancing throughout the day. Classrooms have been provided with bottles of hand sanitizer. Many teachers have also taken time out of their days to wipe down their classrooms with disinfectant wipes. Various teachers around the school have been using masking tape lines in order to keep students from coming too close to their desk.

While the county, school, and teachers are providing students with a variety of different methods to stay healthy, students can also assist with keeping one another healthy. One simple method that can be taken to stop the spread of Covid-19 is the use of a face mask. Masks have also been proven most efficient in slowing the spread of the virus if all people are wearing them. Students can also help by maintaining a six-foot distance from their peers whenever possible.

Prevention of Covid-19 is a key necessity when it comes to staying in school. Students and staff can help the effort of slowing the spread by taking advantages of the required and optional safety measures and changes.

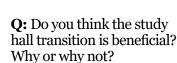




Safety Dos and Dont's



Ava Frey, 9th



A: "No, because lunch still gives you enough time to do work and transitioning takes more time; students are still passing each other when switching between the lunchroom and theater."

Q: Do you think the school should have to screen students/staff before entering the building?

A: "If the students/staff are not feeling good in the first place then they should stay



Jake Labasi, 10th

Q: Are the hand sanitizers around the school a good addition? Why or why not? **A:** "They have the right idea and purpose, but if you think about it everyone touches those to clean their hands, so all the germs spread to the handles which doesn't help prevent the spread of COVID."

Q: What is one thing the school is doing well?

A: "Quarantining those in close proximity to infected people."



Brock Freeman, 10th

Q: Do you think the school is **Q:** What would you change trying to enforce the practice to increase the safety of stuof social distancing? Is it effective?

A: "I think the school is doing the best they can to implement social distancing policies, but we have a smaller school and a lot of kids, so it's very hard to come up with effective policies."

Q: Do you think the study hall transition is beneficial? Why or why not?

A: "I do not think the study hall transition is beneficial. We are exposed to hundreds of kids every day in the hallways and in the classrooms [and] it is inconvenient for the teachers because there needs to be double the amount to supervise the students. I think it is more trouble than it's worth."



hand washing or sanitizing

before and after each class.

Another thing would be to

chairs between classes."

Q: Do you think masks

should be mandatory?

A: "My personal opinion on

masks is that they shouldn't

be mandated and just en-

couraged like Sequoyah is

doing right now. This is my

<mark>I'm aware</mark> of that."

belief even though everyone

<mark>might no</mark>t agree with me and

mandate sanitizing desks and

dents?

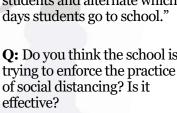
Austin Durr, 12th

Q: What would you change to increase the safety of students?

A: "If it was possible, I would make classes have less A: "I would highly encourage students and alternate which days students go to school."

> **Q:** Do you think the school is trying to enforce the practice of social distancing? Is it

A: "Yes, in classes we sit far apart and at lunch, we have to sit farther away to limit the spread."



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TikTok is dancing its way up the pop culture charts

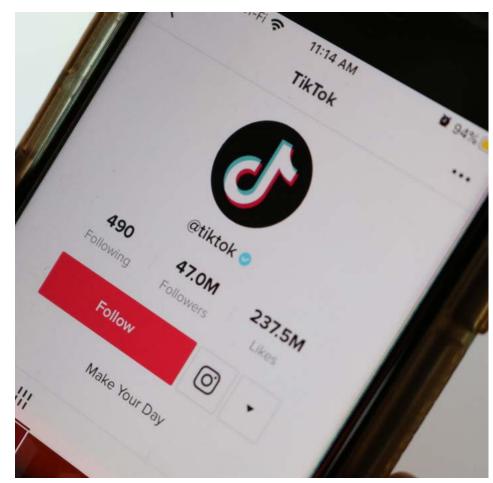
Ever since the beginning, TikTok has been full of songs that you cannot get out of your head. At least five songs from TikTok are on billboard top 100 streamed songs every month. And at least 15% of Sequoyah students who responded to an Instagram poll said their favorite song came from TikTok. Some of the most popular TikTok songs such as "Supalonely" by BENEE ft. Gus Dapperton, "Lottery" by K Camp, "Say So" by Doja Cat, and "No Idea" by Don Toliver are the songs that the artist is most known for just because the song went viral on TikTok.

Because of the recognition that other artists are getting from their music on TikTok, many artists are now creating music that could be cut into a smaller clip for the sake of gaining viral status on the app. Going along with small clips of music, the length of songs has decreased by 20 seconds from 2013 to 2018 and continue to drop because artists would rather have "loopable" beats and lyrics in hopes to catch the attention of users. The best example of this is the famous song "Old Town Road" by Lil Nas X. The song is only one minute and fifty-three seconds, but it is

one of the most famous songs in the United States. This song has the record of holding the number one spot for best song on the hot 100 for billboard top hits. Just like most songs nowadays, this song started on TikTok.

Artist have begun to see how popular TikTok is in this day and age and have begun to use the app to promote themselves. For example, Post Malone uses the app to post videos of himself to attract new listeners. Camila Cabello did something very similar and created a dance to her new song "My oh My (featuring DaBaby)." The dance caught the eye of TikTok star Charli D'Amelio. After D'Amelio made a video dancing to the song, the video got 4.5 million likes and 27 million views. Shortly after Charli's video, Camila Cambello's songs was number one on billboard top hits.

TikTok has helped well-known and lesser-known artists in the music industry in so many ways. The app has brought in over 14 million dollars in 2019 to the music industry. TikTok is not only changing how people find music, but also how music is being created



2019 vs. 2020 summer Tik Tok trends

The Tik Tok trends from summer 2019 to summer 2020 have changed a lot only in a year. When the app Musical.ly developed into Tik Tok in the summer of 2018, it started out with a few dances, but was mainly just "transition" videos. Now that Tik Tok has evolved, more and more influencers on the app have created dances to go along with a short fifteen second clip from a song. Summer 2019 was just the start of some of these great dances

Many people debate over whether summer 2019 or summer 2020 trends were better. According to a survey, 75% more

people preferred Tik Tok in 2019 over 2020 because it was less of people competing for attention and more of just having fun while dancing. Lately, people have realized that 2019 was definitely less drama filled than 2020, which caused more people to enjoy the app last year. Also, many claim that Tik Tok 2019 was a lot more interesting and interac-

Some students thought that the trends were better and more fun in 2019. There were also a lot of "challenges" happening during this time which caused the app to be more entertaining for users.

According to the survey while more people enjoyed summer 2019 over 2020, 25% of students said they enjoyed 2020 summer. Many of these students prefered 2020 because the trends were a little more energetic and spontaneous compared to summer 2019. Also, there were more dances/trends in 2020 that students enjoyed because there were more new dances to learn every week.

During the summer of 2020, the pandemic caused many more students to download the app which caused TikTok to increase drastically in popularity. This resulted in more people frequently coreographing and

producing dances to new songs. In 2020, Tik Tok updated the app, so creators now have more access to new ideas. For example, the app gives users tools like filters, voice overs, control over speed, and even access to professional audio and more. This allows creators to generate content that they would otherwise not be able to easily make on their own.

Many students prefer 2019 over 2020 because the app provided better content for many young adults and kids. The trends over summers 2019 and 2020 have kept millions of people entertained for hours a day.

Finish the lyric-TikTok edition

1. But we still said forever. And that was	_ago.
2. I said ooh, I'm by the	
3. I only asked you to show me a time	
4. I'd walk through for you me adore you.	
5. It's just but you like her better. I wish I were _	
6. Did a full, crazy, thinking 'bout the way I was	
7. I tried to scream, but my was under	
8. Feeling, never Got that on m	ny Sunday
9. I hope you know she's the one by the of the	·
10. So what a gotta do? To be totally locked up by	_·

Local celebrities: Sequoyah students have thousands of followers on TikTok



Junior Maddie McNeal smiles for the camera. She has over 29 thousand followers on Tlk-Tok. Photo by Julia Rucker

Since the app TikTok was launched in 2017, the app has had 1.5 billion downloads and 800 million users. In 2018, it became the most downloaded app in the apple store.

When it was originally released as Musical.ly, the purpose was for young people to have fun singing, dancing, and lip-syncing, but it turned into much more. The app quickly changed from people dancing for fun to small businesses promoting themselves, silly challenges, DIYs, food recipes, trick shots, etc.

Now, brand companies such as Washington post, NBA, and NBC use the app to get more publicity. Unlike many other social media platforms, TikTok has a very wide range of users that have different styles, personalities,

Junior Maddie McNeal is one of the students at Sequoyah that has had some luck going viral on TikTok. McNeal currently has 29,200 followers, and her most famous video received 1.9 million views and 98,900 likes.

She started making TikToks "because [she] was bored and thought they were fun-

Her favorite videos are anything that makes her laugh, but she is not a fan of the dancing videos.



posted it as a joke. Photo by Julia Rucker

She says that she uses TikTok more than other social media platforms such as Instagram and snapchat "because it is more entertaining," McNeal said.

With controversy of TikTok getting banned Mcneal "would be very sad because I [would] have nothing else to do in my free time and I do not want to do school," Mcneal

Along with McNeal, freshman Julia Poje has also gone viral on TikTok. Poje has around 2,300 followers, and her most viral video received 617,900 views and 122,200

When Poje posted her viral video she "just posted it during her 3rd period as a compete joke and had no idea it would go viral like that," Poje said.

Poje started making TikToks "for fun it was like a thing to do with my friends," Poje

Poje's favorite trend is "Any dancing trend, I guess. They are always fun," Poje said. Poje agrees with Mcneal about how she would feel if TikTok did get banned.

"I would be sad," Poje said. "Hopefully it doesn't. I definitely spend lots of time on it and it is just fun."

WHY DO YOU LIKE TIKTOK?

"When you're bored they don't take so long to watch!" -Maddie Griffith (9th)

"[The videos are] short and entertaining. And, they are different than YouTube' -Lauren Simon (9th)

WHY DO YOU LIKE TIKTOK?

"[It's] entertaining and [it's] funny" -Chloe Richardson (11th)

"I like how short the videos are and there is a variety" -Julia Colona (12th)

> "It's entertaining" -Lynley Palmer (11th)

By Savanna Harvey

Teachers and students change their styles throughout quarantine

By Arianna Martinez

Ouarantine has hit everyone, leaving people at home without being able to do their daily activities since March. Stores closed. and essential businesses shut their doors. Since people are spending most of their time at home, many of them changed their styles throughout quarantine. A lot of people cut their own hair and got creative on what they wanted to change or make for themselves. Quarantine has motivated people to try new things that they have never done before because they are stuck at home and new ideas are key to staying active throughout quaran-

Special education teacher, Ms. Greene, has traded out her normal, everyday clothes for scrubs.

"The way they are made helps potentially repel germs and they are easier to clean and launder for repetitive wearing," she said.



Junior Caylin Payne: before her quarantine

Sequoyah

On March 15th, 2020 Sequoyah

switched to a Digital Learning plan to comply

with the Covid-19 quarantine protocol. From

March 15th to August 3rd, Cherokee County

Quarantine has

sparked interests in

new hobbies around

Ms. Greene has several different types of scrubs, from joggers to open-end scrubs. Wearing scrubs can have several benefits that help both at school and at home.

"The ease of cleaning them, laundering them is definitely a pro. The comfort is a pro and the added pockets for stuff is a bonus," she said.

Ms. Greene has made a change to her style and it has helped in many ways to be safe. Her style change was primarily to make it easier to deal with covid while students changed their styles for fun.

Junior Caylin Payne didn't like her previous haircut, so she decided to cut her bangs because she had a good amount of baby

"I was like, 'to heck with it' and decided to finally cut them," she said.

She didn't use any tutorials, so she did it all on her own and her reaction had mixed feelings.

"Well at first, I didn't know how I felt. It went back and forth to each extreme, but I ended up liking it," she said.

She also started to go thrift shopping, once stores began to open. "I love how it's so much cheaper than

buying normal clothes and some people thrift the coolest things, so it's nice to find the hidden gems," she said. Caylin started her thrifting by going

to goodwill where they have a lot of unique items to thrift. Another student who has changed their style is Alyssa Elmore, a junior, who decided to completely go from brown to red

"I was influenced by many other people online that had been trying something new with their hair over quarantine since they wouldn't be going out for a while anyway. I was interested to see what I would look like,"

A lot of people have done new things with themselves especially during this time where they would hardly be seen in public.

"I liked the results I think it was a nice color to go with my freckles and eyes," she

Alyssa said that she wants to do it again, but not soon.

Quarantine has opened the doors for new style changes and has allowed people to go through a path they haven't gone through before. They are able to try new things that maybe they would have never done if it weren't for this pandemic.



Junior Alyssa Elmore: before her quarantine style change



Junior Alyssa Elmore: after her quarantine style change

WHAT DID YOU DO DURING

"What I did durning quarantine was slept a lot"

my friends"

"What I did during quarantine was help my family and sleep"

"What I did during quarantine was go up to the mountains and also did dance camp" -Tatum Shirley (9th)

During quarantine a big go-to project was redesigning rooms. Throughout quarantine many students discovered new styles that they wanted to incorporate into their rooms. Since students had so much free time when they were at home, they have had time to rethink different aspects of their rooms.

There are tons of different styles students could choose from, but most picked a simple, modern style that made their rooms look more sophisticated/grown up.

Sophomore Ally Williams and Freshman Ava Frey were two students who gave their rooms makeovers over quarantine.

Williams said, "I wanted to do more of an at home style and I mixed a little bit of farmhouse, industrial, and modern around the room along with the color schemes of white, gold, and pink."

Frey said, "The style I chose for my room was more of a farmhouse look because I incorporated some greys, whites, and some

It was difficult to find stores that were still open because of quarantine. But Williams was able to get all of her décor from places like Marshall's, Tj Maxx and Ross.

With these stores being limited in occupancy, Williams said that it "took about 3 weeks to fully decorate and reassemble my

Social media has played a large role in students changing their styles.

Social media influencers such as "Annie LeBlanc, [have] helped decide the color scheme of my room," Frey said.

Even though most students are influenced by popular social media stars, some students just create their own style.

"I had always wanted to redo my room, but I was not really influenced by any social media influencers. I chose to go with my own style," Williams said.

During quarantine students have had tons of time on their hands which has caused them to rethink their styles and choices in their bedrooms. Especially during quarantine students spent more and more time in their rooms, so they wanted somewhere where they can enjoy and hang out, and not just a place to sleep at night.

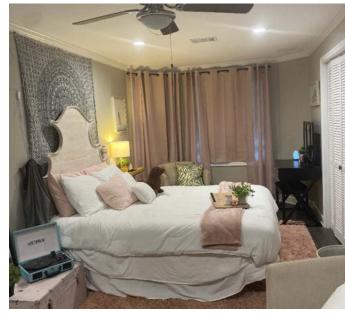


Students redecorate their rooms during quarantine

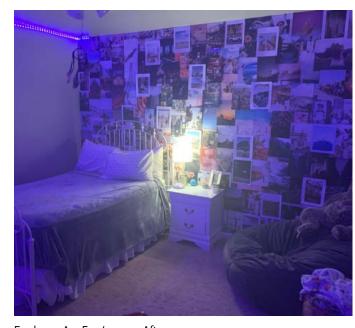
Sophomore Ally Williams' room: Before



Freshman Ava Frey's room: Before



Sophomore Ally Williams' room: After



Freshman Ava Frey's room: After

Quarantine and chill: Netflix subscriptions are higher than ever during quarantine

What did you do for most of your time during quarantine? Did you learn a new skill, spend too much money online, learn a new tik-tok dance, work out, or binge eat? If you are like most teenagers, you probably spent majority of your time binge watching shows and movies. Since everyone had to stay home for three plus months, most people turned to Netflix and other entertainment programs for

During quarantine, Netflix's subscriptions skyrocketed, whereas other similar businesses' subscriptions began to plummet. Popular titles such as Tiger King, Outer Banks, and many others brought in countless new viewers to Netflix.

According to the Pittsburgh Gazette, "Netflix gained 15.8 million global subscribers as quarantine binging boosts profits."

During the beginning of March, Netflix's streaming numbers raised tremendous-

The New York Times post stated, "During the week of March 16, Americans streamed more than 156 billion minutes of content, up 36% compared with three weeks earlier, before the social distancing restric-

"My favorite service to use is Netflix

because it has more options and categorize the shows and movies better to what I like to

Sophmore Addison Richardson also loves Netflix and watches shows daily.

"One of my favorite shows at the moment is I am Not ok With This," said Richardson. "A show that I [also] love and would recommend for someone would be The Umbrella Academy."

Freshman Nevaeh Roth is an online student this year, so she has been spending a lot of time at home. Roth has been binging lots of shows since the begining of the pan-

"My favorite [show] that I just started to binge would be Criminal Minds because every episode was different than the last and it kept me occupied." said Roth.

Roth gets recomendations from her family and friends.

"My favorite show that someone recommended to me was Outer Banks because there were a lot of turns that I didn't expect,"

Since the beginning of quarantine, Netflix subscriptions and publicity went way up. Their wide variety of quality shows and movies has appealed to millions of people across the globe during this global pandemic.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SHOW?

"Family Guy" -Elizabeth Cooley (12th)

"My favorite show is Cobra Kai" -Jordan Campbell (12th)

> "Baking Wars" -Aaron Registre (12th)

"My favorite TV show is Gilmore Girls" -Elyse Robbins (11th)

"I'm currently obsessed with Avatar: The Last Airbender and the Legend of Korea" -Roman Begley (12th)

had its longest summer break at four months and twenty-one days. During this time some people picked up new hobbies, as they could not leave their houses. Junior Gavin Young was driving down

the road on an errand around the middle of quarantine. While stopped at a light, he noticed a plant nursery. It inspired him, and he started his own garden. He planted Hydrangeas seeds, and

over the months the seeds have blossomed into a beautiful Hydrangea bush. "It's blooming now, so I'd say [I'm happy with my garden]" Young said. "I've been taking pretty good care of it."

Now that the flowers have bloomed, he is going to go buy some nets to keep the caterpillars out of his flowerbed. He highly recommends that people start gardens.

Young suggests planting larger plants like vegetables "only if you live in a rural area or have a lot of space, and if you live in more suburban or crowded places you should plant more bushes or flowers."

Senior Kayla Crisp has spent her time learning embroidery and cross-stitching. Crisp received a set of embroidery tools for

Christmas, and she had plenty of time to practice over the past several months. Crisp spends a lot of time embroidering her backpack and it has different cross stitch designs. "The cross stitch is of a character from

Junior Caylin Payne: after her quarantine

style change

a game I really like" said Crisp.

The character on her bag is known as Junimo, from the game Stardew Valley. She is very proud of her handiwork, and it makes her backpack one of a kind.

English teacher Mr. Dayton developed a taste for bird watching over the summer. It started when a friend suggested he put in a

He got the feeder and welcomed the arrival of new birds. With the help of his trusty binoculars and a Field Guide of birds in Georgia, he now sees lots of cardinals, Gold Finches, and Red-tailed Hawks. Mr. Dayton recommends birdwatching because it is very calming yet requires little effort.

Hobbies are a great way to relieve stress and relax in your downtime. They can be especially rewarding when the effort you put in has a physical impact on the world around you, like Young's proud hydrangea or Crisp's fabulous backpack. Finding hobbies that bring joy into your life are a wonderful way to keep happy in these unprecedented

QUARANTINE?

-Catherine Nguyen (9th)

"Play video games, play basketball, and talk to -Peter Kerns (10th)

-Aracely Lopez-Reynosa (9th)

"During quarantine I played summer soccer, [hung] out with friends, watched movies, and slept"

-Hailey Philip (9th)

Freshman Sarah Pittman is an avid

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