

# The Arrow

DOME OF THE CHIEF

**Class of 2021: 4 years in review**

Sequoyah High School -- 4485 Hickory Rd, Canton, GA -- May 2021 -- Volume XVII Issue 5

# The Arrow seniors reflect on their



## More than a game

By Lily Feyerabend

Sequoyah soccer has been an experience that helped shape me into the person that I am today. Unfortunately, I broke my collarbone playing club soccer the day before high school tryouts my freshman year. I had to have surgery to repair the bone and faced months of rehab and recovery. I was devastated and was forced to miss the majority of what would have been my first high school season at Sequoyah. Despite the setbacks caused by my injury,

I returned sophomore year and have played Varsity every year since then. I have made amazing friends that are more like family and memories that I will cherish for many years to come. However, most importantly, I have learned the importance of hard work, dedication, and persevering through whatever challenges life might throw at you. I am forever in debt to Sequoyah soccer and the lessons it has taught me.



## Successful Failure

By TJ Murphy

I will forever be grateful for the relationships and the lessons that being a member of the Sequoyah High School baseball program has provided for me. I entered the program as a 15-year-old clueless freshman, unsure of who I was or what I wanted out of life. It feels like it was just yesterday. Over these past four years, I have struggled tremendously, I have failed brutally, and I have let myself down time and time again. I have made errors, I have blown games, I have even struck out with two outs in the last inning of a

one run game -- but that's baseball. As Winston Churchill once said, "Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." My enthusiasm for this game and the success of this program has only strengthened. From all the failures, pain, frustration, and pure heartbreak my time playing this game has provided; I have learned and matured a great deal. I will always be grateful for the game of baseball, this program, and every relationship I have built as a result of it.



# time playing Sequoyah sports



## Swimming through life

By Grant Davis

Sequoyah Swim and Dive. Four years of my life I will never forget and will always hold onto as a defining part of my time spent in high school. From the Janueagle at the Cherokee County Aquatic Center to State at Georgia Tech, every meet has a memory attached that I will never forget. Being a part of the swim team has not only brought memories but also friendships that will last a lifetime. The countless laughs, inside jokes, and meals shared will never be

taken for granted. If anyone feels like they need a friend to talk to, a coach that doubles as a mentor, or even just a good workout, I would say to join the swim team, no questions asked. And to Sequoyah Swim and Dive, thank you. Thank you to all of the coaches that have helped me grow into the person I am today. Thank you to all of my teammates who have pushed me and been there no matter what. And thank you to SHS for four extraordinarily memorable years.



## A lifetime of memories

By Jack Blackman

The last four years in high school have been full of long nights and early mornings. Early morning workouts with the football team and long practices after school in the fall and spring. Playing football and lacrosse and has been the greatest commitment and challenge I have faced, thus, far in my life. A lot of times it felt overwhelming and like a never-ending grind, but I would not trade it for the world.

Going into my freshman year, I was recovering from shoulder surgery and I had to work my way onto the field just to make the freshman football team. I eventually made it there, proved myself in the game, and was called up to dress out

for varsity towards the end of the season. I fulfilled my dream as a 5-year-old, which was starting and playing on Friday Nights for the Chiefs. All the awards and accolades that I accomplished cannot compare to the relationships and memories that I made along the way. I will never forget running through the inflatable helmet for the first time ever as a freshman -- it's a feeling that will last forever.

There is something special about high school sports that I wish everyone had the privilege to experience, especially football. I'll never forget it and I am forever thankful for all the people I met along the way and the memories I made.

Photos by Grayson Belanger

# GA to D1: Athletes commit to play Division One sports in college

By EJ Freeman

Division One of the National Collegiate Athletic Association is the highest level of collegiate sports in the nation. Playing division one for a sport is something many kids dream of their whole lives. Multiple seniors are going to be able to live that dream in their respective sports this upcoming school year.

One of those seniors is Paige Powers, a volleyball player. She will be attending Georgia Southern University on a volleyball scholarship after her four years on the volleyball team. Powers was a part of a Sequoyah team that went to the state championship game last year and final four this season.

Powers feels that high school has prepared her for whatever chal-

“I’ve been playing a high level of volleyball most of my career, so [that] will help me pick up with how fast college volleyball is.”

PAIGE POWERS



Photo by Grayson Belanger





Photo by Darby Rose Photography

lenges she may face while playing at the college level.

"I've been playing a high level of volleyball most of my career, so this will help me pick up with how fast college volleyball is," Powers said.

She is aware the game will be challenging and that she will have to overcome some new obstacles that she has not seen before. The main obstacle for her is her height.

"I am short for my position in volleyball and most of the girls at Georgia Southern are taller than I am, so I

have to make up for my height with my vertical," Powers said.

Another D1 bound student-athlete, Grant Davis, will be attending Auburn University in the fall on a swimming scholarship. Davis is ranked 6th in the state of Georgia, and has been swimming since he was a little kid. Auburn is one of the most well-known schools in the country for their sports being in the SEC.

Sarah Squillace will be attending Samford University to play D1 softball after playing for four years on the

Sequoyah team. In her senior year, she led the Chiefs softball team to a 23-8 record and a 12-2 record in region games. Squillace was on the all-region team all 4 years in high school and plans to continue to grow in college.

These three seniors are going off to play on the highest collegiate level and that dream has been fulfilled thanks in part to their time competing at Sequoyah. They are proof that making it to the college level is a difficult task and that it takes hours of hard work and dedication.





Graphic by Grayson Belanger

# What to look for at the 2021 olympics

By TJ Murphy

With the 2021 Summer Olympics right around the corner, there are five new sports being added to the games that will finally be viewed by the world.

Sport climbing, due to its increasing popularity, will be added to the 2021 Summer Olympics. With it, will be three different disciplines: speed climbing, bouldering, and lead climbing. Speed climbing involves two individuals racing up a 15-meter wall on a fixed route. Bouldering involves climbers scaling multiple fixed routes on a 4-meter wall. The athlete that solves these routes in the fewest number of attempts wins. Lead climbing involves an overhanging 15-meter wall in which each climber attempts to climb as high as possible within a 6-minute time span. Whoever climbs the highest in this event wins.

Surfing will also be making its Olympics debut this summer at Shidashita beach. 40 athletes - 20 men and 20 women -

will be competing in separate competitions. Each competition will use a four-person heat structure. In each heat, four athletes will compete at a time, and the two best performers will move onto the next round.

Skateboarding, including a park event and a street event, has made its way into the 2021 games as well. The park event will feature athletes climbing steep, curved surfaces in a hollowed-out course at speed attempting to impress the judges based on the following criteria: originality, difficulty, and the execution of their tricks. The street event includes competitors showing off their skills on slopes, walls, benches, curbs, handrails, and stairs. They will be scored based on the height, speed, level of difficulty, originality, execution, and move composition including the following: goofy stance, regular stance, ollie, grind, and slide.

Karate, including Kata and Kumite, has also been added to the games this year.

Kata will include athletes demonstrating a series of offensive and defensive movements targeting a virtual opponent. They will be scored on balance, rhythm, speed, power of strikes and kicks, clarity, solidity, force of movements, as well as other categories. Kumite will include karateka facing each other. They will have to try and land strikes on the target area of their opponent's body using three techniques: striking, kicking, and punching. The better the form, control, and power, the more points each athlete will score.

This summer, baseball and softball will also be reintroduced into the games. Their last appearance was in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

With the 2021 Summer Olympics approaching, each of these new events will be making a bold first appearance.

# From the Peach State to the worldwide stage: GA athletes competed in the olympics

By Jack Piskorz

The Olympics Games is an international sporting festival in which world class athletes from all around the globe come together to compete in a wide range of events. Over 200 different countries compete at the Olympics every year, so to have an Olympic athlete come from one's home state is a proud achievement. Many successful Olympic athletes are from right here in Georgia and went on to represent the United States in the Olympic Games.

The most recent athlete hailing from Georgia to compete in the Olympic Games is sprinter Christian Coleman, who grew up in Atlanta and attended Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School in Fayetteville. In his senior year in 2014, Coleman broke the charts and shattered state records in the 100-meter dash (10.38), 200-meter dash (21.10), and 4x100 relay (41.88). This success earned him a scholarship to the University of

Tennessee, where he won multiple national titles in the 60-meter, 100-meter, and 200-meter dashes. Coleman received media attention in 2017 after he ran a 4.12 second 40-yard dash after the NFL combine, 0.1 seconds faster than the NFL record. Coleman went on to qualify for his first Olympic games in 2016, and he signed a pro contract with Nike the following year.

Coleman would go on to become one of the world's fastest humans, setting world-leading times in the 60-meter dash (6.37) and 100-meter dash (9.76), winning world titles in both. Coleman has earned himself the spot of the sixth fastest athlete in history, coming right from the state of Georgia.

Two more world-renowned athletes that grew up in Georgia are Deedee Trotter and Gwen Torrence. Trotter grew up in Decatur and attended Cedar Grove High School,

where she led her 4x400 team to the state championship. Trotter would go on to break the University of Tennessee's record for the 400 with a time of 50 seconds in 2004. Trotter's success continued as she went on to earn multiple gold medals in the 4x100 relay and first place finishes in the 400.

Similarly, Gwen Torrence, known by some as one of the best female sprinters of all time, also grew up in Decatur but attended Columbia High School. Torrence continued her running career at UGA and eventually competed in the Olympics in the early 1990's where she won five Olympic medals, three of which were gold. Torrence held world records of 10.82 in the 100 and 21.72 in the 200. In 2000, Torrence was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

Standing on a global stage, these impressive athletes represented the Peach State with great pride and success.

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## 2020 Won: COVID affects 2021 summer olympic games

By EJ Freeman

The Olympics have been a staple in the sporting world for centuries now. Almost nothing can stop the games from being played every 4 years. Unfortunately, one of the few things that can stop the Olympics is COVID-19.

This has caused some changes in the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. The 2020 games were postponed, and will now be held in summer 2021. This has caused problems for the Olympic refugee team, as their team members have not been chosen yet.

Although the pandemic has not

been declared over, the executive board believes they can make the changes necessary to create a safe environment in Tokyo.

One of these changes is the quarantining of participants before the games, which has been a common theme in sports since the beginning of the pandemic.

Another change is the exclusion of foreign spectators during the games this year. If you are not from Japan, you will not be able to attend the events. For the people who can attend events, they

will be expected to follow the traditional rules of Olympic events, such as remaining quiet during the games.

Masks, as of right now, will also be required for participants to wear. Singing and chanting will also not be permitted during events.

This is the first time that the Olympics have been postponed, therefore this is new territory for the International Olympic Committee. The games will be different this year, but it will still be a memorable event.

# Total eclipse of the virus

By Delaney Harrison

Throughout their four-year stint in high school, 2021 seniors have experienced many world-changing events. From once-in-a-lifetime natural disasters, to a world shaping pandemic, the news world in the past 4 years has been full and eventful.

The 2017-2018 news year consisted of many world-shaping and once in a lifetime nature-related situations. As the 2021 seniors begun their high school triumph, the world experienced a total solar eclipse visible across the entire United States. On Aug 17, 2017, the world paused for approximately 160 seconds as the moon crossed paths with the sun, blocking its light. This event had not occurred since 1918 and the next one visible in the US will occur in 2024.

Hurricane Irma shocked the east coast as a category 5 hurricane. September of 2017 brought 185 mph winds across Florida, causing the evacuation of 6.5 million people and total damage cost of \$50 billion. Cherokee County Schools were closed for a two-day period due to inclement weather.

On October 1st of 2017, 61 lives were lost in the Las Vegas Massacre after a lone gunman unleashed fire upon a country music festival. This shooting was marked as the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. This shooting reignited the fight for gun control on large capacity guns.

February of 2018 changed the atmosphere of American public schools. On February 14th, 2018, 17 people were killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Highschool in Parkland, Florida. In the aftermath of this shooting, student survivors sparked the national debate for stricter gun laws.

2020 and 2021 brought arguably the most intense news year in decades.

After COVID-19 entered the United States and plagued the world, stopping everyone in their tracks, the threat of this is still lingering through 2021.

Seniors this year have experienced a senior year unlike any class before. The 2020-2021 school year has been personified by mask recommendations, safety protocols, limited capacity sporting events, and many cancelled events such as field trips, homecoming, and prom.

August 2020 marked the beginning of the Class of 2021's senior year. At this time, the Black Lives Matter movement was in full swing after the deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor sparked a wildfire in the news and media, aiming to eliminate all racially motivated violence against the African American community.

On September 18th, 2020, a longtime Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg passed away. Justice

Ginsberg, who was the second appointed Supreme Court justice, was a notable women's right advocate who made many impactful changes during her 27 years as a justice. She was succeeded by Justice Amy Coney Barret who assumed office on October 27th.

In October, large wildfires spread across the West Coast, causing 46 deaths and approximately \$20 billion in damage.

The latter months of 2020 were highlighted by the presidential election. Republican President Donald Trump went up against then Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, ultimately falling short and handing the office over to President Biden. Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States on January 20th of 2021.

This change of power did not go without debate and violence. On January 6th, 2021, Trump supporters attempted to overturn election results through the storming of the US Capitol in a violent, riot-like attack. This resulted in 5 deaths and over 350 arrests.

A lifetime of world events has been jam-packed into just 4 years for seniors. This has been made apparent through the news and media outlets. The past four years have filled highs and lows for the world, making it both unforgettable and world-changing.

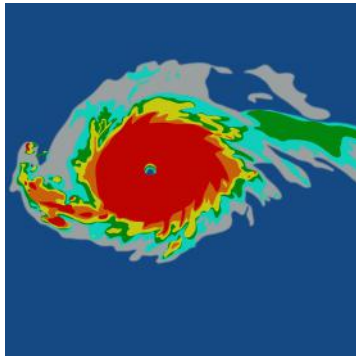
*Seniors this year have experienced a senior year unlike any class before. The 2020-2021 school year has been personified by mask recommendations, safety protocols, limited capacity sporting events, and cancelled events.*



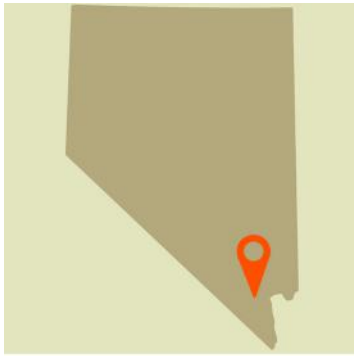
# The top headlines during the class of 2021's high school years



AUGUST 2017- Solar Eclipse



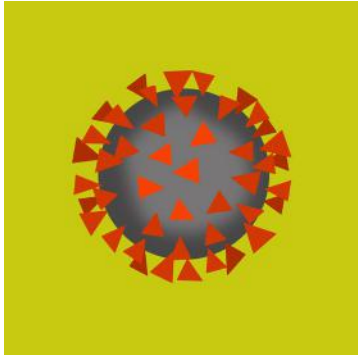
SEPTEMBER 2017- Hurricane Irma



OCTOBER 2017- Las Vegas Massacre



FEBRUARY 2018- Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting



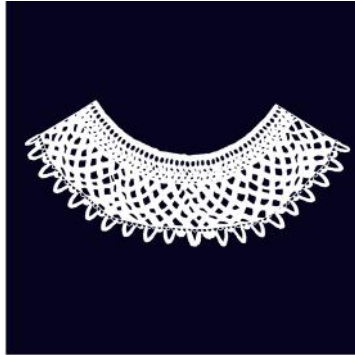
MARCH 2020- Schools closed due to COVID Outbreak



SUMMER 2020- BLM Movement in Full Swing



AUGUST 2020- First day of Senior Year



SEPTEMBER 2020- Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg dies and is succeeded by Justice Amy Coney Barrett



OCTOBER 2020- Wildfires Spread Across West Coast



NOVEMBER 2020- Presidential Election



JANUARY 2021- Storming of US Capitol

*“My best study technique is to successfully comprehend how the information works together and makes sense, no matter how long that takes.”*

JEREMY JEONG

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## A fight to the finish line: A look at the class of 2021's top two students

By Emily Hill

Seniors Jeremy Jeong and Bradley Gordon have been the top two students in the current senior class since their freshman year. Jeong and Gordon have gone back and forth at times for the top spot; however, the valedictorian and salutatorian titles will not be awarded until grades are finalized.

Jeong's success in school stems from his ability to separate everything he learns and understand how all of the information works together - which is also the best study technique he used throughout high school.

“My best study technique is to successfully comprehend how the information works together and makes sense, no matter how long that takes. Then you can use that more subconscious understanding of each relationship to help you understand what the questions are asking and how to answer them,” Jeong said.

On the contrary, Gordon has been able to maintain his high grades through staying attentive during class and making sure he has support from peers when he does not understand a topic.

He has found that his best study technique comes from repetitiveness.

“My best study technique is simply reading through and reviewing the notes over and over again as I find that doing this reinforces the concepts for me,” Gordon said.

Being at the top of the class requires a lot of hard work. Gordon and Jeong have both seen benefits from this accomplishment and have rightfully earned a sense of pride.

“I feel like it's an accomplishment... (cont. on pg. 12)





Photo by Arianna Martinez

...being placed top of my class, but it does not really put any sort of pressure or give me a different feeling,” Gordon said.

Jeong, on the other hand, almost feels a sense of remorse for his accomplishment.

“People will see my grades and go ‘oh, you’re so smart,’ but I get the impression I make them feel dumb, and grades are hardly everything, anyway,” Jeong said. “I’d rather people all enjoy making connections and trying to understand ideas rather than looking at me and how I seem too good at this and thinking they

could never ‘be smart’ at all.”

Jeong has found that his study techniques have helped him achieve such a high academic ranking that he has left advice for younger students.

“Understand the concepts and how they interact with each other. Almost all the pieces of information you learn have important relationships—this thing causes that thing, that thing’s a type of this, and so on. Even if you don’t know where to go, if you at least understand how to get from one place to another, you can just wander around until you find an

answer,” Jeong said.

Gordon suggests finding a group to help you understand, similar to the study technique he uses.

“Find a group of friends who you can hang out with and work on homework with together if you have problems,” Gordon said.

These two students have dedicated so much time and effort into their studies. For now, both students are continuing to work hard as they anxiously wait for the valedictorian and salutatorian to be announced.

*“I feel like it's an accomplishment being placed at the top of my class, but it does not really put any sort of pressure [on me] or give me a different feeling.”*

BRADLEY GORDON





Photo by Arianna Martinez



# A Year of Covid Evolution

By Sydney Harvey

COVID-19 has officially been around for over a year. The first case in the US was recorded in January 2020. Later throughout January, multiple countries began shutting down and going into quarantine. A global health emergency was declared in late January.

Airports began shutting down, and positive cases were identified on cruise ships offshore of San Francisco, Yokohama, and Oakland. The US declared a public health emergency in February.

On March 11, COVID-19 was named a global pandemic. In the span of two days, schools across the nation were

shut down, and on March 13, COVID-19 was declared a national emergency. This was the start of businesses failing and/or shutting down. The economy shut down, causing the US and its citizens expansive amounts of debt.

In May, vaccines began to be fully developed and trials began. Cases were still rising, and the talk of a vaccine arising continued. In July there were more than 3 million cases in the United States.

CCSD reopened in August, and students were given an option to return face to face or remain digital.

Hospitals began hitting max

capacity in early and mid-August, and COVID became the third leading cause of death in the United States. Towards the end of August, the FDA approved the rapid test.

In his final months as President, Donald Trump sent out distribution plans for the soon-to-be coming vaccine.

After the new year, vaccines showed high efficacy results and the American public began to receive vaccines. Today, the number of vaccines given has passed the number of COVID cases, showing a hopeful future.





# The Cryptocurrency Craze: What even is it?

By Stephanie Rios

Over the past couple of years, cryptocurrency has been a hot topic of discussion due to its sudden rise in popularity. One of the most popular types is Bitcoin. As a company, Bitcoin owns over sixty percent of the cryptocurrency market. However, before getting into specifics, what even is cryptocurrency?

Cryptocurrency is defined as “any form of currency that only exists digitally, that usually has no central issuing or regulating authority but instead uses a decentralized system to record transactions and manage the issuance of new units.” To simplify this definition, cryptocurrency is a method of payment secured by cryptography. This ensures secure and safe transactions that can be made by anyone, anywhere.

The way that cryptocurrencies work is by using blockchain networks that store data and information in a decentralized form. A blockchain network refers to a database that stores information in groups called “blocks”

that once filled are recorded and connected to make a chain. What blockchain networks ensure is that when payments are made, every party involved has control and prevents any malicious interference. In Bitcoin’s case, all transactions are recorded and made public, making it irreversible, ensuring the trustworthiness of the exchange.

Cryptocurrency is a very secure way of making payments without the need to involve a third party such as a bank or financial institution. This not only makes the process easier but also cheaper for the individual because they will no longer have to pay the additional fees that banks and financial institutions normally charge. However, there are two sides to the privacy that cryptocurrencies provide. Cryptocurrency makes money laundering, tax evasion, and other illegal activities easier. This complicates the jobs of people in financial and law institutions; the encryption used makes it very difficult to trace the original

location from where payments were made. Most people assume that this payment method is the future of finance, so they might as well get involved now and make a profit.

Bitcoin was the first blockchain-based cryptocurrency, and it is still the most popular and valuable cryptocurrency on the market. Since its launch in 2009, there are now 16.8 million bitcoins in circulation. Bitcoin is making a lasting impression because thousands of other cryptocurrencies have been created using all types of blockchains and encryption. However, some of them are very similar to Bitcoin, like Ethereum or Litecoin.

All in all, cryptocurrencies have been gaining popularity and a lot of people seem to prefer using it over other types of transaction methods. So, the question stands: would you make the switch?



# A step towards normalcy: Teachers receive COVID Vaccine

By Delaney Harrison

Over the course of two-days, CCSD successfully administered 2,850 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to employees. The event, which took place on March 11th and March 12th, gave school employees the opportunity to receive the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, which hosted an 85% efficacy rate.

The Johnson and Johnson vaccine is the first and only FDA approved single-dose vaccine currently on the market. With just one shot needed, schools were only required to be closed for a 2-day period in order to allow teachers to receive this single dosage.

Common side effects that come with this vaccine include pain at the injection site, nausea, muscle aches, head-

aches, and fatigue. It has been reported by Johnson and Johnson that approximately 55 percent of people who receive this vaccine experience side effects after the fact.

English teacher Michael Dayton received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine on Thursday morning at the CCSD Vaccination event.

“At first, I was fine, but I eventually developed a headache, muscle soreness, chills, and a fever. It was very flu-like. After about 12 hours, my fever broke and by Friday afternoon, I was just fine,” Dayton said. “I am so, so grateful to have received the COVID vaccine. Even with the side effects, it was so worth it.”

While some teachers received

the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, others opted for an alternative. English teacher Zach Jones received the Moderna Vaccine, which is administered in two dosages.

“I didn’t have any side effects other than some pain at the injection site,” Jones said.

Fine Arts teacher Lauren Holtzer also opted to receive the 2-dose Moderna vaccine, which is received 4 weeks apart.

“I felt fine after the first dose, but I had some mild side effects after my second. These included body aches, fever, and a headache,” Holtzer said. “The side effects occurred the day after my second dose, and they only lasted that day. I felt fine the next day!”





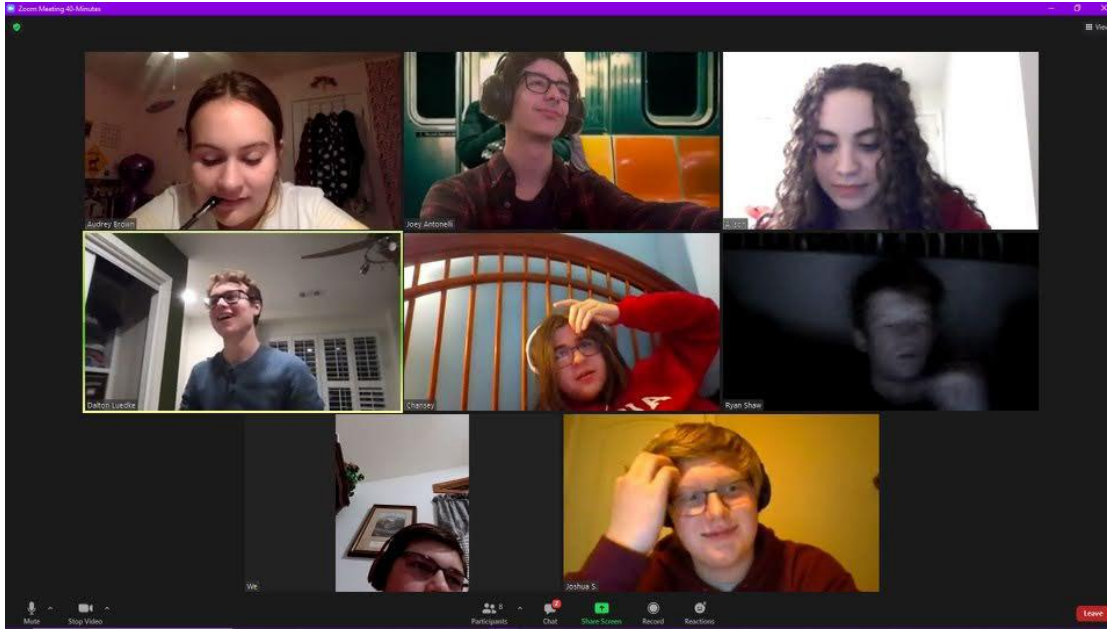


Photo provided by Audrey Brown

# Debating Through a Pandemic

By Stephanie Rios

As the world has seen in the past year, the 2020-2021 era has been anything but normal, causing nearly everything to be postponed or done digitally. Many school clubs were affected by this pandemic, one of them being the Speech and Debate Team. The Speech and Debate Team offers students the opportunity to represent their school in tournaments debating with students across the nation on various topics. Their mission is to help students become effective at communication and eventually assist them in becoming more productive citizens. The club has had to modify a lot of their normal activities; their season has been different because of all the new precautions that this school year has brought.

First year members of the Speech and Debate Team are called novices. Compared to past years, the novice experience in competitions has been quite different to years where COVID-19 did not pose a threat.

Freshman Kelsie Rohland joined the Speech and Debate Team this year. She appreciated how patient and welcoming everyone was with her and

her fellow novices. She was disappointed that they didn't get to attend as many places for tournaments but thought that her performance was moderate considering her expertise level.

"One thing I would change about this season of debate was the traveling. We didn't really travel anywhere due to safety reasons during the pandemic. But I think that my partner and I's performances were average for novices; we won and lost a good number of debates," Rohland said.

Speech and Forensics teacher Matthew Bartula, the leader of the Speech and Debate Team for the past 10 years, found it disappointing that they didn't get to travel as much but was happy at the new opportunities that presented themselves.

"I would describe this debate season as interesting. It was online, so we didn't get to travel, but it also allowed us to be able to participate in more national tournaments where we would compete with people all over the country," Bartula said. "We didn't really like it at first, but we adapted, and it got better. We grew into it."

One of the team captains, Audrey Brown, agreed that this year opened a lot of opportunities for national competitions. She came into this school year with experience on what life for the debate team felt like before COVID. She had previously gone to a debate camp over the summer, which was digital. This prepared her for her leadership position.

"I knew going into the season that it was definitely going to look different than previous seasons of debate, but fortunately, before I came back to school, I already had experience of what the season would be like because I went to a debate camp online over the summer. One good thing, however, was that Sequoyah had many more opportunities to compete in the national tournaments. I was really proud of how the Public Forum members performed," Brown said.

Even through all these obstacles, the Speech and Debate Team overcame them.

As Bartula said, "It was a pretty successful season."

# Seniors make the

By Brett Lowry

As the school year wraps up, seniors face the daunting task of choosing their path for the next four years. Where to go? What to major in? Several seniors have already answered this age-old dilemma.

Senior Alex Kendall plans to attend Kennesaw State University. The Kennesaw-based college gained Kendall's interest, and commitment, due to the amenities and services offered.

"My deciding factor [for KSU] was the campus and the nice facilities there," Kendall said. "I know several people that are going there too."

Kendall is currently the pole vault school record holder, and he hopes to further his vaulting career with the Owls.

"I'm hoping to break my current

*"I wanted a big SEC school experience with college game days and the big campus."*

ALLY JACKSON



Photo by Arianna Martinez



# decision of a lifetime

“*My deciding factor [for KSU] was the campus and the nice facilities there,” Kendall said. “I know several people that are going there too.”*

ALEX KENDALL

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record at KSU with the pole vault team,” Kendall said.

Alongside his athletics involvement, Kendall plans on continuing his education in the STEM field, circling back to the athletics field in the end.

“I am trying to major in bio-chemistry,” Kendall said. “I also want to go to grad school for physical therapy.”

Crossing the Alabama-Georgia border, senior Ally Jackson plans on attending Auburn University. Majoring

in pre-nursing, Jackson chose the Tigers in-part due to their program.

“[Auburn’s] nursing program is a lot more prestigious than I originally thought,” Jackson said. “I need to work really hard my freshman and sophomore year so that I get a spot in the program my junior year.”

In addition to Auburn’s esteemed nursing program, Jackson selected the college for a wide array of reasons, including a long-standing foot-

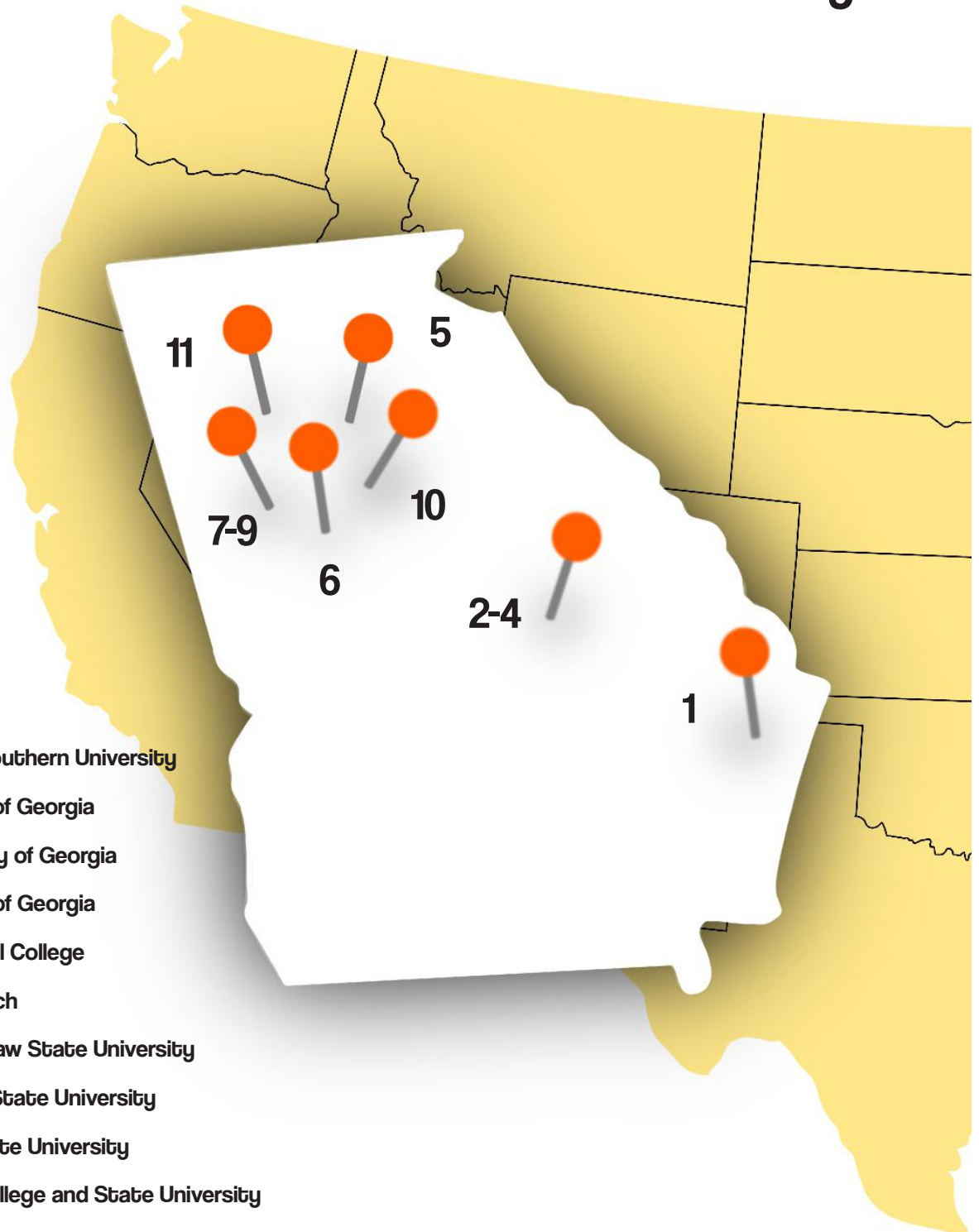
ball history.

“I wanted a big SEC school experience with college game days and the big campus, but UGA didn’t offer my major, so I looked out of state,” Jackson said. “I also get to room with my best friend at Auburn.”

The next four years represent a life-changing time in seniors’ lives. Whether at college, working, or serving, Sequoyah’s seniors are sure to make a big difference in the community.

# In-state or...

Seniors share where they are

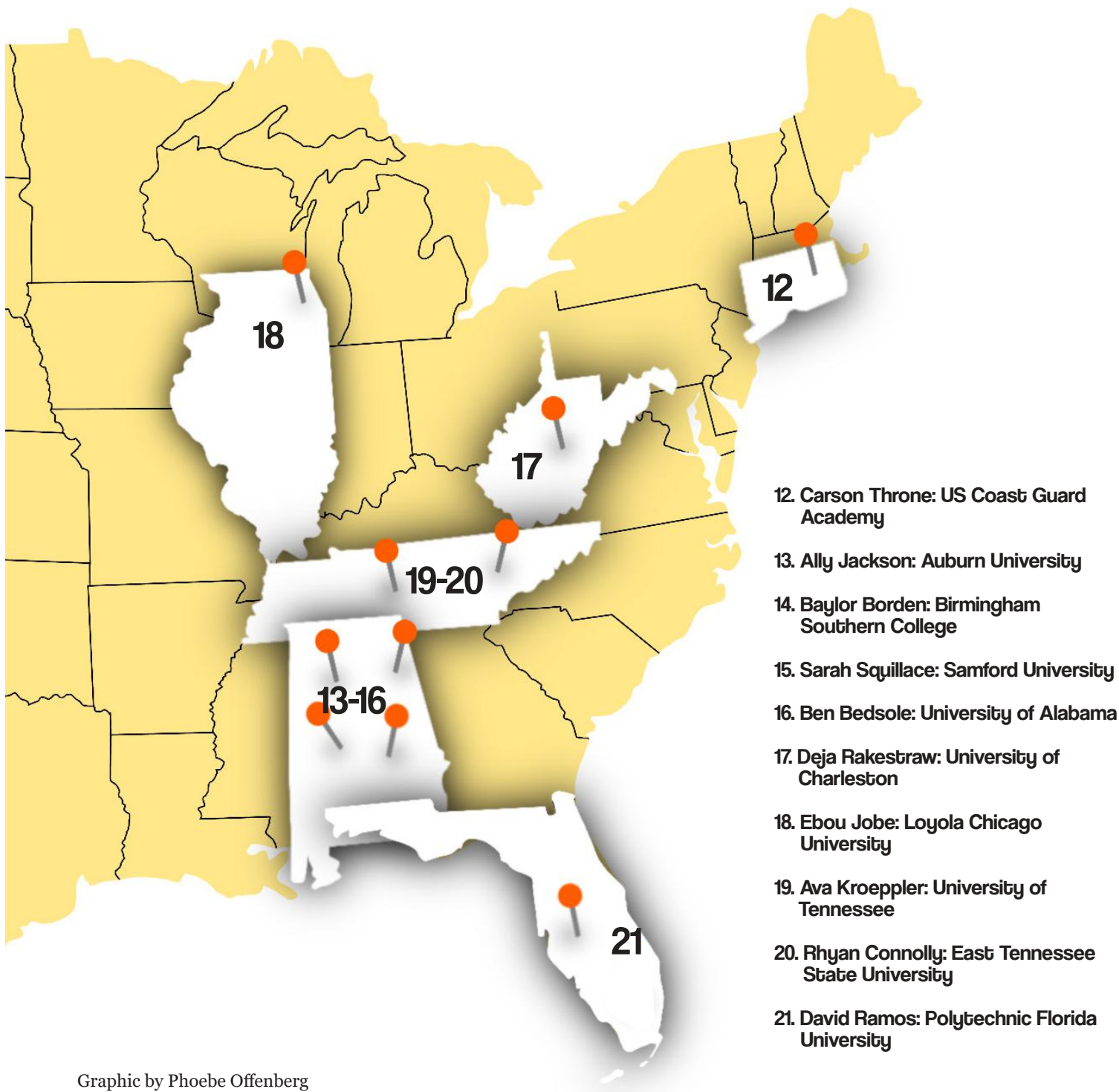


1. Jaden Mitchell: Georgia Southern University
2. Logan Carras: University of Georgia
3. Kayla McGuffey: University of Georgia
4. Riley McClure: University of Georgia
5. Lily Stow: Lanier Technical College
6. Camille Leake: Georgia Tech
7. Myles Caga-Anan: Kennesaw State University
8. Logan Steng: Kennesaw State University
9. Bron Ayan: Kennesaw State University
10. Jonah Haney: Georgia College and State University
11. Valerie Martinez: Chattahoochee Tech



# Out-of state?

going to college in the fall



Graphic by Phoebe Offenber

## June, July, Jet Lag? Students' COVID-affected summer travel plans

By Shelby Belanger

Summer is a popular time to travel, whether it is to visit family and friends, tour colleges, or explore new places. Traveling has been harder and different for everyone this year, but students are still trying to make the most of it.

Oftentimes, people use the summer to take yearly trips to places they love or want to visit. Junior Susanna Rogers is using her summer to visit Chicago for basketball.

"This trip I take to Chicago for the summer is not a yearly thing, but I went there two years ago for a basketball tournament and will be going back there for the same basketball tournament," Rogers said.

COVID-19 has affected many things this school year, and it seems to be rolling right into this summer as well.

"Due to COVID, my trip shouldn't be too much different besides the requirements of mask on planes and everywhere inside. Hopefully, many things will be open by the summer, but you never know how COVID impacts all the stores and businesses in the city," Rogers said.

Even though people are finally beginning to return to more of a "normal" life, some plans are still up in the air and could be cancelled or changed at the last moment.

"Since my trip is scheduled for the end of July, nothing has changed as far as cancelations or demanding requirements. This could also change when it [is] closer to when my trip actually happens," Rogers said.

People often travel with another person or

group to accompany them in order to make their trip more enjoyable, and Rogers is no exception.

"I will most likely be traveling with my dad, but since I will be there with my basketball team, I will be hanging out with friends as well," Rogers said.

Although this trip is mainly focused on basketball, Rogers is still planning to find time to look around the city.

"I'm very excited to visit the pier again in Chicago. The views of the city and lake are very beautiful to experience -- especially when the sun is setting on the horizon," Rogers said.

Junior Addie Hixson is another student that is travelling over the summer. Her family is flying out to Mexico.

"We don't always go to Mexico, but once a year, my family usually goes on a vacation," Hixson said.

With Hixson traveling out of the United States, COVID rules are still up in the air.

"I don't think [COVID] will [affect] much because my mom went to Mexico a month ago and she said the COVID changes were easy to deal with," Hixson said.

Unfortunately, because of this previous year, Hixson's usual travelling was put to a halt. Thus, she plans for this trip to be a great getaway.

"I'm most excited to leave home for a while after not traveling in so long and being able to tan," Hixson said.

## Looking for some places to hangout this summer?

We've compiled a list of some of the best places around Cherokee County to add to your summer bucket list.



### OLD ROPE MILL PARK

This secluded park provides biking trails, picnic areas & a river for fishing & canoeing.

### WHITEWATER RAFTING

So many great rivers to whitewater raft, you can find them on the Chattahoochee, Ocoee, and Nantahala rivers in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and North Carolina.



### BIG EASY SNO-BALLS

Need a refresher on a hot summer day? Go stop at Big Easy Sno-Balls for a refreshing snack.

### AVALON & PONCE

If you want a place like Downtown Woodstock, try Avalon in Alpharetta or Ponce City Market in Atlanta.

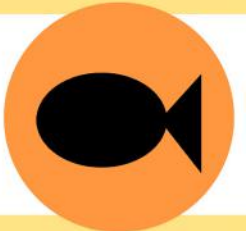


### TOP GOLF

For a fun activity with friends or family you can visit Topgolf for some fun competition.

### GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Home to hundreds of species and thousands of animals across its seven major galleries, all of which reside in more than 10 million US gallons of fresh and saltwater.



### NORTHSIDE TRAILS

Wooded walking/cycling path through picturesque scenery, including a covered bridge & a creek.



# Students embrace a summer full of sunshine and salary

By Sydney Pate

With summer right around the corner, students are using their newfound free time to try to make some quick cash. Establishments often offer “summer jobs” for high school and college students that are on their summer vacation, typically between the months of May and August. So, what kinds of summer jobs are there?

Senior Juliana Simon will work as a food and beverage cart girl for Capital City golf course this upcoming summer.

“I applied because it seemed like a fun summer job with good benefits, and I have the opportunity to come back while I’m in college,” Simon said.

As a food and beverage cart girl, Simon drives around the course, delivers

snacks, and makes drinks for the members and guests golfing there.

“I absolutely love it so far, and I would definitely recommend it to anybody interested,” Simon said.

Although she only just started, Simon is already in love with her new position and feels as though it is a great summer job option. At her job, applicants must be a minimum of 18 years old, so this position and similar ones might not be available for students until the summer after senior year.

For a different summer job without an age requirement, senior Kylee Santana has worked the past two summers as a lifeguard at Harmony on the Lakes and highly recommends it.

“I enjoyed parts of being a

lifeguard, especially making connections with the families in the neighborhood,” Santana said.

In order to work as a lifeguard, special certification is required. Despite this fact, the age range for applying is wider than working on the golf course. Santana enjoys working this job, but she expresses that it is not for everyone.

“I would not recommend to anyone that doesn’t enjoy the sun or being around kids,” said Santana.

Capital City golf course and Harmony lifeguarding are only two of the thousands of summer job options for high school students, and they, among others, may be worth checking out for this upcoming summer.



Photos by Grayson Belanger

# CONGRATULATIONS

## *Class of 2021*

**George  
Rueve**

*Congratulaions  
George! We love  
you! Love,  
Mom and  
William*



**Austin  
Durr**

*Congratulations  
Austin!! We are  
proud of you!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
and Bryan*



**Sydney Pate**

*So proud of your accomplishments! We  
know you will be successful at whatever  
you set out to do. Have fun at Auburn! We  
love you so much, Mom & Dad*



**Phoebe  
Offenberg**

*We love this  
journey for  
you. Let the  
adventure  
begin.  
Love, Mom,  
Dad,  
and Ben*





# Abigail Law

*We love you & are so proud of you, Congratulations! Love from Mom, Dad, Zachary & Hannah*



# Emma Argo

*Congratulations, Emma! We are so proud of you and look forward to what God has in store for your bright future! We love you to the moon and back! Love, James, Mom, and Dad*



# Grayson Belanger

*Graduation is not the end but the beginning of the many successes ahead of you! Congratulations! We love you, Dad, Mom & Shelby*



# Dylan Cass

*Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad*



# Jonah Haney

*Congratulations Senior! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad*



# Kaley Miller

*Congratulations Kaley! We are so proud of you! Love Mom, Dad, and Bradley*



# Randy Miller

*"If you ain't been a part of it, at least you got to witness..."*



# Randy Miller

*Congratulations Randy!  
We love you!*

*Love,  
Grandpa  
& Nana*



# Randy Miller

*Randy, it has been such a joy watching you grow thru the years into the amazing man you have become. Wishing you the absolute best in life. Congratulations!!!!*

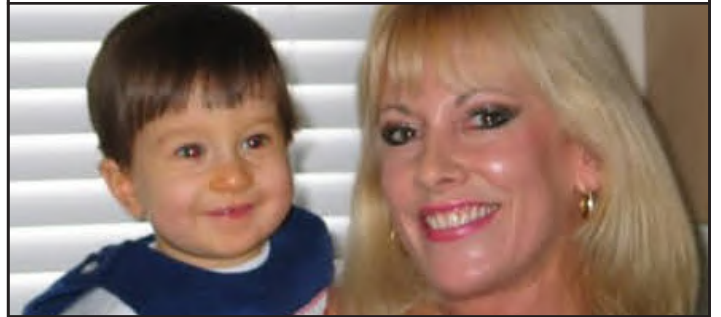
*Love, Heather and Ashley*



# Randy Miller

*Randy, you've been amazing since the day you were born...so proud of you!!*

*Love, Grandmama*



# Randy Miller

*Congratulations Randy! So proud of you!! Excited to see what the future holds for you!*

*Love, Poppa V*



# Randy Miller

*Congratulations on your graduation!  
We've seen your hard work all these years. You are amazing in all you do. We love you!*

*Love Uncle Vinnie,  
Aunt Laura, Athena,  
and Vincent*





# Kristin Kimberly

*Congratulations  
Kristin!  
We are so proud  
of you! We love  
you!  
MOM & DAD*



# Ashlyn Martin

*Congratulations  
to our Sweet  
Girl! We love  
you! Love, Mom  
and Dad*



# Collin Tomeny

*Congratulations Collin!!! We are so very  
proud of you and we know you will achieve  
anything you set out to do. We love you and  
may God continue to Bless you. Love, Mom,  
Dad, Jacob, and Olivia*



# Alex Trujillo

*Congratulations  
Alex! We love  
you and are so  
proud of you!  
Love, Mom, Dad  
and Francesca*



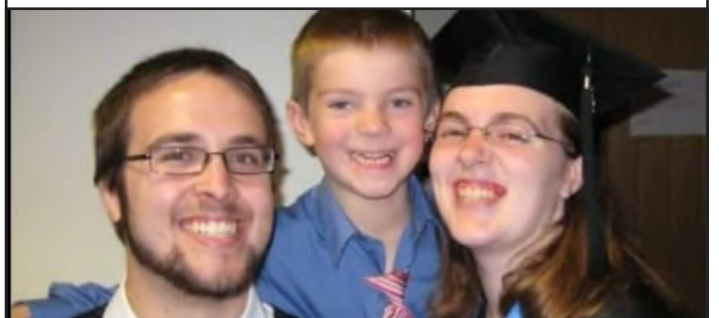
# Trent Chastain

*Congratulations!  
Love You!! from  
Mom*



# Trent Chastain

*"Dream Big Princess!!" from your  
sister & brother*



## Jonathan Pucylowski

*Congrats, JP! We are so proud of your accomplishments and excited for your bright future ahead! Love - Mom, Dad, Walker, Poofy, and Squeaky*



## Lawson Reiff

*Congratulations Lawson! We love you! Love, Mom and Brandon & Dad and Trina*



## Daniel McCrobie

*Congratulations Daniel! We are so proud of all that you have accomplished! We love you and we are excited about your bright future!*



## Grant Davis

*Congratulations Grant! We are so proud of all you have accomplished as a Chief and can't wait to yell WDE...the future is BRIGHT! We love you - Mom, Dad and Ansley*



## Maxwell Ackerman

*Congratulations Max! You did it and we are SO proud of you! You are going to do great things (and make loud music). We love you... more! Mom, Dad, Taylor, Katelyn, Luke and Josh*



## Katie Brown

*We couldn't be more proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad & Will*





# Lillian Hebert

*Congratulations, Lily! We love you! Mom, Dad, and Elizabeth*



# TJ Murphy

*Congratulations, TJ! We are so proud of you and can't wait to see what your future holds. We love you, Dad, Mom, and Will*



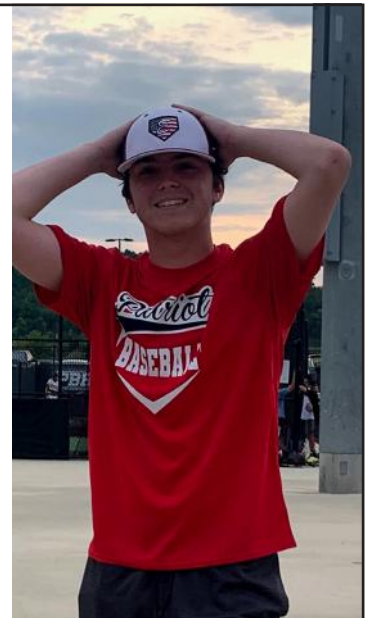
# Chase Millsaps

*We are so proud of you! Congratulations! We love you very much! - PawPaw and Nana Cowart*



# Chase Millsaps

*We love you so very much! We are extremely proud of you! Congrats!! - Aunt Colee, Uncle Roger, Makayla, Andrew and Brodie*



# Chase Millsaps

*congratulations slugger we love you to the moon and back pawpaw , hannah, sheena and stevie*



# Chase Millsaps

*Congratulations Chase!! We love you. Love Mom, Mady, and Granny*





# *The Arrow Staff seniors' advice for underclassmen*



“Attend all sports events and school events, and get hype while you’re there! It’ll be the last one before you know it.” -Sydney Harvey



“Make sure you actually put in work for classes you struggle with, and don’t just wait ‘til the last minute and assume you’ll get an A.” -Sydney Pate



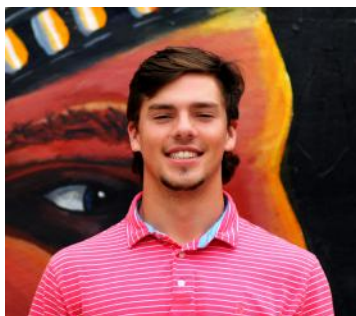
“Failing one test is not that big of a deal. While your grades matter, they don’t represent you and your GPA will be okay in the end.”  
-Katie Brown



“Participate in activities and sports outside of school. It will bring you more friendships and make high school much more enjoyable!”  
-Grant Davis



“It’s easier to get good grades when you actually show up to class rather than trying to do makeup work.”  
-Hannah Robbins



“Get enough sleep and have school spirit.” -Jack Blackman



“Get your stuff together. Live in the moment. You have no clue what will happen next.” -Grayson Belanger



“Make sure you do your work freshman and sophomore year to help you enjoy your senior year.” -EJ Freeman



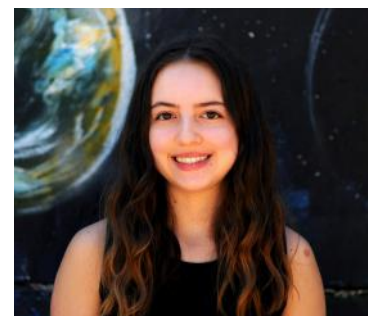
“Enjoy it while it lasts because it goes by fast.” -Emily Hill



“Get an SAT or ACT tutor. It will be worth it when you get a good score.”  
- TJ Murphy



“Get involved in something you’re passionate about.” -Lily Feyerabend



“Don’t stress yourself out too much over stuff that isn’t too important.”  
-Phoebe Offenberg

Photos by Grayson Belanger



# The Arrow

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:shs.arrow@cherokee.k12.ga.us).

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