### MARCH/APRIL 2023 EDITION

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# SPRING SPORTS EDITION

### KNOCKING IT OUT OF THE PARK - By Thad Leffler - Field Reporter

I wrote questions for Coach Jeff Noble, the Waverly boys' baseball coach, and this is what he said. Coach Noble started coaching in 1983 while helping his high school coach, Tom Monroe. He says he has been coaching "a very long time." He also told me their spring baseball season starts on March 28, and the sectional tournament starts on May 15. They have twenty-eight players divided between two teams, varsity and junior varsity (JV). Their senior players are Alex Boles, Peyton Harris, and Gavin Claytor. Their freshman players are Landon Remy, Daniel Zahnel, Carter Blakemen, Jeremiah Miller, Ryker Johnson, Nick Sexton, Alex Tolliver and Kaleb McClune.

Coach Noble got his start when he was only five years old. That's when he started playing baseball. He also played in college and a few years

after that. Coach Noble's family includes his wife, Melodie (a teacher at Western), and son, Jeffrey, who will be graduating from Shawnee State University very soon. He says he really doesn't have much free time because in the summer he helps with American Legion baseball. When he does have some time, he enjoys watching movies and playing baseball. Coach Noble does love coaching. Good luck this season, Coach!

### A NEW KIND OF SPORT - By Shane Turner - Field Reporter



I had to interview Dakota Sparks, head of the Esports Team and here were his responses.

The first question I asked him was, "What games do you play in Esports?" He responded, "Fortnite, Valorant, League of Legends, Rocket League, Mario Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, and Overwatch." You don't have to try out for the Esports team. You do need to be available two days a week. You also

have to be dependable about showing up for the games.

I asked him if there were any tournaments in Esports. He responded, "We have a seven-week regular season with one make-up week at the end of the season. Then the top two teams in each section move on to the playoffs. Depending on the level, Club, Varsity, or Reserve, would dictate how much of a playoff tournament there is." He also said that there were some leagues and outside games to participate in. In his opinion, the hardest game to master is the League

of Legends because there are a lot of abilities to master.

Outside of Esports, Mr. Sparks plays Madden 23 and Call of Duty. Personally, his favorite Esports game is Valorant; however his favorite game outside school is Madden 23. He also stated that the game he is the worst in is Super Smash Brothers because he doesn't play it as much. He tries to play all the games and learn the strategies (along with the maps). He also stated that he has learned the most about Valorant.

I asked him if there were any qualifications to become an Esports member. He said that you can't have two F's and you have to be able to show up 2 days a week; otherwise they forfeit. Usually, they have thirty-four or thirty-five players on the team. They play inside the high school computer lab for regular season games. The best players for each game are Pierston Goodrich, Tyler Matthes, Alex Bates, Josh Medukas, Kenneth Gower, and Jax Goerlitzs.

If you're into gaming, maybe you'll give it a try!



Artwork by Zandria Fitzpatrick

### **RUNNING INTO SPRING**

By Harper Gillott - Field Reporter

Today, I interviewed Mrs. Tanya Murphy. She is the high school girls' track coach. She has been running with great neighborhood kids who ran with her. Her favorite game she played was "Capture the Flag" because it had the most running involved. Coach Murphy also ran track in junior high and high school but not college. During junior high and high school she ran the 100-meter dash, the 4x100 meter relay, the 4x200 meter relay, and she did high jump (but not all in one day.) There could only be four events in one day.

Although track and field was the only sport Coach Murphy played, she kept very busy in school. She also participated in drama club, band, marching band, choir, show choir, French Club, National Honor Society, and she was a teacher's aide.

Coach Murphy started as an assistant coach in 2008. In 2010 she took over as the head coach. This is now her fourteenth season. Since she has been a track coach, the

girls track and field team has been Southern Ohio Conference (SOC) champs for four years (2013 through 2016). When they didn't win, they were always the runners-up. Each season about ten girls earn "All SOC" honors by placing first or second in their events. Last year, two Waverly athletes, (Liv Cisco and Delaney Tackett) were "SOC Runners of the Year" because they tied in scoring the most points. Coach Murphy has been the "SOC Coach of the Year" eight times.

Her favorite part of coaching is seeing her athletes improve and become more confident in what they can accomplish. Watching the girls encourage and cheer each other on as they race is also a fun and positive part of coaching. Some things she would tell a young runner are, "Definitely give it a try! There is a little something for everyone in track and field.



There are short and long races, and it's not just running. We have two jumping events (high jump and long jump) and two throwing events (shot put and discus)."

One life lesson she would tell young athletes they will learn while participating on the track team is confidence. She says, "There is a little voice in your head that tells you that you can't do something because you aren't good enough. Track and field tells that voice to 'go away' and proves to the

> athletes that they can do whatever they are willing to fight for." Teamwork is another lesson. Each event is individual, but all the events together add up to a team victory (or not). Each person's efforts count toward the team score. If someone doesn't give her best, the whole team suffers. We really have to help each other to be our best.

> At the junior high Mrs. Murphy teaches sixth-grade History and World Geography. The class is divided into two halves. One-half of the year is maps and other topics about the

world and one-half of the year is learning about prehistoric people, ancient Egyptians, and religions. She loves teaching History and World Geography because she loves learning about the world, the different kinds of people that have lived in the past, and how we interact with the world today. The world is such a big place, there is always something new to learn, even for her. She has now been teaching at Waverly for close to twenty years.

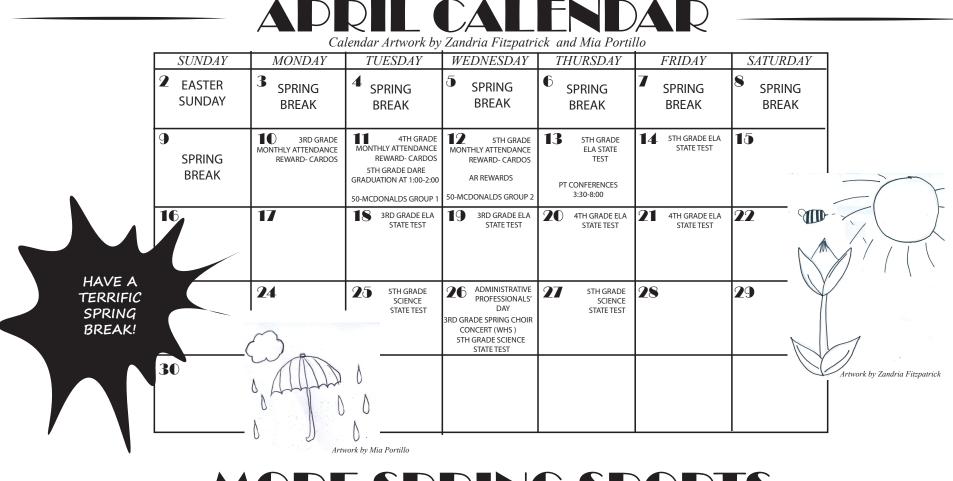
Coach Murphy has three daughters who are all grown up now. Two are getting married soon, and her third daughter is graduating from college. When they all can get together, they like to play board and card games, have bonfires in the backyard, and just hang out. She and Mr. Murphy like to travel, go hiking, go to soccer and baseball games, and Disney World. We are wishing the Waverly Girls' Track Team the best of luck this season!



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"SPRING ADDS NEW LIFE AND NEW BEAUTY TO ALL THAT IS" - JESSICA HARRELSON

Artwork by Mia Portillo



# MORE SPRING SPORTS

LOOKING FORWARD TO GIRLS' TENNIS WITH COACH MORRISON - By Adalynn Legg - Field Reporter

Today let's learn about a sport, tennis! Tennis seems like a fun sport to learn about, but we are going to learn about the special person who makes tennis fun, Coach Matt Morrison! The readers of the newspaper and I had a few questions for Coach Morrison that might inspire us all to play tennis. My first question is, "Did you play tennis when you were a kid?" He said, "In my freshman year of high school I started hitting against a wall at my school and then made the team as a sophomore. I started in doubles, then played singles my junior and senior

year." He told me that the hardest part of his job is teaching a sport that most kids have not tried much. He said that "it is especially tough because they have no experience and soon they see just how difficult it really is ....personally I think serving is the hardest thing about tennis."

I asked him, "Who are your senior players?" He actually only has one senior player this season, and that is Cam McKenzie. He has eight players on his team.

You might wonder what skills you need to play tennis? Coach Morrison says that the main skill is mental strength because it's frustrating to learn and most kids who start will quit because it looks much easier than it is. (You should try to remember that just because something is hard does not mean you need to give up.)

Coach Morrison was hired in 2002 because the old tennis coach moved to Florida. He loved tennis so he decided to take the job. He says the best part of coaching is that usually his teams are so small so the relationships they build are tight. He said, "I still talk to many of my players from the past frequently and we are a close-knit group." This is Coach Morrison's twentieth year and was his seventh coaching girls' tennis. That's twenty-seven seasons. That's a long time!

Coach Morrison has one son, Penn, who plays tennis in college at Cedarville. He also has one daughter named Claire who plays tennis (and will play for him this fall) on the girls' team. His wife's name is Lori. She doesn't play, but she is very supportive as coaching takes him away from home quite a bit.

Coach Morrison is hoping to win his overall eleventh (and sixth in a row) Southern Ohio Conference (SOC) title. We wish him the best of luck. Remember, if you're looking for a great sport to play, you might consider tennis!

### SLIDING INTO HOME WITH GIRLS' SOFTBALL - By Owen Craumer - Field Reporter



Did you ever want to know what it is like to coach softball? I had the opportunity to interview Waverly High School's softball coach, Mr. Scott Hayes, to find out. He has been coaching Waverly Softball for seven years, but this is only his sixth season because of Covid. I asked Coach Hayes about his expectations for this season. He said, "We expect

to compete in every game and steadily improve so that we are playing our best softball when tournaments start, which is when it matters." The softball season starts on March 25, at home, with a doubleheader against Chillicothe and Southeastern.

Do you know why Mr. Hayes decided to coach softball? He stated it all started because of his daughters. "I had daughters. When they decided they wanted to

play, I got involved in coaching and stayed with them until they got to high school. Then I started coaching at Lebanon High School, which is where I played baseball."

Coach Hayes said his favorite part about coaching is the relationships that are formed as a team and competing at a high level. He has a total of thirty players; fifteen junior varsity (JV) and fifteen varsity. He said that his biggest challenge comes from "coaching the girls to keep a positive attitude and continue to play for each other even when things are going wrong."

There are twenty-seven games in Waverly High School's softball season, and he considers every team a rival. When asked which team he considers his biggest rival, he responded with, "Whoever stands between us and a championship." Good luck with your spring season, Coach Hayes. Go Tigers!



WHAT IS DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME? - By Kadence Wheeler - Field Reporter

Do you know what Daylight Saving Time (DST) is? DST is the idea that energy can be saved and people can get more done if they have more daylight hours to work. This is especially true for farmers, who need more hours in the spring to plant crops and milk cows. In the spring, we set our clocks forward one hour and, therefore, have more hours of evening daylight. When fall comes, we set our clocks back an hour again. Think of it as "spring forward, fall back." You have probably noticed it's dark again when you get up for school in the morning, but now the sun doesn't set until near bedtime.



Artwork by Mia Portillo

Daylight Saving Time was first imagined by Benjamin Franklin (yes, the kite and lightning guy) in 1784. It wasn't until later, in 1908, that the first city in the world, Port Arthur in Ontario, Canada, began using DST. Daylight saving time wasn't consistently used in the United States until 1918 (during World War I). Since then, DST has been used and stopped many times. It continues to be a point of debate all over the country. Some states even choose not to use it.

In 2022, Congress even voted to keep DST all year long! We will have to wait and see if that actually happens in 2024. Now you know a little more about Daylight Saving Time.

### JUST ASKIN'...with Jacob Long - photos by Emma Hudnell

This week, Jacob Long took to the hallways to ask the question, "What advice would you have for a new student who is just coming to Waverly Intermediate this spring?"



AUBREY LEACH "Popcorn chicken is the best lunch!"



HAYLEE JENKINS "The swings are fun to play on."



TYRIC HARRIS "Expect to meet some kind people."



LAYTON SNODGRASS "The turf is the best spot on the playground."



MRS. HOWARD "Don't be afraid to ask questions."



"Just do your best."

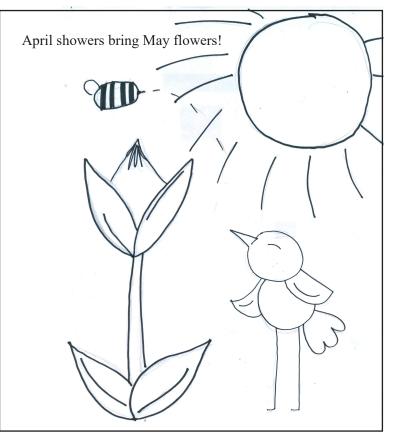


JETT SMITH "Get good sleep."

## JUST FOR FUN

Spring has Sprung!														_	)-	1			
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## COLOR ME!



### - REVIEWS & RECOMMENDATIONS -

#### EERIE ELEMENTARY RECESS IS A JUNGLE Author: Jack Chabert By Emma Hudnell- Field Reporter

Have you wondered what my favorite book is? My favorite book is "Eerie Elementary Recess Is A Jungle." It is about three kids: Sam, Antonio, and Lucy. It contains a lot of imagination. They think that Orson Eerie [the person that died in the school.] is haunting the playground and making it seem like it's a haunted jungle. Well I hope this inspired you to go to the library and start to read the Eerie Elementary series.

### THE REGULAR SHOW Authors: KC Green and Allison Strejlau

*By Briella Cuellar- Field Reporter* Have you ever had a favorite book? I'm sure you have. The library has lots of cool books. My favorite one is the "Regular Show" book, and you should read it. The "Regular Show" book consists of many silly parts. It also has lots of adventures, and funny characters. The "Regular Show" book is a comic. Comics are way easier to read than regular books (in my opinion). It's a fast and easy read. By the way, I checked it out more than seven times. (Woah, that's a lot!) There's lots of action and activities to read and see. My favorite character is probably Mordecai or Rigby. The happy, jolly character is Pops. He is really funny, too. The reason it's called "Regular Show" is because it's the opposite of regular. Mordecai is a blue jay. And his friend, Rigby, is a brown raccoon. Pops is a lollipop. That's why it's my favorite book.





### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

By Acey Gleason- Field Reporter

Have you ever wondered what St. Patrick's Day is? It is about how St. Patrick was kidnapped at age sixteen by Irish raiders. He was taken into slavery. While there, he is said to have found God. After six years in servitude he had a dream of his escape and fled. Surviving a frightening



journey back to Britian, he was eventually reunited with his family in Ireland. Once there, he made it his life's work to convert many to Christianity. We wear green and shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day because it is believed St. Patrick used the three-leaf clover to explain the Trinity to people. Many towns have parades and celebrations for the holiday. Now you know more about St. Patrick's Day.

### GET OUT THERE AND **READ**!

Some book recommendations from the desk of...Mrs. Holt.

*Be sure to check out... Dav Pilkey books (author of Captain Underpants comics) Dork Diaries Anything by Raina Telgemeier* 

### Coming after the inservice on April 27:

The complete "Wings of Fire" series "Screaming Staircase" The Wingfeather Saga and several other books. So get ready to see what's new the first week of April!!!!







