

THE BLACKSONIAN

REPORTING THE NEWS AT BHS SINCE 1927.



5th Quarter?

Paul Whelchel

Here at Blacksburg High, the football games aren't just four quarters; they're five! FCA 5th Quarter is a place where the youth can go to hangout, eat, and have fellowship. Students can sing, dance, and just have a good time.

Travis Sparks organizes this event, and it is typically held after every home game until around midnight at Broad River Baptist on Lime Street. Anyone at the football game is welcome to join in and have a good time with friends and family.

FCA 5th Quarter gives kids of all ages a safe, fun, and relaxing place to hangout. Sparks says when his daughters went to Blacksburg High School, they had to drive to go see their friends and hangout. Now, kids can stay close to home and still have fun. This year, there were a whopping 50 kids at the very first 5th Quarter. They had 32 kids in the second 5th quarter. Students who enjoy the football home games and need something to do afterward might consider the 5th Quarter at Broad River Baptist.

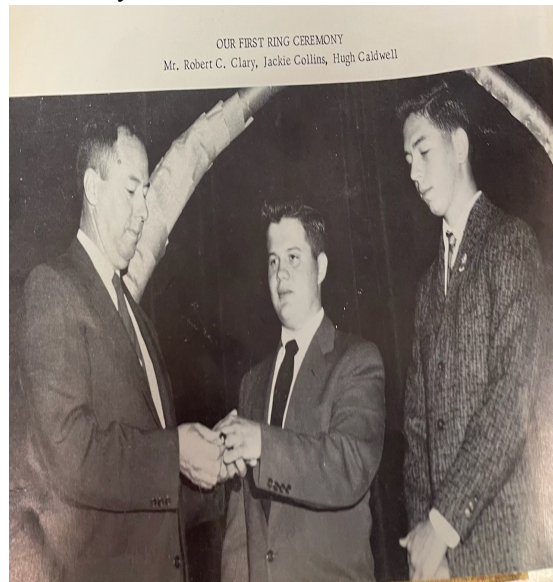
“If you like it, put a ring on it”



Principal George M. Goforth and Junior Class sponsor Thomas Gibbons assisted in the 1968 Ring Ceremony.



L to R: Sandra McCraw, Angie Ligon, Scott Bell, and Tammy Patterson



Mr. Robert C. Clary, Jackie Collins, and Hugh Caldwell participate in BHS 's first ring ceremony in 1960.

Triston Green

One of the milestones of high school is getting class rings. Class rings are given to students to commemorate their upcoming final academic year. Many places have a ring ceremony, but each one is a little different. The tradition of a ring ceremony originated in 1835 with students from West Point in New York.

Blacksburg High School (BHS) has traditionally had a ring ceremony. The purpose of the ceremony is to present the rings in a distinguished manner. This creates another special memory for the students. Blacksburg offers the ceremony to juniors or seniors since it represents their upcoming final year. Students in the ceremony hear a speech about the purpose of the ceremony, the symbolism and history of the ring, and the proper wearing and turning of the ring.

Participation in the ring ceremony is optional. In fact, students do not even have to buy a ring to participate. Mrs. Kristi Crater, BHS Chemistry teacher and sponsor of the ring ceremony, said, "We have constructed the ceremony to allow students to use family rings or even no ring at all. If a junior or senior wants to participate with their friends and classmates, we want them to be a part of the ceremony regardless of ring status."

One thing that makes the BHS ceremony different and special is the wooden ring that serves as an arch. Students are presented with their ring under the arch. It is uncertain exactly how long the wooden ring has been used, but Mrs. Crater notes, "I know the wooden ring has signatures and dates on the back of it going back to the 1960's." Mrs. Crater also said, "I have been told by representatives from both Herff Jones and Jostens that ours is one of the best presentations they have ever attended." As is tradition, the old wooden ring was used in the ceremony this year.

Edward Jones

Member SIP



Mason L Standridge
Financial Advisor
301 W Cherokee St Ste D
Blacksburg, SC 29702-1557
864-492-3318

MKT-5894N-A

> edwardjones.com

Your advertisement could go here...
For more information about placing ads in The Blacksonian contact any member of the Blacksonian staff or Mr. Blackburn. There are ads and sponsorships in all price ranges.
Great Value at a Great Price!

PALMETTO'S BEST
—HOME INSPECTION—
Ty Satterwhite 864-761-6299
palmettosbhi@gmail.com Home Inspector #49192

SPORTS

Senior Spotlight



Serving up excellence

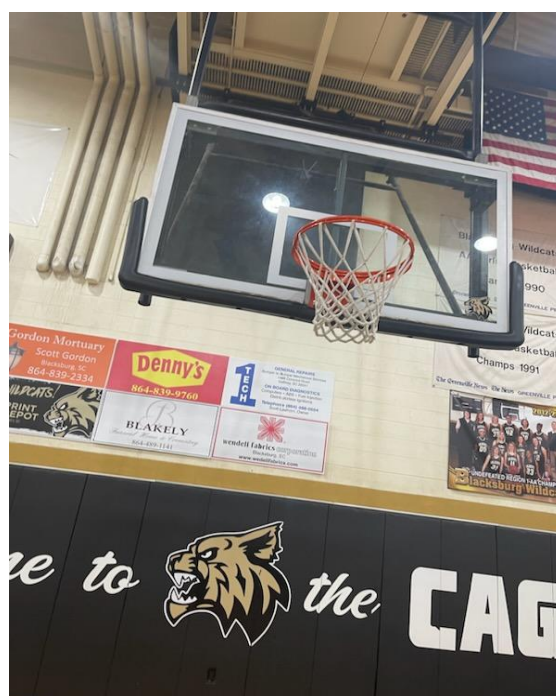
Kayla Butler

Maggie Stewart has been playing volleyball for four years. She is a two-year member of the varsity volleyball team. Since she began playing, Maggie has been a middle on the team.

On the court, Maggie wears the number 20 jersey and is a beast. She says her favorite thing about volleyball is the rush that you get when you get a kill or dig.

When asked about her teammates, Maggie claims that her biggest inspiration is Ella McClain because Ella has the best winning attitude. She goes on to say that her favorite thing about all of her teammates is that they are all close with one another. Maggie said her teammates know when one another is going after the ball, and they can trust each other to get it. This team clearly works like a team both on and off the court!

“Since 1972, Title IX has given women athletes the right to equal opportunity in sports in educational institutes that receive federal funds.”



BASKETBALL

Wildcat Basketball Begins

J.D. Bonner

The Wildcats have officially started their conditioning for the 2022-2023 school year. They are hungry and ready to devour their opponents with their new head coach William Sims.

Sims previously held the JV coaching position, but with his move to varsity, that position is now held by Ivory Wilson. The current assistant coaches for the varsity team are Coach Jolly, Coach Gilfillan, and Coach Gregory. The dates for tryouts are yet to be announced because of the currently occurring football season.

When asked about the basketball team's focus this year, Blacksonian staff received a quote from the Wildcats' coaching staff stating, “The theme for the year is just to compete.” The coaches elaborated with Blacksonian Staff saying the Wildcats' coaching staff and players believe that the team can go a long way with the chemistry and the unique up-tempo style of play. The Wildcats want to play fast and score on a lot of fastbreaks. The coaches want their players to be able to get up and down the floor very quickly and to be great defensively.

Even though the season hasn't begun yet, the Wildcats are hyped up and looking forward to a great year.

Volleyball

Another game over the net

Kayla Butler

The junior varsity and varsity volleyball teams had a home game September 13, 2022. The JV team came up a little bit short but fought very hard and did not give up. The varsity game followed the JV game. Varsity fought very hard as well, so well in fact that they played all five games against Greenville Tech. All five games were amazing to watch; the rallies were long and exciting, making the game very suspenseful. Everyone was doing their job by getting the ball over the net, and the teamwork that was demonstrated on the court was spectacular. These games kept the fans on their feet.

Both volleyball teams also played the 15th of September at Landrum High School. The JV looked good. The battle between the two JV teams was awesome, and the Blacksburg JV team was very aggressive. Even though the ball did hit the ground at times, 100% effort was given by all of the players to prevent this from happening. The varsity game followed the JV game. The varsity team was also very aggressive and looked spectacular on the court. In the end, both JV and varsity came up a little short, but they didn't go down without a battle.



FOOTBALL

A star kicker

Josie Brown

The football highlight this week is senior Kolby Capps. Kolby has only been playing for the Wildcats for one year. Wearing number 86, he is the punter and kicker for the team. He feels very good about this season, even with the setbacks early in the season. “I think we can still be very good in region play.” Kolby is most looking forward to the Landrum game. The Cardinals are one of the Wildcats' biggest rivals.

As a senior, Kolby believes the team will fight their hardest against any opponent they play, no matter the circumstances. Capps feels the Wildcats' coaching staff is behind the team and has the players' best interests at heart. After getting a new head coach, Kolby said, “It was certainly a big change from what we were used to, but Coach Batchler is a great person and coach. He will do a phenomenal job this season.”

Life Styles

choice that ends up changing everything. This is rated TV-MA and has ten episodes.

I Survived a Crime is about 24 different true crimes and how people survived them. The show is rated TV-14 and episodes are mostly nineteen minutes long.



Top 10 Country Songs

Journey Davidson

The Top 10 Country Songs From The 80's:

“He Stopped Loving Her Today” by George Jones

“God Bless the USA” by Lee Greenwood

“I Will Always Love You” by Dolly Parton

“Always On My Mind” by Willie Nelson

“When You Say Nothing at All” by Keith Whitley

“I was Country When Country wasn't Cool” by Barbara Mandrell

“Forever and Ever, Amen” by Randy Travis

“I'll Still Be Loving You” by Restless Heart

“All My Exes Live in Texas” by George Strait

“Islands in the Stream” by Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton



Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton collaborating on their single “Islands in the Stream.”

Top 10 Netflix TV Shows

Journey Davidson

Cobra Kai is about Johnny Lawrence who is an unemployed handyman who has hit rock bottom. It is rated TV-14, and there are five seasons.

The Imperfects is about a genetic experiment that gave three adults monstrous powers. It is rated TV-MA, and there are ten episodes.

Devil In Ohio is about a teen girl running away from an abusive home. She's hurt and runs for help. Someone takes her to the hospital where she ends up meeting a doctor. The doctor temporarily lets her live with her and her family, but odd things start happening. This show is rated TV-MA, and it has limited episodes available for viewing.

The Crown dramatizes the story of Queen Elizabeth II's political and personal life. The show is rated TV-MA, and it has four seasons. Although the fifth season was reportedly going to be pushed back due to the recent passing of the Queen, Netflix released a statement saying it would be released as planned.



NetFlix award winning series the crown details the life of Elizabeth II through her 70 year reign.

Narco-Saints is about an ordinary entrepreneur who joins a secret government mission to capture a drug lord. This show is rated TV-MA and only has six episodes.

In the Dark is about a blind teenager who stops caring about the world, but then something terrible happens. This show is rated TV-14 and has four seasons available for viewing.

CyberPunk is about a street kid who strives to become a mercenary outlaw. It is rated TV-MA, and there are only ten episodes.

Dated and Related is a series with ten episodes about single siblings that help each other search for their soulmates. On the show, they are all hoping to come home with that special someone. This is rated TV-MA.

Diary of a Gigolo is a show about a high-end male escort. He makes a risky

Homecoming at Blacksburg High School

2022 Homecoming Court

Jemiah Davidson
Kalynn Littlejohn
Sierra Margarita
Emma Patterson
Samantha Rash
Ivonne Razo
Maggie Stewart
Mayson Taylor
Gracie Walker
Ryan Wolford

2022 Homecoming Hunk Candidates

Parker Alexander
Dre Buckson
Kolby Capps
Jay Dawkins
O. Daniels
EJ Graham
Dustin Henry
Caleb Martin
Brandon Oglesby
Trey Smith
Kanye Tate
Justin Wylie



Amber Perkins after being crowned Blacksburg High School's 2021 Homecoming Queen

District & Community

School not your thing? Learn a trade skill.

Jessica Martin

The Institute of Innovation is the career school for Cherokee County School District. They offer tons of classes and open opportunities. The Institute of Innovation is also known as I2 and is located on the Gaffney campus of Spartanburg Community College.

I2 is a school that combines Blacksburg and Gaffney students. It gives them time to find and work with other kids that they aren't around all the time at their home high schools. I2 is for students to be career ready the day they graduate from high school, if not earlier than that. These classes give students real world experience and training all while in high school, even some have jobs lined up or college classes already. Students at I2 have the ability to graduate with licensing and certification for jobs such as CNA and Cosmetology.

Gaffney, being a bigger school, has more of their kids attending, but all of the classes offered at I2 have both Blacksburg and Gaffney kids in them. Some of their most popular programs offered include Welding, Automotive Tech, Culinary Arts, and Cosmetology. Mrs. Sarrat in guidance at I2 says most of the classes are full. She also says a lot of their students, "take advantage of: getting trained, work based learning, and job shadowing."

Senior Grayson Hurley took one I2 class his freshman year. He took Intro into Engineering, and he says the only reason he did not like taking I2 classes is because "he felt rushed and he did not have time to get all of his daily things done." A lot of the rush comes from the fact that BHS students have a further commute than GHS students. He does agree with everyone that it is an amazing thing for the kids who want to learn a trade and go from school straight to work.



The front entrance to Cherokee County School District's Institute of Innovation (I2) on the Gaffney campus of Spartanburg Community College.



**"Experience, knowledge,
and skills for the real
world."**

Upcoming Events

Ms. McAfee

Homecoming

Homecoming is a tradition here at Blacksburg High School. This year, Homecoming will be held on October 14, 2022 at T. A. Campbell Stadium on Bob Blanton Field. Homecoming celebrations will begin on the week of October 10, 2022 with activities that can be enjoyed by all students, faculty, and staff.

On the morning of October 14th, there will be the Homecoming assembly in the gym where the Homecoming Court and senior football players will be presented. During the assembly, there will be entertainment put together by Mrs. Lynn Black and Mrs. Pamela Hughes. In the afternoon, there will be the Homecoming Pep Rally beginning at approximately 3:00 pm.

As this is a time-honored and festive tradition, we look forward to the fun of this week. More information will be released in the coming days.

Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is a national movement that started in the 1980s by the National Family Partnership. It is the longest-running and largest campaign against drug use in America.

Red Ribbon Week began after the murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena. Enrique Camarena was tortured and killed by the Mexican Drug Cartel in 1985, after they found out he was in their organization working undercover. Although his mother had tried to dissuade him from joining the DEA, he told her, "I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference." Camarena was only 37 when he was brutally tortured and murdered. He left behind his wife and three sons.

After Camarena's murder, neighbors, family, and friends began wearing red satin badges. Parents who were simply sick over the hold alcohol and drugs had taken over their children began coalitions to spread awareness about the issue; many used Camarena as their model.

Blacksburg High School will participate in Red Ribbon Week beginning October 23, 2022. More information will come about the activities planned for that week.



Enrique (KiKi) Camarena, former DEA Agent who was brutally tortured and murdered.

Blacksburg: Resort Town and Spa



The Cherokee Inn around 1900. One of several resorts located in the Blacksburg area during the early 1900s.

Journey Davidson

During the Cherokee Inn days, many people visited Blacksburg because of the perceived healing powers of water found in the many rock springs in the area. The rock springs existed because of the mineral abundance. The town boomed and flourished in the late nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century.

By the 1890's, Black's station, Kings Creek, and various other communities were thriving resorts. In 1890, Blacksburg Land and Improvement Co. made a map of the area proposing two large manufacturing sites and a section with upscale villas dubbed "The Highlands." On the map, there was a network of roads winding around the Whitaker Mountain that would lead to the "Overlook Place," a proposed resort on the top of the mountain.

The Cherokee Inn was built by Major John F. Jones in the late 1800's. The Cherokee Inn was said to be one of the best hotels in the south. The Cherokee Inn was constructed on the south slope of the mountain where it became a social center for people from all around. It is reported that people came from as far away as New England to the hotel.

In addition to these thriving spots, Kings Creek was also home to a resort as well. At one time, Kings Creek was its own town with a bank, hotel, train station, post office, and more. Today, a marker still stands on Piedmont Springs Road (situated off of SC Hwy 5 at the Cherokee County, York County line) indicating the spot where the hotel once stood.

When adventuring through the woods, one can still see the vault where the old hotel once was; however, we highly discourage any adventuring now as the property is private property and subject to the laws against trespassing. The train station, store, and post office were located off SC Hwy 5 on what is now SC Hwy 97. Although the train tracks have been removed from Hwy 97, one can still see where they ran through the clearing, and one can still see the depot and store situated beside them.

Editorial

You are the master of your destiny.
You can influence, direct and control
your own environment. You can
make your life what you want it to be.

“If it is to be, it is up to me.”

What is your duty? What are your responsibilities? Who is at fault? Where do we put blame? Ultimately, one can only control oneself.

In this week’s editorial, we encourage you to take some time to reflect on the questions posed here. Regardless of your status or job (student, faculty, or staff), everyone at Blacksburg High School is important to the workings of the school. When you look around you, what do you see? Do you see things that need to be improved? Do you see ways that you can help? How can you change things (or yourself) for the better? What can you inspire others to do? How can you be the change that is needed?

Oftentimes, we as humans have a tendency to want to look outward at others rather than inward at ourselves. Instead of looking for others to change situations, be the change you desire. Instead of saying, “that’s not my job,” do what you can do to help. While it is true that we all have our individual jobs here at BHS, it is also true that we have to all pitch in and help those around us. That is what creates success, and ultimately you are the master of your life.



The Blacksonian Staff

Co-editors

Grayson Hurley

Jessica Martin

Staff Writers

J.D. Bonner

Josie Brown

Kayla Butler

Journey Davidson

Triston Green

Joey Martin

Dalton Welchel



Guest Writer

Ms. Brooke McAfee

Advisor

Mr. Doug B. Blackburn, Jr.

The Blacksonian is the student written, edited, and published newspaper of Blacksburg High School in Blacksburg, SC. For information concerning the publication, please contact Mr. Blackburn or one of the editors.