

Knights In Shining Armor

By: Alisa Andrews and Allison File

NC Science Olympiad State Competition

Only two years after being founded, North Lincoln High School’s Science Olympiad team made it to the North Carolina State competition! After qualifying in the regional tournament held in Hickory, North Carolina, the team headed to NC State University. They competed in a variety of STEM related subjects. The competition included traditional testing, hands-on experiments, and building test structures. The club met throughout the school year, in preparation of events, to plan and study with their teammates. The tournament took place on Saturday the 21st and NLHS competed against 112 high school teams from across North Carolina.

Our team had some high scorers in events:
-Cassidy McCarty and Anne Davin placed 11th in *Write It Do It*
-Alisa Andrews, Regan Lang, and Cassidy McCarty placed 13th in *Experimental Design*
-Sam Andrews and Jackson Cathey placed 18th in *Herpetology*

The team also had success in the trial events:
-Ryan Davin and Casey Cate placed 9th in *Fermi Questions*
-Georgia Dellinger and Blake Haynes placed 7th in *Mystery Design Div C*
-Regan Lang and Jacob Scott placed 10 in *Paper Science*

The entire team was excited to compete and challenge themselves to expand their knowledge in STEM fields. The club is led by Ms. Ferneti and we are all looking forward to what the team will accomplish next year.

All Event Scores:
<https://app.avogadro.ws/nc/ncsu-state-c/>



Regan, Alisa, and Cassidy after designing their experiment for testing Gas Laws.



Regan, Karis, Tony, and Angie standing with their Duct Tape Challenge planet design.

Creative Castle

By: Grace Holbrooks & Liz Woodby

The Creative Castle is here to showcase the artisans of North Lincoln High School. If you want to share your creativity with us, our emails are below for submissions:
gracemack21601@gmail.com &
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Poetry

The Rainbow Beyond the Storm

Why do people frown when they look upon a storm?
Why do they look at rain with disgust and scorn?
I can have lousy days why can’t nature too?
Who cares if a little mud gets on your shoe!

I prefer to view rain in a different way.
I like to watch the little droplets dance and play.
To see the ripples in puddles glide like fluid glass.
And observe the glittering beads sprinkled on blades of grass.

What others see as a gloomy forecast,
I perceive as a refreshing bath in contrast.
When they tread around and brood about the muddy earth.
Why, I see a world with richer hues that should give great mirth!

Can’t they see the way the rain gives nature a new texture?
A new shine, a new vesture!
Don’t they hear the rain’s rhythmic beat like a percussion ensemble!
No, for the fascination on their face is as dry as a fossil.

An immaculate sunny day cannot last forever.
The sky cannot bottle up tears whatsoever.
Sometimes even fluffy white clouds need a time to cry.
Even the sun runs out of smiles to supply.

And when the rains come to wash away,
All the trite makeup from the face of day,
They only seem to grimace at every boggy blemish.
For in natural beauty they find no reason to cherish.

And just as I see the beauty in a rainstorm,
There is one who sees the beauty in your own flawed form.
He is the one who dries the showers from the skies,
And he can dry the sorrowful tears from your eyes.

So in your life, when terrible tempests rage,
When stains are exposed, and emotions flee their cage,
Remember to trust the Father of all creation,
Who pours out to you His pure adoration.

- Sloane Pearce, 12th grade

Knight Life

By: Hannah Caldwell

North Lincoln’s prom, Southern Knights, took place last Saturday and appeared to be a huge hit. Prom court included Teigan DeLuca, Alyssa McAfee, McCauley Palmer, Katie Clements, Myrella Venegas, Ryan Dolan, Reed McRorie, Caleb Brown, Will Thornhill, and Lance Bailey. Caleb Brown won prom king, and Alyssa McAfee was prom queen. Prom was a night to remember, and everyone looked amazing. The dance floor was packed all night. The prom committee, headed by Mrs.Burke, Mrs.Earnhardt, and Mrs.Black did a great job with the theme and decorations. Everyone there contributed to the success of prom, so thanks for a wonderful night!

Entertainment

By: Hannah McGuire

Quiz

Over the past few months, many new and exciting movies have hit the theaters, and it seems like they’ll only keep coming as the year progresses. Coming out this month is the new Star Wars movie called **Solo: A Star Wars Story**, which will give a backstory on Han Solo, one of the main characters in the franchise. Two of the other most recognizable names in the series are Luke Skywalker and Leia Organa. [This quiz](#) will tell you which of the three you relate to most!

Solo: A Star Wars Story is set to premiere on May 25th. If you go to see it and would like to share your viewing experience with *The Sword and Pen*, please contact Hannah McGuire at hannahcmcguire@icloud.com.

Editor’s Piece

By: Grace Holbrooks and Liz Woodby

North and South Korea Peace?

Recently, North and South Korean leaders met at a summit conference in Seoul, South Korea to discuss removing all nuclear weapons from the Korean Peninsula. They also discussed declaring an official end to the Korean War, opening discussion with the United States. This was a big step considering this was the first time a North Korean leader had ever visited South Korea while in office, trying to disrupt the uneasy peace brought upon by the Korean Peninsula for over six decades. The peace treaty is a top priority for the North Koreans, seeing as they have dismantled their nuclear program and asked for a treaty in return. The meeting between leaders Mr.Moon and Mr.Kim was picked apart and analyzed, possibly setting the tone for a meeting between President Trump and Mr. Kim. The meeting seemed to last briefly, but ended in the large possibility of a good outcome, even the end of the Korean War. Trump seems also to be optimistic on the promises of both Mr.Kim and Mr.Moon and that they will be beneficial to the

Scholarships

Congratulations to the following seniors for being selected for these prestigious scholarships:

- **Mckenzie Jones** was awarded the Stamps Scholarship, a business scholarship totaling up to \$176,000 at the University of South Carolina. She also received the AXA Achievement Scholarship, valuing \$10,000.
- **McCauley Palmer** won the UNC Kenan-Flagler scholarship, a full ride for the UNC business school.
- Katie Clements** was awarded the State Employees Credit Union “People Helping People” Scholarship, valuing at \$10,000.

Mystery Person of the Month

By: Rebecca Del Rossi
Last Month’s answer: Sam Andrews



- I have my scuba diving license
- I have been to 20 different countries
- I have had the same boyfriend for a year and a half
- I am a senior

Upcoming Events!

By: Faith Guia

- May 1st:** Beta Club Hours Due- Seniors
-ALL DAY
- May 4th:** Musical Review
-7:00-8:00pm
- May 5th:** Musical Review
-7:00-8:00pm
- May 5th:** NLHS band Mattress Fundraiser
-10:00am-5:00pm
- May 7th-18th:** AP EXAMS
- May 8th:** Beta Club Inductions
-Practice: 5:00pm; Induction: 6:30pm
- May 13th:** Heart of a Champion Registration ENDS
-ALL DAY
- May 13th:** Beta Club Hours Due- Juniors
-ALL DAY
- May 15th:** NHS Hours Due- Seniors
-ALL DAY
- May 19th:** Heart of a Champion
-ALL DAY
- May 21st:** Sports Awards Banquet
-6:30pm
- May 24th:** NLHS Spring Concert- Band & Chorus
-7:00pm
- May 29th:** Awards Night- Underclassmen
-6:30pm
- May 30th:** Yearbook Distribution Day
-ALL DAY

Photography



“These two pictures are from the spring break Mingo Bay Classic tournament where the baseball team went 4-0 with a very successful, undefeated week.”



“After a bittersweet senior night, complete with decorations, pictures capturing life long memories, and a very well-spoken farewell from the coach, Jon Carpenter, the Knights defeated Newton Conover 8-4 to top it all off. As they progress through the season, overall 17-2, this team has a very promising road ahead of them.”

- **Laney Marler, 12th grade** took these pictures and offered her thoughts on each.

Poll

By: Alex McCorkle

This poll was conducted at North Lincoln High School.
Should we have another language class?

Yes: 170
No: 38

Which language should it be?

- German: 41
- French: 77
- Latin: 14
- Chinese: 18
- Japanese: 9
- Arabic: 2
- Russian: 3
- Portuguese: 2
- Korean: 2
- Italian: 1
- American Sign Language: 15
- Native American: 1
- Swedish: 2
- Other: 17

U.S. in the long run, especially improving previous weak/controversial relations with North Korea and Mr.Kim.



The above picture shows Mr. Kim and Mr. Moon greeting at the beginning of the meeting.

Sports

By: Bella Reid and Mattie Lancaster

Women’s Soccer

- 05/01** Lincolnton @ Lincolnton
- 05/03** Bandys @ NLHS
- 05/04** Cherryville @ NLHS (SENIOR NIGHT)

Softball

- 05/01, 05/03 & 05/04** South Fork Conference Tournament

Men’s Golf

- 05/07 & 05/08** State Championship @ Pinehurst

Track

- 05/01** Conference Meet @ NLHS
- 05/12** Regional Meet @ Polk Co. HS
- 05/19** State Meet @ NC A&T

Knight’s Kingdom

By: Grace Holbrooks, Faith Guia, & Rebecca Del Rossi

Volunteer Opportunities

All of these are great opportunities to help out the community and also help those who need volunteer hours for a club!

- Sally’s YMCA - Denver - (704) 716 - 7300
- Denver Baptist Church - Denver - (704) 403 - 3030
- Lakewood Care Center (Retirement Home) - Denver - (704) 483 - 7000
- Habitat for Humanity Restore - Denver - (704) 466 - 4300
- Mooresville Soup Kitchen - Mooresville - (704) 660 - 9010
- The Corner Table - Newton - (828) 464 - 0355
- Cornelius Animal Shelter - Cornelius - (704) 237 - 3602

Job Opportunities

Go and get an application at any one of these places if you are looking for a job!!!

- Burger King - Denver
- Arbys - Denver & Lincolnton
- Chick - Fil - A - Denver
- Wendy’s - Denver & Lincolnton
- Pie 5 Pizza - Lincolnton
- Homingstead (senior care)- Lincolnton

The Bard’s Tale

by: Hannah McGuire

How often do students get the chance to just sit down and read a story? Now, all you have to do is look at each month’s issue of The Sword and Pen to get a few hundred words about a normal high school senior...except she has a hidden talent. Read to find out more!

Previously in The Bard’s Tale.....

Aria shoved the money into her wallet again, trying not to feel guilty about possibly having just stolen someone's money. She returned the wallet to her dresser herself without the help of whatever ability she had. *What even is this* she thought to herself? *How did this just now happen if I've been singing my whole life? What did I do?* Aria obviously didn't have any of the answers to her questions. But she was sure she was going to have fun experimenting with what her "powers" could do.

Monday Morning.....

Aria stayed up late that Saturday and Sunday, forcing objects to fly around her room and small things to happen. On Sunday morning, she wished that her breakfast would appear in her room. No sooner had Aria taken the first bite than Melody started to complain that her breakfast was missing. Aria laughed as her parents stated over and over again that the paper plate of scrambled eggs Melody had probably made its way into the trash can by accident or that Millie, the family’s overexcited and rambunctious golden retriever, had gotten to it. No one came to ask Aria if she knew where the plate was.

On Monday morning, Aria was extremely tired. Having only slept partial nights on each Saturday and Sunday, her eyes were framed with the dark circles of unrest as she went to wash her face in her bathroom sink. The cold water worked a little to wake her up, but the tiredness she felt was one she knew even caffeine could not help. She closed her eyes briefly, partially to rest them and partially to think about what to do.

She began singing without really thinking about it. “Why did I choose to stay up so late? Give me energy to make it through this day.” As though a bolt of lightning went through her, Aria could feel herself being energized. She opened her eyes to look in the mirror above the sink and was extremely elated to find that the dark circles were erased as though she had used some magical concealer and her skin looked healthy and glowed with a radiant energy. Happily, she finished getting ready for the day and went downstairs to get some breakfast.

The rest of Aria’s family greeted her as though in a daze. They all seemed as tired as she had been earlier. Even Millie was moping around instead of prancing energetically per usual. Aria felt somewhat guilty as she remembered the soccer game that Melody had today, but chose to ignore her shameful feelings as she remembered she hadn’t done the homework for her calculus class that weekend. She wolfed down her cereal before rushing back up to her bedroom.

"My weekend has been so crazy, I need my calculus homework answers please?" Aria sang in a shaky, nervous tone. Her calc teacher would murder her if she missed another assignment due to singing reasons. However, Aria was not failed and a copy of the calculus homework, done in neat, clean handwriting appeared on her desk. She slipped it into her bookbag with a smile and, looking down at her watch, ran downstairs, calling Melody to follow her out the door.

The girls slid into Aria's silver sedan and Aria pulled out of their driveway and onto the road. Melody snored lightly in the passenger's seat, her head lolling to the side. The pang of guilt returned in Aria's stomach.

Aria dropped Melody off at the elementary school that was right around the corner from their house and continued around the next block to the local high school. Even though she lived close to the school, she just barely made it to her math class in time for the bell to ring. Her teacher, Mrs. Clark, gave her an unpleasant look as she slid into her seat with the pings of the final bell.

"Alright, class, homework on your desks. I'm coming around to collect it now." Mrs. Clark slid out of her desk chair and went around, picking up papers that kids pulled out. Aria pulled out the sheet from earlier and handed it to the teacher as she paced by. Mrs. Clark actually looked a bit taken aback that Aria had her work, but she added it to the pile.

"Mrs. Clark, I can't find my work. But I know I did it," Elaina, a junior and one of the smartest kids in the class, piped up.

"You'll be okay, Elaina. You've turned in every piece of homework this year. One zero won't ruin your chances of getting into Harvard," Mrs. Clark laughed.

Aria took in the crestfallen face of Elaina and felt the stab of remorse again. She was certain that the homework she had just turned in was Elaina's. But at least, if she had taken someone's homework, it was the person who could afford to miss an assignment.

Aria shook her head, trying to pull herself together. She raised her hand and asked Mrs. Clark if she could use the bathroom. The teacher, scowling slightly, nodded, and then ordered the rest of the students to pull out their notebooks.

Aria stopped by the water fountain in the empty hallway and took several gulps of the weird-tasting school water. She remembered the rainstorm she had caused that had started her....."power." Aria remembered Melody, her poor, tired sister who had a game today. Maybe shoe could help Melody out. After all, she felt guilty about making her so tired. What if she helped make it up to her sister?

Aria thought about the words for a moment, and then started to sing. "My sister is sleepy, and today is her game. I wish she would not have to go today."

Nothing happened immediately. Melody had almost made it back to class before her phone started to ring.

To be continued next month.....stay tuned!