

## Knights In Shining Armor

By: Alisa Andrews and Allison File

### NC State Park Scholarship



The Park Scholarships Program is among the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship programs in the United States. It is a four-year scholarship awarded on the basis of outstanding accomplishments and potential in scholarship, leadership, service and character. The mission of the program is "to bring exceptional students to North Carolina State University based on outstanding accomplishments and potential in scholarship, leadership, service, and character."

This year, North Lincoln's semi-finalists are Allison File and Alisa Andrews! Congratulations and we wish you the best of luck!!

### POLAR PLUNGE

This year the Habitat for Humanity Chapter is hosting a fundraising event to raise money to build homes in Lincoln County! The first ever Polar Plunge event will take place on February 9th, 2019 at 9:30 am. All participants will be jumping into the icy waters of Lake Norman at Beatty's Ford Park! All funds will be used to help provide safe, affordable housing to families in need.

It is only \$20 to jump and each jumper will receive a souvenir towel with the chapter logo designed by the Vice President, Sharidan Ferris. North Lincoln Students are working hard to advocate for this event and hope to see the support of the excellent students and staff at North Lincoln as well as our community.

To join or donate contact:  
Email [nlhshabitat@gmail.com](mailto:nlhshabitat@gmail.com)  
Or sign up in Remind 101 if you are a student member



### DAR Scholarship:

The DAR Good Citizens Award and Scholarship Contest, created in 1934, is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. This year, NLHS nominated Alisa Andrews for the DAR Good Citizen Award. This award recognizes and rewards individuals who possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities. These

## Creative Castle

By: Grace Holbrooks & Liz Woodby

The Creative Castle is here to showcase the artists of North Lincoln High School. If you want to share your creativity with us, our emails are below for submissions:

[gracemack21601@gmail.com](mailto:gracemack21601@gmail.com) &  
[lwoodby@gmail.com](mailto:lwoodby@gmail.com)

### Poetry

#### Perspective

When you encountered a mountain,  
You saw an obstacle,  
But I gaze on a summit.

When you glanced at the sky,  
You saw clouds,  
But I gape at planets and stars beyond.

When you eyed your tired feet,  
You saw your strife,  
But i studied my mistakes.

When you glared at a mirror,  
You saw today,  
But I peered into tomorrow.

-Anonymous Student

### Artwork

*This month's artwork was contributed by senior Lizbeth Woodby. She shares her thoughts about her work.*



"This was for a Spanish project I did with Jordan Cody in 10th grade. We were assigned to 'buy' something from a 'store' to practice vital Spanish terms, so we naturally picked a bookstore. The casual Noelle Robinson shout out was just an added bonus of this picture."

- Lizbeth Woodby, 12th grade

## Editor's Piece

By: Mattie Lancaster  
**My Last Semester of High School**

As we near the second semester of the 2018-2019 school year, my senior year, I felt the need to continue off last month's piece by Rebecca Del Rossi and discuss my high school experience and how I feel as graduation approaches.

### College

IT IS OKAY TO NOT KNOW! I've spent the last four years stressing about college and the fear that high school would end one day. However, the closer it gets to graduation, I have come to terms with the fact that high school is simply a chapter of life that is ending and a new chapter is beginning. Honestly, the more I think about going to college and starting over, the more excited I become.

### Working

My job has been one of the largest stresses of high school; however, I personally believe that it has been more beneficial than it has been burdening. The amount of friendships, appreciation, respect, and experience I have gained from working at Bar-B-Q King is irreplaceable. Although I always complain about working there, I'd honestly advise everyone to get a job while in high school. I promise you won't regret it.

### Grades

Mr. Fier actually gave me the best advice I had ever received during my sophomore year. He told me that life should never be determined by numbers, given that I had obsessed over my grades, GPA, and class rank for months. So here's my advice: do your best but your main focus should always be to be a good person. Being the smartest doesn't make you better than anyone else, so don't let grades dictate your happiness.

### Participation

If I could give any advice, I would suggest getting involved around the school. Go to sporting events, join clubs, play sports, talk to someone that normally keeps to his/herself. Being active and participating around the school was personally my favorite part of high school because it gave me an opportunity to make new friends. I hope you can find an appreciation for it, too.

## Sports

By: Bella Reid and Mattie Lancaster

### Wrestling

1/1-3 @ ELHS  
1/8 vs. Maiden  
1/11 @ NC  
1/18 vs. Lincolnton  
1/22 @ Bandys  
1/26 Conference  
1/29 1st and 2nd round State duals  
1/31 3rd and 4th round State duals

### Basketball

1/2 vs. Lake Norman Charter



students are selected by their teachers and peers because they demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree. Her application and essay was chosen to represent Lincoln County and she will proceed to further rounds of the scholarship process.

## Mystery Person of the Month

By: Rebecca Del Rossi  
**Last Month's Mystery people:**  
**Freshman:** Max Sigmon  
**Sophomore:** Hanna Kotek  
**Juniors:** Erick Rios  
**Senior:** Morgan Garcia



**Win a prize! The first person to identify the Mystery Person of the Month will receive a either a Chick-Fil-A gift card or a free NLHS sporting event ticket. Text the number 81010 with message @rdelross. Text who you are and who you think the mystery person is!!!**

1. What do you enjoy doing the most?
2. Choose three words to describe yourself
3. When is your birthday?
4. How many siblings do you have?

**Freshman Girl:**

1. Hanging out with friends
2. Smart, Kind and Outgoing
3. November 1st, 2003
4. 1

**Sophomore Boy:**

1. Working out, running, anything fitness related
2. Driven, Determined and Proper
3. August 8th, 2002
4. 4

**Junior Girl:**

1. I enjoy running
2. Dedicated, Honest and Kind
3. February 21st, 2002
4. 1 sister

**Senior Boy:**

1. Living in the moment and having fun with people
2. Clumsy, Sporty and Outgoing
3. March 23rd, 2001
4. 3 half brothers and 1 half sister

## January Polls

## Photography



“This is a picture I took of the Kazakhstan Embassy in D.C. The statue in front of the building is a replica of a golden warrior statue in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Many individuals visit the statue to make silent wishes.”

- Alisa Andrews, 12th grade



“The image above is the nation’s capital building. We visited the outside and admired the newly fixed dome and statue on top. The current government shutdown affected our trip but we were still able to visit monuments and museums before they were closed to the public.”

- Alisa Andrews, 12th grade



“This is a picture that was taken in the middle of the road in Washington D.C. I posted this picture on my instagram because I believe that female representation is growing in our government and my generation needs to recognize the power of the feminist movement.”

- Alisa Andrews, 12th grad

- 1/4 @ ELHS
- 1/8 @ Maiden
- 1/9 vs. Hibriten
- 1/11 vs. Newton Conover
- 1/18 @ Lincolnton
- 1/22 vs. Bandys
- 1/25 vs. WLHS
- 1/29 @ Lake Norman Charter

**Swim**

- 1/10 @ AC
- 1/17 @ Hickory YMCA
- 1/26 Conference Meet @ Valdese AQC

**Winter Track**

- 1/21 @ JDL Winston Salem

## 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

“What’s really the most wonderful time of the year?”

By: Hannah Castro

This month, I asked North Lincoln’s student body about their favorite seasons. This is what they had to say:

What is your favorite season and why?

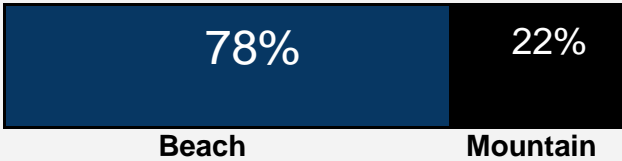
I asked the students at North Lincoln what their favorite season was and these were their responses:

Addie Reid, a freshman, said her favorite season was summer. She likes Summer because she likes being tan, out of school, and carefree. I think everyone can relate to that!

Adelayne Smith, a junior, said her favorite season is autumn because of the lower temperatures, rain, mist, pumpkins, pretty colored leaves, and Halloween. I also got the response of fall by Drake Sturgill, a freshman. He likes fall because of the cool weather, also (and, of course, football season.)

Do you prefer Beach vacations or Mountain vacations?

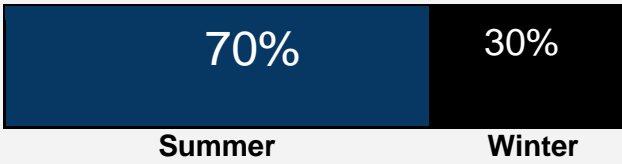
Two of the most popular vacation destinations are the beach and the mountains, so I decided to figure out which one was most popular at NLHS.



Out of the 63 students who answered this question, 37 answered that they prefer beach vacations and 9 answered mountain vacations. This didn’t surprise me. Beach vacations are very popular.

Which do you prefer: summer or winter break?

Summer and winter break are both very popular among students. Here’s the one they said they enjoyed most:



Karstin Alferro, a junior, said she preferred summer break. She likes summer better because you can travel more during the summer.

Ashley Johanson, a freshman, said that she prefers winter because of the snow and the holidays.

Even though more people prefer summer, I think winter break is really great because it’s right at the middle of both semesters. Although summer break is longer, I enjoy having time to study before exams.

Jester Jokes

By Holt Ludwig



Upcoming Events!

By: Faith Guia

- January 2nd: Back From Break!
- January 4th: Yearbook Superlative Winners
- January 14th: 1st & 2nd Period Exams
- January 15th: 3rd & 4th Period Exam
- January 16th: English II or Math III EOC & BIO/Math I Review
- January 17th: BIO or Math I EOC & Make Up Testing
- January 18th: Make up Exams
- January 21st-22nd: No School!
- January 23rd: Spring Semester Begins
- January 28th: Report Cards

Scroll below for the continuing story of Charlie in *The Bard’s Tale* by Hannah McGuire.....



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 high school student with a shady and perhaps scary backstory. Read on to find out more!

From Last Month’s Issue...

Soon, the bell rang and the PA system crackled to life. “*Good morning, students and staff, and welcome back to another week.*” The voice of their principal warbled through the speaker and Charlie half-listened as he pulled out his neatly done calculus homework from the weekend. However, the principal caught his attention when he heard his own name issue from the intercom.

“*And I need to see Charlie Asher and Joseph Jacobs in my office for a minute. Thank you, and have a great Monday.*”

Oh, God, Charlie thought. *They know.*

Charlie was halfway to the office when Joseph, better known to his friends as Joey, caught up with him, emerging from the doors to the right of Charlie.

“Do you think they know?” Joey asked, falling into step next to Charlie. His voice was barely more than a whisper as he tried to look inconspicuous to the students rushing past them, trying to make it to class before attendance was called. Charlie watched as Wren, a girl from their calc class, raced past them, tucking her long braids behind her ears as she ran.

“I don’t know how they could,” Charlie answered just as quietly. Joey was much taller than Charlie and his blond hair was stylishly long, much like the other soccer players at their school, which meant that Charlie had to look up and still couldn’t see the expression on Joey’s face. “But I don’t know what else they would want us both for.”

Joey nodded and, although Charlie couldn’t see his face, he knew that it would be a solemn and resigned one. Joey and Charlie hadn’t known each other for a long time, but they knew that they were pretty much polar opposites. While it was so cliché to Charlie, there truly was a disconnect between their “cliques” or whatever. Charlie never got beaten up or shoved against lockers, but there were certain social rules that everyone at their school knew to follow, such as kids like Charlie, a non-athlete and sort-of loner, didn’t really hang out with kids like Joey, the jocks and popular kids. However, when Joey realized he was failing chemistry, a subject at which Charlie excelled, he crossed over the invisible line drawn in the cafeteria to ask Charlie for help with his homework. Charlie began tutoring Joey everyday after school, and the two became sort of friends. When the latter’s grades were still not improving drastically enough to keep him passing, Charlie began to take matters into his own hands. Not wanting his new friend to fail, he began to do Joey’s projects and essays and then explaining what he had done or said to Joey so he could understand better. Instead of turning in a new Joey-ified copy of the homework, though, Joey often turned in the copy that Charlie had done.

In short, Joey and Charlie were cheating.

They walked the rest of the way to the office in silence. Mrs. James, the receptionist, was on the phone when they entered the building, but when she saw them, she pointed them into the back, smiling.

The two boys followed her gesture into the heart of the office and they soon found themselves at a door labeled *Mr. O’Brien, Principal*. Breathing in deeply, Charlie knocked on the door.

“Come in,” the voice from behind the door shouted. Flinching at the sound, Joey turned the handle, opening the door.

“Ah, there they are!” Mr. O’Brien smiled, his voice still loud even though a heavy wooden door no longer separated him and the two boys. “Come and sit down, you two. I have something I want to talk to you about.”

The boys sat in the two rickety chairs in front of Mr. O’Brien’s messy desk. Charlie noticed Joey’s leg bouncing, and he could feel his own fingers clasping and wringing nervously.

“Well,” Mr. O’Brien started, getting up to close the door, “the librarian has noticed you two staying after school quite a bit..”

To Be Continued