

**LISTEN  
UP**

Ledoian  
2022

**ALEDOO**

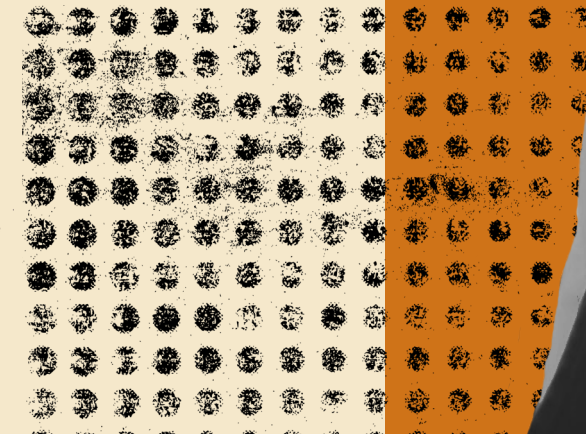
High School  
ALEDO, TEXAS

**VOL  
76**

**LISTEN  
UP**

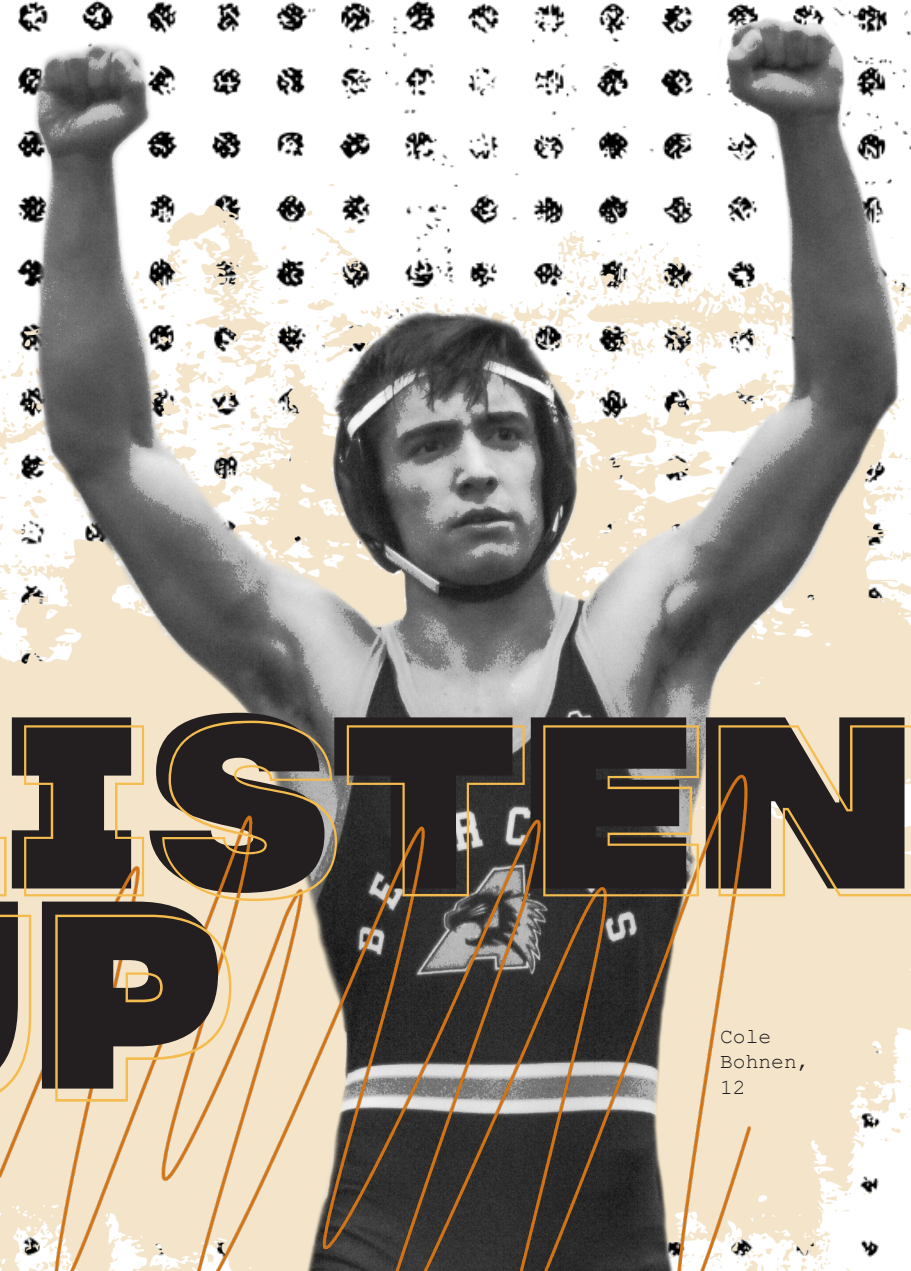


Ledoian 2022





# UP LISTEN



Cole  
Bohnen,  
12



**CHEERING ON** their friends, seniors Taylor Fiorenzi, Maitlynn Mitchell, Jenna White, Maddie Hinckley, Belle Burdine, Payton Adams and Emma G. Davis make some noise at the pep rally on Sept. 10. "At first, I think a lot of us were kind of skeptical of the idea that the pep rallies would be outside," Hinckley said. "I know the seniors especially are just grateful that we got to have them at all." Seniors still lined the front row at the stadium. *Photo by Allison Mallard*



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@BearcatsofAledo

<https://www.aledoisd.org>

• **Aledo Independent School District**

Staff // 145

Freshmen // 582

• Sophomores // 517

Juniors // 539

Seniors // 461

Ledoian 2022

# LISTEN UP

On the cover: Connor Smith, 11, Captain of Spirit of Aledo  
*Photo by Elise Creed*  
Endsheet photos by *Faith Emmitte and Ava Bathurst*



# GET LOUD

**HEY!**

You heard the **CHANTS** that echoed at Friday night football games.

**"GET LOUD,  
OR GO SIT WITH YOUR MOM."**

*Have you ever listened to a better student section?*

You heard the **SHOUTS** from the competitive ping pong matches in the cafeteria.

**"I OWN THE TABLE."**

*So much for a quiet place to study.*

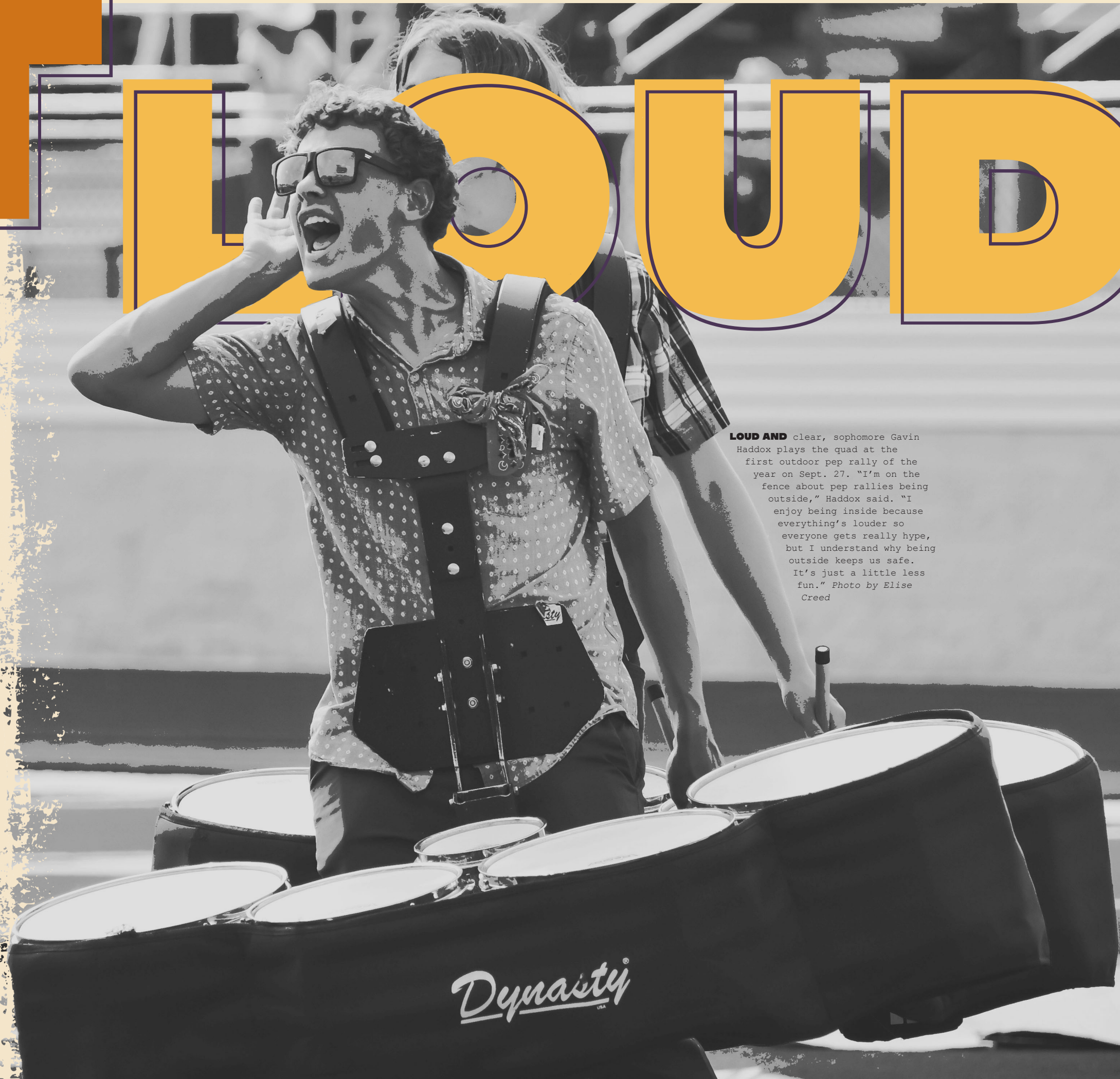
You heard the songs **BLARE** at the first outdoor homecoming dance.

**"MR. DJ, PLAY PITBULL!"**

*We've been there, done that.*

DID YOU CATCH ALL THAT?  
GOOD.  
WHAT ABOUT...

**LOUD AND** clear, sophomore Gavin Haddox plays the quad at the first outdoor pep rally of the year on Sept. 27. "I'm on the fence about pep rallies being outside," Haddox said. "I enjoy being inside because everything's louder so everyone gets really hype, but I understand why being outside keeps us safe. It's just a little less fun." Photo by Elise Creed







**HANDS IN THE AIR**, seniors Belle Burdine, Maddie Hinckley and junior Emma Brandenburg play Rosie, Donna and Tanya in "Mamma Mia!" "In our dress rehearsal week for 'Mamma Mia,' our lead became terribly sick. I proceeded to go on that night and though it wasn't my best performance, I knew I was going to come back the next day head held high and guns blazing," Brandenburg said. "That night I spent 14 hours running every single bit of dialogue, every song, every mannerism and every bit of choreography. I show up the next day exhausted and mentally drained, but ready to go on nonetheless." Photo by Trinity Hindman

Baristas **BREWED** drinks and steamed milk, scrambling to prepare for the opening of Grounded Coffee.

**"ORDER UP!"**

*The lunchroom passed the vibe check.*

Mrs. Bowden **ASKED** students to hold up their badges in response to the new safety protocol.

**"ID CHECK!"**

*Those things came in clutch when buying a quick snack.*

Cameras and keyboards **CLICKED** as senior Nathan Dominguez pieced together another episode of Bearcat TV.

**"HAVE A GREAT BEARCAT DAY."**

*Tuning in made weekly advisory a little more tolerable.*





# LISTEN

The rookie wrestling team **UNFURLED** their mats at 6 a.m. practices. Among them,

**"DANIEL THE DOM" & "CAP'N COLE."**

*These boys are coming for  
The Rock's brand.*

People **APPROACHED** senior Brendan Rivers in Brookshire's to say how much they loved "Mamma Mia!"

**"HERE WE GO AGAIN."**

*Couldn't get "Waterloo"  
out of our heads.*

Then Coach Buc **TOLD** the South Oak Cliff coach to

**"GO AND WIN IT ALL."**

*And they did.*

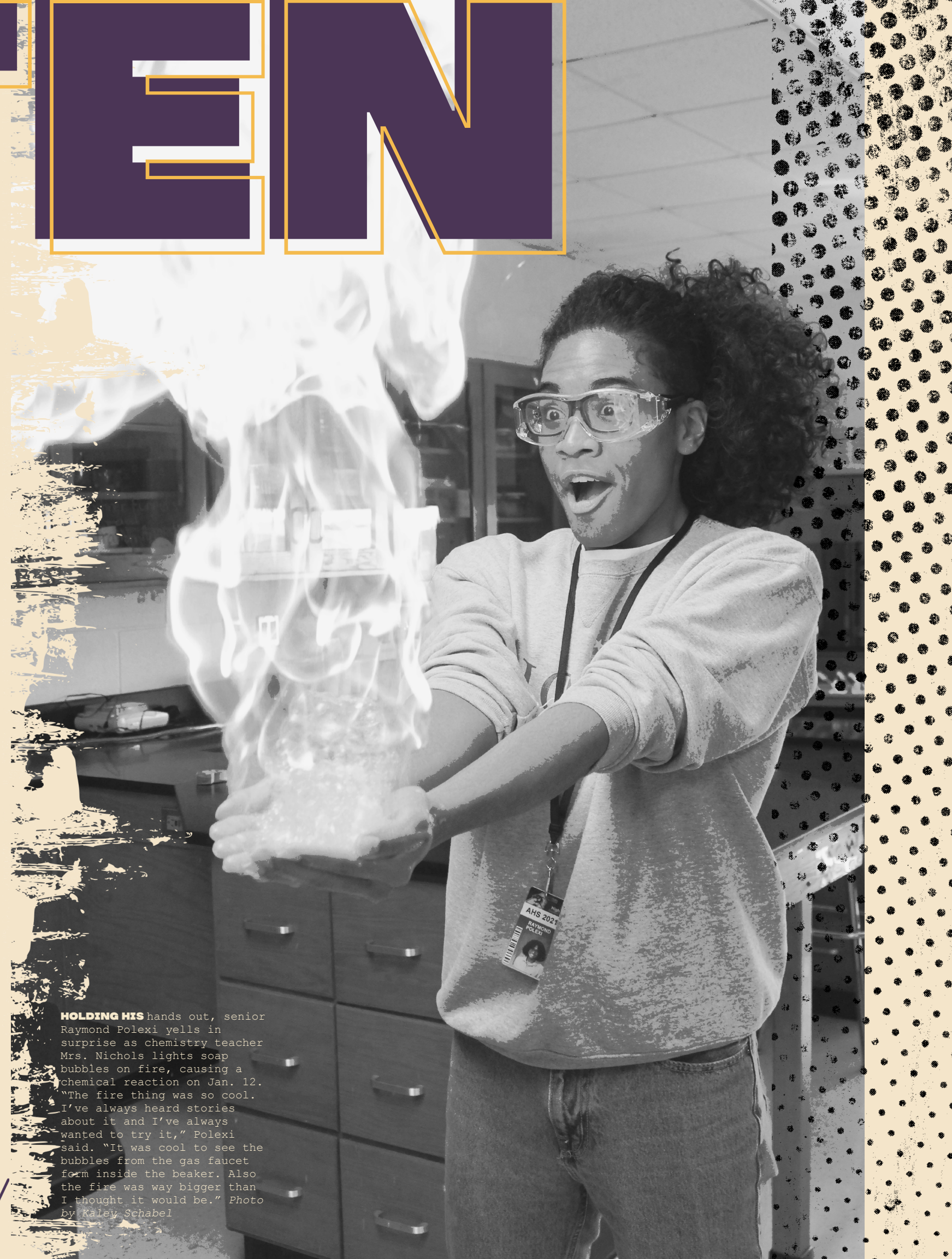
Whether you heard it or not,  
People listen to us.

**STAY LOUD. TUNE IN.**

*We aren't asking.  
We're telling you.*

**LISTEN UP.**

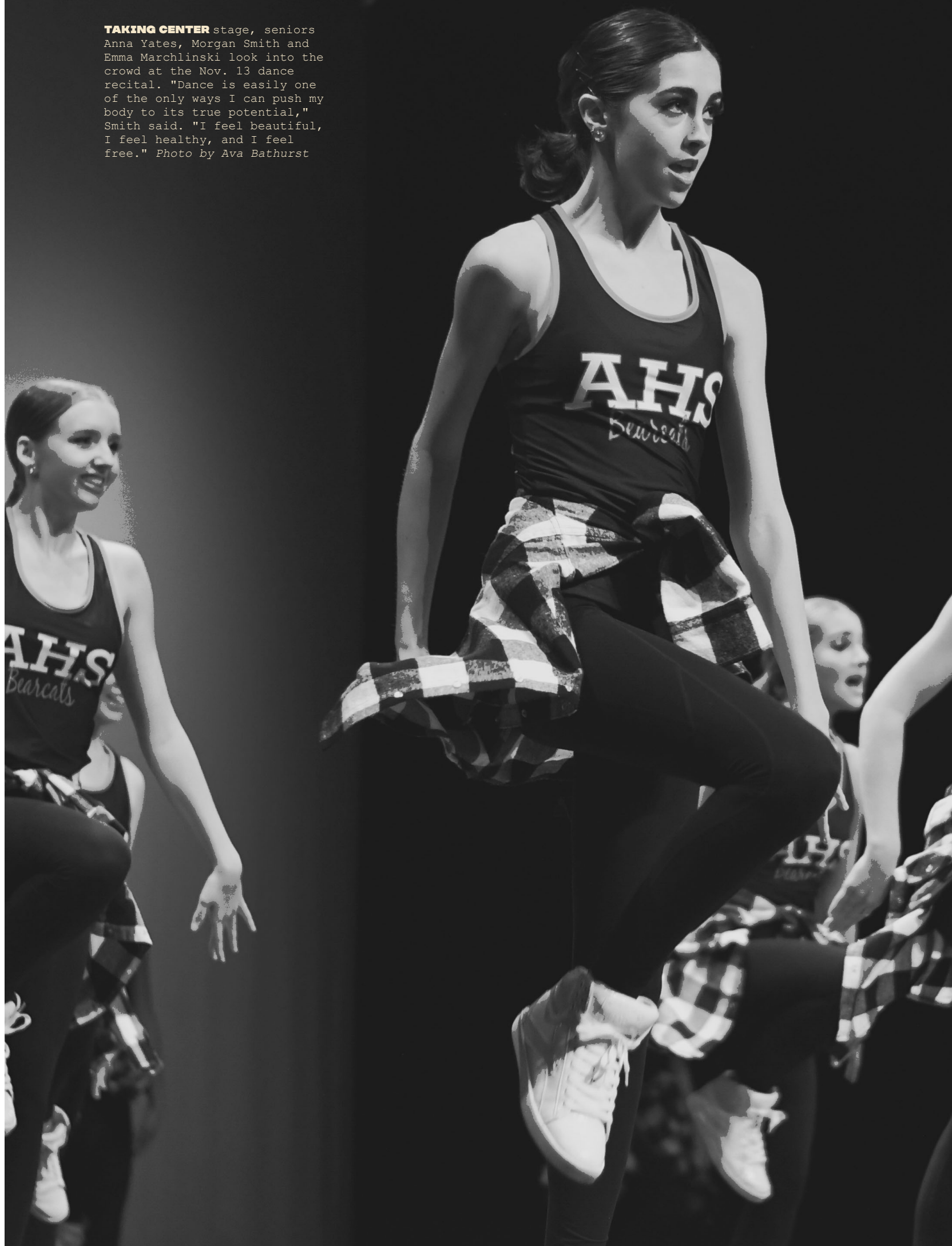
# UP



**HOLDING HIS** hands out, senior Raymond Polexi yells in surprise as chemistry teacher Mrs. Nichols lights soap bubbles on fire, causing a chemical reaction on Jan. 12. "The fire thing was so cool. I've always heard stories about it and I've always wanted to try it," Polexi said. "It was cool to see the bubbles from the gas faucet form inside the beaker. Also the fire was way bigger than I thought it would be." Photo by Kaley Schabel



**TAKING CENTER** stage, seniors Anna Yates, Morgan Smith and Emma Marchlinski look into the crowd at the Nov. 13 dance recital. "Dance is easily one of the only ways I can push my body to its true potential," Smith said. "I feel beautiful, I feel healthy, and I feel free." *Photo by Ava Bathurst*





# WE HEAR US





016

- 008 Destinations
- 010 Summer in Aledo
- 012 Summer Olympics
- 014 Back to School

Using our Voices



Photo by Ryan Germany

My favorite part about cheering is the **STRONG BONDS** I've made with my teammates. Being able to cheer for the most talented football team has definitely made it the most fun.

Natalie Neill, 12



Photo by Taylor Tibberg

- 018 Parking Lot
- 020 Around Town
- 022 Dance
- 024 Cheer
- 026 Spirit
- 028 Marching Band

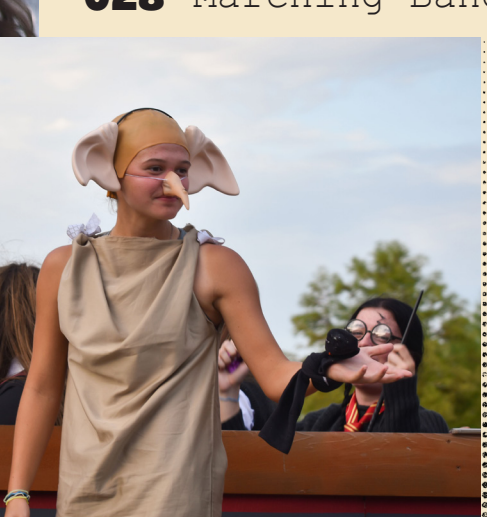


Photo by Elise Creed

- 030 Homecoming Parade//Week
- 032 Homecoming Game//Court
- 034 Homecoming Dance
- 036 Fundraisers
- 038 Library
- 040 Halloween
- 042 Student Hobbies
- 044 Fashion
- 046 Siblings

One of my favorite things to do in FFA is **COMPETITION**. I did the radio broadcasting team and floriculture team. I can't wait to see what else I'll do with the FFA.

Jud Voight, 09

- Theatre 048
- Colorguard 050
- Concert Band 052
- Music 054

056 What's Strong With You?

- 058 Polls//Stats
- 060 Service Clubs
- 062 Choir
- 064 Pep Rallies



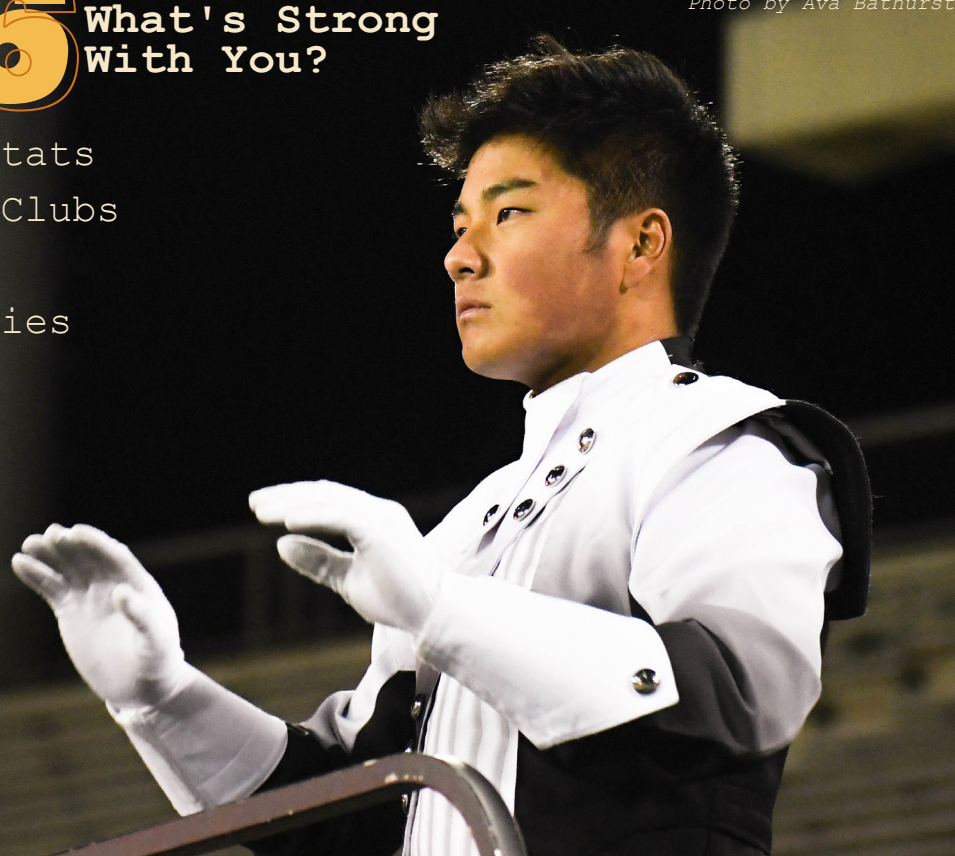
Photo by Selbi Khodzayeva

- 066 Faith//Culture
- 068 FFA
- 070 Rodeo
- 072 Robotics
- 074 Photography
- 076 Foreign Exchange Students
- 078 Freshmen Classes
- 080 Language Classes



Photo by Faith Emmitte

Photo by Ava Bathurst



5

- Core Classes 082
- Ag Classes 084
- Jumping Jamboree 086
- Senior Experience 088



Photo by Ava Bathurst

- Athletic Trainers 102
- Fall Tennis 104
- Cross Country 106
- Varsity Volleyball 108
- F/JV Volleyball 110
- Varsity Football 112
- F/JV Football 114
- Varsity Boys Basketball 116
- F/JV Boys Basketball 118

090 Singing Valentines

- 092 Procrastination
- 094 Academic Competitions
- 096 Art Classes
- 098 Real World Classes
- 100 Communications



Photo by Faith Emmitte

I love seeing how **HAPPY** and excited everyone gets after winning a match. Knowing that you're doing something right feels really great.

Texas Ray, 11



Photo by Ava Bathurst

7

Everyone works together for the **COMMON GOOD** and makes things happen.

Jenna White, 12

- Varsity Girls Basketball 120
- F/JV Girls Basketball 122
- Varsity Boys Soccer 124
- JV Boys Soccer 126
- Varsity Girls Soccer 128
- JV Girls Soccer 130
- Powerlifting 132
- Wrestling 134

Photo by Trinity Hindman



10

Photo by Kaylee Halfmann



11

Photo by Faith Emmitte

12



015

- 136 Spring Tennis
- 138 Swimming
- 140 Boys Track//Field
- 142 Girls Track//Field
- 144 Boys Golf
- 146 Girls Golf
- 148 Varsity Baseball
- 150 JV Baseball
- 152 Varsity Softball
- 154 JV Softball

Team Captains



# TELEVISION

## ON THE INSIDE

1. At the Nov. 4 pep rally, senior Natalie Neill begins a school chant.
2. On July 23, senior Colby Tiberg speaks at the Casts for Kids event.
3. Waving at the students, senior Hannah Pack dresses up as Dobby for the softball's "Harry Potter" themed homecoming float Sept. 20.
4. With her phone in hand, senior Gabrielle Shultz laughs with freshman Jud Voight at their annual FFA Potluck Dec. 6.
5. At the top of the ladder, senior Daniel Lasater conducts the band at UNT stadium Nov. 19.
6. Working outside the art room, junior London Wommack colors a poster Sept. 13.
7. Sign in front of the pack, seniors Rilee Goggans, Natalie Neill, Scarlett Grimes and Kalee Mays lead the varsity boys cross country team in their state send-off Nov. 4.
8. Holding up the playoff trophy won against Liberty. 19, senior Boogie Thompson and junior Andrew Parkhurst celebrate their victory.
9. At Aledo's first home wrestling tournament, junior Texas Ray cheers on her team Dec. 15.
10. In the middle of a foosball game, sophomores Tristan Hawthorne and Brandon Southwick compete with one another Sept. 30.
11. During the High School Ministry (HSM) Christmas Party, senior Jenna White interviews younger students on trivia night Dec. 12.
12. Amidst the cross country district meet, varsity runner senior Colton Snow hypes up the junior varsity team Oct. 15.



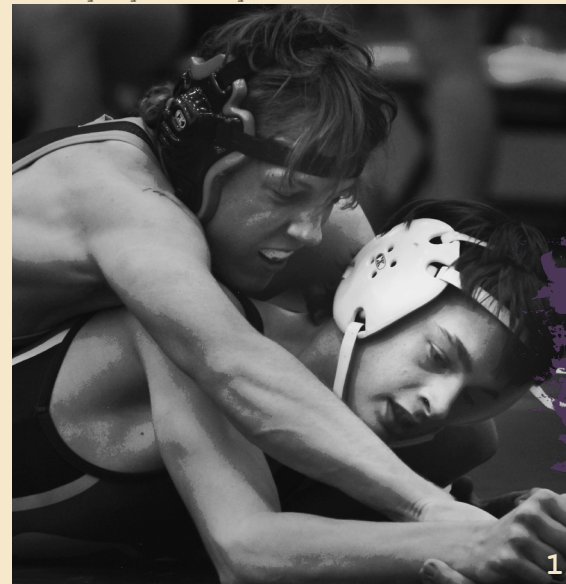


*I CAN'T WAIT to see where the wrestling program goes from here after we entered the first year with such a competitive team."*

*Jacob Ellerbusch, 11*

- 160** Faculty
- 166** Freshmen
- 178** Sophomores
- 188** Juniors
- 200** Seniors

Photo by Alyssa Lively



1

Athletics Directory **404**  
Clubs Directory **420**

Photo by Adelaide Martin



5

Photo by Ava Bathurst



4

Photo by Allison Mallard



6

- 434** Index
- 444** Colophon
- 446** Closing



2

Photo by Kaylee Halfmann

- 216** Superlatives
- 218** Senior Tributes
- 398** Business Ads
- 402** From the Beginning



*I'm just PROUD of the team, even though our record for the season isn't the best. We still continue to put our jerseys on and battle through adversity!"*

*Exavier Anderson, 11*

1. In the first Aledo Wrestling Meet ever, junior Jacob Ellerbusch takes on an opponent from Benbrook Dec. 15. 2. Huddling up, freshman Joana Zenteno and her track team prepare for practice Oct. 4. 3. Oct. 23 sophomore Caleb Fisher performs before the area competition. 4. Going for the net, junior Exavier Anderson shoots the ball on Nov. 16 against Chisholm Trail. 5. During the Sept. 20 pep rally, juniors Jerry Olazaran and Chase Spieker get the crowd riled up. 6. At the volleyball game against Wichita Falls Rider on Oct. 5, sophomore Lexi Littlefield and team cheer.



3

Photo by Bennet Creed



# BEHIND the BOOK

Yearbook staff produces 76th edition of the Ledoian

### Stylistics:

Cover: 160 pt. board, 4 color litho on white linen, sculpture embossed  
Endsheets: Cream Deluxe  
Paper Stock: 100# Legend House Matte

### Fonts:

MADE SOULMAZE OUTLINE  
MADE SOULMAZE  
Courier New

### Colors:

■ Purple: C64, M75, Y28, K43  
■ Cream: C0, M5, Y18, K4  
■ Gold: C0, M26, Y78, K4  
■ Rust: C0, M56, Y100, K18

### Equipment:

Computers: 33 iMacs  
Cameras: 3 Nikon D3400, 3 Nikon D3300, 1 Nikon D7100, 1 Nikon D7200  
Programs: Adobe Lightroom, Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator

### Adviser:

Emily Pyeatt Arnold, CJE

### Representative:

Jill Chittum, MJE

### Portrait Photography:

Glamourcraft School Photography

### Printing:

Walsworth Publishing  
Brookfield and Marcelline, MO  
1200 copies, priced \$65-\$100

### Advertising:

Senior tributes sold until Oct. 1.  
Business ads sold until Nov. 1.  
Prices ranged from \$65-\$350.

### 2021 Recognition:

National Scholastic Press Association  
Pacemaker Winner  
All-American Rating  
Mark of Distinctions for Essentials, Coverage, Design, Photography  
Fifth Place Best in Show 384+ pages  
Columbia Scholastic Press Association  
Gold Crown  
Gold Medalist  
All-Columbian Honors in Visual  
Interscholastic League Press Conference  
Award of Distinguished Merit  
TAJE Fall Fiesta  
First Place Best in Show

### Special Thanks:

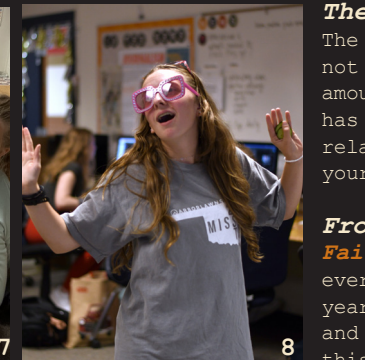
Thank you to the following Bearcats for your support:  
Angi Tims, Mercedes Mayer, Mary Smith, Kayleigh Roberson, Carolyn Ansley, Loryn Windwehen, Arthur Aven, Anita Callaway, Laura Salame, Tiffany Welch, Kelly Bush, Stacy Jones, Tricia Hackfeld, Annie Walker, Melinda Hale, Carly Kisor, Kristie Vandergriff, Matt Odom, Brooks Moore, AISD administration and The Cat's Eye news production staff. We appreciate all you do to help us.

Thank you to the following for your inspiration, instruction and assistance to make this publication a reality: Jill Chittum, Cheryl Ball, Jim Jordan, Mike Taylor, Gary Ludgren, Sabrina Schmitz and Martha Akers.

Special thanks to our families for their love and support.



1. Junior Payne Wellman plays reindeer ring toss Dec. 7.  
2. The staff celebrates their 2021 Pacemaker and Gold Crown Awards April 11. 3. Prior to the senior ad deadline Sept. 20, the staff wears their deadline day shirts. 4. During the first week of school, the staff throws a beach ball and practices each others' nicknames. 5. In downtown Fort Worth, sophomore Bridget Battenfield, junior Kaley Schabel, seniors Ava Bathurst and Faith Emmitte and junior Alyssa Lively attend Walsworth's Elite Weekend Sept. 18. 6. At the TAJE Fall Fiesta, seniors Ava Bathurst and Faith Emmitte smile with the pinata they won for the best TikTok in the convention Oct. 18. 7. At a work night, sophomore Bridget Battenfield takes a selfie Nov. 16. 8. Hands in the air, freshman Sarah Miller shows off her new shades at a work night Nov. 16. 9. Posing in a CVS, seniors Ava Bathurst and Faith Emmitte, juniors Kaley Schabel and Alyssa Lively, and sophomores Hannah Link, Elise Creed and Cassidy Cole spend their first night at the Fall Fiesta Convention Oct. 15. 10. Walking through the San Antonio market, adviser Emily Arnold takes a selfie with seniors Faith Emmitte, Ava Bathurst and junior Kaley Schabel Oct. 17. 11. In room 101, sophomore Kenley Germany gets feedback from the editors on the Catalyst Lit. Mag. April 12.



### Theme Explanation:

The theme Listen Up allows us to not only celebrate the diverse amount of voices our student body has developed, but it allows us to relate to each other in a funky, in-your-face way.

### From the Editors:

**Faith:** One of the best things I've ever done is force Ava to join the yearbook staff our freshman year and be co-editors in chief with her this past year. I couldn't ask for a better partner and staff, and I hope that this book reflects that feeling.

**Ava:** Thank you Faith for letting me copy your every move. You keep me sane and I'll say "Gig 'Em," for you only. I love this book and this staff more than I can explain on this page, and I can't wait to come back and see where these wonderful people take this program.



## MEET THE STAFF



Ava Bathurst, 12

Editor in Chief



Faith Emmitte, 12

Editor in Chief



Ryan Germany, 12

Photo Editor



Madi Poston, 11

Photo Editor



Ashlyn Poole, 11

Copy Editor



Kaley Schabel, 11

Organizations Editor



Bridget Battenfield, 10

Co-Organizations Editor



Kenley Germany, 10

Communications Editor



Taylor Tiberg, 11

Business Manager



Mia Little, 11

Sports Editor



Allison Mallard, 11

Sports Editor



Payne Wellman, 11

Sports Editor



Ashlyn Barton, 11

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Belle Cunningham, 10

Alyssa Lively, 11



Elise Creed, 10

Adelaide Martin, 09



Hanna DeBarr, 12

Sarah Miller, 09



Rachel Elrod, 09

Madison Scott, 10



Calvin Grable, 11

Amy Ragan, 09



Kaylee Halfmann, 11

Litzy Vega-Solis, 12



Trinity Hindman, 10



Megan Hoke, 11



Jack Johnson, 12



Selbi Khodzhayeva, 11



Alyssa Lively, 11



Adelaide Martin, 09



Sarah Miller, 09



Madison Scott, 10



Amy Ragan, 09



Litzy Vega-Solis, 12



# DIALING

So, didja hear all that?

The drums **POUNDED** as junior Ansel Din-Mbuh was sent off to the state wrestling meet.

HOSA **CALLED** out for donations to help Ukraine.

Volunteers **SHOUTED** support for their companions at the Special Olympics.

We've got so much heart,  
it speaks volumes.

Omicron raised **QUESTIONS** as admin stepped up to sub for teachers.

Icy weather forced **ANNOUNCEMENTS** about snow days in February.

**CHATTER** spread on socials after prom got moved from April 29 to May 6.

When things are unexpected,  
we don't let it silence us.

Freshman Haley Roberson **SPLASHED** into the pool and shattered multiple swimming records.

Fans **SCREAMED** when sophomore Aiden Yielding made his first basket.

BPA **CHEERED** when junior Fyn Neeley advanced to nationals.

Not to brag,  
but we're setting the tone  
for everyone around us.

# DOWN

**PUBLIC SPEAKER** Nathan Harmon gets vulnerable March 30 in the high school auditorium while Principal Tims and seniors Dillon Skaggs and Cole Bohnen hold the ladder steady. "It was an amazing, transformative experience," Bohnen said. "Getting the opportunity to live life with Nathan Harmon was something I will never forget, and I learned a lot about horizontal relationships. I was scared about becoming vulnerable with him, but it was ultimately a rewarding experience." Harmon provided four sessions, one for each grade level. Photo by Kaylee Halfmann





**SMILE ON** his face, sophomore Cane Cooley pies Coach McCone in the face Jan 18. "I chose to pie McCone because I loved to get back at him for making us run all the time," Cooley said. "His reaction was, and I quote, 'Good job for not getting it in my hair.'" The pie in the face was a sophomore class representative fund raiser for their graduating class in which students entered a raffle to pie a teacher of their choice. *Photo by Kaley Schabel*



Here, sound means spirit.

Don't keep quiet  
or stay silent,

**Get louder.**

Keep making some noise.  
Keep raising your voice.

*And thanks for listening.*

**LISTEN!**

More photos here:







Lauren Lowry, 11