

THE DOG BLOGG

9.7

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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- THE DIARY OF STACY AND THE JOURNAL OF RICKY

- CAMARO - PART 5

- THE PERFECT BOYFRIEND AND THE PERFECT GIRLFRIEND

- AN ARGUMENT AGAINST S.A.F.E.

- INTERVIEW WITH ERICA JONES

- SURVIVING THAT THING CALLED HIGH SCHOOL

- A "THANK YOU" TO THE VETERANS

- BLUEGRASS WITH THE RUBLES

- CHECKING THE PULSE OF THE NATION

- BASKETBALL PRE-GAME QUESTIONS

AND MUCH MORE!

Here's what's going on in areas that MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Politics

Senator Bernie Sanders said he is willing to jump in the 2016 presidential field to make sure that there is a strong progressive voice. This may seem quite contradicting considering what he said last week: "There are people in this world who, ever since they were 12 years of age, they decided they wanted to be president of the United States. That is honestly not me. Anyone who really, really wants to be president is slightly crazy because this is an unbelievably difficult job given the crises that this country faces today." Nevertheless, Sanders said that there needs to be a 2016 candidate who will go after Wall Street, focus on poverty and the collapse of the middle class, address global warming and oppose cuts to Social Security and Medicare. These are all subjects that Sanders has taken on while in the Senate.

www.foxnews.com

SPORTS



For all of you football fanatics, how would you like to play a team with a running back weighing in at 400 pounds and the height of 6'4? That is exactly what would happen if you played against White Swan High School in Washington. Tony Picard is the giant that plays both running back and nose guard for his high school football team. Picard became known nationwide when YouTube highlights of him playing went viral. "It's so fun to have him go out on the field as a captain and see him shaking hands before the game," White Swan coach Andrew Bush says. "They're just kind of staring, like "oh my gosh, you've got to be kidding me!" Picard had a total of 576 yards rushing with 8 touchdowns this season.

www.huffingtonpost.com

Miscellaneous



If Butterball is the brand of turkey your family buys for their holiday feast, it may be time to find a new favorite brand. Butterball announced it will be shipping out half as many large, fresh never-frozen turkeys to retailers this year. The reason for the shortage of turkeys being shipped out is the company has had trouble gaining weight during the production process. The real question is: What caused this weight gaining "trouble"? That answer remains a mystery that may cause some problems over the holiday season. Butterball produces approximately 41 million turkeys a year, which is 16% of the entire United States market. On Thanksgiving, 1 out of every 4 turkeys consumed is a Butterball bird. Smaller birds have not been affected by the bird's lack of weight, and other brands haven't reported any production problems, so you turkey lovers out there can rest assured that your holiday will go on.

gma.yahoo.com

Technology



by Michaelyn Laflen

If you have ever flown on an airplane, you know how strict the flight attendants are with cell phone usage. This may change. The Federal Communication Commission will consider a change to the restrictions on cell phone calls during flights. This decision could take a year and many airlines have already expressed apprehension about the idea of turning on ringers in the sky. Customer feedback indicates that people may not want to current rules to be altered. They're concerned with how other customers talking on their cell phone will impact their experience onboard.

www.abcnews.com



by Taryn Glissman

The Diary of Stacy

The overdramatic girlfriend

Dear Diary,

Last night in my dream, I had an epiphany. Ricky is a jerk! Yesterday, I invited him over for dinner. He rudely excused himself to the restroom. I figured since he would rather be in the restroom than eating a nicely cooked dinner with me that I'd help him out. So I slipped some laxatives into his drink. Instead of excusing himself to go home, he was a slob and completely destroyed my bathroom! That night I told myself that I would give Ricky another chance, but then I had a dream...

Ricky was no longer good looking in this dream. His inner ugliness was now the only thing I could see. We were also fishing. There were so many fish. I caught three times as many as Ricky. The fish loved me. That's when it hit me—There are so many guys, and they all will love me. After I get rid of Ricky, all of the other girls will realize how rude and disrespectful he is. He will be forever alone!

So when I woke up this morning, I was hurt. I was very hurt, but big girls don't cry. Instead of stringing Ricky along, I will just have to be straight forward with him and dump him. Wish me luck!

Love you always, Diary

-Stacy, xoxo



The Journal of Ricky



by Ryan Ostenberg

The exasperated boyfriend

Dear Journal,

Mission: Accomplished

Kind Regards,

Ricky



Story by Don Wagner
Layout by
Taryn Glissman

A Pickin' & a Grinnin'!



The Ruble Family

“So what do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back?” Thirteen year old Wayne Ruble held his mandolin close to his body as his eyes twinkled, waiting for an answer from the crowd of grade school, junior high, and high school students .

He and his family—his dad, Dave; his mom, Angie; and his younger brother, Mason—had been invited to Bennington to play a bluegrass concert. The Ruble family, who live west of Minneapolis on the Ada Road, brought their unique talents and strong sense of family to the little gymnasium on Tuesday, November 5, in order to introduce a genre of music to the Bennington teens that most had never heard. It was an occasion that most of them will never forget.

It was an occasion that most of them will never forget.

Although the two boys, Wayne and Mason, attended public school in Minneapolis for a couple of years, the family decided to home school in order to spend more time together and to enhance their musical performance studies. Dave is a highway patrol officer and trainer who often works irregular hours, and Angie wanted to enjoy a relationship with her children that would be fulfilling and close. The boys had started playing musical instruments early in their lives at the urging of their father, Dave, who learned banjo and guitar on his grandfather's instruments. **Music runs deep in his family, and he and Angie are passing that heritage along to their sons.**

“I've never really listened to bluegrass before,” admitted several of the members of the freshman class.

Mason, the youngest, is also something of a virtuoso on the five string banjo, and last year he was invited to try out for the Kansas Association of Bluegrass Music (KABM) youth band, The Treblemakers. **Mason won a position with the group as their banjo player, and when the group needed a mandolin player, Wayne, whose first instrument is the guitar, volunteered to learn the instrument and fill the slot.** The group currently tours around the Midwest for special performances, concerts, and contests. Angie and

Dave often tag along, taking over the roles of stage manager, booking agent, and roadie as the situation demands. “It can be a little overwhelming at times,” Angie admits, “but it is also a lot



Rocks (unplugged)

of fun and quite rewarding to work closely with the rest of my family.”

Fifth Grade teacher Gregg Tanzer reported that “about half of the boys in my class came away wanting to learn how to play the banjo.”

Bennington students were wowed with the performance they saw and heard. “I've never really listened to bluegrass before,” admitted several of the members of the freshman class. “Really good,” was the sentiment of many others. **Most mentioned how enjoyable it was to see young people getting along with the parents in a close family relationship, and several specifically mentioned how good it was to see kids that young perform on a professional level.** Fifth Grade teacher Gregg Tanzer reported that “about half of the boys in my class came away wanting to learn how to play the banjo.”

The Rubles finished their concert with a couple of bluegrass favorites, including the Beverly Hillbillies theme song, which many in the audience heard for the first time. **Mason and Wayne took a few last instrumental breaks, then wrapped up with each of the boys singing lead on a song, a talent they are developing because that is a requirement for players in “The Treblemakers” group.**

And what is it you call a boomerang that doesn't come back? **“A stick!”** Wayne chortles, and the audience laughed and applauded.

Here's What We Say!

“It was very interesting how a family can be that close over music.”

-Kyle Kieborz; Junior

“It showed me that if I put in the work I can achieve great things. The kids was amazing!”

-Erica Jones; Senior

“They were good!”

-Elise Vishnefske; Junior

“They had great energy on stage!”

-Hannah Larson; Senior



A Little Taste of
Bluegrass

Trivia

Answers:

- Father of Bluegrass
- Famous Bluegrass banjo player and a singer/guitarist
- Modern master of the mandolin and guitar
- A small eight-stringed instrument tuned in fifths
- African
- Bass
- Martin

A Little Taste of
Bluegrass

Trivia Questions:

- Who is Bill Monroe?
- Who are Earl Scruggs and Lester Flatt?
- Who is Ricky Skaggs?
- Who is Bela Fleck?
- What is a mandolin?
- What are the origins of the banjo?
- What's the biggest instrument in the string family?
- What is the favorite guitar maker among bluegrass musicians?

Surviving

That
Thing
Called

Highschool

BHS Teacher Edition:

Have you ever thought, "Wow, if someone had told me how to survive high school, maybe I would be doing better." Well, my lovelies, here is my gift to you. This is your very own survival guide, starting with the first thing you need to know: How on Earth will you survive these smart, often demanding, Bennington teachers? You're about to find out.

Mrs. Morris

Here's the thing: Mrs. Morris is what I like to call a "no nonsense" teacher, however, if you show up and do what you're supposed to do, you will be the golden child in her eyes. She will love you. You have to come in as a freshman and prove to her you're a hard worker because guess what? Come junior year, you have her again! Oh, and freshman year? Arguing does no good. She taught your parents-- And might even keep a few of them on speed dial. Keep that in mind.

Mr. Shamburg

Good ole Mr. Shamburg is our kooky, crazy, hilarious guy in the bunch of teachers at our school. He is so funny and tries so hard to make science interesting; he has come a long way since he started here last year. He has a quality that I admire very much, and that is he believes in every single one of his students. EVERY one of you, He will put in the extra hours and time to help you succeed, so don't take advantage of him. For all he does for his students, he only asks one thing, and that is to give your all everyday in his class. Treat him with respect, and he will return the favor.

Mr. Dolloff

By far, one of the most chilled and laid back teachers we have is Mr. Dolloff. He really just kind of goes with the flow and does what he can to help you, CONSIDERING you get your work done and laugh at his jokes. But seriously, Mr. Dolloff will take the extra time if you just ask. It's something not a lot of math teachers in other schools do. So, take advantage of the fact that he really wants to help you get further and hey! Boys, if you want a few bonus points, go out and be star athletes! You never know, you might be able to help get the coach on your side!

Mr. Wagner

Well, Mr. Wagner is a man of large words and knows the name of every tree in Bennington! So, how do you out smart him and survive classes with him? Oh, that's simple. You don't. Just kidding, I wouldn't leave you defenseless against Bennington's toughest! Though he would never admit it, this man is perhaps the smartest I have ever met in my ENTIRE life. He literally knows just about everything. Therefore, in order to pass his class, you must study, and read, and pray every night to whatever greater power you believe in that he will show you mercy throughout the year. He is tough, -that he is,- but just know that he is doing EVERYTHING he can to help you get prepared for real life, because you guys won't be sophomores forever. So, get your work done, show up on time ,and if he comes at you with his hands ready to flick your ear, duck.

Mrs. Haws

While she might have only been here for about a semester, Mrs. Haws has definitely shown us what she expects in order to pass her class, and the bare minimum is DEFINITELY NOT IT. She wants you to be able to go and teach someone who also missed a class exactly what you learned. She also wants you to be prepared for tests and for projects, so she definitely drills everything history related into your head, although at times her teaching style gets really tiring, and sometimes ever annoying, but the fact of the matter is she's the teacher, and you might as well do it the first time unless you would like be doing it all again next year. She's tough, but guys, she's fair.



by
Jasmyne
Baffa

Our Teachers
Make Me Proud
To Be A
BULLDOG!



MEDIA BLASTING



by Dwight Pearson

Last time we spoke, I was tearing the worn-out 307ci. small block out of its hole—along with everything else bolted to the body. Now it's time to strip off those layers of dull and cracked paint.

With the body on jack stands, I went about looking for a business close by that media blasts cars. Media blasting is similar to sandblasting, except it uses plastic, walnut shells, or some other soft material instead of sand. Sandblasting is much more efficient at removing paint, but it also removes some of the metal from the body. It also creates a lot of heat which could warp the metal. Unfortunately, trying to find a

place that media blast cars was far more difficult than I anticipated

The closest place I could find was in Wichita. It was actually a Ford dealership, which had a pretty large body shop attached. Sadly, I can't remember what the place was called. Either way, it was the same business that my dad's good friend used to remove the paint from his 1969 Camaro.

Now that we had a place to media blast my Camaro, my dad and I had to prepare the ole girl for transport down to the body shop.

I did one more check of the entire vehicle to make sure there wasn't a single wire, bolt, piece of trim, or any part other part still clinging to the body. Everything was in order, so welded some casters to the body bolt mounts. My dad and I pushed the bright yellow Camaro up onto a trailer and hauled it down to Wichita. The car had to be left there for a week while they blasted every bit of the paint away.

As it turns out, my car had several layers of paint on it, which created a lot more work than the shop expected. They didn't charge me for the extra hours, though—probably because the car was in terrible shape.

In the process of sandblasting, the shop removed the V.I.N. tag on the car. They ruined a 43 year-old V.I.N. tag, which had all of the details of my car stamped on it. The tag told me where the car was built and when. I'm very particular about perfection, so I'm still bothered by this today. Heck, I'll still be whining about this when I die. Then again, I could've just drilled the rivets and removed it.

Now that I got that out of the way, I can tell you that the car was in much worse shape than I ever thought it would be. It was bad. Really bad. When my car is finished, it will be difficult for me to point out the metal that is original to the car. After 43 years, I expected to find some rust, but this thing has been abused.

Next time, I'll take you along with me as I climb this mountain of metal that needs replaced. (Maybe I can find a picture of the V.I.N. tag and then laminate it and slap it in place with some duct tape. That'll look professional.) Until then, keep it between the ditches.

D.P. Customs



S.A.F.E. is not S.M.A.R.T.



by Ryan Ostenberg

As many students are well aware, Bennington High School is starting a new seat belt initiative called S.A.F.E. (seatbelts are for everyone). The idea is that students can be coerced into wearing their seatbelts when they drive by offering the possibility of reward. In our school's case, gift cards will be given out every three weeks to those who wear their seatbelts, and at the end of the semester there will be drawing for a major prize. While this may cause seatbelt usage to increase, I believe that S.A.F.E is horribly misguided. We do not live in a Machiavellian society: the ends do not justify the means. Let me explain why.

Rewards are given for acts that are considered extraordinary. The reward for winning a basketball tournament is a trophy, the reward for being a hard worker is a job promotion, and the reward for winning American Idol is \$1,000,000.

Wearing your seatbelt is not extraordinary—it's just not stupid. We don't give people iPads because they don't smoke, we don't give people Wal-Mart gift cards because they brush their teeth every morning, and we don't give people televisions because they abide by the law. No, the reward for all of these acts is the result of the act itself: if you



don't smoke you will live a healthier life; if you brush your teeth every morning you reduce chance of cavities; and if you abide by the law you won't get arrested. Why should wearing your seatbelt be any different? The reward is already there: a seatbelt could save your life if you ever get into an accident.

It is a sad reflection of our what our society has come to that we have to be given incentives to act responsibly. That is why I

assert that S.A.F.E. is not smart. If we are given prizes for buckling up today, what will we be rewarded for tomorrow? Washing your hands after you use the restroom? Sounds kind of ridiculous, right? Well, so does getting an iPad for wearing a seatbelt.

I'm not saying that all aspects of S.A.F.E. are bad. Helping to spread awareness about the benefits of buckling up when you drive is a noble cause, one that is incredibly important and one that I have no problem with. But my question is: how does expecting a reward for wearing a seatbelt make us any better than **a dog who expects a treat for sitting nicely?** I could be wrong, but I believe we are better than that. *Do you?*



Thank you, Veterans!

Freedom
isn't free

Everyday, people put their lives on the line for OUR freedom. Have you thanked these people lately?

The Bennington High School Publications class would like to thank all of the veterans who have served and are currently serving our country. Without you brave men and women, life as we know it would be full of question and doubt regarding our safety and freedom. You risk your lives everyday for people you don't even know. Your bravery and courage has allowed a nation to be free. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts!

For those of you who aren't a veteran, I would like to ask you a question. How often do you thank the courageous men and women fighting for YOUR freedom? Once a year on November 11? That is not enough. Soldiers deserve year round gratitude and honor. So, next time you see someone dressed up in uniform, go shake his or her hand and say, "Thank you." A small gesture like that could put a smile on that soldier's face and make their day. Thank a veteran for all they do for us.

By Michaelyn Laflen





Erica Jones



By Dwight Pearson Jr.

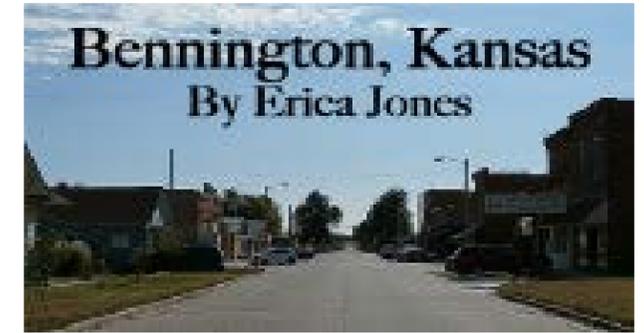
Erica Jones is not a car aficionado, but she is a very interesting candidate to interview for this edition. Erica, a senior Bennington Bulldog, has a passion for making videos. She has really embraced film making as we will see in this interview.

Dwight: I heard that you recently entered a video contest. That's pretty interesting. Tell me about that.

Erica: Well, I've been making little videos since July and I have really enjoyed it. After I finally told my parents I wanted to study film in college they were surprisingly supportive, because, let's be honest, there are no steady jobs that are just handed to film majors. At the beginning of October my mom told me she had heard about a video

contest on the radio while driving to work one day. The basis of the contest was to answer this question: "If you were given one million dollars, how would you invest it in your community?" She said I popped into her head immediately. Later, she printed off the information. I was really excited because I finally had an opportunity to make

a project that would be critiqued by other people. That was also the first time I truly felt I was supported. My mom doing that really meant a lot to me. She was even with me while I filmed different parts of Bennington for my video. I had to tackle this challenge within a three to five minute range.



● **Dwight:** How did you place?

Erica: I won't know how, or if, I placed until around February 2014.

● **Dwight:** What is the theme of your films?

Erica: My video blogs (or vlogs for short) are usually centered around what's going on in my life. I have made vlogs about my trip to the state fair, going to concerts, KU games, my cross country meets, birthdays, homecoming, and even going with my grandma to the airport. I'm basically documenting my senior year.

● **Dwight:** What is your favorite part of making videos?

Erica: I enjoy getting the film, but my favorite part is editing. I love to take simple moments and save them forever.

● **Dwight:** Do you plan to attend college? If you do, where do you want to go?

Erica: Yes, I am going to try a semester at KU.



● **Dwight:** What field do you plan to major in?

Erica: I plan to major in film studies, with either a double major or a minor in music or photography. I love both so much I can't choose at the moment.

● **Dwight:** What do film studies and music entail?

Erica: In film studies, you have to study screenplays, as well as different filming techniques. I will learn more about music when I get there, but I want to spend my time in a recording studio, not necessarily singing, but around the creation of music. Bringing words on paper to life is something that really makes me happy.

● **Dwight:** Why did you choose that field?

Erica: It chose me. I like taking my visions or ideas and bringing them to the world, which in turn helps shape the way I think about life and the world around me.

● **Dwight:** Do you plan to compete in any more video contests?

Erica: Yes! I actually already have a other video contest in mind.

You can find Erica's videos on Youtube under the username "ericajones10."

Basketball Pre-Game Questions

What are some of the strengths that you think the basketball team will have going into this season?

Answer: We have a lot of experience with our post players and also have some pretty good depth when it comes down to players in the game.



What does it take to be on the basketball team?

Answer: You have to have self-discipline, which means that you have to do the right things even when no one is watching. You also need to have team-discipline, which is another way of saying that everyone needs to be on the same page and every one goes for the same goal as a team.



What are some thoughts that you have on this upcoming season?

Answer: I don't really have any thoughts, I'm just really anxious to see how everyone has improved on their basketball skills.



What do you think will be the key to success in order to win games this year?

Answer: Number one, we will have a lot of different perimeter players in the lineup compared to last year. Second of all, every player that we decide to put in the game will have to step up and play with everything that they have and play as a team.

How important is it to be in shape during the basketball season?

It is very important to be in shape. It's very nice to have people who come in shape, but when everyone is, it makes a difference when it is time to lace up the sneakers. Another big reason it's good to be in shape is you can play the 4th quarter of a game just like the 1st quarter.



Who are some key players you are looking forward to see play to make the boys basketball team successful?

Answer: B.J. Glanton is our only returning starter. Our only two returning lettermen are Kyle Kieborz and Drake Juenemann. After those players, I think there is going to be a lot of other guys playing hard and competing to get on the floor. Everyone wants to get as much playing time as possible.



by B.J. Glanton

Will the team wear their stylish new jerseys?

Answer: The boys will have to leave that up to Mr. Tanzer, but if I had a say in the decision, I would say that we would wear them on the last night of some tournaments, or when we are participating in a big game.

What are some coaching strategies you have ready for the new season?

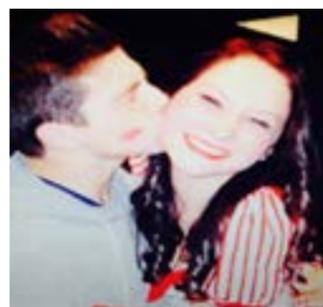
Answer: We are putting in new plays that we ran over the summer. Have the team to continue having success on the defensive side of the ball. But mostly, will will maintain our fast-paced style of play.

A Completely *(Biased and Nonofficial Listing)* of The Perfect Girlfriend

The Interviews

A Perfect Girlfriend

1. Has a good sense of humor--laughs with us and at us
2. Be able to make a guy happy when he's down
3. Compliment us on our body structure
4. Don't be shy
5. Introduce us to your friends and family without being embarrassed
6. Have a beautiful smile and accept compliments well
7. Knows how to do and enjoy sharing the things he likes
8. Understands that guys want to be close (but not too close!) and enjoy time together
9. Stays fit and happy plus be comfortable with your body
10. Trusts us and doesn't flirt with our friends.
11. Knows how to cook well
12. Suggest don't demand
13. Has good hygiene
14. Don't be so emotional



Alberto Rivera-Di Fiore

What's your view of a Perfect Girlfriend?

TJ Ragnoni (Sophomore): Blonde, good hygiene, good personality--someone whose legs aren't hairier than mine. And athletic

Dustin Stanley (Junior): has to be smart, cute, and active and most importantly, has to be athletic. (Rhiana Martin).

Jacob Stanley (Sophomore): Athletic, preferably blonde, shorter than me, dress nice

What are three things she has to have?

Ryan Ostenberg (Senior): Four limbs, two eyes, probably ought to have a head.

BJ Glanton (Senior): Cute face, nice body, and perfect eyebrows

Bryan Weary (Sophomore): Sense of humor, confidence, and patience

Alberto Rivera- Di Fiore: My view of a perfect girlfriend is my girlfriend now; dark hair, green eyes, and a great personality (Camryn Nace).

What is your favorite feature on a girl?

BJ Glanton (Senior): That booty

TJ Rangnoni (Sophomore): Nicely formed body

Cyrus Haynes (Sophomore): Beautiful blue eyes