

# KERR-VANCE ACADEMY

Spartan Newsletter

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Winter 2019

In this Issue:

- ◆ Fall Sports Seasons Close
- ◆ Senior Trip and Junior Job Shadowing
- ◆ Winter Sports Begin!
- ◆ Grandparents Day!
- ◆ First Annual KVA Friendsgiving
- ◆ And More!



# Season End for Cross Country

The weather was perfect for running as the Varsity Cross Country team left the hotel for their final meet of the year. The team closed out the season at the NCISAA state championship in Charlotte. Practically every member of the team obtained their personal record for the season at the state meet. This race was the end of the cross country careers of seniors Briana Lamb and Ira Wilder. The team celebrated their accomplishments at Coach Wendy Goodwin's house on Thursday, November 21st over a marvelous Kenya-themed dinner.

Ira Wilder

Co-Editor-in-Chief



Left: Team members Briana Lamb, Juliana Negron, Ira Wilder, Kaitlin Combs, and Ella Cate Johnson gather before a blistering race in the September sun.

Right: Team members pose with their awards after a decadent dinner at Coach Wendy Goodwin's home.



# Senior Trip

During the week of October 27-November 2nd, the senior class took their annual trip to Walt Disney World. During the five full days, they explored the four parks, had a shopping day, went to Universal Studios, and made memories that will last a lifetime.

The bus pulled away at 5:30 am with the group of sleepy seniors ready to have the best week of their lives. After a long 10 hour bus ride, they arrived at the Disney All-Star Sports Resort. The next three days were full of the famous Disney parks: Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, Epcot, and Animal Kingdom. The students fell into a routine of arriving to a park early in the morning, having a 5 hour break during the day, and heading to another park to ride the night away on the park's unforgettable roller-coasters. Thursday was a much needed day of rest and shopping, leaving all of Friday to be spent exploring Universal.

The many pictures, videos, inside jokes, and memories will forever be a part of their lives, and the tight bond they now share made it more magical than it already was.

Zoey Ivey

Copy and Caption Editor

# SGA Fall Blood Drive

Once again, the Kerr-Vance student body had a remarkable blood drive. The Kerr-Vance Student Government Association managed to not only achieve its goal of thirty-three blood donations, but also surpassed it to reach a total of thirty-four donations, resulting in a maximum of 102 lives saved. On behalf of the student body, we thank all donors and volunteers for their contributions to the Red Cross and to the blood drive.

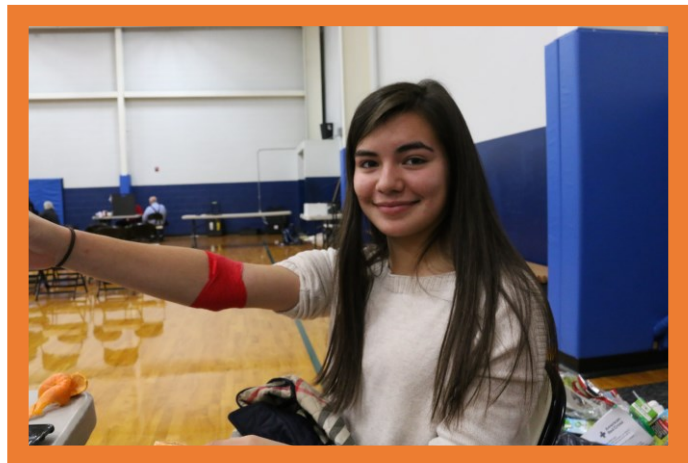
David Folger

Newsletter Editor



**Top Right:** Junior Sarah Allen, senior Maya Lopez and senior Lorena Negron pictured shortly before donating blood.

**Bottom Right:** Juliana Negron celebrates after her successful blood donation.



# Annual Oyster Roast

Despite the cold weather, on November 9th Kerr-Vance Academy held its annual Oyster Roast. The event was a huge hit and sold out a week before the event. The tickets sold for fifty-five dollars a ticket and were sold to about 200 KVA families and other members of the community. The dinner was held at Hill Ridge Farms which was decorated beautifully with hay bales, white tables and lights. The food included fried fish, baked beans, hushpuppies, potatoes, and of course steamed oysters. The dinner was served by student volunteers from multiple grades. The volunteers included Lorena Negrón, George Hughes, Bailee Branch, Maya Lopez, Briana Lamb, Joseph Knott, Jillian Stone and Colby Taylor. The volunteers were thanked by receiving a free dinner after all the food was served and cleaned up. Hopefully the Oyster Roast will be as successful next year.

Maya Lopez

Newsletter Staff

# Season End for Men's Soccer

November marked the end of fall sports at KVA. The Varsity Boys soccer team finished their season graduating five seniors, Christian Bolton, David Folger, George Hughes, Wyatt Humphries, and Jake Watts. The team was managed by Senior, Colby Wilkerson. The Varsity Boys soccer team finished out the season with a record of 7 wins and 12 losses. Sophomores, Shane Musselman and Tom Echols alternated tending goal. We expect for the underclassmen to return next year to carry out the KVA Spartan soccer legacy. The Spartans were coached by Tommy Farmer and George Hoyle.



Edie Echols

Photo Editor

**Above:** Coleman Merit takes a corner kick against the opposing team.

**Right:** Joseph Knott rips a goal kick out to midfield



# Varsity Tennis

## Season End

The Lady Spartans Tennis team ended their season with a bang. For the first time in a long time, the team defeated their biggest rival, Rocky Mount Academy. In a tight match, the Spartans emerged victorious with a 5-4 win over the Eagles securing them the title of Conference Champions. With this title under their belt, the ladies walked into the State Tournament feeling confident. After beating Christ Covenant in the playoffs and North-east Academy in the semifinals, the Lady Spartans were ready to take on Lawrence Academy in the State Finals match. After a stressful match, the team emerged victorious in a 5-1 win over Lawrence and secured their second consecutive state title. For the seniors, the feats accomplished were a great way to end their final season. Lorena Negron, Lauren Moseley and Caroline Williams were awarded All Conference and All State Honors. Edie Echols was named All Conference and All State Honorable Mention and Leah Moseley was named All Conference Honorable Mention. Although the team will be losing five seniors, the remaining three are hopeful for some new recruits to continue the legacy of this team.

Austyn Abbott

Co-Editor-in-Chief

## State Championships

This fall, two outstanding KVA sports teams captured their second state title. On October 26th 2019, both the Varsity Volleyball team and the Varsity Tennis Team competed for the NCISAA 1A State Champion titles. At Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount NC, the women's tennis team took on the Spartans of Lawrence Academy in their tense match. After doubles play concluded, the KVA Spartans held a 2-1 lead after losing their number three seeded doubles in a grueling match. Shortly after singles play ensued, Caroline Williams, Lauren Moseley, and Lorena Negron captured the necessary three wins for the KVA Spartans to win the State Title. Meanwhile, At North Raleigh Christian in Raleigh NC, the Women's' Volleyball Team was taking on Cresset Christian. After a four set match, the team emerged victorious, capturing a win of 3-1 to secure the second consecutive State Champion title.

Austyn Abbott

Co-Editor-in-Chief

# Grandparent's Day

Grandparent's Day was held on November 26th. Parents and grandparents gathered in the gym at 8:30 to watch the students perform, with the theme of the program being "I'm Grateful". The prelude began with Raegan Murray playing "Ode to Joy" on the piano, and finished with Ira Wilder, also on piano. After a welcome speech from Mrs. Short, the first through sixth graders sang "Gratitude Attitude" and "Hip Hop Turkey". There was a performance from the preschool children who sang "Pumpkin Puzzler". The seventh and eighth grade girls ensemble sang multiple numbers and closed out the day with a solo from Kaiya Patton, who led the group in singing "Hallelujah". Families then got to enjoy refreshments in the cafeteria, and were invited to go to the library to see, and buy, from the Scholastic Book Fair. It was a successful Grandparent's Day.

Faith Himmel

Newsletter Staff



**Top:** The 7th and 8th girls ensemble perform a song.

**Bottom Right:** Kindergarten performs "Pumpkin Puzzler".





# Student Government

## Nursing Home

The year is in full swing and the Student Government Association has visited a local nursing home twice, with another upcoming date. The students truly enjoy visiting with residents, even if only for an hour. At the November outing, students colored turkeys and cornucopias with the residents in preparation for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Ira Wilder

Co-Editor-in-Chief

## Bell Ringing

The SGA rang bells for the Salvation Army on December 7th outside of the Walgreens on Oxford Road. Students collected many donations from shoppers and bundled up to brave the cold for a good cause that benefits those less fortunate in our community.



**Left:** Seniors Natalie Stone, Ira Wilder, and Caroline Williams ring the bells in front of Walgreens.

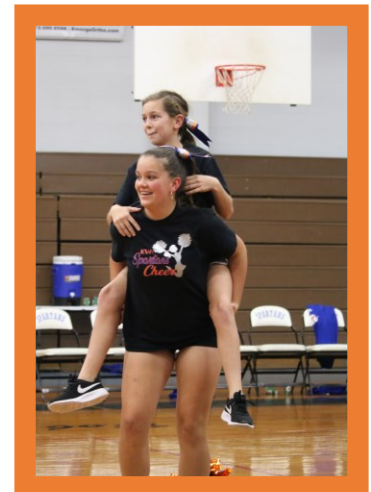
Ira Wilder

Co-Editor-in-Chief

# Varsity Cheerleading

Get on the Spartan train Woo-Woo! It's time for another year of KVAs Cheer Squad cheering on our varsity girls and boys basketball teams. The team looks forward to continuing Kerr-Vance Academy's wonderful cheerleading tradition. Coaches Stacy Cottrell and Pam Humphries are both starting their second year in the program. They are excited for another year of cheer and are looking forward to having a successful season!

Colby Wilkerson  
Newsletter Staff



# JV/MS Volleyball

The Junior Varsity and Middle School Volleyball teams finished out the season with a wide array of new skills and techniques thanks to their new coach Kolby Meeks. The girls plan to carry these skills into the future and maintain the outstanding reputation of the Varsity Volleyball team.

Jake Watts and George Hughes

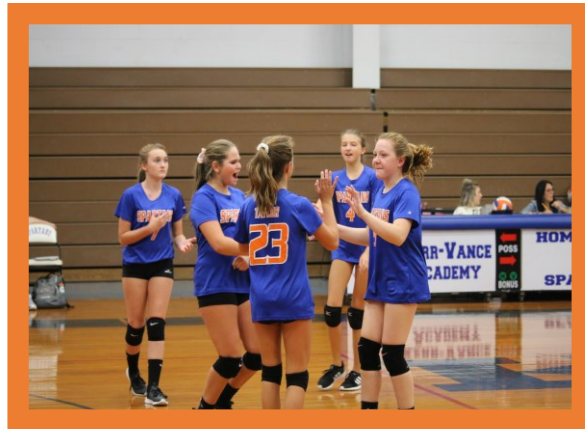
Journalism Staff



**Top Left:** Phoebe Evans serves the ball.

**Top Right:** The team waits for the next play.

**Bottom right:** The team celebrates after a point.



# Varsity Girls' Basketball

The Varsity Girls Basketball Team is BACK BABYYY! After graduating four seniors, including two of their top three scorers, and losing their head coach, Alicia Persons. Winds of change are blowing through the program. This year's squad is composed of a six person power house; including seniors Lorena Negron and Bailee Branch; Juniors Juliana Negron and Cheyenne Owen; Sophomore Courtney Tuck; and new-coming Freshman Phoebe Evans. The team also welcomed new coach, Marcus Foster. As the season begins, the girls are determined to be successful!

Lorena Negron  
Sports Editor



**Above:** Courtney Tuck dribbles fast.

**Right:** Juliana Negron shoots the ball.



# Varsity Girl's Volleyball

The Varsity Girls Volleyball team has done it again! Back to Back NCISAA 1A State Champions!! The team had an astounding season and finished with a 25-3 record. In addition to their second consecutive state championship, the squad were also conference tournament champions. Several players on the team were awarded several honors. Juniors Cheyenne Owen, Blaire Boyd, Katelyn Balentine, and Senior Bailee Branch were selected for the All-Tournament Team. Balentine and Owen were also selected for the All-State Team. Senior and Chowan University Volleyball Commit Emily Carr had quite the resume this season. She was the Tournament MVP, All-State, and was selected as CIC Player of the Year. Congratulations Volleyball on such an incredible season!



Lorena Negron

Sports Editor

**Top Above:** The team pictured above.

**Right:** Cheyenne Owens high-fives a teammate after a nice play.



# Fall Festival

The Annual Fall Festival was once again a success. All funds and proceeds will be going to fund the 2020 Senior Prom. KVA would like to thank all of its student, teacher, and parent volunteers, as well as all families who purchased tickets.

David Folger  
Newsletter Article



**Above:** KVA students enjoy the newest game at the Fall Festival: Sumo-Pumpkins!

**Right:** Elementary and middle school students show off their scary faces.



# Friendsgiving

On Monday, November 25th Spirit Club hosted the first annual Friendsgiving lunch for the students and faculty to enjoy before their Thanksgiving Break. The lunch consisted of everyone's favorite Thanksgiving food made by parents and students. The high school students set up tables along the hallways to enjoy their meal. We feel very fortunate to share events like this!

Juliana Negrón  
Business Manager



**Top:** Students enjoy their meal

# Junior Shadowing

KVA Juniors participated in the Junior Shadowing Program the week of October 28th. Students arranged to shadow a person in the career they are interested in pursuing after high school. The requirements include research on the career, keeping a time log, journal, reflection, and making a presentation upon returning to school. Students spend 20 hours with their mentor and are able to get a good idea of the educational and work requirements. The medical field was particularly popular this year including Physical Therapist, Nurse Practitioner, Life Flight Nurse, Geriatric care, and Veterinarian. Other fields include Engineering, Chiropractor, Law, Game Warden, and Education

Juliana Negrón  
Business Manager



**Above:** Colby Taylor with Dr. Williams, chiropractor at Crossroads Wellness and Rehab.



# Richmond Trip

Mrs. Spencer took her junior English class to Richmond, Virginia. Their first stop was St. John's Church where Patrick Henry gave his famous speech, "Give Me Liberty Or Give Me Death". Afterwards they went to the Edgar Allen Poe Museum where they learned all about the writer's past.

Juliana Negrón  
Business Manager



**Above:** The Junior Class stop for a picture at the Poe Museum.

**Right:** Colby Taylor and Coleman Merritt smile for a picture.



# Sports Update: Basketball

## JV Girls Basketball

The JV Girls Basketball team has had a great start to the season! The team has improved greatly since the last season, looking to bring in more wins than ever. All eight players have experienced personal improvement under the leadership of their new coach, Coach Steve Tanner. The girls hope to have a fun season full of treasured memories and major wins!

Myles Ball

Co-Editor-In-Chief



**Top:** Abby Taylor breaks away to take a layup.

**Right:** Reagan Tanner lines up a three-pointer.



## Middle School Boys Basketball

The Middle School Boys Basketball team has had a fun season so far! The boys look forward to the beginnings of their basketball careers, as Kerr-Vance alumni Darius Perry returns to coach the young athletes. Overall, the team hopes to win many games and to have fun along the way!

Myles Ball

Co-Editor-In-Chief



**Left:** Evan Johnson jumps past his opponent to make a layup.

# Angel Tree

An annual holiday tradition at Kerr-Vance, the middle school organizes two "Angel Trees" from the Salvation Army in both the upper and lower schools. Donations benefit the Salvation Army of Henderson and the greater community. The "Angel Tree" program gives less fortunate children the opportunity to have a magical Christmas. Donations were collected and sent to the Salvation Army on Monday, December 9th. Thank you to everyone who participated in this holiday tradition!

Ira Wilder

Co-Editor-in-Chief



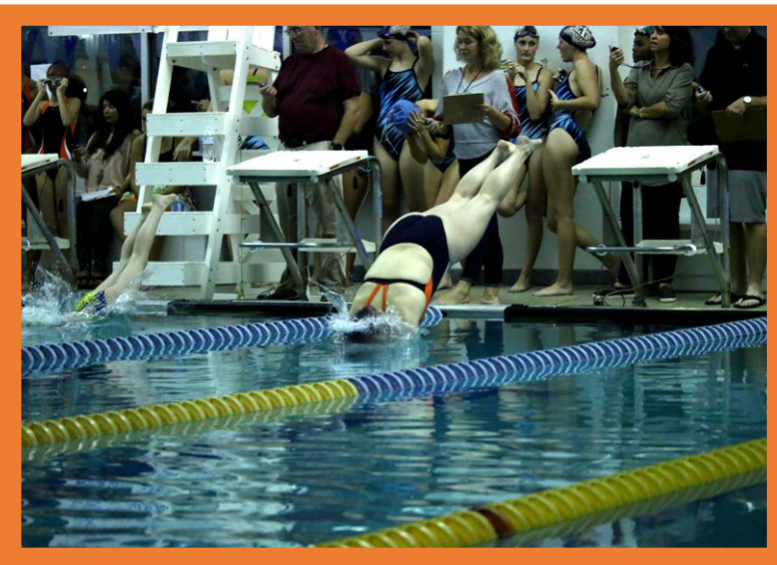
Left: Donations flood the base of the tree on Monday morning.

Below: Middle school students begin moving donations.



# Varsity Swimming

The Varsity Swim Team just started its second year of Kerr-Vance Academy athletics. Despite losing one senior, Mary Richardson, the swim team gained five new and excited swimmers, Kaitlin Combs, Kathryn Folger, Ella-Cate Johnson, Caroline Meritt, and Hayden Schneider. With coaching from Coach Elizabeth Richardson and Assistant Coach Julie Moseley, the team is very excited and optimistic about their future of swimming at Kerr-Vance Academy. At the end of the season, they hope to qualify for the State Championship meet once again. Their first swim meet will be Friday, November 22 at 4:00 at the Rocky Mount YMCA.



Lauren Moseley  
Art and Layout Editor

# Varsity Boys Basketball

The 2019/20 basketball season is here and the Varsity Boys' Basketball team is getting ready for another great season! After losing six of their players from last year, coaches George Hoyle Jr. and Brandon Dickerson were able to recruit five juniors to regrow their team. Along with returning players- RJ Johnson and senior Andrew Hight—the new players consist of Chance Murphy, Cole Merritt, Colby Taylor, Michael Holtzman, and Joel Lewis, all who have recently played on the junior varsity boys' basketball team last year. The team has been vigorously practicing to be ready for their first game of the season against Oakwood on November 12th.



Brian Teiser  
Journalism Staff

# Girls Ensemble

The KVA's Girl's Ensemble sang at The Festival of Trees on December 4th. The event took place at The Vance County Farmers Market and benefitted the Vance County Boys and Girls club. Members of the group included Kaiya Patton, Ashley Medlin, Kat Folger, Kiyona Patton, Libby Cash, Sabrina Odom, and Jillian Stone. Directed by Mrs. Vaughn, the ensemble played Jingle Bells and Silent Night.

Maya Lopez & Brian Teiser

Journalism Staff

**Right:** The girls pose for a picture after singing.

**Bottom:** RJ Johnson with the KVA tree after a decorating frenzy.



# Festival of Trees

On Tuesday, December 3, Vance County held its First Annual Festival of Trees at the farmers market in Henderson. A fun time to enjoy the holiday season involving a silent auction for each tree with the proceeds going to the boys and girls club. KVA entered its first Christmas tree sponsored by the Honor Society. Miss Turners first grade class enjoyed a great trip to the Festival of Trees. They held a scavenger hunt for the kids and also were able to write letter to Santa. The Festival of Trees was a great way to start off a festive season and will hopefully continue to be a great event in many years in the future.



**Top:** The first graders pose for a picture in front of the Christmas trees.

**Bottom Right:** Miss Turners class lines up to write letters to Santa.



# JV Boys Basketball

The Junior Varsity Boys basketball team is back for yet another fantastic season! The team, lead by coach Darrius Perry, consists of sophomores AJ Siplen, Cole Laffman, Tom Echols, Joseph Knott, Shane Musselman, and freshmen Grant Pasley-Allen, Jeremy Ivey, and Nick Cunard. The team has been grinding hard, kicking the season off with some intense conditioning practices. There is nothing but high hopes for the future of this team, and the chances of a great season are highly likely.

Jake Watts

Journalism Staff



**Above:** Joseph Knott in his defensive stance.

**Right:** AJ Siplen goes up for a layup.





# Halloween Parade

The annual Halloween Parade is a special time at KVA. The Upper school students and staff line the halls, parents come with cameras flashing. Students, from our youngest through fourth grade, proudly march through in their best Halloween finery. There is much clapping, oohing and aweing as the Princesses, ghosts, Super Heroes, and even some Sumo Wrestlers pass by.

George Hughes  
Journalism Staff



**Top Left:** The “Three Blind Mice” (Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Moseley, and Mrs. Humphries) gather for a photo.

**Top Right:** 4th grade prepares for the Halloween Parade.

**Bottom Right:** First grade poses excitedly for a picture.

