
THE BULLDOG BARK

Embracing the Nostalgia of Fall

by Alexandra Rollison, Editor-In-Chief

Fall is an all awaited time of year. By labor day's passage, the already dwindling embers of summer no longer light aflame excitement in anyone's eye. Instead, our attention shifts to the glow of fair lights, glistening amongst the night stars; the soft gleam of jack-o-lanterns flickering on a suburban porch—the festivities that distinctly overshadow the ache we once had for summer—which was really just a desire for a vacation. The commencement of “Spooky Season”.

As high-schoolers, we long to drive up to Williamsburg with our friends for Howl-o-Scream, or to get “Boo-Baskets” from a boo. In elementary school, however, you likely waited for your teacher to hand out a white “Sign-Up” sheet, signifying you had a class Halloween party and were expected to bring something on the 31st. In the meantime, you'd engage in other “fall festivities” with your family. Perhaps a trip to the grocery store for Pillsbury Halloween-themed cookies; or, a movie night accompanied by whatever “Scary” PG-13 flick released that year—maybe a Disney Channel Original Movie if they were feeling kind. You'd nag and beg to know exactly when you'd take that trip to Party City to pick out a costume reflective of whatever show your parents had definitely heard enough of that year.

Then, once you'd attained your new prized possession, the countdown to Halloween would tick by slower than you could ever imagine. The velcro calendar stationed beside your teacher's projector screen taunting you each day as you waited for her to finally put up the square for “Halloween!”. After what felt like a lifetime, the day comes! You've got your Walmart bag full of cookies for your class party, and a festive outfit on—officially ready to sit on the rainbow-grid carpet and watch one of the classic child-appropriate Halloween movies. Probably The Nightmare Before Christmas, or Hocus Pocus.

THE BULLDOG BARK

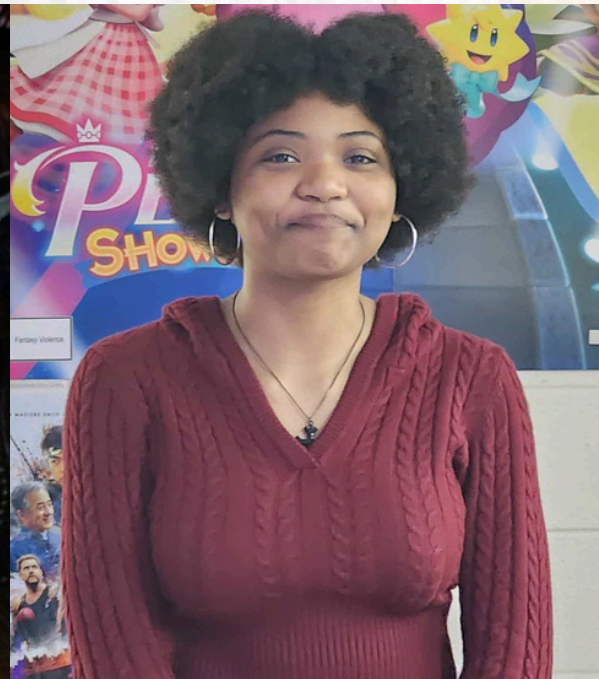
Embracing the Nostalgia of Fall

By Alexandra Rollison, Editor-In-Chief

High off sugar, and joy, you'd head home and put on your costume, again nagging your parents about getting ready to leave for Trick-or-Treating. "Can we leave yet!?" and the sun's probably just begun setting. Finally, the moon's out, someone's giant speaker is blasting Michael Jackson's Thriller out of their garage, and you're Trick-or-Treating. Halloween has officially begun in your tiny little mind. Door-to-door, you smile, stick out your bucket, and yell, "Trick-or-Treat!" with a glee only adolescence can supply. Only mere hours later you trudge home with sore feet, a full bag of candy, and a drowsiness that rivals Sleeping Beauty's—utterly fulfilled.



(Me, circa 2013 Halloween)



(Me, 2025, a High School Senior)

These are the eras of Fall we've lived through. So, this Fall, reflect. Should you have gone Trick-or-Treating? Did you watch enough kiddy Halloween movies?

Bake those Pillsbury sugar cookies with your friends?

Look back on what Fall used to be and take inspiration from it! Next year, incorporate a bit of adolescent fun into your young adulthood.

THE BULLDOG BARK

Is 5th Lunch Cooking...Or is It Wraps?

By Caleah Reid

Recently, King's Fork High School made a major change to its lunch schedule, moving from four lunch blocks to five. Naturally, the Bulldog community had their **opinions** on this matter. To find out what everyone really thinks, **The Bulldog Bark** surveyed 100 students from across grade levels to get their honest take on the new 5th lunch addition.

The results? Well, **85.2%** of students said they preferred the *original* 4th lunch setup, while only **14.7%** said the 5th lunch system was an improvement.

Those in favor of the old schedule stated that having four lunch periods allowed for a smoother flow with more time for cleanup, better transitions, and easier food setup. Many also said the day simply *felt* more natural and time efficient.

On the flip side, the smaller group who liked 5th lunch noted that the cafeteria felt *slightly* less crowded. But even they agreed that the transitions and setup times could be improved significantly.

Despite the criticism, some students think the 5th lunch could work if it were better organized. Suggestions included:

- **Reopening the courtyard for seniors** to create more indoor space for underclassmen
- **Splitting lunches by grade level** for smoother transitions
- **Adding more food lines** to cut down wait times and chaos
- Or... just bringing back the old schedule entirely

When asked how other staff members felt about the change, students shared some interesting insights:

- **64.2%** believe custodians aren't happy with the 5th lunch setup
- **71.6%** think the lunch servers feel the same
- **53.4%** said teachers seem somewhere in the middle

Overall, students agree that the current lunch schedule *feels a bit disorganized*. And at the end of the day, they all just want enough time to eat, chat, and recharge, without all the extra stress and lunchtime confusion. Will the Admin hear their voices in the upcoming months, or is 5th lunch here to stay? Only time will tell...

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THE BULLDOG BARK

Spirit Week

In demonstration of school spirit, hundreds of KFHS students participated in the Spirit Week festivities leading up to the Homecoming Game, October 17th.

COWBOYS AND COWGIRLS DAY

Monday's Cowboys and Cowgirls day brought out numerous part-timers, including Rango himself.





Freshman

Sophomore

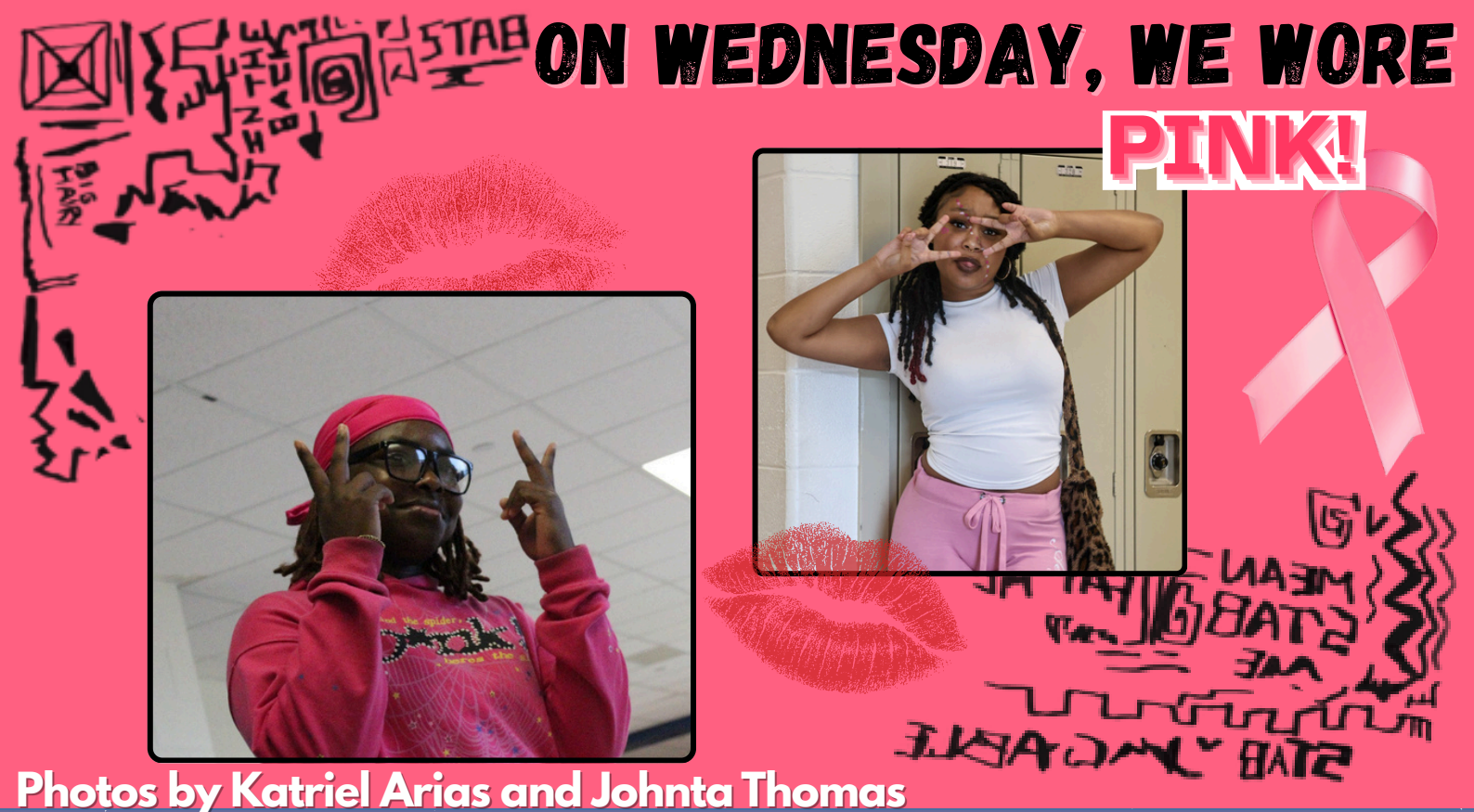
Junior

Senior

Photos by Johnta Thomas

GRADE-LEVEL COLOR DAY

Tuesday, students wore the color assigned to their grade-level.



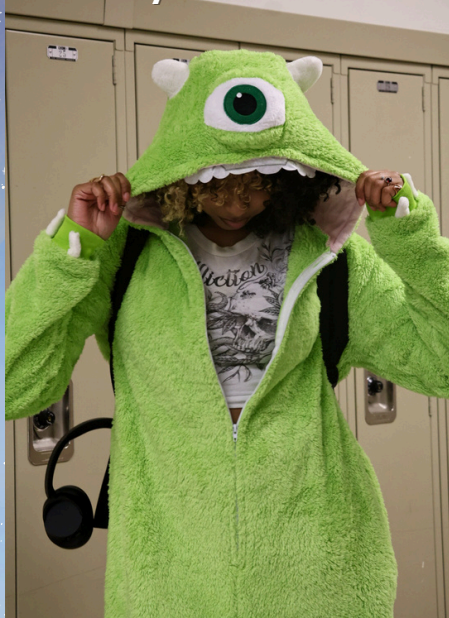
ON WEDNESDAY, WE WORE PINK!



Photos by Katriel Arias and Johnta Thomas



Photos by Katriel Arias



King's Fork High School
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THE BULLDOG BARK

Spirit Week

BULLDOG SPIRIT DAY



King's Fork High School

Nov. 21, 2025

THE BULLDOG BARK

Homecoming 2025: A Whole New Game

The King's Fork Bulldogs delivered an unforgettable Homecoming spectacle, electrifying a packed house of countless alumni with a dominant performance that culminated in a 73-point victory over crosstown rivals, the Lakeland Cavaliers. The evening was a perfect blend of gridiron excellence and cherished tradition, solidifying the community's deep-rooted spirit.

The celebration extended far beyond the scoreboard. At halftime, the focus shifted to the center of the field, where the student body crowned Michael Allen and Aliyah Harrell as the 2023 Homecoming King and Queen, their coronation met with roaring applause from students, families, and alumni alike.

On the field, the Bulldogs' offense was nothing short of explosive. The relentless ground game was led by running backs Ishaiah Gilliam and Preston Hall, who consistently found gaps in the Lakeland defense. Quarterback D'Andre Artis-Boone commanded the offense with precision, connecting with his dynamic receiving corps of Terrelle Godwin and Anthony Henderson Jr. for several key plays. With the game safely in hand, Coach Anthony Joffrion looked to the future, giving playing time to younger talents. Myles Satchell, stepping in as quarterback, showed a remarkably promising future with a series of impressive second-half plays that thrilled the crowd and signaled a bright future for the Bulldogs' program.

The halftime festivities were a showcase of King's Fork's diverse talents. Former Bulldog Bark Editor-in-Chief, Nevaeh Greene, addressed the massive crowd, reflecting on the school's legacy and future. The ceremony culminated with a breathtaking performance by "The Baddest Band in the Land," The Mighty Marching Bulldog Band. Under the direction of the hailed "visionary and revolutionary," Band Director Bernard Bradley, the band filled the stadium with a powerful and precise performance that captivated everyone in attendance.

The night was a resounding success, a testament to the talent, tradition, and unifying spirit that defines King's Fork High School. From the alumni who returned home to the students who cheered in the stands, the entire Bulldog community came together to celebrate a memorable victory and a bright future.

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Homecoming 2025: A Whole New Game



King's Fork High School

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THE BULLDOG BARK

Homecoming Court

homecoming court



King's Fork High School
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THE BULLDOG BARK

Homecoming 2025: High Roller Royalty

A fun-filled evening that brought together students via both a macarena dance line and sing-along to Miley Cyrus's *Party in the U.S.A.*



Photos by Immanuel Irwin

THE BULLDOG BARK

Throwback Thursday Throws Students an Old-Fashioned Curveball by Rhinaiya Dozier-Hart

"Throwback Thursday" is something new for Kings Fork High School. Every Thursday, we now remove all electronics, including chromebooks, and smartboards from classroom instruction plans. In January 2025, Gov. Glenn Youngkin's Executive Order 33 was put into effect. For Suffolk Public Schools, that means no phones are to be used in SPS buildings for the entire school day.

There haven't been *many* complaints about Throwback Thursday, but some students *do* find it excessive. This is not to say that, the new start in our community can't help in a lot of ways.

During instructional time, students tend to find a way to use their chromebooks as a distraction. Students watch movies and Youtube, or find games that are unblocked to play instead of paying attention to the curriculum. Throwback Thursday is a way to help teachers force students to put away their chromebooks and pay more attention to what the they're teaching.

The electronic-free days are also a way to encourage deeper thinking among students. Students are quick to go to "Google" or "AI" for answers to assignments, tests, quizzes, etc. Forcing them to put away chromebooks for the day and actually think for themselves is a good way to grow the brain. Students should rely more on critical thinking and problem-solving skills to complete assignments and come up with creative ideas instead of running straight to the internet.

THE BULLDOG BARK

Throwback Thursday Throws Students an Old-Fashioned Curveball by Rhinaiya Dozier-Hart

Not only do Throwback Thursdays promote deep thought, but they can also push students to interact with one another more. With Chromebooks, having group discussions, projects, or other interactive activities means students hiding behind their chromebooks instead of talking amongst their peers. Stepping away from screens can help students participate in debates in the classroom or other interactive assignments. It also can level out the playing field for both teachers and students.

Though Throwback Thursday can help students and teachers in countless ways, it can also get in the way of many many things. Many modern high school curricula and classroom workflows are designed around technology. A sudden weekly prohibition on technology could interrupt the flow of a project or make certain lessons impossible to teach. Teachers now have to work around this new change and find a solution or replacement for the tech free day. This can be difficult for teachers who mainly work with technology in their classrooms. what Non-traditional teachers who use the Throwback as “free day” to play games or have casual, fun debates. Traditional teachers see this as to not let this get in the way of instructional time but to just give out paper work, as if the school isn't running low on paper as it is.

Being that we already have a strict no phone policy for the entire day, students can get bored just sitting there with nothing to do but work. Boredom definitely won't help students with behavioral issues, who can take it upon themselves to cause disruptions and ruin the flow of the classroom.

“Throwback Thursday” can be fun in some classrooms but also can be very difficult to adapt to. This is a new thing for our community and students and teachers are all still needing to adapt. But the good thing is that unlike the phone policy, this is only for one day out of each week.

THE BULLDOG BARK

Upon This Return - By Judah Bannarbie (A poem dedicated to the Bulldog Alumni)

*Welcome; to the lights, The players, and the band.
Those walking the Stadium or in the stands.
The now alumni, Who once walked these grounds,
Surely, you remember, These spirit filled sounds.*

*They that bring back memories Returning like the rush
Of pride that has resided in every Bulldog soul.
Like the crowd, before kick-off, in a low hush.*

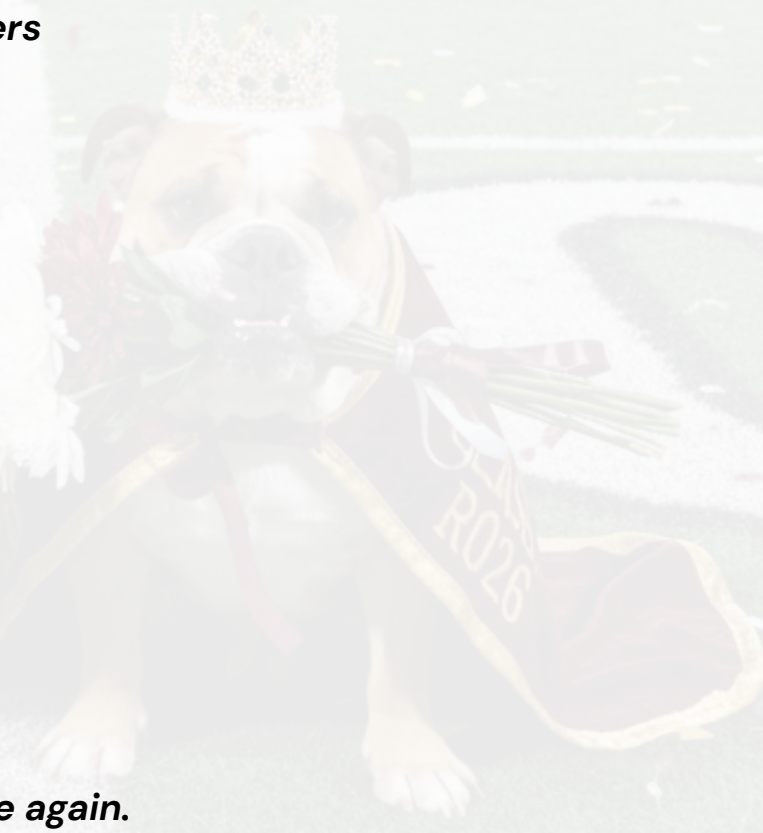
*We experienced forever once.
When we saw the score board's red letters
Glowing in the late's dim,
And the band, growing forever better.*

*Upon this return,
The Kennel welcomes the new
And honours those who once roamed
It's stadium.*

*Every glimmer or gleam, Song playing,
Shout or scream, All returning,
Each memory, Yes, this is Homecoming!*

*We only experience forever so often,
So it's all that happened then.
But a reminder, That we will have to leave again.
So upon this return, Of a people brave and bold,
This homecoming reunion
Of the maroon and Las Vegas gold.*

*Bring back forever,
And the memories it holds.*



THE BULLDOG BARK

Alumni Spotlight: Nevaeh Greene '25 Selected to Cover Historic Virginia Gubernatorial Debate

Nevaeh Greene, a rising junior reporter for the Norfolk State University Spartan Echo and former Editor-in-Chief of the King's Fork Bulldog Bark, has been selected as one of four student journalists from the university to cover the only scheduled gubernatorial debate between Democrat Abigail Spanberger and Republican Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle-Sears on October 9. The historic event, hosted at Norfolk State University, will feature the two candidates vying to become Virginia's first woman governor.

The debate comes at a critical juncture in the campaign, with early voting already underway for nearly three weeks and Election Day approaching on November 4. The encounter at NSU represents the sole opportunity for voters to see the candidates share a stage and contrast their visions for the commonwealth.

For Greene, this assignment continues a journey in student journalism that began during her high school years, originally starting as a photographer for the Bulldog Bark in its inaugural year before rising to become its second Editor-in-Chief. Her background also includes contributing to the King's Fork yearbook and starring in the King's Fork Theatre Department's Spring Musical performance of "The Wiz."



THE BULLDOG BARK

Alumni Spotlight: Nevaeh Greene '25 Selected to Cover Historic Virginia Gubernatorial Debate

The debate at Norfolk State University carries significant historical weight, guaranteeing that Virginia will elect its first female governor regardless of the outcome. The commonwealth is one of 18 states that have never had a woman serve as governor.

The forum is expected to address several pressing issues, including the recent federal government shutdown that has particularly impacted Virginia's hundreds of thousands of federal workers.

The Norfolk State debate takes on additional importance as it stands as the only scheduled face-off between the candidates after other proposed debates failed to materialize. This limited access has drawn criticism from political observers like Dr. Larry Sabato of the University of Virginia Center for Politics, who noted that past debates typically aired broadly across Virginia and Washington, D.C.

"The stage is set at Norfolk State University for the only debate between the two candidates running for Virginia governor," Sabato said, emphasizing the high stakes for both campaigns. He suggested that unless a candidate makes a "terrible goof," the single debate so close to Election Day might have limited impact on the race's outcome.

For student journalists like Greene, the debate represents a rare opportunity to cover a pivotal moment in Virginia politics firsthand. As the Spartan Echo continues its tradition of covering campus and community events, Greene and her fellow journalists will provide important insight into this historic political contest, applying skills developed through years of student journalism and extracurricular leadership.

HOLIDAY

Movie Watchlist

Happy Holidays

Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer

The Polar Express

The Nightmare Before Christmas

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

A Christmas Carol

Home Alone

Gremlins

The Muppet Christmas Carol

Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas

Santa Buddies

Good Luck Charlie: It's Christmas!

Instant Family

Knives Out

The Holiday

You've Got Mail

Elf

Free Bird

The Santa Clause

Christmas with the Kranks

Holiday in Handcuffs

The Perfect Holiday

This Christmas

A Madea Christmas

Happiest Season

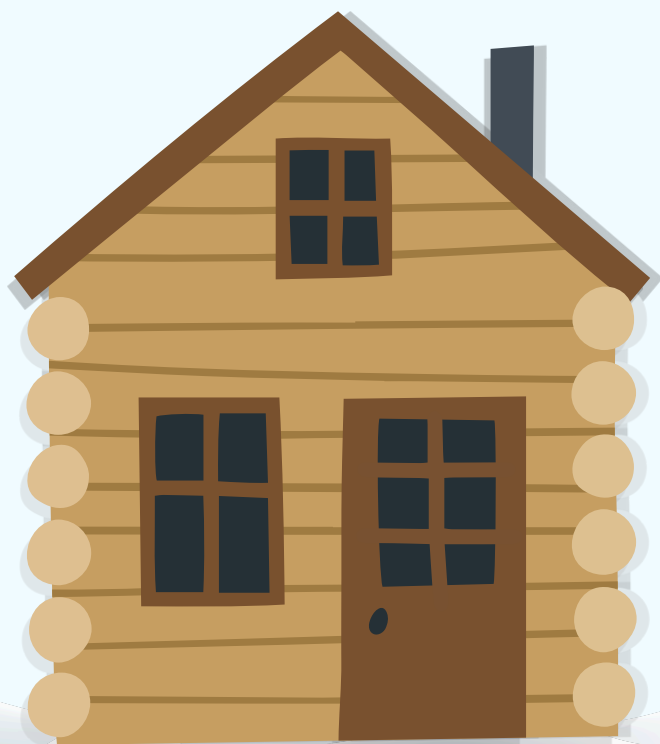
Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Jingle Jangle

A Charlie Brown Christmas

National Lampoon's Christmas

Vacation



Holiday Checklist



- ☐ *Watch a Christmas Movie*
- ☐ *Decorate your House*
- ☐ *Thrift for a Holiday Gift*
- ☐ *Make a Holiday Playlist*
- ☐ *Bake Christmas Cookies*

By Miles Codjoe



THE BULLDOG BARK

The Academic Awards Ceremony: A Firsthand Account By Honoree Jayden Whittington

My night at the 2025 Academic Awards Ceremony was very touching. Upon our arrival, my fellow honorees and I were met with guidance counselors who kindly directed us to the right place, handed us cards with our names, and lined us up in alphabetical order so we could get to the ceremony on time.

As we entered the ceremony, we were met with parents and children lined up in rows, all cheering on their students. Still under the guidance counselors' direction, we sat in a designated area near the auditorium's front that was separated by graduating class. Before the ceremony's official start, we were asked to stand for the pledge of allegiance to honor everyone in attendance. Once everyone was settled, the announcers began to call up each graduating class, beginning with the Class of 2026. Parents, fellow students, and staff, clapped and yelled out honorees' names as they walked across the stage, shook Mr. Bryant's hand, and grabbed their certificates. This process continued for at least 20-30 minutes, with each class being called up to receive their certificates until everyone had gotten their moment in the spotlight.

After every name had been called, Dr. Spruill went up to the podium and began to introduce the audience to all the staff members one by one, pausing when she got to Mr. Bryant to give a heartfelt speech about him in addition to his introduction. Afterwards, Mr. Bryant came up to the podium to let everyone know how proud of us he is, and we should be of ourselves.

He then gave the microphone back to Dr. Spruill who expressed similar sentiments, highlighting specifically how proud our parents should be of us honorees. To show our appreciation, she asked us to cheer for our parents and vice versa. So, we took a few minutes to have a competition between each class to see if we could be louder than our parents. Finally, once things quieted down, she dismissed everyone to either go to the cafeteria to enjoy some food and grab an academic award sticker, or to head home.

THE BULLDOG BARK

The Academic Awards Ceremony: A Firsthand Account By Honoree Jayden Whittington

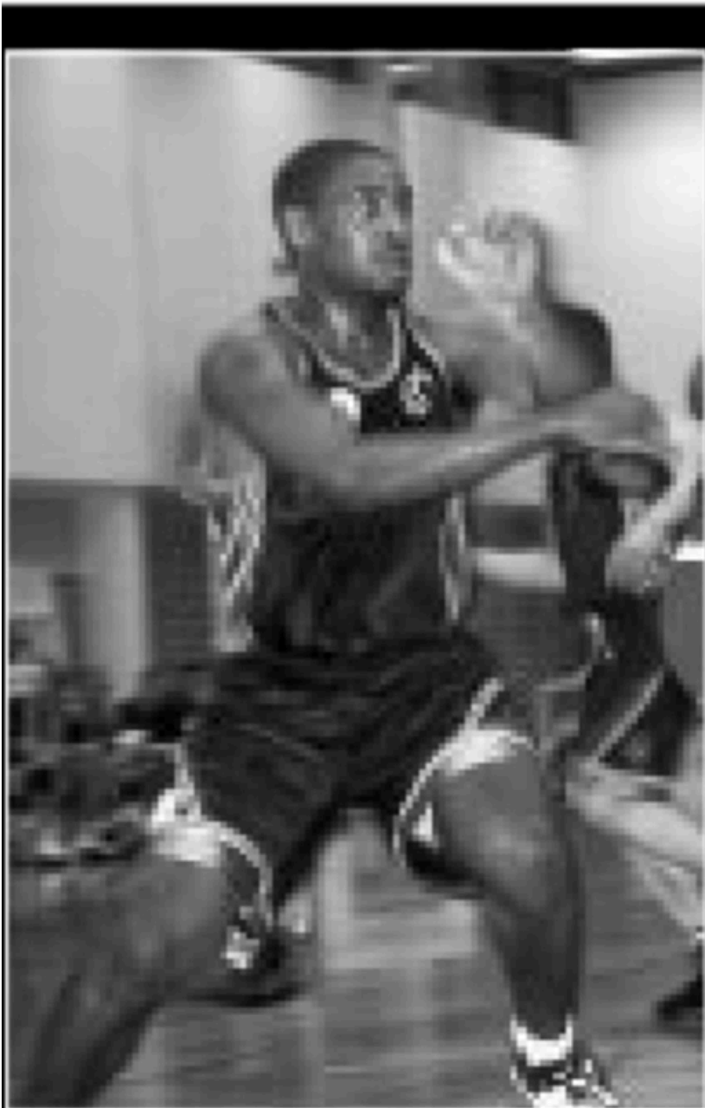
Looking back on the night, I really enjoyed the ceremony's setup and execution: specifically, the seating arrangement, the considerate staff, and the event exit protocol. The honorees' seating placement allowed us to be distant from our parents instead of them being directly behind us, which could've distracted us if they wanted to have a conversation, or such. When we were called on stage, the staff also made sure that they were able to pronounce everyone's name correctly, something I appreciated specifically, as my last name is sometimes complicated for others to say. Then, when it was time to leave, students exiting first, followed by their parents, prevented crowding around the exit.

I may have enjoyed the ceremony's organized nature, but the speeches and kind words said about us by the staff is what really made the ceremony touching. Being praised by staff, parents, and administrative members made me feel very appreciated, especially after hearing the speeches Mr. Bryant and Dr. Spruill gave where they congratulated us and said that we'd make it very far in life if we continued along our current paths.

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THE BULLDOG BARK

The Kings Fork Showdown - Bryant, Nelson, or Hite: Al makes the Case for the Favorite in a HORSE Classic



Derrick Bryant.



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MARS 1997

THE BULLDOG BARK

The Kings Fork Showdown - Bryant, Nelson, or Hite: All makes the Case for the Favorite in a HORSE Classic

Within the hallways of King's Fork High School, a hypothetical athletic debate of epic proportions simmers. The premise is simple: a game of HORSE in their primes among three staff members with remarkable professional basketball pedigrees. The contestants are Principal Derrick Bryant, Basketball Coach Rick Hite, and Economics and Personal Finance Teacher Jaleel Nelson. Each carries the legacy of an exceptional career, making this a clash of styles as much as a clash of talent.

While the 6'5" Derrick Bryant might seem the obvious favorite on paper, a deep dive into their unique strengths reveals a far more complex and intriguing contest. Let's build the case for each contender before crowning a champion.

The Case for Derrick Bryant: The Volume Scorer

The game of HORSE ultimately rewards the ability to make shots, and Derrick Bryant's career is a resume built on prolific, high-percentage scoring. His legendary collegiate career at Norfolk State, where he finished tenth on the all-time scoring list and led his team to the Division II Final Four, established him as a dominant, all-around force. This wasn't a flash in the pan; it was the foundation for a professional career defined by being a primary option.

Bryant wasn't just playing overseas; he was starring. A debut season in Iceland with averages of 26.9 points and 12.1 rebounds showcases a player who could shoulder an offense against professional competition. His success in tougher leagues in Catalonia and Argentina confirms his status as a volume scorer. In a HORSE contest, Bryant's game would be a masterclass in efficiency. He would rely on a foundation of fundamentally sound, high-percentage shots—the kind of mid-range jumpers, bank shots, and post moves perfected over thousands of game-speed repetitions. His case is built on cold, hard evidence: a documented history of being the man his team relied on to put the ball in the basket, night after night.

THE BULLDOG BARK

The Kings Fork Showdown - Bryant, Nelson, or Hite: Al makes the Case for the Favorite in a HORSE Classic

The Case for Jaleel Nelson: The Globetrotting Virtuoso

If Bryant is the definition of efficiency, Jaleel Nelson is the embodiment of versatility and unorthodox skill. A 6'5" guard who plied his trade across China, Kosovo, Uruguay, Ecuador, and Chile, Nelson's career is a testament to high-level adaptability. To succeed in so many different leagues, with varying styles and rules, a player must possess a deep and creative bag of tricks.

Nelson would enter this contest as the ultimate wild card. His game would be a dizzying array of off-balance floaters, deep step-back threes, ambidextrous finishes, and shots honed on courts with different sightlines and pressures across the globe. While Bryant's shots are repeatable, Nelson's would be unpredictable. He could counter a fundamental post move with a spinning, wrong-footed jumper that defies conventional coaching. His strength in HORSE wouldn't be consistency in one style, but his ability to master and replicate any style. He is the player most likely to invent a shot on the spot that his opponents simply cannot answer.

Bryant.

MARS 1997

THE BULLDOG BARK

The Kings Fork Showdown - Bryant, Nelson, or Hite: Al makes the Case for the Favorite in a HORSE Classic

The Case for Rick Hite: The Creative Visionary

And then there is Ricky Hite. Standing at 6'2", he may give up a few inches to his competitors, but his resume is packed with its own unique credentials. His recruitment to San Diego State University and his All-Rookie honors in the Western Athletic Conference speak to a player who thrived at the NCAA Division I level, the pinnacle of collegiate competition. This foundation is built on explosive athleticism and rock-solid fundamentals, honed against future NBA talent.

But it is Hite's specific skill set that makes him the most dangerous contender in a game of HORSE. His game was never just about pure scoring volume; it was about creative, high-difficulty shot-making. As a guard known for his athleticism and versatility, Hite's prime was defined by his ability to get a shot off against any defender, in any situation. We are talking about off-the-dribble pull-ups with a hand in his face, acrobatic finishes after using the glass at impossible angles, and deep three-pointers from well beyond the arc.

Bryant.

THE BULLDOG BARK

The Kings Fork Showdown - Bryant, Nelson, or Hite: Al makes the Case for the Favorite in a HORSE Classic

This is the crucial differentiator: challenging shot selection. In HORSE, the winner is often the player who can not only make difficult shots but also confidently select shots that push the boundaries of their opponents' capabilities. While Bryant would take the high-percentage game-winner, Hite would practice and perfect the low-percentage, high-difficulty moves that break an opponent's spirit in HORSE. His blend of D-I fundamentals and explosive creativity allows him to attempt—and make—shots the others wouldn't even consider. A professional stint in Australia further refined this ability, forcing him to adapt and expand his repertoire against seasoned pros.

While Derrick Bryant's scoring pedigree is undeniable and Jaleel Nelson's global repertoire is formidable, the unique demands of HORSE point to Rick Hite as the slight favorite.

The Verdict: Rick Hite's Creativity tips the scales.

The game is not simply about making shots; it's about forcing your opponent to miss. Hite's career, built on challenging defenses with creative, athletic, and difficult attempts, is the perfect template for HORSE success. He possesses the fundamental base to match Bryant's consistency on standard shots, and the explosive, unorthodox creativity to not only keep up with Nelson but to surpass him with shots born from a high level of collegiate competition.

In the end, the image is clear: Derrick Bryant lines up a reliable 15-foot jumper. Jaleel Nelson replicates it with a quirky flair. But Ricky Hite would step to the line, call a spinning, fall-away jumper using only the corner of the backboard, and sink it. It is this proven capacity for creativity and challenging shot selection that gives Coach Rick Hite the decisive edge in this legendary King's Fork hypothetical.

THE BULLDOG BARK

Bulldogs Bite Down: King's Fork Secures #1 Seed, Dominates in Playoff Opener

SUFFOLK, Va. – The King's Fork Bulldogs are not just winning; they are making a statement. After a dominant performance to close the regular season, the Bulldogs have carried their formidable momentum straight into the Class 5 Region B playoffs, establishing themselves as the team to beat.

The statement began on a pivotal Friday night, as King's Fork squared off against their crosstown rivals, the Nansemond River Warriors. With the #1 seed in the region on the line, the Bulldogs left no doubt, controlling the game from start to finish in a commanding 27-8 victory.

The win was the culmination of a spectacular late-season surge, marking the team's sixth consecutive victory. During that winning streak, King's Fork outscored their opponents by an average of over 31 points, showcasing a blistering offense and a stifling defense. The victory over Nansemond River not only secured the coveted top playoff spot but also improved the Bulldogs' regular-season record to an impressive 9-1. The loss dropped the Warriors to 7-3.

With a playoff win on the line this past Friday, King' Fork proved their #1 seeding was no fluke. They rose to the occasion in their first postseason test, breezing past the Granby Comets with a decisive 38-6 blowout. The offensive charge was led by junior Myles Satchell, who spearheaded a Bulldogs' attack that has made a habit of running away with games. This season, King's Fork has now won six games by a margin of 21 points or more.

The playoff victory pushes King's Fork's overall record to a stellar 10-1 and extends their home winning streak to four games. Their success on their home field has been built in large part on a formidable defensive unit, which has surrendered a meager average of just 7.0 points per game during that four-game home stand.

As they advance to the next round of the playoffs, the King's Fork Bulldogs have firmly positioned themselves as a regional powerhouse, combining a high-scoring offense with a lockdown defense that shows no signs of slowing down.