

# BLUEJAY BEAT

Ripley-Union-Lewis-Huntington High School

November 2016

## I'm so Thankful

By: Johannah Fisher

November is beginning, and the days are getting shorter and the weather is getting colder. Leaves and other plants are changing colors, and slowly dying. November is the month of fall, but most importantly November is a month to be thankful.

On November 24, 2016 Thanksgiving will be celebrated. This is a holiday that you have meals with your family, and take time out to tell or show how thankful you are for your loved ones. On this morning I start the day off by going to my Nana and Pappy's house. Here my mom, dad, nana, pappy, sister, Aunt Sandy, Uncle Gary, Aunt Hilary, Uncle Rowland, Uncle Dana, Jared, Olivia, and Sophia all eat a Thanksgiving lunch. These are some of the many people that I am thankful for, and starting the day off with them makes me feel very thankful.

After lunch, we head down to my Grammy and Poppy's house. Here my mom, dad, sister, Grammy, Poppy, Uncle Jimmy, Jaxson, Spencer, Isabelle, Uncle Jesse, Tristan, Alexis, Alyssa, Logan, and Cameron all eat a big supper together. Afterwards, I get to spend quality time with my cousins. Whether we go on adventures in the woods, or just stay in and talk to each other, it's always my favorite time. I am so very thankful to have such a big family. We are more than cousins, we are all like brother and sisters.

I am very thankful, that I have such a big, loving, and caring family. I am blessed that I get to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with each and every one of them. It is very important to be thankful for all the people that are in our lives, and to let them know that we are thankful for them. I know that I am very thankful for all the positive people in my life, and I really have no idea what I would do without them.

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# The Holiday Season is Upon Us

By: Austin Spiller

It's hard to believe that October is already over and November has begun. Now, the two big holidays for the year are very close, a lot closer than I realized. Thanksgiving, and then Christmas. To me, this is the time of the year when I see all of my family members. It's when everyone gets along and we're all thankful for what we have. I love this time of the year. The weather is another thing, normally we see our first snow in November, which I enjoy. It's a sign of things to come later on, knowing that winter is right around the corner.

I always enjoy Thanksgiving, not only the food but seeing everyone that I haven't talked to in a while. It's a good time to catch up with people and see what's happened during the year. Normally on Thanksgiving Day, there are two dinners that I go to. The first one is around lunch with my mom's side of the family, and then the other is at my house in the evening with my dad's side of the family.

Needless to say by the end of the day I'm so full I can hardly even bear the smell of food. For the next few days you can probably guess what I am going to eat for lunch. Turkey sandwiches. A lot of people can relate, the leftover turkey that you don't want to throw away, so you find other ways to fix it. Although it is very good, afterwards I don't want any more turkey for a while. However, the one thing that I do not get tired of is the leftover pumpkin pie, if there's even any left over.



# So Much to be Thankful For

By: Elizabeth Campbell

November has rolled around, and of course, that means it's time to give thanks. Thanksgiving is a special holiday. I enjoy Thanksgiving because I get to see family that I don't normally get to see. Thanksgiving is a time to spend with family and friends, to show them how thankful you are.

I have so much to be thankful for. My family is very close, and I couldn't be more thankful for the family I have. My parents always support me, and always protect me. This has been a rough year for my family because my mother has been in the hospital many times. My mom has problems with her legs, and she has had multiple surgeries on them to help the circulation. This year, my mom had a bypass surgery, and she had complications with it. I got so much closer with her after her surgery because I realized she is the only mother I will ever have, and she is important to me. I started spending more time with her because we aren't guaranteed tomorrow, and you never know which day might your last.

I'm not only thankful for my parents, but my cousins as well. I only have one cousin, Dalton, who lives just up the street. We are in the same grade, and we go to the same school. We have always been close, and I am glad I grew up with him, but I wish I could see my other cousins too. My cousin Brittany lives in Florida, so I only see her and her daughter Tatianna once or twice a year. I have gotten close to them in the past few years. Tatianna will be turning five-years-old in May and I have loved watching her grow. Brittany's brother, Lee, is older than her, and he lives in Lexington, Kentucky. Lee also has a daughter, Katelynn, who will be turning seven-years-old in May. I have watched both girls grow and learn so much. I wish I could see them more than I do, but I am thankful for the time I do get to spend with them.

Family means everything to me, and I am so thankful for the family I have been blessed with. Even though I don't see all of them as much as I'd like to, I am thankful for the time I do have with them. November is a month to show thanks for what you have, and that is exactly what I plan to do.





# Intelligent Jacob

By: Austin Spiller

November's freshman student of the month is Jacob Castle. Jacob believes that he was nominated for having a positive attitude towards people. Since this year is his first year of high school it is, of course, a lot different from middle school. So far, Jacob has had a great freshman year, "My freshman year is going great! I like the fact that the teacher's pay more attention to the kids that want to learn and get through lessons quickly." This is a positive to Jacob since he is a fast learner. As for favorite classes, Jacob says that he likes all of them! In the future Jacob is planning on taking dual credit classes to get a head start on college.

Some of the subjects and activities that Jacob has strengths in are computers, math, and science, he can also play a few instruments as well. While this is not bad thing, Jacob does not have any classes that he was difficulty in. From a career standpoint, Jacob wants to go into the video game business and create video games. He wants to do this because, "I want to influence that area of our culture." That's certainly a good area to go into at the present time considering how popular video games are, and how they're still progressing year after year. However, in order to become a game designer, Jacob has to have a lot of knowledge behind coding. Jacob is planning on learning coding early on to meet his goals and be prepared for the day when he gets his dream job.



# Hard-working Haley

By: Elizabeth Campbell

Student of the month is an award that many love to receive; it is an honor to receive the student of the month award because it shows so much about oneself. November's student of the month is Haley Westheider. Haley has the right to be proud of herself for the accomplishment she has made by showing her teachers what a student of the month should act like.

Haley is a sophomore here at Ripley High School, and she is currently taking Biology, American History, Geometry, and Financial Literacy. Next semester, she will be taking English 10, Forensics, physical Education, and Spanish 3. Haley is a good student; she receives mostly A's with an occasional B. She says she studies a lot. She studies for all tests and exams, and she will study for small quizzes if she isn't sure about the material. Haley is also involved in band, and she is pretty good at it too. Haley doesn't participate in any other extracurricular activities, but she stays busy with her school work. After she graduates, Haley plans to become a zoologist or marine biologist. Haley has big plans for her future, and that is why she is working so hard in high school.

Haley is student of the month for more than one reason. Haley is hard working and respectful. Haley said, "I think I was chosen because of my grades and effort in class." She said it feels good to be a student of the month. Haley works hard for her grades, and she deserves student of the month for this reason, and she feels as though she deserves it.

Most people think the student of the month award is based on popularity, but they are wrong. Student of the month is based on leadership and motivation. A student of the month is a leader in the classroom, whether they know they are or not. When asked if she felt like a leader in the classroom, Haley said, "No because I believe the teacher is the leader; we all have to learn, and most of us start out at the same level." Everyone has motivation to do something. Haley's motivation is her family and future. Her mom is her main motivator, and also her role model. She said, "My mom is my role model because she is a hard worker and strives to get a job and help our family." Haley is similar to her mom in the aspect of being a hard worker.

Everyone knows that with hard work and dedication, you can do anything you set your mind to. Haley is dedicated to her school work, and she works very hard at everything she does, therefore, she can do anything she puts her mind to. Her advice to other students is, "Don't slack off in class, try your hardest, do your best, and always ask for help when you need it." Great advice Haley, and congratulations on being November's sophomore student of the month.



# Hard-Working Jessie

By: Johannah Fisher

Each month Ripley high school staff picks a freshman, sophomore, junior, and a senior for student of the month. The staff looks at a variety of factors while selecting a student to represent their grade level. For November, the staff picked Jessie Thompson to represent student of the month for the junior class.

Jessie is a junior here at Ripley High School, and she attends school full time. For semester one, Jessie is taking: English II, Trigonometry, Wellness, and Digital Video. In semester two, Jessie is taking Chemistry, American Government, Spanish II, and Pottery. Out of all of these classes, Jessie's favorite is Digital Video. She says, "My favorite class is digital video because you have more freedom and it's entertaining."

Jessie was very surprised to get student of the month. She says, "Yes, I am surprised to get student of the month because there are many other juniors that could have been selected as student of the month." She describes her student image as being hard-working, caring, independent, honest and supportive. Her friends and family motivate her to do her very best in school, and to be successful. Mrs. Rau, one of Jessie's teachers says, "I would like to recommend Jessie Thompson for 11th grade student of the month. Jessie works with The MH Student in my classroom. A leader's job is not to do the work for others, it's to help others figure out how to do it themselves, to get things done, and to succeed beyond what they thought possible." Her biggest role model, however, is Jamie Renchen. This is because Jessie finds her very inspiring and respectful.

Outside of school Jessie likes to go to work to make money to go shopping. For the future, she plans on going to college to become a nurse practitioner. Jessie is a very hard working person, and does her best to be successful. Her advice for underclassmen is, "Strive to make good grades! Grades really are important." Congratulations Jessie on being November's junior student of the month!



# Successful Sam

By: Austin Spiller

November's senior student of the month goes to Sam Titus. Sam is a hard working student who puts his best effort forward, and is a good student. When asked why he thought he was chosen for student of the month Sam said, "I think I've been nominated for student of the month because I've been working hard in my classes and trying to keep my grades up." Since it's his senior year, it is very important to keep his grades up, as there isn't any extra time to make up for it in the future.

Since this is his last year of high school, I asked him what he thought it felt like to be a senior, "It feels odd because for 3 years I've got to look up to people and now people are looking up to me." Sam's favorite class is Band, "Band class is my favorite class because it's one I'm good at, I enjoy it, and I have a lot of friends in there." The classes that Sam thrive in are Science and History, however, English is the one class that he struggles in. When Sam isn't at school, his hobbies consist of singing, playing games, music, and hanging out with his friends.

Since graduation is right around the corner for us seniors, we all have a plan on what we're going to do after high school. Some choices may be college, the workforce, or the military. Sam's plans are two of those options, "My plans after high school are to join the Air Force then go to college, or go to college then the Air Force as an officer." He will aim to make the Air Force his career, and as a second option he would try to find a career with his college degree. In five years or more, Sam hopes to be an E-3 or E-4 in the Air Force, if that doesn't work out, then he plans to be finishing up college and looking for his life-long career.





# Staff of the Month

By: Austin Spiller

November's staff of the month has been awarded to Ms. Jasmine Osman. Ms. Osman began working at Ripley as the guidance counselor in 2015. Ripley appealed to Ms. Osman because it was close to home, as she lives in Adams County. Since Ms. Osman has started working here she has had a good experience and loves it, "Ripley is a lot like my old high school: a small-town, rural high school. I feel right at home here at Ripley HS. Even though I haven't been here long, I feel as if I have been here for years. The students and staff make me feel a part of a big family. I love that we have a school pantry and that staff and students will lend support where it is needed. I love my job, even on stressful days."

Before working at Ripley, Ms. Osman had a few other jobs, "My first full-time job was as a Case-work/Investigator at Brown County Children Services. Then I moved on to Case Manager Specialist at the Adams County Probation Department. After that, I worked as a Welfare Fraud Investigator at Adams County Department of Job and Family Services. I left there to come here!" In order to get this far, Ms. Osman went to college, she went to Shawnee State University for her undergraduate degree, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, and later on went to Xavier where she obtained her Master of Arts in School Counseling. The road Ms. Osman has taken has led her to Ripley High School, where she will help students do the exact same thing she did, find the right road for them to take.



# Causal Malaki

By: Johannah Fisher

November's boy fashion of the month goes to Malaki Renchen. Malaki is a junior at Ripley high school, and he sticks out for his trendy fashion. Malaki dresses very casual, and he makes causal dressing a fad. Many boys look at what Malaki wears, and they want to dress just like him. I interviewed Malaki about his fashion, where he shops, and about his shopping habits.

Malaki mainly shops at TJ Maxx, Marshalls, H&M, Foot Action, and Foot Locker. He mostly goes shopping on the weekends, but he sometimes gets a few things throughout the week. On a monthly basis he typically spends around \$75. When it comes to shopping online, or going to a store to shop Malaki prefers to shop at the store. I asked him why this is and he said, "I like to go to the store to shop because I can see what I'm buying and try it on to see how it fits."

Everyone has their favorite thing to wear, including Malaki. His favorite outfit to wear is a pair of jeans, long sleeve shirt, a pair of Jordan's, a gold watch, and a chain. Like most boys, his favorite part of his outfit is his shoes. He says, "My shoes because I think it's the part of the outfit that sums it all up." On his lazy days Malaki likes to wear a T-Shirt and joggers. While many people believe that their personality is reflected through their clothes, Malaki does not. He says his clothes are calm and casual, while he is a very hyper and energetic person.

Malaki does not get his fashion advice from a certain person. When I asked him who he got his fashion advice from he said, "I just look at what's trending and I see what I have and try out the "look"." Malaki describes his look as, "Just a casual look such as jeans and a polo and I always have a watch on." Malaki is a very fashionable guy, who likes to keep his look on the casual side.



# Classy Kenzie

By: Elizabeth Campbell

November's girl fashion of the month goes to Kenzie McMillion. Kenzie is a freshman here at Ripley High School, and is constantly complimented on her great sense of style. Kenzie was asked a few questions about her look, so we can know the secrets behind her fashion.

Kenzie finds herself shopping about three to five times a month at either Rue 21, Nike, Walmart, or Gabriel Brothers. She said her favorite place to shop is Rue 21 because, "They have clothes for any occasion. I find normal clothes there and also dress clothes." She doesn't have a set limit for how much she spends each month on clothes, but she doesn't like to spend a lot. She prefers to go to a store to shop, instead of buying clothes online because she likes to see what she will look like in them, before purchasing.

Everyone has a favorite outfit, even if we don't know it; there is always one outfit we wear more than others. Kenzie's favorite outfit is her new navy blue dress with brown boots. Kenzie enjoys wearing different types of jewelry to go along with her great outfits. She likes wearing necklaces and bracelets, as well as earrings. When asked what she wears on her "lazy days," she said, "I don't really have lazy days." Kenzie is always wearing the cutest clothes around.

Fashion of the month means you stand out because of your sense of style, and Kenzie's look is definitely unique. She said, "My look is special, not like most; it's just a Kenzie look." Kenzie likes how she always looks presentable with what she wears. She looks respectable and responsible. Her style shows who she is; she is a proper teenage girl, who looks great!

I know Kenzie personally, and she is a great girl. She cares about others, but she won't let them bring her down. Her style, in my opinion, shows this. I asked her if she felt like her style represented her personality, and she said, "Yes, very much. I am a very happy, go lucky person, and I like to wear clothes that show that." She rarely asks for fashion advice, but when she does, she asks her peers. She might ask if they like her outfit, or what they think might make it better.

Kenzie is fashion of the month for November because of her great sense of style, and how she represents herself through her clothing. Her advice about fashion to her peers is, "Dress as if you are making a first impression every day because you never know when you will come across someone new who might be important in your life someday."



# Chic Chevy Cobalt

By: Elizabeth Campbell

November's car of the month goes to Ryan Mason with his 2006 Chevy Cobalt. Ryan is a senior here at Ripley, and he has been driving for just over a year. Ryan's mother and step-father bought him the car, and on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015, they gave it to him. Ryan has had this car for over a year now, and he is glad he has it.

Many students at Ripley drive Chevy Cobalt's, but Ryan's caught my eye because of its unique color. Looking at the car, one might think it is gray, but in reality, it is purple. The 2006 Chevy Cobalt has an MPG (miles per gallon) of twenty-five in the city and thirty-four on the highway; Ryan says his gets about thirty miles per gallon. He usually gets gas every other week since his car holds thirteen gallons of gas and is obviously a good choice as a gas saver.

The 2006 Chevy Cobalt is a well-liked car. Ryan likes his car because it gets great mileage, and it has a different color, plus it's his. When asked what his favorite part about his car is, he said, "Probably that it's mine. I don't have to borrow my mom's car or have to stay home because my parents need the car." There are many great things about the Chevy Cobalt, but not everything is perfect. When asked if he disliked anything about his car, Ryan said, "Yeah, only a few things though. My speakers are partially broken and don't let my car radio be as loud as I'd like. My passenger window rolls up and down really slow, and my back glass doesn't have a windshield wiper, but I'm still pretty happy with my car overall."

Ryan is pleased with his car, and is thankful to have one. His car might not be perfect, but it still works, and that is what really matters. The Chevy Cobalt has a rating of a 7.8 out of 10, but Ryan gives it a 9 out of 10. When asked why, he said, "Because it has few things that I've had to fix or need fixed, but it's still my car and I like it!"



# November Birthdays

By: Stephanie Colston

11/1- Natasha Little

11/2- Kylee Johnson

11/5- Summer Blank

11/5- Dustin Earls

11/5- Brittney Royster

11/6- Ralph Glenn

11/7- Jesse Walls

11/9- Damian Corns

11/9- Tyler Scott

11/9- Landon Rigdon

11/9- Sierra Berry

11/9- Selina Cummins

11/10- Landon Dearing

11/12- Craig Hall

11/12- William Blank

11/14- Levi Harrison

11/14- Matthew Akers



11/16- Tray Wile

11/16- Davi Pritchett

11/17- Jaki Royal

11/19- Gregory Fyffe

11/20 Amber Kirschner

11/20- Laura Johnson

11/21- Savannah Doyle

11/22- Haley Westheider

11/23- Nigel Royal

11/23- Dalton Hesler

11/24- Amanda Finocchio

11/28- Elliot Fryman

11/28- Jacob Wagers

11/28- Chase Marfut

11/29- Alicia Furtado

11/30- Hollie Williams



# History of Thanksgiving

By: Elizabeth Campbell

Thanksgiving is a holiday in the United States that most everyone celebrates, but do you know how Thanksgiving was started?

In 1621, the Pilgrims had the first Thanksgiving. They didn't celebrate it in November like we do, though. The Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians feasted to celebrate their first successful harvest season. At first, the Pilgrims had sent out four men to hunt for food for the celebration. When the Wampanoag Indians heard gun shots, they feared the English settlers were planning a war against them, so they informed their chief, Massasoit. Questioning whether the war rumors were true, Massasoit gathered a troop of ninety men, and went to the colony. Massasoit spoke with the settlers to ask if the rumors were true, and when he found out they weren't signaling war, he sent some of his men to hunt with the settlers. They all gathered together and feasted for three days.

The first recorded Thanksgiving didn't occur until two years after the harvest celebration. There had been a two-month drought, and it finally rained. Being thankful for the rain, colonists gathered together in celebration for the rain they received, and prayed to God for ending the drought.

Today, we celebrate Thanksgiving with family gatherings and lots of food. We use Thanksgiving as a time to share who and what we are thankful for. Thanksgiving is one of the most important holidays.



# Thanksgiving Survey

By: Chelsey Hines

What's your favorite thing about thanksgiving?

Family and food 6

Food and no school 1

Food and football 2

No school 3

Food 19

Family 17



Do you have family come over for thanksgiving?

Yes- 38

No-10

Where will you be having thanksgiving?

Boyfriend's house-1

My house- 18

Aunts and uncles- 5

My house & grandmas- 3

Grandmas- 12

Moms and dads- 2

Step dads- 1

I don't know- 6



# Top 10 Foods at Thanksgiving Dinner

By: Stephanie Colston

1. Stuffing (or filling)
2. Pumpkin Pie
3. Turkey
4. Gravy
5. Cranberry Sauce
6. Sweet Potatoes
7. Green Bean Casserole
8. Mashed Potatoes
9. Dinner Rolls
10. Corn





# Strange laws

By: Chelsey Hines

- In Alabama, it is illegal for a driver to be blindfolded while driving a vehicle.
- In Ohio, it is against state law to get a fish drunk.
- In Florida, unmarried women who parachute on Sundays can be jailed.
- In Kentucky, it is illegal to carry a concealed weapon more than six-feet long.
- In the city of York, it is legal to murder a Scotsman within the ancient city walls, but only if he is carrying a bow and arrow.
- In New Jersey, it is illegal to throw a bad pickle in the streets.
- In Minnesota, it is illegal to cross state lines with a duck on your head.
- In North Dakota, it is illegal to lie down and fall asleep with your shoes on.
- In Oklahoma, it is illegal to own a stink bomb.
- In Maryland, it is illegal to take a lion to the movies.



# Strange November Holidays

By: Stephanie Colston

- 11/1- All Saint's Day
- 11/2- Look for circles Day
- 11/3- House Wife's Day
- 11/4- King Tut Day
- 11/5- Book lovers Day
- 11/6- Saxophone Day
- 11/7- Bitter Sweet Chocolate with Almonds Day
- 11/8- Cook Something Bold Day
- 11/9- Chaos Never Dies Day
- 11/10- Forget-Me-Not Day
- 11/11- Veterans Day
- 11/13- Chicken Soup for the Soul Day
- 11/14- World Kindness Day
- 11/15- World Diabetes Day
- 11/16- America Recycles Day



- 11/17- National Fast Food Day
- 11/18- Take a Hike Day
- 11/19- Occult Day
- 11/20- Have a Bad Day Day
- 11/21- Beautiful Day
- 11/22- World Hello Day
- 11/23- Go for a Ride Day
- 11/24- National Cashew Day
- 11/25- Thanksgiving
- 11/26- Black Friday
- 11/27- Shopping Reminder Day
- 11/29- Advent Begins
- 11/30- French Toast Day
- 11/31- Square Dance Day



# Top 10

By: Chelsey Hines

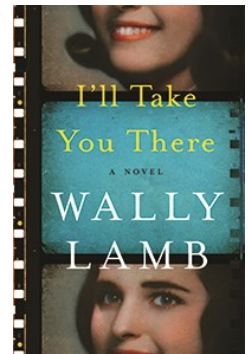
## Songs:



- 1) Closer The Chainsmokers Featuring Halsey
- 2) Starboy the Weeknd Featuring Daft Punk
- 3) 24K Magic Bruno Mars
- 4) Heathens twenty one pilots
- 5) The Greatest Sia Featuring Kendrick Lamar
- 6) Let Me Love You DJ Snake Featuring Justin Bieber
- 7) Don't Wanna Know Maroon 5 Featuring Kendrick Lamar
- 8) Say You Won't Let Go James Arthur
- 9) My Way Calvin Harris
- 10) Starving Hailee Steinfeld & Grey Featuring Zedd

## Books:

- 1) Faithful: A Novel by Alice Hoffman
- 2) The Fate of the Tearling: A Novel by Erika Johansen
- 3) Night School: A Jack Reacher Novel by Lee Child
- 4) When All The Girls Have Gone by Jayne Ann Krentz
- 5) I'll Take You There: A Novel by Wally Lamb
- 6) Swing Time by Zadie Smith
- 7) Victoria: The Queen: An Intimate Biography of the Woman Who Ruled an Empire by Julia Baird
- 8) Moonglow: A Novel by Michael Chabon
- 9) Normal: A Novel by Warren Ellis



## Movies:



- 1) The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2
- 2) Spectre
- 3) The Peanuts Movie
- 4) The Good Dinosaur
- 5) Creed
- 6) The Martian
- 7) Bridge of Spies
- 8) Goosebumps
- 9) The Night Before
- 10) Love the Coopers

# Where in the World?

MUGLE IN FUG MOLIA

By: Johannah Fisher

1. Founded in 1625
2. Lady Gaga, 50 cent, and Christina Aguilera were all born here.
3. Known as the “Melting Pot”
4. Originally called New Amsterdam
5. Place where 9/11 in the United States occurred.
6. You can find the Empire State Building here
7. Home of the statue of liberty



Answer: New York, New York

# Jokes and Riddles

By: Austin Spiller

Q: What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?

A: It gets toad away.

Q: What did the duck say when he bought lipstick?

A: "Put it on my bill."

Q: Why was six scared of seven?

A: Because seven "ate" nine.

Q: Why do the French like to eat snails so much?

A: They can't stand fast food.

Q: What has one head, one foot and four legs?

A: A Bed

Q: Did you hear the joke about the roof?

A: Never mind, it's over your head!

Q: How many letters are in The Alphabet?

A: There are 11 letters in The Alphabet

Q: How can you spell cold with two letters?

A: IC (icy)

Q: What state is surrounded by the most water?

A: Hawaii

Q: If you were in a race and passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in?

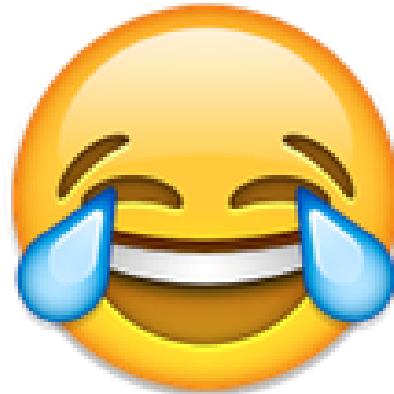
A: 2nd place!

Q: Can you spell rotted with two letters?

A: DK (decay)

My friend thinks he is smart. He told me an onion is the only food that makes you cry, so I threw a coconut at his face.

I've always thought my neighbors were quite nice people. But then they put a password on their Wi-Fi.



*Bristow  
Pharmacy*

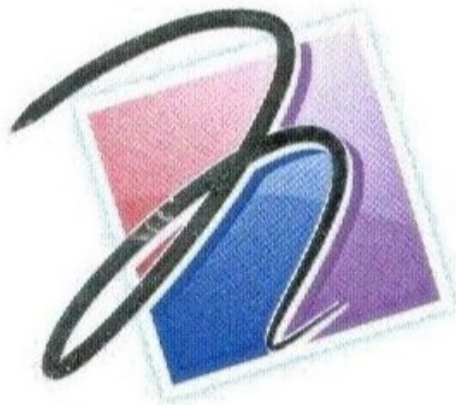
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