

Retired Teacher Spotlight

Morgan Blakley and Brianna Clem

Ginger Rice taught Kindergarten and First Grade for 20 years. She currently coaches the Future Problem Solving teams for Wallins and Harlan County High School. We interviewed Mrs. Rice and asked her what she missed the most about teaching. "I mostly miss being with the kids", she said. When we asked her what she did not miss she quickly replied, "have to do report cards!"

She has taught many children throughout the years. We asked her who were some of her favorite students she said, "I loved all my students. It's too hard for me to pick a select few, so I would say my favorite students are whichever class I have at the time."

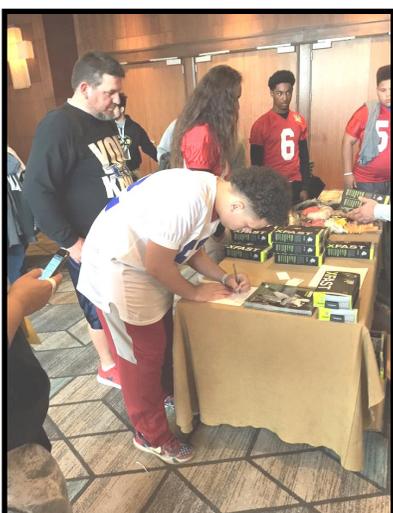


Above: Mrs. Rice rode, along side with fellow retired teachers, on a float during the Jordan Smith Welcome Home Parade in downtown Harlan. Rice coached Jordan during grade school and high school on the Future Problem Solving team. "Being on Mrs. Rices' FPS team was some of my fondest memories of school. She is dedicated and continues to push students to do their best work," he said.

Many people probably might think when you are a teacher it is boring and nothing strange or interesting can happen, but Mrs. Rice would think otherwise. We asked her what her what was the strangest thing that ever happened to her in all of her years of teaching. She said, "Of course crazy things happen every year, but I can remember one year it was coming a really bad storm and they were preparing for us to stay all night."

Of all the subjects Mrs. Rice taught, she explains that reading was her favorite. Besides coaching the FPS teams, in her spare time she enjoys reading a good book and sewing.

To wrap up our interview we wanted to know what was the kindest thing a student had ever done for her? She explained to us that all the children were sweet, especially dealing with Kindergarten and First Graders. "It's like sometimes they can sense how you are feeling, so if you're having a bad day they will give you a hug or welcome you with a smile," she said.



Steele

Jordan played for the East Coast while in Texas. He was a team captain and played right tackle and defensive end. He had 7 tackles and 3 sacks. His team beat the West Coast 55-18.

He practiced from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm everyday. He said, "Practice was really hard. My coach told me I was the hardest worker out on the field and I would be back next year."

Jordan was awarded the

Bees

Mr. Farmer says he loves getting honey out and also watching how the bees work. He had fifty-five quarts, but only sold twenty-two last year because of the rainy weather.

Mr. Farmer said, "the strangest thing to ever happen was when the bees kept leaving their

hives and no one could ever figure out why."

He said, "I've seen new articles about bees and we are losing our plants and crops on our farms. This is why I decided to become a bee keeper. I hope more people decide to become bee keepers. Harlan, Kentucky needs more bee keepers."

Food

they prepare enough food for 275 students and for lunch they prepare about 425 meals for students with some additional for teachers and kids who want extra.

The easiest food to make Hensley says is pizza. "You just pan it and put it in the oven", she stated. According to Hensley, the hardest food to prepare is spaghetti, rolls, and beefaroni. Each tray must have the five food groups; meats, vegetables, fruit, grains, and dairy.

The cafeteria is trying something new this year, starting in March. Students will have the opportunity to purchase Papa John's pizza. This is so the students will have something they love and it will increase participation in the lunch line. This came about after a group in Harlan County tasted different food and offered different suggestions. The new suggestion was Papa John's pizza. The staff at WES thinks the change will be good because it's one of the students' favorite foods.

Defense

to send the All-Star, and possibly soon-to-be-retired QB Peyton Manning out with his second Super Bowl ring. While the Panthers are still preparing their young QB Cam Newton for his prime.



"Best Offensive Lineman". "I really enjoyed having this opportunity to go to Texas. I

am looking forward to returning next year," he said.

