

The anxiously awaited Wish Week Reveal took place at the wrestling competition

ONE wish is ALL it takes



Lights, Camera, Wishes Allison Waggoner helped organize the Wish Week reveal in leadership. "Braxton likes purple, pizza, the song baby shark, dance parties, and sea animals especially sharks!" Waggoner said. The reveal was special for everyone. Photo by A Kochkanyan

SURPRISE!!! The wish week reveal was an exciting chance for students to get together and rally for a cause. "It is the biggest time that we can show off what we have done as a school," Maggie Rajala said. The reveal was only the start of this important week. Photo by A. Kochkanyan

Packing a PUNCH Kyle Stevens is a wrestler that experienced the reveal from his event. "Having an event I'm involved in made it that much more exciting getting to watch the show from the sidelines," Stevens said. The reveal was a great way to get involved. Photo by A. Kochkanyan

Unwrapping the Magic Abigail Schohera is another member of student leadership. "It is truly amazing to see all the people supporting such a wonderful cause and to know that I am part of such a great community," Schohera said. Schohera showed how impactful wish week is for all. Photo by A. Kochkanyan



Cuddle Buddy Right around the time of wish week, CT DECA takes a field trip to build-a-bear to make stuffed animals for kid in the Denver metro area. "We have been doing it for around 14-15 years," Janie Shin said. When presented to Braxton, during the assembly, he shared a hug with his new friend. Photo by A. Kochkanyan

He Shoots, He Scores As a little boy who loves to seek adventures Braxton gets handed a ball and hoop to score in. "There's not a day it's been easier but at the assembly we got to forget for awhile that he was sick," Braxton's mom, Britney said. The energy in the gym gave a sense of normalcy. Photo by A. Kochkanyan

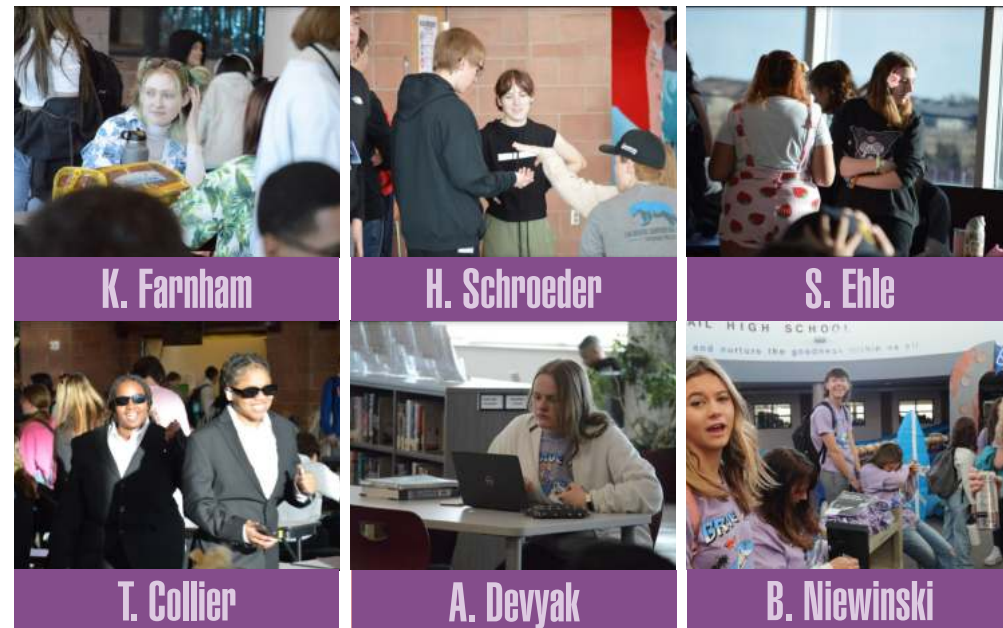
Happy Face As CT students race against one another to get the most balls in their basket, Braxton laughs at the students rolling around on carts. "It's important because we are able to help him feel love and supported," Abigail Schohera said. An experience that Braxton may not fully remember but putting a smile on his face is always the goal. Photo by A. Kochkanyan

Making Others Smile During the assembly, Britney talks about the things that make Braxton happy. She mentions crab claws and gains some laughter and smiles from her family members. "The day I was writing my speech, my mom ordered crab legs to do a seafood boil. Braxton walked around for hours with one crab claw just playing," she said. Even to a student it brought smiles to others listening to her speech. Photo by A. Kochkanyan



show your SPIRIT

CT students dress up for spirit week while raising money for Braxton.



K. Farnham

H. Schroeder

S. Ehle

T. Collier

A. Devyak

B. Niewinski

make it braxton themed

The work of NAHS and sculpture students comes alive.

Under the Sea When leadership got word that the Wish kid wanted to go to the ocean, the school turned into an underwater extravaganza. Mrs. Swenson the sculpture teacher had her students put to work creating the pieces. "As soon as we started brainstorming and getting into teams, they went all out and were super invested in the project," Mrs. Swenson said. These amazing decorations stayed up the whole week in the upper and lower commons of the building, impressing little Braxton during his walk through of the school. Photo by A.K. Larson



Pulling Inspiration Per Braxton's request, the whole building was decked out. "He really likes the show Zig and Sharko so we made everything based on the show itself," Amarin Gifford said. In the end the school was covered in the theme that was well loved. Photo by A.K. Larson



BRAVE as BRAXTON

Get know the little boy CT raised 50,000 dollars for.

"A LITTLE BOY WHO LOVES DINOSAURS, OCEAN ANIMALS, AND EXPLORING," said Braxton's mom, **BRITNEY**. On July 5, 2021, Braxton was diagnosed with B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, which is a blood and bone marrow cancer. His diagnosis came from Britney noticing the appearance of bruises on his legs, as well as the frequent ear infections Braxton would get. **"HE GOT SICK WITH A VIRAL INFECTION AND NEVER GOT BETTER. I TOOK HIM TO THE ER A BUNCH OF TIMES AND WAS ALWAYS SENT HOME. THEN FINALLY SOMEONE TOOK BLOOD WORK AND FOUND LEUKEMIA BLASTS,"** BRITNEY said. Their world had flipped upside down in an instant. So many unknown doors had opened up and it can be scary. Yet, Britney believes that God opens doors and shuts other for a reason and he never gives you more than you can handle.

One of the first things people think when they hear about cancer is the aggressive treatment that comes along with it. **"(BRAXTON) TAKES DAILY CHEMO AT HOME IN PILL FORM AND EVERY THURSDAY HE TAKES SIX TOTAL CHEMO PILLS,"** she said. At diagnosis he had 31% cancer cells in his blood and 96.5% in his bone marrow. As of

Nov. 1, 2021, Britney is happy to report Braxton is in remission. This means there is no detection of cancer cells to the human eye.

For those who don't know, cancer patients can receive their treatments in wagons or hospital beds. Each wagon is made out of wood, making it uncomfortable and hospital beds require caregivers to pay constant attention to their children to make sure they don't fall off the bed. Britney found that using radio flyer wagons gave optimal comfort to Braxton as well as helped by making sure he stayed in one place during long appointments. She shares this idea with others by donating wagons to other families in need. **"I USUALLY FIND FAMILIES OFF A CHILDHOOD CANCER COMMUNITY PAGE I AM APART OF ON FACEBOOK. I'LL REACH OUT, GET THEIR, ADDRESS AND MAIL THEM A WAGON,"** BRITNEY said. She even buys blankets, a pillow, and a few toys to go along with it.

Braxton, Britney and their family show that even when something doesn't go as planned there's always a way to create light in a dark space. And are a true testament to show that you never know what the person sitting next to you is going through.

Take it from **WHY IS WISH WEEK IMPORTANT?**

"We commit to a cause greater than our own. We work towards giving happiness to these kids who have been through a lot." *Lauren Brekkas*

"It can help a kid with cancer." *Dempsey Gibbs*

"Students in the school join together and do everything in their power to make a child happy." *Jaelyn Hart*