

The Huskian

SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL

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GOOGLE IMAGE SEARCH

A NEW PLAGUE

BY: SHAYLA SANDERS

It was a warm summer night. The sky was clear and the stars shone like lanterns floating in an endless black sea. The crickets in the grass chirped, the owls in the trees hooted, and the frogs in the pond croaked. Any perfect summer night about five years ago would've been like this one, but now there is quiet in the night. The crickets may still chirp and the owls may still hoot, but the overwhelming croaking of frogs is gone. No longer can children catch toads, frogs, and salamanders. Our little amphibian friends are disappearing.

The population of all amphibians has declined by 6.5% due to a disease called chytridiomycosis, which is caused by a chytrid fungus known as *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (Bd). Ninety different types of amphibian species have gone extinct, making this disease the most destructive in the world. The loss of these amphibians may not seem like a big deal, but if they ever go extinct there will be major changes to the ecosystem, and in turn, our own lives.

Dr. Rowley, a biologist who has been studying amphibians in South-East Asia, explained that, "In places where we've lost amphibians, we immediately notice the ecosystem-level effects: other animals starving to death and water courses clogging up, etc. Nothing really steps up to fill the role of frogs." She also explained that frogs are used as an indicator species by scientists to figure out how healthy a particular environment is because frogs control pests, filter water, and feed other animals.

Bd starts out as a spore that is capable of swimming, called a zoospore. The zoospore can travel short distances of one to two centimeters in water before they need to find a host. Once they do find a host, they create a cyst in the host's skin and feed off of the nutrients in the keratin layer of the skin. Then the zoospore begins its reproductive cycle. Once there are new little zoospores, they either re-infect the current host or find a different amphibian to feed off of. After a frog is infected with a Bd zoospore they eventually die from cardiac arrest. Most infected frogs are hard to tell apart from healthy ones, but some may show signs of seizures, shedding skin, or discolored skin.

Little has been found out on how to help amphibians. Scientists are trying to

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Valentine's Day Playlist

BY: ANDRA GORDON

Although it might be far from reach, imagine the perfect Valentine's Day. What would it look like, what would it sound like, and most importantly what would it feel like? This day is one for love and romance all around, so treat yourself and your sweetheart. Here's a look at what you might wish for with all obstacles aside.

"Life in Pink" is what Edith Piaf's "La Vie En Rose" translates to; a song you've probably heard sung by Louis Armstrong's tranquil voice. Waking up at 7am, seeing through this rose lens is how you might start your Valentine's Day, a red rose and a note waiting for you. Written in his slightly askew handwriting is something he loves about you and a time along with a place to meet him. You arrive at this set time and place to find yourself watching the sunrise at the lakeside and eating a slightly burnt homemade breakfast. It's okay, though. It's the thought that counts.

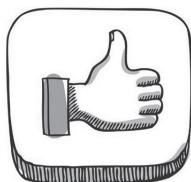
After such a perfect wake up call, you might feel like you're "Walking on Sunshine"; as in the feel-good love song by Katrina & The Waves. At 8am, you receive another rose and note. The note lists yet another one of his favorite traits about you. With two roses, you're going to need something to hold them. Along with the flowers, and the sloppy note, he included a vase, which he tells you to bring with you the whole day. It's stained your favorite color and is decorated with both yours and his initials, brought together with a plus sign between.

The amount of thought was sweet and it won't stop there. At 9am, keep in mind "I Love You For Sentimental Reasons" by Nat King Cole as you're delivered a note and yet another rose which you add to your vase. If you've seen *The Office*, your present might mean something to you like what the teapot meant to Pam during Secret Santa. It might be something simple filled with memorabilia, or something you've always wanted, but haven't had the extra money to get.

At 10 am, to remind you he will always love you (by Whitney Houston), you're delivered another letter and rose before the approaching lunch hour. This letter tells you to wear good shoes and a warm coat, he'll be there to pick you up at 11am sharp. You follow these instructions and at 11:04 he's there to take you to Horse Rock Trail for a hike and picnic overlooking miles of mountains. Feeling

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Pisces

v.s.

Aries

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The Next Pandemic

BY: MEGAN HAGER



There were massive plague outbreaks in the 1720s, 1820s, and 1920s. Many people are claiming the coronavirus to be the plague of 2020. The coronavirus is not an unheard of disease, but the recent outbreak has been far more severe than any previous flare-ups. Coronaviruses get their name from their crown-like shape, and they usually include respiratory symptoms similar to the common cold. As of January 31st, 2020, over 9,700 people have been infected. This number has more than tripled since January 27th, when the total was just 3,000. The illness is rapidly spreading, and it does not seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are very common. The viruses often infect humans as well as animals, but animals rarely infect humans. As previously stated, symptoms of a coronavirus infection are very similar to those of a common cold. A victim might experience a fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, or shortness of breath anywhere between two and fourteen days after exposure. This new strain of coronavirus is rapidly spreading through China, and several cases have already been detected in twenty-two other countries, as of January 31st.

In the United States, there are six confirmed cases, mainly on the West Coast. All but one of the patients are confirmed to be kept in isolation from the general public. Additionally, a flight of 201 Americans were evacuated from Wuhan, the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak, early on the morning of the 29th. They landed in Anchorage, Alaska before going on to land in Southern California. They are being held at the Air Force base until they have been screened by health officials.

As of January 31st, 213 confirmed deaths have been caused by the coronavirus in China. The infection begins in the upper respiratory tract and behaves like a head cold, but can spread to the lower tract and cause fatal pneumonia. The illness has mainly killed the young and the elderly, or anyone with heart disease or a compromised immune system.

SEE **CORONAVIRUS**, PG. 6

A New Plague

FROM PG. 1

figure out how to stop and eliminate Bd, but it's complicated. Getting rid of some mushrooms in the garden may be easy if you have some fungicide, but when that fungus is all over the world, with the exception of Papua New Guinea and a few other countries here and there, it's a little harder. Plus, Bd is infecting living animals and being passed on from host to host in more ways than can be controlled. One of the biggest reasons Bd has spread all over the world is the pet and meat trade. Frogs and other creatures are sold and traded all over the world to be used as pets, experiments, and sometimes food. This constant moving of animals helps the fungus reach new sites and eventually new hosts.

Luckily, scientists from the Zoological Society of London, The National Museum of Natural History in Spain, and Imperial College London were able to eliminate Bd from some Mallorcan midwife toads. The toads were placed in a disinfected environment and treated with an antifungal and were cleared of the infection. Of course, this would be a lot harder to do with every frog in the world, but perhaps if a few of each species were able to be treated, then there would be some hope of preserving them.

What now? Well, there may not be a way to stop Bd completely, but there is a way to preserve the genetics of species whose numbers are declining. The Frozen Ark project takes skin cells and other genomes from species that are threatened with extinction and puts them in what is basically a cryogenic chamber. With these samples, sometime in the future when we have the technology to create life from gene samples, kind of like in Jurassic Park, we may be able to bring any species that go extinct back to life. The Frozen Ark has preserved DNA from hundreds of endangered and extinct animals. A few of the samples from the Frozen Ark project are from tree snails, a species of Hawaiian snail that sadly went extinct in 2018, snow leopards, a rare type of big cat that are endangered but no one knows exactly how many are left in the wild because of how hard it is to find them, elephants, and many more species.

In 2013, Australian scientists were able to bring an extinct species of frog back to life, temporarily. They brought back the gastric brooding frog, which went extinct from chytrid Bd, because this special type of frog turned its stomach into a uterus and grew its fertilized eggs inside of it until they became fully-fledged frogs and then projectile vomited them out. The scientists brought the frog back using somatic cell nuclear transfer, which is when the nucleus of a cell from an extinct species is put into the egg of another type of that species that has had its DNA removed. This is the same process that was used to clone Dolly the sheep, except with an extinct species. Unfortunately, the embryos only survived for three days, but scientists are still working on getting the embryos to become tadpoles.

Save The Frogs is a project that is working to bring frogs back to America by creating 1,000 wetlands within a decade. They say that anyone can build a wetland in their own backyard to help attract frogs. They say the best way to create a wetland is to dig a shallow hole and put either some sort of plastic cover or water retaining soil at the bottom, fill it with water, and add some natural plants. Fish and non-native frogs must not be added to the wetland as they will compete with the native frogs for food. Also, pesticides should be avoided not only in your wetland but around your house in general. With all of this put into place, your backyard should start seeing more frogs and you should start seeing less bugs, and hopefully we can help stop a plague that is threatening one of our most important species.



The History of Groundhog Day

BY: JOREL LEYBA

Groundhog Day is a tradition celebrated on February 2nd, mainly by the German population that immigrated to America from Europe in the 1700s. Many Germans immigrated to Pennsylvania where the city Punxsutawney is home to the largest celebration of Groundhog Day. The tradition, before it came to America, followed the behavior of the hedgehog, but the absence of hedgehogs turned the role of the weather forecaster over to the American groundhog. The animal swap was only a slight variation to the tradition, but even before the Germans had this tradition, the holiday can trace its roots even farther back to a Catholic holiday called Candlemas Day.

Candlemas Day lies in between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox. The holiday celebrates the redemption of the first-born, Jesus Christ, and the purification of Mary. Because Jesus is the light of the world, they celebrate this day with candles. There was a poem written about Candlemas Day saying, "If Candlemas be fair and bright, come winter, have another flight. If Candlemas bring clouds and rain, go winter, and come not again." Nobody knows the origin of the thought in which a sunny day on February 2nd meant more winter and a cloudy day meant an early spring. Farmers would use this as a weather predictor. February 2nd is right at the midpoint of Winter. Hedgehogs, a

native European mammal, hibernates throughout the winter, but half way through they are seen out and about testing the weather. Farmers in the area attached the Candlemas poem to the hedgehog's behavior, turning this into its very own tradition. When German immigrants came to America they found no hedgehogs, so there after the groundhog became the replacement due to how common they were. Many of these immigrants settled in Pennsylvania and it was in 1887 that the beloved seer of seers; prognosticator of all prognosticators, Punxsutawney Phil was born. Phil is the everlasting groundhog that is celebrated in the city of Punxsutawney. Phil is the official weather forecasting groundhog when it comes to the holiday Groundhog Day.

Groundhog Day is a fun tradition, but not the most accurate. On average, Punxsutawney Phil is right only 39 percent of the time. He has predicted a long winter 103 times and an early spring 19 times. A few of the records early on are lost. Surprisingly, when Phil predicts an early spring his accuracy jumps up to 47 percent. I wouldn't give Phil's accuracy too much thought, considering the predictions are coming from a committee that claims to speak Groundhogese and communicates with a woodchuck. Aside from that it is a fun tradition that is meant to be enjoyed, not critiqued by meteorologist.

This year was the 133rd annual celebration of Groundhog Day at Gobbler's Knob. It has become a huge tradition for the people of Punxsutawney. There's even a Punxsutawney Groundhog Club. This consists of local members who have planned the big Groundhog day event at Gobbler's Knob since 1887. When February 2nd finally arrives, 25,000 fanatics crowd into Punxsutawney, a town with a population of just under 6,000 people, to celebrate a tradition that has lasted for over 130 years. Groundhog Day is a very important and meaningful celebration that brings joy to many people. I suggest to you that at some point this week, go onto YouTube and look at the prediction made by Punxsutawney Phil himself. I think you will find it entertaining.



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What is Brexit?

BY: MEGAN HAGER

After a 2016 referendum vote, Britain has been trying to leave the European Union (EU). The EU has been an economic and political burden on the United Kingdom, and the people want to get out. The process of Britain's exit has been termed Brexit, and the overwhelming conservative victory in the United Kingdom's recent election is likely to ensure their departure. The EU nations' economies and policies have been woven together for decades, so undoing that is going to be a long and difficult process.

The EU was created after the end of World War II to make Europe one cohesive economic and political powerhouse. It was also intended to prevent future world wars by effectively unifying all of Europe. The EU originally had only six members: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. Over the years, the economic and political community gained more members and even adopted the Euro as a shared currency. Britain was a reluctant member and took decades to agree to full membership and was the last to accept the Euro. Still, there were many issues within the Union. One of the bigger issues was the sovereign debts of several countries. Both Ireland and Portugal have each been bailed out of bankruptcy once, and since just 2008, Greece has gone bankrupt twice and needed to be bailed out. The U.K. has begun to grow resentful of the financial drain and political chains associated with being part of the EU.

The Conservatives in Britain had an overwhelming victory in the 2019 elections, further cementing the reality of Brexit. Now, with a solid majority in Parliament, Prime Minister Boris Johnson can continue pushing for his revised withdrawal agreement. The proposal is essentially divorce paperwork between the U.K. and the EU; it discusses the transition time, exit payments, citizens' rights, and various policies.

President Trump's shocking win in 2016 was an indicator of the rise of nationalism around the globe. Boris Johnson has been able to use this to his advantage. He, along with a majority of British people, want to make England great again. Being in the EU limits the amount of trade deals Britain can make independently, and it forces them to operate according to strict political guidelines, which at times has been in direct opposition to the welfare of the British people. An example of this is the EU's requirement to take in refugees from the Syrian Civil War. Britain is also fearful of an EU dominated by Germany and France, who traditionally have had foreign policies that are not in England's best interests.

SEE **BREXIT**, PG. 7



Valentines Playlist

FROM PG. 1

quite jittery, "ABC" by The Jackson 5 might be fitting to describe the young love. After reaching the top he sets up the lunch, which he bought this time, and it includes some of your favorite foods. "L.O.V.E." by Frank Sinatra sets in the fun-loving mood of the picnic. At 12pm, and then again at 1pm, a rose and note are delivered by a rider on horse. You keep the roses and after hiking back down, add them to your vase.

Getting an hour to yourself after such a fun and romantic lunch, you might be getting a bit lonely. "My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion describes that longing love feeling you get when you receive another rose and note at 2pm. Not to fret, it has more instructions, the day is hardly over.

At 3pm he takes you to the nearest ice skating rink. Odds are neither of you are very experienced on ice so you can't help falling in love or into his arms! Not only that, but the skating rink is chilly, so when you shiver, he puts his coat over your shoulders and for the rest of the hour, you both somehow figure out how to keep your balance and skate around. You get another rose and note when he pays for the hour of skating. The night couldn't possibly get better, but with his coat around your shoulders, the both of you go window shopping for a necklace of your choice. For this hour, "Like I'm Gonna Lose You" by Meghan Trainor and John Legend works well with the loving vibes.

After some arguing over such an expensive Valentine's Day, you give in and pick out the perfect necklace. To go with it, you guessed it, another rose and note. It's clear at this point that he's giving you his all, that's why "All of Me" by John Legend might be next on your playlist. At the end of the block there's a horse drawn carriage waiting to take you both to one of the nicest restaurants atop the city skyline. He takes your hand and helps you in and by 6pm you're at the rooftop dining area.

The centerpiece at the table holds the eleven roses you've received so far, as you've figured out, it's one every hour. The sun is already setting and by the time you get through your expensive dinner and reach dessert, stars are dancing in the sky. He reveals to you the paper lanterns he brought, and like a scene right out of Disney's Tangled, you release some into the sky, watching them rise until they become one of the stars.

When you finish dinner, the carriage takes you back to his car and you drive to his house. His living room is decorated with lights and candles. A turntable sings the melody of "It's Been A Long Long Time" by Harry James and His Orchestra. For the hour, you dance like Steve Rogers and Peggy Carter from Captain America and by 7pm, he walks you home and gives you a final twelfth rose and note. The vase of a dozen roses stays on your nightstand and the notes somewhere safe. You would not want to forget such an extraordinary Valentine's Day.

In-N-Out Burger

BY: JOREL LEYBA



In-N-Out Burger is a very successful fast-food chain that is located mainly on the West Coast. They have restaurants in six different states, California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Texas, and recently Oregon. There are three Oregon locations in Medford, Grants Pass, and Keizer. This beloved restaurant has been open since 1948, marking its 72nd anniversary.

In-N-Out is no ordinary restaurant. All their produce is completely fresh, never being frozen or reheated. All In-N-Out restaurants are located just off an interstate so they can maintain a constant flow of delivery trucks bringing in their supplies. Most people can vouch for their burgers being one of the best. They have three flavors of shakes, vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry, which I still can't decide which flavor is my favorite. Then, a side of animal style fries. These are fries topped with melted cheese, grilled onions, and finally drizzled with In-N-Out's very special secret sauce. Like most loaded fries you have to dig in with a fork. These three items combined make one of the most spectacular meals you will ever experience. When you walk through the doors into a very crowded room, bumping shoulder to shoulder with other customers, and you make it up to the front counter and you look at the menu you will be shocked. The menu offers a burger or cheeseburger, fries, a shake or beverage, and that's about it. You might feel appalled by the lack of options, but In-N-Out makes perfection quickly and efficiently. They may serve very few items, but every burger going out is one that has been perfected for the last 72 years. The food is fantastic, but that's not the only thing they've got going for them.

To tie the whole ensemble off with a bow, they have the best

customer service in a restaurant that I have ever seen. The best way to describe it is old fashioned. They completely apply the idea that the customer is always right. The employees are always super nice making small talk that lifts your spirits. They are constantly sweeping the floor and I have never seen the bathroom dirty. The employees taking your order are very respectful, bending over backwards to satisfy your needs. And if you take a peek in the back kitchen, you can see women with their hair tied up tightly in a bun and men with buzz cuts hustling at work. All this gives an old fashion feel. I have been to dinners that try to replicate a restaurant from the 50s and 60s, but none have even come close to the feeling In-N-Out gives off, and they are not even trying to put on a facade. It all comes down to customer service.

The reason I think In-N-Out maintains itself so well is that it is not a regular franchise. A franchise is like McDonald's. The McDonald's corporation sells the rights to individuals to control a single McDonald's business, but they must abide by certain rules like what to sell and how to price them. In-N-Out is owned by a woman, Lynsi Snyder. Lynsi is the granddaughter of the original founders Harry and Esther Snyder. Lynsi's net worth is 3.6 billion U.S. dollars, making her one of the wealthiest women in the nation. Her and her board oversee how each In-N-Out is run and where they are next opened up. If you have ever walked into a McDonald's and found a sticky floor or a nasty bathroom, but later walked into a different McDonald's in another town and it ends up being the complete opposite with clean floors and tables, you wonder why. This is due to the fact that McDonalds is a franchise and has different owners. There are inconsistencies between how each one is run. You won't find that with an In-N-Out because they are all run by one person who makes sure their managers and employees follow their rules to the letter.

I talk up In-N-Out because I have been there so many times. My family and I have traveled a lot down and around California and In-N-Out is definitely a highlight. There are very few things in life that stand out as much as In-N-Out, and when that is a restaurant, you know it is something special. The most recent In-N-Out in Keizer, Oregon, is less than an hour away, so if you want to taste greatness, you know where to find it.

This Day in History: February 14th ~Happy Birthday YouTube!~

BY: SHAYLA SANDERS

The second most used search engine, the second most visited site, and the second most popular social media platform, YouTube, was created on February 14th, 2005. Billions of people use YouTube for various reasons, most commonly to watch and publish videos. Anyone with some sort of camera and a phone or a computer can make a video about whatever they want. There is a large diversity of videos so that anyone can find something to watch.

YouTube was created on February 14th, 2005, by three former PayPal employees Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim. They realized that there wasn't a single video sharing platform and Sequoia Capital thought so too. Sequoia Capital invested \$11.5 million in the site. Then, once the beta testing period had finished, Nike uploaded the first video to reach one million views. Just a year later, Google bought YouTube for \$1.65 billion, and that was before it even reached the UK.

In 2009, gaming videos rose to interest. There was finally a place for all gamers to assemble and share about video games. They could learn from one another, teach each other, and for some gamers who may not have the money for a fancy computer and expensive games, they could experience everything on YouTube via playthroughs. Now, the second most subscribed to channel, with over 100 million subscribers, is a gaming channel. While many old gamers have changed what kind

of content they upload, there are still plenty of gaming videos.

While all this may seem amazing, YouTube has had many policy changes over the past few years that many creators and viewers don't appreciate. The copyright policy is one of many that most people do not like. If just a few seconds of a song, movie, show, or anything that can that has a copyright or patent is in a video, the video can be claimed as a copyright infringement and blocked from users.

A recent problem for the YouTube committee that is upsetting a lot of people is a policy that was put into action in September, 2019. Google and YouTube received a lawsuit from the FTC for violating the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act Rule (COPPA). This rule entails that children under the age of thirteen cannot have personal information collected from them, which is what Youtube and Google do for directed ads. With the application of this policy creators now have to mark their videos either for children or not for children. Channels that are directed to children are now in trouble, because their videos can no longer have ads on them, which is where the majority of revenue for the creators comes from. Without ads, there's no money, and without money, there's no videos.

Despite these problems YouTube is still going strong. After only 15 years it has become a worldwide phenomenon and a part of our lives that many can't even imagine living without.

Coronavirus

FROM PG. 2

tem. There is no vaccine for the coronavirus, but the National Institutes of Health is attempting to develop one within the next few months. The World Health Organization has declared the virus to be an international public health emergency. Considering how the number of infected more than tripled in less than a week, we can only hope that the vaccine is created quickly.

While the speed of the infections may be frightening, there are many things you could do to prevent yourself from being infected, if the virus spreads to Oregon. Washing your hands regularly and not touching your face are good first steps, as well as distancing yourself from anyone showing symptoms. The virus spreads through the air, and it could potentially be transmitted through animals. Many airlines are suspending flights to and from China, and travelers in China have been attempting to evacuate for days. With the Chinese government announcing the amount of infected and dead, we can only speculate on the accuracy of the reports. All we can do is continue to isolate the ill and hope that the virus doesn't spread within the United States.

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Brexit

FROM PG. 4

Brexit may have an impact on more than just the EU. With the U.K. gone, the EU's sustainability will become far more uncertain. Tensions between EU countries have been increasing, and citizens have been looking to Germany and France to save the fractured union. That being said, relations between the United States and United Kingdom are likely to benefit from Brexit. Britain is taking steps to restore themselves to their former glory, and that could be a positive thing for the United States. With the freedom to make individual trade deals, Britain and the U.S. may become closer than ever.



The Mongolian Fed-Ex

BY: ALEX KISSELBURGH

Today, we take for granted the mail will always be delivered on time and we give very little thought to how that happens. We expect an Amazon package to arrive in two days and we daily see U.S. Mail, UPS, and Fed Ex trucks everywhere. Mail delivery seems like an easy job. But, this was not always the case. Imagine trying to send a letter before modern transportation systems were invented.

In the year 1200 A.D., famous Mongolian warrior and ruler, Genghis Khan created a mail delivery service within the Mongolian Empire called the Ortoos. The Ortoos was a communication and postal relay system that the Mongol army relied on. The route was spread over 12 million square miles and had postal stations every 20 to 30 miles. Along with the stations was a central building and a bathroom where the riders delivering mail could rest and get food along with a corral for their animals to be put up and fed. The rider had the option to hand off his message to another rider or he could grab another horse and keep going. By using this method, messages could be delivered very quickly.

The Mongolian warriors relied on fast delivery because it was their only way of communication with their government. At the rate that the riders would travel, a message could be delivered across the empire in four to six weeks, and that's not rushing the delivery. If a message was to be delivered to the battlefield, the riders would use arrows to reach their final destination. The warriors would also use flags and music for communication. This allowed them to not give away their plan of attack to their enemies.

The Ortoos messengers greatly depended on their animals, and those animals had to be in excellent condition at all times to cover the vast distances they traveled. By the end of Kublai Khan's rule in 1294 A.D., the Ortoos had more than 1,400 postal stations, 50,000 horses, 1,400 oxen, 6,700 mules, 6,000 boats, over 200 dogs and 1,150 sheep. In Mongolia, animals were very important for their source of milk, hide, meat, and many other things. The Ortoos used the animals not only for those reasons, but obviously for the use of travel. Horses were the most commonly used, but oxen, although slower, were used for heavier loads.

Even though the Pony Express is far more well-known than the Ortoos, the Ortoos was just as fast as the Pony Express and covered a much larger area. Pony Express riders would ride 75 to 100 miles per day, changing their horse every 10 to 12 miles and the riders would travel around speeds of 15 to 25 miles per hour. The fastest recorded 100 miles with the Pony Express took the rider 7 days and 17

SEE **GHENGIS KHAN**, PG. 11

MALIA'S MYSTICAL HOROSCOPES



With Valentine's Day around the corner, people are getting in a more romantic mood and looking for love. But it's also the season and Pisces and Aries. Pisces people are born between February 19th and March 20th. Aries are born March 21st through April 19th.

Gentle, open minded, non-judgmental, and daydreamers, Pisces are magical. They are the last zodiac sign out of the 12, which means that they are old souls, and may appear very wise. They are a water sign, which means they harbor many emotions. Their ruling planet is Neptune; this makes them highly spiritual. Pisceans tend to be very sensitive to energy, therefore you will see many pursuing careers that allow them to use their ability, such as psychics, psychology, and even musicians. Because these people are so emotional, others have an easy time opening up to them and therefore the Piscean can end up tired and drained from taking on others' emotions. Having such a caring personality, they are often used because they are too nice. They love to see the best in others, and oftentimes end up trusting people too easily. Pisces tend to try and fix people who need help or who are struggling. While helping others is admirable, they should learn how to self-help, and to take care of themselves before they help anyone else. When these people feel overwhelmed with their emotions and they feel like there is no way out, they commonly turn to drugs and alcohol and may fall victim to addiction. Pisces tend to care about what other people think about them far too much, and this might make them feel empty and alone. One of the biggest lessons a Pisces should try to learn is self-love, they need to be a little selfish sometimes.

Aries are loving, caring, passionate, mean, and fiery! They are a fire sign, ruled by Mars, and in Greek mythology Aries is the God of War. First in the zodiac, Aries are usually the initiator and natural leaders in most aspects of their life. An Aries personality is overwhelming and intense, some more gentle people might be put off by how loud and proud they can be. They are some of the most loving people, but they tend to have trouble showing it. They are confident in themselves, quick, and impatient. These people are not the type to sugar coat and make others feel better; they are extremely honest, which can be hard to get along with at times. They hold grudges, and are courageous, adventurous, and fun to be around. They can be demanding, controlling, jealous, and aggressive, but they can also turn all of that into passion and drive. They have a need to constantly be active and move, some may describe them as restless because they hardly ever take breaks. They are funny people and are social butterflies. They love to go and meet new people.

Pisces and Aries have a lot to learn from each other, such as the self-love that the typical Aries possess, and the Piscean might need to work on. As well as taking time for themselves, Pisces needs to understand this is as important as taking care of loved ones. Aries should try to embrace a gentler side that the Pisces has. Both signs are extraordinary and they bring a great unconditional loving nature to the table. Whether you are romantic or a passionate, Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate!

Do YOU Believe?

BY: JACOB THOMPSON

There are many mysteries that spark controversy and thought-provoking questions, but when do the tinfoil hat wearing alien lovers draw the line from believable to downright crazy? The answer is, they don't. They continue to create new and even more unhinged theories about the government and how they want to destroy us all. But through the collective thinking of many moon landing doubters, anti-vaxxers, and Illuminati conspirators we have a fine collection of outlandish conspiracy theories to show you all. These go beyond believable and land in a territory of completely crazy and will prove just how far the cheese has slid off their cracker.

One of the first conspiracy theories that I came across in the search for insanity was the belief that John Lennon was killed by Stephen King. There are blogs and even a website completely centered around the belief that Stephen King would have a drive and a need to kill John Lennon, along with the blood-lust that Stephen has, Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan are also in on the pyramid scheme that was created to kill John Lennon. Why is it true? According to the mastermind of this theory, Steve Lightfoot, "It is true, or he would sue!" Using the logic that if it were false, Stephen King would sue for defamation.

Our second theory, although not as crazy, is still interesting enough. People all around the world were bringing down the law on our government, this time accusing them of poisoning the snow around the world with chemtrails. The logic people use to determine this? The snow would burn instead of melt. The reasoning behind the snow burning is because of two scientific interactions. The flame being next to the snow will instead cause the snow to turn to slush, and since the flames were from butane torches and lighters, the chemicals would turn the snow a blackish color and burn it instead of melting.

The last theory and my most favorite out of everything that I have seen would have to be how Israel believes that we are spying on them... with animals. Yes, they believe that we are putting drones on flies and lizards

SEE DO YOU BELIEVE?, PG. 9

ENTERTAINMENT

SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL

ISSUE 4, VOLUME 80

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

PAGE 9

Dear Annie,



How can I motivate myself? Is it okay to feel no motivation towards my favorite subjects in school and towards the things I love? Every day feels the same, repetition of coming to school, sitting down, being bored every single class. Rinse and repeat until I break, and I feel semesters are making it worse. I've been thinking a lot lately, but I feel like nobody cares. I feel sad and unmotivated. How do I get myself back on track?

Sincerely,
In Search of Motivation

Dear In Search of Motivation,

Trust me, you're not alone. Many people have dealt with or are dealing with these concerns. Depression and lack of motivation can be debilitating, and is something that should be addressed and not overlooked or belittled. It sounds like you are aware of your feelings, but may need some suggestions on how to get out of a rut.

One of the ways to help you find some motivation would be to find a new hobby. This may be music, exercise, drawing, journaling, volunteering, baking, or so much more. Just find something that will switch up your daily routine and give you a new sense of accomplishment and entertainment. Another tactic is to try changing your daily schedule. You may be surprised at the results and even little changes can help. Try eating dinner at a different time, maybe even changing what you eat. The idea is to break up your habits with the goal of creating new ones. A conscientious mind set also helps. Meditation, yoga, and prayer can help you clear your mind and refocus on your life. Another suggestion is to reach back to happier times and relive childhood memories or hobbies. Nostalgia is a very good way to ignite your happiness spark. Going back to childhood memories or hobbies like Legos, Yahtzee, Etch-a-Sketch, watching a childhood show, or whatever your favorite memories were can remind you that simple things can bring you happiness.

Feeling isolated is a very common emotion. Be patient, time will heal. This won't last forever, like Rose F. Kennedy said, time heals all wounds. One thing that also might help is talking to a trusted adult; whether that is a parent, grandparent, teacher, coach, pastor, or guidance counselor. It may be hard to talk to peers because you may feel judged, but an adult has most likely went through the same thing that you are going through right now. If you are wanting a companion, a pet is always a good option. Not only do pets decrease the feelings of loneliness, they will keep you active and give you a higher sense of responsibility.

Another thing to keep in mind is that everything is not in our control. Sometimes we may get the feeling that to be successful and happy we have to have complete control over our lives. That is an unrealistic way of thinking. Many things happen in life that are completely out of our power to influence, such as accidents and natural disasters. Although we cannot control all of the things that happen in our lives, we can control how we react to them. Understanding this can take a lot of pressure off of your shoulders.

So remember, you are not alone, you always have someone who you can turn to about your feelings. You always have people who care in your corner, even if it doesn't feel like it. If you feel like you are stuck in a loop, try something different, a change in your schedule may be needed. The emotions you are feeling right now will pass, it will take time, but you will feel back to normal soon.

Sincerely,
Annie

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Do You Believe?

FROM PG. 8

and sneaking them into the country to spy on their nuclear development. Not only bugs, but squirrels and birds as well. Although, in the Cold War, the CIA was going to attempt to use cats to spy on the Soviets, so maybe they are onto something.

These were just a short collection of many insane, or maybe in your eyes believable, theories that people have created to cause fear, enjoyment, or thought. So many more conspiracies exist that are just as mind numbing as these. But in the end, it's up to you to decide what you believe.



New Band, Old Sound

BY: ANDRA GORDON

Classic rock and funk have had a huge impact on today's music world. The Sixties allowed rock n' roll to enter the scene and the Seventies perfected it, contributing the beloved disco genre as well. In the Eighties, rock grew louder and heavier, and the flashy subgenre that is glam rock thrived. Most bands of these times had four to five members with a wailing lead singer, one or two groovy guitarists, and a rhythmic drummer, tied in time with a usually underappreciated bassist. Today, we hear the reverberation of that sound. The popularity of classic four to five piece bands playing a new twist on that old sound has risen, and it's a good thing for the music community.

The first band we talked to was Shannon and the Clams, a garage punk, doo-wop, surf style band who shares similar sounds with the Beach Boys. Singer and guitarist Grody Cody says that Lou Christie, Roy Orbison, Dusty Springfield, Lee Hazelwood & Nancy Sinatra, and others inspired his writing. Their drummer, Nate Mahan, said although definitely loving all kinds of old music, for him it's the old studio musicians that stand out. "Booker T and the MGs were the house band for the Stax Record Label in the 1960s. They were the band on almost every release. In that band's catalog alone they backed so many great artists of that time."

Although considered to be in the pop and funk genres, something separates duo Danny and Alex from the carbon-copy pop on today's radios. Singer and guitarist Danny Scordato credits his inspiration to, "Steely Dan for their complex music and storytelling, Prince for his overall funkiness and creativeness, and of course The Beatles for the best melodies in the game." There's a clear funkiness and diversity to their songs that makes you want to put them on repeat.

Singer Stephanie Jean Ward of the married duo IDA MAE says, although the list is endless, "Bands like Fleetwood Mac, The Band, Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Tom Petty, Free, and The Stones were definitely a big influence." You can definitely hear the Stevie Nicks influence on her vocals. IDA MAE spent a few shows rocking the stage with blues-rock band Greta Van Fleet. Greta Van Fleet has Aerosmith influenced vocals and Howling Wolf inspired instrumentals. In their earlier days, a comparison to legendary band Led Zeppelin was very prominent, but they have since grown and achieved a notable sound, stirring up Woodstock era nostalgia.

With his heavy riffs, solo artist Gary Clark Jr. has

SEE NEW BAND OLD SOUND, PG. 12



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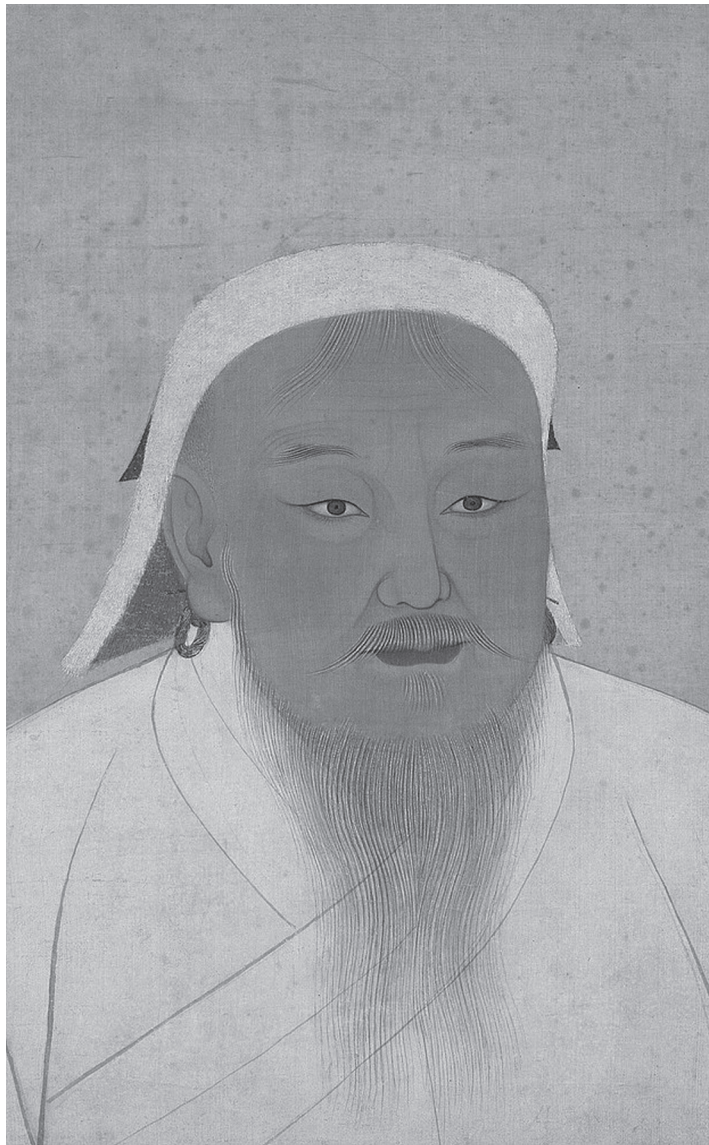
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Ghengis Khan

FROM PG. 7

hours, but it was a limited route. To put it into perspective, the Ortoos could travel the whole Mongolian Empire at the same speed, but had a delivery area which was just over 12 million square miles from end to end. You can make the case that the Ortoos were far faster and had much larger of an organization.

The last time that long distance mail was delivery by horse in the U.S. was at the conclusion of the Pony Express on October 24, 1861. They were replaced by at first trains, and later on trucks, airplanes, and automobiles. Local delivery by horse was still common all the way into the 20th Century.

We shouldn't overlook how amazing our modern delivery service is today, or under appreciate the dedicated men and women who provide this service. But, it's good to know that even if our modern technology should fail, the human need for rapid communication will find a solution. The Ortoos are proof of that!

Kaitlyn's Kitchen

-Chocolate Mousse-

BY: KAITLYN VICTOR

For a delightful Valentine's Day treat, look no further, for this chocolate mousse is everything you are looking for and so much more. With the perfect texture and a rich chocolate flavor that isn't too overpowering, it will be a perfect addition to your special day.

Ingredients:

- 6 oz. semisweet chocolate, finely chopped
- 6 tbsp. unsalted butter, cubed
- 4 egg yolks
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Whipped cream, chocolate shavings, strawberries, for garnish

Directions:

Begin by grabbing a medium sized pot and fill it a quarter of the way full of water. Place this on the stovetop on medium heat. While waiting for it to reach a boil, grab a heat-proof bowl that will fit over the top of the pot without touching the water. In that bowl add the chocolate and butter. Set this over the pot when it has reached a small boil and stir the chocolate continuously until it is melted and smooth. Once at this stage, remove from heat and set aside, but leave the pot of water simmering. In another bowl, similar to the size of the last, whisk together the egg yolks and sugar. Once well combined, set over the pot of water and whisk frequently until the mixture turns pale and thickens slightly, then remove from the heat once done. Then, stir the vanilla into the bowl of eggs and sugar, followed by the chocolate. Stir for a few more minutes, and set aside to cool. Next, grab a large bowl and in that whip the heavy cream to soft peaks. Once the egg and chocolate mixture has reached room temperature, add 1/4 of the whipped cream to it and whisk together. After that, gently fold in the remaining whipped cream. Divide this mixture into the desired amount of cups and refrigerate for at least an hour. Once set, top with whipped cream and any other garnish of your choosing, grab a spoon and enjoy!



Reviews:

- Tastes like the middle of a Lindor chocolate, texture perfection. – Malia 8.7/10
- Smooth and delectable. – Andra 9.5/10
- Light and fluffy, the chocolate is rich and the strawberries balance out the richness. – Chloe 8.8/10
- It is rich and creamy just as the tubes I was stuck in, reminds me of the river Mr. Wonka took us down. If I had a river of this delectable and creamy mousse, I would gain 100 pounds. – Augustus Gloop 9/10

Fashion Through the Ages

-The Fifties-

BY: ANDRA GORDON

With greasers and poodle skirts, the Fifties had many iconic styles. The musical *Grease* might come to your mind with its long circle skirts and the black leather slicked back looks it showcased, but it really goes much deeper than that. You'd be surprised by how much The Fifties influenced today's fashion.

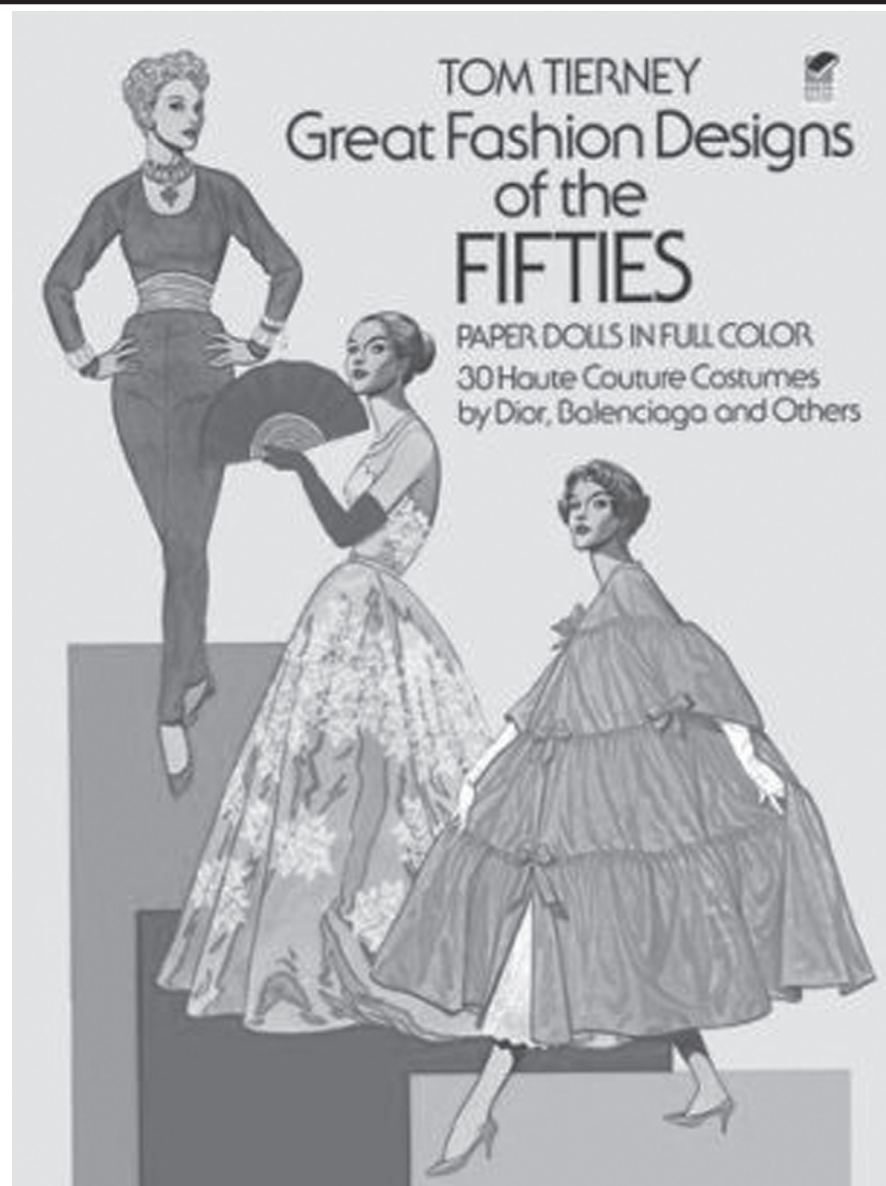
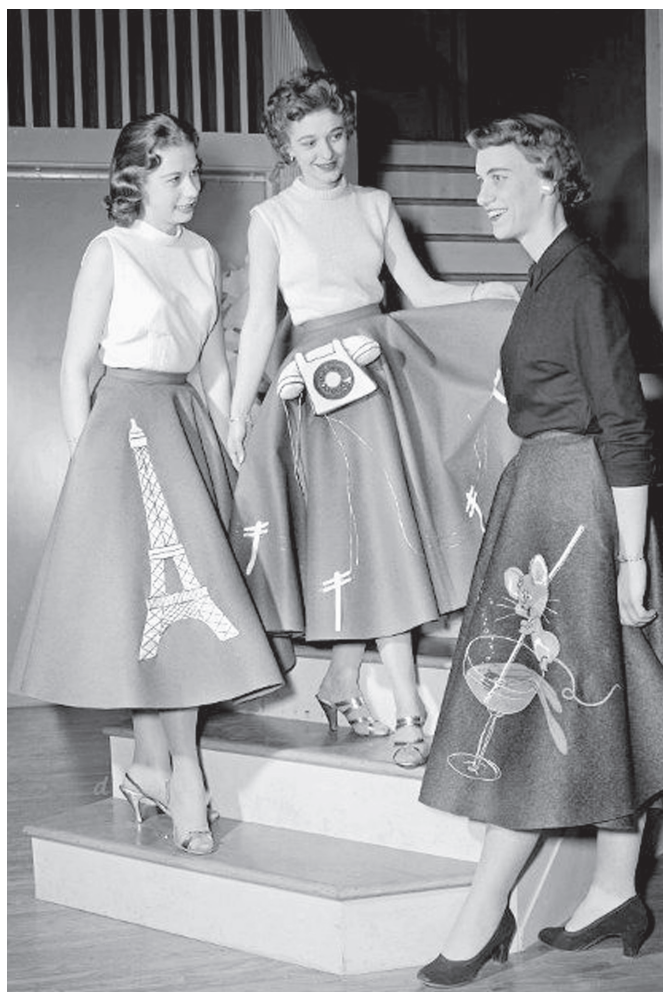
Teens today seem to always be searching for the perfect pair of denim jeans. Teens in the Fifties were one in the same with their rebellious weekend jeans, which they could never wear to school. Hollywood bad-boy James Dean played a big part in this teen denim craze, always seeming to sport at least one article of denim clothing. In the decades following and up to today, you can see some sort of denim style, so it's easy to say that's it has made its mark.

Polka dots, like in the Forties, were a big trend. You might be able to envision it now, a teen in her red polka dot dress, leaning against a shiny new cherry red 55' Ford Thunderbird; or maybe a teal polka dot design against a beige 57' Plymouth Fury is more your style. Regardless, it's not too difficult to picture.

Today, blouses and other tops of similar style are very popular among thrifters and influencers. In The Fifties they were tucked into circle skirts, and buttoned closer to the neck than you would find them today. They were usually patterned, sometimes having embellishments on the collar. Depending on the season, they were either short sleeved or long with the cuffs flared out. A good example of these blouses can be seen in most of the outfits that *Grease's* Rizzo was clad in.

Big in the Fifties, and something we don't see commonly today, were poodle skirts. These felt skirts were worn commonly by movie stars, which of course was soon adopted by teens. Although these were most commonly embellished with poodles, they were not limited to poodle design. The embellishments could also be the Eiffel Tower, cartoon characters, a telephone, a cat, or anything one fancied if they had a sewing machine.

One thing that's clear when digging into The Fifties style is that it revolved around teens and that's probably something we should be thankful for. The styles we know and love today are because of the rebellion of the average Fifties teen and how their styles have been developed and changed over time. As most of us get dressed, we carry a little piece of history with us, that is if you believe that the different fashions through the ages all ends up at the stores we all shop at and inevitably in your closet.

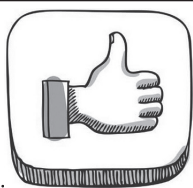


New Band Old Sound

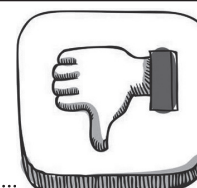
FROM PG. 10

owned the blues-rock scene as well. Adding lots of fuzz on his vocals and gain on his guitar gives him an overloaded rock sound, and paired with classic blues scales and riffs, he has gained major success. When hearing his music, one might come to a Jimi Hendrix or Black Keys comparison. In an interview with acclaimed guitarist Jimmie Vaughan, Gary mentioned finding inspiration from Buddy Guy, B.B. King, Michael Jackson, and Jimmie Vaughan, having posters of only them on his wall growing up.

Having all of these artists in the music industry today is an amazing thing. It introduces young generations to soulful music and the styles that changed the course of music, as well as allowing older generations to enjoy what they listened to growing up. Many young musicians have been inspired by these styles and are writing music of their own. Having a connection to music is good for the mind and soul and gives hope of creativity for our future.



Contrasting Opinions: **GRETA THUNBERG**



NO ONE IS TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BY: MALIA HEWITT



Australia burning, half a billion animals dead, increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters, species disappearing, entire ecosystems collapsing, farmland flooding, and oceans acidifying, this is the reality of the climate crisis. There should be no discussion if this is real or not, it is an observable fact. Scientists have measured and monitored the increased carbon concentration in our global atmosphere and it is linked to increased global temperatures. It is also the source of the extreme climate change which is caused by the pollution from burning fossil fuels and other carbon sources such as wood. It's 2020 and its time we begin the comprehensive transition to sustainable energy to eliminate our use of fossil fuels.

In the face of inadequate action by government and adult leaders, the youth of the world have begun to find their voice and speak out about the urgency of action to prevent further climate catastrophe. Unfortunately, many adults, including President Trump and others who stand to benefit from fossil fuel exploitation, have attacked and belittled youth climate activists, specifically 17-year-old Greta Thunberg from Stockholm, Sweden. In reality, all this young leader has done is state the facts and bring attention to the real issues. Greta has addressed many world leaders, stressing that they adopt policies based on climate science facts. She has spoken at the United Nations General Council, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - Council of Parties, the Davos World Economic Forum, and many others. Greta bases her talks on scientifically reviewed reports, including those prepared by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). She is speaking for ours and future generations when she brings these facts to global meetings and asks why leaders are not making significant changes to move our economies and societies to renewable and sustainable systems that will reduce carbon emissions and stabilize our global climate.

Thunberg first became well known at age 15, when she began spending her school days outside the Swedish parliament demonstrating for action on climate change by holding up a sign reading Skolstrejk för Klimatet, (School Strike for the Climate). Her actions soon then encouraged other students to do similar protests in their own towns. This led to organized Fridays for Future, a movement that youth across the world created.

Since her first school strike, Greta has encouraged many oth-

GRETA THUNBERG

BY: JENNA WOLTHUIS

Greta Thunberg, a 16-year-old Swedish climate activist, recently gained fame for her ideas on climate change. In fact, she gained so much fame that she won the Time's 2019 Person of the Year award. On September 23, 2019 she gave a speech at the United Nations Climate Action Summit, calling out all leaders with an emotional, but factually unsupported speech. Currently she is on a school strike and sailing on the Malizia II around the world, speaking for climate change. But is all she says true? Overall, I think her current actions are unprecedented and need to stop getting attention.

Greta Thunberg comes from the beautiful country of Sweden. Sweden is known for the Northern Lights, beautiful landscapes, clean cities, and their socialistic governing system. Sweden is located in the upper northern hemisphere and is very cold. So, Greta's view is obviously going to be that global warming is going to destroy the only home that she knows. However, even without climate change, it's inevitable that Sweden's landscape will change. Earth's climate has a history of climate change, due to various natural forces such as, volcanoes, the solar flares, variations in the Earth's orbit, and carbon dioxide. She is trying to fight against the inevitable.

On March 15, 2019, Greta called out to the youth of the world to join her strike from school and more than a million youth answered her call. That's a million youth not in school, not being educated, and not doing anything for society or our Earth. They yell in the streets, doing nothing but annoying and disrupting society. If they stayed in school, maybe they could design actual tools that could help clean our Earth and emit less carbon dioxide. They are hurting their own cause by raising a generation of idiots.

People that are actually helping the Earth and making a difference aren't getting recognition for it, and yet Greta is known throughout the world. Boyan Slat, an engineer, finished high school, went to college, had an idea, and is now the CEO and founder of The Ocean Cleanup project. Although I would be willing to bet that you have never heard his name until now, Boyan has a plan to clean up 90 percent of ocean pollution. Boyan is one of many inventors who are actually making a difference. We are giving recognition to the wrong people. Greta is a thinker and has good intentions, but she is not a doer. She



13 Going On 30

BY: ANDRA GORDON



Growing up, doing things for the first time is a big deal. It puts you onto a path for your future and changes how you perceive and act in the real world as well as throughout your life. Unfortunately, many of our nation's youth are participating in adult behavior way before they are ready for it. By the age of 13, it's relatively common to have had your first sexual experience (including intercourse), and to experiment with drugs and alcohol. Although this isn't uncommon behavior, what does it mean for the developing child? What are the risks and long-term effects?

The National Institute on Drug Abuse's 2017 'Monitoring the Future Survey' found that 23% of 8th graders drank alcohol regularly and 37% use other various drugs such as Marijuana, LSD, Amphetamines, and Inhalants regularly. Not only that, the peak of beginning drug use is around 8th grade. It

had also been found that 41% to 73% of children have had sexual experiences by the time they reach age 13. These activities cause emotional distress and are unhealthy for a child.

In 2019, over half of 8th graders were greatly harmed due to frequent marijuana smoking. Nearly 55 hundred children, ages 13-17, died from drug overdose in 2017. Negative life outcomes of early, non-normal sexual activities include increased rates of STDs, out-of-wedlock pregnancy/birth, single parenthood, maternal and child poverty, abortion cases, depression cases, and decreased marital stability. Directly stemming from these issues, we see increased crime and unemployment rates. It begins to become obvious that a lot of issues in modern society may be aggravated by this irresponsible behavior of the past youth, and now the youth of today, following their examples.

Many things can cause these types of im-

SEE 13 GOING ON 30, PG. 15

Greta Thunberg

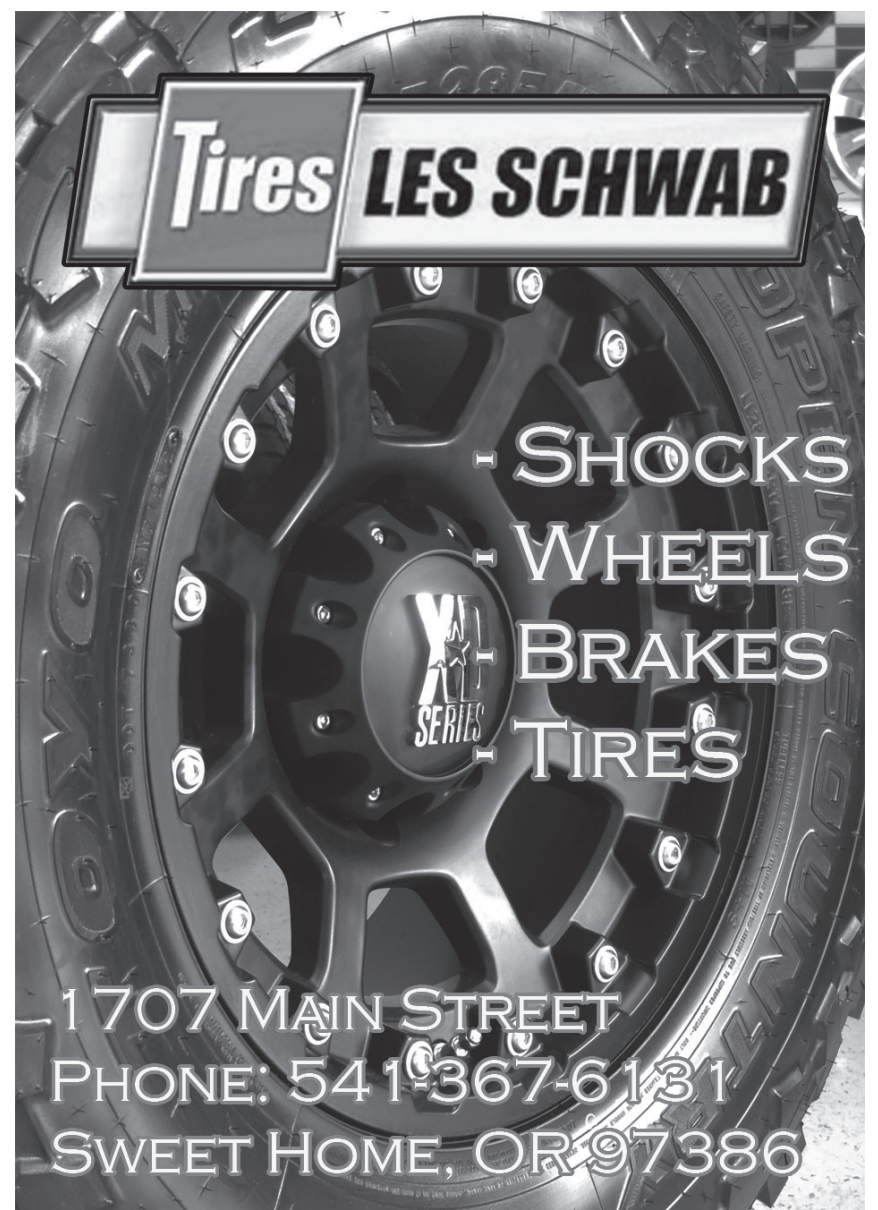
FROM PG. 13

cannot and will not do anything more than protest and disrupt society.

Greta has a fierce hatred for President Trump and there is even a video of her glaring at him. They are constantly fighting and saying rude things about one another. Greta targeted Trump early on and targeted America for their carbon emissions. From the start of Trump's presidency however, America's emissions have been on the decline. So why is she targeting us? She is obviously oblivious to China, which is putting out 29 percent of all carbon emissions. Not only are her efforts doing nothing to actually help the Earth, but they are also pointed in the wrong direction.

Greta has Asperger's, a mental condition, and I think a lot of her recognition rides on just that fact. People with Asperger's tend to be a bit socially awkward, and sometimes have difficulty controlling their emotions when speaking. One out of every 68 people have it and many people you know may have it. The problem is not that Ms. Thunberg has Asperger's, but that her supporters use it as a shield to protect her from being criticized. If you say anything negative about Greta's Global Warming ideas, they claim that you are denying her right to be an inspiration for others with the condition.

Greta Thunberg has awesome intentions and is trying hard, but she is fighting a battle she cannot win. With no set plan, and no current education, she can do nothing but spark protests and fights between people. Her fame rides on her youth and medical condition, and her facts are stated rudely with no actual evidence of truth. Greta Thunberg and her strikes only make our future worse. Rather than helping the Earth and finding real, attainable solutions, she takes to the streets and creates chaos with no results.



Protecting Pedophiles

BY: MEGAN HAGER

As a society, we have become so fixated on not offending others that mass media outlets, specifically Twitter, have even begun to create safe spaces for pedophilia. Twitter has banned numerous popular political voices like Milo Yiannopoulos, Alex Jones, and Laura Loomer simply for being “too offensive,” yet they allow for pedophiles, or “minor attracted persons” (MAPs), to freely use their platform. Absurdly, offensiveness is banned and considered hate speech, but pedophilia is accepted and considered a sexual orientation. At what point does political correctness begin to endanger the public?

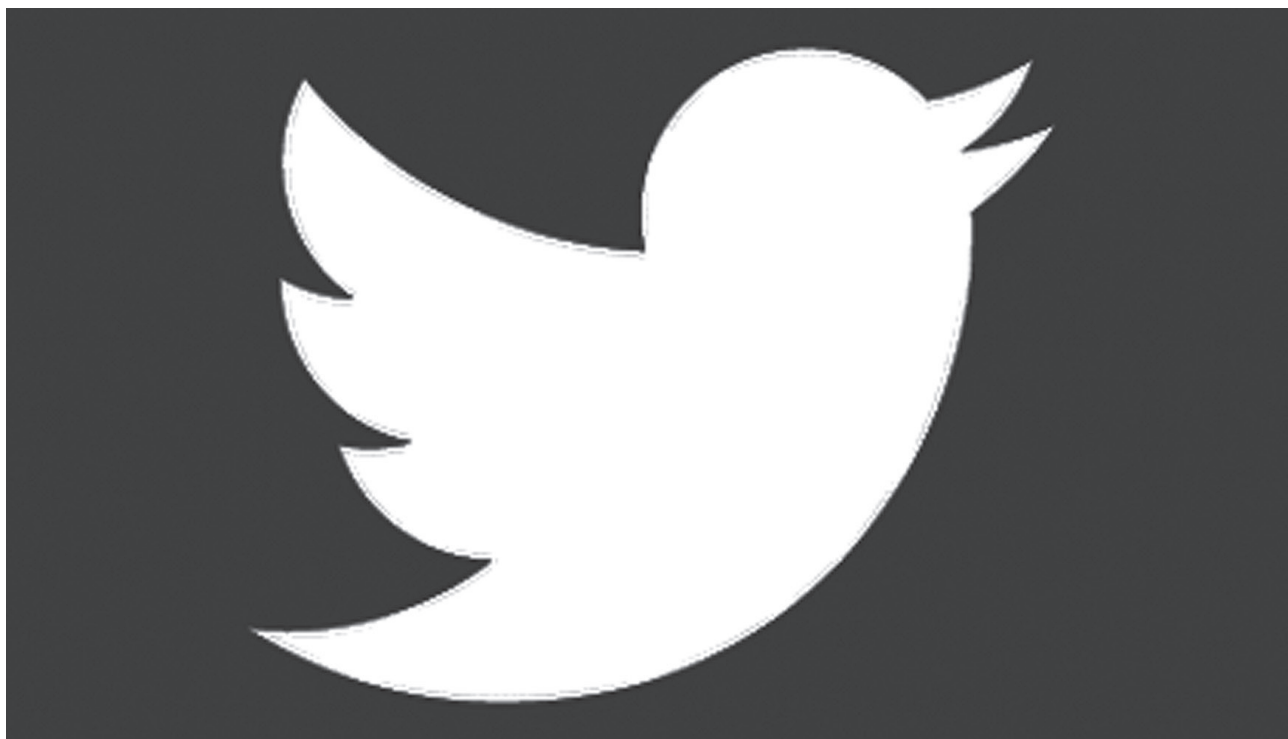
Twitter’s policy change regarding pedophilia has recently resurfaced on social media. Dr. James Cantor, a homosexual and advocate for MAPs, co-wrote a letter demanding for the normalization of non-offending pedophiles. Twitter seems to agree with this line of thinking and now explicitly allows for pedophiles to discuss the sexual exploitation of children. The letter said that preventing a support network from being formed is, “Likely to increase the stigma and isolation associated with pedophilia and thereby increase the likelihood of some MAPs acting on their sexual feelings.” His idea is that allowing pedophiles to have a support network will increase the safety of children, but in reality, normalizing and destigmatizing pedophilia is likely to place even more children in danger.

The policy allows for, “Discussions related to child sexual exploitation as a phenomenon or attraction towards minors are permitted, provided they don’t promote or glorify child sexual exploitation in any way.” Twitter is also allowing for nude photographs or images of minors, provided that they are, “Artistic depictions of nude minors in a non-sexualized context or setting may be permitted in a limited number of

scenarios e.g., works by internationally renowned artists that feature minors.” This essentially means that pedophiles can talk about how much they want to interact with children, or about how they find children sexually attractive, but they cannot “promote” it. Twitter’s policy statement seems to be if not a promotion of pedophilia, it is at least an acceptance of it.

The pedophiles’ main argument is that they deserve a voice and a platform because they are not breaking any laws. Following that logic then, Milo Yiannopoulos shouldn’t have been banned either because he did not break any laws. He said a lot of offensive things, but he never threatened anybody or committed any crimes. Twitter banned him because of his trolling of the all-female Ghostbusters cast and the influence he had over his followers. Yiannopoulos repeatedly called the cast fat and ugly, and Twitter thinks that is less acceptable than being sexually attracted to children. It is absurd and disappointing that Twitter will literally allow pedophilia, but ban any and all mildly offensive media.

At the end of the day, pedophilia is still a mental illness, not a sexuality, and the non-offending afflicted should be allowed to seek help without consequences. While I acknowledge that some pedophiles may be afraid to seek mental health treatment in fear of penalties, I still do not think that Twitter is the proper place for them to network, especially considering that Twitter’s minimum age requirement is 13 years. It is ridiculous that Twitter is so accepting of pedophiles, yet so intolerant of Milo’s legal expressions of opinion. We live in a sad and twisted world where the freedom to express one’s illegal sexual attraction towards children is protected, but the expression of an offensive, but otherwise legal, opinion is banned.



13 Going On 30

FROM PG. 14

mature and premature behaviors in children, such as trauma or an overly strict household. You can’t trust a child to make wise decisions, especially considering these decisions are ones effecting their entire growth and adulthood life. It is most commonly seen, that once these irresponsible behaviors begin, they are present throughout adulthood. Waiting until a responsible age can save your childhood and your future.

India is the New China

BY: ALEX SPRINGER

Today, China is the largest importer of goods into the U.S. Over the last 50 years, they have shown some of the largest economic growth in human history. China has been a cheap alternative for U.S. made goods and many companies move production lines to China. This is because they don't have as many regulations on employees like the U.S. does. As more and more people outsource to China, shipping and producing becomes more and more expensive. Eventually, investors will need to find somewhere else with a high population to manufacture cheap goods, and India will be the answer. With a high population that's desperate for work, they could cheaply produce goods. India has also experienced some growth in the last 50 years, but nothing as significant as China.

China has the advantage of having large quantities of natural resources that India simply doesn't have. Large amounts of iron, rare earth metals, and fossil fuels give China all the ingredients for a large and thriving economy. They are the 2nd largest country in terms of exports and China has proved to be a lucrative market for people who want to produce goods at a cheap price. The problem however, is that the Chinese market is becoming more and more competitive, and therefore, more expensive. Combine that with an oppressive and controlling government and trade becomes difficult.

India is the largest democracy in the world, and while it has some tariffs and regulations, they are much easier to do business with than China. Comparatively, India does not have the resources that China has, and most of its economy is based on agriculture. Because of this, India has had a hard time industrializing. This does not mean they won't, but instead it means they are going to have to import goods from nations who have natural resources readily available. Investing in India is extraordinarily cheap. With a large population and a blossoming middle class, now would be the best time to outsource to India. India has the 2nd largest English speaking population, and this is to their benefit as English is the language of business.

The big question here is which you should outsource to, and which country we should look out for in the future. China is the United States' number one choice for outsourcing, and it has been for the last 30 years. I don't think that is going to change anytime soon. Unless Trump raises tariffs on Chinese products, companies will keep sending manufactured goods to China. India, on the other hand, will continue to grow in the service market. This is already happening. If you have had the misfortune of dealing with customer service in the last 5 years, you may have noticed that most of them are from India. India is

much cheaper to outsource to than to employ people here in the States. They also have a growing technology sector. As the Indian middle class expands, more people are getting access to the internet, and therefore, are getting influence over the market.



As time goes on, this will become a fact most people just can't ignore. China doesn't have this same benefit as their governmental system blocks out big websites that would give you influence. In my opinion, India will be a huge market in 20 years. They will have a massive amount of economic control as more people can live a comfortable middle class life, and they will want to buy more things. China wants to do the same, but they just don't have the population India does, and it is not growing as fast.

If you plan to invest in any companies from any country, I would suggest you choose an Indian tech company. Their market may be on the smaller side now, but in a few decades there will be a massive market for technology. Middle class citizens love to buy new and improved items that let them live a comfortable life, and technology does that for many people. China would also be a good market, but they have a shadow of a large government entity that makes it hard to introduce new products to the Chinese market. I expect to see India in the top 5 largest economies in the next 20 years, so invest wisely.



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SPORTS

SWEET HOME HIGH SCHOOL

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THE EQUESTRIAN TEAM SENIORS

BY: JENNA WOLTHUIS

With the Equestrian teams' season in full swing, I believe it is important to talk a little about the seniors on the team; Caleb Gutierrez and Pippi Somatis. Both display amazing leadership on the team, and are overall good people. With the recent switch up of coaches, both have really stepped up to support the team, and keep the younger riders positive.

Pippi Somatis started out with a great season, even though her horse Titan went lame three weeks before the first meet. She was forced to find a different horse, Sage, who is owned by a friend of hers. At the first meet, Pippi and Sage won first in Reining against some tough competition. Pippi is considered the mom of the team. She's always willing to help out by giving tips and hopeful encouragement.

Caleb Gutierrez is an amazing rider as well as the youth advisor for the team. Unfortunately, Caleb's horse also went lame. This happened on the first night of the first meet, leading him to find a different horse for the weekend. He competed in Cow Sorting with a horse he had never ridden before and claimed fourth with Pippi. Then, on Saturday and Sunday, he rode a different horse again and made some very nice runs. Caleb did an amazing job finding a last second horse and working with it.

From getting a new coach three weeks before the meet, to dealing with lameness in several horses, and a team still trying to find their rhythm, the Equestrian team pulled off a great performance in their first meet. Our next meet is March 12-15 at the Linn County Fairgrounds. Please come out and support us; we think you will be amazed by the wonderful display of horsemanship.



ABOVE: Seniors, Pippi S. and Caleb G. help their team with a fundraiser



A Basketball Story

BY: JACOB THOMPSON

Basketball is a sport for those that have a drive, those that want a purpose, and for those that want a challenge. These are things that our varsity basketball team radiates, but for a change, let us look away from our top performing basketball players and experience the joys and prowess of not being the best, and not being on such a high pedestal. Not everyone can be amazing at basketball, but that is not an excuse for basketball to not be fun.

Being the best doesn't always mean dominating on the basketball court. Basketball players go through many feelings and experiences as a participant in this amazing sport. Waking up and anticipating for the big day is nerve wracking and stressful, but once these players are on the court, it's where their talents shine and moments are made. They have been practicing for weeks on end, every day coming back to the court and running drills, practicing plays, and awaiting their next victory.

A shout of "Go Huskies" rings aloud as the team leaves the locker room, not to play in the main gym, but to instead go to the other gym and play there. A row of chairs awaits the players, but now is not the time to sit, for now they do their warm-ups. They practice, ready to win, but having fun in the process. Shots are missed, laughs are had, and there is a lot of encouragement passed around for all the team to partake in.

These players have their own purpose for the game, not just to win, but to enjoy them. Players grow up playing this sport and intend to be the best at it, and some simply decided to play for the social status that comes with it. Seeing the excitement in their

friends, family, and sweet hearts are what other players crave.

There is a limited amount of people that show up to non-varsity sporting events and even then, there is not that much support. But to these players, it doesn't matter how many people show up, all that matters is who shows up and that they have fun. Everyone has their own story, every example and statement in this article has been from one of our basketball players.

We need to branch away from just our varsity players, as they are not the only ones with a story to tell, but instead look at the players that do this for fun, the players that don't make the amazing plays of the game, the players who just want to experience basketball.



A Passion for the Court

BY: ANDRA GORDON

"I'll do whatever it takes to win games, whether it's sitting on a bench waving a towel, handing a cup of water to a teammate, or hitting the game-winning shot." - Kobe Bryant

A team's success depends on how well individuals function and fit together as a unit. Even with frustrations and setbacks, inspiring and supporting your team is a one way ticket to a good season. Giving your all, regardless of the outcome, and keeping your spirits up, directly effects your team's performance, that's why an inspirational and determined leader is so vital and valuable to a team.

An example of this kind of player is senior Hannah Powell. This year Powell had really stepped up into a leadership role for the Girls Basketball Team. She always gives 100% effort in every way possible and inspires other players. It's also very important to have hustle on the court and she's got it. Powell is hard working, determined, and she never gives up.

Teammate Adaira Burger says "Hannah's passion for the sport is awesome and the team loves her enthusiasm." Burger also comments, "She is a great teammate and always works so hard. I am very thankful to be playing with someone like her." She explains how Hannah's defense is extremely valuable to the team and how she's especially good at posting up and playing wing when needed.

Another teammate, Becky Belcher, shares how "She assists in keeping the other team's score low by having great defense and never letting problems overtake her playing." On a more personal level, "She is very passionate about basketball. She sees the best in me even on my bad days and always pushed others to do their best." One of the most amazing examples she sets is staying determined to learn and get better, as well as pushing through illness and pain to help her team.

"She reminds the team what they are capable of and leads by example by always being a hard worker." says Coach Knight. It's very important to have all of these qualities as a team leader and senior. Hopefully it's something that will be passed down to the younger players and remain on the team for the years to come. Having good spirits and sportsmanship will make or break a team's legacy.

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No One is Too Small

FROM PG. 13

er young leaders to take a stand for our climate. There is a young girl, Leah Namugerwa, who lives in Uganda, a country which produces the smallest amount of pollution, but will be affected severely by climate instability. She wanted to start a global movement based on mass non-cooperation to bring attention to the climate crisis. Leah was inspired by Greta Thunberg, but was truly moved to act after seeing the famine caused by drought and landslides in her country linked to climate change induced by other countries' fossil fuel emissions. Another example of the youth revolution is Xiye Bastida, who lives in New York. She was originally from Mexico and a member of the Otomi-Toltec indigenous people. Xiye is one of the lead organizers of the Fridays for Future U.S. youth climate strike movement. She says, "We are on Earth to take care of life. We are on Earth to take care of each other."

So why do these young activists receive so much hate and animosity for simply speaking the truth? We can see it time and time again throughout history. Leaders such as Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. speak the truth and are vehemently opposed or even hated in the moment, but in the future people look up to them and revere their words of wisdom. I believe the hatred comes out of fear of change and of course opposition to established industry practices. If we were to take action and stop extracting fossil fuels, those industries would suffer the most.

If you want to be more involved, you can join local movements such as the Oregon Youth Legislative Initiative for Climate Justice. This program allows youth to take part in lobbying at the state capitol for bills they support. You can talk face to face to your legislators and share your opinions and stories with them. Another national youth group is The Sunrise Movement, which works to endorse political candidates that support elimination of fossil fuels, and the creation of clean energy jobs. When we respect each other, and especially the voice of the youth who are willing to work together to make decisions based on scientific facts, we can have confidence in our shared future. As students, we should be encouraged by our peers and appreciate the leadership of these brave youth activists. Let us not rally behind hate, but embrace the truth, as it is the only way to get us out of this catastrophic climate crisis and to build a viable future.

SWIMMING

BY: MEAGAN BAHAM

The Swim Team here at SHHS has won a lot of championship titles over the years and the person responsible for all that success is Coach Peargin. Coach Peargin has been coaching at SHHS for 46 years. He also coached in California for nine years before coming here. All of his coaching experience has made him a great coach. Peargin always gives the swimmers opportunities to improve, but ultimately leaves it up to them to take those opportunities and to push themselves. Junior Maren Weld states, "He always gives us the opportunity to do better and makes it clear to us that if we want something we have to get it ourselves."

Peargin has been coaching at SHHS for 46 years now and he has only missed one practice. Peargin is a very reliable coach, he not only is at the pool every day, but he is also very reliable with

his coaching style. Junior Alania Curtiss says, "I like that he is hard on us and is consistent with his style of coaching." Peargin pours his heart out while coaching and the athletes recognize it and respect him for it. The team recognizes his dedication to the sport and that motivates them to do better in practice and competitions.

Peargin has been an inspiration for all the swimmers on the team and they all thank him for guiding them to be successful swimmers. The swimmers respect him and appreciate him because of his dedication to the team and the sport. The team will continue to work their hardest for District and State, and hopefully another championship title. But one thing that you can be sure of, just like many generations of Sweet Home students, the team will always give their best for Coach Peargin.



A LEADER OFF AND ON THE MAT

BY: ALEX KISSELBURGH

Wrestling is a sport that takes a lot of time and commitment. Bryce Porter, who is a senior on the team, is not only one of my personal favorite wrestlers, but an athlete who is always doing extra and working as hard as he can. Bryce is the guy who is always willing to help you out and show you how to do something if you don't know how.

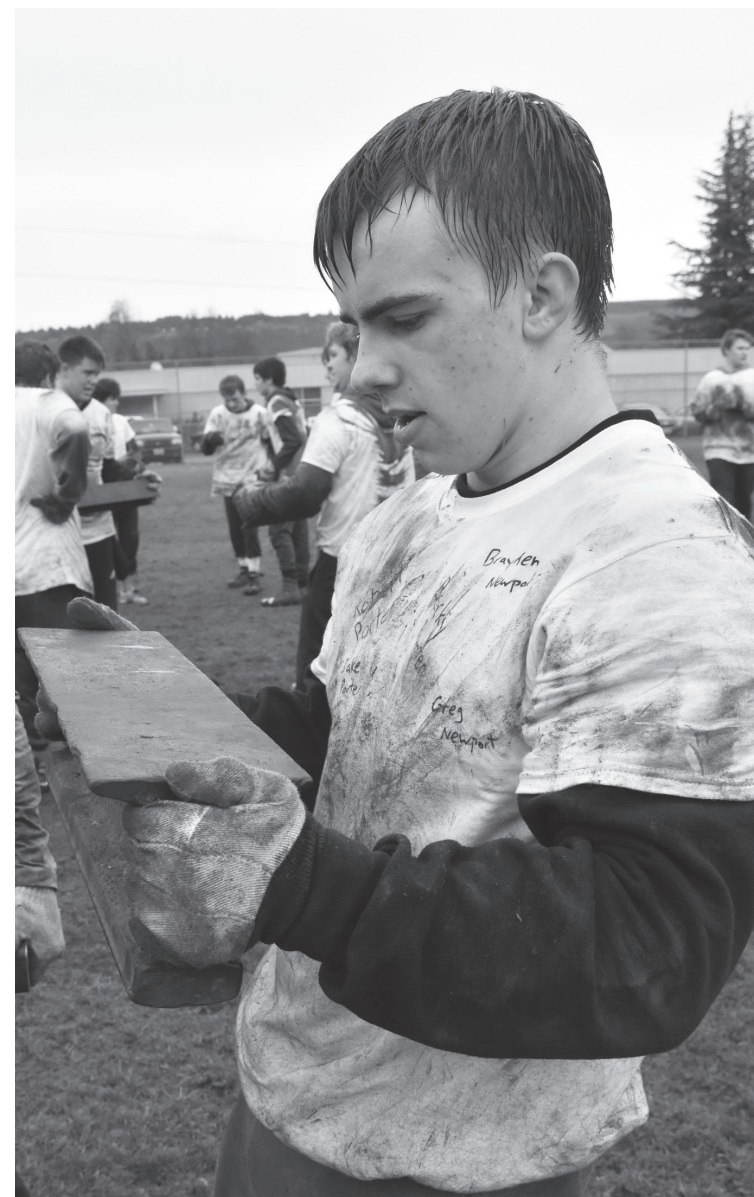
This year marks the 14th year that Bryce has wrestled, starting when he was only four years old. After asking Bryce what made him want to wrestle, especially so young, he said that he had grown up watching his brother doing it. Bryce figured he should also wrestle because of this. As mentioned before, wrestling is a sport that takes a lot of time and commitment, but is also something that has to change your daily rou-

tines. Bryce explained how it affects everything in his daily life, all the way from eating, to how he does his school work. Bryce says that wrestling is a sport that teaches you how to be accountable for yourself in a way that will get you through life not only as a high-schooler, but as an adult as well. It teaches you a good work ethic.

Having set goals doesn't just make wrestling easier, but it makes everything easier. Bryce says that wrestling has showed him how to work harder and due to this, it makes his goals easier to reach. Bryce mentioned that he has set his goals higher than he ever has before because of the confidence that wrestling has given him. Bryce's biggest goal was to be a State Champion. This year being his last, was Bryce's year to make this happen. Unfortunately, in the beginning

of the season, Bryce had a knee injury, removing him from sports for the rest of the year. He counters this action by not falling into a slump. He has set new goals for himself and the team. His new big goal is to be able to help coach his team and help other wrestlers as much as he can so they can win State.

Bryce says that his biggest help throughout his wrestling career were his coaches Steve Thorpe, Tomas Rosa, and his parents. They



taught Bryce how to wrestle and all of the moves that he knows and that even if he did the move wrong, to go fast and hard all the time. Bryce's parents helped him out a lot in the beginning by pushing him to keep on wrestling, even at times that he did not want to. He said they wanted him to keep wrestling because if he quit, he would regret it. Bryce's biggest influence throughout his wrestling career was his older brother, Jake. Bryce has set out to be as good as, or better than Jake, and that's a pretty high bar to reach for.

Bryce decided to stick with wrestling simply because that was the sport that he was best at. But, he also said that the accomplishment that he gets from setting goals and reaching them is addicting. Bryce's words of wisdom to future wrestlers is to be prepared to work hard, it will not be easy, but it will make them a better person.

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