

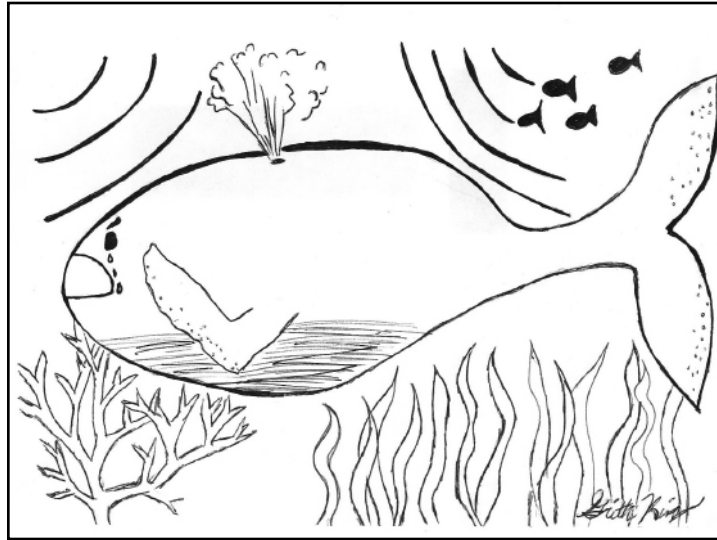
Military communications slaughter aquatic creatures

Whales, dolphins, and other marine mammals rely on their hearing for communication and other basic life functions to help them survive. When loud blasts that are louder than jets fill their ears, the effects can be extremely detrimental. Marine creatures are suffering from the effects that these extremely loud noises are bringing. Airguns are used in oil exploration or submarines and ships emitting sonar are some of the main military machines that are causing havoc for sea life.

“I think the military should consider the negative effects of sonar communication on wildlife,” said Susanna Hedenstrom, sr.

During 2000, four species of whales were beached in the Bahamas. The Navy denied responsibility even after an investigation revealed sonar to

be the cause of death. Whales have disappeared from many different areas around the world, abandoning their habitat



or dying at sea. Researchers have found that beaches whales suffered from physical trauma, including bleeding around brain and ears and damage to organs,

such as bubbles and other issues. These symptoms are a result of severe cases of “the bends”, a disease known to div-

ers from surfacing too quickly. The sonar blasts have caused marine mammals to change their dive patterns, negatively impacting their bodies and

resulting in injuries, including death.

Sonar isn't only affecting whales and dolphins, but also other marine life. Feeding patterns and other behavior of many other species has been changing due to the loud, powerful sonar blasts that cause animals to feel disturbed and frightened. The Navy estimates that within the next 5 years, sonar training will harm marine mammals ten million more times off of the U.S. coast alone. The NRDC is working to battle against military and the use of sonar to help protect the whales and other marine wildlife.

-By Grieta King

Car of the Month



Senior Leah Lowe drives a red, 2011 Honda CRV. Once when Lowe and Pearl Duquette, sr., were driving, they were followed and almost shot because Lowe gave another driver the finger.

The nickname for this lovely car is “Tina,” like Tina Fey. She never fails Lowe when she's driving and Tina has great leather seats. If Lowe could change Tina in any way, it would be the heated seats because “they take about two billion years to heat up.”

March 17, 2014

What would you do?

A favorite musician of yours is performing in your town in a few weeks. However, you hear that the tickets for the concert are quite expensive and selling out fast. You don't have the money to buy a ticket, and you don't have a job to earn money either. Your friend offers to buy you a ticket with his money as long as you pay him back as soon as possible. Your friend also plans on attending the concert but plans to pay for his with the next paycheck, which is due to arrive in a few days. Do you accept the offer?

“No, because if I don't have a job, how am I going to pay my friend back?” said Kayla Pelroy, fr.

“I would take the offer just so long that I was really good friends with him and I knew that I could pay him back somehow,” said Emily Lorentz, fr.

Suppose you do accept the offer, and your friend continues

to follow through with his plan, buying your ticket. Your friend finally receives his check, but it has arrived a day late. He hurries off to buy the ticket. When he arrives at the ticket desk, the cashier says dully, “We sold out yesterday, sorry.” Your friend heads home sad and without a concert ticket. When he walks through the door, he says, “Well, I guess I'm not going to the concert with you.” You look at the floor. What would you do?

“I would give him back the ticket since it was his money that paid for it,” said Pelroy.

“I would give him my ticket because he was the one that paid for it and he was kind enough to give me the money for it. My only request would be that he records my favorite song with his phone!” said Lorentz.

So, given these circumstances, what would you do?

-By Jessica Coone

FEATURES

KEY CLUB MOVED BY TIM'S CANCER STORY AT DOERNBECHERS

Key Club is involved with numerous volunteer activities around the community. The Club decided to tackle a brand new project: Doernbechers Children's Hospital. The idea came when several Key Clubbers attended an open house as a part of "Kiwani Day at Doernbechers" in Portland last year. Students met with some of the doctors and heard a presentation by a little girl who was a cancer survivor. Key Clubs from all over Oregon presented money they had raised fundraising

for the Kiwanis Doernbechers Children's Cancer Program (KDCCP) to help save cancer patients. That was when Elmira's Key Club knew it would do this fundraiser the following year.

They started brainstorming fundraiser ideas starting all the way back in Sept., and when Nov. rolled around, they had plans for a community garage sale. This garage sale was to be on Sat., Nov. 9 the end of Key Club Week. On that Monday, members placed barrels for donations at the school and the community along with coin jars. Posters were made and an assembly, a PowerPoint presentation with a guest speaker, was held for the students of EHS. At the end of the week inside the community center, tables were laid out with piles of donated items while a BBQ was held outside.

"I thought it was cool because we got to all hang out together and hold posters and a lot of people came!" said Jasmine Garcia, soph. "We don't have a lot of garage sales either, so it was fun to have something

like that."

On Feb. 12, Key Club initiated a Papa's Pizza Fundraiser. All day, 50 percent of all the pizza sales made at the West 11th Papa's Pizza went towards Key Club's money for Doernbechers.

Finally, on Sat., Feb. 22, ten students from the Key Club left for Portland at six in the morning. Upon

"My favorite part was hearing Tim's story. His story was just so touching [and] you could feel his sincerity and empathize with him. He is truly brave," said Hedenstrom.

Tim Haarmann, a fourteen-year-old boy, was admitted to Doernbechers Children's Hospital last year. He loved all kinds of sports, especially baseball, and was excited to start

months, his parents created a routine for when they would stay with Tim and when they would be at home with Tim's eight-year-old sister. Instead of lying in bed all the time, Tim tried to walk around the hospital as often as he could. There was a loop around one of the floors, and he started walking it as often as he could. He learned that 24 laps there was the equivalent of a mile, and so his goal became to walk a marathon. While it became harder in between his chemotherapy and other testing, he eventually achieved his goal.

Thanks to the competent doctors and contributions made by Kiwanis and Key Club, Tim is now cured of cancer. Although he couldn't start high school with his class, Tim is currently a freshman and says this illness taught him never to give up and always have hope. But his mother, Susan, stated that although Tim was one of those 80 percent of children who recover from Leukemia, 20 percent don't. She prays that no child and family will ever have to endure what they have had to endure.

Similar to what Mrs. Haarmann said, not all children with cancer have a happy ending, and there are many who are fighting for their lives this very second. It is important for people to give thanks for what they have and help those who cannot help themselves. Key Club is already planning on raising more money to take to Doernbechers next year, because it is with these donations that the doctors and researchers are able to have the tools to help more children like Tim, and hopefully turn that 80 percent success rate into 100 percent.

A cancer-free world, now that is worth fighting for.

-By Elmira Louie



E. Louie/The Falconer

Tim Haarmann, cancer survivor, tells his inspirational story.

arrival at Kiwanis Day at Doernbechers, students conversed and ate donuts. Afterwards, three Key Club officers went on stage and presented a check of \$585. A presentation from the doctors and fellows then followed.

"I thought it was awesome! I really liked the interview with all of the doctors and the boy with cancer coming up and talking about his experience," said Allison Myers, sr.

Susanna Hedenstrom, sr. agrees with Myers.

high school, until this unfortunate illness occurred. His first symptoms included large bruises all over his body in which he had no memory of how they had occurred. He started getting frequent nosebleeds and when one of these nosebleeds lasted for half an hour, his parents took him to the doctor. On July 8, 2013, Tim was diagnosed with AML Leukemia. His sickness took a great toll not only on him, but also his sister, mother, and father. Since he had to live in hospital for

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STATE CHAMPS DOMINATE

Wrestling season ended February 28, with success at state: Zane Wardwell, jr., took first place, winning the championship, in his weight class, and Maddie Loveland, sr., took first place in hers, with the entire girls' wrestling team winning the qualifying round to become state champions.

Danielle McClennen, jr., and Mathew Engholm, jr., took second in their weight classes.

"I'm really proud! We won by having a big team, so it's a lot credit to those nine girls who stuck it

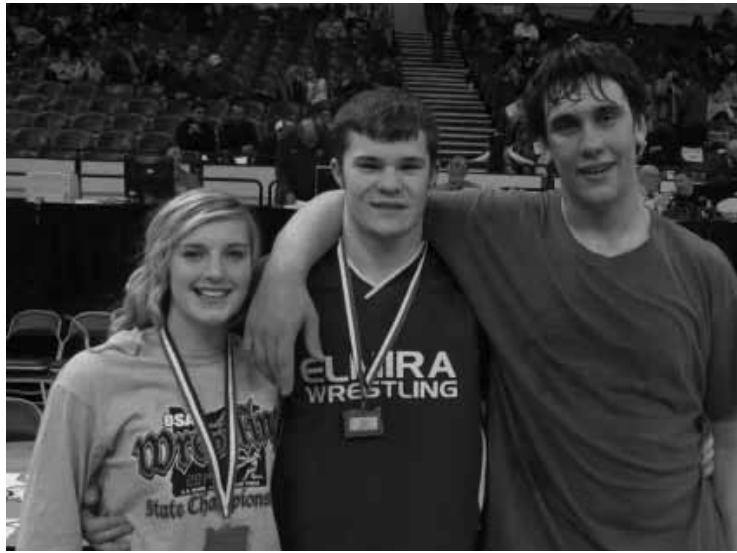


Photo courtesy of Derek French

(From left to right) Senior Maddie Loveland, and juniors Matt Engholm and Zane Wardwell placed first, second, and first, respectively in their divisions.

out and Allia [Petersen], who was injured but still showed up every meet to cheer. I like to call it a 'team of ten,'" said wrestling coach Scott Shannon.

"On the boys' side we had four district champs. Having four kids win districts was pretty awesome... we finished sixth as a team; that's the best we've done as long as I've been coach," he said.

-By Jeremy Cooper

GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM SHOWS UNITY, FRIENDSHIP

As the season for girls' basketball comes to a close, the Elmira girls showed that Elmira may be small, but a worthy opponent.

Teammates agree that Elmira did well this year, maybe better than usual.

"This was the best we have done in my entire basketball career here at Elmira," said Whitney McCallum, jr.

According to the team, some improvements could have been made, but those areas were few and far between.

"I wish we would've shared the ball more; we kind of have trouble with being ball hogs," said McCallum.

On the other hand, the team does recognize the good skills and traits they displayed out on the court, as well as their team dynamic.

"We have good bonding, good communication, and we get along really good. We bond really well and we are pretty close," said McCallum.

Getting along is important, and the

girls' team displayed that well, many members comparing it to a family.

"I really like basketball with Sara and Laura. Chicky [Caitlin Messman] motivates me. After games I'll ask her what did I do good? Wrong? And she'll tell me and I'll try harder the next time," said McCallum.

Overall, the team had a great season, no surprise considering the players' effort, and the bonds between them.

-By Amelia Warren

PLAYERS MAKE DIFFICULT TRANSITIONS IN SPORTS

Every year eighth graders make the transition from "king of the world" middle schoolers to bottom-of-the-food-chain freshmen. While this brings many changes in all areas of school life one of the most dramatic is sports. "I'm really excited for high school soccer," said Cecelia Remior, an eighth grader who plays soccer. "It's a big deal and really cool."

Sports are faster, harder, more difficult, and more competitive. Athletes have to adjust quickly in order to make the team. "It's a lot more competitive and fast March 17, 2014

paced," said Presley Harsh, fr. about soccer. "There's more pressure on the incoming freshman to prove you can play with the higher competition." Since soccer doesn't have a junior varsity team it's a lot harder to get a spot on the team. "There's a lot more work you have to do to make it on the team," said Annalisa Linn, fr.

Soccer isn't the only sport that is tougher in high school. "Basketball is a lot more competitive. The coaches help you out a lot more and you travel more," said Victoria Griswold, fr.

Athletes are more serious about sports in high school. Sports standings are more important. "The matches are more serious," said Dylan Porter, fr., a wrestler. "One match can change your seeding in the district tournament."

Maybe it's being in high school that matures people or they realize they need to be more serious themselves. Either way athletes are more focused. "People pay attention more. The coaches coach more. People know what they're doing now," said Kasie Mobley, soph., a

softball player.

"It's more competitive because people are faster. Track is also cooler because we have Coach Bellingham," said Ben Douthit, soph., a distance runner.

Overall, sports in high school are more cutthroat and serious. The new athletes quickly realize this and learn to adapt as fast as possible. It's either that or losing your spot on the team. Even if it's not a team sport, it's still important to do the best you can.

-By Katriel Connors

NEWS Books light up silver screen

Recently there has been an influx of books being converted to the big screen. The final installment of the *Twilight* franchise was released at the end of 2012. Since then many books have been turned into movies, such as *The Hunger Games* trilogy, *Percy Jackson* series, *The Hobbit*, *Warm Bodies*, *The Host*, and *City of Bones*.

Many students prefer to read the books before seeing the movie. "I usually watch movies after I read books to see how badly they messed up," said Celeste Dax, soph.

Though it seems like young adult books are more likely to be shown on the silver screen there are also many books in the adult genre be-

ing converted to movies. The New York Times best-seller *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn was recently featured on the cover of an Entertainment Weekly magazine. Unfortunately, more often than not, the book and its author are not given the recognition they deserve. The widely talked about *12 Years a Slave* is a true story, based off a memoir by Solomon Northup, the main character.

The story of Noah from the Bible is being made into a movie starring Russell Crowe as Noah. Coming out in December 2014 is *Exodus*, a movie based on the story of Moses, with Christian Bale cast as Moses.

Sometimes the movie may be vastly different from the book, which greatly disappoints fans.

"A movie can be good or bad depending on what they do with the plot," said Cheyenne Vosburg, soph.

Beautiful Creatures by Kami Garcia and Margret Stohl was a best-seller as a book but the movie disappointed many fans. Some people don't like it when their favorite books are made into movies because they are afraid the movie won't live up to their expectations and

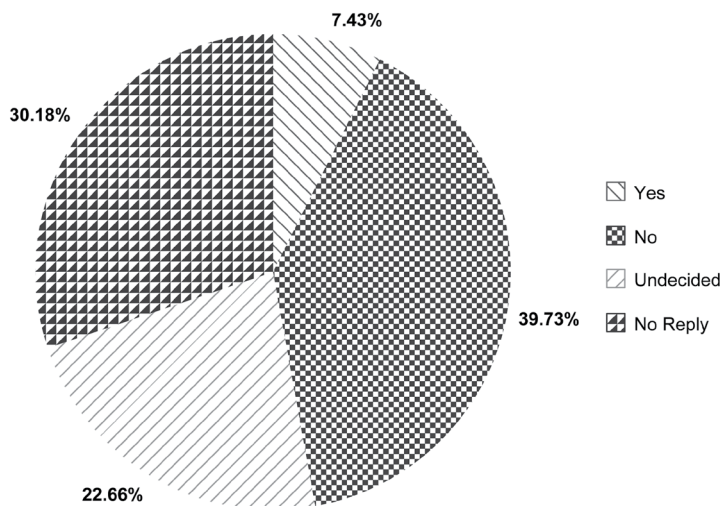
they will be disappointed. Of course that's not the case for everyone.

"It's interesting to see how the book is different from the movie," said Eva Lobrovich, soph.

Despite the many flops, fans are excited about seeing books like *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Divergent*, *The Maze Runner*, *If I Stay*, *Fallen*, and *Mockingjay Part I*.

-By Katriel Connors

DO YOU SUPPORT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ACTIONS? (OVERALL PERFORMANCE)



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POLL:

"Who's Obama?"

"Nobody at our age knows this stuff."

"No, but he is better than Romney."

"Vote for Pedro."

"He is doing the best he can."

FALCON ATTACKS



"Hi. My name is Whitney Fox, and I'm 16 years old. I like spending time with my family and with my best friend, Jasmine. I like working out and doing track. I love playing my clarinet and guitar. My favorite classes are chemistry and U.S. history. My favorite color is purple and my favorite food is peanut butter."

Elmira Louie joins Falconer staff

Hi everyone! My name is Elmira Louie and I'm a junior. I love to read and watch movies (who doesn't?!). My favorite color is purple and chocolate oranges are the best thing ever. I'm in Key Club, Honor Society, and the City of Veneta Park Board and enjoy doing volunteer work around the community. I joined journalism because I wanted to try something new, so hopefully you'll start seeing more of my stories and cartoons in *The Falconer* – starting with this issue!

