

SUSANNA HEDENSTROM

SALUTATORIAN

Q: Where have you mostly grown up?

A: Aurora, Colorado

Q: Have you spent your entire high school career at EHS?

A: Yes!

Q: What was your overall favorite class throughout high school?

A: All four years of Spanish.

Q: If you could, is there anything you would change about high school?

A: Not being as timid coming out of school

Q: What class do you think you have mostly benefited from?

A: AP English with Mrs. May and Spanish and Government.

Q: Have there been any negative impressions that will remain with you forever?

A: No.

Q: Where do you see yourself in twenty years?

A: A successful attorney or judge.

Q: Why do you want to be an attorney or a judge?

A: I'm really good at analyzing and coming up with logical arguments and I'm also really interested in law.

Q: What will you miss the most about high school?

A: The people and general simplicity.

Q: What's next for you?

A: Going to U of O Honors College.

Q: What will you study on college?

A: Forensic psychology, maybe.



DARIN FRENCH

VALEDICTORIAN

Q: Where have you mostly grown up?

A: Springfield

Q: Have you spent your entire high school career at EHS?

A: Certainly have

Q: What was your favorite class in high school?

A: I enjoyed AP US History with Mr. Bellingham

Q: If you could, is there anything you would change about high school?

A: I would have more experiences with cool people.

Q: What class do you think you have mostly benefitted from?

A: Spanish because learning a new language is rad.

Q: Do you have any negative impressions of the school?

A: Not that I know of. School is cool.

Q: Where do you see yourself in twenty years?

A: Being well off in my career as a physical therapist. My fallback is being a model on Hollister bags.

Q: What will you miss most about high school?

A: The group of friends that I've had in the last four years.

Q: What's next for you?

A: Going to OSU Honors College, solving the world's problems and being as fashionable as possible.



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Kendra Daniels excels at gymnastics

Kendra Daniels, sr., attended a national gymnastics competition in May. She shares about her favorite sport and all that goes into it.

Q: How long have you been doing gymnastics?

A: I've been doing gymnastics 12 years going on 13.

Q: What is your favorite thing about Gymnastics?

A: My favorite thing is that I get to express myself during floor.

Q: What is the hardest thing about gymnastics?

A: The training hours. Once I got into high school I had to pick between gymnastics and doing school related sports.



K. Connors/The Falconer

Several hundred students gathered to cheer for Kendra Daniels as she left school early on May 9 to fly to a National gymnastics competition.

Q: What is your training routine like?

A: During competition season we go from 4 to 7:30 p.m. four days a week. During the summer it varies between five and five-and-a-half hours whenever the gym allows us to.

Q: How did you feel when you realized you qualified for nationals?

A: It was exciting. I

looked at my mom and she had tears in her eyes.

Q: Where was Nationals?

A: Jackson, Mississippi.

Q: What was the experience like?

A: It was pretty different going down south. People told me I had a funny accent and asked me where I was from. It was a really great experience and I got to meet a lot of new people.

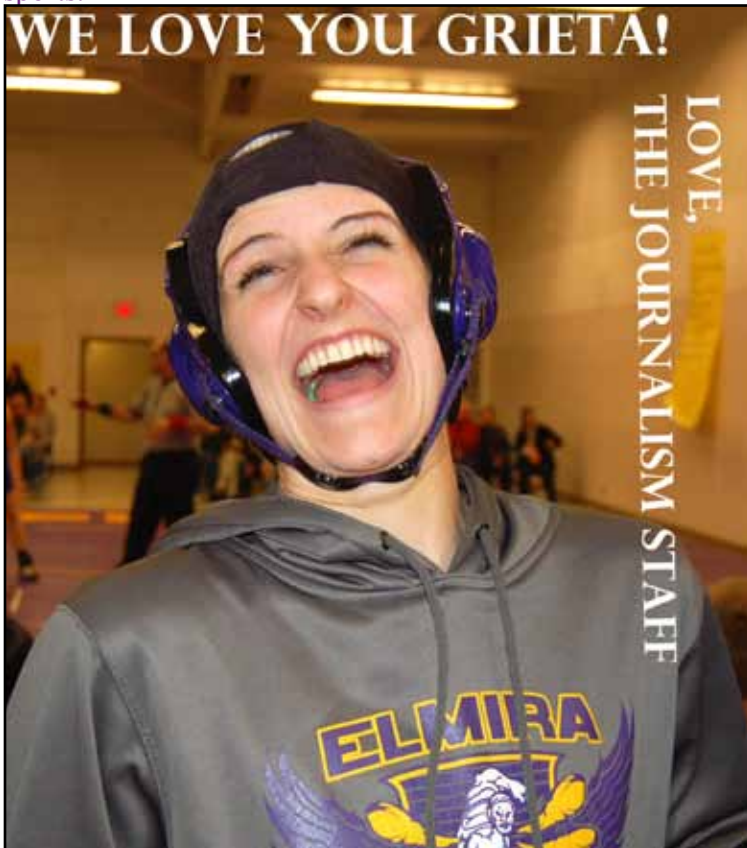
Q: Who would you like to thank for your success?

A: My coach, Julie Eagen.

Q: What are your gymnastics plans for the future?

A: I have a walk-on offer in Anchorage, Alaska, and I really want to go but it's pretty spendy.

-By Katriel Connors



Buck Pelroy
Janet Pelroy

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As you go out into the world, remember you are our sunshine, our only sunshine, and always our favorite Darin.

Love you Buddy!
-Marian French

End of season, Falcons steal bases

S P O R T S

Baseball and softball have ended, and after the tumultuous seasons, the players have a few things to say.

"I feel sad that it is ending and I am going to miss the softball team. I've played T-ball in kindergarten and started playing third grade. I would say it's more difficult than most sports because of the whole team effort, and the mental side

of it," said Roxy Glynn. Glynn played her position on the JV team. "This is

and I can't wait for the next one," said William Perry, Freshman Gabe

my sixth season playing baseball. You have to

work hard in any sport if you want to get anything out of it," said Fox. "I am sad, but yet also excited that it is almost over. I've been probably playing baseball since the first grade. And it is pretty hard, and a lot harder than it looks, to hit a 80 mph fast ball." said Austin Smith, soph.

- By Jesse Sagen



my first season playing baseball since T-ball and I would say that it's not difficult, you just need to practice and work hard. But it was a fun season,

Fox says he is sad baseball ended because it will probably be his last season.

"It was fun while it lasted. This is going to be

Who Knows You Best?

Abby Montgomery, jr., wants to know who knows her best: her friends Shaniah Dunham, jr., Cassie Hoffman, jr., or Tyler Miller, sr.



Who is your favorite actor/actress?

Robert Downey Jr.

Ryan Gosling

George Clooney

Zach Galifianakis

What is your favorite holiday?

Christmas

Christmas +1pt

Christmas +1pt

Saint Patrick's Day

What is your favorite book?

Night Circus

Circus & The Hunger Games +1pt

Mystery books

50 Shades of Grey

What word best describes you?

Theatrical

Lovely

Sassy +1pt

Dramatic +1pt

OF THE YEAR

JUNIORS

"I play four sports: soccer, cross country, track and field, and wrestling. I love my soccer team and I love the sport itself; however, I definitely have a sort of running addiction. There is nothing like pushing your body's limits in a race and achieving your personal goals. My favorite part about playing sports, besides the sports themselves, is the people I meet by doing them, said Morgan Craig."

"I've been playing baseball since t-ball when I was a wee lad. Football, I've been doing for six years and this has been my fourth year wrestling." Although he plays three sports, Matt Engholm admitted that wrestling is his favorite. "It feels good to be athlete of the year. I mean, I've been working my butt off and it's good that someone noticed and wanted to give me an award."

"I am Zane Wardwell, 17, and I play football, wrestle, and track and field. This year I was first team all-state in my position at offensive tackle in football. I won my weight class first place at state in wrestling, I won first place in districts this year in shot put and I am going to state soon. The proudest moment I had in athletics this year is my first place title at the end of wrestling season this year."



June 3, 2014

Seniors

"My name is Sara Kesling and I am 18 this year. I am a middle blocker for the volleyball team, a utility player on the softball team, and a small forward in basketball. I was awarded first team all-league in all three sports and first team all-state in softball. I was also awarded league MVP in basketball this year. I am very proud of my team's first basketball playoff appearance this year."

"I'm Bo, and I am eighteen years old. I play football (eleven years), basketball (nine years), and track & field (four years). I like playing sports because it's fun messing around with my friends, and I like winning. Also I play sports because it's the only way I can get my picture taken with Sara Kesling."



Falconer 19

FALCONER ATHLETES

Freshmen

"I am Miranda Jensen and I play softball, basketball and volleyball. My favorite is basketball. I play basketball because it's fun, and I love the game. I've been playing for seven years now. I also like to "ballout". They call me MJ."

"My name is Chad Estrella and I like basketball because I like to "ballout" and shoot 3's. I like that it is a team sport, and I like being on a team. I started a long time ago and I went to camps and bettered myself. I hate running but I love the game."



Sophomores

"I'm Alex Olsen, sixteen, and I play soccer, indoor soccer, basketball, and I run track. Soccer is by far my favorite. I have played since I was four; 12 years! I love soccer because there is no better feeling than slamming the ball in the back of the net."

"My name is Ben Douthit and I am sixteen. I play soccer, cross country, wrestling and track. I've been playing soccer since elementary school, wrestling for two years, track since seventh grade, and cross country two years. I like playing sports to interact with people and to stay in shape throughout the school year."



Summer Events Calendar

Girls' Basketball: Practices through June. Last week of May through June there will be a summer league at LCC twice a week. Tournaments at LCC June 14 and 15. Off-season conditioning and skill work in July.

Boys' Basketball: Reno Team Camp June 20-22. Pos-

ibly some Varsity/JV and frosh tourneys.

help with recruiting. The ASA team consists of Elmira girls as well as those from all over the state, including some college freshman/sophomores if they're eligible.

Boys' soccer: Training twice a week and participating in a tournament in June. Dates TBD.

Girls' soccer: All dates, if not stated, are TBD. Voluntary summer practices 2-3 times a week. Team camp. Co-ed scrimmage. August 4 - 15 there will be voluntary conditioning practices. Tryouts are Aug. 18, 19, and 20. 1 - 2 fundraisers towards the end of summer.

Wrestling: Girls national team training camp is July 13-17. Girls national tournament is July 19-26.

Track/cross country: Cross country girls have a running camp in August. Track has all comers meets at the University of Oregon.

Baseball: Summer baseball program starts just after Memorial Day through just before 4th of July. Possible participation in Car Show.

Softball: 18 day summer team (the ASA softball team) will be playing 4 or 5 large tournaments with college coaches, which will

Football: Car Wash fundraiser June 28, team camp July 5-9, tournaments July 10 and 16, youth Camp Aug. 5-7, mandatory Var. & JV practice Aug. 11-14, JV/Var. Football Jamboree Aug. 29. Strength & Conditioning during summer. Full summer football schedule in the office.

Equestrian: Having a BBQ at the Eugene Pro Rodeo during 4th of July weekend.

Cheerleading: Many fundraisers including car washes, collecting bottles and cans, and bagging groceries at Rays to earn money for camp and uniforms. "I hope everyone who can, will donate cans, bring in cars, and tip their baggers to support our fundraising," said Coach Janie Mogensen

Volleyball: Open gym is on July 14, 16, 21, 23 & Aug. 4, 6. Volleyball summer camp July 9-11 (for 6th - 8th grade), July 25-27 (9th - 12th grade), Aug. 9 and 8 at seaside clinic. EHS Team try-outs Aug. 19-20. First practice Aug. 18.

- By Elmira Louie



2014-2015 ELMIRA HIGH CHEERLEADERS

The new cheer squad preforms a pyramid stunt. From left to right: Cori Grogan, soph., Amanda Mogensen, eighth grade, Austyn Bechtol, soph., Kyla Esselburn, eighth grade, Jessica Coone, fr., Chelsea Roberts, fr., Sarah Sutton, fr., Shayla Hiatt, soph.; not shown Autumn Wise, fr. and Ayanna Brewer, soph.

Awards/Achievements Earned

Volleyball:

12 wins and 7 losses

Kelsey Shaw, sr., is Sky-Em league Player of the Year.

Football:

7 wins and 4 losses; qualified for state playoffs

Bo Highburger, sr., is league Player of the Year and first team all-state.

Boys' Cross Country:

Gannon Jones, jr. qualified for state as individual.

Girls' Basketball:

16 wins and 8 losses; co-league champions; qualified for state playoffs

Sara Kesling, sr., is league Player of the Year.

Wrestling:

Girls' team first-ever state champions

Maddie Loveland, sr., is individual state champion.

Zane Wardwell, jr., is individual state champion.

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Everyone deserves equal rights

I believe in equal rights for every person. We all should get to make our own decisions regarding our bodies. Each person should be given the right to marry whom they choose, and we all should receive an equal chance at opportunities within education and the workplace. All of these can only be granted if our country chooses to support its people and give them what they need. Abortions should be legal, marriage is for everyone, and affirmative action allows each individual to be on the same level so we can all compete equally in this country.

Affirmative action is needed in today's society. It isn't about supporting one race over another, as Tucker claims, but in fact is showing that this country can make up for its past mistakes. If we don't focus on our minority groups they will suffer greatly. We need to pay special attention to the people in America who help make it unique. Hiring would still go to the best candidate, but all candidates deserve to be looked at equally. Affirmative action puts everyone on the same level and from there, we go about our competition within life's endeavors, such as work or school. Affirmative action is not racial profiling, seeing as it also applies to women. It is instead working towards equality and balance between all people in this country.

Gay rights are a non-issue? That's interesting, seeing as they are discriminated against daily in every country, state, town, and every small inch of our school hallways that house the future leaders of our country. Gay rights present a huge issue. Every person deserves equal rights. How is denying someone a privilege promoting America as "equal?" Marriages should be granted to all same-sex couples, in every state, because marriage is a basic human right. Marriage should be for any two people who love each other, regardless of preference. All individuals should be able to marry. Just like the issue with African Americans having unequal rights, this country will eventually realize that singling out a minority and denying them of their rights is wrong. A civil union is not marriage. It is a civil union. In this country, each person should be able to marry whom they choose. Whether you are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender, you should have that privilege. It was promised to you, after all. How then are we still even talking about this? There are no valid arguments for why marriage shouldn't be granted to every single person. The Bible says marriage is between one man and one woman. That is an outdated statement. Times are changing and a more acceptable, open minded idea of love has come into play. Every person deserves to be protected from discrimination. There are many prejudices that gay people are forced to deal with each day. No one, despite their ideas, opinions, feelings, preferences, or anything else, deserves to deal with discrimination. Soon every person will be able to marry whom they choose and they will do so freely. How does it feel to live in a state that can adapt to change easier than you, Tucker?

A middle class white male will never face the same consequences that any woman would face if she found herself pregnant. Who is talking when they are saying that women shouldn't have a right to control what happens in their own lives and personal health? A fetus is a human life, but it is also dependent upon the health and well-being of its carrier: the mother. Every mother and woman should have the choice of what happens to her body and whether or not she gives birth to a child. The government should not have any say in what women do with their own body. The government doesn't own our bodies so they shouldn't get to decide what we do with them. Abortions should remain legal so that each woman can make a personal decision regarding her own body. Abortions aren't something that I agree with, but they need to remain an option for mothers who aren't physically healthy or are extremely unable to support the pregnancy and birth of a child. As a Pro-Choice advocate, I am not supporting murder or saying that abortions are right. I am saying that we all deserve to make our own decisions and the law should not prevent that.

-By Grieta King

She's crazy, don't let her hurt me

Sometimes you should keep quiet. Hold your tongue. Keep from offending people. But when people seem too afraid of ridicule to speak out against moral evils, people need to be offended. So here goes, I'm going to offend some people. This story is not for the faint of heart or easily angered. Do not read if you are pregnant, may become pregnant, have a spinal injury or high blood pressure, or are averse to having your beliefs challenged. You've been warned.

On the issue of affirmative action, it has no business in today's society. We should be teaching that hard work begets results, not a birthright of race. The very idea that one race should be given preference over another is a gross violation of the principle that proponents of affirmative action

pretend to hold so dearly; all men cannot be "created equal" under the law when one race is supported over another. When someone applies for a firefighter position, you want the best candidate, not the most underprivileged, because your life may depend on their performance.

Besides which it is insulting toward minorities to assume that they need extra help. It is incredibly condescending to believe that someone who is non-white needs extra points just to compete with whites. We can separate those who need financial assistance from those who don't with systems much more accurate than racial profiling (I won't waste space refuting Grieta's argument that it's "not racial profiling" on the grounds that she makes the claim and offers no supporting evidence). Doesn't that seem more fair?

I hardly want to grace the non-issue of gay rights with words, but seeing as I am typing, I can rest easy knowing I didn't waste precious air on it. Gays are totally equal under the law to any straight person. Both have the same rights to fair trial, to freedom of religion, to any government

programs or jobs. Both have the right to marry someone of the opposite gender. Both have the right to be in a civil union with someone of the same gender.

The fact is, there is no such issue as gay rights, because gays have all of the rights that anyone else has. What they want now is extra protection from discrimination. When Thomas Jefferson was asked how far a person's rights extend, he said, "to the point where they infringe someone else's rights." When gay rights extend to immunity from discrimination, you force others to forfeit their right to decide to whom they provide services. Will I be granted total protection from discrimination next? Must restaurants provide me food regardless of how I am dressed or who I am? Our freedom of association is being violated, not through regulation of who we may not associate with, but with who we must associate with.

And finally abortion. No more hotly contested topic now exists, this is an arena filled with passion and anger and few facts. That's a shame, because it's quite a simple topic, when considered objectively. We trust doctors more than anyone else in medical matters. And, while there are few things that are unanimous among doctors, they all agree on one thing: time of death occurs at the stopping of the heart. When someone's heart stops, they are considered dead. Would it not follow, then, that if life ends with the heartbeat, it begins with it as well? Once the heart begins, so has the life. A doctor who removes an unborn child, thus stopping his or her heart, has committed murder. We don't need an abortion law on the books; it is clearly covered by already enforced homicide laws. There is no logical argument that life doesn't begin with the heartbeat. And so, the pro-choice, who pride themselves in their compassion, are inarguably advocating murder. They want to prevent murders with gun control laws, and yet are against passing a law directly illegalizing murder. They want to avoid discrimination against gays, yet openly discriminate against majorities with affirmative action. Can truth exist alongside such blatant hypocrisy?

-By Tucker Barnes

