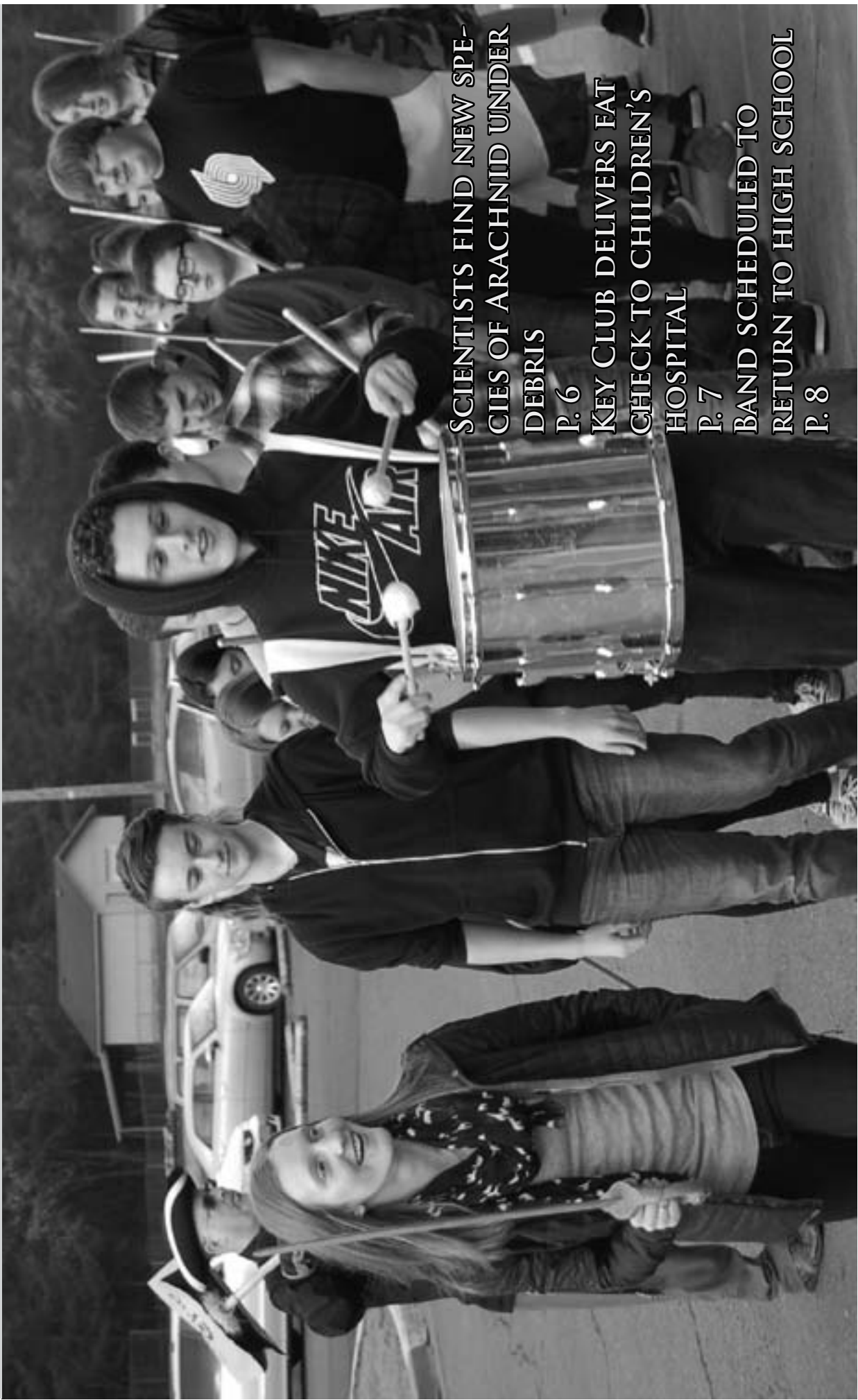


THE FALCONER

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 5

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MAR. 31, 2016



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Ask the Staff

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?

***Jessica Coone**-Editor in Chief: I have many places I want to travel to. France is one of them because I'd like to go during Bastille Day, also my birthday when they shoot fireworks from the Eiffel Tower.

Desirea Collins-Managing Editor: Probably France. I want to learn new, interesting things. Plus there's good food.

Jesse Sagen- Photo Editor: Australia, to gain the power of the kangaroo and the ferocity of the koala. "Cross got nothing man!!"

Daniel Phillips-Reporter/Photographer: Canada because everyone is polite there and I can make myself sound Canadian, A.

Kyla Esselburn- Reporter/Photographer: I want to go to Nazca Plains in Peru to see the animal drawings on the ground.

Andrea Griffin-Reporter/Cartoonist: I want to travel everywhere! Particularly somewhere far away and fairly remote, like the island Tonga, or the moon.

Riley Chambers-Reporter: To Europe because I really want to see the world.

Blaine Loftis- Reporter: Germany because there's a lot of history there and I love the German language.

Austyn Bechtol- Reporter: I would go to Montana because it is beautiful and I have family there.

Kaylee Heakin-Reporter: Florida and to become a better surfer and start competing.

Lilly Givens-Reporter/Photographer: Everywhere! I want to be a traveling photographer

Ashlyn Foote-Reporter: Petaluma, CA and Maryland to see my best friends Nicole and Maia I only get to see once a year.

Cooper Barnes-Reporter: Bed, because I'm sleepy.

Jeanie May-Adviser: Kansas to visit my brother and sister-in-law and my sister and Iowa to visit my brother-in-law and sister-in-law.

Megan Temple-Student teacher/Adviser: Bali, because I could sit in a hammock, nap, be warm, and be in a beautiful place.

*-Quill and Scroll member



Photo by R.Chambers/Falconer

Congratulations to Nikki Smith, soph., for finding the Heart Bouquet in the February issue!

Find the Falcon!

If you are the first to show Jeanie May the Falcon, you will get your picture with Freddy the Falcon featured in the next issue!



Cover photo

by D.Phillips/Falconer

Brad Bellingham, history teacher, leads his 2 and 5 period classes in the 30 year old tradition in the battle of Lexington and Concord, the night of Paul Revere's ride. "The front of the school looks like Lexington and the spirit rock is the tavern, the sacred grounds," said Bellingham.

Congratulations

Brummett: The EHS wrestling team. Girls basketball for merely taking down Sutherlin in five overtimes. They've won 50 consecutive league games and we almost had them!

Shannon: Mason Walker, Ethan Agnes, Levi Hanson, Dylan Porter, Dale Miller, and McKenzie Moore, and Anna Marshall for qualifying as the high school state wrestling tournament.

Hart: All winter athletes who represented Elmira fabulously. A special shout out to Girls' Basketball making the post-season, and our wrestlers who went to state. Great job!

Schilling: All of the winter sports teams for successful seasons and post-season play!

Best: Girls' Basketball for being great and making the post-season.

May/Temple: All my 9th graders that have been acting their little hearts out while we do Romeo and Juliet! Thanks for being awesome!

Burgess: Falcon Radio is going on the air weekday afternoons 92.5 FM!

Oedekoven: Sage Weast, Megan Schneider, Aaron Richards,, Blaine Loftis, Tanner Cregan, Kobe Bechtel for their dedication to learn German. It's a pleasure to have you in class.

Marquess: Congratulations to all of EHS's sports teams for all

the successes they have had this year.

Whiteley: The wrestling team for doing so well at districts!

Brands: Girl's basketball for being second in league and hosting playing game. Female wrestlers qualifying for State: Myckenzie Moore, Anna Marshal, and Isabella Diffin-Ramirez. Boy's wrestlers qualifying for State: Mason Walker, Dylan Perier, Levi Hanson, Dale Miller, and Ethan Agnes. Boy's All-League: Austin Smith, first team; Chad Estrella, honorable mention; and Kellen Smith, honorable mention. Girl's All-League: Miranda Jensen, first team; Julia Smith, second team; Alex Olsen, second team; and Ashton Weber, honorable mention.

Brumbach: Girl's and boy's basketball teams for excellent seasons! Yay for wrestling! It's amazing to send so many to state.

Carpenter: Our girl's basketball team for advancing to the state "play-in" round and our wrestlers who qualified for state and our Mr. Falcon contestants. Keep up the good work.

Langley: Global B classes- you are amazing when it comes to thinking and participating!

Cooper: Sydney Gilpin for progressing in Keyboarding Plus and Spencer Christensen for his great factoring ability.

FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Riley Chambers, fr.
Dahlin Allen, soph.
Miranda Harrison, jr.
Adreanna Jones, sr.

Falcon of the month: Brad Renfro, jr.

Editorial Policy

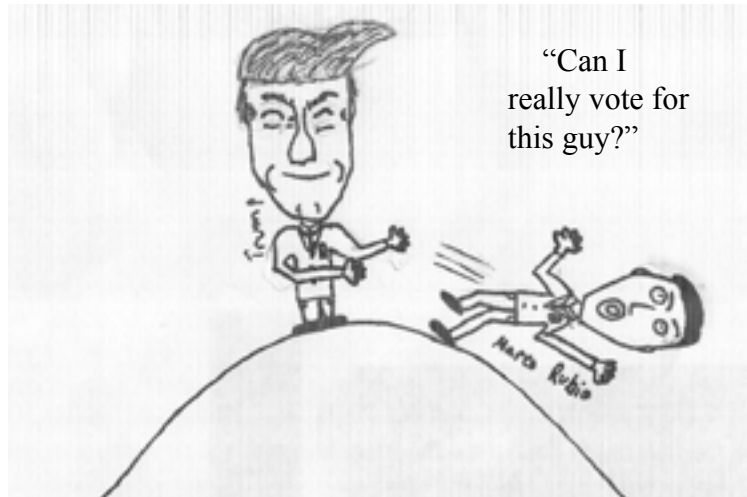
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Trump dominates, Clinton leads

The 2016 Presidential election has been one of the most highly anticipated political events since President Obama's reelection in 2012. Republicans and Democrats alike have been preparing for the decisive follow up to Obama's second term. With the Republican Party in control of House of Representatives and the Senate, the Democrats in control of the White House, and the recent death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, the political upper hand in federal government rests on this election.

Republican primaries started with twelve candidates, but that field has now narrowed to three: Donald Trump, chairman and president of The Trump Organization and founder of Trump Entertainment Resorts; Ted Cruz, U.S. Senator, Texas; and John Kasich, Ohio Governor.

Republican Primaries have been rather hostile, as Trump attacks other candidates, leading to harsh retaliation. Cruz and Florida Senator Marco Rubio, who suspended his campaign Mar. 16, have been Trump's main targets and have also been his greatest source of criticism. This strategy is turning out well for Trump, whose political game of King of the Hill has boded well for his nomination over the past several



months. This outcome is much to the dismay of the Republican leadership, whose attempts to stop his runaway campaign have fallen far short of their mark. Their efforts suffered a major blow when Chris Christie, New Jersey Governor and a leader of the party, endorsed Trump upon dropping out of the primary after a loss in New Hampshire. "I will lend my support between now and November in any way for Donald," Christie announced on Friday, Feb. 26, at a Trump rally in Fort Worth, Texas.

When they aren't too busy attacking each other, the candidates debate

and discuss policies. The main issue of the Republican debates has been job creation, as each of the candidates compares their economic experience. Kasich and Trump use their success in executive experience and job creation as evidence for their qualifications, while Cruz stands by his experience in federal government and as a representative for the voters.

Meanwhile, the Democrats have narrowed their field from three to two candidates: Hillary Clinton, retired Secretary of State; and Bernie Sanders, U.S. Senator, Vermont. Clinton cur-

rently holds the lead, though Sanders always remains in a close second. This primary has been far more friendly than that of the Republicans, with the debates being fairly calm. This calmness has allowed much more discussion about policies and plans for the presidency. The main issue of the Democratic debates has been income inequality and its remedies. Sanders plans to take a more direct approach by more than doubling the national minimum wage to \$15 and putting an estate tax on the top 0.3 percent of Americans who inherit more than \$3.5 million. Clinton, on the other hand, plans to take an indirect approach by increasing the national minimum wage to \$12 and investing in infrastructure to create more jobs. They both plan to give more power to workers' unions and make it easier for workers to join unions.

"Billionaires, you cannot continue to get huge tax breaks while children all over this country go hungry," Sanders said in his announcement to run for president on May 26, 2015.

As the primaries develop, it will be important to maintain an objective point of view and pay attention to what the candidates' policies will be.

-By Blaine Loftis & Cooper Barnes

EHS facility history, secrets revealed

Elmira has had many students throughout the years, but what many don't know is how the school began

difference to the budget of 3.7 million dollars set for this year's new construction changes at the high school.

school was bought from the Guiles family for one dollar.

Greg Baker, director of facilities, is in charge of multiple jobs involving the entire school district. He ensures that there is a healthy and safe environment to provide schooling, and a good comfortable environment for education. Baker also graduated Elmira in 1972.

"I am responsible for the total preventative and ongoing maintenance and operation of the District's 43.2 million dollar inventory of buildings, equipment, 1,327 students, 156 staff members, and visitors," said Baker.

Baker is also in charge of fixing

things that go wrong in the case of emergencies. "One year, both boilers went down, and they blamed me for everything. They even blamed me for the basketball team losing that night because it was cold," said Baker.

In the beginning, the Elmira schools even went by a different name: Duckworth. There have been many significant changes throughout the years, and soon there will be even more improvements in the school buildings, including the addition of LED lighting in every room of the high school as of next year.

-By Jessica Coone & Daniel Phillips



Photo courtesy of G. Baker

Main Elmira Junior High School building in 1964

and how the facilities were developed.

Until 1960, the school was made up of separate buildings, and then it was consolidated into one small building holding 640 students and 34 staff members. In 1964, the high school, which was a three-year school back then, began.

The building budget of the new school was 750,000 dollars, a huge

Additions to the high school were gradually added with the track being built in 1973, the cafeteria, administration office, and learning center being added in 1999. Throughout those years, there wasn't even air-conditioning until 2001.

Altogether the EHS property is 22.7 acres with the main property having been purchased early 1963 for 12,000 dollars. The sports field at the middle

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DEPRESSION AFFECTS MANY PEOPLE, CAN BE TREATED

Depression affects many people all over the world. Studies show that roughly 14.8 million Americans are affected each year. Although depression can develop at any age, the median age at which it occurs is early 30's.

Depression occurs in both children and adults and it can be hereditary. This illness can be mild to very extreme. Depression is very serious and can be triggered by even the slightest occurrence. Many times, depression is caused by a major life change that leaves a person feeling sadness in short or long periods of time.

Depression can cause other health issues as well. These other health issues include a worsening of the physical condition, bipolar disease, anxiety, among others. These other health issues can have a great effect on a person. However, there is treatment for these

illnesses.

Treatment for these conditions can last for only a short period of time, or very long periods of time. The point: depression can be treated. Treatment is easy to find, and it may help.

Counselors can help for a person who just needs to talk about their feelings. From there on, there is therapy, medication, and doctor's help.

Depression can be treated, and self-harm is never the answer. Self-harm can be emotional or physical, and neither should be practiced.

Doctors, counselors, and psychiatrists can help, and they do every day.

It can be very disappointing to family members and friends if they know of someone who is depressed, but they can also help. With support and kindness, a per-

son with depression can be helped by those that are closest to them.

Many people do not choose to tell their family and/or friends because they are afraid of the reaction they will get, but most people do get the support they need.

Depression can be very hard to deal with, but it can be treated and this is advised to anyone who has, or knows anyone who has, this illness.

Treatment should be

utilized at the earliest point in which depression occurs, by doing this, severe depression may be avoided.

-By Desirea Collins



What would you do?



You're known as the go-to babysitter around town. Parents know to call you when their little ones need watched. Maybe the parents are going on a date night or their regular sitter can't make it.

One night, you're called by a nice sounding couple; they have one kid, a three year old girl named Aaliyah, who just needed watched for the evening. They promise to pay well as it is a school night. Being short on cash, you agree. What could go wrong?

After checking in with the parents, you decide tonight should be easy. The little girl is easy going and

seems to enjoy the games you've played with her. Shortly after her bath time, it's time for her to go to bed. She is better than most other kids you've watched. Most kids cry and cry until they are finally asleep, but luckily for you she falls asleep as soon as you put her down.

Shortly after she is sound asleep in her bed, you head back downstairs to finish the little amount of homework you have left. You turn your music on softly and hum along to the lyrics while working on your homework. Somehow, you become lost in your homework and don't hear the soft knock on the back door.

The knock starts the gradually build by the time you hear it. Although you are babysitting and the child's safety should come before your own, you're afraid; you are easily frightened by little things like strange sounds. You debate whether you should go and check out the strange knocking, protecting the little girl and yourself, or ignore the sound and risk the girl and yours life. What would you do?

-By Ashlyn Foote

Must read books: Green popular author, writer



John Green is a well-known name around the reading industry. Green is mostly known for his #1 *New York Times* sellers *Paper Towns*, *Looking for Alaska*, and *The Fault in Our Stars*. Two of his novels have been turned into movies.

He currently has eight novels published, almost all young adult books. His novels follow the lives of teenagers who are all in different stages of their lives; some are battling cancer, while others are on a road trip searching for a missing friend.

Green has won many awards for his novels. *Looking for Alaska* won the 2006 Michael L. Printz Award; *An Abundance of Katherines* won the same award in 2007. His books have also topped several different charts regarding books.

Besides being an author, Green hosts a YouTube channel with his brother, Hank Green. This channel includes several educational videos with Crash

Course History videos on many different history topics.

A highly- liked book by John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars*, follows a few months in the lives of Augustus Waters and Hazel Lancaster. Both characters have cancer and meet at a cancer support group. The two are unsure of what to think about each other, but after spending time together after their cancer support group, they become friends.

Augustus still has his Make a Wish wish and knows how much Hazel enjoys this one author, Peter Van Houten. Unfortunately, Van Houten lives in Amsterdam, all the way across the world from their home state of Indiana. With the help of Augustus and countless doctors, the couple, are able to travel and meet the author of Hazel's favorite book. After coming home, more exciting events happen. Read it to find out.

-By Ashlyn Foote

PLAYERS INSPIRE

As of now the Elmira varsity boys' basketball team is at the end of their season at 13 wins and 10 losses. Both the varsity and jv basketball teams have played many games but "Cottage Grove was the best game," said varsity player Kellen Smith, soph.

Many of the players feel that the games have gone well.

"I think we did fairly well this year," said Smith.

The teams may have things they need to work on next year to improve their wins.

"We need to work as a team," said jv player Davis Kilmer, soph. Kilmer worked on things from last

year that has helped him gain more wins this year. "I was calmer and didn't get mad," Kilmer said.

Varsity player Chad Estrella, jr., personally feels like he needs to, "shoot more three's."

Others have also inspired people to play sports. Estrella said that Coach Mike inspired him to play basketball.

"The coaches did a fantastic job this year," Smith said.

People can inspire others in the same sport by encouraging them to keep going. Kilmer thought "Logan Duquette, soph.," improved the most from last year.

-By Austyn Bechtol



K. Heakin/ The Falconer

Kyle White, jr, plays defense for the Elmira Falcon JV team at Fern Ridge Middle School.

News Briefs

April 1: Falcon Pageant concert Cafeteria 3:30-9:00pm

April 2: Open soccer gym 6-8pm

April 3: Falcon dance practice 5-8 pm in the theatre

April 4: OBOB 3:30-4:30

ATHELETE OF THE MONTH Dale Miller, sr.

Q:What sports do you play?

Wrestling- seven years

A:I play football and I wrestle.

Q:What do you like about each sport most?

A:I like to hit people in football and getting my hand raised after winning a match in wrestling.

Q:How long have you been playing them?

A:Football- five years

Q:What do you do in your free time when you are not in school or playing sports?

A: I enjoy eating and sleeping.

Q:What do you want to do in life after high school?

A: Law enforcement

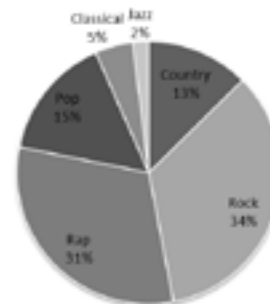
Q:What would you tell someone who just started to play the sport?

A:Never give up



March 31, 2016

Music Most Listened to



In a survey that was conducted on Mar. 2 during homeroom, 152 of the possible 311 or 48.9% of the underclassmen voted for their favorite genre of music out of the choices available. The choices consisted of the following: country, rock, rap, pop, classical, and jazz. Rock came out on top, followed by rap. Pop was third in line with country right at its heels. Rounding it out was classical, and finally, jazz.

Falcon Attacks

Sarah May, jr.

Q: How do you feel getting attacked by the Falcon?
team?

A: Denver Broncos.

A: I am dearly in love with the Falcon.

Q: What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?

A: I like playing bingo with old people.

Q: What is your favorite subject in school?

A: Pre-calculus.

Q: What is your favorite sports



Falconer 5

WHALES APPEAR OFF OREGON COAST



Whale Watching season is now in Oregon. Oregon coastline has over thirty cities that offer whale watching experiences.

The first step to go whale watching is to get to the coast. Once there, you can either go to a port that offers whale watching trips on a boat or go to the beach and try to see them from the shore.

Whales start to migrate late winter and early spring to try to get to warmer climates for summer. The whales start from Mexico and head up to Canada and Alaska. Some of the species are year-around, so they will always be there (visitoregon-

coast.com)

"I have seen humpback whales in Hawaii. You know that it's illegal to go near a humpback whale. In order to see them, turn off the motor of the boat and wait for them to come to you," said Shannon Hart, English teacher.

One of the most common species you can find is the Gray whale. Over 18,000 Gray whales migrate through the Oregon coastline. Also the Grey whales have their young at this time of the year (eugeneascadeandcoast.org). The other whales that migrate through the Pacific Ocean are humpback whales and blue whales

(whalereport.com). Blue whales are the largest mammal on the planet.

"I would assume whales migrate with their food source. They also probably birth their young in warmer waters. Also the grey whale population is at the highest it has ever been in history," said Gwen Harper, science teacher.

Places you can go to see the whales migration are Umpqua Lighthouse, Sea lion Caves, Depoe Bay Whale Watching Center ,and Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.

Beaches have lots of whale watching stations and opportunities.

-By Kyla Esselburn

Southern Oregon discovers new arachnid

Recently, a new species of arachnid, the Cryptomaster Behemoth, was discovered in the Southern Oregon region. This arachnid is of the daddy longleg species and is a monster in size as compared to other daddy longlegs, but in reality, is quite small at about four millimeters in size. The average size of a common daddy longleg is about two millimeters.

Some may automatically think 'spider' when they hear the term 'arachnid,' but really, daddy longlegs are not a spider at all. They are a species called harvestman and greatly differ from spiders with one body segment instead of two, only two eyes rather than up to eight, and the inability to make a web.

Therefore, this new arachnid

is a harvestman, not a spider as mentioned by various other news sources.

The hunt for this new species of arachnid began after the Cryptomaster Behemoth's cousin, the Cryptomaster Leviathan was discovered in Gold Beach, Oregon in 1969. After the discovery in 1969, a search began to find more arachnids of the Cryptomaster genus, and the habitat of the C. Leviathan was much broader than thought, stretching all the way to the Cascade mountain range.

During the continued search, the C. Behemoth was recently found. Its habitat is not nearly as vast as that of its cousin. So far, it has only been found living in the Cascade area.

"This research highlights the



Photo courtesy of www.express.co.uk

Cryptomaster behemoth found lurking in Southern Oregon forests.

importance of short-range endemic arachnids for understanding biodiversity, and further reveals mountainous southern Oregon as a hot spot for endemic animal species.," wrote researchers in the journal *Zookeys*, published online Jan. 20.

The similarities between the two cousins makes it hard to tell the two apart. The only difference is in the

genital parts of the two species.

However, the arachnids can easily be surpassed. They lurk beneath logs and debris, waiting for their prey: other arthropods. These arachnids are not dangerous to humans and don't viciously attack large animals. In fact, their name comes from their ability to stay hidden, away from other wildlife.

-By Jessica Coone

Top 10 places to explore in Oregon

1. Fort Clatsop
2. Devil's Punchbowl
3. Multnomah Falls
4. Painted Hills
5. Oregon Vortex
- 6 Falconer
6. Mount Pisgah
7. Mount Bachelor
8. Tillamook Cheese Factory
9. OMSI
10. Haystack Rock

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KEY CLUB DELIVERS FAT CHECK TO CHILDRENS' HOSPITAL

On Sat., Feb. 28, four of Elmira's Key Club members, along with the advisers and a few Kiwanis board members, met at Banner Bank at 6:15 a.m. and carpooled to Portland. In Portland they arrived at Doernbecher's Collaborative Life Science Building, where they met some of Doernbecher's cancer research fellows and specialists.

Key Club members have participated in a wide variety of activities in order to raise funds. They held an assembly back in Nov., ran a stand selling hot dogs and snacks at Al's Hidden Valley tree farm, and operated a snack stand at the Winter Formal dance.

Key Club has raised a total

of the patients from sliding around on hospital floors.

Altogether, Key Club raised three times more money than last year, and the most money from any Key Clubs in the state.

"This is the most money we've ever raised. The kids worked really hard to earn that money," said Doncella Marquess, art teacher and Key Club adviser.

US News and World Reports ranks Doernbecher Children's Hospital at the top in seven different specialties. "People come from all over the world to do research [at Doernbecher Children's Hospital]," said Marquess.

One of Kiwanis' biggest projects is funding Doernbechers. Kiwanis is a global volunteer organization.

Over half of the pediatricians in Oregon were trained at Doernbecher, the only hospital in Oregon with a pediatric residency program.

According to their website, "each year more than 600 medical students from around the country vie for the program's 16 spots."

Doernbecher offers many fellowships, a period of training medical students undertake after their residency. Key Club has teamed up with Kiwanis to raise the money for the fellowship program.

The doctors in training spend three years in the fellowship program. The first year is mainly research and the second and third years are spent treating patients.

"Waking up knowing you helped a child is a great way to wake up," said Linda C. Stork, division head of pediatric hematology/oncology.

Fellows and Specialists thanked the Key Clubs and Kiwanis for their



Juniors Brad Renfro, president, Jane Stevens, and Emma Straub bear gifts for Doernbecher's on Sat., Feb. 28

donations to the program.

"We would not exist without your support, so thank you from the bottom of my heart," said Evan Shereck, director of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program.

At Doernbechers, they are able to cure 80 percent of kids with cancer, but they will not be satisfied until they cure 100 percent of cancer all over the world.

In order to do that, they must encourage Fellows to think outside the box and provide them with the tools they need to conduct research. Often, the government will not fund scientists' research; this leads many to give up on their projects. The fellowship program aims to prevent this from happening by finding the grants needed for scientists and doctors to stay dedicated to their work. The money that Kiwanis donates frees up the fellows to focus solely on research.

In order to help cure cancer outside the U.S., doctors are sent to developing countries like Tanzania; there they help the people learn to use their resources to do the best they can.

Fellows were asked several questions about themselves, why they decided to work at Doernbechers and what advice they would give to high schoolers.

Doctor Adam Lambel, second year Fellow, talked about how important it is to find a profession that you are passionate about. If you choose to do something that you love, working hard becomes easier.

"Taking time to make good decisions is helpful but also get those good test scores too" said Lambel.

David Kram, a third year Fellow, learned a lot from his first patient Tim. Tim lost everything, but he took it with such stride, recalls Kram.

Katrina Winsnes, a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellow, talked about how and why she decided to be a doctor.

"I personally feel like we're all here; we should all try to make each others' lives a little better," said Winsnes.

Winsnes feels that money shouldn't influence anyone's decision to become a doctor. The average medical student graduate is \$170,000 or more in debt. If a high schooler does decide to pursue higher education, there are many things you need to do in order to make a good application.

Students need to be active, through volunteer work and extracurriculars; be stubborn; and put in the time and work. A good application needs to be interesting and relatable and full of things that matter, like good test scores.

After the presentation at Doernbecher, which included a virtual tour along with the many speakers. Elmira's Key Clubbers stopped at Carl's Jr. for lunch and headed home.

Brad Renfro, Key Club president, thought it was good trip, but they've been doing the same thing for the past couple of years and should probably update it a little although people who hadn't been before learned a lot.

"[Donating to the Fellowship Program] is a good cause, it really helps," said Marquess.



Puff Paint Socks

of \$1,207.97 to deliver to Doernbecher's personally on Feb. 28. Along with the money, Key Club members of Elmira met early on the mornings to decorate socks with a special puff paint, which keeps



Dwight Wartenbee Trucking

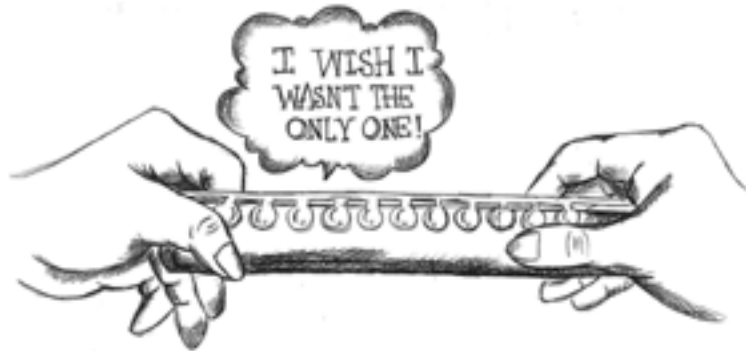
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BAND MAY RETURN FOR AN ENCORE

After five years of absence, the band program at Elmira High School is being given a second chance.

Five years ago, the band and choir programs in the Fern Ridge

[at the middle school],” said Jeffrey Soffer, band teacher. “The standard band instruments will be a must, [such as] flutes, clarinets, oboes, saxophones, trumpets,



School District shut down as the district lost its only band and choir teacher, Chris Peters. Fortunately, the district was able to bring back the choir program with a new teacher the following year. Last year, Fern Ridge Middle School re-introduced their band program and hired a new band teacher, Jeffrey Soffer.

Now, this upcoming year, the high school may be getting its own band program back. When forecasting takes place in May, band will be included with the other fine arts classes.

“I’m going to build on the work we’re doing at the middle school right now, as there will be several eighth graders coming up from the middle school to join high school students willing to put in the time and energy to working with the group I already have down here

horns, trombones, baritones, tubas, and percussion.”

Soffer has a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education focused on band and a Master’s Degree in Saxophone Performance, both from Amherst College in Amherst, MA. He was a student teacher at Agawam High School, which has “one of the strongest band programs in the state [of Massachusetts]”; he also worked with marching bands in Massachusetts and New Jersey as summer work; most recently, he taught elementary school music in Roseburg, OR. This is his second year teaching full time. He plays all forms of the saxophone.

“I’ve always wanted to build up a program like this. The program won’t be fully formed in a year, it’s going to take a few years, but I’m really excited to see it grow,

expand, and get better every year that I’m there,” Soffer said.

The students at the high school seem to be excited about the return of band.

“Now that it’s finally returning, I’m a little disappointed I’ll only be able to take it [band] for a year, but I’m happy for the lower classes,” Dylan Porter, jr., said.

There are some issues with bringing the high school band program back. One such issue is instruments. The instruments in the high school’s inventory include: 1 piccolo; 2 oboes; 2 bassoons; 1 bass and 1 contra-bass clarinet; 2 alto, 4 tenor, and 3 baritone saxophones; 2 alto horns; 1 trumpet; 4 French horns; 9 trombones; 4 baritones; 2 tubas; 3 sousaphones and 1 alto sousaphone. This inventory is, unfortunately, missing percussion instruments. For the complete inventory of instruments, students should go to Amy Kappeler, high school choir teacher.

The school will not be purchasing any new instruments, which

may present some problems to some students, and may also limit the class size.

“If, for example, a student wanted to play the piccolo, and we don’t have a piccolo, then they would have to go out and buy one,” said Principal Gary Carpenter, Jr. Another option to play an instrument not in the high school’s inventory would be to rent the instrument from a music store in Eugene.

Getting enough students signed up to conduct the class may be a problem.

“In order for the class to take place, there have to be enough potential band students. We won’t have the class if only a couple students sign up for it,” Carpenter said. To be more exact, at least three students must sign up for the class for it to be considered, let alone actually occur.

Come May, students who want to take the class need to sign up for it; otherwise, it may not take place.

-By Blaine Loftis

Car of the Month



Levi Hanson

Q: What kind of car is it?

A: “The car is a 79 Camaro with a Z28.”

Q: How did you find this car?

A: “It was originally my dad’s.”

Q: How long have you had this car?

A: “I have been driving this car for like eight months.”

Q: What do you think of the car?

A: “It is really cool because my parents have a ‘69 Camaro with flames; it is really cool to have a car like theirs.”

Buck Pelroy
Janet Pelroy

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IRISH SAVE CIVILIZATION

When Americans think of Ireland, they mostly think of Saint Patrick's Day, but do they really know why?

Actually, Saint Patrick was not even Irish. As a young Catholic in Wales, he was captured by Celtic raiders from Ireland, known then in Gaelic as "Eren." During his confinement, he successfully planted the seed of Christianity in a mostly pagan culture. His captors celebrated the arrival of their new religion and the "Saint" who brought it, spinning the tale of a righteous hero driving the serpents, a metaphor for sin, from Ireland.

However, this was only the tip of the iceberg. Ireland's culture and history are far more extensive than one story. What is perhaps the Irish

people's greatest feat goes widely unnoticed and unappreciated.

When the Rome was sacked by the Huns in 476 A.D., much of the city was burned, including the libraries. A large



portion of Rome's culture, science, and technologies were thought to have been lost. However, the Catholic church had long predicted the fall of the crumbling empire. In the dead of night, Catholic priests, among other scholars, secreted

away thousands of documents, artifacts, and works of art through a series of Catholic friendly villages and monasteries until

they reached Christianity's farthest outpost: Ireland.

Rome fell, and Europe descended into chaos. As the Franks, the Saxons, and the Anglo-Saxons fought within the power vacuum, over twenty generations of Celtic and Gaelic monks and scholars watched, waited, and studied. They learned philosophy, science, mathematics, and history, biding their time until Europe's warring tribes could be reintroduced to an advanced society.

When the the Turks invaded Europe and the Crusades began in about 1,000 A.D., the various peoples were united under the Christian flag. This was the perfect time. Europe's open channels for communication provided the perfect infrastructure to spread the knowledge that had so long been lost. The longest conflict in human history also brought the world a new birth of knowledge; the renaissance of France, Italy, and Spain began in Ireland.

-By Cooper Barnes

Ask Freddy

Dear Freddy,

If I want to become a multidimensional God, what should I do?

Dear God wannabe,

Well first off, in order to become a multidimensional God, you must be in touch with all of the dimensions including length, width, depth, time, and of course, spirit. You have to find where you are located in this world, in this matter of time and depth, and you have to become in touch with your inner self...the sense of "peace" within you. For you are a soul, a body already with dimension. The only

requirement you have to meet then is to be followed and worshipped by thousands. Use their energy to perform your Godly tasks.

Best of luck to you,

Your friend,
Freddy

Dear Freddy,

I have a friend who has a friend that bullies me. He is actually an exchange student who hangs out with another exchange student. He's pretty intimidating. He bullies his friend just because of his ethnicity. That makes me really sad. I wish he wouldn't bully people.

What should I do?

Dear Concerned Friend,

It is really sad that this is happening to both your friend and you. I think the best thing for you to do is to politely ask this person to stop. Say that it does hurt and it's not okay, even if he was "joking." If it continues, tell a trusted adult whom you know can help with the situation. I suggest that you support your friend and be there for this person if they need to talk about it. Most of all, try your best to put an end to this without getting too upset.

Again, I'm sorry that this is happening.

Your friend,
Freddy



Unique holidays pop up in April

April is well known for April Fool's Day, but there are some holidays we don't know about. This month is full of holidays and also full of holidays that pile up on the same day (holidayinsight.com).

April 2 is National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day.

April 3 is World Party Day.

April 4 is Walk Around Things and Tell A Lie Day.

April 7 is Caramel Popcorn, No Housework, and World Health Day.

April 13 is Scrabble Day.

April 16 is National Stress Awareness Day.

April 17 is National Cheeseball and Blah, Blah, Blah Day.

April 19 is National Garlic Day.

April 25 is National Penguin Day.

April 26 is Hug An Australian and Pretzel Day.

April 28 National Kiss Your Mate Day.

March 31, 3016



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Universities bring more opportunities, open doors

Universities have more opportunities for higher degrees. You can get your degree all at once in a university and have a faster, on track process.

One benefit of a university is a “college life.” Unlike community college, Universities offer clubs and other off campus activities. This helps college students make more friends and get involved in other programs.

According to one web site, scholarship.com, there is also a lighter workload. Some of the exams at universities are a lot easier than those at Community Colleges. There is also little course work in some classes. This provides time to do other things, such as a job or off campus activities.

Community colleges are two-year schools with a smaller variety of courses and majors. If you need a variety of classes you need to attend to a university to try to get the major or degree you



want (ecampustours.com). If you have to pay to retake credits, then it would not be cheaper.

There is also another problem with community colleges; it is often difficult to transfer credits. If you need, a four-year degree, then you would have to transfer from the community college to the university.

If you wanted permanent residence in schooling, you would want a university (scholarship.com). Some credits are also not transferable. Sometimes when you transfer, you may have to retake a course you already took because the credits weren't transferable. This will also delay your graduation date and cost more money.

A university is such a better choice for a campus life, especially in the concern of receiving credits.

-By Kyla Esselburn

Community college proves more beneficial than universities

Community college is an alternative to universities, and may prove to be more beneficial in the long run.

Community college is highly flexible on its schedule. In fact, a person can choose the classes that work best for their schedule. So if someone were to have a job during the day, they can still go to college at night and have night classes.

Another reason why community college can be more beneficial is the cost of tuition. Because of the fairly cheaper costs, a person can take more classes based on their interests than going to a university and paying more for only one interest.

Community college also has smaller classes than universities. Therefore, allowing easier learning environments rather than in larger, more distracting classes offered at universities.

As well as the reasons listed above, community college also has many transitional opportunities. Many colleges have transfer programs, and community colleges may have cheaper costs to transfer than do transferring from four year universities to another four year university.

Community college gives students the opportunity to explore their options of degrees. Many degrees

are offered and many degrees are beneficial; however, community college is cheaper to explore all the different degrees.

“The two-year degree is called an Associate’s Degree. Once a student finishes, he or she transfers to a four-year university if another degree is required. Community colleges are a wonderful place to do prerequisite classes before entering into a major course of study,” said Jeanie May, who holds a Master’s Degree in community college.

Community college can also be more beneficial than universities because in universities, the cost may be too high for some students, such

as the \$25,000 yearly cost at the University of Oregon, causing them to take out financial aid. Financial aid may be much more expensive in the long run than just going to a cheaper college like Lane Community College, which costs by the class. In fall of 2016, a plan to make tuition at community college will be approved, benefitting many people who do not want to pay so much going to a university.

There are many options for graduating students, and community college could be beneficial if chosen as a place to study.

-By Desirea Collins

Birds Eye View: Does a community college prove more effective than an university?



Rowdy Ramirez, fr.:
“I think a university is more effective because there are more opportunities for different things.”



Chelsea Blomberg, soph.:
“Community college is a good route for people who don’t have as good of grades or GPA’s.”



Jason Bonin, jr.:
“A community college is cheaper and can usually lead to a four year college. The first two years of community college could be free.”



Whitney Fox, sr.:
“I think that it depends on the college, and what you are looking to study.”

Freshmen travel to U of O, NCU

Elmira High School freshmen received a glimpse into their future on Feb 26. With the majority of the class participating in tours of the University of Oregon and Northwestern Christian University, they have a better understanding of how a college campus works and what to expect when it's their turn to

of O campus by a student ambassador.

U of O has eight different sub sections within the campus: Architecture, Arts and Science, Music and Dance, Journalism and Communication, Business, Law, Education, and the Honors College.



Photo by L. Givens/*The Falconer*

NCU supervisor relays information about cafeteria food. All food in the cafeteria is made from scratch.

think about college.

Juniors and seniors have gone on college visitation trips in the past, but since Gary Carpenter's time as principal of Elmira High School, there haven't been any college field trip opportunities for the freshmen classes until this year.

Each year, the school sets goals for itself; one of the goals was, "To increase the opportunities and availability of post-secondary information and resources for all EHS students." This includes more college visitation trips to better prepare graduating classes.

Carpenter hopes that students will benefit from the exposure to college life by seeing that college is a possibility. Students who are exposed to college campuses early on in high school have a higher chance of wanting to attend college themselves.

After a short bus ride to the U of O's campus, the class was split into five groups, each accompanied by a staff member or volunteer chaperone. Each group of around fifteen students was guided around the U

Along the U of O tour, the freshmen visited places like the Student Rec. Center, historic Hayward Field, one of the nine dining halls, the Willamette Hall, Streisinger Hall, Fenton Hall, the Straub Hall, the Lillis Business complex, the Knight library, and passed various other places along the way.

Ambassadors from the U of O not only gave students a tour of the campus and gave them an insider's perspective to college life as well as tips for applying to college.

Ambassador Hayden told students to apply for as many scholarships as possible, even the ones that aren't very popular. Millions of dollars are lost each year in scholarship money because students simply don't apply for them.

Hayden also talked about challenging yourself to get good grades and take on those college level classes. He also pointed out that taking hard classes doesn't mean you need to struggle. Students should make good use of their resources to get the help you need, such as free tutoring at the U of O.

"[Having] more credits coming in, it can be a lot easier when you get here," said Hayden.

According to Hayden, the three best things about the U of O are the hands on experience, community, and the school spirit.

After touring the U of O campus, students took a short walk over to Northwest Christian University, NCU. Before touring their campus, NCU provided a free pizza lunch for the students.

At NCU their main focus is on faith and service, community, and athletics. The five most popular majors right now are business, exercise science, psychology, accounting, and teacher education.

With a student to teacher ratio of 12:1, students are more likely to create closer relationships with their professors. Although NCU is a smaller campus, the tour guides stressed a smaller school creates a tight knit community.

At NCU students toured the cafeteria, a few hang-out rooms, and their chapel among other things.

Touring the two college campuses,

Justen Sagen, fr.

GPA and test scores do come into play when applying for scholarships. Although it is okay to take a few educational classes and the rest of your day be filled with electives, colleges would rather see a student taking AP classes while playing sports or other extracurricular activities. Having to balance hard classes and loved activities shows a lot about the individual.

"Doing more than the norm... that says a lot about you," said the U of O's speaker.

Next year, there might even be a chance for two freshmen college visits, one in the fall and one in the spring.

"I would've liked to have a longer tour," said Saegen

Besides having the day off of school, the freshmen class experienced an eye-opening day.

"I think it was a very educational experience and it has opened up my mind for college."

said Sarah Stout, fr.

They learned about how a college campus works and different ways



Photo by K. Heakin/*The Falconer*

U of O representative stops Elmira's freshmen for an update of the campus.

students realized college is nearing them in a few years. Student ambassadors and speakers from both schools stressed the importance of keeping your grades up, and it stuck.

"I'll be more mindful of my GPA," said Rowdy Ramirez, fr.

Melissa Buckley, fr., had similar thoughts of maintaining a good GPA and healthy study habits.

"As long as I focus and keep my grades up, [college] can be a possibility for anyone really," said

they can prepare themselves.

"I didn't know that [college students] don't have a full schedule... they have around twelve hours of class a week; I do that in two days!" said Stout.

College may be few years away, but the idea is now running in the back of their mind, something that will help them when it's their turn to apply for colleges.

"It made me kinda excited about college," said Shelby McCormick, fr.

-By Andrea Griffin
Falconer 11

Just relax, go to bed. You need to go to bed!

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)
T-Rex's arms may have been tiny and useless, but have you ever seen a sad T-Rex? No, because an asteroid killed them all. So don't be sad and armless. You could be hit by an asteroid.

Taurus (Apr. 21-May 20)
The time has come to make a choice: stop watching Netflix until 2 a.m. or start drinking coffee. Just remember that high schoolers drinking coffee is super dangerous. Perhaps you should sleep on it. Just relax, go to bed. You need to go to bed!

Gemini (May 21-Jun. 20)
And now, a word from our sponsors. (Product placement and unnecessary pyrotechnics) I lied. We have no sponsors. They don't want us, but they want you. They're coming, and you will never stop them from selling you overpriced products of terrible quality. The consumerism is coming! The consumerism is coming!

Cancer (Jun. 21-Jul. 22)

Running out of things to do? Go home and watch animated Christmas specials, go bowling, make cookies, conquer Europe, whatever. I'm sure that the animated bowling European chef community will appreciate it.

Leo (Jul. 23-Aug. 22)

You know that little reading voice in your head? That's Morgan Freeman. Every thought you have will be narrated by Morgan Freeman. Say it in your head. Morgan Freeman, Morgan Freeman. Addictive, Right?

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
Virgo literally translates to virgin, which is of course short for Virginia style ham. From now on, only give ham as a gift. Tell nothing but ham jokes. Ham forever!

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)
Ever think you need to shake things up a little? Life has a depressing lack of bass drops. Fix that. Any time something interesting happens, BASS.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

The internet has become too packed with stuff, and it's time for a reboot. The cat photos are everywhere and the grammarless tweets are overflowing. Just give the cat the cheeseburger and get it over with so we can get on with our lives.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

What? You were expecting these messages to make sense? No, that's not how this works. If you disagree, duel me. Other-

wise, enjoy the nonsense. The horoscopes are dead. Long live horoscopes.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Move to Australia. Just do it. Sure, everything wants to kill you, but you can get a killer accent, and isn't that all we really want out of life?

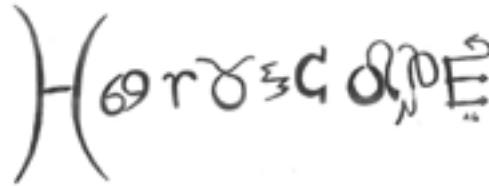
Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Did you know that water is the only substance that exists in all three states of matter on Earth? Go ahead, try it. Effervesce. It sounds fun. 70% of you is water anyway. You would be like scary skinny. Okay no. Nevermind. Don't. I've just been informed that you will die if you do that.

Pisces (Feb. 20 Mar. 20)

You're still here? It's over. Go home. Seriously, go. We're done here. Go watch an 80s movie in bed or something. There is nothing for you here. Except education and a future. Seriously kids, stay in school. And stay off the streets.

-By Cooper Barnes



Things heard in the halls

Terrace, not terrorists. That's a different story entirely.

Ahhh! Monsters! Oh wait, that's just my class...

Why are we breaking our noses with bowstrings and sniffing lemons?

Why would I put a slave in my quote?

We need a bus shark! Why don't we have a bus shark?

My palms smell like a pet shop, but my fingers are islands.

Tres Leches Cake



Servings: 15

Ingredients:

Cake:

- 1 (18 1/4) box white cake mix
- 4 large eggs
- 1 1/4 cups water

Soaking Liquid:

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk
- 1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9-12 baking pan.

Beat the four eggs in a bowl. Then add water and cake mix and beat for another three minutes. Pour the batter into the greased pan. Bake for 30 minutes.

Let cake cool to room temperature. While waiting, mix together the three milks (heavy cream, evaporated milk, and sweetened condensed milk). Once the cake has cooled, poke holes all over the cake (a chopstick or toothpick will work). There should be a lot of holes in the cake so that it can properly absorb the milk mixture.

Now pour the milk mixture over the cake slowly, allowing the cake to absorb the liquid. Refrigerate cake until ready to serve.

If desired, this cake can be topped with whipped cream or a drizzle of heavy cream.