You always gain by giving LOVE

news
new counselor
page: 3

a&e
animated films
page: 5

sports
baseball
page: 11
Academic Decathlon
Academic Decathlon competed at the regional competition in Marsing on Jan. 25. Juniors Mia Nielsen and Sophia Orm both tied for third place in social science. Sophomore Kobe Jeppesen took second place in interview and first place in science. The State competition will be held in Moscow on March 13 and 14.

Art Club
Art Club has been working on painting masks for the district fundraising event.

Counseling
There will be an SAT for juniors on Tuesday, April 14. Hook, Line, and Sinker
Hook, Line, and Sinker Club is receiving new stickers. In February and March they will be heading to Owyhee and in May they will head to the Bass Derby.

HOSA
State HOSA is April 15 to April 17 in Boise, Idaho.

NHS
NHS students, please check the drive for service opportunities. There are a few upcoming events.

Skills USA Photography
There will be meetings on the following dates at 11:30: March 11, April 15 and May 13.

Spanish Club
The Spanish Club will be selling pulseras coming up in March 13 and 14.

SRO
SRO lunch in front of the cafeteria. $6.00 each and will be sold at lunch in front of the cafeteria.

Business Professionals of America is an organization that develops and empowers the leaders of tomorrow.

Business Professionals of America is making moves

Joe Gossi, many students are improving their skills or learning new ones. A few of these include: video production, computer programming, business administration and accounting.

“We continue to work hard to grow our chapter,” Gossi said. “Many students are super gifted and some are surprised by the talent they didn’t know they possessed.”

On Jan. 11, BPA held a regional competition at CWI Boise which many Eagle High students attended. Of the 20 participants from Eagle High, 15 placed in the top six and 10 qualified for the State Conference. Six students took first place, including junior Mitchell Parker in Advanced Word Processing and junior Austin Durfee in Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications. Junior Nick Lloyd, junior Aiden Rasmussen, junior Jaron Moore and junior Joe Amorebieta were awarded first place for Global Marketing Team.

The State Conference is this March at Boise State University. There, they will have the opportunity to be selected to compete at the National Conference this May in Washington, D.C.

The chapter continues to develop and expand their reach. They have a few meetings scheduled to focus on fundraising ideas.

“We are excited about the future of our chapter here at Eagle High,” Gossi said. “Hopefully the success of our members inspires others to take a risk and try something they didn’t know they would enjoy.”

BPA doesn’t get as much recognition as they deserve, so don’t hesitate to congratulate these students for the great work they continue to do.

Mother nature declares war on the Australian continent

The Australia Brush fires started in late December, flaring up near Christmas time, and have only continued to spread across the coasts of Australia. The fires have endangered and killed many animals and people.

According to bbc.com, the fires have spread to cover over 24.7 million acres of land in Australia. The fires have caused many people to leave their homes and evacuate the area.

Insider.com said that 46% of the land was burned in the Australia fires than in the Amazon fires. The fires have, in total burned as much land as two Idahos put together.

Much of the scarce vegetation in Australia has been burned away from the fires. Blake Ramsey

The fires started because this was the hottest and driest year in Australia’s history and have spread quickly. Lately, it almost seems as if Mother Nature herself has turned her back on Australia, letting the fires burn. It’s not just the fires, though. There have been numerous other disasters striking Australia.

With its naturally dry environment and the drought, it’s no surprise that Australia caught on fire, but lately Australia has been in a long drought season. This is the reason the brush lit up so quickly; with little water, there isn’t much to keep the brush from igniting.

There have also been numerous other storms in Australia which have started to form after the fires began. Hail as big as to two inches in diameter has coated the burnt ground of Australia and it continues to do so.

Among the natural disasters that have plagued Australia within the last month, dust storms have also appeared on the horizon. Together, these natural disasters have forced about a quarter million people to evacuate their homes and have killed 25 people.

It’s estimated that around one billion animals have died in the wildfires, hail and dust storms. There’s not much humans can do to stop the fires and natural disasters except for hope they end soon. It seems that after everything that has happened, Mother Nature has declared war on Australia.
Two new staff members are hired at EHS

Shelby Burnham
photographer

Two new staff members began their jobs at Eagle High with the new semester. French teacher Emily Blackburn and counselor Brad Hadley.

Blackburn now teaches all the French classes, levels one through four.

“I chose to teach French because I am fascinated with the language and cultures that go along with it,” Blackburn said. She got the chance to dive deeper into the French culture as she traveled there to the cities of Lyon and Caen.

“I am excited to get to know my students and expose them to the French language and Francophone cultures,” Blackburn said. She believes that a language can open many doors and can even be fun to learn. She hopes that her love of the French language will spread to her students.

Blackburn loves to study languages and is currently learning Portuguese. When she isn’t teaching, she likes to spend time drawing, playing volleyball, traveling and watching baseball.

Although it is never easy beginning a teaching job in the middle of the year, Blackburn is already enjoying it here at Eagle High and feels welcomed by the staff and students.

Hadley is the other new staff member who was just hired as a counselor. Before coming to Eagle High, he spent 19 years as a counselor in Idaho Falls, two years at Frank Church High and has just transferred to Eagle High from Rocky Mountain High. He is excited about his new job.

“I have never worked within a department that cares so much about the well-being of students and teachers,” Hadley said. While working here he hopes to make an impact on the culture at Eagle High, build trust with the adults and get to know the students that he works with.

He took over students with the last names from Ho-Me. He works with these students and their goals and aims to help them have a safe, productive and memorable high school experience.

“I have always been someone that enjoys trying to make a difference in others’ lives,” Hadley said. “I decided to become a counselor after my experiences growing up and noticing what a positive influence I could be on others.”

Hadley hopes he can make a difference in the students’ lives here at Eagle.

When Hadley is not working, he likes to spend time outside, hiking, camping, jogging, playing golf, spending time with friends and kids and officiating sports.

While Hadley and Blackburn are working in different departments, they both hope to make a difference in the lives of the students at Eagle High.

Tension increases between the U.S. and Iran

Blake Ramsey
photographer

At the beginning of the year, Iran and the United States were locked in a heated confrontation in the Middle East. Both countries have had tense relations for many years, but they came to a head in January when the US assassinated a top Iran general.

US president Donald Trump authorized the killing of Iranian general Qasem Soleimani. The US government cited that Soleimani was plotting imminent and sinister attacks on the US soldiers stationed in Iraq. The US military to be more aggressive in neighboring Iraq, where the US still had some 11,000 troops stationed.

Leading the Iran military was Soleimani, who allegedly commanded Iran forces to indirectly make attacks on US forces in Iraq. The US government responded with more economic sanctions and sent more troops to the area. According to the White House, Soleimani was committing acts of terrorism. Iran, however claimed that the US was committing illegal acts in their economic sanctions.

The United States and Iran have had conflicts for many years. Edited by: Blake Ramsey

“condemn this unlawful criminal act!”. He also said that they would respond in some capacity. The US military was alerted to its highest level since the Cuban missile crisis, where war with Iran was a very real possibility.

Iran would later launch a missile attack at two US bases in Iraq and Turkey, but there were no casualties on either side, as the US soldiers evacuated the area two days prior. This prevented any more immediate armed conflict, as the Iran government fulfilled its promise of retaliation to its citizens, and the US was able to avoid war.

By the beginning of February, both countries governments had prevented any immediate conflict, but tensions are still high between them. Iran is still working on its nuclear program, where as the US still has many indirect restrictions on the Iran economy. However currently, the threat of a war or other conflict has been mostly resolved.
Treefort 2020 is right around the corner

Mia Ayala-Marshall | reporter

Treefort is right around the corner and everybody is getting hyped up for this year’s lineup. Treefort is a Boise based art and music festival that has grown to include different types of “forts” including Comedyfort, Yogafort, Artfort and many others.

Following last year’s artist lineup including Toro y Moi, Cherry Glazors, the Naked Giants, and American Football, nobody expected a greater lineup. But of course, Treefort delivered.

This year’s headliners include Chromatics, Calexico, Japanese Breakfast, Omar Apollo, GROUPLOVE, Built to Spill and Peter Bjorn and John.

Treefort takes place in the heart of Boise in various coffee shops, bars, and business centers during the week of Mar. 25 through 29. The line-up and schedule will be released as Treefort grows nearer. Tickets can be purchased through their website treefortmusicfest.com.

According to treefortmusicfest.com, the Chromeats are a post-punk band founded by Adam Miller in Seattle in 2001. Their top hits include, “Into the Black”, “I’m on Fire” and “Girls Just Wanna Have Some.”

Japanese Breakfast is the artist Michelle Zauner, who according to applemusic.com, “...creates melodic, electric guitar-accompanied lo-fi tunes issued on cassette by Ranch Records.” Her top hits include, “Road Head”, “Boyish”, and “Machinist” all from her 2017 album, “Soft Sounds from Another Planet.”

Omar Apollo is an artist who emerged online when he released his popular singles, “[]” and “Breaklights” according to applemusic.com. He is known mainly for his retro-soul and R&B sounding music like his top hits, “Hit Me Up”, “Erase” and “Ugotme”.

According to applemusic.com, GROUPLOVE first emerged into pop culture when their hit “Tongue Tied” rocked the radio world. They are a band that GROUPLOVE’s top hits include, “Tongue Tied”, “Ways To Go” and “Colours”.

Peter Bjorn and John is a Swedish based band consisting of, Peter Morén on vocals, bass and harmonica, Bjorn Yttling on vocals, bass and keyboards, and John Eriksson on drums, percussion and vocals, according to applemusic.com.

Their influences range from the pop, power-pop, and new wave from the ‘60s and they have created some of the most original indie rock of the mid-2000s. Their top hits include, “Young Folks”, “Amsterdam” and “Up Against the Wall”.

The different Forts that Treefort includes are all locally based and spotlight the regional artists on a larger stage. According to treefortmusicfest.com, Artfort features local and regional artists of many mediums, Comedyfort will offer nightly chuckles, Filmfort makes room for cinephiles and Storyfort brings the genius of story to Treefort. There are also Forts that highlight the culture of the are. Treefortmusicfest.com says that Foodfort offers tastes of local bites and talks to discuss what’s on their plates and their minds, Alefort offers beer, cider and food tasting and Yogafort offers instructors and musicians from around the globe to offer a three-day yoga movement to ignite the heart and soul of Boise.

Some of Eagle High’s own students will also be attending Treefort and are excited for the five-day festival that spans over spring break.

“I’m super excited for Treefort because I always have the best time dancing to the music with my friends,” said senior Skylar Speck. “I’m most excited for Omar Apollo and the Chromatics.”

While there are many different forts to attend and a vast variety of musicians to dance and sing to, one thing is for sure, Treefort 2020 won’t be livened down for any that attended.

Music in 2020 is changing the game for future artists of this generation

Vanessa Werner | reporter

Listening to music is a hobby enjoyed by almost everyone. Music has changed a lot over the years, but the music coming out in 2020 will continue to be enjoyed by varieties of people.

Selena Gomez’ album, called “Rare,” came out on Jan. 10. Though her music is not as popular as it once was, she is still successful. Rihanna, while her music also isn’t as popular anymore, is planning on releasing an album that was supposed to be released in 2019 this year.

According to Forbes, Keshia is coming out with a new album on Jan. 31, called “High Road.” This is going to be her fourth full-length album, as well as the first one she’s come out with in three years.

Adele is also releasing an album called “30.” She hasn’t released much information other than that she wants it to be a drum and bass record album. It’s not known when it is going to be released, but one can speculate it will be in 2020.

Though information hasn’t been released about it, Niall Horan is also coming out with new music. Horan ended 2019 by dropping two new singles, which are called “Nice to Meet Ya” and “Put a Little Love On Me.”

Kelly Clarkson, who was a judge on this past season of The Voice, has her own talk show, and was the winner of American Idol in 2002, will be releasing a new album called “Invincible” in 2020.

Some of the most popular music artists in 2019 included Drake, Ariana Grande, Taylor Swift and Ed Sheeran. Others were Post Malone, Bruno Mars and Cardi B. Hopefully, these artists will continue to come out with new music and be successful in 2020.

No matter which artists people enjoy listening to, there will be something for everyone who has access to the new music and entertainment for years to come.
This was a great year for animated films

Media permeates culture, and animation may be one of the best examples. Animation is the pillar of thousands of children’s youths and, for many, continues to be part of their lives as they grow. Therefore, it’s important to look back at the animated films that shaped culture this decade.

The 2010’s have been a decade of innovation for all industries, including animation. The most prominent change seen throughout animated films this decade has been an increased focus on visual realism. Pixar, a studio that has been known for its affinity for pushing boundaries since its inception, has been leading this movement. It is obvious looking at any of their films.

The most notable of the stunningly realistic animated films is 2018’s “Incredibles 2” in which a keen eye can make out the fibers of the character’s shirt. The film did not sacrifice story for visual quality, either, unlike Pixar’s 2015 film “The Good Dinosaur.”

Not all studios have seen a future in the realistic, however. Sony Pictures Animation broke its bad streak in 2019 with the film “Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse.” The film focuses on Vincent van Gogh, a beloved painter, and the mysterious circumstances surrounding his death. The film is the first ever fully painted animated feature and it attempts to mimic van Gogh’s style.

“A Silent Voice,” released in 2016, is just one of many Japanese films to break out of the domestic market this decade. Looking at its vibrant, pleasing color palette and eye-catching character designs, it’s easy to see why.

The 2010’s were a fantastic decade for animation, and fans can only hope that the 2020’s will be even better.
2019 gave America plenty of great movies from the likes of “Jojo Rabbit” to “Ford V. Ferrari.” Because of the industry’s success, many film followers and critics call 2019 the best year of film since 1994 when the likes of “Forrest Gump” and “Pulp Fiction” came out.

To close out the year of movies properly, a review of all the biggest award-winning and nominated movies, before the Oscars, is in order.

In 2019, the film “Joker,” an origin story of the Gotham City clown, put Joaquin Phoenix into the center stage of premiere acting and showed just how good a comic book origin film could be. Filled with mystery, crime and drama, this film, directed by Todd Phillips, is a suspenseful thrill ride that will have audiences thinking about it hours after it ends.

The score and soundtrack is undoubtedly one of its many shining moments as it includes songs from artists such as Frank Sinatra.

Joaquin Phoenix’s performance as the iconic movie and comic book villain was nothing short of mesmerizing. Through emotion and behavior, Phoenix put a scary spin on the Gotham City clown that will be talked about for decades. This year the Joker is nominated for 11 Oscars and won two of those.

Quentin Tarantino’s “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood” was a blast to the past that was nothing short of a joy ride including a star-studded cast with the likes of Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, and Margot Robbie. From the beginning to the end, this film delivers: whether it is actors spot-on acting as respective ’60s actors such as Steve McQueen and Bruce Lee to the ability the film has in managing the fluctuation of comedy and sadness.

DiCaprio and Pitt’s chemistry is unlike anything seen in a film in quite some time. They add humor and emotion throughout the entire film. Tarantino’s period picture was nominated for 10 Oscars and won 2 of those.

Any human on this planet that knows films, knows Martin Scorsese. In 2019, the iconic director released “The Irishman,” a film tackling the mobs of Pennsylvania and the dirty work that comes with joining one, showing that no one is safe, not even those closest to oneself. Besides having such a dynamic director, a talent spewing cast helps make The Irishman a must-watch of 2019. Actors include Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, Joe Pesci and Harvey Keitel, to name a few.

The screenplay of the film is one of the many pieces that stands out after finishing the three and a half hour long film according to critics and students alike.

“I think it is far and away the best screenplay out of all the movies I’ve seen,” said senior Chandler Emerson.

Fortunately, the long film’s dialogue is impalpably good, as well, further establishing the on-screen chemistry of the big four actors. Besides the dialogue, the crazy car explosions and mass amounts of killing add to the entertainment of the film.

While it may not be one of Scorsese’s best, it sure is a great film addition to a full year for cinema. The Irishman was nominated for 10 Oscars and won 0 of them.

Any time director Sam Mendes joins forces with the legendary cinematographer Roger Deakins, it’s guaranteed to be a good film, and 1917 is no exception.

This one-shot masterpiece is a breathtaking piece of art that takes a look at World War I and two soldiers who have to accomplish a massive challenge.

The ability of both Mendes and Deakins to craft such a film is just a feat in itself. The one-shot cinematography is so good it almost wholly overshadows all of the other excellent characteristics of the film.

The two young and unknown, leads in the film, George MacKay and Dean-Charles Chapman pour in plenty of emotion and drive to their characters for a great compliment to the fantastic, yet simple, plotline. Great direction and mesmerizing set design create an immersive experience that helps make it the movie of the year according to many.

“I believe 1917 is the movie of 2019 for a couple of reasons,” said sophomore Parker Glenn. “First being the impeccable one shot style cinematography from Rodger Deakins and the film’s well written story that is masterfully directed Sam Mendes.”

This one-shot war film is sure to go down as one of the greatest films in its category. 1917 was nominated for 10 Oscars and won three of them.

Many people love to collect their movie ticket stubs as memories. John Phillips

**February Playlist**

Jadyn Junior

**editor**

“The month of love is upon us. The desire to have someone to snuggle up with is at an all-time high. A case of chocolate, bundle of roses and the perfect playlist help set the mood this season. This playlist is a combination of songs for those happily in relationships and those who tearfully wish they were.”

“All I Ask” – Adele

“All To Myself” – Dan + Shay

“Baby I’m Yours” – Miley Cyrus

“Beautiful Crazy” – Luke Combs

“Can I Be Him” – James Arthur

“Fallin’ For You” – Colbie Caillat

“Forever” – Chris Brown

“I Fall in Love Too Easily” – Caleb Belkin

“I’m Gonna Find Another You” – John Mayer

“I’m Yours” – Jason Mraz

“It’s You” – Ali Gatie

“Jealous” – Labrinth

“Must Be Doin’ Something Right” – Billy Currington

“She Will Be Loved” – Maroon 5

“Still Don’t Know My Name” – Labrinth

“Thinking Out Loud” – Ed Sheeran

“Us” – James Bay

“U & Us” – Quinn XCII

“When I Look At You” – Miley Cyrus

“With You” – Chris Brown
The Confederate flag at Eagle High causes controversy among students

Mia Ayala-Marshall | editor

A new debate has taken center stage at Eagle High, one that is rooted deep in American history, dating all the way back to the Civil War. The debate focuses on whether or not people should wear or fly the Confederate Flag.

In recent months, the students of Eagle High have been forced to tolerate the wearing and flying of the Confederate flag at school, and on a few trucks at school, the Confederate flag flies alongside the American flag. In classrooms a few students also have worn shirts with a Confederate flag depicted on it.

The Confederate flag should not be allowed on or around school grounds, especially with its deep-rooted history that is inherently racist to varieties of students at Eagle High.

To truly understand this debate, one must look back to the history of the flag. Its origins and its uses throughout history have shaped its meaning to different groups around the nation today.

On April 12, 1861, the Civil War in America erupted between the South, or the Confederacy, and the North, or the Union. The southern states valued and fought for their right to own slaves, who were the backbones of their economy. The northern states, led by President Abraham Lincoln, fought against the right to own slaves.

Many people make the argument that the Confederacy fought only for states’ rights. But it was the original belief of the Confederacy that the election of President Lincoln threatened their way of life, which prompted them to secede from the northern states. The Confederacy did indeed fight for states’ rights, but flags are specifically they fought for states’ rights to own slaves.

When Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862, which announced that all slaves in states that were still in rebellion were freed, it highlighted the reason for the war and shaped its focus solely on the right to own slaves.

During this time period, the Confederate flag became associated with the Confederate States of America as it was their most well known battle flag. For this reason, but not only this reason, the flag can be seen as a symbol that is inherently racist, as it was the symbol to the states who fought to keep African Americans in the chains of slavery.

Over the next century, the flag made its reappearances, but none were quite as prominent as its uses during the Civil Rights movement in America. As African Americans fought for their absolute rights starting in the 1940’s those who opposed and wished to keep black people oppressed, chose to fly the Confederate Flag.

According to teachingforchange.org, “The Confederate flag, best known as a symbol of white supremacy during the Civil War, was also a symbol of state resistance to human rights and democracy during the modern Civil Rights Movement.”

In the Selma-to-Montgomery March, local residents who opposed the movement were seen flying the Confederate flag. They deliberately used a historically racist flag to symbolize their opposition towards African American rights. Civil Rights Movement photographer Matt Herron said that southerners who believed in racial segregation displayed Confederate flags instead of the American flag.

“The Confederate flag represented state resistance to the rights of African Americans,” said a SNCC activist, Dorie Ladner in an interview with Teaching for Change. “[It] indicated that the state upheld the atrocities, including the destruction of a place of worship and the murder of the four little girls [killed at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham in 1963] and others.”

Not only has the flag historically been used to refuse rights to African Americans, it has also been adopted by the Ku Klux Klan, a white supremacist group who targets African Americans among other minority groups.

In recent years, the Confederate flag has resurfaced in many racist areas across America. Many neo-Nazi groups, white supremacist groups and the KKK have displayed the Confederate flag alongside swastika’s and other hate symbols. The flag has also been used alongside racist actions and people.

In 2008, white supremacist Dylann Roof murdered nine worshippers in a black church in Charleston, South Carolina. On social media he posted a picture of himself alongside the Confederate flag and called for a race war.

This debate, over whether or not people should be allowed to fly the Confederate flag, has and will continue to be one of the most controversial topics in America. Due to its bloody and race-fueled past, there will always be two sides.

“To many white Southerners, the flag is an emblem of regional heritage and pride,” according to splcenter.org, “… but to others, it has a starkly different meaning – representing racism, slavery and the country’s long history of oppression of African Americans.”

In this debate, it is best to identify the context of the use of the flag. Most people are yes, trying to remember their heritage and southern pride, which normally should be tolerated. But those who fly the Confederate flag refuse to acknowledge the racist and hateful history that has stained the flag and they continue to fly it without regard to the feelings of millions in America.

In a 2015 statement that came after the removal of the Confederate flag on the South Carolina statehouse grounds, Governor Nikki Haley said, “[The flag] should have never been there. Those grounds are a place that everybody should feel a part of. What I realized more now than ever is people were driving by and felt hurt and pain.”

The hateful history surrounding the flag makes the flying and wearing of the Confederate flag to be very insensitive action. It speaks volumes to the lack of compassion members in our society have today.

Currently, the state of Idaho has no law or official policy preventing anyone from wearing or flying the Confederate flag. Because of this, the Eagle High administration can do very little about the students who wear and fly the flag even though it’s very disrespectful.
Opinion

Eagle students debate on whether ‘The Bachelor’ is television trash or treasure

Alex Spencer | copy-editor

Of all reality shows on T.V., “The Bachelor” may be one of the most widely viewed and criticized. With the premiere of the season bringing in over six million views, many people have become invested in the show from the very beginning, making bets over who will win and even filling out a bracket for the girls, predicting who will receive the final rose. On the other hand, many Americans despise the show, claiming it to be pathetic, overdramatic and objectifying of the women.

This season of “The Bachelor” follows “Pilot” Pete, a finalist from last year’s “Bachelorette”, on his journey to find love with one of the 30 contestants who begin on the show. As the season progresses, many people find that they become more invested, or more disgusted.

“I watch ‘The Bachelor’ without any shame,” said sophomore Zach Murphy. “The girls are pretty and I find myself getting emotionally invested in their lives from the very beginning.” He said he loves watching with his friends every week and does not find the show to be over-dramatic, but instead finds that it is highly entertaining, and the drama continues to draw him. Many couples that have gone on to win “The Bachelor” are still together today, as well as winners of other shows in the franchise such as “The Bachelorette” and “Bachelor in Paradise.” These success stories make many people believe in the process of the show.

While many people feel the same as Murphy, there are equal amounts of critics who feel the opposite.

“It’s simply not that interesting,” said sophomore Tyler Smith. “It’s kind of trash television the way the girls are presented and I’d much rather watch something more entertaining and not as dramatic.” He went on to say how many of the dates and the things the girls do are objectifying and the drama is painful and boring to watch. Many will make the argument that it is a waste of time all around; for the girls, the bachelor himself and the viewers. Critics of the show will say that the whole show is scripted, the girls are acting instead of being authentic and that there are many other shows currently out there that are more captivating.

While there are many differing opinions about the show, “The Bachelor” continues to bring in millions of viewers each week, with many public haters of the show watching in private shame. Whatever the public’s view is, with the success the show has brought since its air in 2002, people will continue to find love on “The Bachelor”, for many years to come.

Famous groundhog predicts the future weather conditions for the 2020 year

Annelise Hinchman | reporter

First celebrated on Feb. 2, 1887 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, Groundhog’s Day is a widely known holiday that brings together large groups of people. Groundhog’s Day is so popular, in fact, that there is even a club based in commemorating this unique event called the “Punxsutawney Groundhog Club.”

As a member of the club, one has special access to Groundhog’s Day receptions, as well as receiving an official membership card signed by the official keeper of the legend of the groundhog or the President of the Groundhog Club.

On this day in mid-winter, legend has it that a groundhog comes out of its den in the ground to see its shadow. “Relying on rodents as forecasters may date back to the early days of Christianity in Europe, when clear skies on Candlemas Day [Feb. 2], were said to herald cold winter ahead,” said Stephanie Pappas, a writer for Live Science, as she explained the history of Groundhog’s Day.

In Germany, to determine this weather on Candlemas Day, the Germans used a hedgehog. Because there was an absence of hedgehogs in the United States at this time, they decided to use a groundhog instead, thus creating “Groundhog’s Day.” According to the website Holiday Insights, “If the groundhog sees its shadow on a sunny morning, there will be six more weeks of winter. He then returns to his den and goes back to sleep. If, however, he does not see his shadow on a cloudy day…spring is just around the corner.”

At 132 years of age, Punxsutawney Phil, the designated groundhog, has been predicting the weather for decades and will continue to predict the weather conditions for years to come on the special day of Feb. 2.
Streaming services are taking over

John Phillips
reporter

The twenty first century has brought considerable advancements in technology from the iPhone to electric cars. One offspring of such technology is streaming services. Netflix and Amazon Prime, both streaming services, bring in some of the most lucrative money in today’s market.

With the mass amounts of money comes wealth and the ability to expand into uncharted entertainment waters. Lately, both streaming services have been expanding into the production of feature films. Some of the films have been nominated for several Golden Globe and Oscar awards, putting them at the top of the cinema food chain.

The ever so prevalent idea, due to the countless award nominations, is that films produced and launched by streaming services can win critical acclaim and awards without spending large sums of money to go to the big screen. But this cinemaaltering trend ruins the experience film enthusiasts get.

With the expanding use of streaming services’ abilities to produce award-winning films, Americans can now sit on their couch to watch the premiere of the latest and greatest films from the likes of Martin Scorsese and others, a feat that exclusively was only done by the big theater companies and should remain that way. After all, movies like “Joker” and “1917” are meant to be seen in big, dark theaters where many viewers can fully immerse themselves in it.

“Being in the theater, you can’t pause or get out, you are fully emerged,” said senior Garrett Tomlinson. “I don’t believe I would have enjoyed ‘Ford v. Ferrari’ as much as I did had I not felt like I was in the car being in the theater.”

Tomlinson’s feeling of immersion in the car is just one of many a streaming service viewer could not experience, nor will they ever. Suspense is another heightened and irresistible theater moment. The addictive human feeling gives the viewer an accelerated heartbeat and a chance to feel dozens of strangers sucking in their breaths as they wait. Furthermore, the big screen is also a tool that adds to the experience. Not to mention it’s also one of the most compelling reasons why it is the prime home for award-winning films.

There is always something about watching a film on the big screen, especially the ones that use the screen large size to its advantage. Visually stunning films such as “2001: A Space Odyssey” and “Dunkirk” do just that. They take an image and blow it up on the big screen for the audiences’ eyes to gorge on, creating the ultimate eye candy - something no streaming service or a T.V at home doesn’t allow for, with its small size.

Films like Ad Astra and Blade Runner 2049 were made for the big screen all because of their amazing visuals,” said senior Austin Larson. “Watching these in 4K, at home, is great and all, but these gems can only truly be appreciated when it is seen on the large theater screen.”

Along with the big screen, the eagle eye focus the theater gives the viewer is something that even home theaters fail to do. At home, there are so many chances of distraction. Whether that be roommates, family members or spotty Wi-Fi, all these distractions ruin the understanding and enjoyment of the award-winning films.

In a theater, viewers only have a chair and the movie they are watching. When this simplicity is added onto the big screen and the dark surrounds you as the movie starts, allowing for the complete capture of award-winning films like “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood” and “1917.”

At long last, streaming services tear away many feelings and emotions a viewer receives from a theater experience. Films from iconic directors on the big screen, along with the visual and audible appeal they bring, is something no streaming service could offer in the comfort of a viewer’s home.

Only a theater, with a big screen, a dark setting and lots of strangers could make those feelings, reality.
Brianna Bovis is a skier to watch at Eagle High

Joseph Evans
editor

Every year, many seniors begin choosing where they will go to college. There are many reasons behind why a student chooses to pursue his or her education past high school, but only a handful of them choose a school based on sports and activities to keep playing at the next level. Student athletes at Eagle High shouldn’t go unnoticed.

The first and most unique college commit is senior Ellie Curtright’s decision to attend Washington State University on a Rowing scholarship. She signed on Nov. 24, 2019 and plans to row all four years. Rowing is an extremely difficult sport that rarely gets recognition, even though it ranks Division One. On the bright side, the team is pretty novice.

“I am super nervous because I have never rowed before. Although the novice team won’t be expecting most of the rowers to have a lot of experience,” Curtright said.

Despite Curtright never having rowed before, to say she has competed at such a high level is something to be proud of.

“I am most excited about being a Division One athlete and meeting many new people,” Curtright said.

She will be receiving scholarships when school begins and she plans on studying Engineering.

Senior Gannon Matthews chose to say goodbye to his love for football and continue pursuing his passion in lacrosse. Matthews committed to Division One Cleveland State University on Nov. 13, 2019 to play lacrosse. He plans to play there for all four years and study engineering.

“I picked Cleveland State because I get to play against some of the best teams in the nation that I’ve always watched growing up,” Matthews said.

Lastly, senior Ashley Lajoices is a top-notch cross country and track athlete. Lajoices had multiple offers from very large and competitive universities. Her top three choices and places she toured were Eastern Carolina University, University of Oklahoma and Louisiana State University.

“When I toured LSU, I knew it was my home when I first got to the campus. My grandpa had also attended LSU, so I really wanted to follow his footsteps,” Lajoices said.

Lajoices enjoyed her other college visits, but the coaches and teammates made her feel welcome at LSU.

“I am so excited to be running for both the track and cross-country teams in the SEC conference because I am running against girls who I’ve always looked up to,” Lajoices said.

The coaches have not been to Idaho, but Lajoices ran with the team and truly wants to run all four years. She signed on Nov. 13, 2019 and will be studying Criminal Justice.

Student athletes are taking a large step in their life participating in sports for Division One universities. After four years of hard work and dedication, it is finally their time to shine.

Brianna Bovis is a skier to watch at Eagle High

Gavin Van Alfen
photographer

Brianna Bovis is a senior at Eagle High, and an avid skier. She is a part of two ski groups, the Eagle High ski team, and BBSEF which is a ski team based at Bogus Basin Resort. She is definitely a skier to watch and is on a fast track to a career within the world of skiing.

Bovis puts in a lot of work to achieve her goal of being a professional skier.

“I ski with BBSEF five days a week, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school at Bogus, and I’m there all day Saturday and Sunday if I’m not at a competition,” Bovis said. She is really giving it her all and has been for some time, and Bovis skis many different events.

“I am a freestyle skier, so I compete in Slope Style, Railjam, Big Mountain and Skier Cross,” Bovis said. “I went to nationals and got second in skier cross last year which is definitely my favorite event.” Freestyle skiing consists of many different events that could include jumps, moguls and performing tricks. Bovis also competes in many events throughout the season.

“I have a lot of competitions. I don’t know how many in a season but probably around 20-30 a season,” she said. These competitions are scattered among many different resorts, both local and in different states.

“I have grown up skiing at Bogus, so I love it there, but I couldn’t choose a favorite resort because there are so many dream places I want to ski in the future,” Bovis said. She aspires to have the opportunity to ski in many different places throughout the world, however Bogus Basin will always be special to her.

Bovis is already an amazing skier and is hungry for success in the world of skiing. With her work ethic and determination, she is destined for an amazing career and is a local skier worth following throughout her career.
One of America's favorite pastimes can be enjoyed right here in Eagle, Idaho. Eagle High's baseball team is getting ready for the season with three different teams.

Last season, the varsity team ended with a record of 16-10. The goal, like any other team's, is to go undefeated this year.

“We will be really good. We will have to work a lot, improve every day and be at the top,” said junior Cannon Morgan. Morgan is varsity's starting catcher and has some high hopes and ideas of how this season will go. Morgan and the rest of the team are striving to be at the top and win the State Championship; the last time Eagle won was in 2009. The hard work from the team will continue for the next three months as they work towards each win, one game at a time. Morgan has a legitimate reason as to who he thinks this year’s rival will be. He said, “Mountain View because they beat us last year to go to state.” Every team has that one rival team they always want to beat and it looks like that team could be Mountain View. Eagle was very close to going to State, but Mountain View came in strong and took the spot from them.

Senior Mason Leavitt is a shortstop for the varsity team. Leavitt has a very positive opinion on how Eagle will perform this year. He said, “Incredible.” Leavitt would love to win State this year since it is his last year on the team.

“Senior season. State Champion or bust.” Leavitt said.

Leavitt has different views than Morgan on who will be this year’s biggest rival, but they have different reasons as to why that is.

“I don’t know, I mean we haven’t beat Rocky in four years, so that will be a rival, but they won’t be very good this year,” he said.

At the end of the season, All that matters is whether or not Eagle wins State this year.

---

Eagle High baseball slides into a new season

Alexa Harper | photographer

---

Eagle High is known for its outstanding performances in athletics. Every year, the sports teams live up to expectations of athletic achievements and this year is no exception. The boys' soccer season closed with a state victory and both basketball teams have been preforming well. Sometimes the stress can get to the teams, but they figure it out in the end.

Expectations from coaches, students and athletes are especially high for the 2020 lacrosse season. With the boys' and girls' teams holding an outstanding season in 2019, both teams are aiming for a state title. A lot of the players feel as though this season is up in the air especially with seniors leaving and expectations high. Many players believe that the stress could get to them. But with the confidence and skill of the old and new lacrosse players, this could be the best season.

The teams also have the help of their outstanding coaches. For boys, coach Riley McNeal is looking forward to winning a state title this season and the same goes for girls coach, Brett Packard.

The girls just finished tryouts and the boxys have their first game on March 14.

Brooklyn Antrim | photographer

---

Eagle lacrosse is shooting high this season

---

The only way for a team to be successful is to work together. Fabiana Hufhaker

---

The boys are ready for another championship win. Paulshe Adcock
Eagle High School has the cutest couples

Betsey King
editor

Over the high school years, relationships come and go, but love is in the air at Eagle High. Here are some of Eagle High’s most strong, healthy and fun relationships.

Junior Sammy Elitharp and senior Gabe Fesler:
Q: How did you guys meet?
Sammy: We met at a football game this last year. We also just have a lot of the same friends.
Gabe: Just through friends and at the football games.

Q: Favorite thing about him/her?
Sammy: He is very caring and a thoughtful. I also love his dimples.
Gabe: My favorite thing about her is how she thinks she is just the funniest person ever.

Q: What was your first date?
Sammy: We met him at a BSU game. I had the best time.
Gabe: Our first date was dinner at Smokey Mountain and then a BSU football game. It was such a good night.

Q: Favorite memory with him/her?
Sammy: We did a cooking class for his birthday. We made macaroons. After that, we just hung out the whole day, watching movies and playing cards.
Gabe: My favorite memory with her is when we went out to a nice dinner, then went to our favorite ice cream place after. We then went bowling and I beat her.

Seniors Taylor Zrno and John Trumble:
Q: How did you guys meet?
Taylor: We met just hanging out around the same people over the summer. We have been going to school together for years, but we finally started talking sophomore year.
John: We met through mutual friends, but I always knew about her because she is THE Taylor Zrno. She’s the Homecoming princess and the Varsity cheerleader.

Q: Favorite thing about him/her?
Taylor: My favorite thing about him would have to be how much he cares about me. He would literally drop anything for me in a heartbeat.
John: My favorite thing about her is easily her smile. Whenever she’s upset, I always tell her to smile.

Q: What was your first date?
Taylor: Our first date was at New York Richies, and we were there for three whole hours just talking our heads off.
John: Our first official date was at this awful sandwich shop in Garden City that her family loves. I had the best time.

Q: Favorite memory with him/her?
Taylor: My favorite memory with him is when we ran in the rain and talked for hours.
John: My favorite memory with her would have to be our one-year anniversary. We floated the river and spent the whole day together. It was super special.

Ferrets weasel their way to pet of the month

Alexis Heichman
photographer

Imagine combining the playfulness of a puppy and the care needs of a cat; ferrets are just that. Senior Aubrey Lewis and sophomore Mya Lewis experience the thrills of owning Bruce and Stella, their two adorable ferrets.

The Lewis sisters adopted these little guys about three months ago and love every minute with them. Bruce is three years old and Stella is one. Although convincing their dad took some time, the decision for the new pets to join the family was mostly on impulse.

“I love having them because they are so silly and fun to be around. They usually make me laugh, except for when they wake me up from my naps by nibbling my nose,” said Mya Lewis.

Another reason the Lewis’ enjoy having ferrets is because of how easily they can be taken care of, all pet supplies for ferrets can be easily found both online and in local pet stores like Zamzows, Pet Co. or PetSmart.

Their cage can keep the cuddly creatures occupied as long as there are blankets due to a majority of their days being spent hittin’ the hay. However, owners should give them toys to play with for when they do wake up because they have extremely active minds. Most ferret cages also have multiple levels in order to double as a litterbox for them.

When they are brought out of their cages, make sure to keep one eye on these sneaky pets. These fuzzy friends have an everchanging mood. They like to explore and will always find a way to cram their bodies into places nobody would think to look.

“One second Stella is on my lap and then I look down and she’s gone,” said Aubrey Lewis. “We spent an hour looking for her and she was under the couch cushions... they scare me sometimes, but I’m so happy we got them.”
February is a month filled with love, exploration and conviction. Various Valentine’s Day activities are happening around Eagle High during this month, including the Sweethearts’ Dance.

Occurring Feb. 22, the Sweethearts’ dance included fun dances and exciting music for the whole student body to enjoy. The theme this year was “Masquerade Ball”, although students weren’t allowed to wear masks.

“It was fun and a lot of dancing,” said junior Sophia Drury about last year’s dance. “I think the best part of it was when there was a huge mosh pit and dance-off in the middle.”

As a girls-ask-guys dance, Sweethearts encourages girls to ask out their crushes or significant other, a contrast to the stereotypical Disney promposal. Several girls among all grades gathered the courage to ask out that special someone.

Despite being labeled as a romantic dance, Sweethearts’ welcomes singles and friend groups, as well.

“I went as a date, but a lot of my friends went in a group,” Drury said.

Despite being the only winter dance, the attendance numbers are slowly dwindling every year, according to students who have attended in years past. Some students speculate it’s because of how little the venue is advertised. Others are concerned with the “heteronormativity” the dance appears to encourage due to its yearly theme of girls-ask-guys. It’s a fun change and makes asking a significant other more interesting.

“I think most people choose not to go because it’s close to prom, and they don’t want to waste money,” Drury said. “Also, not many tickets are available, so it gets sold out easily.”

Sophomore Leyla Aydin agreed with the sentiment. “I think most don’t go because of how little the venue is advertised and what other kids think of it,” Aydin said. “They also didn’t let everyone in last year.”

The cons have been prominent in past years for the Sweethearts’ dance, but it remains a great opportunity to have fun and dance with friends during the winter.

Sweethearts’ tickets were available on the Eagle High student council Instagram, @eaglehighstuco, for $20 per ticket.

February is given an extra day because it’s the only month with less than 30 days. Junior Emily Fox says that leap year is confusing because, “If someone was born on February 29, they would have to celebrate their birthday on a different day.”

Teacher Tanya Elmer agrees with Fox. When people are born on Feb. 29, they usually must celebrate their birthday on February 28 or March 1. They can only celebrate their birthday on the correct day every four years.

Passing away on leap day also would also be confusing. The family will have to have the anniversary of their loved one’s death a day off on most years.

However, junior Kayla Smith doesn’t think that leap year is confusing because the explanation of it makes sense to her. By that, she meant that the Earth’s rotation doesn’t take exactly 365 days.

Overall, leap year is confusing for people who are born on Feb. 29, but the reason for it happening makes sense.
You're seeing red this month and not only because Valentine’s Day is coming up. Try to keep your anger in check this February.

If you feel a little lonely this February, you don’t have to rely on people to keep you company. Spend some time with a pet or doing an activity you enjoy.

Reach out to loved ones this February. Remember who is important and focus on them this month.

This Valentine’s day, it’s especially important to be kind to those around you. This month, it’s important to remember that you’re not in this alone. Let the people you care about help you overcome difficulties.

You don’t need to change yourself to fit in. This February, be true to yourself and what you believe.

Aquarius
Happy birthday month to all Aquarians. Make this month about you. Remember that you matter just as much as those around you.

Capricorn
This may be a hard month for you, but don’t let that get you down. Remember to keep your spirits up no matter what.

Sagittarius
The year is still just beginning, so remember to look at everything that happens as a new opportunity.

Scorpio
You should think about spending some time with a good book this February. While being social is important, it’s also important to allow yourself to rest.

Libra
It’s important to balance your priorities this month. Focus on yourself just as much as you focus on others.

Virgo
You don’t need to change yourself to fit in. This February, be true to yourself and what you believe.

Kaia Barrett
copy-editor

Summer Simpson