

The Bagpiper

October 13, 2014

Reporting Freeman's news since 2009

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Photo by Emma Sheldon

History teacher is Freeman’s future

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

With all the loose strings Freeman felt at the end of last year, students were buzzing around wanting to know who our new U.S. History and Civics teacher was going to be. The wait is finally over, and we were lucky enough to welcome Matt Smith from University High School.

“I became a teacher because of the influence teacher and coaches had on my life,” said Smith. “I felt [teaching] was a worthwhile position to get into.”

Smith studied at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. He has been teaching for fourteen years, teaching Civics, Government, and AP Government at U-High. Freeman is an extremely small community and a dramatic change from the larger schools around us, so, as Smith said, it’s going to take some getting used to.



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Moving jobs was fairly easy for Smith because his wife and kids are here as well. Smith’s wife, Angie Smith currently teaches fourth grade. Other than the ability to be closer to his family, Smith moved to Freeman because he wanted a new challenge and wanted to be in a smaller environment.

A few things that students might like to know about Smith are that he likes to run half and full marathons as a hobby, and he met his wife in their junior year of high school.

“I would say [my high school experience] was stereotypical,” said Smith. “I met my wife in high school, was into sports, and I was, overall, involved with the population.”

Changes may be made in the near-distant future for Smith’s classes. He plans on adding an AP Government class after a few years of being here; in the meantime, he wants to have consistency in the curriculum and help everyone to succeed in their cumulative projects.

“If [students] come in ready to learn and follow the system, every student has the opportunity to succeed,” said Smith.

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Freeman Math department’s new mentor

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

“I had a lot of great teachers when I was growing up,” said Freeman’s new math teacher Marty Jessett. “I saw the big influence they had on kids. I decided that’s what I wanted to do-I want to help kids grow and get better at what they’re interested in.”

Jessett studied at Pacific Lutheran University for a couple of years before transferring to Eastern Washington University to finish his bachelor’s and master’s degree. Over the 25 years of Jessett’s teaching career, he taught at Saint George’s for four years, Cheney for nine, and University High School for eleven, including middle school science, Algebra 1, and Quantitative and Financial Math. At Freeman, he teaches Geometry, Algebra 2, and Statistics. Other than teaching, Jessett also fronts as the new boys basketball coach.

“I wanted to be in a smaller setting,” Jessett said. “U-High had a lot of great people, but it’s a big school.”

One of the main reasons Jessett wanted to move to a smaller school was he wants to be able to watch kids grow in math over the years; whereas, at U-High, he would only have these kids for a semester. He also liked high school; he had great teachers and said he was involved in athletics.

“I enjoyed my time,” said Jessett. “That is probably why I became a high school math teacher.”

Jessett feels that he is adjusting to Freeman very well, and that everyone is welcoming and friendly. Jessett also said that having moved here with new history teacher Matt Smith has made the transition easier because he has someone who is going through the same thing.

For a message to his students Jessett said he wants students to “give their best effort and ask for help when they need it.”



Photo courtesy of Leo’s Photography

Troup: the Pokémon Master

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

While studying abroad for the summer in Madrid, Spain in 2009, Danielle Troup took up teaching English in order to pay for her education and wound up finding her career.

Troup graduated from Gonzaga University in 2011 and has been teaching Math and English for three years.

Before Freeman, Troup worked for Ferris High School and the Excellior Youth Center teaching Math and English. Here at Freeman she teaches in the Learning Center including both subject and Study Hall.

Troup’s decision to move to Freeman was inspired by her need to be in a smaller school that was more student-centered.

“It was hard to get things done at Ferris,” said Troup. “There are so many kids that need so many things.”

She is adjusting to the smaller setting here at Freeman and believes she is doing well, aside from having to get used to a new commute.

Students are important to Troup and she wanted students to “keep trying even when it seems hard” because she has “too many students give up without asking for help.” She later said that she knows the teachers here are always more than willing to help.

To Troup, high school was pretty normal. She was nerdy, got into Pokémon battles (and won of course) at lunch and she enjoyed school which is why she thinks she got into teaching. Troup was an avid Pokémon player in the day, and nothing has changed. To this day, Troup and her husband play a lot of *Zelda*, and video games in general. They recently got *Smash Brothers*, and she claims she can “probably beat anyone at this school, and yes, that is a challenge.”

Photo courtesy of C55inator, Wiki Commons

An adventure of a lifetime turns a new leaf

By Isaac Stokoe
Staff writer

Small town girl Amber Walkowiak traversed a great distance, not unlike Frodo and Samwise on their epic adventure going to Mordor, to end up teaching at Freeman. Raised in the small town of Dufur, Oregon, she attended a small K-12 school similar to Freeman.

Walkowiak attended EWU and completed a degree in English literature. Briefly staying in the Spokane area to substitute, she let life take the reins and moved to Goldendale, WA. At Goldendale, she taught English and coached high school and

middle school volleyball and high school track for two years.

“Coach-ing has given me so many exciting and rewarding experiences,” Walkowiak said. “I love getting the chance to work with my students in a setting outside the classroom walls.”

She eventually made the decision to move back to Spokane to be closer to

her fiancé who, coincidentally, is also a Spokane teacher. The

middle school level was ideal for Walkowiak, and she was extremely excited to start the new year. Of course, our community has accepted this new Scottie as one of our own.

“Freeman, as a school district, appealed greatly to me because it is reminiscent of the one from which I hail,”

Walkowiak explained. “ Since becoming a Scottie, I have quickly fallen in love with Freeman not just because it is close-knit, but because everyone here is extremely passionate about education and support their students and community by going above and beyond what is expected of them.”

Through accepting new and fun people into Freeman, we are able to not only shape their lives, but also our own. The middle school has truly gained another young, educated mind to lead them up the mountain of life and send them on their way to high school.

Photo courtesy of Creative Commons



Photo courtesy of Leo's Photography

Garner takes awesome to a whole new level

By Isaac Stokoe
Staff writer

Hailing from the realm of Chewelah, Washington, Nate Garner followed a path bestowed upon him to end up teaching in the middle school. Graduating from Jenkins High school in 1999, he then decided to get his BA in Secondary Education. Completing his student teaching with Freeman history teacher Kenny Davis in 2004, he then taught six years as at Elma School District. He then earned his profession certificate in March of 2010 along with a Master's in Theology.

In May, Garner was inducted into the league of Freeman teachers as the new 7th grade social studies and 8th grade language arts teacher. Originally hoping to be a high school History teacher, it was obvious

that life had other plans for him.

“When I came back to Spokane and began working as a substitute teacher, most of my assignments

were at middle schools,” Garner said. “Slowly, I grew to enjoy the middle school environment and age group. It was the same story with teaching English.”

Being a well-educated teacher doesn't mean that everything is about work. He enjoys films with explosions, and still considers John Wayne the man, and let's be honest, he still is. One of his favorite movies is *We Were Soldiers Once*. His favorite books include *The Bible*, *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, and just about any biography. Garner's hobbies include being awesome, hanging out with his wife and kids, cooking, traveling, and conquering the fragilities of life.



Photo courtesy of Leo's Photography

Photo courtesy of the US Department of Energy

“It really is Freeman Family”

By Emma Sheldon
Photo Editor

Stepping foot into Gena Hawk's Kindergarten classroom brings about the immediately feelings of being welcome and important. Hawk's kind air surfaces feelings of relaxation and concentration upon her voice. When they all focus upon her, students will get the feeling of someone who loves what she does.

Hawk knew from a very young age that she wanted to pursue a career in teaching.

“When I was babysitting when I was 12,” Hawk reminisced. “I had that teachable moment and their little eyes lit up, and I thought from then on that I wanted to be a teacher.”

Hawk is no stranger to the small town feeling Freeman gives off. She grew up in a small town in Washington called Colbert, up by Greenbluff.

Immediately, Freeman felt like home to her. Her husband is a Freeman alumni and both her boys have come to love the district. She had no trouble getting used to Freeman.

“In fact, it was hard to go teach someplace else,” Hawk said, smiling. “It really is Freeman family. They just scooped me in and loved me. They look care of me.”

Listening to her talk about her plans for this year gives a glimpse into her vast credentials. Hawk graduated from Eastern Washington University with a BA in Education with an emphasis in Reading and Early Childhood Education. Not only does her resume look fantastic but she is also passionate about what she does.

Her goal for her “ kindergarteners this year is to love school, because if they don't love school this year, they're not going to continue to love school.”



Photo courtesy of Leo's Photography

Schweiger is putting the ‘cool’ in school

By Isaac Stokoe
Staff writer

Walking upon the playground during the afternoon might lead one to a scene of pure chaos, yet with an overwhelming feeling of adorableness. The kindergartners are alive and well, running and shrieking around the playground, with the amazing and talented Kirsten Schweiger keeping an eye out for trouble.

Living in the Freeman School District for 21 years has left her with a duty to her kids- the ones at home and the ones running about the bark-laden ground at the elementary school.

“They're my kids so I feel I have a responsibility to help them,” beamed Schweiger.

Some of them were, indeed, her kids. Once they moved on throughout the many stages of schooling and life, she realized that teaching the new, fresh minds of Freeman was exactly what she had to do. After subbing for 15 years, Schweiger was able to spend the last two weeks of school last year as Mrs. Jen-

sen's sub and that opened a new door to a crazier, but more fulfilling, chapter of her life.

And help them she does. In the classroom, Schweiger is able to calm her kindergartners down with just a few words and get them to sit quietly in their seats, their eyes alight with a fire to know just what she's going to teach them next.

“They are sponges and love to learn and work all morning on reading and letters,” Schweiger said of her students.

With a heart full of love, it's easy to see that Schweiger really does care about every single one of her little pupils.

“It is important to start them out with a loving teacher,” Schweiger said as she helped one of her students during their playtime. “It will help them mature and be successful farther down the road.”

A teacher truly meant for her job, 15 years of subbing will now lead to many more years of teaching Freeman's youths and setting a stepping stone in what will be a monumental journey for both Kirsten and her kiddos.



FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE

We're all ac-counting on Jamie Weingart

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

Not many are aware, but Freeman has a new face in the District Office: Jamie Weingart.

Weingart graduated from Eastern Washington University the June of 2007. Previously, Weingart worked at DeCoria, Maichel & Teague (A CPA Firm) from 2006-2010, and Education Service District 101 from 2010-2014.

Before joining Freeman, Weingart bought a house out in our district wanting to be a part of the community she lives in and she is adjusting to Freeman very well.

“Everyone's super friendly, understanding, and open,” said Weingart. “It's good so far.”

What Weingart does for the school is mainly accounting for the district, including state reporting, pay roll, and keeping the district in compliance as state laws change.

ONE DOLLAR



Savannah Aguilar, freshman

"It was our last game, and I went to catch the ball, but it was still in the foul zone. As I went to catch the ball, I tripped over the base, and as I fell, I caught the ball."



Dallas Suenkel, freshman

"For like the last thirty minutes of class in sixth grade, I was staring at the clock for the whole thing and also chewing gum. So I got in trouble and the teacher asked me to stack chairs, but I didn't want to, so I stacked them in front of the door. When the teacher came back in, all of the chairs fell over, and I got suspended for two weeks"



Dedi Mercado, junior

"I have always wanted to be a hair stylist, which lead me to dyeing my hair almost every color of the rainbow."



Harrison McGill, junior

"When I was nine years-old, I was at my uncle's lake house on vacation in Georgia. I was going on a zip line, when I fell off. I broke my leg, and my femur was sticking out of my leg."



Aimee Cox, freshman

"It was the first day of basketball and the coach threw the ball. I screamed, swatted the ball, and it hit the coach in the face!"



Andrew McGill, freshman

"One time, I was at a ski resort in Alaska. I was going down a double black diamond slope, when I saw a sign that said avalanche warning. I was with two friends and my brother Harrison; they said that it was okay to go, so they went. When I went, it was really foggy so I couldn't see. When I could see, I noticed that I wasn't on the path anymore and that I was heading for a cliff. I took off my snowboard and started to walk back up the slope. The snow came out from under me and made me fall. I grabbed a tree as I was falling, got back up and started walking the half mile towards my snowboard. Harrison told me to walk back, as I was, I fell again and slid down the hill and hit a tree."



Samuel Voves, freshman

"I was at my grandma's house, she always bought me magazines and I was reading a story about a guy who jumped off a skyscraper using ten garbage bags as a parachute. When I was reading it I didn't see the part about don't try this at home, so I got the biggest garbage bag that my grandma had and climbed to the roof. It had just snowed so I thought that it would be soft to land on, I didn't realize that there was a high dew point and that the snow would be ice. When I was on the roof I put the garbage bag behind my head a dove off the roof. I landed in the snow and didn't move for about half an hour. I didn't tell my grandma what I did until about two years after it happened."



Emma Stevens, freshman

"I have always been terrified of heights. I went on the world's tallest waterslide, and it was not fun!"



JoElla King Freshman

"When I was seven years-old, I went to Russia for a month. An angry, old Russian lady threw a potato at me because I tried to take cherries from her cart. "I went to Japan when I was nine years-old. I had sushi for the first time; it didn't go well. My family and I went on a public train back to our hotel. I puked on a five year-old."



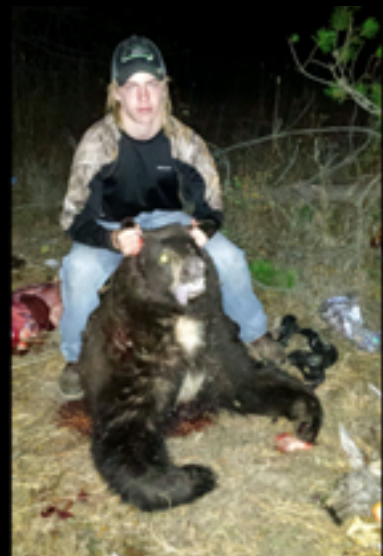
Jaron Cantrell, sophomore

"I really like thunderstorms. Back when I was in Ohio, I found a tornado and started chasing it down. My parents were a little bit scared at first, but now they are okay with it. Now, I can't do it since I live in Washington."



Sarai Aguilar, sophomore

"This one time I was going down a hill and my sister was at the bottom. I didn't want to hit her, so I rolled off my longboard to avoid hitting her and now I have a huge scar down my leg."



Colton Theide, sophomore

"I like to go hunting. The biggest kill I got was probably an elk or a bear. I also enjoy fishing."



Myra Crosby, sophomore

"I have synesthesia; it's where you hear a sound and also see a color or shape. The calendar is also a circle around my head. Letters and numbers have personalities."



Amanda Guinn, sophomore

"In middle school I had a drama teacher that threw stools at us when we were being loud and didn't know our lines."



Samuel Herald, sophomore

"My family and I were on the freeway heading to San Antonio. All of a sudden, a tornado comes out of nowhere. Since we were on the freeway, we had nowhere to go to stay safe. My dad, mom, sister and I got out of the car and ran to hide under the freeway. We spent about 30 minutes hiding, waiting for the tornado to pass. When it finally ended, we got back into the car and started driving again."



Michaela Rosenthal, sophomore

"I went to Silver Mountain, and I got on the chair lift, but my board got stuck in the snow. I fell off, and then the chairlift ran over me."



Hanna Peters, junior

"Everyone was sleeping and the front door opened. I was in my room watching YouTube, when I heard the front door open. All of a sudden, I felt a cold breeze, so I walked out of my room into the hallway and grabbed a curtain rod. I walked down to the door and saw that it was open. I then walked to my parent's room and told them that the wind blew the door open and then went back to bed."

Nutrition Marci

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

There is a lot of change going on in the Freeman community from credit changes to safety rules to the staff and students. Not only do we have several new teachers and a large number of students, but we have a new Nutrition Services Director as well.

“When this opportunity came up I had to jump on it,” said Freeman staff newbie Marci McGill.

McGill majored in nutrition and dietetics at Oklahoma State University. She later took her dietetics internship at Kansas State University.

Due to having an active duty husband in the Air Force, McGill’s family has moved all across the nation. Luckily for McGill, she has found work everywhere they’ve moved and has been able to expand her experience in her eighteen year career.

Moving can be difficult on many people, especially trying to find a job you love. Fortunately, McGill has found a place for herself and her passion in all the states she has lived in. She worked in a Unified School District in Hutchison, Kansas; owned her own consulting business in Eagle River, Alaska for three years; worked as a sports dietitian for the Eglin military base in Florida; has worked in clinical nutrition in hospitals across the nation; she has also lived in Texas, Montana, and now Washington.

“I have always been interested in school nutrition,” said McGill. “I love the food service, and I love to cook.”

Moving is stressful no matter how often it happens, but McGill said “Freeman is wonderful! Everyone has been so warm, and inviting, and kind, and helpful.” She continued to say that everyone has made her transition much easier. McGill has a plethora of rules and regulations she has to follow (both state and federal) which can be challenging when planning a menu.

“I encourage students to tell me what they like and don’t like,” said McGill. “The students and staff are our customers, and we want to please our customers.”

Eat healthy

U N K N G F S Y D H D Q I P G A Y U V G

I J K L P L K P U G G O U Y R F Z T H S

F H N W J D J H R G D M A J H O U V X F

Q R J T O S F E U V X V O Y Q S T X K C

X X Z A T W T T S U M Y B K D Z R E Q E

C Z B I T A D Q V E J A N Q M N Z R I E

T F Y V W Z G Z V E N C Y S I Q G F R N

A J D Q X H K M K A L W X S W J X L P Q

E G U I P Z E Q N U E P I M Y G D A Z C

H A C I S T N A P O T H P V A D G H X X

W X P K C L N P H O T G G A E G N A R C

X C O V V E O Q F R U I T J H J D J B A

H R V U D X G N Z O C Y R F B B R I M Q

O E X X Q M Q Z T P E H Q N M H O W D N

T Z W J V E G E T A B L E D G H U I R C

APPLE
JUICE
PROTEIN
WHEAT

HANANA
LETTUCE
VEGETABLE

FRUIT
ORANGE
WATER



Photo courtesy of Marci McGill



Photo courtesy of Marci McGill

Fall Festivities for high school 2014

Katie Ophus
Staff Writer

As the new season arrives we begin to dig out our sweaters, boots and scarves trying to bundle up to the seemingly cold weather. As this season approaches things to do becomes a little more scarce, going to the lake and swimming might not seem as fun anymore. Here are some ideas to kick off your season:



Run to Raise Money for Your Community!

Photo courtesy of <http://www.krocda.org/fall5k.html>

Community Fall Festivity

The Shadle Park High School community is sponsoring a Fall Festivity Mixer to get everyone in the fall spirit and make new friends. The mixer is on Friday November 14, 2014 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, the cost will be \$8-10. Apart from the dancing, the mixer will also have a live DJ, a photo booth, concessions and much more.



Harvest Festival and Apple Festival

Greenbluff is home to many orchards including apples, pumpkins, cherries, raspberries and many more. As the leaves start to turn Greenbluff opens it weekends up and hosts Harvest Festival.

Harvest Festival opened September 20 and runs until October 22 from 10am to 5pm. Aside from the orchards and fruit picking, the farms also offer activities such as a five-acre corn maze, pony rides, craft booths, live music, and much more.

Felts Field

Felts Field used to host the most popular flying event in the nation: The National Air Races. Spokane no longer hosts this air show, but the history didn’t die.

Felts Field opened on September 19, 2014 to show off the 1927 airplanes from the air races. The facility is opened weekends from now to March 28, 2015, 11am to 4pm and cost \$4 for students and children, \$5 for seniors and \$6 for adults.

Ice Skating

One of the popular events in Spokane is the Ice Palace. The Ice Palace is an indoor ice skating rink at River Park Square open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, hours differentiating on the time of year. Adults 13 and older costs \$4.50, youth cost \$3.50, plus there’s an additional \$3.50 fee for skate rental if you need them.

Kroc Fall 5K

Kroc Fall is the first annual 5K run that is taking place in Coeur d’Alene on November 1.

The race welcomes competitive runners or walking with friends and family. The competitive runners will sign in at 2:00pm and the family runners/walkers will sign in at 2:15pm. The course loops around the Centennial Trail, passing River Stone, The Spokane River and River Stone Lake with many other things to see on the way.

The run with be a fun way to burn off some Halloween candy. Costumes and encouraged, and you can even win prizes for your costume, as well as fastest time and many others. The cost for the race is eight dollars for adults and seven dollars for youth (0-17) , the money goes back to the community.



Photo by Michael Kooiman



Photo by Issac Stokoe

HOMECOMING SPIRIT DAYS

MONDAY

"Boot Scootin' Boogie"
(Country)

- Hats, boots, overalls, flannel shirts

- Night time: Powderpuff Football @ 7:00

-JV FB vs Colville
@ 5:00

Tuesday

"Juke Box Hero" (80s)

- Big hair, headbands, sweatsuits, leg warmers, neon colors

- VB vs Chewelah @ 5/6:30

- XC at Colville @ 4/4:45

Wednesday

"Made in America" (Patriotic)

- Red, white, and blue!

- Night time: Macho Volleyball @ 6:30

Friday

"We Will Rock You"
(Freeman Pride)

- Freeman colors/gear

- Homecoming FB vs Medical Lake @ 6:50

Saturday

Semi-Formal
dance @ 8:00 -
11:00

- \$15 per couple
- \$8 single

THURSDAY

"Thriller" (Creepy Day)

- Monsters, zombies, halloween, scary
- VB @ 5/6:30
- Soccer at Riverside
- C FB vs ML @ 5:00