



## Replacement Levy saves activities and teacher positions

By Mason Mackleit  
Staff Writer

The Replacement Levy was passed February 14 as proposed by the Freeman School Board and Superintendent, much to their relief. In order to be passed, the levy needed 50 percent of votes, plus one vote. Freeman voters' results totaled at 54.39% for and 45.61% against.

"We are very happy to receive 54% support in light of the tough economic times and are very appreciative of our community," said Superintendent Randy Russell. "Levies have been traditionally supported by school communities across the state; however, many school districts had an approval percentage well below past levies. Again, I

think our difficult economic times had a direct impact."

The replacement levy will support the district for three years, starting January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015, after which another replacement levy will be created for the Freeman School District.

Russell said that the replacement levy is worth about 1.75 million dollars to the district's budget. Without the passing of the new levy, Freeman would have been forced to cut some extra-curricular activities such as FFA, some after-school sports, math-is-cool, and staff positions.

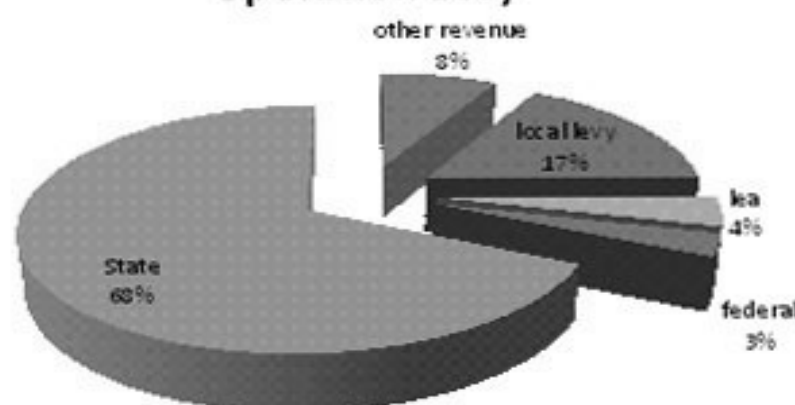
"It is great not only how our community is connected to what's going on, but also how connected our students are with the community," said Russell.

The levy passed will affect only Freeman School District residents. The levy is not new and will not be adding new costs to the local tax payer's bill. The amount will vary depending on the assessed property value. For every \$1,000 that it is assessed for, property owners will pay \$2.93

to the Freeman School District. According to Fiscal Director Jan Davis, the Levy has been running for at least 20 years.

Freeman School staff would like to thoroughly thank the Freeman community for their support of the Replacement Levy and of the school itself.

### Replacement Educational Programs & Operation Levy



## Freeman's FBLA members rise to the top!

By Scott Moore  
FBLA Advisor

On February 1, forty-six FBLA members from Freeman HS attended the 2012 Northeast Region FBLA Conference at Eastpoint Church in Spokane Valley.

They joined approximately 500 other students from throughout the region to compete in a number of business related areas such as Job Interview, Network Concepts, Accounting, Public Speaking, Entrepreneurship, Business Ethics, Desktop Publishing, and over 50 other categories. Combining those competitors with the number of advisors,

judges and chaperones, the Northeast FBLA region has the largest regional conference in the state of Washington this year with over 615 participants!

The top five competitors in each competition qualified for the state conference which will be held in Seattle during the second week of April. Top finishers at the state competition earn the honor to compete at the National FBLA Conference in San Antonio, Texas in June.

A big congratulation goes out to all the FBLA members who represented Freeman in an excellent manner! Freeman's FBLA

qualified 29 students to compete in Seattle.

Freeman High School's Future Business Leaders of America is the premier organization for students preparing for careers in business. It is the largest and oldest student business or-

ganization in the world with more than a quarter of a million members! FBLA prepares students for 'real world' professional experiences, with members gaining the competitive edge for college and career successes.

**A big congratulation goes out to the following students who made it into the top 5 in their area and will be heading to the state conference!**

- Brett Sinden and Colin Ayers – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Banking and Financial Systems
- Josiah Lara and Samantha Strothman – 1<sup>st</sup> Desktop Publishing
- Josiah Lara, Samantha Strothman, and Kirsten Fuchs – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Business Presentation
- Robin Faulkner, Grace Rudy and Brett Sinden – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Entrepreneurship
- Bethany Williams and Brooke Williams – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Emerging Business Issues
- Bethany Williams – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Word Processing 1
- Moriah Longhurst – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Introduction to Business Communication
- anna Weathers – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Job Interview
- Cody Dickinson – 1<sup>st</sup> place in Cyber Security
- Grace Rudy – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Hospitality Management
- Austin Carpenter – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Introduction to Business
- Shelby Nelson – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Client Service
- Brett Schmidtkofer and Cody Dickinson – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Management Decision Making
- Bethany Williams – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Public Speaking 1
- Ben Carasco – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Business Communications
- Danny Cossey – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Job Interview
- Katie Pintar and Hanna Weathers – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Desktop Publishing
- Kirsten Fuchs – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in FBLA Principles and Procedures
- Jami Pratt, Shenoa Rush and Rachel Underwood – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Business Presentation
- Cody Dickinson – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Technology Concepts
- Colin Ayers, Hunter Beaulaurier and Austin Rice – 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Entrepreneurship
- Eric Hjaltalin – 4<sup>th</sup> place in Sports Management
- Leaira Anderson – 4<sup>th</sup> place in Business Communications
- Cody Dickinson and Greg Ruby – 4<sup>th</sup> place in Network Design
- Zeke Flack and Tanner Waite – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Management Decision Making
- Grace Rudy – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Business Communications
- Austin Carpenter – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Introduction to Technology Concepts
- Elizabeth Kosanke – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Job Interview
- Eric Hjaltalin – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Future Business Leader
- Danny Cossey – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Impromptu Speaking
- Samantha Strothman and Brooke Williams – 5<sup>th</sup> place in Business Ethics.

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## Foster kids need Freeman's donations

By Ruby Falciani  
Opinion Editor



Photo by Ruby Falciani

Imagine if you had no parents or family to raise you and you had to live with people you didn't know, and go to a school where you knew no one. If you think you would be able to make it, imagine your little brother or sister having to be separated from you. And they would have to face foster care, alone, and scared. It's not a happy thought, is it? This scenario isn't make-believe. This really happens to children and teenagers every day.

"The issue is that we have so many foster kids, we have to do donations so they don't end up on the streets," said freshman Johanna Jackson. "Emotionally, they can't

really trust and it's sad, but it's better to live in a home rather than in an orphanage."

Some of them receive shoes that fit or clothes that are too small or big. These kids need new clothes. All kinds of donations are needed: newborn clothing to clothing for 18 year-olds, bags and backpacks, and shoes up to size 12. New underwear and socks are one of the most needed necessities for those in the foster system.

The Sleep Country U.S.A. website (<http://www.sleepcountry.com/help-foster-kids.aspx>), explains that over 10,000 kids enter the Foster Care System every year. Only sixteen percent of those kids get

adopted, while the rest move from home to home. And those homes need our help.

Why make foster kids wear old clothes and not have school bags if we can give them what they need? Sleep Country has been supporting and giving back to the community for over 20 years by running donation events for foster children. From March 19 - June 3, Sleep Country (15607 E. Broadway) is holding a Foster Kids Shoe Drive to collect shoes to donate to local foster kids. All shoe sizes are needed. If you have new clothes that you don't need or want, deliver them to Sleep Country to donate to a worthy cause.

In 2011, Sleep Country's charity events provided 2,800 pairs of new shoes, over 12,000 clothing items, 56,000 school supply items,

and 9,000 coats for local foster children. Due to all of the donations, Sleep Country gave local foster children over 2,300 tickets for them to go to fun events like amusement parks. They were able to raise over \$140,000 from donations and the Foster Kids Pajama Bowl.

With every article of clothing you donate, there is one less child waiting for someone to care about them, and their simplest needs. It doesn't take a lot of effort to be a hero, just time, and clothes.



Photo by Ruby Falciani

## Rapid increase in college tuition

By Jessica Ruby  
Staff Writer

College is a huge investment, if you are planning on going. And right now is the worst point in college history because of huge increases in tuition due to government cutbacks in college funding. The costs of tuition are changing drastically,

and everyone can see the increase.

"How can you not?" asked high school counselor Laura Hamma.

In the past, the state would help pay a part of tuition, but today, a larger portion of college costs fall on students and their families. In 1981 tuition was 12% of the average family's income,

while in 2010, it increased to 25%. This is a huge contributing factor that determines whether or not a potential student can afford college or not.

Many people either don't pursue college because of the huge costs that go along with it, or they take out loans, which is one of the

biggest contributors to national debt.

"I have been working and saving money on my own for a while," senior Shelby Nelson said. "I chose to go to Eastern because it is the most education for your dollar."

President Barack Obama has recently ad-

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(Continued from page 2)

dressed the issues with the high costs of college tuitions.

“Contain tuition, or face losing federal dollars,” President Obama threatened post-secondary institutions.

Basically, if colleges don’t bring their costs under control, the federal government will quit helping colleges by subsidizing their institutions. When institutions lose their government money, they will need to make up the lost revenue somewhere else. That cost will probably be passed onto the students attending their hallowed halls.

College is an increasingly more difficult option for many people. Students who need the money are starting to get jobs in high school, working hard to keep up grades for scholarships, and relying more heavily on the Free Application For Students Aid

(FAFSA), which is required to apply for financial aid or student loans for college.

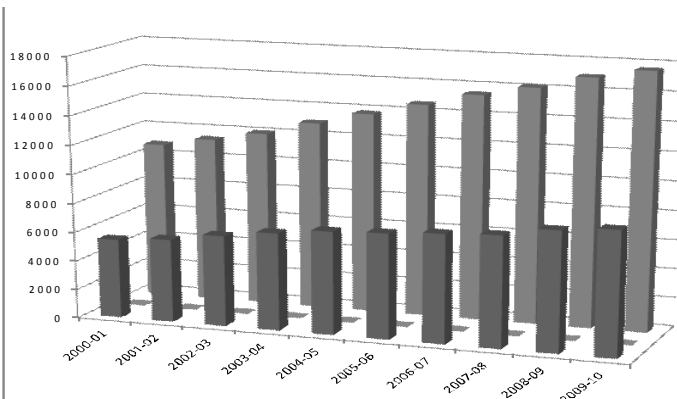
“I am working all year to earn money to help pay for college,” said senior Haley Hansen. “College is so expensive so I want to help however I can.”

Many states, including Washington, have tried to help with this issue, by mandating that schools can only increase tuition by a certain percent after state budget cuts. The increase over the past years is outrageous. Many people take advantage of financial aid and take away opportunity for other students.

“We should go back to valuing education and making it more affordable,” said Hamma. “The door is closing on kids we rely on with a fresh education.”

Nobody wants to lose money and everyone wants to make money, which is how this problem was created. College is a necessary part of life. If the prices

keep rising like they are, it is going to be even harder to make it even possible for many people to go, especially in this recession.



Light gray— all colleges and universities; Dark grey— 4-year institutions

## Counselor’s Corner

By Laura Hamma

High School Counselor

Students and Parents:

We have one more week before we have to order the Advanced Placement exams. The deadline is March 7<sup>th</sup> to get to Mrs. Hamma the signup sheet. Each exam costs \$87, and that fee needs to be paid by April 30<sup>th</sup>. However, you can order the test now by completing an AP order sign up sheet.

A new job listing for students is available on the Counseling Corner website under the Career link. This is the March list from the Next Generation Zone employment office. Check it out, it has some summer job postings!

## March Calendar

**1-3: State Basketball - Yakima**

**6: Movie vs Book Day**

**8: Advisory Schedule**

**Freeman School Board Meeting – K-8 MP room, 6:00 pm**

**9: Last day to register for ACT test 4/14**

**10: Sadies Dance**

**SAT Test**

**12: 6-week grading period ends**

**13: ASB Student Council Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> period**

**13-15: HS Reading & Writing HSPE**

**14: 6-week progress reports to students, deficiencies mailed**

**15-17: Alumni Tournament**

**19: Spring Choir Concert – 7:00 pm**

**21: Spring Instrumental Concert, Grades 5-12**

**21-23: State FCCLA meeting**

**22 or 23: MS Large Group Choral Festival**

**26-29: Book Fair**

**26-29: Conference Week**

**27: ASB Student Council Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> period**

**Freeman School Board Meeting – K-8 MP room, 6:00 pm**

**27 or 28: HS Large Group Choral Festival**

**29: Early Release, High School conferences**

**30: Early Release**

**March 31-April 8: Spring Break**

## Technology is not good in all cases

By Anna Lee  
Staff Writer

Although teachers and parents have thought of students only using cell phones to text *lol*, *brb*, and *ily* in school, cell phones can be used for much more than these small communications. The answer to a test or assignment question can be passed in the click of a button.

The fear that most teachers have when talking about cell phones in school is students using them to cheat in class.

"It is a concern, and I try to pay attention to students doing things like that, but so far I haven't seen any potential problems with them in my class," said math teacher Gary More.

For Freeman teachers, who do not allow cell phones in the classroom, it may not seem like a problem, but students will do whatever they can to sneak a text during class.

Technology has gotten to the point that students don't know how to live without it. Even if a teacher that says "I don't

allow phones in my class," that does not mean that students won't have them in their pockets, ready to press send when the teacher is faced the other way.

"I use my phones a lot during school," said freshman Colbi Smith. "In the last week, I have used it at least once in every class; I'm not going to lie."

If students aren't using their phones to cheat, does that make knowing students have them any better? Even if they are texting "What are you up to?" or "Hey!", students are still being distracted from learning. The use of cell phones may not be to cheat, but there is always a chance that some students are using their phones for something other than sending a message that says "TTYL."

"Students will argue and say that their parents are texting them or need to talk to them," said Freeman offi-

cer Ron Nye. "If their parent needs to talk to them that badly, then they can call the office. I am sure that all of the parents have the office number and can call the school if they need to talk to their kid."

The affect that cell phones have on teachers during school is huge, but the affects on the students are just as high. Being able to spread rumors is a huge risk, and the fact that students can spread them three times faster with a cell phone increases this factor dramatically. If a rumor where to go around without cell phones, it would take maybe days to spread around to every person in the school. With cell phones though, a student could send one text message and in an instant everyone in the school could know. Risking the spread of gossip is not worth the few positive

things that cell phones do bring.

"My biggest fear with cell phones in school is bullying and sexting," said officer Nye.

Cell phones have become the new aid for bullying. Instead of having to face the person themselves, students can send a message and not have to worry about what the person's actual reaction is.

"If a student was caught bullying with their phones they wouldn't be allowed to have them," said principal Dave Smith. "We would check their phone into the office every morning."

Technology can be good when in need to talk to parents or plan an activity, but cell phones are not needed in school and should not be used.

No matter why a student is using their cell phone in school, it is most likely being used for a reason that is not helping them learn anyway. Cell phones do not help students in getting a good education and should not be allowed in school.

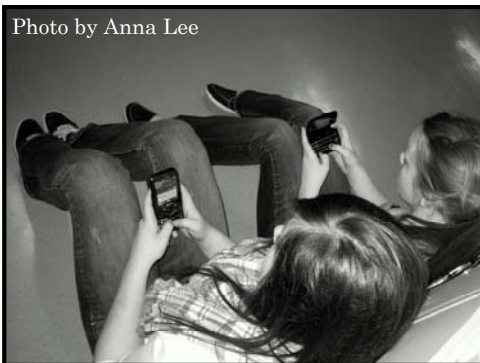


Photo by Anna Lee  
Freeman High School freshmen Hannah Williams and Hope Mathews sneak in a couple of texts during school hours.

## At what point is skinny is too skinny?

By Kindra Malloy  
Staff Writer

In today's society, girls are constantly surrounded by images of tall, beautiful, skinny girls. The pressure to be thin is greater than ever.

According to [www.state.sc.us](http://www.state.sc.us), 50% of girls in America between the ages of 11 and 13 see themselves as overweight. Girls ages 11 and older will go to any lengths to lose weight. Plastic surgery and extreme dieting are some of the most common strategies that girls use to lose weight. But, do these strategies do more harm than good? As a matter of fact, they do.

Extreme dieting such as not eating, and over-exercising are very harmful for growing bodies, especially when put together. When someone doesn't eat

or eats very little, they are not giving their bodies the nutrients needed to stay healthy. They will become fatigued more quickly, and have a lack of energy.

Many people think that because exercise is good for their bodies, the more they do, the better for their health. Well...that's wrong. The truth is that too much exercise could actually do you harm. You could get "exercise bulimia," a similar eating disorder to bulimia.

Exercise bulimia is a subset of the psychological disorder called bulimia in which a person is compelled to exercise in an effort aimed at burning the calories of food energy and fat reserves to an excessive level that negatively affects their health. The damage normally occurs through not giving the body adequate rest for athletic recovery compared to their exercise levels, leading to

increasing levels of disrepair. If a person eats a normally healthy and adequate diet, but exercises in levels they know require higher levels of nutrition, this can also be seen as a form of anorexia ([exercise.about.com](http://exercise.about.com)).

Exercise bulimia can have devastating results, like an increased risk of injury and suppressing immune systems.

So what else can you do to lose weight but still stay healthy? The answer is actually quite simple. Eating right and exercising. With the right diet and daily exercise you can lose weight and keep it off! If you are looking for some ex-

tra help to lose weight, there are many programs out there, such as Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig, and Nutrisystem.

"Seeing models that are stick thin, make you feel like you need to be thin to in order to fit in," said one sophomore.

So next time you look at yourself in the mirror and

think, "All I need to do is lose weight, and then I will finally fit in," think again! You're beautiful just the way you are, and if you want to lose weight for you or for your health, then

good for you! But keep in mind the healthiest and most effective way to lose weight is by eating right and exercising!



Photo by Kindra Malloy  
Freeman students hit the weights as part of their physical education classes.

## Equal rights for all couples

By Maddie Keebler  
Staff Writer

The issue of gay rights has come back into the news. Many new laws have been passed, either enthusing or outraging people. Homosexuals are slowly, but surely, earning their rights to get married throughout the US.

"I am not attracted to the same sex, but if someone is gay or lesbian, I am accepting," said junior Felicia Jackson.

Some people think that a woman loving a woman or a man loving a man is wrong. There are also people that are neither gay nor lesbian, but are accepting of that choice. We're all human here; we all fall in love. You can't help who it's with.

There are many people in the media that are gay or lesbian. Ellen DeGeneres is a comedian, and talk show host who also lent her voice to the character Dory, in the Disney Pixar movie *Finding Nemo*. Rosie O'Donnell, Neil Patrick Harris, Melissa Etheridge, Elton John, Wanda Sykes, and Lindsay Lohan have all been in same-sex relationships. When we see famous people coming out, it seems more real. If our favorite star is homosexual, we wouldn't stop liking them, would we? Probably not.

The media influences how we look at situations. It's easy to judge when it's just some random person on the street, but when it is someone we are familiar with, things change.

"I think the media glorifies the gay and lesbian community," said Jackson. "TV shows make it seem normal and okay. It makes people more comfortable with the idea of seeing gays and lesbians."

There are many popular TV shows that feature homosexual characters. *Modern Family* features a gay

couple that adopts a little girl. There are both gay and lesbian characters on *Glee*. *Desperate Housewives* and *Brothers and Sisters* also have gay couples. These shows portray the wonders of acceptance and the torment of rejection.

In Washington, same-sex marriages are now legal. Washington joins New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont and Iowa as states that legally recognize same-sex marriages.

In April 2011, Governor Christine Gregoire signed a law treating out-of-state same-sex marriages as do-

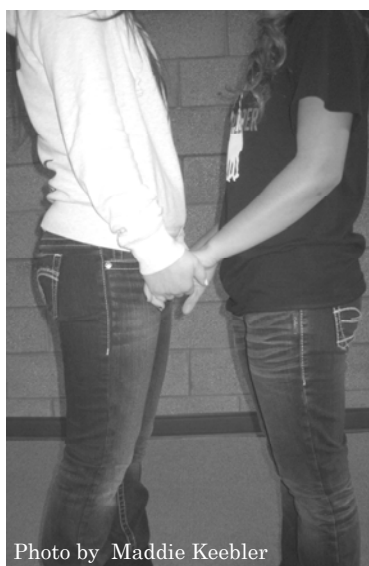


Photo by Maddie Keebler

Same-sex relationships are now being more widely accepted by society.

mestic partnerships in Washington. In a domestic partnership, the government recognizes the relationship between two people who cohabitate and share a long-term sexual relationship, giving them some rights as a couple under the law. Washington used to honor lawful out-of-state domestic partnerships and civil unions, but out-of-state same-sex marriages were not recognized in any way. Washington now recognizes same-sex marriages, giving them the same legal rights as straight married couples.

In a way, history is repeating itself. The Civil Rights movement of the 1960's was similar to this. African-Americans were not given the same rights as everyone else. They were not given equal rights in all parts of the country, such as the south which limited the legal rights and humane treatment of African-Americans.

Homosexuals get harassed, they can't get married in most places, and they aren't accepted by part of modern society. It's sad, really. America is supposed to be a free country. As a nation, we need to do everything we can to make sure everybody has the same rights.

## Do we blame TV for the increase of teen pregnancies?

By Maddie Richardson  
Staff writer

Some TV shows these days are about teen parents. The idea of the shows is to try and prevent teen pregnancies. On *16 and Pregnant*, MTV is trying to prevent teen pregnancy and to show young girls what it would be like to get pregnant in high school. However, what it's really doing is glamorizing teen pregnancy as a means to become famous. Girls watch these shows and think that if the girls on TV have a show for getting pregnant, then maybe they can too. There is a disconnect on the show between the reality of being a pregnant/teenage mother and the world MTV portrays.

Some students think this show is ridiculous and should just get rid of them and find a better way to communicate about sex with your parents.

"Some people think that parents should have a more proper sex talk with their children and maybe allow them to have access to protection," sophomore Kirsten Fuchs said.

Parents should take more responsibility with their children's actions. Don't be afraid to talk to your parents about sex.

"Most parents are afraid to have the sex talk with their children because they think that they are going to become sexually active," said sophomore Shelby Blesner. "But really, every parent should have the sex talk with their kids. You might be afraid to sit down and discuss sex with your parents, but in the long run, it's going to help you out. Just like the commercials for these teen

shows tell you."

Think about it: Do you want to spend your teenage years changing diapers and staying up all night taking care of a crying baby? The answer is no.

Being a teen parent is not as glamorous as MTV makes it look like. The reality of having a baby is not just making thousands of dollars for an episode; it's about having responsibility of taking care of another life, paying bills and possibly being alone.

*Seventeen Magazine* ran an article with facts about girls who purposely got pregnant. 20% are planned pregnancies, 59% never finish high school, and almost 50% end up on welfare.

As soon as you become pregnant, your whole life turns upside down. No more going to parties, or hanging out with friends all the time. Your teenage years are supposed to be about having fun and planning for your future, not taking care of a baby.

Our generation is growing up way too fast. With all these shows about teen pregnancy and teen moms, girls want to be just like them and have their very own show. Some girls decide to follow that example, becoming pregnant because they want to be famous. They overlook the difficulties that these young women face on the show.

Why would you want to become a teen parent and have all the responsibilities that most adults don't even have?



Photo by Maddie Richardson

Pregnant by accident or purpose? MTV makes girls desperate to get on TV.

# Texting and driving-a lethal combination

By Hannah Williamson  
Staff Writer

Since when is “LOL” or “OMG” more important than someone’s safety? When did it become a higher priority to read a simple text than to pay attention to the road while driving? Texting while driving, especially for teens, has become an expanding problem and it’s getting out of hand. Is a one-word text really worth sending if it jeopardizes someone’s life?

According to the National Safety Council, cell phones were factors in 1.3 million car crashes across the United States last year. Of these accidents, many are fatal. Considering the fact that teen drivers already don’t have that much driving experience, there is no way that they can always pay full attention to the road and safely control their vehicles while preoccupied by a text message or phone call.

“Texting while driving is really tempting, but isn’t a good idea,” said freshman Emily Dearman. “It’s really dangerous, especially for teenage drivers, like me, who don’t have a lot of ex-

perience.”

However, just because a person has more experience does not give them a good excuse to text and drive either, because it is still an interruption to their focus.



Photo By Hannah Williamson

Texting while driving takes the driver’s eyes off the road, endangers everyone.

“The biggest danger,” Officer Ron Nye explained. “Is the distraction. You have to take your eyes off the road!”

Texting while driving isn’t really any safer than driving while intoxicated due to the fact that it takes your focus off of what is important—controlling your vehicle. In 2010, a study was conducted stating that the reaction time for someone texting dropped by 35% while the reaction

time of legally drunk drivers was decreased by only 12% ([www.massachusettsduilawyerblog.com](http://www.massachusettsduilawyerblog.com)).

Newer laws in Washington State have prohibited all drivers from texting or using a hand-held device at all. It is a primary law, which means a cop can pull you over just for texting, without any other noticed infraction. Any violation of this law results in a driving ticket of \$124. ([drivinglaws.org](http://drivinglaws.org))

Texting while driving is an unintelligent, ignorant and selfish act because, not only does it affect the driver’s safety, but it can harm the people around them too.

The best way to avoid texting and driving, according to Nye, is to turn off your phone as soon as you get in the car. If you need to tell a parent about where you are, it’s better to call or text them once you’ve reached where you’re going instead of taking the risk of using your phone while driving.

There are also other ways to be safer while driving, including using a Bluetooth or speaker system that allows you to talk in your car without needing to hold your phone. Any of these alternatives are better than taking your hand off the wheel to use your cell phone for any reason.

# How big an affect do game raters have on sales?

By Teigan Glidewell  
Staff Writer

The people who rate games are a whole board called Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB). The ESRB ratings are designed to provide concise and impartial information about the content in computer and video games, so that consumers, especially parents, can make an informed purchase decision. ESRB ratings have two equal parts: rating symbols that suggest age appropriateness for the game, and content descriptors, which indicate elements in a game that may have triggered a particular rating and/or may be of interest or concern. Game rating can negatively affect the amount of copies sold. Games could be prevented from reaching their full potential due to the ratings.

A video game content rating system is a system used for the classification of video games into suitability-related groups. Most of these systems are generally associated with or sponsored by a government, and are sometimes part of the local motion picture rating system. The ESA says that game players under the age of 18 report that they get their parent's permission 83 percent of the time before purchasing a computer or video game. This is important because kids that are 10-12 could be playing a very graphic game.

“I need them [ratings] to buy my games,” said freshman Billy Sims. “My parents never question the ratings though.”

Similar to other forms of media, video games have been the subject of argument between leading professionals. They focus on whether or not restrictions keep people from

playing the games. Often these bouts of criticism come from the use of debated topics such as video game graphic violence and gory scenes, portrayal of criminal behavior or other provocative and objectionable material.

“I think game ratings are good because they help give people an idea of what they have,” explained freshman Grady Arnzen.

Game ratings can affect games because if the game is rated M for mature, parents, especially those who have young children, will not allow their children to buy or play the game. Those with inappropriate language or gory scenes are often targeted.

“Games with higher level of ratings don’t get as much money as they could” said Sims.

When games are highly anticipated, they usually sell a lot of games. Many of the top ten games of 2011 were rated M. Due to their mature ratings, they did not meet their full potential.

<div>Top 10 Games of 2011</div> <div>#10- Uncharted 3</div> <div>#9-La Noir</div> <div>#8-Little Big Planet 2</div> <div>#7-Dues Ex: Revolution</div> <div>#6-NBA 2k12</div> <div>#5-Saints Row</div> <div>#4-Bastion</div> <div>#3-Skyrim</div> <div>#2-Batman: Arkham City</div> <div>#1-Portal 2</div>
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# Features

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## Sarah King, artist in waiting!

By Maddie Richardson  
Staff Writer

Sophomore Sarah King is an amazing artist. She has been drawing almost her whole life. She started off by finger painting when she was 6 years-old; eventually, that led to her drawing. Drawing is one of King's biggest passion. Some of her favorite things to draw include characters from movies, wolves and horses.

"Her artwork is as good as any and is marvelous once the work is actually completed," King's art teacher, Ken Spiering said.

For King, drawing is a way for her to express feeling. When she is in a bad mood, she especially likes to draw.

"Like most people, I like to express my feelings with something I love and am good at," explained King. "I love taking my drawings and hanging them all over my room. My room is full of them! I also love to try new styles of drawings and get out of my comfort zone."

Her classmates also think her ability is amazing.

"Her artistic ability is completely rad," said freshman Rachael Boyd.

Her friends think she is a talented artist and thinks she should continue on with drawing.

"She is completely amazing," added freshman Rachael Underwood. "I don't know how she does it."

For many people, drawing is hard or they may have the ability, but choose not to use it. But for King, it is a natural-born talent. She both loves to draw and is very talented.

King said that if she were to continue with her artistic ability, she would rather go into acting then continue drawing. She said that she would not have the patience to be an actual artist which is why she would major in theater.

Drawing is not the only artistic medium King enjoys; she also likes making pottery, abstract paintings and just doodling whenever she can.

King's longest painting took two days, and she enjoyed the way it turned out afterwards.

King loves to draw and paint. Drawing is and always will be a passion for her.



Photo by Maddie Richardson

Sarah and one of her newest creations Jack Sparrow.



Photo by Maddie Richardson

Horses are one of King's favorite subjects to sketch

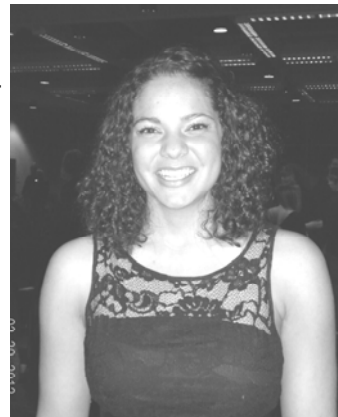
## Burton shines in WMEA Choir concert

By Danette Garcia  
Choir Director

Outstanding music students from across Washington received top honors by being selected to participate in one of Washington Music Educators Association's (WMEA) 2012 All-State performing

groups. Senior Tori Burton joined other WMEA high school student musicians in Yakima, February 17-20. She and the other musicians were selected through auditions to participate in this event.

These outstanding WMEA All-State musicians from Washington rehearsed and performed in concert under the direction of world-renowned conductors. Burton participated in the All-State Treble Choir under the direction of Edith A. Copley, professor and director of Choral Studies at Northern Arizona University.



Both Photos courtesy of Danette Garcia

Burton (3rd row, 5th from the left) sings with other choral singers participating in All-state.

## New Superintendent, great addition to Freeman community

By Maddie Keebler  
Staff Writer

Randy Russell, the new superintendent of Freeman Schools, is beginning his first year with us. He hasn't been here very long, but he has made an impact this year. Some of his goals this year are to build relationships with the students, staff, parents, and the community. Russell wants to learn as much as he can about Freeman. He really wants to get to know each member of the community and find out how he can be apart of the solution for continuous improvement.

Russell graduated from Whitworth College. He spent 6 years working as an Activities Athletic Director and as an Assistant Principal at Spokane Public Schools. Before coming to

Freeman, Russell was the principal at Coeur d'Alene High School for five years.

Growing up, Russell did not know that he wanted to be a superintendent. He believes he is very fortunate to have ended up in education. He loves working with the student, staff, and parents.

Russell was born on September 29, 1966 in Sydney, Montana. Russell has four children. His eldest daughters, Emily(16) and Megan (14), live with their mom in Kalispell, Montana. His children with wife Shauna, Ryan, a second

grader, and Rylie, a three and a half year-old, go to school here in Freeman. His family loves being at Freeman.

"The Freeman community has been so great, and really made all of us feel welcome," said Russell.

What does Mr. Russell do in his free time? He loves being involved with his children's activities. Whether concerts, sports games, or church activities, he loves it all.

His favorite sport to play is golf, and he likes to go camping and read. His favorite sports teams are the Boston Celtics, the Dallas Cowboys, and the Cincin-



Photo by Maddie Keebler

Randy Russell settles in quickly to life in the Freeman School District.

nati Reds. Russell and his family have already been fixtures at Freeman events, whether taking in a basketball game or wrestling tournament, or listening to the latest music department offering.

The Russell's feel very welcome here at Freeman thanks to the friendliness of the community. Russell even got a nice welcome from former Superintendent Sergio Hernandez, who helped Russell with his transition into his new position over the summer.

"It feels awesome to be apart of the Freeman Family," Russell said. "The people are very positive and welcoming. Everyone is so caring, and they really look out for one another. It is very evident that the staff, students, and community have pride in their schools."

# Features

page 8

## FCCLA qualifies 2 for state competition

By Jennifer Fees  
FCCLA Advisor

February 8, three members of Freeman's Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competed at the Region 10 STAR Events (Students Taking Action With Recognition). They each did a fantastic job in their catagories.

Junior Brette Schmidlkofer competed in an event called Fashion Design. She developed a clothing line called IZZY by Design. Schmidlkofer created a portfolio that showed her label for her designs, outlined her intended market, included sketches for 6 designs for her clothing line, decided how she would sell her designs, and discussed her career options. She also

created one article from her clothing line. Schmidlkofer was judged on her portfolio, presentation using her portfolio, and her designed and created garment. She received a GOLD rating which earned her a spot to compete in Wenatchee for the State STAR Event Competition and Leadership Conference.

Freshman Lexi Saeger competed in an event called Recycle Redesign. She called her event "From Recycle to Upcycle." She designed and made a complete outfit out of feed bags (dog food bags were used for a skirt, and cat food bags for the top). Saeger then accessorized with pop tab jewelry. She created a tri-fold board that showcased a planning process, sketches of her design, and the cost sheet. She was judged on her portfolio, sewn outfit and her presentation. Saeger also received a GOLD



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Fees

Freeman's FCCLA competed and helped to judge events at Spokane's Masonic Temple.

rating, qualifying her for state.

Sophomore Beth Primmer competed in job interview. She created a portfolio with a cover letter, résumé, letters of recom-

mendation, career-related education, educational enhancement opportunities, and special skills. Primmer's event began with time to fill out an application. She next completed an interview where she showcased her portfolio. Finally, Primmer had an exit section where she created a thank you letter. Primmer scored a SILVER rating.

FCCLA relies on students to not only compete but evaluate. Each event is evaluated by 3 evaluators (2 students and 1 adult). We also utilize the students as facilitators where they either time or are the clerk for their event. A big thank you goes out to freshmen Anna Jackson and Hanna Watkins, sophomore Tori Keizer, and senior Lindsey Nordby for their help in making the 2012 FCCLA Region 10 STAR Events a huge success!

The State STAR Events will take place in Wenatchee, March 21-23. Good luck at state Brette and Lexi!



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Fees

Brette Schmidlkofer, Lexi Saeger, and Beth Primmer show off their projects before competing in the FCCLA Regional STAR Events.

## Freeman student gets full-ride scholarship to GU

By Madi Groves  
Staff writer

When Senior Josiah Lara found out that he got a full-ride scholarship to Gonzaga University, he had no clue how much his life would change. Lara currently lives in Valleyford and has a family of 15 including his mom and his dad.

"Joey was super excited," said Lara's brother, freshman Jesse Lara. "He was jumping up and down, and he told every person he saw. He was the first one who got this successful in college."

Gonzaga awarded Lara the Act Six scholarship, a full-tuition, full-need based scholarship. Lara's scholarship will pay for his tuition, room and board, and for most of his personal needs such as textbooks. During Lara's four years at GU, his scholarship will cover about \$180,000 worth of tuition and expenses.

The state-wide goal it to award scholarship and leadership for multicultural students, so they can bring it back to their community. Lara was one of four Gonzaga students to be chosen from a pool of over 1,000 applicants. Recipients were chosen for their distinctive leadership, academic potential, and commitment to making a difference in their communities.

The Act Six develops leaders through a

simple four-step strategy. First, they recruit and select diverse, multicultural students from Washington's most promising emerging leaders. Second, they train and prepare this group of students in the year before college to help them to support each other. Third, they send and fund the teams together to select students in the Northwest on four-year, full-tuition, and full-need scholarships. Fourth, they support and inspire by providing strong campus support and ongoing leadership to development of the young students to grow into the next generation of community leaders.

"[The scholarship is an] amazing opportunity," said Josiah Lara. "It's a great thing to show my younger siblings they can achieve their goals."

Lara's many achievements in leadership and academics are part of why he

stood out from other Act Six applicants. Some of the things that he has done in his community were being FBLA president and director of AWANA for the Sparky Club. Lara is also a three-year member of Freeman's National Honor Society, was the junior class president, and is the current yearbook editor-in-chief.

At GU, Lara plans to study political science, philosophy, and law. These classes can bring him to great achievements in the world. In the future, Lara wants to be the President of the United States. He chose Gonzaga because only Whitworth and Gonzaga offered the Act Six, which was his original scholarship of choice.

Lara's achievement is a perfect example for the Freeman community of how hard work can pay off. If kids can find their own path, they can lead themselves to a better life. Lara's future will undoubtedly hold great adventures as he takes what he gains at GU and gives back to his community.



Photo courtesy of Josiah Lara

# Arts and Entertainment

## Try the South Hill's hidden ice cream gem, The Scoop

By Emma Sheldon  
Photo Editor

Spokane is full of locally-owned businesses, all very unique. The Scoop is a cozy little corner shop worth searching out. They have everything from cookies and cake pops, to ice cream and coffee. There is a lovely little table looking out onto the patio, with five glistening golden swivel stools for seating. They have many



Photo by Emma Sheldon

The Scoop is a great choice for a sweet treat regardless of the season.

other tables too, perfect for an outing with some friends or even just studying for finals.

"I can think of so many things unique about The Scoop," said Sacajawea student Sophie Carter. "They have more than 31 flavors and it's way more delicious."

The Scoop (1001 West 25th Avenue) is located right next to Wilson Elementary School, on the South Hill. It's a favorite

stop for students either before or after school. They love all the different options and the people who work there.

The Scoop has a lot of variety in their products. They

sell Brain Freeze Creamery ice cream, also local to Spokane. The Scoop changes out its ice cream flavors at least once a month. You can find crazy flavors like Muddy Cups and Dirty Dishes (chocolate ice cream with mini Reese's Peanut Butter Cups), Cakey Dough, and Strawberry with Basil in their flavor rotation. The selections are different and interesting.

The Scoop is also a great choice to find wonderful drinks and sandwiches. Their cake pops are melt-in-your-mouth delicious. The Scoop is definitely one of a kind.

"Well, it reminds me of when you look at a room in a magazine," said Carter. "You know there are one million other magazines like that and one million other rooms like that. But at The Scoop, it's your individual aesthetic neighborhood Ice

cream shop."

The staff takes service to another level, remembering what their regular customers order. All the staff members are super nice and really love working there. They talk to you as if they have known you all your life.

During the summer The Scoop becomes a community gathering place. Local artists are invited to play music, while customers enjoy their ice cream. This neighborhood shop is a meeting place for many on the South Hill. It's a great place to see friends or just go and study.

If you are looking for a fun place to spend an hour or two with friends, or just want to try a unique ice cream experience, take a drive to The Scoop. You'll find yourself adding in a new local treasure to your weekend plans.

## The Vow an extreme test of love

By Hannah Williamson  
Staff Writer

If you're the hopeless romantic type, then the February-released *The Vow* is definitely one to keep in mind. Directed by Michael Sucsy, a pure, emotional, and *true* love story is brought to the big screen. *The Vow* is based on the novel of the same title, recollecting the real-life journey of Kim and Krickitt Carpenter, a couple whose lives were changed by a 1993 car accident.

*The Vow* opens with Leo and Paige, a husband and wife who are madly in love. On a day like any other as

the couple comes home from a simple night out, they get in a brutal car accident involving a semi-truck that sends their whole world into a downward spiral. Leo (Channing Tatum) encounters no major damage, but Paige (Rachel McAdams) comes out of a coma with severe amnesia; she can't remember the last five years of her life. She had met Leo four years before the accident. Paige thinks she is still going to Law School, living with her parents, and engaged to her former fiancé, Jeremy (Scott Speedman). As Leo comes to grips with the fact that

the love of his life has no recollection of him at all, he'll have to face his biggest challenge yet—making his wife fall in love with him again.

Through-out Paige and Leo's journey, they'll learn things they never knew, and they'll figure out just how far a person is willing to go for a once-in-a-lifetime love. Leo, facing ridicule from Paige's parents (and almost everyone else for that matter), will have to make a decision. Will he keep his vow to love Paige forever or will he be forced to give up?

In this movie, McAdam's spunkiness and Tatum's sincerity perfectly balance out to create good chemistry between the two. Both actors, each with their own style, bring all their skills together in order to give this movie its key components. Romance, emotion, and humor are each delivered from Tatum and McAdams, no



Photo Courtesy of thevow-movie.com

Leo tries to help Paige remember their life together.

matter when needed, without hesitation. The two are fantastic actors, and did an amazing job working together in this film.

If you're looking for an example of determined love, then this movie is a must-see. *The Vow* is a truly heartwarming story, and has a way of making you laugh and cry—all at the same time. So, whether this movie draws happiness, or a tear, there is something that everyone can take from it. *The Vow* is definitely a movie to add to your collection, so make sure to buy it when it is released on DVD!



Photo Courtesy of thevow-movie.com

Will Leo and Paige find a way back to each other and their marriage?

# Arts and Entertainment

## Ghost Protocol, thrilling until the end

By Grady Arnzen  
Sports Editor

*Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol* is one of those high intensity, action-packed movies that keeps you entertained throughout. *Ghost Protocol* is the 4<sup>th</sup> movie in the *Mission Impossible* series that started in 1996. The series had different directors every time; *Ghost Protocol* is directed by Brad Bird.

There were many changes from *Mission Impossible 3* to *Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol*, such as plot changes and a different directing style. *MI3* (directed by J.J. Abrams) had a darker take on the series, with an awful torture scene and it also gave the main character, Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise), a wife. In *Ghost Protocol*, Brad Bird decided to make some changes to what Abrams had done with the series. He decided to kill off Hunt's wife, and turned the series back into the lively, action-packed movie it should be.

*Ghost Protocol* centers around how Hunt and his team are racing against time to track down a dangerous terrorist named Kurt Hendricks (Michael Ny-

qvist), who has gained access to nuclear launch codes and is planning an attack on the United States. Hunt's team consists of three other members. The leader of the Impossible Mission Force (IMF) team Hunt joins is Jane Carter (Paula Patton). The second member is William Brandt (Jeremy Renner), the Secretary's chief analyst and former IMF field agent. The last member of Hunt's team is Benji Dunn (Simon Pegg), a technical field agent.

Hunt and his team track Hendricks to the Kremlin. The IMF comes close to catching him, but an explosion in the Kremlin causes Hendricks to escape. The White House then invokes Ghost Protocol, where the IMF is disavowed. This means that they will receive no aid in capturing Hendricks, and are essentially forgotten.

However, this doesn't seem to daunt Hunt. He and his team chase

Hendricks to Dubai, where there is an excellent scene in which Hunt climbs the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world (at 2,723 ft). Hendricks manages to barely escape. The ending leaves you hanging when Hendricks travels to Mumbai, leaving the disavowed IMF wondering if they can catch Hendricks in time before it's too late.

All in all, *Ghost Protocol* was a very intense movie, but there was not much plot behind the action. Anyone who has seen the previous movies in the series can also see there is not much that changes between each plot. However, the intense action makes up for the shallow plot. Viewers tend not to notice the light plot, as they get caught up in the quick-paced action. *Ghost Protocol* fits nicely into the action mold set by the previous movies. In every movie in the series, there is a certain task that the IMF must take on, always being a terrorist behind some large scale scheme.

"I thought the plot was really compelling," said freshman Jake Phipps. "It was a good show! I would see it again anytime."

The acting in *Ghost Protocol* was somewhat cheesy, with the actors saying exactly what was happening, adding no depth to the characters. The best acting job was done by Nyqvist as Hendricks. His thick Russian accent and steely look made him a very good terrorist.

"I thought Tom Cruise was the best for the job as Ethan Hunt," Phipps said.

The way *Ghost Protocol* was filmed also made a difference. Different from the other movies in the series, Bird focused on filming small cuts from many different angles to simulate intense action. *Ghost Protocol* also took advantage of using aerial shots throughout the movie, which gave a good visual to the settings.

*Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol* is rated PG 13 for violence and some language. It is recommended for people over the age of 12 because of the never-ending action, and because *Ghost Protocol* contains some mild language throughout.



Photo courtesy of IMDB.com

## Paisley makes the color "Camouflage" stand out

By Hope Mathews  
Staff Writer

"MARRY ME", and "SCOTTY MCHOTTIE," were amongst signs fans raised at the Brad Paisley concert on February 9. The Arena was packed full with crazy fans, and screaming girls that love Scotty McCreery and Brad Paisley, not to mention the screaming men cheering for Kimberly Perry of The Band Perry. Many people in Spokane and half the Freeman community showed up for the concert.

When the lights go down and you hear that low voice, who do you think of?

"The love of my life, also known as Scotty McCreery!" freshman Matea Ped gasped.

Newcomer McCreery played for almost a half hour to kick off the show. Many girls in the stands went crazy screaming and shouting, "I love you Scotty!" McCreery warmed up the crowd with some of his hit songs from his album *Clear As Day*.

The Band Perry was the second act of the night. They may not have been

the main event, but they were pretty amazing performers. The crowd warmed up quickly when the launched into some of their hits like "All I want is Love." When Kimberly Perry started singing "If I Die Young," the crowd went wild. The Band Perry was very thoughtful when all three siblings signed a t-shirt, then threw it off into the crowd. Over all, their performance was incredible and there was no way you couldn't enjoy it.

Brad Paisley passed fans expectations when he played for about two and

a half hours. Not only did he play well, but he kept the crowd entertained. Not like that was hard with the different virtual pictures playing in the background, such as ones of Carrie Underwood. Paisley entertained the crowd with funny jokes between songs.

He didn't disappoint when he played some of his big hits like "Camouflage," as well as singing some selections from his new album *This is Country Music*. Paisley capped off the night when he gave away a brand new, signed guitar to a young girl in the front row. Paisley thrilled the audience when he had Scotty McCreery join him on stage to sing "Famous Now."

Over all, the Brad Paisley concert was a hit. Over 1000 people enjoyed the concert and the two opening act, Scotty McCreery, and The Band Perry. This concert was well worth the money, and I would strongly advise people to see Paisley, McCreery, or The Band Perry anytime they came to the Spokane-area.



Photo courtesy of Felicia Jackson

Fans were not disappointed by McCreery's opening act.

# Arts and Entertainment

## Bethesda amazes again with new *Skyrim* game

By Isaac Stokoe  
Staff Writer

Imagine you are walking through a dense forest when all of a sudden, you hear the mighty roar of a dragon and the clang of steel from a group of bandits. You reach into your inventory and equip yourself with healing potions and a steel sword. You are ready. You show no mercy towards the bandits and quickly slay and loot the lot of them. Then, the dragon lands and beckons you to dance the dance of death. You use your sword to hack and slash at the beast while it circles, breathing fire. You finally lay the smiting blow and absorb the dragon's spirit. You are a true Dragonborn.

*Skyrim*, the new game by Bethesda, is an open world, first-person video game with versions for the PC, Xbox 360, and the PS3.

The story begins with your character traveling to Helgen for execution. Once there, the character customization begins. There are ten races in *Skyrim* consisting of human, Elvin, and beast. After customizing and naming your character, it is attacked by the first dragon in the game. As the first level progresses, you follow a knight into the Helgen where he fights soldiers. Then your character traverses into



Photo courtesy of www.skyrim.in.rs



Photo courtesy of www.skyrim.in.rs

A character in *Skyrim* takes on a dragon during his quest.

the cave underneath Helgen to fight spiders and a bear. Once in the open, the first-person component comes into play and you can choose to follow the main quest or travel the map. If you decide to

travel the map before completing the first two main quests, you will not encounter any dragons.

While the side quests options are infinitely generated, they are limited to action from the first part of the game.

The game play consists of a view between first- and third-person while playing. There is a large range of enemies and weapons that get progressively better with the level of your character.

"I like the way the games has a large diversity of weapons and clothing in the game," said freshman Kyle Miller. "I also like how the software they used makes the customization for each character unique."

Although the game can be played on two consoles, they still have the same software to run the game. The PS3 though is more prone to faults and lag time then the Xbox360 version. The solution to any problems is updating your system online as much as possible. Patches that are created by Bethesda are automatically included in the update. One aspect to the Xbox that is better is that the downloadable content (DLCs) arrives on Xbox Live before it hits the Playstation Network. Another part to the game that is better is that in the last game, *Oblivion* (the previous Bethesda videogame), the loading screens took a considerable amount of time.

"The map and content is now loading faster than ever in *Skyrim*, and there is a considerable difference in this and game play than in *Oblivion*," added Miller.

In *Skyrim* the map is much larger and yet the loading process has been increasingly shortened.

All in all, the game is revolutionary in the way that the software can load a 16 square-mile map, but the difference from any other big map is that there is almost three times the content (cave, dungeons, castle, houses, cities, and randomly generated items and camps). If you haven't played *Skyrim* yet, give it a try. The game is versatile enough that any level gamer can handle it.

## *The Woman in Black* leaves audiences glued to their seats

By Madi Groves  
Staff writer

*The Woman in Black*: suspenseful, mysterious, and eerie in a way that will creep you out, but you still want to watch it.

In the mid-1900's, London, Arthur Kipps (Daniel Radcliffe) goes to a little village, to try to sell a house that was uninhabited for years. The townsmen want Kipps to leave to protect him from the spirit residing in the mysterious house on an island in the middle of nowhere. Instead of leaving, he goes to the large, abandoned house where there are a lot of gravestones and creepy things. When he gets there, he sees this woman in black near the gravestones. Kipps goes to find her, but she's not there anymore.

The woman who owned the house that Arthur is try-



Photo courtesy of womaninblack.com

Jennet is restrained by Alice and her brother-in-law.

ing to sell is Alice. Alice is the sister of the woman in black, Jennet (Liz White), who lived, and even-

tually died, in the house with Alice. Jennet had a son, but her sister Alice took him away from Jennet. As revenge, Jennet is the Woman in Black, and is forcing little kids to kill themselves. Arthur and Mr. Daily (Ciaran Hinds) try to stop the woman from killing anyone else.

"Whenever *The Woman in Black* has been seen, a child has died," explained Mrs. Daily

The costumes in the movie were very eerie because they went with the time era, and with the setting. The director paid special attention to the setting

to create the creepy atmosphere needed in the movie. For instance, he set the house in a marshy area. Around the house, they placed old, plant-covered gravestones everywhere. Also, the house is in the middle of nowhere, so when the tide comes up, there is no road, trapping the characters at the house with no way to escape. Even the sound effects added to the mood. Characters constantly heard things moving around and in the house.

The director of the movie was James Watkins, he did a great job with the movie because the movie was suspenseful, a mystery, and it made you jump at some parts.

Radcliffe did a great job as Arthur. He was able to break away from his Harry Potter role. He really didn't act like he did in the *Harry Potter* movies. His character had a maturity

not found in his previous movies, showing that he'll be able to handle new challenges in the future.

I recommend this for ages 13. While it was kind of scary, it wasn't enough to make you have nightmares. The movie will make you jump at some parts, especially when the Woman in Black pops up when you are not expecting it. Also, people who like horror movies will enjoy this because it was eerie, and it made you scared for the people in the town and for Mr. Kipps. If you like movies that will make you jump and keep you in suspense, then this is the movie to see.



Photo courtesy of womaninblack.com

Arthur Kipps explores the house he's to sell.

## Terrier a step back into Pierce's literary world

By **Mason Mackleit**  
Staff Writer

In Tamora Pierce's 2009 book, Terrier, Pierce presents a new quality that is not within some of her other books. This quality is timeliness as her series takes place 200 years before any of her other books. This makes it impossible for her to incorporate any of her other characters and most of the landmarks that she uses throughout her other series. This makes the book great for those who have read any of her other series because it presents new background and plot development for those who have read them. For those who have not read her other books, this is a perfect starting point in her series because it is the earliest series to take place.

Terrier is presented as a journal of Provost Guard Puppy, Beka Copper. Puppy is the term used to refer to a trainee guardsperson. An official guardsperson is called a Dog. A guardsperson does much the same as a police officer except they use batons instead of guns and torture is legal. Beka was once a street child until the Lord Provost brought her into his home after she helped in the capture of the Bold Brass Gang.

As is done with all Puppies, they get a pair of Dogs to train them after completeing their five-year academy training. Beka gets lucky enough to be put with one of the most senior and greatest teams in the lower city, Tunstall and Goodwin. With their teaching and the help of her Cat, who is in reality a constellation that has access to the realm of the gods, she tries to

take on the shadow snake and Crookshanks, two of the most despicable characters the lower city cesspools have to offer. The only problem with her plan is that she needs facts and evidence. Luckily, Beka is not alone for she has a mage gift that allows her to hear the voices of the dead that still have business within the world and she can hear snippets of conversations trapped in dust spinners. With her talents and her partners' experience, she sets out to catch a child-killer known as the shadow snake and Crookshanks, a major criminal killing ten to twelve folk a week as he digs for fire opals, a very pricey pearl.

The book was a well-planned mystery book. Pierce kept adrenaline high as she created almost two different plots that tied into each other near the end. The best parts of this book are the descriptions. Pierce does a great job at describing settings and characters, such as in her description of Beka.

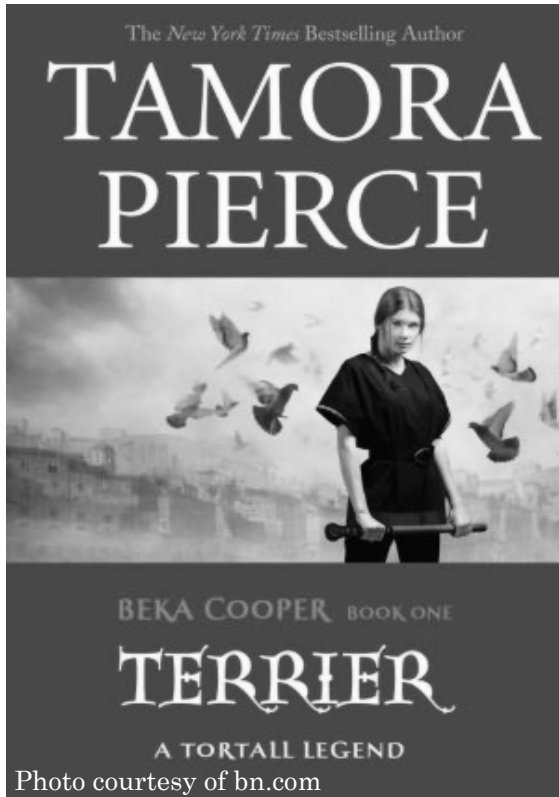
"I am told I am pretty in my face, though my sister Diona says when my fine nose and cheekbones have been broken flat several times that will no longer be so. (My sisters do not want

me to be a dog.) My eyes are light blue-grey in color. Some like them. Others hold them to be unsettling. I like them, because they work for me. My teeth are good. My hair is a dark blond. Folk can see my brows and lashes without my troubling to darken them, not that I would. I wear my hair long as my one vanity. I know it offers an opponent a grip but I have learned to tight braid it from the crown of my head. I also have a spiked strap to braid into it, so that any who seize my raid will regret it."

Another trait that she writes well is hiding the ending; she ties items and people together throughout the book. Even knowing all of this, she manages to keep the ending hidden and vague until that point in the

story.

This new series does not tie into any of her other books except for a few landmarks. The Terrier series includes two other books, Bloodhound, and Mastiff. Surprisingly enough, the title of her books corresponds to names that criminals and fellow dogs awarded her alike, for example people call her terrier because of her tendency to sink her teeth into a case/rat and not let go.



## South Hill's newest gem perfect destination for a pizza fix

By **Preston Primmer**  
Staff Writer

Are you looking for an inviting, delicious, and friendly restaurant. Somewhere to stop when you want to get a quick bite to eat, but aren't looking for fast food? Then, check out MacKenzie River, it may just fit the bill.

The atmosphere and customer service are exceptional at Mackenzie River. When you walk in the door, the first thing you smell is a tantalizing odor, a mix of pizza and pasta. You hear people talking and laughing, having a great time. You are greeted by a host who takes you to your seat and is very friendly. When ordering, there is a large selection of food and drinks. MacKenzie River has great food, along with great service.

The restaurant had a great atmosphere. When you walk in there

is a spacious waiting area where you can sit comfortably and watch TV while waiting. There is a family dining area without televisions, but great interior design. All over the walls are pictures of famous mountains, rivers, and lakes in Bozeman. Also, there is a canoe hanging from the ceiling and the lights are covered by buffalo skulls which give it a western feeling.

Their menu has a wide selection of fresh foods. Along with over two dozen pizzas on the menu, they have salads, pastas, and breads.

The food was amazing. When I got my BLT pizza, the cheese was sizzling, but it was not too hot to eat. The pizza was very large; a small pizza was big enough to easily share with another person.

On a second visit, I tried the Cajun chicken alfredo. This was spicy pasta, which added lots of flavors. It was delicious. It came with a bread stick and had sausage in it. It was not too spicy, just enough for flavor. I really liked it and would recommend this to anyone.

When I first tried it, I thought Mackenzie River was going to be very expensive. Not at all though. The average meal costs between \$9-15, with drinks.

I would recommend Mackenzie River to any family, group, or just some friends. With so many selections on their menu, there is something everyone will like.

It is very reasonably priced, exceptional food, and a great place to share with friends, so go here and have a great time!



Photo by Preston Primmer

Hard to go wrong with a pizza from MacKenzie River.

# Sports

## Emily Paukert plays her last year strong

By Anna Lee  
Staff Writer

Throughout her four years playing basketball at Freeman High School, Emily Paukert has put in many hours of practice and hard work with the team becoming a great contributor on the floor. With her hard work and dedication to basketball, Paukert earned a starting spot as a guard this season.

"I am going to miss her hard-working attitude and her lovable sense of humor," said junior teammate Molly McIntyre who has played with Paukert for three years now.

As a four-year varsity player, Paukert has put in a lot of hard work and time to become the player that she is today. For college, though, she plans on going to Montana State to study



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Emily Paukert drives to the hoop during Freeman's game against Lakeside to move on to Bi-Districts.

Biomedicine. She will not be playing basketball or any other sports for Montana, but she does plan on playing rec league.

"I started playing when I was five," Paukert

laughed. "I just didn't want to do ballet anymore."

It was a good thing that she started playing basketball, too, because she has made real friendships, not just with her teammates but also with her coach.

"I am going to miss her sense of humor and her hard work ethic," said coach Ashley Nimri. "She is always fun to be around and I will definitely miss all of her hammer time."

"It just doesn't seem real," said Paukert about playing her last season for the Scotties.

"Paukert's positive energy and motivation was a big contributor toward how far they have gotten this year," said teammate Sierra McGarity.

Even though the end of the season will be sad, she spent her four years here well and worked hard throughout all of them!

"Going to state makes playing sports worthwhile," Paukert added "Now all we have to do is win state this year! Whoop, whoop!"

## Derek Harter taking his game to the next level

By Preston Primmer  
Staff Writer

The Freeman Scotties boys basketball team has had a very successful year. Everyone on the varsity team has been a big contributor, especially senior Derek Harter. He has been a big contributor not only on the offensive end, but been a key player defensively. He has had several games this year where he has scored twenty points or more while also defending opponents much taller than him.

"During practice, Derek always pushes us to compete, so when it comes game time everyone is ready to play," said sophomore teammate Austin Rice.

Harter has taken on the personality of his coach throughout the last two sea-

sons. Coach Graham always pushes himself to win; this is followed by his team who also love to compete to win. Harter has taken Graham's competitive drive into his own practices and games, pushing to be better each day.

"Derek is a man-child in the paint, offensive rebounding, and attacking the hoop," said coach John Graham.

The team has found success behind its senior leaders, including Harter. In a year where Freeman has been consistently outsized, they've found a way to win.

"We are currently 15-7," said Harter. "Also, we took first place in league and districts this season."

Harter is a multi-sport athlete, playing both football and basketball. He



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Derek Harter goes up for a shot during the District Championship game. Freeman won by 15.

started for the football team as an offensive receiver and as a defensive outside linebacker, along with earning a starting post position for basketball this season.

Harter worked tremendously hard in the off-season participating in APX, summer league basketball, and seven-on-

(Continued on page 14)

## Being new is usually hard, but not for everyone

By Jessica Ruby  
Staff Writer

Being new is hard enough, but for sophomore Nicole Westberg, it was a piece of cake.

"I came to Freeman because I knew some friends already and I was inter-

ested in cheerleading," explained Westberg. "I have found my passion."

Westberg made the cheer squad for both the fall and winter squads. Not only has she cheered both seasons, but she earned a captain position for the winter squad.

"Nicole has done a fantastic job," said coach Wylie Rhoads. "She leads with humility and always encourages everyone to do their best,"

Before coming to Freeman, Westberg attended Valley Christian School. She loved playing basket-

ball at VC, until she was injured. She had a devastating set back when she tore her ACL playing basketball during eighth grade and had to have surgery. After she recovered from the surgery, she tore her other ACL playing

(Continued on page 14)

(Harter continued from page 13)

seven football. Hard work has taken him a long way.

"I hope to play football at an NAIA college, such as Haskell or Eastern Oregon," said Harter.

Both his brothers play at Haskell in Lawrence, Kan-

sas. Harter has big plans to play college football, and possibly even college basketball. Harter was a major part of a football team that was Co-league Champs, and earned second team all-league offense for football.

"He has good hands, good size, and good strength. If he goes to the right college football program, he will be very successful" said head football coach, Jim Wood.

As for basketball his actions speak for themselves. He is a very good athlete and

has a good shot which will take him far. The skills Harter learned at Freeman will help him very much in his future career. Wherever he goes, he will be very successful.

(Westberg continued from page 13)

basketball in ninth, resulting in a second surgery. Westberg was told she probably wouldn't be able to play basketball anymore. She was heartbroken, but she pushed through.

During her recovery, Westberg tried out for cheer here at Freeman not knowing if she was going to be admitted into Freeman or not. Rhoads gave her a position and when she was accepted, the team couldn't wait for her to be a part of the squad. She has been a great addition to the squad.

"One thing I like most is being a super fan for all of the players," said Westberg.

Westberg has been able to learn all aspects in Freeman cheer; stunting, dancing, cheering, and school spirit. She has always enjoyed dance and was a dancer before coming to Freeman.

"I am glad she will be around for a few more



Photo by Jessica Ruby

Westberg exploring downtown Seattle while on the trip to perform in the University of Washington football halftime.

years," Rhoads said. "She has done a fantastic job bringing a more relaxed and lightened mood to the squad."

Having Westberg on the squad has been a great addition. She has helped the squad accomplish so much with her positive attitude and her strong motivation.

## Senior Wrestler over-comes injury

By Olivia Nemec  
A&E Editor

Senior Joseph Schweiger is an amazing wrestler; he loves what he does and he's good at it, too. He's won quite a few awards over the years, placing at least 15 times; he plans to snag a few more by the end of high school.

With college just around the corner, scholarships are definitely on his mind. Schweiger currently has none for wrestling, but there may be opportunities to play football in the future. On top of Schweiger's list of potential colleges are Whitworth and Pacific University.

Wrestling in college is something he is considering, and if he decides on Pacific University, he will continue to wrestle in college. Wrestling for Freeman is something Schweiger looks forward to every single day.

"I love practicing with my

team, but tournaments are my favorite part," said Schweiger.

Preparing for a tournament is hard work and there's a lot of pressure, so to get ready for an intense match Schweiger goes off by himself, gets warmed-up and prays. However, his best pre-game inspiration was knowing that his family was there to support him.

This season, his toughest obstacle was not wrestling, but an ankle injury. Being injured through most of the season really took a toll on Schweiger.

"It was hard because you have to watch," Schweiger explained. "You can't help your team."

It was really frustrating not being able to participate. His team is like family to him, and they are all very close.

(Continued on page 15)

## A cheerleader flies to London and back as the greatest experience ever

By Hope Mathews  
Staff Writer

Senior Shelby Nelson, who never thought she would even be a cheerleader, traveled farther than she would ever go in her life, when she was invited to join the All-American squad last summer.

Nelson never planned to cheer until she had a serious calf injury in softball. The injury caused her to decide to try something new. On a whim, she decided to try out for the Freeman varsity cheer squad, cast and all.

To her surprise, she made the team for the all-year squad. Nelson had never even thought that she would be a cheerleader. Before this summer, she never thought she could make a squad like the All-Americans.

"Shelby is so sweet and I am so proud of how far she got in her career and can't

wait to see how far she ends up getting in college," said freshman Kyla Wright.

Nelson is a great influence and her team loves her and knows she will always be there to turn to if you need anything.

"Nelson is like my older sister and I can go to her for anything," said sophomore teammate Kindra Malloy.

Nelson got the chance of a lifetime this summer. When her team went to Universal Cheerleading Association (UCA) camp, Nelson got the chance to try out for All-American squad. The tryout consisted of the camp extreme dance, the All-American cheer, and the cheerleader best jump. Nelson tried out with three other people, and at the end of the week, they announced the winners.

Nelson had never tried out for All-American before because she never imagined that she would make it.

"I wish that I would have tried out before I did and see how much farther I could have made it as a cheerleader," said Nelson, senior captain of the cheer squad. Making the All-American squad not only put Nelson as one of the best cheerleaders in the nation, but it also earned her an amazing opportunity.

Nelson was invited to take a trip to London, England as part of the squad. She raised over \$3,000 to participate in this unique opportunity.

"The trip was amazing, it was so fun and such a good experience!" Nelson exclaimed.

Nelson has accomplished much in this year and next year you may even see her working for the UCA staff.



Photo Courtesy of Cami Bradley

Shelby Nelson during the fall photo shoot with Cami Bradley.

"The boss man offered to hold the application to wait for me to get some tumbling," Nelson said through her smile.

All in all, Nelson has made it farther in cheerleading at Freeman than any other person that has gone through the team.

"I am very proud of my Shelby and how far she has come," said coach Wylie Rhoads. "I am very sad that she is a senior and this is my last year with her."



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Joseph Schweiger wrestling at the NEA District tournament held at Freeman High School.

(Schweiger continued from page 14)

Despite his injuries, Schweiger finished his senior season back on the mat in time to compete in districts, his goal for recovery. Schweiger finished his senior season with a record of 11-3. He took 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Clearwater Classic, his first tournament post-injury. Schweiger then dominated

at the district tournament, winning his weight class. Unfortunately, he placed 5<sup>th</sup> at the regional tournament, which knocked him out of competing at state, but did earn him a state alternate position. “More important than winning all my matches or going to state, was the opportunity to get back on the

mat one last time,” said Schweiger. “Not to mention competing day in and day out alongside my brothers again.” Wrestling alongside some of the best wrestlers in the state, like seniors Avery Smetana and Taylor Glidewell, would seem intimidating, but Schweiger really enjoys it. “It’s really nice wrestling with guys like Avery and Taylor,” explained Schweiger. “They help make me better at what I do.” Schweiger is much more than just a great wrestler; he is also a good student and very socially involved. He gets mostly A’s and is very involved in the Freeman community. He has great friends that he loves to be with. He is also very involved in his family life.

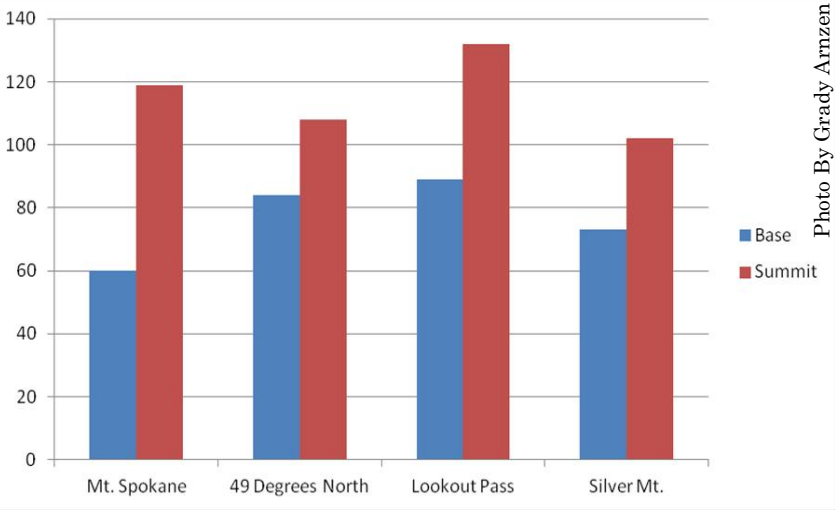
He has 3 younger siblings, so growing up, he really had to be a role model for them. His family is a very active part of the community; he likes to give back to a community that is so supportive. His role model and mentor is definitely coach Ripke. Schweiger goes to Ripke for advice on everything from wrestling to life. Ripke is a big influence on his sports and personal life. “Ripke makes me a better man,” Schweiger said. “He is a great mentor.” Schweiger takes a lot of pride in how far he has come since his first day freshman year. Schweiger is a devoted community member, family member and athlete; he is truly great on and off the mat.

# Spokane area ski resorts doing well in warm winter

By Grady Arnzen  
Sports Editor

Ski Resorts surrounding the Spokane area such as Mt. Spokane, Lookout Pass, Silver Mountain, and 49 Degrees North all have had a great skiing and snowboarding season despite the mild, warm winter. The weather has been generous on the mountains making for a great skiing and snowboarding season while Spokane has gotten mostly rain. The closest destination is Mt. Spokane, just north of the Spokane Valley. Mt. Spokane has received 119 inches of snow at the summit, with 60 inches at the base to date. Lately, however, Mt. Spokane has not received much fresh snow, and the freezing conditions have led to an icy surface. Mt. Spokane personnel have done a good job at grooming the runs though. Tubing has also opened up on the weekends. “There are great technical and challenging runs, but not much selection,” said freshman Erynn Waite. Waite added that she liked how the ski staff was very friendly and helpful. Onthesnow.com, a review site for ski mountains, rates Mt. Spokane at three and a half stars. They recommend Mt. Spokane for families, and also for intermediate skiers and snowboarders. Lookout Pass is another great location for Freeman skiers. It’s located by Mullan, Idaho on I-90. Lookout has received over 89 inches at the

base, and over 132 inches at the summit. Lookout Pass was one of the first mountains around this area to receive snow, and opened up before any other surrounding mountain. Lookout has continued to receive the most amount of snow in the area. “Lookout Pass was pretty good, but the summit was foggy,” freshman Mike Cahill said. “There wasn’t much selection for different difficulties, but I didn’t mind because the powder was fantastic!” Lookout Pass has 34 official runs, mostly rated intermediate and hard. The resort was also rated the #1 family-friendly resort in the Pacific Northwest for all the activities you can do such as snowshoe, snowmobile, and camp in the summer. Onthesnow.com rates Lookout Pass as almost four stars, and is recommended for families and intermediate skiers. A little further away, in Kellogg, Idaho, is Silver Mountain. Silver has consistently gotten snow throughout the season, with 73 inches at the base and 102 inches at the summit. Silver Mountain is the largest mountain out of the four around Spokane, standing at an elevation of 6,300 feet, and has over 73 runs, plus unnamed areas that are open for expert skiing. 40% of the runs are intermediate, and 40% are advanced to expert. The rest of the runs are beginner. “I think my favorite part about Silver is their gondola,” Cahill said. “The snow is ok,



This graph show the accumulated snowfall for the four featured ski mountains around Spokane for both the summit and base.

and I like all the different runs Silver has.” Onthesnow.com gives Silver Mountain three and a half stars and recommends the mountain from children up to seniors. The last mountain of the four is 49 Degrees North in Chewelah, Washington. This ski mountain has accumulated 84 inches at the base and 108 inches at the summit. 49 has been blessed with good weather this season, with calm winds and great visibility at both the base and the summit. A few inches of snow a day has contributed to excellent skiing conditions in January and February. The terrain park is one of the more popular features at 49 Degrees North; it features a half-pipe, along with box rails, jumps, and rainbow rails. The powder has been fresh this season. Unfortunately, there have been some complaints at the mountain. Some skiers have reported that equipment from the rental shop was poor, and the chair was down some of the times. “When I went up, Chair 1 was down for almost 25 minutes!” Cahill exclaimed. Just like the other mountains, 49 is recommended for families and intermediate skiers. 49 Degrees North was voted the most family-friendly ski resort by Onthesnow.com. With a short drive, you can reach any of these mountains. These four have been the most popular for skiing around Spokane due to their extensive snowfall and nicely groomed runs. Overall, you can expect a great experience skiing or snowboarding at any one of these fantastic ski resorts.

# Sports

## Box Scores: Freeman leads league in winter sports

### Regional Wrestling

132 – Jesse Schmidlkofer – did not place  
145 – Konner Forshag – did not place  
152 – Taylor Glidewell – 1<sup>st</sup>  
160 – Austin Munson – 5th (alternate to state)  
160 – Wyatt Smith – did not place  
182 – Joe Schweiger – 5th (alternate to state)  
195 – Brian Hogan – did not place  
220 – Teigan Glidewell – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
285 – Avery Smetana – 3<sup>rd</sup>

### State Wrestling

Taylor Glidewell- 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a cradle for the win

Teigan Glidewell- didn't place

Avery Smentana- 7<sup>th</sup> place

### Girls Basketball

26-2 overall, 10-0 in league

League Champions, Bi-District Champions, Regional  
Champions,  
2nd in WIAA A State

### Boys Basketball

15-9 overall, 8-2 in league

League champions, District Champions



All photos by Pia Longinotti

# Raider News

## St. George's Equestrians: 4H brings equestrian arts to Freeman

By Isabelle Ebert  
Raider News Editor

Do you know what a 4H group is? Well, 4H stands for health, hands, heart, and head. Freeman's St. Georges Equestrians group is an example of a community 4H group.

The main goal of an equestrian 4H group is to have as much fun with horses in the safest way possible. There are different events that members can enroll in,

even if they don't have a horse! For example, they have different clinics about horses where students can learn about horses, as well as different games that 4H groups compete in.

Third grader Scyla Dowd doesn't have a usable horse to ride, so she enrolled in several different horseless events.

"The two horses I have still need training, but I still do many different activities about horses, just without a horse,"

Dowd explained. "I did an impromptu and I am also doing horse bowl and the Horses for Beginners Day."

At the impromptu, Dowd had to write a report on a certain topic.

Horse bowl is basically trivia on horses, and the Horse for Beginners Day is a day to learn about the care and needs of horses.

"My favorite part so far would have to be learning tips on how to train horses," explained Dowd. "And I really liked learning about dressage! I would really like to continue learning dressage, and another goal of mine would have to be to eventually ride in shows."

A 4H group's meetings will usually involve a mini-game that will involve horses, or maybe a piece of information that someone learned.

"We are enthusiastic in the pursuit of the knowledge of horses and we accomplish this in fun and creative ways," said 4H Vice-President, junior Kristin Talbott.

Usually, a 4H group has a trainer to look to when they go to shows, or in some trivia games, they may need a coach. The current trainer for the St. George's Equestrians is Niki Marshall. She replaces St. George's previous trainer

Shannon Moore, who moved out of the area.

"We didn't have a whole lot of participation in shows," said Moore, the group trainer. "I'm looking forward to having a little more fun this year in shows!"

This year, the group has 28 kids under the age of 18. This is a step-up from last year, when they didn't have as many participants.

"Many of my students that I give horseback riding lessons to have joined 4H," explained Moore. "They have advanced and are continuing to learn more every time they do an event."

If you are considering joining a 4H equestrian group, it is recommended that you have a horse, but, again, you don't need one to compete in horseless event. A 4H group is a great way to make new friends, learn new things, and encourage the love of horses.



Photo courtesy of Shannon Moore

4H shows can be hectic, but still very fun!

## Between Shades of Gray sheds light on the forgotten Lithuanians

By Ali Tesch  
Raider News Editor

Between Shades of Gray is a fascinating novel that keeps you entertained from beginning to end. Throughout the novel, as Lina Vilkas struggles to survive, she learns and tests the bonds of love and she finds the true meaning of Krasivaya.

"Krasivaya... It means beautiful, but with strength," he slurred. "Unique." This quote describes Lina Vilkas perfectly. Lina is a beautiful teenage girl whose childhood was taken away from her in a single night.

During WW2, the Soviet Union occupied the Baltic States, including Lithuania. On June 14, Lina and her family were taken from their home because they were considered Anti-Soviet. Lina's dreams came crashing down instantly. During this time, Lina and her family are sent to a work camp in Siberia and are forced to work in brutal conditions. They were treated like animals instead of humans.

While working at the camp, Lina falls in love with Andrius. Together, they endure the horrific experiences of Siberia work camp. Then Lina and Andrius are separated and they are forced to face the challenges of WW2 alone.

Lina was an outspoken girl that loves her country. She was also a talented artist which helps her survive during WW2. In the beginning, she was the average teenage girl. She had

hopes and dreams, but when she was sent to the labor camp, she was forced to cope quickly. Throughout the novel, Lina matured immensely.

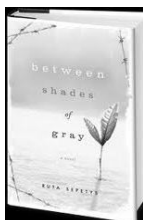
This gripping novel is amazing; it shows how strong the bonds love and faiths are during times of trial. *Between Shades of Gray* is a historical-fiction novel based on what happened to the Baltic States during WW2.

Author Ruta E. Sepetys' father was the son of a Lithuanian military officer. He escaped with his parents during the time the Soviet Union occupied the Baltic States. Sepetys felt obligated to write this book because most people have forgotten what the Lithuanians endured. She doesn't want people to forget how these tiny nations taught us that love reveals the true nature of the human spirit. It took two trips to Lithuania to gain enough research to write this book. All she asks is that you please won't forget what happened to the Baltic States.

Sepetys did a wonderful job handling the subject. Sepetys reveals the horrific experiences these people endured. Her writing is very detailed. By the end of the novel, you feel as if you knew the characters.

I would recommend this book for ages 13 and up because it's somewhat ghastly. Remember what these people had to endure and please read this book for them.

"Love is the most powerful army. Whether love of a country, love of a friend, love of god, or even love of an enemy," writes Ruta Sepetys.



## Leadership class raises money for the Shriner's Children's Hospital

By Jim Phinney  
Middle School Teacher

Jim Phinney's second and third quarter leadership class made \$416.00 through their heart grams sale, which will be presented to the Shriner's Children's Hospital on March 2. An estimated 2200 heart grams, complete with a Hershey's kiss were delivered district wide.

The second quarter class voted on where the proceeds should go and made the first 1000 heart grams, including a giant heart signed by anyone buying 4 or more heart grams. The third quarter class made the remaining 1200 heart grams as well as selling and delivering all 2200.

On behalf of the second and third quarter's leadership class, Mr. Phinney would like to thank everyone who bought and sent a heart gram to their friends and relatives. We're looking forward to breaking this year's total next year.



Courtesy of Denise Briggs  
Second and third quarter leadership class made 2200 heart grams and distributed them district wide.

## Poindexter offers the unusual: a mini classroom zoo

By Isabelle Ebert  
Raider News Editor

Mrs. Poindexter is the science teacher in the middle school downstairs in room 28. So, what makes her class and the classroom so unique? The animals in it, of course!

In the classroom, she has stick bugs, hissing cockroaches, over 1,000 worms, crickets, a spider, a bearded dragon lizard, two tortoises, and three frogs. The crickets and worms are used to feed the spider and the lizard, but the rest of the animals roam freely in their own cages. Some students are frightened by Mo (the spider) or some of the bugs, but some are not.



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

Makenzie Dutt shows off her skills with Spike the lizard.



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

One of the tortoises gets ready to come out to play.

Makenzie Dutt, a seventh grader, is extremely fond of Spike, the lizard.

"Spike is my favorite of Mrs. Poindexter's animals," said Dutt. "Mo kind of scares me, but I really like holding Spike!"

Dutt holds Spike the most out of any seventh grader. She is one of the best students at handling him.

While most seventh graders have Spike as their favorite animals, another favorite is the hissing cockroaches.

"Students, the boys especially, like to let the cockroaches run up and down their arms," explained Poindexter. "The cockroaches are pretty friendly toward them."

When asked for an estimate of about how many students are scared of the spider, Mrs. Poindexter guessed about 80% of the seventh and eighth students. If you ask around,



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

Mrs. Poindexter has a great bond with the lizard, Spike.

you will probably find that this is true.

"I really love Spike, but Mo creeps me out!" said seventh grader Morgan Stokoe. "I also really like the frogs and the tortoises."

Even though most students don't like Mo, to some, Mo is fun to watch. Mo is shy, but friendly. Her hairs, however, can cause irritation to people.

"I don't usually have irritation, but certain people are more sensitive than others," said Poindexter.

Mrs. Poindexter made a note that she loves to talk about her animals, and loves it even more when peo-



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

Poindexter's stick bugs can be found hanging all over the objects in their cage.

ple come to visit her animals.

"We now have baby crickets in Mo's cage, the eggs that were in there just hatched!" Mrs. Poindexter exclaimed.

Even if you don't like spiders or bugs, you still may like Spike or the tortoises!

"Not only do I like it when students visit, but the animals seem to like the quiet visits they get every day," Poindexter added.



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

The science room's back corner is full of plants and animals!



Photo by Isabelle Ebert

Mo the spider burrows into one of her hiding places in the terrarium.

Choir announces upcoming performances

By Danette Garcia  
Choir Director

Choir students will be performing in their spring concert on **Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the HS multipurpose room. Both the MS and HS choirs will be performing their festival repertoire.

The Middle School Choir will be performing at **St Georges** school for the Eastern Washington Music Educator's Large Group Festival on **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am**. The High School Choir will be performing at **Shadle Park High School** for the

Eastern Washington Music Educator's Large Group Festival on **Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am**. Both groups will be performing rigorous music for a panel of adjudicators who will evaluate them on several areas - intonation, dynamics, resonance, blend, diction, etc. Each group must sight sing a piece of music for one of the adjudicators and will be rated on their accuracy. Every group gets time with one of the adjudicators to work on, improve, and/or reinforce musical elements. This is valuable to their overall experience. They will also get to hear other choirs perform throughout the day.

Congratulations to the 6th grade Math-Is-Cool team on 1st place at Regionals!



Photo Courtesy of Erin Honeycutt

From top left: Nathan Longhurst, Tanner Antons, Colson O'Conner  
Middle row: Carson Atwood, Jarret Wright, Ryan Crosswhite, Isabelle Miller, Erick Flack  
Bottom row: Odie Landoe, Michael Coumont, Brayden Mueller, Tashi Rush, Anna Wilson, Mackena Douglas

Keizer participant in WMEA Choir concert

By Danette Garcia  
Choir Director

Outstanding fifth and sixth grade music students from across Washington received top honors by being selected to participate in Washington Music Educators Association's (WMEA) annual All-State Youth Honor Chorus. Ronnie Keizer joined other fifth and sixth grade Washington music students in Yakima on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Keizer and the other musicians were selected through auditions to participate in this event. These outstanding WMEA All-State musicians from Washington rehearsed and performed in concert under the direction of world-renowned conductors. Keizer participated in the All-State Youth Honor Choir under the direction of Kristina Ploeger, assistant professor at Eastern Washington University, serving as the music education coordinator and director of Vocal Jazz and Concert Choirs.

Freeman 4-H club spreads Christmas cheer

By Emily Sheard  
Club Reporter

Thanks to the generosity of the Freeman 4-H Club, Christmas was a little brighter for children who had to spend Christmas morning at Sacred Heart Medical Center in the oncology ward.

The group collected toys, books, and food items to donate. Additionally, the Freeman 4-H sewing group crafted 36 hand-sewn Christmas stockings, which were filled with the donated goodies and distributed to children who were patients at the hospital on Christmas morning.

The stockings were filled by all of the 4-H club members at their December meeting, where they also participated in various crafting projects to make homemade Christmas ornaments and played Christmas themed games.

Annual Wax Museum teaches kids about their presidential history



Mrs. Edwards' and Mr. Reed's second grade classes are ready for their Wax Museum exhibits.



Darby Barratt, Lily Baxter, Kaylie Smith, and Jericho Lara wait for their turn.



Clockwise from top left photo: Darby Barratt as George Washington; Jaron Iltz helping Bethany Leach with her Arthur speech; Sianna Gilbert as Rutherford B. Hays.

# District News

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## FHS Baseball 2012

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Place
3/17/12	Saturday	Medical Lake(1)	12:00	Freeman
3/23/12	Friday	Colfax Invite(1)	3:00	Colfax
3/24/12	Saturday	Colfax Invite(1)	1:00	Colfax
3/27/12	Tuesday	*Chewelah(1)	4:00	Freeman
3/28/12	Wednes.	*Colville(1)	4:00	Colville
3/30/12	Friday	*Newport(2)	2:00	Freeman
4/3/12	Tuesday	Zilah(1)	3:00	Zilah TBA
4/4/12	Wednes.	Naches(1)	1:00	Naches TBA
4/7/12	Saturday	*Lakeside(2)	11:00	Lakeside
4/10/12	Tuesday	*Riverside(1)	4:30	Freeman
4/14/12	Saturday	*Chewelah(2)	11:00	Chewelah
4/17/12	Tuesday	*Newport(1)	4:30	Newport
4/21/12	Saturday	*Colville(2)	10:00	Freeman
4/24/12	Tuesday	*Lakeside(1)	4:30	Freeman
4/27/12	Friday	*Riverside(2)	2:00	Riverside
5/1/12	Tuesday	Losers Out	TBA	
5/2/12	Wednes.	Winners @ NEA #1&2	TBA	
5/5/12	Saturday	Districts @ NEA #1	TBA	
5/12/12	Saturday	Bi-Districts	TBA	CTL
5/19/12	Saturday	Regional Baseball	TBA	
5/25&26	Fri./Sat.	State - Yakima	TBA	Yakima
		TBA		
		Practice starts 2/27/12		
		*NEA League Game		

## FHS Softball 2012

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Place
3/17/12	Saturday	Medical Lake (1)	12:00	Freeman
3/22/12	Thursday	Colfax (2)	3:00	Freeman
3/27/12	Tuesday	*Chewelah (1)	4:30	Freeman
3/30/12	Friday	*Newport (2)	2:00	Freeman
4/10/12	Tuesday	*Colville (1)	4:30	Colville
4/17/12	Tuesday	*Riverside (1)	4:30	Freeman
4/19/12	Thursday	Lakeside (1)	4:30	Lakeside
4/21/12	Saturday	*Chewelah (2)	11:00	Chewelah
4/24/12	Tuesday	*Newport (1)	4:30	Newport
4/25/12	Wednesday	Priest River (1)	4:30	Freeman
4/27/12	Friday	*Colville (2)	3:00	Freeman
5/1/12	Tuesday	*Lakeside (DH)	3:00	Freeman
5/3/12	Thursday	Kettle Falls (1)	4:30	Freeman
5/5/12	Saturday	*Riverside (2)	11:00	Riverside
5/8/12	Tuesday	Loser Out	TBA	
5/12/12	Saturday	Districts @ #NEA 1	TBA	
5/19/12	Friday	Bi-Districts	TBA	Colville
5/25/12	Friday	State	TBA	Tri Cities
5/26/12	Saturday	State	TBA	
		*NEA League Game		

## FHS Track 2012

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Place
3/15/2012	Thursday	Cheney Jamboree	3:15	Cheney
03/22/12	Thursday	Erza Gordon Invite	3:00	Colville
03/28/12	Wednesday	*Lakeside	3:30	Freeman
03/30/12	Friday	Birdsell Invite	3:00	Deer Park
04/11/12	Wednesday	*Riverside	3:30	Freeman
04/14/12	Saturday	Interstate Invite	10:00	Freeman
04/14/12	Saturday	Pasco Invitational	9:30	Pasco
04/18/12	Wednesday	*Colville	3:30	Colville
04/21/12	Saturday	Mooberry Relays	10:30	Rogers HS
04/25/12	Wednesday	*Newport	3:30	Newport
04/27/12	Friday	Timberlake Invite	3:00	Timberlake
05/02/12	Wednesday	*Chewelah	3:30	Freeman
05/12/12	Saturday	Districts	TBA	
05/19/12	Saturday	Bi-Districts	TBA	
05/25/12	Friday	State	8:00	Cheney-EWU
05/26/12	Saturday	State	8:00	Cheney-EWU
		* denotes league meet		

## FHS Golf 2012

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
3/26	Colville	Dominion Meadows	2:00
4/9	Lakeside	Sundance	2:00
4/13	Chewelah-Boys	Chewelah	10:00
4/16	Newport	Stone Ridge	2:00
4/27	Chewelah-Girls	Chewelah	10:00
4/30	Sub-District	Hangman	12:00
5/7	District	Stone Ridge	12:00
5/21	Regional	CTL site	TBA
5/22 (Tues)	State Practice Round	Dupont, WA	TBA
5/23 (Wed.)	STATE- Opening Rd	Dupont, WA	TBA

## Kindergarten - 8th Grade New Student Registration for 2012-2013 Begins Monday, March 26th:

We invite you to come to the elementary office to pick up a registration packet for kindergarten through 8th grade aged students

living in the Freeman School District beginning Monday, March 26th. Please feel free to call us at 291-4791 if you have any questions.

Students are not considered enrolled in the district until the registration packets have been fully completed and returned with the following supporting documents:

- State issued Birth Certificate (not the hospital certificate)
- Immunizations
- Proof of residency - that you live within the boundaries of the Freeman School District

To be eligible for kindergarten registration, a child must be 5 on or before August 31, 2012. When you pick up your registration packet, we'll have you sign up for a time that you will bring your new student to visit the classroom and participate in our Kindergarten Round-up on Friday, April 13th.

**\*\*If you do not live in the Freeman School District and you have a kindergarten through 8th grade aged student you are interested in registering at Freeman, please call the district office at 291-3695 for an application to be placed on the 2012-2013 choice list. Once approved, we will contact you to come pick up a registration packet.**

## FHS Tennis 2012

Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Place
03/20/12	Tuesday	Deer Park	3:30	G(H) B(A)
03/22/12	Thursday	Ritzville	3:30	Freeman
03/24/12	Saturday	*Lakeside	11:00	Freeman
03/27/12	Tuesday	*Colville	3:30	Colville
03/29/12	Thursday	*Chewelah	3:30	Freeman
04/10/12	Tuesday	*Riverside	3:30	Riverside
04/12/12	Thursday	Reardan	3:30	Freeman
04/17/12	Tuesday	*Lakeside	3:30	Lakeside
04/19/12	Thursday	Davenport	3:30	Davenport
04/20/12	Friday	*Colville	3:30	Freeman
04/24/12	Tuesday	*Chewelah	3:30	Chewelah
04/26/12	Thursday	*Riverside	3:30	Freeman
4/27&28	Fri/Sat	Inland Empire	TBA	
05/01/12	Tuesday	St. George's	3:30	TBA
05/03/12	Thursday	Medical Lake	3:30	G(H) B(A)
5/10-5/12	Thurs-Sat	Districts	TBA	
05/19/12	Saturday	Regionals	TBA	
5/25-5/26	Fri-Sat	State	TBA	Yakima

**Good luck to all of our Freeman spring athletic teams. Please come on out to a home meet and cheer your Scot-ties on to a victory!**