

The Bagpiper

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Reporting Freeman's news since 2009

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Students learn the consequences of bad choices and driving

By Abigail Denmark
Staff Writer

April 24, 2014 is a day Freeman High School will remember for a long time. Once the bell rang to release the students to second period, students discovered that there was a surprise assembly.

Walking down to the red gym, students were just expecting some sort of pep rally or maybe ASB election speeches, but then everyone noticed all the out-of-place police officers and fire fighters at the side of the gym. Everyone was wondering what was going on.

"I had heard from someone that we were about to go through the mock crash," junior Anna Jackson said. "I knew it was going to be an emotional day for everyone, but I was a little more prepared than some of the other students."

Once everyone was seated in the gym, the high school students were all surprised by the appearance of guest speaker Rick Freier, the father of Josie Freier. Name sound familiar? Remember the car crash days before homecoming when the two girls from U-High were killed due to speeding? Those two girls were Mackenzie Mott and Freier's daughter Josie.

The whole school listened to Freier's story of his last day with his daughter, which made some tears roll among the students and adults in the audience. Once Freier finished his speech, the students were directed out-

side to the front of the school where there were two buses blocking the road. When the buses rolled out of the way, everything came together—or more like fell apart. The scene that the buses were hiding was the definition of horror. It was the mock crash.

"I thought that the crash was real, and I was thinking, 'Why is everyone just standing around?'" junior Eugene Paulis said.

On the street, students were greeted with a terrible mock-crash. The scene, presented by FHS' leadership class, had sophomore Peyton Smetana as the student who caused the accident after he decided to drink and drive. The crash resulted in seniors Grace Rudy and Hailley Burke ending up on the hood of the car, while Robin Faulkner screamed for help in the backseat of the car. Not much later, the police and fire departments showed up to the crash site to take care of business. Even the Medstar helicopter came to help.

"When I heard the 911 being broadcast in the gym, it took me back to the time I had to make a similar call for help," freshman Nissa Nacarato said. "I didn't like hearing it, and it took everything I had to keep from crying."

Smetana ended up getting tested for his blood alcohol level, and arrested for driving under the influence.

After the crash part of that assembly the students were sent into the multi-purpose room. There, a funeral service was held for the two lost seniors, Rudy and Burke. Still trying to hold tears



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Junior Brydon Arredondo and FHS learn how driving under the influence can end up disastrous.

back, everyone sat and watched a slide show celebrating the two girls' lives and listened to the eulogies their mothers had written for them.

"Everything got real for me when I was on the hood of the car, and I heard one of the witnesses saying 'You guys can't die; you still have so much more to live for,'" Rudy said. "I just couldn't even imagine losing a friend."

When the funeral ended, the students were directed into the blue gym where Smetana had his court ruling. Judge Randy Brandt sentenced him to 24 years in prison for two counts of vehicular homicide and was immediately escorted away by officer Nye, not even getting to stop to say goodbye to his father Tim Smetana who was at the proceedings with his son.

"There is no such thing as an accident," Freier said. "If you spill a glass of milk, that's not an accident. It is a mistake and from mistakes we learn how not to make them again. There are no accidents; there are only mistakes."

Even though everything to do with the crash that day was not real, we must remember that just because we are young, that doesn't mean we are invincible.



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Sophomore Peyton Smetana is escorted away from the crash scene by police officer Chipper Trevino.



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Senior Grace Rudy stays on the hood of the car while fire fighters try to sort out the situation.

Combine demolition derby a hillbilly holiday

By Derek Smith
Staff Writer

Combines are a piece of machinery that everyone thinks it's only used for harvesting crops. Not in Lind, Washington. In Lind, they take old combines and bulk them up to battle until the last combine standing in the annual Lind Combine Demolition Derby.

In the 2013 Combine Demolition Derby, there were 36 combines that competed, Including Brian Jeske's combine, Hillbilly Deluxe. He was last year's co-champion with Jim Oswald and the combine Prison Break.

This weekend isn't just for combines. The event takes place on Friday, June 13 – Sunday, June 15 at the Lind Rodeo Arena. There are car races, truck races, and pickup races. The car races start on Friday night, and the combine demolition starts Saturday. The Combine Derby will start Saturday afternoon and continue into Sunday afternoon.

Of course, there are intermissions for the pit crew of the combines to rebuild their combine as best as possible. The intermission is one hour long to fix whatever needs to be fixed. Some repairs may be re-welding the header back on, or putting on a whole new back axle.



Courtesy of Brian Jeske



Courtesy of Brian Jeske

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An amazing spring break trip worth going on

By Madi Groves
Editor

Over spring break, some National Honor Society members went to Washington DC with NHS advisor Pia Longinotti. These ten kids spent six days exploring the exciting tourist attractions within the city. They visited the Smithsonian Museums, the White House, the Holocaust Museum, Arlington National Cemetery and many other things.

“It was really fun to make some new friends from our school,” senior Peter Underhill said. “I loved getting to see the Library of Congress. It was amazing to be around so much history.”

Located on the National Mall, the group visited a variety of Smithsonian Museums. Each Smithsonian had a different theme. NHS toured the Museum of Natural History, the National Gallery of Art, the American Indian Museum, and the National Air and Space Museum.

The Museum of Natural History had life-sized animals all the way from dinosaurs to animals that currently exist. Visitors can see all the different types of animals, and see how they have evolved over the years.

At the Natural Gallery of Art, they had paintings from famous artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Vincent Van Gogh. They had paintings and sculptures that have been created by famous artists throughout time.

Perhaps the most popular attraction was the Air and Space Museum. It featured different kinds of airplanes, and showed how flight technology has changed over the years, allowing people to fly to space. They had interactive exhibits such as a space module visitors



Photo by Pia Longinotti

NHS visits the Washington Monument on their first day of touring DC.

can walk through to see how astronauts lived in space. Those quarters were very tight.

Everyone has seen the White House on TV or the internet, but seeing it in person is amazing. With 132 rooms, the White House is a spectacular building. You may not be able to get up close to it because of the fence, but the view that visitors do get is fantastic whether from the front or back of the house. It may not look big from the outside, but on the inside it is huge since it has so many rooms. This is one of the main attractions of DC, and it is worth seeing.

“I loved seeing the Library of Congress,” junior Abbie Pintar said. “The architecture and painting were amazing.”

Freeman students have learned about the Holocaust, including seeing pictures and video clips of what happened. But, most of us have never actually seen Holocaust artifacts unless you have been to a concentration camp or a Holocaust Museum. The United States Memorial Museum (USHMM) had many artifacts, pictures, and videos of what actually happened. Exhibits included military outfits

from the Germans, and they had actual shoes and hair collected from the victims of Auschwitz Concentration Camp. When visitors see these artifacts, it really made the Holocaust a lot more realistic, painting a vivid picture of what the victims went through. Visitors learn a lot of history because they had so much information in the displays covering the whole story from Hitler and the rise of the Nazi Regime to the victims of the camps and ghettos to the stories of those who tried to help. USHMM is a place you must see if you ever go to DC.

Arlington National Cemetery is 624 acres long, filled with many veterans that fought in wars for American starting with the Civil War. It would take you many days to be able to see all of the tombstones here because it is so big. There are more than 285,000 veterans buried here along with two presidents, John Fitzgerald Kennedy and William Howard Taft, and their families. At the cemetery, they have a changing of the guard, which is a must see! There is one guard that walks back and forth for 30 minutes watching and protecting the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. After his time is up, a new guard comes in, and then the changing of the guard happens. The cemetery is amazing because you really get to see how many people sacrificed their lives for our country.

“I really liked Arlington because it was so huge,” junior Connor McVay said. “It put into perspective how many people gave their lives for our country.”

This spring break was an amazing experience that none of these 10 students will ever forget. They got to see so many famous sites. So if you are in NHS, I recommend that you go on this amazing trip in 2016.



Photo by Pia Longinotti

Madi Groves, Austin Carpenter, Connor McVay and Anna Lee enjoy a day touring the Air and Space Museum.

A Spokane Legacy Event- The Lilac Festival

By Anna Lee
Staff Writer

The Spokane Lilac Festival (SLF) was started in 1938 to celebrate the community of Spokane as ambassadors to the North-western region. The Lilac Festival includes events like the Toys for Tots drive, The Royal Tea Party, The Queen's Luncheon, and Cruzin' the Falls Car Show which benefit the SLF youth scholarship program. The main Lilac event is the annual Armed Forces Torchlight Parade, the largest in the nation.

This year, Freeman High School's marching band and varsity cheer squad participated in the annual Lilac Parade.

"The Lilac Parade is a great way to get involved in the community," senior cheerleader Nicole Westburg said.

For the previous two years, the marching band received a gold standard medal, which is the highest level that a high school is able to receive. This year's parade was no different as Freeman again came out on top, earning the gold.

"I thought that we did very well, especially considering that we only had a little bit of time to get together and get street

ready," senior band member Peter Underhill said. "We were very solid with the music and our marching technique. We definitely improved during practice!"

On top of the school marching band and cheer quad being successful in this year's Lilac Festivities, one FHS student and her teacher also got to join in on the fun. Senior Mackenzie Claeys was one of this year's Lilac Princesses. She was given the opportunity to pick a teacher of the year from the high school to ride on the float with her in the Lilac Parade. Claeys chose her Pre-Calculus teacher Peggy Wells as her most inspirational teacher.

Not only does the high school work hard for the parade, but so do the third-grade classes. Thanks to the hard work of a few students and parents, Freeman's community float took the Best of Show, and won the Best Float of the Parade with their 'Frozen' theme.

Freeman has set high expectations when it comes to the Lilac Festival. We work hard, put in many hours of practice to get ready to compete on the street. And like every other year of success, Freeman has once again come out on top.

Freeman's getting back to basics

By Isaiah Crane
Editor

When you think of the Freeman Scotties sports uniforms, you might picture Columbia blue, black and white, but that is about to change.

"Black isn't an 'official' school color for Freeman; however, it is an accent color," Superintendent Randy Russell said of the new colors for Freeman. "Black will still be used in warm-ups, shirts, shorts, and in some uniforms – such as wrestling singlets and volleyball shorts."

Uniforms such as the wrestling singlets and jackets, the volleyball and baseball jerseys are currently all black.

"I've never heard one complaint from any one saying they were ugly," 2012 graduate Avery Smetana said. "The black uniforms take our school to a whole new look, and make Freeman look a lot more intimidating during sports."

Black has become a dominate color for Freeman uniforms

instead of the traditional Columbia Blue.

"For the past 10 years or so, black became the trendy 'new white' and was easily available," Athletic Director Brian Parisotto explained of the uniform changes.

Not all of Freeman's community members have been fans of the change from blue to black.

"We are phasing black out and getting back to our traditional Columbia Blue, a color that is unique and recognizable for the

Freeman Scotties," Parisotto said. "We may keep black in wrestling uniforms and volleyball spandex and as an accent color, just not a main color for tops."

"I think black is a cool color, but I understand why we are doing it and the jerseys look sweet too," senior Brady Unfred said.

The change is not just affecting FHS. As we all know, the middle school and elementary school's mascot is the Raider. But what you might not know is that as of next year FMS and FES will also be Scotties.

"The change to the "Scotties" for the entire district is to bring more consistency, awareness, and unity for our school district, grades preschool through twelfth grade," Russell said. "Most people associate Freeman with the Scotties. Our students, staff, and parents have been very supportive in moving towards having the Scotties as our Mascot for the entire school district. This transition will take some time as we phase out certain items to become more focused on the "Scotties."



Freeman schools will be transitioning from black uniforms to the traditional Colombia Blue as sports go through uniform replacement.

E-cigs banned on Freeman campus

By Stormy Killpack
Staff Writer

E-cigs have become the thing this year. Walking down the halls in Freeman High School, you can hear the chatter about the e-cigs. Most of the cool kids have an e-cig nowadays.

This forced Freeman's staff to take action to stop this epidemic from happening. "We are rewriting the handbook to include nicotine delivering devices on school grounds," Principal Jim Straw said. "No matter what age, it will be treated like a tobacco product. First offense will equal six day of detention and education intervention program of four two hour sessions, second offense- short term suspension, third offense- long term suspension, fourth- expulsion. If you are an athlete, there will be two weeks suspension from that activity, and it will be a violation of the athletic code."

If you're planning on going to an after-school activity, leave your e-cig in your car because school activities are treated as if you are on school grounds, whether at Freeman or off-campus. It will become a problem if e-cigs are at sporting events, for example.

"Anybody will have to leave, even parents," Straw explained. "It is still on school grounds." Freeman didn't know what to do when the e-cig first became known to them. The administration seriously researched how harmful e-cigs were for their students, as well as what neighboring school districts were doing to keep their kids safe. "The Valley considers them tobacco; therefore, that's how Freeman will handle it," Deputy Ron Nye said.

E-cigs are actually vaporizers not tobacco burners. If you open up an e-cig, the center contains a liquid that turns to vapor when heated. This is a 100% non-tobacco product.

"I believe that e-cigs should be allowed if they're allowed outside of school, as long as they aren't being shared among people who aren't 18," senior Jordan Rose said.

There are all different kinds of e-cigs some contain high levels of nicotine while others are nicotine-free flavoring. There is a heating device which heats up the liquid called an atomizer; this creates white vapor that is supposed to mimic the smoke from a cigarette. The white vapor is not harmful to anyone around it, unlike cigarette smoke. If your e-cig does contains nicotine, studies show that it has a very minimal effect on your body. www.webmd.com

Let's put some of the myths to rest. Myth #1: e-cigs contain chemicals. This is not true, depending on the brand you get. If you shop smart, the only risk an e-cig will have on you is the nicotine. If you have no nicotine, then it has absolutely no effect on your body. Myth #2: e-cigs will cause cancer. Also, not true; studies have never proven that e-cigs cause cancer. www.webmd.com

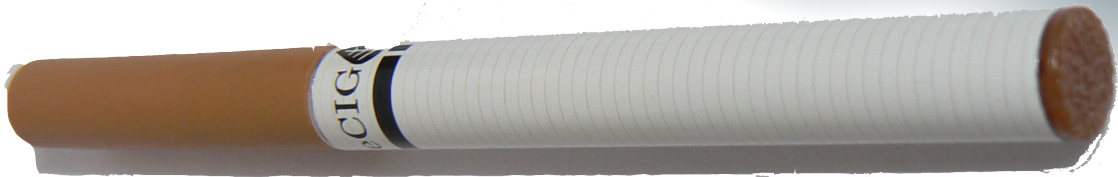
So, what's really wrong with the e-cig? There doesn't seem to be anything wrong with them; they are helping millions of people stop smoking every year.

"They should be allowed on campus because they are helping high school students stop smoking which causes cancer," one student argued.

Freeman is treating the e-cig like a tobacco product. I can understand why they would not be allowed in the school during class time, but at after school activities that is up to the parent of the student, or if you're 18 than it's your choice to make.

"Law says tobacco is not allowed on school property," Nye said.

E-cig is not a tobacco product; therefore, that law should not apply to the e-cig. You cannot call it a tobacco product when, in fact, it has no tobacco in it at all.



Courtesy of Martevax s.r.o., commons.wikimedia.org

Consent has no blurred lines

Editorial

Her skirt is too short, her jeans are too tight, and her shirt is too low... she is a flirt... she drinks... she's asking for it. Am I Right?

We live in a society, where it's okay to blame a teenage girl if they were taken advantage of because of how they portray themselves. In our society, we hear stories about a young girl being raped at a party, but it's okay because she put herself in that position. Let me ask you something- do you think a girl has ever wanted her worst nightmare to come true?

Wait back up. This couldn't be true. A sensible girl would never blame herself for something so horrific right?

According to the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP.org), 86% of young girls between the age of 12 and 17 who were sexually assaulted never reported the incident. We live in a society where a victim often doesn't feel safe admitting to her family, her doctor, her community, or even herself that she was abused. What type of community is that? This couldn't be happening in our community?

Rape only happens in a big city where crime rates are skyrocketed. This is false. Rape happens everywhere society refuses to acknowledge it. Sadly, according to Women Organized Against Rape (WOAR.org), one in four girls before the age of 18 is sexually assaulted.

You may be thinking this is sad, but it doesn't happen here in our small, tightknit community. You would be wrong.

"It's very rare for someone to be sexually assaulted by a total stranger," Deputy Ron Nye explained. "It does happen, but not that often. Sexual assaults usually occur by someone known to the victim."

Date rape victims often choose not to



Photo illustration by Pia Longinotti

report what happened due to worries about how they'll be perceived by their community, worries that they somehow caused the situation, and worries of what will happen if they take the case to court. Victims are left in a never-ending nightmare that they are forced to struggle with for the rest of their lives.

Spokane native Jennifer Smith (name changed) was a victim of date rape while enjoying a night out with friends. In her nightmare, there are no happy endings; instead, Smith is forced

to live a nightmare that affects her past, present, and future. In her nightmare, it was her fault; there was no one else to blame.

"I never told anyone at first because how could I admit to myself I allowed that to happen," Smith firmly said. "I knew it was wrong, but I didn't want to feel the shame, so I wiped it from my memory."

This is not the end of Smith's, or any rape victim's, story. You might be thinking, 'Why would someone keep it a secret? How could a victim go back to life like nothing happened?' The answer to your question is victims never return back to normal life because there is nothing normal to return to.

"Victims come away with serious trauma persisting during their lifetime," Spokane adolescent psychologist Judy Markley explained. "Blame is always an issue during counseling because of the subtle guilt messages in society. Many victims blame themselves because they can always think, 'if I had only...'"

Many victims walk away from sexual assault never telling anyone due to the mixed messages the media sends about sex. We live in a sexually-centered culture where hooking up is not only a part of our society but encouraged by the media in movies, magazines, TV commercials, and music. Media down-

plays sex as if it's no big deal. It's a part of growing up. Popular culture tells teenagers that sex is meaningless so get over it.

"The mainstream media has an agenda in its reporting by projecting messages we often don't hear," Markley said. "The media does not always convey the seriousness of an event."

Rape doesn't just take one part of a victim away. It takes pieces from all aspects of his or her life. It changes relationships, attitude, comfort level, and even self-image.

According to advocates at Spokane's Lutheran Community Services, rape culture plays a huge role in how the victim looks at themselves. Many victims never report the incident due to the pressure society puts on victims to not talk about what happened. When you read news stories on the internet about women who have been sexually assaulted, there are often comments that blame the victim or support the perpetrator. This causes many victims to be fearful to come forward.

"The lines of sexual assault are blurred," advocate Mark Clain explained. "Many victims don't know how to recognize sexual assault because of how society has made it the norm."

The question you may be asking now is what happens when a victim doesn't come forward? How does the victim cope?

Sexual assault leaves victims helpless. There are many emotional, physical and mental difficulties a victim is forced to come to terms with after they have been violated. Even with help, it is a struggle for victims to return to a semi-normal life. However, when a victim does not receive help, his or her life is turned upside down. Many victims walk away with low self-esteem, fear, self-hate, difficulty having healthy relationships, and warped body image. Some victims may even isolate themselves, and many victims sexualize their grieving.

It took over a year for Smith to heal. She started from step one, every inch of confidence she'd built in her lifetime was torn down. During her healing process, she made new friends who supported her, but she also took time to learn about herself and how to appreciate herself. She began relying heavily on role models such as family members and

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her church.

Although Smith is on the road to healing, it took her a long time to be able to reach out to friends, family, and her church. At first, instead of loving herself, she put herself down. Not only was Smith afraid of what others would think, she didn't trust herself not to be in that situation again. Then, that fear turned into self-hate. Now that Smith is beginning to heal, she is learning that no one can face sexual assault alone. It's important to build a strong support group.

"Rape is like a puzzle," Smith explained. "It leaves you broken and scrambling to find the missing pieces, but the puzzle will never be whole again because the pieces are gone forever."

Although sometimes it may seem like victims are forced to face sexual assault alone, it doesn't have to be that way. There is help for victims even in Spokane. Lutheran Community Services has a 24-hour hotline with advocates who are always willing to help. There are many avenues a victim can take to start their healing process. Trauma counseling, group therapy, and utilizing the justice system are several ways for a victim to begin on the road to healing.

Utilizing the justice system is a struggle most victims have to come to terms with. Some victims are afraid to come forward due to societal pressure, while others don't know how to get help. Not only is there a tremendous pressure on the victim to report the incident, but it is also emotionally hard to face the perpetrator.

"Facing the perpetrator at court, or whatever legal means can be utilized, to at least give the victim a sense of justice, but too many rapes are not reported as they may have been perpetrated by intimate partners or family members," explained Markley.

Many victims are also confused on how to move forward legally. The first step is to report the incident. There is a difference between reporting the incident and pressing charges. Many people assume these two are the same thing. Reporting the incident does not require victims to go press charges or to go forward with prosecution. It is encouraged to report the assault right away in order to collect the strongest evidence

in case the victim does want to press charges at some point.

"Date rapes' happen but go unreported because the way our society makes the victims feel," Deputy Ron Nye stated. "I think boys need to know that when a girl says no, 'NO MEANS NO!'"

It is also very important after the assault that the victim receives medical attention right away. If a victim goes to the Emergency Room, sexual assault is covered automatically; therefore, there are no expenses. Receiving medical attention is also confidential, so victims are not required to press charges, but victims can collect evidence of the crime for the future in case the victim does want to follow through with the justice system.

"Report the incident as soon as possible to authorities, seek medical attention, and contact a sexual assault advocate," Nye adamantly encouraged. "This person can help you through the process from the investigation to trial and get you in touch with counseling services."

Pulling one's life together after assault may seem impossible, but there is hope. Spokane has several resources. I cannot stress enough that facing sexual assault alone is traumatizing. It's important that as a community, we come together to support victims and make sure perpetrators are not rewarded for their actions.

"Sometimes using the court system can backfire, making the rape a public event, shaming the victim, creating incorrect information passed around in the community," Markley explained. "In the court system,



Photo illustration by Pia Longinotti

Help lines for rape victims:

Sexual Assault Unit: (509) 477-6920

Lutheran Community Services: (509)624-7273

Spokane Victim Center (866)751-7119

First Call for Help (509) 838-4428

**Providence Holy Family Emergency room:
(509) 482-0111,**

there is a public defender or defense lawyers who manipulate information to defend their clients, often re-traumatizing the victim."

It is way too common in our society where rape is blurred that perpetrators not only get away clean with this crime, but our community allows that to happen.

"Parents need to educate their son's about respecting women," Nye explained. "I also believe our community needs to be educated about the problem. There needs to be a line drawn in the sand in our society saying that this is not ok or right and won't be tolerated."

Smith didn't tell her story to put down her community, society, or even her peers. She told her story to give hope to other victims that there is a way to be whole again. Smith told her story to educate our community that it's time to take a step to change how our society portrays rape. We need to stop rewarding the perpetrators and stop mass media from leaving unprincipled messages that sexual assault is okay. Smith did not tell anyone about her rape due to the pressures, but that caused serious trauma. If a victim does not get help then he or she can never heal.

Now as a community, our role is to make sure a victim does not have to hide this

terrible experience, but bring to light the issues of rape culture. After a year dealing with the aftermath of sexual assault alone, Smith is now looking into an advocate program, so she can get out of the pit that is holding her down.

Instead of ignoring this blatant issue, let's come together and solve this by working together with law enforcement, education programs and advocates such as those at Lutheran Community Services. If we continue to turn a blind eye to this, sexual assault will continue to hold our community down.

Rudy Freeman's PACE student of the year

By Taylor Walker
Staff Writer

Each month, Freeman teachers pick one student who exemplifies a certain character trait in their classrooms. These awards are called PACE awards (Partners Advancing Character Education). Teachers choose students who have shown that month's character trait throughout the classroom, special projects, and any other organizations.

However, there is also a PACE Award that is given to a student who has been a great demonstration of all characteristics throughout the school year: respect, responsibility, citizenship, caring, fairness, honesty, diligence, trustworthiness, courage, integrity, generosity, and gratitude. This year, Freeman recognized senior Grace Rudy as the student of the year.

"I feel so honored to represent Freeman," Rudy shared. "I have had the best experience here, and I am convinced Freeman has the most dedicated, passionate, teachers in the state. I have been so blessed to be part of the Freeman family."

Among all of the staff members that voted for Rudy to receive the award was math teacher Peggy Wells was one of them.

"Yes, I voted for Grace," Wells shared. "I think she has a good idea of what I think life is all about. Getting good grades is great, and being a good athlete is great, but being a good person is important. She likes everyone, is constantly smiling, and I'm pretty sure she would jump off a bridge for anybody in this school, no matter if she knew them or not."

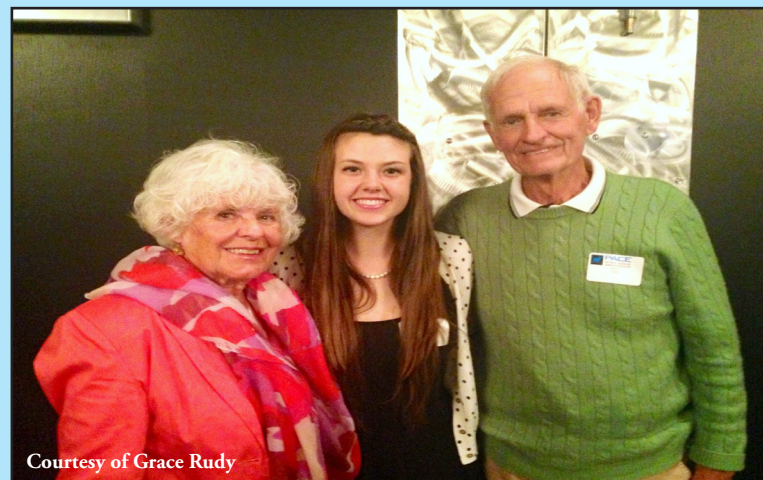
Rudy is a T.A. for Wells during fifth period and is always willing to help Wells with all of her tasks.

"Something that stands out about Grace is her smile and the way that she treats everyone," Wells said. "The first thing she says when she walks in my room is always, 'Mrs. Wells, what can I get done for you today?' It's never 'Can I go study?' or 'Can I go hangout with my friends?' She is always willing to help."

PACE is a grassroots Spokane Valley initiative that's been supported by the community. There are 47 local organizations that sponsor the PACE Awards. Each one of these organizations has donated \$250 or more in order to help make it possible.

"I've gotten other PACE awards previously," Rudy explained. "I have gotten them for trustworthiness, honesty, and caring. For this award, Mr. Straw was the one who told me I had received it and that I'm going to a PACE dinner on May 29 with all the nominees from other Spokane schools."

When it comes to choosing a student who has been a prime example of characteristics, Freeman made a great choice in choosing Rudy. With a caring heart, cheerful personality, and a big smile on her face, Rudy always portrays her positive spirit and shares it with everyone around her.



Courtesy of Grace Rudy

Rudy poses for a picture with her proud grandparents at the PACE dinner.



Courtesy of Grace Rudy

Rudy's parents and grandparents accompanied her to the PACE dinner.



Courtesy of Grace Rudy

Rudy poses with her beloved math teacher, Peggy Wells.

Primm takes skills from school to work

By Monite Potter
Staff Writer

The Skills Center is a free program dedicated to help students with their future careers. It helps them gain a job much faster by teaching students job-ready skills in high school. The Skills Center offers many different types of programs from automotive technology and welding to medical careers and cosmetology.

Freeman senior David Primm competed at Skill U.S.A this year in the Mobile Electronics category. At the state level, there are hundreds of kids competing in all of the different programs from all over the state. Primm felt like the experience was great going to Tacoma but felt like the competition didn't pertain to what he actually does.

"What we had to do is we had to know

the colors for an aftermarket stereo as well a couple of relay setups," Primm explained. "I had to do a couple solder joints and I had to take a knowledge test on the MECF (Mobile Electronics Certified Professionals).

Primm is so good at what he does he has even helped some of his friends like senior Zach VanSoest with the stereo and wiring in his Firebird.

"David made me a blinker system," VanSoest said. "David made positive and ground wires for my Auto Meter Phantom Gauges set and polished aluminum."

Primm plans on pursuing mobile electronics after high school. He has already accepted a job at Sounds on Wheels, where he has been for a month.



Courtesy of David Primm

Primm puts finishing touch on an installation.

Freeman alumna Jansen, National Champion Wins NCAA doubles title in straight sets

Story courtesy of the University of Alabama
www.rolltide.com

ATHENS, Ga. - In what will go down as one of the most dominant performances in NCAA doubles finals history, Alabama's Maya Jansen and Erin Routliffe captured the program's first national title dropping a combined 13 points all match en route to the 6-1, 6-0 victory over Georgia's Lauren Herring and Maho Kowase on Monday. With the win, the Crimson Tide duo finishes the season at 22-4, taking their final 10 matches.

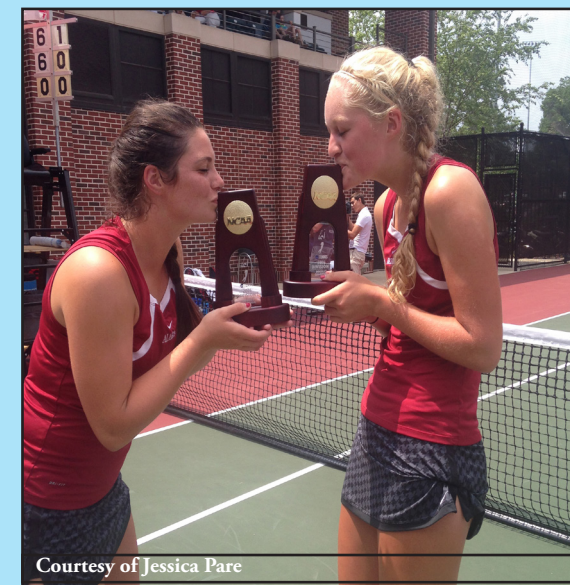
"This is a total team win," said Alabama head coach Jenny Mainz. "Erin and Maya brought their best today. I'm so proud of the distance this program has come in my 17 years. We played such commanding doubles and really played on our terms today. They worked so hard for this, and I am so happy for them."

Alabama opened the match, winning 10-straight points, to take a 2-0 lead overall and a 30-0 edge in the third game. They continued to dominate, pulling in front 4-0 before Georgia was able to get on the board with a hold in the fifth game. Jansen and Routliffe would close out the set on a point penalty from the Bulldogs, winning 6-1.

"Getting those first two games really helped us," said Jansen. "I really believe that set the tone for the match. I can't put this into words. This means so much to us."

In the second set, it was all Alabama as the Tide went on to win six-straight games. Leading 40-15 with Georgia serving, Routliffe, standing at the net, eased the ball with just enough force to lift it over the tape for the victory.

"I am so happy to bring back the first national championship in tennis to Tuscaloosa," said Routliffe. "We knew we had to come out strong and get a good start. Once that final shot went over the net we looked at each other and didn't really know what to do. It was excitement and relief all at the same time."



Courtesy of Jessica Pare

Freeman alumna Maya Jansen and her partner Erin Routliffe celebrate winning the NCAA Doubles Championship, bringing home the University of Alabama tennis program's first national title. The duo dominated their match, beating the team from Georgia 6-1, 6-0.

Refreshing Summer Drinks

Patriotic Drink

Ingredients-

- Ice cubes
- Cranberry juice
- Wild Berry flavored Gatorade Fierce
- Diet 7-up

Directions-

- Fill a clear glass with ice. Pour cranberry juice. Very slowly add Gatorade (be careful to pour it onto an ice cube-not directly into the cranberry juice so they don't mix). Do the same thing when adding 7-up.



Courtesy of fred_fred, creative commons

Iced Peach Tea with Berries

Ingredients-

- 1 ½ cups water
- 3 bags peach tea
- 2 tablespoons honey
- Ice cups
- 1 cup berries

Directions-

- Bring water to a boil then add tea bags and brew for 4-5 minutes. Mix tea and honey. Pour hot tea into large pitcher and refrigerate for 2-3 hours. When tea is cooled, serve over ice and add chilled berries.

Virgin Pina Colada

Ingredients-

- 1 cup ice
- 1 ¼ cups pineapple juice
- ½ cup milk
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons white sugar

Directions-

- In an electric blender, blend ice, pineapple juice, milk, cream, and sugar. Blend until smooth.



Courtesy of allrecipes.com

Raspberry Spritzer

Ingredients-

- 2 cups seltzer water
- 2/3 cups frozen raspberries
- 2 sprig fresh mint
- 3 ounces raspberry-flavored syrup
- Ice cubes

Directions-

- Combine seltzer, raspberries, mint and raspberry-flavored syrup in a small pitcher. Pour over ice.



Courtesy of allrecipes.com



Photo by Andy Mitchell

A stunning lake view of Delintment Lake. It’s a fantastic place to spend a weekend camping during the hot months of July and August.

Best places to camp this summer

By Andy Mitchell
Staff Writer

When you go camping, do you spend time on your electronics or do you spend time out in the nature? The true meaning of camping is to live in the outdoors at a campsite or somewhere that has a cabin that gets you away from phones, TV’s, computers. Some of you may be thinking, ‘What am I going to do without my phone, TV, and/or computer?’ You can do many things without technology. For instance, you can go fishing, explore the wilderness, play some games, and so much more.

According to a survey on how kids use electronics, on average, teenagers spend about 52.5 hours a week in front of some kind of technology (zdnet.com). So, if we spend more time camping without electronics, just think about what you could do, without the use of technology. When you turn off the technology and head to a campsite, you could learn what you can do around your campsite.

There are many places where you can go camping. At Heyburn State Park in Plummer/Idaho, there are many things to do there while

camping. This site offers activities such as boating and mountain biking. When you go hiking/mountain biking, you can explore trails that wind through its 8,076 acres of natural forest. So, when you say that you’re bored without the use of electronics, there are plenty of sights to see. For a serviced campsite, visitors will pay a fee of \$22-24 per night; for a standard campsite, costs run \$14-16 per night plus \$5 for a vehicle entry fee.

Delintment Lake Campground in Hines/Oregon offers many activities like swimming, boating, hiking and Geocaching. Even though there was a small forest fire near Delintment Lake about 5 years ago, visitors can go on a variety of trails that

will take you too many breath-taking destinations. The fee to stay per night is \$10 per single unit, and \$5 per extra vehicle. At Delintment Lake Campground, guests cannot make any reservations due to the heavy usage it has with tent trailers, motor homes and tents.

“I like to go camping with my cousins at Delintment Lake campground,” junior Ben Mitchell said.

If you have driven by Silverwood, you have driven by Farragut State Park Campsite. Farragut also offers a variety of fun activities that campers can do throughout their stay at the campground. Popular attractions include boating, archery, and swimming. During

the winter season, visitors can cross-country ski, snow show, or sled. The cost per vehicle is \$5. Serviced camp sites run from \$22-\$24 per night and standard campsites are \$14-\$16. You can either sleep in a tent or a tent trailer/motor home.

For those who do not want to go camping outside of Washington, there is a perfect place for you and your family and friends. Look no further then Lake Chelan. Visitors can go swimming, water skiing, fishing, or use their horseshow pits. For standard campsites, there is a fee of \$20-31 during the Peak Season; for the winter season, guests pay \$17-25. With Lake Chelan, you can go swimming with the 6,000 foot shoreline.

“I find camping to be one of the most enjoyable actives of each year,” Royce Mitchell said.

A definition of camping is a place usually away from urban areas where tents/trailers/cabins to live in the outdoors for a short amount of time, to get away from the use of technology. Camping is very enjoyable with the quite surroundings with the sounds of croaking toads to the boats oars rowing the boat across the pond/lake.



Courtesy of Heyburn State Park

The Amazing Spiderman swings back into theaters

By Isaac Stokoe
Staff writer

On July 6, 2012, The Amazing Spiderman was released in theaters and made \$64 million on opening weekend. May 2, 2014, marked the day that The Amazing Spiderman 2 blew its predecessor out of the water making \$91 million during its opening.

Everyone from comic book aficionados to kids, and adults looking for a fast-paced action movie, came together to watch an incredible movie unfold before their eyes. As the lights in the theater dimmed and the opening credits rolled, the anticipation and excitement in the air was almost tangible, surreal.

The Amazing Spiderman 2 follows young Peter Parker (Andrew Garfield) in his fight to protect the citizens of Manhattan. As he fights bad guys, he also starts to fight himself as he tries to balance being Peter Parker and his alter ego, Spiderman. The story also continues with his relationship to Gwen Stacy (Emma Stone) and the bumps they face with graduating high school and the guilt laying on Peter from her father’s death in the first movie. The movie also introduces Harry Osborn/ the Green Goblin (Dane Dehaan) who takes over his father’s company, Oscorp, and uncovers the many lies shrouded in secrecy as he sets off on a personal vendetta against Spiderman aided by super villain Max Dillion/Electro (Jamie Foxx). Needless to say, the movie is captivating and leaves viewers on the edge of their seats during fight

scenes with Electro and with the Green Goblin.

“The movie was extremely good!” said Spokane Valley Tech senior Drew Jepperson. “The ending stuck straight and true to the original comics, delivering a grim and captivation ending to a great movie.”

The graphics in this movie were absolutely stunning and made the viewer feel as though they were swinging above the streets of New York from building to building. The character development was also perfectly done with everyone, from Max Dillon’s quick transformation to super villain Electro to Peter Parker as he faced regular day-to-day struggles while juggling a relationship, life, and the responsibility that comes with being Spiderman.

“The way they showed the transformation of Electro was perfect,” Jepperson said. “It was right on par with the comic books and they did a great job with every character featured in the movie.”

The movie soundtrack also featured the works of Farrell and dubstep during the fight scenes with Electro. The dubstep was subpar for people who listen to a lot of dubstep, but for the movie, it fit pretty well, heightening the mood and creating a crazy fight scene that leaves the viewer wanting more.

Altogether, the movie did a great job with grossing an estimated total of \$151 million, but fell short when



Courtesy of theamazingspiderman.com

Spiderman acquires a fireman’s hat and hose to spray down Electro.

it came to their goal to make the movie of \$200 million. Though money may have been lost, it was a great sequel to the Amazing Spiderman series. Fans are already anticipating the release of number 3 to see how they tie up the end of the movie. It is also safe to assume that we are most definitely excited for the announcement of Peter Parker’s comic book girlfriend, Mary Jane Watson.

I would recommend this movie for literally any age. The humor is perfect and has the ability to be understood and laughed along with at any age. The story line is gripping and compelling, and the characters really the set the mood for a light-hearted, yet action packed movie with some not-so- underlying romantic twists that leave everyone walking out of the theater with an astonished look on their face.



Courtesy of theamazingspiderman.com

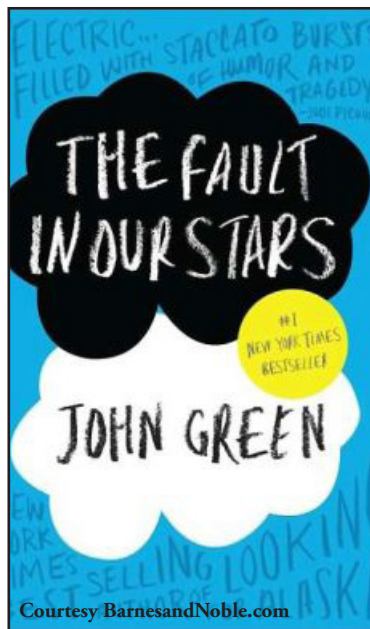
Max Dillon turns into Electro in the middle of a New York street.



Courtesy of theamazingspiderman.com

Harry Osborn and Spiderman argue in Harry’s apartment about Spiderman’s lack of help towards Harry.

A heartbreaking story that will also make you smile



By Madi Groves
Editor

After two years on the bookshelf, John Green's book *The Fault in Our Stars* has finally been made into a movie. This book is a heartbreaking tale of two teenagers who are trying to have a normal life outside of their cancerous community.

Hazel Grace Lancaster has thyroid cancer, which causes her to have a portable oxygen tank so she will be able to breathe. Augustus Waters is in remission from osteosarcoma, which he lost his leg to. Hazel Grace is forced by her parents to go to a cancer support group where she meets Augustus. He was

brought there by his friend Isaac who has a rare form of cancer that will make him lose his eyesight. When Hazel first sees Augustus, she doesn't know what to think of him. During the support group meeting, they keep making eye contact, and by the end of it, they actually

talk to each other. This moment sparked a new relationship between the two and their journey began.

Throughout the book, Hazel and Augustus spend a lot of time together and getting to know each other and telling each other about their dreams, thoughts and feelings. Augusts and Hazel take an amazing journey where feelings are confessed, truths are revealed, and the two become closer than ever.

"It really makes you reflect on life and the uncertainty of it all," junior Emma Sheldon said. "We continue on our detrimental path even with the knowledge of how fragile our little lives are. *The Fault in Our Stars* opens our eyes to the reality of those who are terminally ill."

This book will take you on an amazing new love adventure with Hazel and Augustus and then destroy you emotionally. By the end of this book, you will have cried so much that you will have no more tears left.

With the movie coming out, there are more copies of the book being produced. There are also a lot of people wanting to read the book because the movie trailer looks so good. The movie trailer itself brings people to tears.

This book is recommended for readers age 13 and up and for people who like sad, romantic books and are willing to cry. This book will take you through so many emotions that you have to be willing to experience. It is full of love from all of the characters, but also heartbreak. It is an amazing read that everyone will fall in love with!

HuHot is a restaurant you don't want to miss out on

By Taylor Walker
Staff Writer

Located on 11703 E. Sprague is one of the best restaurants around. HuHot is a family-friendly Mongolian grill where you can pick your own meat, seafood, noodles, vegetables, and sauces to make your dream dish.

"Huhot is a great place to eat!" senior Hunter Beaulaurier shared. "My favorite part is being able to choose every element that goes on my plate and the buffet-style eating is fantastic! The prices are fair for unlimited food and can accommodate any income."

The prices vary depending on what you choose to eat, but they are not bad at all. Not only are the food and prices great, but the environment of the restaurant itself is something to see as well!

"I really enjoy the new smells and sounds as your food is cooked right in front of you," Beaulaurier explained. "The environment is always inviting and the service

is great!"

Walking in the front door, you are met with delicious scents and a waiter/waitress ready to sit you quickly at a table so you can

begin to make your way to the food bar and create your own masterpiece. Once you've placed everything you wanted in your bowl, you set it on a counter and wait for the impressive chefs to cook up your food and do a couple cool tricks right in front of you.

With the ability to pick exactly what you want, there aren't many unsatisfied customers. Overall, HuHot is a highly recommended restaurant with wonderful

service, atmosphere, food, pricess, and entertainment. So, if you're ever in the Valley and feel a little hungry, give HuHot a try!



Courtesy of Shawna Walker

Here is the hot grill that the chefs cook your food on.

Is Heaven For Real?

By Justyna Folsom
Staff Writer

Heaven is for Real is a movie based off of a book written by Sonja and Todd Burpo. It's a true story about the Burpo's four year-old son, Colton Burpo, who during a near-death experience of a serious appendices, claims to have visited heaven. Parents Todd (Greg Kinnear) and Sonia Burpo (Kelly Reilly) thought they would lose their son Colton (Conner Corum) when his appendix burst. And it's directed by Randall Wallace

The movie was a tear jerker and a feel-good kind of show. The director followed the book closely. For example, in one scene, Colton was describing Jesus to his dad. Todd looks up pictures on the internet of Jesus, trying to understand his son. In doing this, he finds a girl with a similar experience to Colton's who has visions of heaven and paints them. She created a painting of Christ, and Colton said that is exactly what he looks like.

One critique is that the acting in some parts didn't feel right. For example, when Colton sees his dead sister in heaven, and she gives him a hug, he looked more weirded out than happy.

This is a great movie for people of all different beliefs even though it takes place in a Christion context because the movie focuses just on the story that this four year-old boy has experienced. It is not a faith-based movie; it's just a story about a boy who claimed to go to heaven. It's up to you to decide if it's true.



Courtesy of heavenisforreal-movie.com

Todd Burpo is surprised when Colton recognizes his great-grandpa from his visit to heaven, who died before he was born.

Godzilla destroys movie-goers expectations

By Chaz Halstead
Staff writer

Godzilla has returned. First debuting in 1954, the iconic king of monsters has been internationally famous since then and returned to the big screen on May 16.

Ford Brody (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) is just returning home from a 14-month tour when he receives a call from Japan. His father, Joe Brody (Bryan Cranston), was arrested for trespassing in a quarantine zone, and Ford must go bail him out. This starts the unlikely and exciting sequence of events that will put the world in danger and test Ford Brody's will to fight.

"This movie wasn't what I expected," junior Morgan McGarity said. "There was a massive plot twist!"

The previews for this movie were incredibly deceiving and audiences all over will be in for a huge surprise. Director Gareth Edwards put a very interesting twist to what people generally expect from a Godzilla movie.

"It was an unexpected thriller!"

junior Hannah Williamson said.

The insane plot of Godzilla really kept the movie interesting and exciting at the same time. Both the actors and directors did a fantastic job and the emotion of the movie was very intense throughout. It was easy to tell that there was a lot of fun that went into the production of this movie and the good relationships between actors really showed.

The only thing that I would change about this movie is the amount of action; there could have been a bit more. However, the intense characters and crazy twists really kept the movie entertaining, so I can't complain.

"It is very action-packed and everyone like adventure," junior Josie Schultz said.

Both the director and actors of this movie did an amazing job and delivered a high-quality film.

I would recommend this movie to anyone. It has drama, action, plot twists and, of course, Godzilla. There is something in this movie for the entire family and will be a great movie to purchase once it is out on DVD!



Courtesy of godzillamovie.com

Godzilla walks through the burning city of San Francisco.

Endless roads of longboarding

By Austin stark
Staff writer

Longboarding is the hobby of riding a long skateboarding from 24” to 80”. Longboarding has its roots in surfing, which is why many longboards resemble surf boards. Skateboarding, in general, evolved from surfing in the 1970’s.

Longboarding is a great summertime activity. According to freshmen Ryan Worley and Isaiah Walker, Coeur d’Alene Lake’s beach is a great place to longboard.

“I love longboarding down at the Coeur d’Alene beach because it is good riding,” Worley said. “It’s nice to be able to be ride for a little then being able to jump into the lake is an amazing feeling.”

Coeur d’ Alene has a longboard-friendly beach that high school students love to ride on.

“The first time I ever tried longboarding was when I went to a friend’s house,” Worley said. “They were all trying it, so I decided to fit in and try it too. Ever since that day, I got hooked on them because of the adrenaline rush that it gave me going down hills.”

“I got hooked on longboarding by watching videos on YouTube and being able to see all the cool things that you can do on them got me interested in them,” Walker said.

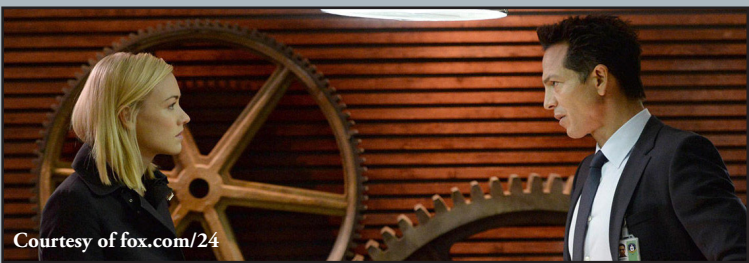
Longboarding has become very popular because it is what kids are doing these days. Also, it is a cheap way of transportation for students that are in school.

“I think it’s relaxing and a great way to have time to think about things,” Worley said. “I love the adrenaline rush going down the hills.”

Students have a new advantage getting to school and relaxing by a simple purchase of a longboard, Worley and Walker love to ride their long boards all around with a few favorite spots. This cheap and fun hobby is easy to learn and a fun thing to do with your friends.



Photo by Megan Stark



Courtesy of fox.com/24

“New actress Yvonne Strahovsky in a action packed scene.

Jack Bauer is back

By Bram Schweiger
Staff Writer

Back by popular demand, Fox’s 24 is an action-packed, jaw dropping, and gruesome story about one man’s day stopping an elite group of terrorists. Jack Bauer (Kieffer Sutherland) is a terrorist killing machine.

Many fans were happy to hear it was coming back this spring, but when it was announced during February on a Super Bowl commercial, 24 blew up on the social media. This time around, Bauer and some new cast members return to their fans hunting down terrorists

Local fan of Jack Bauer, math teacher Peggy Wells has watched every season of the early 24 with her family a total of three times each episode. The Wells are crazy about Bauer saving the world each day, and when they found out he was coming back on Fox, they started a family group text and couldn’t hold back their excitement.

“I immediately bought many gallons of rocky road ice cream,” Wells said. “My family used to go through so much rocky road during 24, and it was tradition to start eating it again.”

24 falls sixth on FOX’s most viewed of all time, which is a pretty impressive feat. This poll was taken just before 24 came back on the network.

“I love it so much,” Wells said. “Every show leaves off on a huge cliff hanger.”

As you can see 24, coming back was a big deal to people who wouldn’t give up on the retirement of the first series of running. 24 has already had a greater amount of views than any of the previous episodes ran.



Courtesy of fox.com/24

The new season brings together fan favorites and new cast members.

More starts a new adventure next year

By Brydon Arredondo
Staff Writer

Gary More has been a very prominent teacher here at Freeman High School. His math classes include Geometry, Algebra II, and stats. He works alongside of fellow math educator Peggy Wells.

More has been teaching for three years at Freeman High School. However, More has had a lengthy career of teaching- a total of 31 years.

“I have taught 25 years at Republic High School, three years at Lakeside Middle School, and three years at Freeman High School,” More said.

It is apparent to those who have taken his class that he is a good teacher and has an intricate teaching style.

Many teachers have their different reasons for teaching, More is a very productive teacher because of his progressive teaching ethic!

“I don’t know if anything made me want to be a teacher,” More explained. “I kind of gravitated towards it while helping people in the Navy, and coaching was an influence.”

Before More became a teacher, he tried a few other careers.

“I was in the Navy for six years,” More shared. “I owned a laundry mat, car wash and offices for about six or seven years.”

So with coaching and already helping people, it seemed like an easy choice to move into the field of teaching.

More is appreciated here at Freeman ,and Freeman is grateful for his years of service.

“I have really enjoyed the math team members, the students, and I’ve enjoyed working with Mrs. Wells, also hiking, biking, and skiing with Mr. Hays,” More said of his time at Freeman.

He is very active in his life for retiring this year.

“I enjoy when students have the ah-hah moment of understanding,” More said.

While More has enjoyed a great teaching career, he is looking forward to time to do other things during his retirement.

“I am going to do outdoor activities such as expedition kayaking, skiing, biking, running, sitting around, reading, and taking up welding and airbrush art,” More said.

As for students, they typically enjoy his class and appreciate his style.

“I have had More for one year, the Algebra II class,” junior Konner Forshag said. “I think he always has a good attitude and he is a genuine guy.”

Good qualities for a teacher to produce. More uses an intricate and very effective teaching process.

“He introduces new material, uses a couple of days for practice, then moves on to a lot of review,” Forshag said.

More has much to bring to the students and that doesn’t always pertain to math.

“Besides a lot of math processes, materials, and formulas, he teaches a lot of ways to improve my own being,” Forshag said.

Although he is retiring this year, he still is an excellent teacher.

“I would love it if he was still teaching, but I think he should enjoy his retirement,” Sewell said

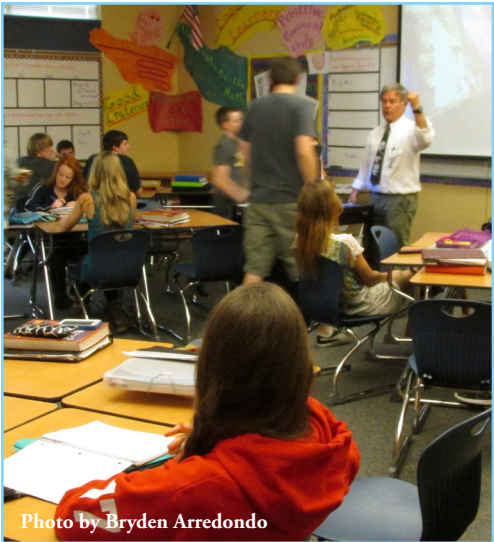


Photo By Bryden Arredondo

Big changes within our district office

By Anna Lee
Staff Writer

The Freeman School District Fiscal Director Jan Davis has decided to retire after 30 years of serving Freeman.

“The best part of my job is working with such a great team at Freeman,” Davis said. “The school board, the staff, the students and the community are simply amazing.”

After the end of this year, the Fiscal Director position in the district office will empty, leaving some big shoes to fill.

“Mrs. Davis may very well be one of the most influential and impactful people in Freeman over the past thirty years,” Superintendent Randy Russell said. “As the Fiscal Director, or Chief Financial Officer, she has served as the heart and soul of our district by guiding our financial well-being, as well as providing our district staff, parents, and community unbelievable customer service.”

Davis’ job is to maintain the finances of the school district, including budgets, financial reports, payroll, and benefits for the Freeman staff. The annual budget for Freeman is approximately \$8.6 million, 80 percent of which is for staff salaries and benefits.

“It will be difficult to replace her institutional knowledge and caring about people,” Russell said. “She is a role model for customer service and is so patient, kind, caring, and professional. There really is only one Jan Davis - she will truly be missed!”

Just as the community and staff will miss Davis, she will miss Freeman.

“I really enjoy what I do, I’m sure that I will miss it, but I will especially miss daily contact with my co-workers who are really good friends,” Davis said. “What I won’t miss is that winter commute on the Palouse Highway!”

We are all so thankful for what Davis has done for our community and disrict over the past 30 years, but are excited to see what the future hold for the fiscal director potion in the district office!

Freeman says goodbye to fifth-grade teacher Judy Bickler

By Ali Tesch
Editor

One of the biggest struggles for any teacher is to say goodbye to their students at the end of the year. Imagine leaving and knowing you will not return in the fall. After teaching for 28 years, fifth-grade teacher Judy Bickler is now ready to retire. Students, faculty, and the community will miss Bickler's smile and her passion to not only be a teacher but a friend and mentor to students and community members.

When you walk into Bickler's class, you see a new world. Students are eager to learn about the world around them, but Bickler is even more eager to teach them the importance of learning. Students' eyes are wide with excitement while she reads a story from their literature books. Bickler's classroom is alive with posters that encourage students to do their best and artwork that shows the talent that Bickler is cultivating in each of her students. Bickler's classroom really does give you a new insight about the world that, if you aren't careful, you could miss.

"I'm going to miss doing art projects and learning new things with Mrs. Bickler," fifth-grader Sarah Groat explained.

Before Bickler began teaching at Freeman, she attended both WSU and EWU. At first, she began pursuing a business major and foreign language, but then she transferred to teaching, which was one of the best choices she made in her life. After graduating, Bickler began teaching at Goldendale Primary School where she remained for 4 ½ years. When she joined the Freeman staff, Bickler was welcomed with open arms.



Photo by Ali Tesch

Bickler helps students understand by assigning them hands on activities.



Photo by Ali Tesch

Students diligently work together as a team to finish their assignments.

"Freeman staff, parents, and students are family," Bickler said. "Freeman cares for each other in fun times and difficult times."

Not only will Bickler miss seeing her students, but she has made long-lasting relationships with staff and community members. She will miss the collegial spirit and sharing success stories about students who achieved their goals.

Bickler had many special memories with staff; she loved walking in the school in the morning and meeting her colleagues with a

grin. One special story that Bickler remembers is receiving a letter from a former student. This was very encouraging as the student began reminiscing about times they spent in Bickler's class.

"It's always nice to know you made a difference in someone's life," Bickler explained.

Bickler hasn't made a difference in one person's life but in many students' lives. Bickler will always

be remembered for her love for learning and determination to be the best teacher she possibly could be. During her 28 years, Bickler never let a day go by without encouraging students to do their best.

"My ultimate goal as a teacher is student success and remembering to celebrate those successes," Bickler said.

As a teacher, not only does Bickler teach the important core subjects such as reading, language arts, writing, math, science, and social studies, she also incorporates the key character traits in her classroom to mold a successful generation of Freeman students. Not only does Bickler teach teamwork, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, honesty, perseverance, diligence, citizenship, and honesty, but she portrays each of these character traits in her own life and leads by example.

"Being with children gives you a fresh insight into the world around," Bickler explained. "It makes everything new and fresh."

As Freeman students and staff return next fall, they will miss Bickler's warm smile and her willingness to always find new creative ways to teach students, but her memory and legacy at Freeman will always be remembered.

Wall's last year her best

By Katie Ophus
Staff Writer

Mary Ellen Wall has been teaching at Freeman since 1990, including second, third, fifth and sixth combo, seventh, and eighth grades. For the last 13 years, she's been a third grade teacher. Before joining the Freeman staff, Wall subbed in Tekoa while her kids were going to school, then worked at Western Benewah School District for six years. This is Wall's 27th and final year.

"My favorite parts were getting together with other teachers, learning new names and faces each fall, and the excitement of starting a new cleaning up the said. "I love the year is a new like starting a September."

Wall's class things this math, English, cial studies, but incorporate a sec- discussion with that teach good

stewardship and a passion for knowledge and experience outside of school. The students, in turn, taught her tolerance, compassion, and determination. Those are the best lessons.

Wall has had some struggles over the years, such as teaching children who do not speak a word of English and have only been in the United States a matter of days. She picked up on sign language really quickly. This would be hard for any teacher, but because Wall teaches third-grade, it makes it extra hard for her. Her students are so young, even the English-speaking students don't understand certain things. But Wall has adapted fast, and has made it work over the years.

"We did a lot of arts and crafts, and it made the class enjoyable," junior Erynn Waite said of her time in Wall's class.

Wall's spirit will not soon be forgotten by her students. Best of luck next year Mrs. Wall.



Courtesy of Mary Ellen Wall

The third grade kids making corn husk dolls

school year and old one," Wall idea that every beginning; it's new job every

has done many year, including, science, and so- she tries to in- ondary lesson, a her students citizenship,

Retiring teacher will be missed at Freeman

By William Matthew Gilbertson
Staff Writer

For eighteen years, Jane Brune has taught fifth-grade at Freeman Elementary School. This amazing teacher has decided that it is time to retire.

"It has been such a privilege to work in this wonderful, supportive, caring community," Brune said of her time at Freeman.

"She is really fun, and nice, and encouraging, next year's fifth-graders really missed out," fifth-grader Willow Ennis said.

Even though their teacher is retiring at the end of the year it doesn't keep the students from having fun in class.

"I like all of the games we play, like sparkle," fifth-grade student Justin Cecil said.

Congratulations on your retirement Mrs. Brune. We wish you all the best on your new adventure.



Photo by William Matthew Gilbertson

Mrs. Brune working helping students with math

King retires after 30 years at Freeman

By Bram Schweiger
Staff Writer

From Me-Boxes to daily word puzzles, CA and P.E. teacher Jerry King's positive attitude and hilarious sense of humor has made the kids love to learn for 30 years at Freeman Middle School. Even in the years where he had to switch to teaching PE and Communication Arts class (English), he brought energy to school every day with his school-famous game Agility Ball in PE, and *The Most Dan-*

gerous Game in CA.

King started his road to education as a football coach at Seaside High School (Ore.) and this inspired him to be a teacher.

"When coaching in Canon Beach, Oregon, I fell in love with working with teenagers," King said. "Their positive energy motivated me to go into teaching and coaching fulltime."

He found Freeman High School 30 years ago and was hired as a teacher and a football coach. He retired from football four

years ago, but still coached middle school baseball up until this year.

"He was the most organized guy around," FHS football coach Jim Wood said. "If I wanted anything done, he would have it done before I needed it and organized down to the bone."

One of his most memorable moments was the first time he showed his students the movie of *The Most Dangerous Game* after reading the short story with his class. If

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How well do you know your hometown?

By **Hanna Watkins**
Staff Writer

There is a lot of history behind the Freeman community that most students don't know about. Every place has a past; sometimes, it's good to be reminded of the history that our school has.

Freeman School District wasn't just the school building; it was also a town. There used to be more to Freeman than what it is today. The neighboring towns of Mica, Valleyford and Rockford

are also a big part of our school's history.

Forming in 1955, the actual Freeman School District is now a combination of Rockford, Valleyford (formerly Lindberg), Hangman and Mica. Lindberg and Sunnyside each had a small school like Freeman that was brought into the district.

The original Freeman school was heated with a coal stove and had gasoline lamps. There were no accommodations whatsoever, not even a bathroom.

There are a few towns that

helped contribute to the Freeman School District, one of which was Mica. About two minutes from the school, Mica is a small community that is very close. Widow Terry Jo Sather moved out to Mica in July 1917.

"My husband and I and our 3 young children moved to Mica when his parents deeded us 4 acres of land," Sather said.

At the time, there wasn't much going on in this small town but a brick plant and a landfill. Two of her children started out at Freeman and one went to preschool that was inside an old church in the town of Mica. Sather really enjoyed the changing of the field colors throughout the year.

"I like all four seasons, even though I complain about the snow," Sather said.

Living in Valleyford all his life, Freeman grounds and maintenance worker Larry Freter has seen a lot change over the years. From motels, grocery stores and a blacksmith's shop, more people migrated out his way.

"There are too many people," Freter said.

Freter didn't actually

come to Freeman until 1964 when it was just a few years old. He went to Lindbergh, also known as the Valleyford School. Parts of the old school still stand today and are being used as a house.

Back in the day, Valleyford used to be a railroading community. This brought a lot of business to the small town.

Most of you might think of Rockford as a little rock in the road, not much there, but you'd be surprised. There is even an annual fair that is put on by the locals. Betty and Larry Gady have lived in the Rockford community for 52 years. Both of their kids started out going to school in Rockford, but then switched to Freeman after it was consolidated.

"Some kids came from the Valley and grew up with my boys," Betty Gady said.

Many things have changed over the years and these communities are rapidly growing today. Who knows what may be here in the next 50 years.



Courtesy of Debbie Morphy

The original Freeman School combined students from Rockford, Lindberg and Sunnyside schools.

King will be missed by his students next year

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you've seen the movie, you understand that the visual effects and acting are pretty atrocious.

"My favorite experience as a teacher was the first class's reaction when they saw the actor who got chomped by the shark and proclaimed, 'Ah he got me!'" King explained.

It's a classic line to anyone that has ever taken his class.

But why has the 30 year veteran of teaching decided to retire?

"The illness and fatigue... the students

are sick and tired of me!" King joked, going on to explain that he would like to take a new direction in life, and that 30 years is long enough.

"He made learning boring grammar and learning how to type fun for me every day," eighth-grader Chase O'Connor said.

King will miss the positive attitude that his students bring every day, and he will miss the students and athletes mastering new things, but he says he will mostly miss "mentally torturing" the students each and every day.



Photo by Bram Schweiger

Every student makes a Me-Box to start the year, so their classmates and King can know a little more about who they are.