

Dragon Times

WEEKLY NEWS & ARTICLES

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/4- XC State Meet Lane Community College
- 11/6- Dragon Pride Meeting
- 11/6- PTG Meeting
- 11/8- Fall Sports Banquet
6:00 pm
- 11/10- No School (Veteran's Day)

Celebrity Analysis

Celebrity Gossip

By Paige Piper

This Halloween, we've seen many haunting and spooky costumes surrounding us right here in Monroe, but what about the celebrities? What costumes did they come up with? How well were they executed? Lucky for us, Heidi Klum, American model and popular television host, hosts THE halloween party each and every year. If invited, celebrities stride down the red carpet dressed in their astounding costumes. As the host, Heidi is expected to blow the competition out of the water, and each year we receive nothing less. Last year definitely did not disappoint when she pulled up to the red carpet dressed as a worm! So what did she do this year? She dressed up as a giant peacock! She had a special team with her that dressed as the feathers and legs, while she was the main body and head. To make this a cute couples costume, her husband, Tom Kaulitz, went as a huge peacock egg! As for her guests, Alix Earle dressed as the 'White Witch' from *The Chronicles of Narnia*, Taylor Lautner and his wife Taylor Launter copied Timothée Chalamet and Pete Davidson from their iconic SNL bit, and Camila Cabello dressed up as Mia Thermopolis from the spectacular film, *Princess Diaries!* We saw many more great costumes, including 'Emily' from *Corpse Bride*, 'Daphne' from *Scooby-Doo*, and even 'Taylor Swift' and 'Travis Kelce'. What's your opinion, could the costumes have been better? Or will they be hard to beat next year?

<https://pagesix.com/2023/11/01/photos/heidi-klums-annual-halloween-party-2023-see-the-stars/#15>

National Day & Cross Country

National Nacho Day

Harper Young

Monday November 6th is National Nacho Day! Did you know that nachos were named after a guy named nacho and gained a ton of popularity in 1978. Nachos are a very popular and well known snack for football games or really any sporting event. Nachos are very cool because you can really put anything you want on them, there are endless toppings. I personally love nachos and they are so quick and easy to make at home!

Activities You Can Do

1) Have a Nacho Bar!

Nacho bars are so much fun and so easy to do! All you need is chips and your favorite toppings! It's also a great way to socialize with friends and family. And there are so many ideas online for fun nacho bars!

2) Make Guacamole!

A very traditional and my personal favorite nacho topping is guacamole! There are so many easy guacamole recipes online and it's one of my favorite things to make. It pairs perfectly with nachos and you can make it in less than 10 min with only a few ingredients!

Monroe Cross Country

By: Aiden Koroush

Monroe Cross Country has been extremely successful this year. The Monroe Varsity boys won Districts this year by a huge margin. The score was 38 to 69, second place was Western Christian. Monroe had 5th,9th,10th,11th,12th,13th and 14th. Aiden Koroush received 5th place with a time of 17:36, Eli Dilworth 10th place with a time of 18:05, Tanner Dilworth 11th place with a time of 18:15. Tanner definitely gave his all as he could barely stand after the race. Asher Strand 11th place finish with a time of 18:17, and Taylor Johnson was 12th place finish at 18:17. Asher beat Taylor by only a few milliseconds. Aldo Rodriguez with a 13th place finish at 18:38, and finally Carter Daggett with a 14th place finish and a time of 18:41. Everyone I just named had a huge P.R and the last time Monroe Cross Country won Districts was in 1984, or 39 years ago. Hannah Smith also ran, Hannah ran a 22:14 a huge P.R for Hannah. Sadly Hannah placed 11th and needed to get 7th to make it to state. On the J.V side of things Sean Fanger ran a 18:47 with a 1st place finish a big P.R for him, Josh Bledsoe ran a 20:50 quite a big P.R for him as well and he had a 3rd place finish. And finally we have Logan Bledsoe with a 5th place finish and a time of 21:46. That's a gigantic P.R for Logan, almost a 4 minute P.R! Our next stop is the State meet. We are predicted 3rd but going for 2nd. Run fast and go Dragons!!

Country of the Week

Country of the week:

~Thailand~

By: Kyli Cejas

Thailand is located in Southeast Asia and has a population of over 71 million people. The country's capital is Bangkok, which is also home to some of the most famous Buddhist structures. Thailand is bordered by Cambodia and Laos to the east side, Myanmar to the west side and Malaysia to the south. The Andaman Sea and Gulf of Thailand are also bordering. Many of the popular Thai cuisines are influenced by Indian, Malaysian, and Indonesian cuisines. A lot of the dishes are spicy. Some of the Thai dishes are, Tom Yum (spicy shrimp soup), Som Tum (spicy green papaya salad), Tom Kha Kai (chicken in coconut soup), Pad Thai (Thai style fried noodles), and Khao Pad (fried rice).

The country is known for its amazing beaches, Krabi is home to many of them. Railay is one of the many beaches, where the sand is white and the waters a beautiful turquoise-blue color. Visitors say it's like "paradise". The cliffs at The Railay beach are popular for rock climbing. Since there are many cliffs, you also have the opportunity for hiking. If you want to see all the parts of the island, there are many boat tours to show you what Railay has to offer, so you can get an eye at a lot more.

I think Thailand would be a great place to visit, especially if you are one who enjoys beaches, Thailand is the place for you. I like that the country has many different activities or attractions for everyone. Aswell if you love spicy foods there are many spicy dishes, if you're not a fan of spicy foods of course there are other choices. Thailand will definitely be on the list of places I'd like to visit.

Sights to See & Student Interviews

Sights to See in Oregon

By: Audrey Young

Tamolitch Falls, better known as “Blue Pool”, is a beautiful, cliff-rimmed, water hole. It’s nicknamed blue pool because of its 30 foot deep, 37 degree, turquoise-blue colored water.

The main trails to access the pool are the Carmen Smith Reservoir and McKenzie River Trailhead. This sight is located in McKenzie Bridge, OR, about an hour and a half from Monroe.

Many people enjoy the 4 mile hike, though some parts of the trail are a little rocky and potentially dangerous. Make sure to bring close toed, hiking shoes! When arriving at the stunning water, some people cliff jump and swim, while others enjoy the view from above. It is important to remember the dangers of the freezing cold water combined with the jumping impact, some people have had fatal accidents at blue pool and many have required rescues. Apart from these incidents, the blue pool is a safe place to swim for short periods of time but cliff jumping is no longer encouraged.

The main reason why the water is so clear and clean is because no fish or microorganisms can survive in these water temperatures. The lava rock in the blue pool also filters the river water as it flows through, keeping the water free of debris.

Blue pool is open all year long, but it might be best to plan your trip in the spring or summer if you’re planning on swimming. On the other hand, fall is said to be the best season for the hike. Regardless of the time of year, it is a gorgeous sight to see in Oregon and I would highly recommend planning a trip!

Student interviews

By Karmin Hatfield

Light work no reaction, is something Aiden Koroush said as he won districts. Aiden is an amazing freshman at Monroe High School. He enjoys workshops and weights, those are his favorite. Aiden always pushes himself and tries to improve his running each time he practices. Aiden participates in cross country, he has been doing it for 7 years, he also does basketball and track. Aiden is a big family oriented person, family is important to him. He loves spending time with them by watching movies/shows. His favorite is Yellowstone because Mason Crowson is a bodyguard in it.

As I said he’s a very big family guy and he really appreciates his parents very much. They always support him and his decisions. When he’s older he would love to stay in Oregon, because he loves the beautiful mountains and good trails to run on. He also loves the cold weather to sit around and hangout with his parents and little brother and drink their hot coco. When Aidans older he wants to be an airplane because he thinks they’re cool.

Top Five

Most popular candy

Everyone has their favorite type of candy, whether it's chocolate, sour, or sweet, but these are the top five candies according to candystore.com

1. **Reese's Peanut Butter Cups**

Reese's makes many products, including Reese's pieces, Snack mix, mini cups, crunchers, crispy crunchy bars, many holiday themed cups, and more. There are multiple types of chocolate, or cups with pieces inside. The normal peanut butter cups are just chocolate cups filled with peanut butter. The peanut butter helps to balance out the sweetness.

1. **M&M's**

M&M's are basically just little chocolate balls with a hard colorful shell. There are many variations including peanut m&m's, peanut butter m&m's, mini m&ms, dark chocolate, white chocolate, caramel, cookie m&ms, and many more.

1. **Hot Tamales**

Hot tamales are bright red, spicy, cinnamon candies. These small candies have a spicy scent and flavor and a chewy texture. Most people either love them or hate them. There is a fierce cinnamon flavor, a 3 Alarm kind, (which has three levels of heat), fire and ice, tropical heat, and more.

1. **Skittles**

Skittles are the same shape, size and have some of the same colors as M&M's, but have completely different flavors. While M&Ms are hard chocolate, skittles are chewy fruit flavored candies. Skittles' crunchy shells also have more bright rainbow colors than m&ms. There are a few different types of skittles, but they're all the same idea.

1. **Sour Patch kids**

Sour patch kids are different colored sweet gummies covered in sour powder. There are different kinds with different levels of sourness. There are also Sour Patch watermelon candies. Sour patch kids were inspired by the Cabbage Patch Kids and came out in the 1980s, but are still very popular.

Monroe Dragon Football

By Xavier Aldabe

Monroe High School Football is devastated after losing 50-46 to our rival Central Linn. Losing this game means Monroe will not advance to state playoffs and their season will come to an end. Monroe football fought hard all year and had tons of dedication to this football team. But the team has never fought harder than they did Friday night against the Cobras. From all the blood, sweat, and tears to broken bones and injuries. We will never forget our seniors: Onnel Ramos, Nate Young, JJ Parker, Jaime Monroy, Braiden Ellis, and Manuel Smith. Thank you all for leading, supporting, and fighting for this team. As coach Sisneros said " I'd rather lose as a Dragon than win as a Cobra. "

Video Game Review

Forager: Video game review

By Hayden Slagle

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Forager is a survival-adventure game released on April 18th, 2019. In-game you start on a small island and slowly but surely buy more land and expand your appliances. The game has a plethora of achievements and quests to complete, and has a lackluster or absence of story, at all.

Due to the game's layout this is no issue though.

The main gameplay of Forager is that you start on a small island with randomly spawning plants and ores that will appear on your island, harvesting these materials earns you the capability to create tools, appliances, and money. Capitalism is present in this game, there are many plots of land you can buy to expand your island, all land plots have their own special quirks like an NPC or a puzzle to solve: later on you are able to build markets as well, which sell a variety of good deeds.

One of the game's major mechanics is leveling up your skill tree, the skill tree itself is the anchor for you to unlock all different types of things in Forager, there are four main branches in Forager that you can invest in: Capitalism, Sorcery, Industrial, and farming. You are able to invest in all four however you please, their bonuses vary but often can be found unlocking a new appliance or giving you buffs. Unlocking recipes in Forager is integral to making progress, which there is no proper ending to the game. There's lots of side quests and end-game content for one to explore once they've gotten their hold on a good balanced skill tree, you'll be able to find many strange relics and eventually even be able to access a whole new dimension. Once you've gotten far enough in the game.

Foragers overall gameplay is quite enjoyable, many can compare it to its fellow survival-adventure titles like Minecraft or Terraria. It often feels as though you can always increase your productivity in the game, as there is no limit to how much you can build, destroy, and create.

Its runtime feels endless and may possibly even *be* endless if you don't play the game non-stop.

Compiling the fine details of Forager can be an difficult venture as there's so much unique content and passion put into this small indie-game, its only flaws really being how much it doesn't tell you, so there are times where you will have to research something like the solve for a puzzle yourself.

The game earns a 7/10. It's enjoyable, but no masterpiece. Try it if you'd like.

Celeb Gossip & Celeb Analysis

Mama Mia

By Tashi Frystak

"Mama Mia" is a drama movie about a daughter, Sophie (Amanda Seyfried), who never knew who her father was and is about to get married. She finds her mother's diary and finds three men's names who could possibly be her father, so she invites them to the wedding. It was released July 18th, 2008 and is an hour and 48 minutes long.

She grows up on a tropical island where her mother Donna (Meryl Streep) ran a small old hotel. Sophie grows up and ends up getting married. She finds the diary and invites the three men for her wedding to walk her down the aisle. The story is told using hit songs by the band ABBA such as "Honey, Honey", "Chiquitita", "Dancing Queen", "Money, Money, Money" and many others.

I personally like it as it's a fun little drama movie you can watch with your family for movie night. It has a sequel, Mama Mia! Here We Go Again which is basically just an addition meant to fill in more of the background of a few characters.

If I had to change anything about it I'd add a little more backstory for a couple of the main characters. For example, how did Donna end up running a hotel in the tropics? Why were there three possibilities to be her father? Why not less? Why not more? Why didn't Donna tell Sophie sooner? Why these specific men?

Other than that I really, like the movie itself, and I'd recommend watching it and seeing if it's to your liking.

Emma Watson

By Gunner Rodgers

Who is Emma Watson? Emma is a very famous actress and activist. She started her career off with a bang, starring as Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter series. Following this role, Emma became known world wide. Unlike many actors who were put in the spotlight at that young age, Emma and her career only grew. Aside from Harry Potter, she is known for Little Women, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, and the live action remake of a Disney classic, Beauty and the Beast. She has earned a handful of awards from, but not limited to, Teen choice and MTV. Along with being an actress, she has decided to use her platform to try and make a change in women's rights. A few years ago she was named a UN Women Goodwill Ambassador for her work with women's education and gender equality. Emma Watson is an outspoken activist, who is trying to make a real change in the world. Also being one of the highest paid actresses, I think it really shows how well she is appreciated in the movie industry and by her viewers.

Song Analysis & MHS Volleyball

I Remember Everything

By: Noel Nissen

"I Remember Everything" by Zach Bryan (Feat. Kacey Musgraves) is a duet about a couple reflecting on their past relationship. It begins in Zach's perspective while he tells us about memories between the two reminiscing on the love they had. How he used to sing her love songs in his old basement and she would tell him about her life. The song's tone changes and we see the other side of their relationship still in Zach's perspective. How it became cold and fleeting as she begs him to stay with her until sunrise. He recognizes his part in their problemed relationship when he says "Strange words come on out of a grown man's mouth when his minds broke." They hint at the fact he uses alcohol to ebb the hurt they were both feeling. Kacey adds her perspective showing her irritation with him. How he uses drinking to numb his pain, while she questions if he'll ever attempt to ease her mind instead of his. And while she knows he will never be the man that he always swore, she will always remember him singing in his '88 ford. This song is overall beautiful and heartbreaking to listen to. It's one of his best songs, and I'd give it a 5/5.

MHS Volleyball

By: Lilly Freeman

Last weekend on Saturday, October 28th, our girls traveled to Salem to play the Western Christian Pioneers as their first game for state. The Lady Dragons played hard but just couldn't obtain the win losing 0-3. Thankfully they didn't go uncheered for, as about 15 students from our school traveled with them to show their support! The girls put up a fight for every point they earned, after talking to some of the girls on the team they said that this was one of the best teams they played this year and their hitting was unmatched.

Since the girls sadly lost their first game of state their volleyball season came to an end. Overall the girls showed great improvement from the beginning of the year and the school couldn't be happier with that. The school as a whole is very excited to watch the girls play again next year however, we will miss Mikayla, our only senior dearly!!

Polls & Exotic Animals

Polls

Hannah Smith

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Strawberries wins the poll with fifty votes to Raspberries forty five

Strawberries are a commonly consumed fruit, they are red and delicious. Strawberries have small seeds not tasted but felt on the outside of the fruit. A strawberry is a widely grown hybrid species of the genus fragaria. The fruit is greatly appreciated for its characteristic aroma, bright color, juicy texture and sweetness. It is consumed in large quantities, either fresh or in prepared fruits like jam, juice, pies, icecream, and milkshakes. The artificial flavoring or smell of strawberries is also a very big seller. People buy it in things like soaps, lip glosses and perfumes. Strawberries were first bred in France in the 1700's.

Raspberries are a fruit that is very popular, raspberries are perennials meaning that the plant flowers and produces fruit more than once. They need ample sun and water for optimal development. Raspberries thrive in well drained soil with a ph between 6 and 7, they want lots of organic matter to assist in retaining water. As a plant cultivated in warm, moist temperate regions it is easily grown and has a tendency to spread unless pruned. Escaped raspberries often appear as garden weeds and can at first be thought to be black berries.

Amur Leopard

By Mikayla Smith

With only about 30 individuals left in the wild the Amur leopard is both an endangered and rare to see animal. What makes the Amur leopard different from others is their lighter color coat with very dark, distinct, and unbroken rings that are more spaced out and larger than many others.

They are one of the eight different subspecies of leopard and are found only in far east Russia and north eastern China. These animals need a cold climate and have thick fur adapted to blend better in the snow. The males normally weigh around 71-110 pounds while females weigh around 55-94 but these leopards can still manage to take down prey up to three times their size.

Although there are a little less than 200 captive Amur Leopards, this species is still one of the world's most endangered big cats and is classified as critically endangered on the IUCN red list.

Source: <https://conservewildcats.org/resources/amur-leopard-facts/#:~:text=The%20Amur%20Leopard%20or%20Far,are%20now%20around%20100%20individuals.>