



A step back to normal: Fifth grade class returns to full class schedule

By Natalie Teal, *The Cardinal*
March 31, 2021

WAITSBURG (The Cardinal)—Waitsburg Elementary School welcomed the entire fifth grade as they shifted to a four-day, full-class schedule on March 8 of this year.

Mark Pickel, Elementary Principal and Superintendent of the Waitsburg School District, is delighted that the fifth grade students have reunited. He believes that the return will be a healthy change for the young class.

Mr. Pickel says the idea was proposed at one of the elementary school meetings. Due to the class' small size—12 students, to be precise—the students were able to be grouped together while maintaining the six-foot social distancing requirement and the idea received positive reception across the board. From then on, the entire Fifth Grade has enjoyed class together within elementary walls.

Although the rejoining of the fifth grade is a pandemic milestone to celebrate, if COVID-19 numbers rise in Walla Walla County, Mr. Pickel warns, the fifth grade may have to return to the A/B hybrid schedule.

Fifth Grade Student Ellie Teal, 10, gave *The Cardinal* her perspective on the return to a full-class schedule. Ellie finds her experience with her class similar to school pre-COVID-19, excluding Wednesdays, which are reserved for sanitation and selected assistance.

Her stress, induced by hours of work with little help and instruction, has lessened since her four-day return as she engages in active, comprehensive learning and experiences a foreign thing to many

young students during the pandemic: camaraderie.

On Thursday, Governor Jay Inslee of Washington State announced a reduction in the social distancing requirements from six feet to three feet. A source then told *The Cardinal* that because of this reduction, Waitsburg School District may follow the Fifth Grade in returning to school full-time.

This step taken by our district, seemingly minute to the fifth-graders who have experienced a mere fraction of their lives, is momentous for all of society. Perhaps the road to normal isn't so long after all.

Upcoming spring sports

By Kaylee White, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

Good news for spring sports programs. Gov. Inslee has announced the much anticipated move to Phase 3 of the reopening plan. The move went into effect March 22. The recovery plan will lift restrictions on spectators for outdoor sporting events, and an increased capacity in indoor spaces by 50%. It's been a chaotic year since the pandemic interrupted spring sports at our school and things are finally looking up.

Spring sports practices are set to begin Monday, March 29th. Proposed first game schedules: DW Baseball @ Riverview April 10/ DW Softball @ Mabton April 6 / DW Golf April 5th @ TCP

COVID-19 updates

By Brandon Leroue
March 22, 2021

Washington state and the entire United States will soon have a big supply of the vaccines by next month, which could mean students and other people will start receiving the vaccines for the COVID pandemic. This could mean that school will return to normal or will stay the same, but with no mask requirement.

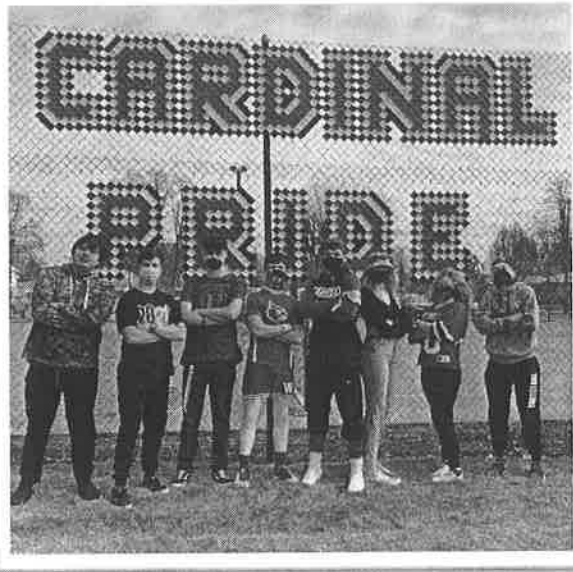
"Residents who are in Phase 1B2 will be able to receive their COVID vaccine beginning March 17," according to the Walla Walla County Department of Health website.

Walla Walla County went into phase 3 on the 22nd of March, which means less restrictions of people and more things people can do with their free time.

Senior Spotlight

By Katherine Houchin, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

This article contains some interesting facts about the seniors at WHS who attend school on Monday/Tuesday. I asked each senior three questions: #1: Hobbies? #2: Best Memory at Waitsburg High School? #3: Plans for next year?

Alvin Knowles #1: Playing video games and hanging with friends #2: Homecoming Week #3: Becoming a firefighter	Shawn Evans #1: Lifting and playing football #2: Hanging with friends #3: Go to college and play football	Grant Teal #1: Video games #2: The day the seniors get to graduate #3: Get a job making video games
Kat Houchin #1: Riding dirt bikes, playing sports and being with friends #2 The hype of sports games #3: Going to college to study fire science	Garrett Korslund #1: Sports, Working on cars/trucks #2: Sports #3: Working full time for Mark Lambert and going to WWCC for diesel mechanics	Colton VanBlaricom #1: Playing basketball and lifting #2: Homecoming week #3: Graduate college and own a gym
Koby Harris #1: RC car racing #2: FFA state convention #3: Going to CITC and becoming an electrician		



Karen Huwe
Monday-Tuesday Seniors pose after being successful in Homecoming activities

OP-ED

Is it safe to travel?

By Owen Yost, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

Many people are ready for Spring Break, but there is a question as to whether it is safe for people to travel this year. Yes, it is safe to travel.

Flying during COVID-19 is available, but you need a negative COVID test. Before you travel, get tested with a viral test (versus an antibody test) 1-3 days before your flight. A passenger also needs to wear a mask during the flight and in public crowds.

Oregon is open and ready for visitors, but you still have to wear a face mask, when in public. You can still go to the Oregon Coast and still enjoy spring break.

Washington is in Phase 3, so traveling will be a little bit better now. Seattle will be ok to travel to and you are good to go. The closest thing I could find was that Montana is in phase 1B but you can still go visit there for spring break. These are two places you can go for spring break, but there is a lot more.

Before you travel do some research on where you are going and find what you need and what you have to do when you get there. But the answer is yes, it is safe to travel during COVID-19.

SPORTS



Focus on senior volleyball player: Teagen Larsen

By Shawn Evans, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

Dayton-Waitsburg volleyball strolled past Riverview March 13th to reclaim themselves as a strong winning team. Teagen Larsen, one of the captains of the volleyball team, has been on a roll trying to get back what Dayton-Waitsburg once had as a winning team and she's done just that as a leader to others.

On the DW volleyball team there are three seniors, two juniors, one sophomore, and eight freshmen. These ladies are determined and will do whatever it takes to win and fight each and every night to get better and better.

Teagen Larsen, as a captain, is in charge of getting her team ready to go every night and day to stay positive and gain strength throughout the season. As Teagen and her squad prepared to take on Burbank, I had some important questions to ask her to clarify the positive motives during this season for DW volleyball.

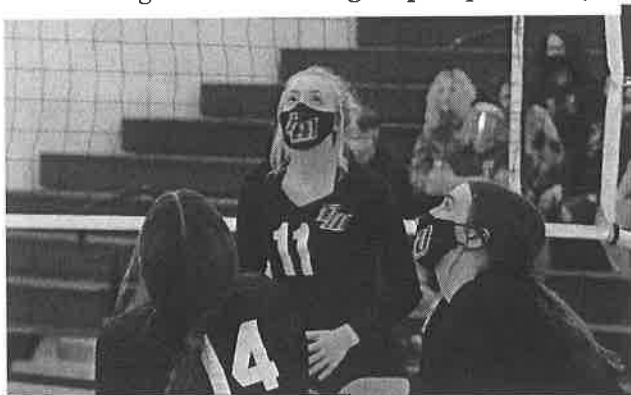
I asked Teagen how well she thought the volleyball team fought to get their first win. "To win we need to learn how to fight. Working hard for the main goal is what brings that special light to sports itself, getting better is what sparks love within the sport. After beating Riverview it added a new type of fire for us because we now know what it takes to win

at that level. This is very good because it shows the younger players of the game that they are capable of. I hope to encourage underclassmen to continue playing volleyball along with other sports but to also not be scared to make big plays during the big moment."

Teagen Larsen will keep helping others around her to get better and she hopes to influence others in a positive way before she heads off to college this fall. When asked the final question about her team and her will to win she stated, "I want to show the girls that winning and competitive volleyball is fun, being able to stay with a team or totally dominate is a feeling that is like no other."



Senior Teagen Larsen smiling it up on picture day

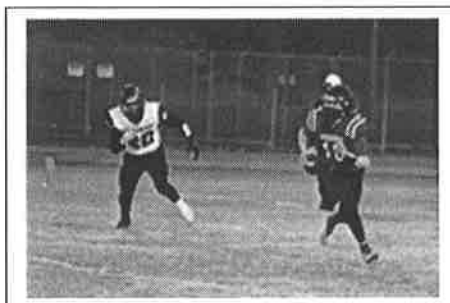


Photos courtesy of Scott Kirk

DW football finds success

By Cardinal Staff

Coaches and players were hopeful when it was learned that a shortened football schedule would become a reality during the 2020-2021 school year. Practice began the week of February 15 with the first game to be played on February 27. Dayton-Waitsburg players had been working on their own during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the hope that a football season would happen. It seemed that this hard work has paid off with victories and lessons learned with a few losses. Crowds were limited during the first games, but DW fans could watch the game on the EWAC Athletics Facebook page. The last home game versus Riverview found fans on both sides of the gridiron. The DW football season will come to a close with a crossover game on Tuesday, March 30. Congratulations to the DW football team.



DW Game Results
 February 27: DW 38-Highland 0
 March 5: TCP 41- DW 16
 March 13: DW 32-Mabton 20
 March 19: Riverview 41-DW 6
 March 25: C-B 54- DW 6



Photos by Scott Kirk



BUSINESS

Bluewood 2020-2021 season

By Jay Dimak, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

This year Bluewood has gotten a lot of snow. There have also been many changes on the mountain. They have the new hub where the rentals are. There is a lot more room in it than the old rental shop. Bluewood management also put in a new yurt down at the bottom of the hill for online tickets.

The 2020-2021 season has seen a lot of people at Bluewood. The parking lot is full almost every weekend. At the beginning of the year, no one was allowed to eat inside, but now that we are in phase 3 there are 80 people allowed upstairs.

On March 12th Bluewood had to close because the lift broke and they were able to get everyone off before shutting it down. They got it up and running again on March 18. Bash is scheduled for March 26 and 27 and the last day Bluewood will be open will be April 4.



Photos from Ski Bluewood's Facebook page

LOCAL

Homecoming 2020-2021

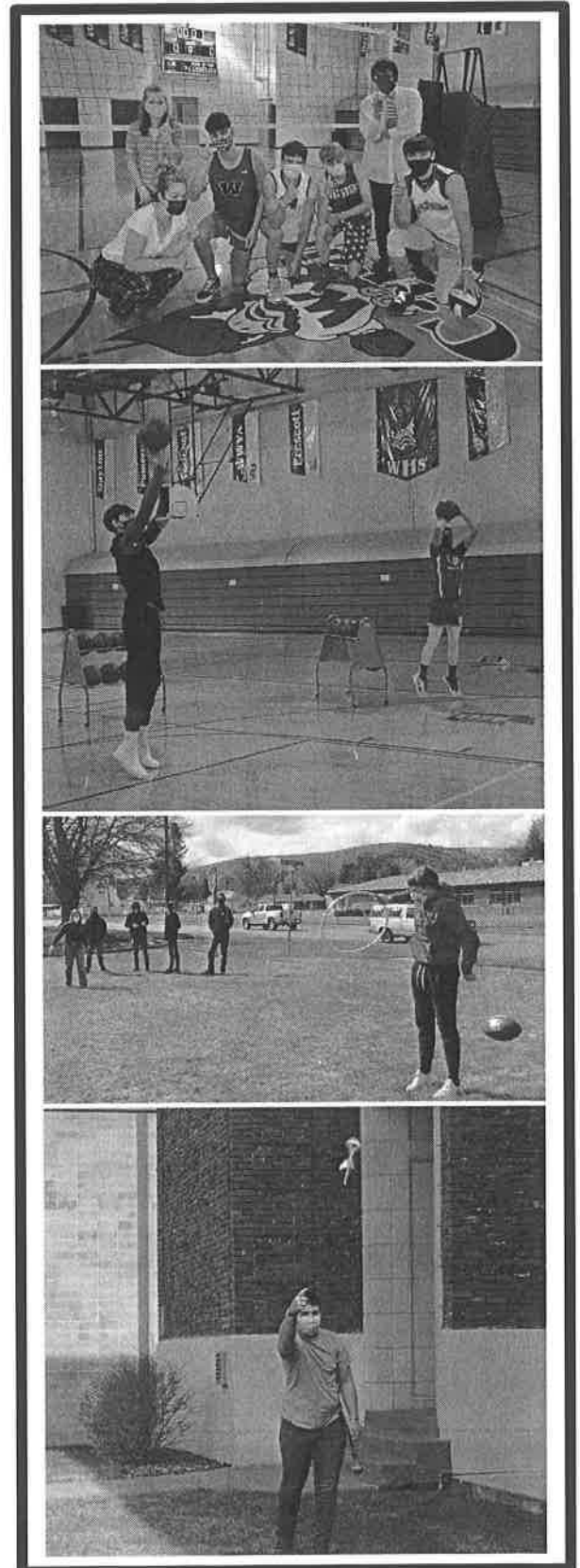
By Teagen Larsen, *The Cardinal*
March 22, 2021

This year has been nothing but new beginnings. It has been a full 365 days since quarantine hit the United States and shutting everything down. Classes have lost all high school experiences, until now, but on a smaller scale. Our staff decided to bring some spirit and fun to the classrooms with putting on a Homecoming Week. Usually Homecoming Week is led up with days of dressing up, class competitions, pink out volleyball night, the infamous football game, and then the big dance. The week leading up to the dance is some of the most fun I ever got to experience throughout high school.

This year we only get two days, no big sports games, and no big dance to lead up to, but we are going to make the most out of it. We started the week off with our "Zoom" dress up day, a nice top and some casual bottoms. The boys of the class got to also compete in "buff puff" (boys playing volleyball) for one of the activities the seniors got to choose. Every year "buff puff" is an event the boys look forward to because it is an opportunity to dress up in some fun clothes and then play a game of volleyball. This year we were able to live stream the game for all the kids who don't get to come to school on Monday and Tuesday and also all the parents. There wasn't much cheering and competitiveness, but from my point of view as a senior, it was fun to be able to win and see the boys in my class have fun one more time.

Our final day, the competitions to win it all. Our high school did a round robin sort of rotation where we had four different activities. We started in the gym with half of the class shooting free-throws and the other half shooting three pointers, next was corn hole, one at a time we got to throw three bean bags. The second to last activity was two of the girls from the class got to throw, underhand, or toss and pray a football into four different garbage bins that were all different level points. Lastly, there were four sets of partners, the first four got to catch while the others got to throw water balloons. There were four different levels of lines and we had five chances per line to get as many points as possible. Each activity was timed in a ten minute time period except the balloon toss.

In all, I thought working as a class to get as many points as possible was really fun and brought us closer. This was a short week and different from any Homecoming I have had before, but I still was able to feel the spirit throughout the school and this the beginning of something new for the future as well.



Photos courtesy of Karen Huwe

Homecoming 101

By Brandy Davis, *The Cardinal*
March 25, 2021

Waitsburg High School celebrated Homecoming Monday and Tuesday, March 15, 16, and Thursday and Friday, on March 18 and 19.

Do you know what Homecoming is and who plans it? Homecoming traditionally is a college level event where high schools bring alumni back to their high school for the first home football game. But now Homecoming is the last home football game and is open to grades 9th through 12th. Homecoming is normally planned by seniors and the senior class advisor.

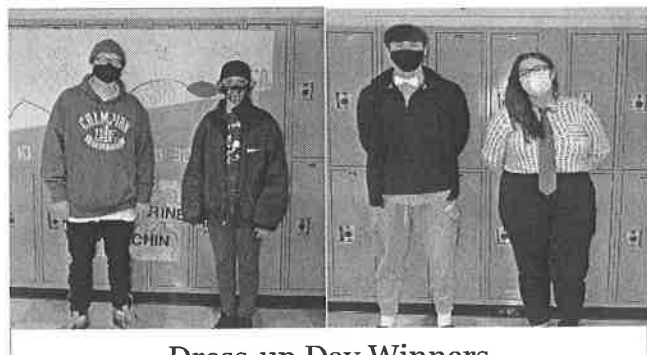
What normally takes place at Homecoming is dress-up days throughout the week, class competitions, pep assemblies, field night, Homecoming court, football games, volleyball games, and the Homecoming dance itself. All the activities and organizing of the dance is done by the seniors.

Why do we have Homecoming? Well we have Homecoming to represent school spirit.

Homecoming activities, games, and the dance itself is traditionally held at the school.

And lastly Homecoming Week is traditionally near the last home football game, but sometimes the schedule dictates the timing.

Homecoming 2020-2021 was a success and we look forward to a fall Homecoming next year.



Dress-up Day Winners

B Group: Spirit Day

Quentin Marcum and Abbi Paolino

A Group: ZOOM Meeting Day

Shawn Evans and Natalie Teal

Photos Courtesy of Karen Huwe

Homecoming Results

DRESS-UP DAYS

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
75	30	35	60

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Monday: Natalie Teal and Shawn Evans

Tuesday: Teagen Larsen and Blake French

Thursday: Abbi Paolino and Jasper Morrow

Friday: Abbi Paolino and Quentin Marcum

BUFF PUFF VOLLEYBALL (Monday)

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	15	5	10

SIGN PAINTING COMPETITION (Thursday)

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
15	20	10	5

CLASS COMPETITIONS (Tuesday)

Corn Hole

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	5	15	10

Free Throws

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	5	10	15

Three-Point Shots

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	5	15	10

Balloon Toss

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	7.5	15	7.5

Football Toss

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
75	30	35	60

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Corn Hole: Colton VanBlaricom; **Free Throws:** Shawn Evans; **Three-point Shots:** Colton VanBlaricom; **Football Toss:** Aubri Araya; **Balloon Toss:** Brayden Mohny and Theo Anderson

CLASS COMPETITIONS (Friday)

Bowling Volleyball

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	5	15	10

Corn Hole

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
5	15	10	20

Football Toss to Hula Hoop

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
15	5	10	20

Lawn Darts

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
15	7.5	7.5	20

Tug-a War

SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
20	15	10	5

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Corn Hole: Jasper Morrow; **Football Toss to Hula Hoop:** Hendrix Groom to Monte Pettichord & Abbi Paolino to Lesli Gomez; **Lawn Darts:** Brandon Thompson

The heap of the month

By Zac Bly, *The Cardinal*
March 25, 2021

Have you ever seen a vehicle so ugly you just had to stare? If you have then I have the story for you. I was walking out of school one day and saw the ugliest truck I have ever seen. This truck is owned by Jay Dimak, a sophomore at Waitsburg High School. Jay's pick up is a silver 1989 Toyota pickup truck. He bought this pick up for \$4,500 from a man in Walla Walla, however he has put over \$7,300 in modifications.

Jay has added many different modifications to the truck starting with the big 37" Iroks with beadlocks, with a welded front and rear end and has a full roll cage. Now you may be asking yourself why this truck is the Heap of the Month. It has been chosen because once you actually need to get somewhere with the truck it just breaks down. His truck has had numerous mechanical breakdowns with the time that he has had it.

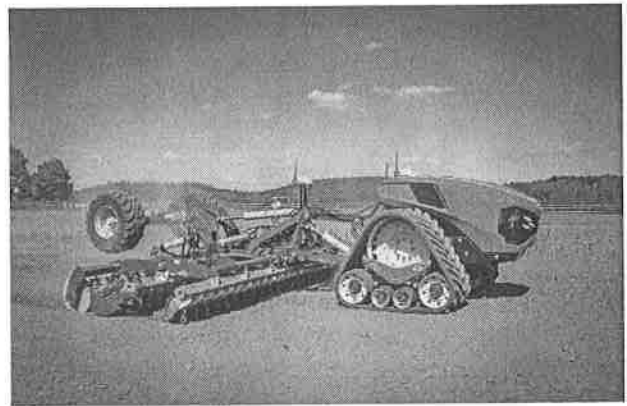
The lesson one can learn from "The Heap of the Month" is that no matter what you add onto a car, it doesn't change the mechanical problems beneath. With these add-ons to the truck it may look nice; however, it's a real heap.



Photo Courtesy of Jay Dimak

Is the future of farming fully electric?

By Garrett Korslund, *The Cardinal*
March 23, 2021



John Deere

John Deere is engineering electric tractors, but they won't be for sale this decade. The reason for electric tractors is to reduce emissions and electricity is cheaper than fuel.

John Deere has a prototype called "The Joker" which is a fully autonomous electric tractor with articulated steering and a tracked single axle. Electric tractors will help reduce emissions. Electricity is also cheaper than fuel and the Joker helps with soil protection.

Nicolai Tarasinski, who has been involved in the development of electric drive lines for over 20 years says, "John Deere is the Tesla of agriculture as far as electrification is concerned. ...the Joker weighs under 5 tons, has a 250 kilowatts electric drive, a 250 kilowatts PTO drive and two 250 kilowatts power outputs for implements and machines. That's 1 megawatt combined."

Electric tractors will have to have a long battery life and a way to charge at the field to be a success but if engineers can find a way I think they will be very successful.

ENTERTAINMENT

MARCH WORDS Created by Emilie Bundy

E	M	A	G	I	C	B	M	R	A	W	M	L	O
M	I	T	A	N	U	A	H	C	R	E	P	E	L
E	R	F	Y	A	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E
R	H	E	K	D	L	O	G	F	O	T	O	P	E
A	P	A	C	E	P	M	R	R	R	C	C	Y	T
L	A	S	U	K	I	A	T	A	G	E	R	C	E
D	O	T	L	O	L	R	X	A	R	O	L	W	U
P	R	E	L	P	R	C	G	C	P	N	P	C	I
S	A	S	T	U	G	H	R	A	I	N	B	O	W
W	P	T	P	N	K	C	L	O	V	E	R	B	R
C	W	R	R	A	A	D	E	H	C	N	I	P	L
E	N	B	I	I	S	H	A	M	R	O	C	K	R
U	C	L	S	N	C	E	D	A	R	A	P	K	U
L	P	E	A	C	G	K	N	E	E	R	G	M	T

MARCH
 PINCHED
 GREEN
 LORAX
 CLOVER
 POTOFGOLD
 LEPERCHAUN
 LUCKY
 MAGIC
 WARM
 PATRICK
 EMERALD
 RAINBOW
 SPRING
 CELEBRATE
 SHAMROCK
 FEAST
 PARADE



Words of the month

By Alvin Knowles, *The Cardinal*

March 23, 2021

This month's *Cardinal* sees a new column: Words of the Month. I chose four words from the dictionary that most people have never heard of. I asked some of our WHS students what they think the words mean and here is the real meaning, how many students asked got the definition correct, and a great made up definition.

ereyesterday- the day before yesterday

Total of people that got the word right: 8

quidnunc- A person who seeks to know all the latest news or gossip

Total of people that got the word right: 1

gowpen- the hollow of two hands held together as if forming a bowl

Total of people that got the word right: 1

Petrodollar-A dollar's worth of foreign exchange obtained by petroleum exporting country through sales abroad

Total of people that got the word right: 2

Weird answers

quidnunc- A squid that has a different number of legs

gowpen- A pen that glows and has a cow eraser

Petrodollar- Money for pets

Thanks to everyone who helped me with this column this month. Stay tune for more new words next month.

ENTERTAINMENT

Extraction

By Colton VanBlaricom, *The Cardinal*
March 23, 2021

Released April 24, 2020

Main characters: Tyler Rake, Ovi Mahajan, Saju Rav

Directed by: Sam Hargrave

Produced by: Joe Russo, Anthony Russo, Mike Larocca, Chris Hemsworth

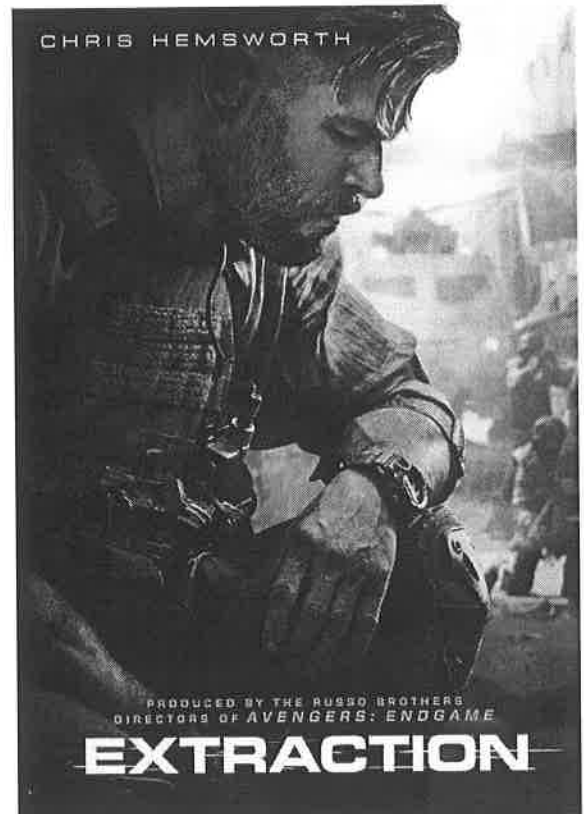
Setting: In a big city of Dhaka, Bangladesh

This movie is about a black-market mercenary who has nothing to lose and is hired to rescue a kidnapped son of an imprisoned international crime lord. But in the murky world of weapons dealers and drug traffickers, a ruthless job already gets even more dangerous.

I really liked this movie because even with the violence at the end, it shows if you come together as one you can get through anything you're going through.

I disliked the way the movie ends. It is a confusing ending and a betrayal.

This movie is informative for those who want to watch because it really shows you what people have to go through in other countries and how lucky we are in the United States because we are a free country.



THE CARDINAL STAFF

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