

# The Epic

## Winter Homecoming

by Kaylee Campy  
Staff Writer

For the last homecoming of this school year, I'd say that winter homecoming of 2017 was a success. The theme of the dance was "Fire and Ice" which I personally thought was a very unique theme. The decorations of the bright "flames" at the bottom of the walls and the "ice" draped above your heads as you enter the gym really embellished the theme of the homecoming.

The music provided by DJ J Dub was awesome! He played tons of really good songs that got everyone hype and dancing. It was clear to see that everyone was forgetting their worries and dancing amongst their peers to the hit songs. The lighting was also very cool and set the tone of the dance; nothing says party like an awesome light system!

Everyone looked very nice. The guys looked so handsome in their suits, and the ladies looked beautiful in their dresses. As you look around, all you would see are friends having a great time together and that is what truly makes homecoming so great. The senior girls homecoming court included Sydney Early, Payton Ream, Delaney Snyder, and Hayley McElroy. The senior boys homecoming court included Joe

Kugler, Ben Frazier, Carter Wisser, and Alex Guy. The two seniors that were crowned king and queen were Payton Ream and Joe Kugler. These two in my opinion were very well deserving of the title, but it was very hard to chose speaking that everyone is deserving as well.

I had the opportunity to interview Joe on his experience. He stated, "being on homecoming court was amazing, and I got to walk with one of my best friends. And we all laughed and just had a great time." While continuing our interview I asked Joe if he had any advice for underclassmen that want to be on court. He stated, "My advice for underclassmen would be just to be nice to everyone, always try to make friends with anyone you see and try your best to be outgoing. Don't be afraid to say something if you think it's funny and always say what's on your mind. Most importantly, just be honest with people." Overall Joe said his homecoming experience was "phenomenal."

It was a bittersweet feeling as it was this years seniors last homecoming, so for the underclassmen take this advice. Even if you don't have a date or dances aren't your thing at least go to a few homecomings even with your friends because trust me, it will



Magic Moments

Homecoming Queen and King: Payton Ream and Joe Kugler

be worth it. You will have an absolute blast as I know I did. They will be memories that you will hold onto for a very long time believe it or not. So take a chance, go with friends or a date, and have some fun

because I promise you won't regret attending a homecoming dance at East Palestine High School!

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## A Day of Rememberance

by Andrew Bowser  
Staff Writer

There are many definitions as to what serving our country is. These might include community service, donating services, or becoming more involved in government politics. However, the most notable act of service is to protect our great country. These brave men and women protect us willingly even though one might encounter death as a result. There is no greater honor or sacrifice.

Interpreting how one might go about celebrating Veterans Day can be rather simple, but it can also be drawn out into

a larger statement. Veterans Day is most importantly a reminder of those who spent their lives maintaining our prosperity. Whether they fought in the treacherous dunes of the Middle East or vigilantly stand guard at base we, as Americans, must remember their service. If we forget those who guarded our peace, we forget our family. Not remembering is only one of the horrid insults given to those who serve our great country.

To show that we remember, we could wear something patriotic such as red, white, and blue or dress formally to show our respect towards our veterans. To further remind those who are not aware,

veterans could wear their uniform. One of the best ways to show our gratitude is to celebrate peace. The longer peace and freedoms in this country lasts the louder their sacrifice echoes through time. So read the Constitution, make note of rights others currently do not have, express your opinion, but most of all spend time with your family for potentially one of them may become a veteran. In the future, sons and daughters will hold the mantle of responsibility in protecting our country. In other words, set a good example and show people how lucky they are just to be here. The voice of an individual can help reinforce the sacrifice our veterans make.



School  
News



Cupid's  
Arrow



Winter  
Homecoming



# Take One

by Brock Wagner  
Staff Writer

On November 22nd, 2016 the annual One Acts Competition showcased each class in a short one act play.

The freshman performed a skit called, Rapunzel: Uncut. A husband (Aidan Bowser) and his wife (Faith Melnick) are about to have a baby. When Aidan was asked about his experience participating in One Acts for the first time, he stated "my experience with One Acts was really fun but nerve racking...the practices were always fun!"



Glendon Dowd  
Best Actor

The sophomores had such a phenomenal performance, they were awarded best play. Their skit was titled, "That's Not How I Remember It." A husband (Micah Beal) and his wife (Amber Huff) are telling their son how they met, but they seem to remember it differently.

The junior class cast found themselves taking a humorous stab at telling scary stories. The narrator (Hamilton Taggart) attempted to tell a scary story, but he kept getting interrupted by other scary stories. These interruptions came from a janitor, audience member, and the narrator's wife. One Acts participant Joe Kusior commented, "My experience for the junior class One Acts was a great one this year! Since my freshman year, I have been nagged about One Acts and all the fun I missed out on...and they were right! During rehearsals and prop making, we had a lot of crazy things happen; but in the end, it was really entertaining! [The] best part of One Acts was when Gabe tackled Seth and took him to the floor. Our director, Katie Kimmel, deserves a lot of credit for having to put up with us! As much fun as we had, the end production was worse than what we wanted."

The seniors put a twist on a war of



Magic Moments

The Senior Class One Act Cast: Kendra Hoover, Hannah Darlington, Mackenna Elick, Joe Kugler, Adam Klein; Jacob Watkins, Ben Frazier, Brock Wagner, Kyle Zimmerman, Dustin Molyneux

mythical proportions, The hilarious history of the Trojan War (Music included and directed by Homer (Ben Frazier). They started with Paris (Kyle Zimmerman) leaving Sparta with Helen (Hannah Darlington), the Queen of Sparta. Once they arrived to Troy, Paris's creepy sister, Cassandra (MacKenna Elick) is there to meet and tell them to take Helen back to Sparta. Cassandra hears Apollo and Zeus (Adam Klein) calls Athena (Callista Bartosh) and Hera (Kendra Hoover) to see if they want to play their favorite game, WAR. Cassandra informs Hector (Adam Klein) of the upcoming war with the Spartans. Odysseus (Joe Kuglar) and Ajax (Shane Browne) near the gates of Troy, only to be stopped by a guard (Benjamin Frazier). While talking with the guard, the

tyrannical Agamemnon (Kendra Hoover) wants the war to start. The war goes on then out of nowhere Achilles (Jacob Watkins) and King Menelaus (Callista Bartosh) come to fight. Achilles fights Hector and kills him. Then, Achilles is killed by an arrow, fired by Paris.

The seniors had cast members that suffered from the problem of forgetting their lines. The seniors also dedicated their play to fallen fellow classmate, Trevor Walker.

Mr. Chiporo walked out for the annual awards. He handed the awards to the following people:

Best Supporting Actor: Colton Cook

Best Supporting Actress: Faith Melnick

Best Actor: Glendon Dowd

Best Actress: MacKenna Elick

Best Play: The class of 2019 for their second year in a row

As usual for One Acts, the other classes demand a recount of the votes and wonder if there was even some prejudice among the judges. Overall, the One Acts was a night to remember. If you haven't experienced One Acts, come watch the One Acts next year to gain a new high school experience. You might even want to participate! The Drama Club's next performance is March 17th through the 19th, they will be performing The Sound of Music.



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Good Luck  
Basketball Cheerleaders





# Operation Christmas Child

by Brooke Ream  
Staff Writer

Have you ever heard of Operation Christmas Child? Well, if you haven't let me just tell you, it is truly amazing. Many of us here at EPHS have many things that we take for granted. But there's children all around the world that don't have the luxuries that we have here.

Operation Christmas Child changes gives us the opportunity to make a difference in people's lives all around the world. During this event, boxes and bins are placed out in the hallways, so we can put pencils, stuffed animals,

school supplies, hygiene products, and other supplies in there for children all around the world that need them. When we have all supplies collected, Mrs. Spanos and the rest of Rotary Interact put together boxes of different supplies and send them out to children all around the world who can't afford things for Christmas and who might really need them.

So, next time we have collection for Operation Christmas Child, make sure you help out. You could make a huge difference in someone else's life!

"Operation Christmas Child changes...gives us the opportunity to make a difference."  
~ Brooke Ream

# Get Pepped With The Band

by Brooke Ream  
Staff Writer

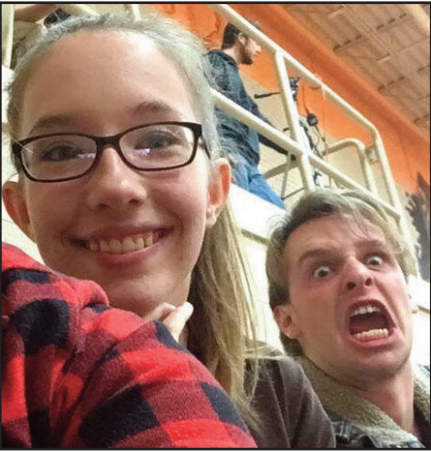
As the football season comes to a close, basketball season is just beginning. But do you know what else begins? Pep band! Pep band is like a mini version of marching band. People that were in marching band can volunteer to attend the boy's basketball home games and play stand tunes to get everyone pumped for our big wins.

This year, some regulars in pep band are Brock Wagner,

Amy Carson, Courtney Stewart, Tori Mollenkopf, Reanna Bell, Glendon Dowd, and Emily Anderson.

Pep band is also a great way that you can stay close to your section even when there's still people in a lower grade.

If you're in marching band, I definitely recommend participating in pep band. All you do is sign your name on the paper in the band room or speak to Mrs. Mollenkopf.



Brooke Ream  
Courtney Stewart and Sam Dowd at Pep Band

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Mrs. Laura Spanos

Pictured above is Rotary Interact hard at work packing shoe boxes.











Good Luck to all  
winter sports  
athletes  
and  
best of wishes to  
all  
senior athletes!  
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# The 45th President

by Andrew Bowser  
Staff Writer

As of December 19, 2016, the Electoral College has confirmed Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States, although there is still much controversy as to whether or not he should be President. For example, people (mainly his non supporters) have speculated that the Russians may have hacked the election results in Trumps favor. However, there has been no clear evidence to support this claim. For his supporters time will tell as to whether or not Trump will keep his promises, the electors have decided and not much can change the fact that Donald Trump is now our President.

Ever since the election many things have changed. People who disapprove of Trump winning the presidency have gone out to protest and even sometimes riot. People in California are also thinking of what they call "Calexit" which is a reference to the United Kingdom leaving the European Union (otherwise known as "Brexit" Britain and exit combined into one phrase). Not only that, but on November 9, 2016 the Canadian immigration website actually crashed due to the overwhelming amount of visits from, assumably, people attempting to leave due to the election results. The reactions of Trump becoming president have erupted protest and sometimes riots around the country.

On the contrary, some good has come out of Trump's victory. Before the election tensions with Russia were building considerably due to actions taken place in Syria and the fact that they were already being accused of hacking the results before the election was over. The tensions partly caused the U.S. DEFCON level (alert status used by U.S. armed forces) to be on level 3 (5 being peaceful, 1 meaning war), but after the election the DEFCON level changed to a reassuring 5. This could also be

a reason as to why people speculate a Russian hack or interference to the election. A majority of Russians, according to interviews done by BBC, believe that Trump will bring peace and friendship between our two nations. Who wouldn't want to have an alliance between two of the world's most powerful countries?

Ever since Trump's Inauguration on January 23, 2017, he has already begun giving out executive orders. One of his most notable orders so far, given out on January 24, 2017, was to revive the Keystone Pipeline previously rejected by former President Obama. Trump has also decided to withdraw U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (trade agreement between U.S., Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam designed to create a single market like that of the European Union) in an effort to economically benefit America. Last, but not least in importance, Trump has ordered to scale back parts of Obamacare. It is not certain as to which parts will be changed exactly, but it suggests a large impact possibly even dismantling it. So far, according to the New York Times, Trump's decisions seem to be based on contradicting Obama's choices as president.

Time will tell as to if Trump will create a positive outcome for the U.S. as the 45th president. This election itself was unexpected considering that most poles predictions were not in favor of him. This election has also caused more people to question our system for electing the President, the Electoral College. As for the people protesting Trump winning, some people need to remember that after every election there is a peaceful transition of power. Peaceful protest is a right of Americans, but acts of violent protest for reasons such as this are dangerous to our society. Now, as we have done every other election, we must band together as Americans to further benefit the prosperity of our great country.

"...we must band together as Americans to further benefit the prosperity of our great country."  
~ Andrew Bowser

## World News Run Down With Cameron

by Cameron Mitchell  
Staff Writer

With the world always changing around us it is always good to keep up to date with what is going on.

Presidential News:

We are starting the year off with Donald Trump being inaugurated into office on the 20th of January. Trump is as disliked as he is liked becoming our new president. Many riots have broken out over Trump winning, and many people claim that Trump is not their president. Some have even gone as far as getting tattoos that say "Trump is not my president." Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, and Jeb Bush went to Trumps inauguration and showed their support even though Trump beat them.

West African Tension:

The President of Gambia is refusing to leave office as his term comes to an end. Yahya Jammeh had lost the election to Adama Borrow last month but refuses to leave and the Senegalese Military is on standby on the border of Gambia. Senegal's President

Macky Sall claims that he is ready to take control if Jammeh does not back down.

Weather:

A report from NASA came out stating that 2016 was the hottest year recorded in history. Also, an iceberg the size of Rhode Island separated from the main ice flow.

Somalian Devastation:

Islamist militant al-Shabab fighters have launched an attack on a Kenyan military base in southern Somalia where they have claimed to kill more than 50 soldiers and seized a bunch of military vehicles.

Immigration:

Iran is carefully studying Donald Trump's executive order limiting immigration from seven Muslim majority countries. Iran plans to take legal, political and reciprocal measures to set things straight.

To stay up to date on what is going on around the world keep your eyes out for the next paper, or watch the news.



Shane Hamner

Pictured above is Cameron Mitchell

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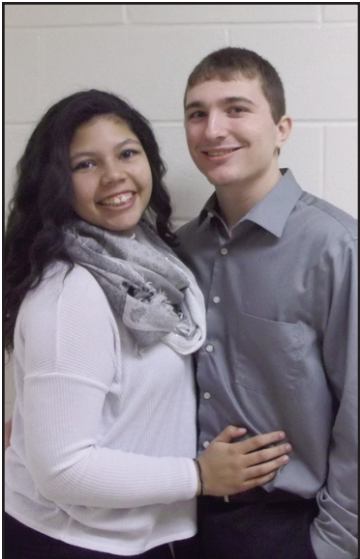


Andrew Bowser

Donald Trump is the 45th President of the United States



# Say What?



## Mazie Jones and Clayton Ginger

Q: How long have you been together?

Both: 9 Months

Q: What is your favorite memory together?

M: We have so many together.

C: Driving around after football games and track meets.

Q: What is the most romantic thing your significant other has done for you?

M: Take me out on dates, and always does nice things for me.

C: She took me through beautiful vacation destinations such as Palestine (East), Lisbon, and Paris.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your partner?

M: Everything. He is pretty great and always

knows how to make me happy. Clayton: Everything.. She's pretty dank.. like my memes.

Q: What's your least favorite thing about your partner?

Both: Not getting enough attention.



## Madyson Pickett and Parker Sherry

Q: How long have you been together?

Both: 10 months

Q: What's your favorite memory together?

M: New Years

P: Surprising her with going ice skating.

Q: What's the most romantic thing your significant other has done for you?

M: Parker got me the Pandora ring I have wanted

for a really long time

Parker: She took me to my favorite restaurant on my birthday. Then, she took me to the movies.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your partner?

M: I love everything about him, but if I just had to choose one thing it would be how important he makes me feel everyday. I love his laugh, too.

P: Her gentle and kind soul that always makes me smile.



## Haliee Hamilton and Clayton Murray

Q: How long have you been together?

H: 2 years, 5 months

C: 907 days, so 2 years, 5 months, 23 days

Q: What's your favorite memory together?

H: When we drove over an hour and a half just to eat pizza.

C: Introducing her to all my family.

Q: What's the most romantic thing your significant other has done for you?

H: Taking me on dates.

C: She gave me a truck.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your partner?

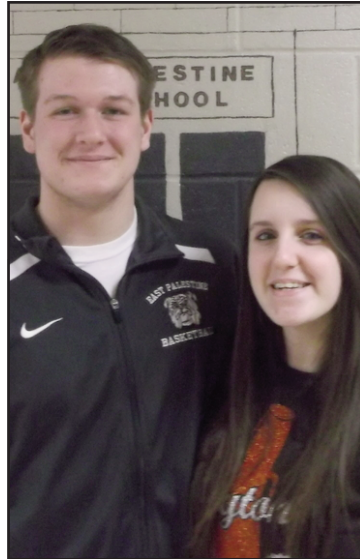
H: Everything, and he has a big heart.

C: Never complains. [She] does everything for me.

Q: What's your least favorite thing about your partner?

H: He's afraid of heights, so we don't get to ride roller coasters or anything like that.

C: Takes my jokes too seriously.



## Payton Ream and Alex Guy

Q: How long have you been together?

P: 3 1/2 years.

A: It was a late summer evening, July 13, 2013

around 9-10 at the movies.

Q: What's your favorite memory together?

P: Going on vacation to the beach.

A: Everyday is a new memory.

Q: What's the most romantic thing your significant other has done for you?

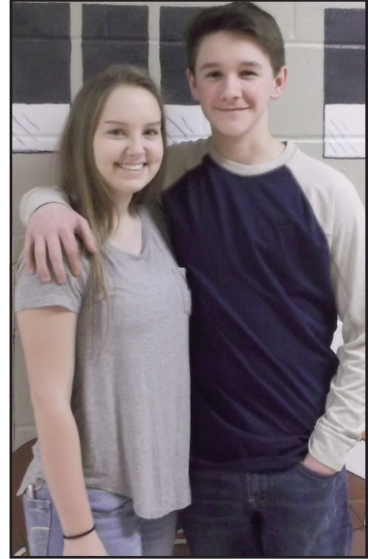
P: Showed up to my work with a pizza.

A: Every Olive Garden date is romantic, especially when she pays.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your partner?

P: How funny he is. He constantly makes me laugh and smile.

A: Her eyes, and loving, caring, and unique personality.



## Harlie Detrick and Jared Lambright

Q: How long have you been together?

Both: 4 years.

Q: What's your favorite memory together?

H: Riding to the races together.

J: New Years 2015-2016.

Q: What's the most romantic thing they have done for you?

H: When he got me a huge teddy bear for

Valentine's Day, or a princess ring for our anniversary.

J: When she drove 7 hours to Indiana to surprise me for my race.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your significant other?

H: That he's very caring and that he is very supportive in softball. He always pushes me to do

my best when I mess up.

J: Her laugh and smile.

# New Year, New You?

by Kaylee Campy  
Staff Writer

Yet again the new year snuck up on all of us, and 2017 is finally here leaving 2016 in the dust. I think we can all agree that 2016 was most definitely a wild and weird ride, with bad times followed with some good times, and then some more bad times.

Now it is the start of 2017, a fresh start to most, or just another year to some. Usually most people will start to create resolutions or goals for the new year. Some popular goals people resort to are drinking more water, losing weight, getting better grades, getting out more, or meeting someone new. All

"Personally, I think everybody should set little goals for themselves from time to time."

~ Kaylee Campy

of these goals are great goals, as they help people better themselves. Personally, I think everybody should set little goals for themselves from time to time. My new year's resolution is to live life to the fullest; I would like to try new things and visit new places.

The problem many people face with their resolutions is

that a month later they either start slacking or even forget about their goals all together. We are all human and it's okay to forget about it or slack. Don't beat yourself up if you do. Here are some easy tips to keep your goals strong as you tackle another year.

First off, make your goal something YOU really want and not what other people suggest to you. It's easy to be persuaded by others, but it's just as easy to slack on a goal if you aren't full heartedly into it.

Secondly, limit your list of goals to a more realistic number. Set one or two goals for yourself rather than a list of many goals, that way you can focus on them more individual-

ly. Next, be realistic about your goals. Sit yourself down and really think about what you want and how you as an individual can attain them. Everyone has different ethics, therefore be very specific with numbers, dates, and details of your goal instead of a broad, vague goal.

Lastly, make a plan of little steps to reach your goal. When you reach each step of the plan reward yourself a little, so you have more incentive to continue until you fully reach your goal.

I asked a few of my fellow peers what their New Year resolutions were and here's what they had to say.

Jordan McCauley simply

stated "graduate."

Austin Hooley said his goal, "I want to better my health and get in shape."

Kaylee Shafer stated she would like to "Finally figure out what direction I want to take in life and what college I want to go to."

I hope that 2017 brings love, luck, health, and happiness to each and everyone. Just remember to not take anything for granted because time doesn't stop for anybody and before we all know it, it will be a whole new year all over again.