

This Week's Trojan Trends

Nathan Allen shooting his ‘shot’

By: Natalie Bunn

Senior Nathan Allen has been throwing in track ever since his eighth grade year. Over the years he has accomplished many things and has had great success.

During Allen’s junior year of high school he went to state for shot put. He may not have placed, but he still did great with a throw of 41 feet. This however is not his current PR. His PR in shot put is now 43 feet.

Allen’s PR’s have grown since his freshman year, in both shot put and discus.

“During freshman year, I only broke 100 feet once in the discus and constantly stayed in the low 30’s in shot put. This year, I haven’t had a throw under 115 feet [in discus] with a [freshman PR of] 27 feet and 43 feet last year in shot put,” said Allen.

With Allen’s PR’s growing in both events, his success at meets did too.

“My technique, distances, and strength have all grown tremendously over the past couple of years. I have started to spin a lot more; my PR’s in lifting have gone up almost 100 pounds for each lift,” said Allen.

Even though he had success, he also had things he needed to overcome.

“Something I had to overcome was my fear of underperforming. If I found that I was good with something, I made it my goal to perfect, and the thought of learning new techniques was scary. However, I was forced and bribed into trying new things which ended up being extremely beneficial for my throws,” said Allen.

After five years Allen has a lot to be proud of, but coming out in front is number one.

“Staying ahead of my competition is something I’m really glad I was able to do. I like hearing when people are trying to beat me and end up not. Warms my soul!! #keepmerelevant #staylosing #eatmydust,” said Allen.

Overall, Allen has had many things to be proud of, and his success has grown a lot. He still has this season to finish, so Allen is still shooting his “shot.”



Wendell High School students are cool for the summer

By: Esmeralda Deniz

As the school year comes to a close, as the countdown starts, three weeks left until summer break begins, Wendell High School students are eagerly looking ahead to their summer plans. From adventurous travel to busy schedules, students are preparing to make the most of their time off. Whether it’s exploring, putting in overtime, planning and investing in their future, or simply relaxing with family, this summer promises to be a season full of growth and excitement for the students of Wendell High.

For Gentry Diamond, a junior at Wendell High School, this summer is all about balancing work and leisure.

"I'll be working and paying off my car, and I plan to travel a lot," said Diamond.

Diamond is focused on saving money for college and ensuring she stays on track with her online classes. When it comes to relaxation, Diamond knows the importance of recharging after a busy school year.

"I plan to get plenty of sleep, hang out with friends, and spend time with my family," said Diamond.

However, she is especially looking

Summer plans Continued on Page 2



Courtesy of Travel Agent Central

Dystopian Delights: Why Dystopian Novels are Captivating to Readers

By: Addy Beorchia

From iconic classics like George Orwell's “1984” to modern blockbusters such as Suzanne Collins's “The Hunger Games,” what is it about these bleak visions of the future that resonates so deeply with readers of all ages?

Dystopian fiction is a subgenre of science fiction that creates a world in which societal issues have reached their most extreme form. These stories often feature oppressive governments and a world in which personal freedoms are limited or nonexistent. Dystopian novels serve as cautionary tales, warning present and future societies about the dangers of unchecked power and the importance of valuing individualism and freedom.

Although dystopian literature has been around for centuries, there seems to have been a resurgence in the popularity of this genre in the 21st century.

Dystopian Continued on Page 2

Growing vegetables and confidence, Wendell High School practices Farm-to-Table

By: Emiliana Vera

While visiting Wendell High School's greenhouse, I got the incredible honor to try a fresh green bean right off the stem, grown by Mr. Scott and his students. His classes have the opportunity to grow their own food, flowers, and soon herbs. This is the first year that they have grown veggies, and the students got to decide what they would be interested in growing.

Lettuce, green beans, chiles, and cucumbers were some of the top choices. Students also get to enjoy the fruits of their labour and eat what they grow.

There is a large push in today's world to grow your own food, and that's where the topic of Farm-to-Table comes in. This exciting movement approaches food in a new way by sourcing ingredients locally.

Farm-to-Table Continued on page 2



Courtesy of Roaring Springs website.

Fun and refreshing summer attraction: Roaring Springs Water Park

By: Miguel Lima

On a hot summer day in Idaho, Roaring Springs Water Park is the place to be. People come to swim, slide, and have fun with family and friends.

The park has something for everyone. Kids can play in the shallow pools, and older visitors can try the big water slides. There’s also a lazy river for people who want to relax.

Dayani Moncada, a 15-year-old, loves the variety of things to do.

“I like that there are many water slides and things to do,” she said.

Jeremy Lima, a six-year-old, enjoys swimming and playing in the water.

“I like to swim and play in the water,” he said.

What keeps people coming back? Moncada says it’s all the fun activities.

“I like the fact that you can do many things,” she said. Lima agrees, “It’s fun and pretty.”

But it’s not always perfect. Sometimes the park gets crowded, and the lines can be long

“I hate that you have to wait a lot in lines when it's busy,” Moncada said.

No trip to the water park is complete without food. Dayani and Jeremy both love the ice cream.

“My favorite food was ice cream,” Dayani said. Jeremy likes it too, along with chips.

“My favorite food was ice cream and chips,” he said.

Whether you’re there to slide, swim, relax, or eat, Roaring Springs is a favorite place for families to cool off and have fun.

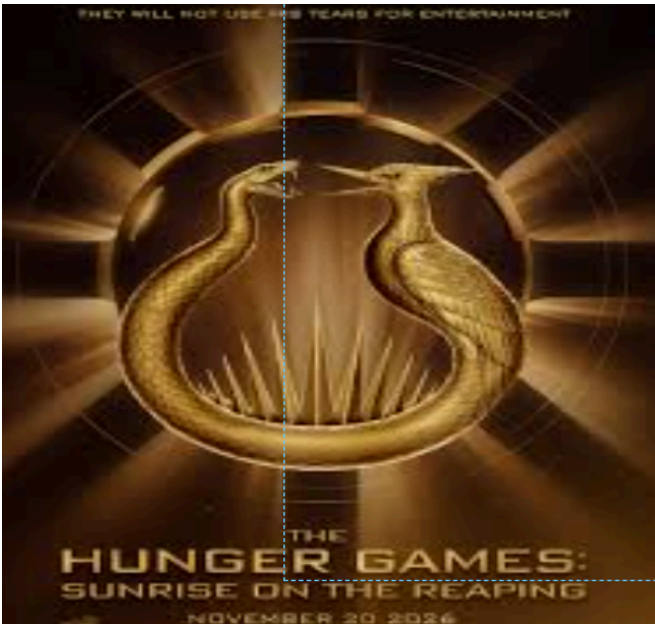
More Trojan Trends...

Continued Summer Plans:

"I plan to get plenty of sleep, hang out with friends, and spend time with my family," said Diamond. However, she is especially looking forward to the opportunity to rest and manage her finances. "I'm excited to not be in debt and come back to school debt-free," said Diamond. Although she still has one more year of high school, Diamond views senior year as a stepping stone. "Senior year doesn't matter. I see it as just the final year before I can leave," said Diamond, showing that she's ready to embrace the next chapter of her life with a sense of independence and anticipation. For Yaritza Deniz, a senior at Wendell High School, this summer will be a busy and exciting one, filled with travel, work, and preparations for her future. "I'll be traveling, working, and getting ready for college," said Deniz. As she prepares for her next step, her main goal is to start her nursing classes and stay ahead of her coursework. "I don't want to fall behind," said Deniz. Despite the hustle, Deniz also plans to unwind and enjoy the summer but also focusing on personal growth. "I'll catch up on sleep, sit outside in the hot air, and get a bright tan," said Deniz, making sure to find time to relax and soak in the summer sunshine. "I want to meet more people and get a small waist." But what also excites Deniz most about the summer is the opportunity to make money and enjoy her freedom. "I'm looking forward to making money and going out as much as possible," said Deniz. As a senior, she also reflected on some of her favorite high school memories, which include "laughing with classmates and going on trips with [her] class year." Some advice she would give to her younger self: "Keep trying even if it gets hard, and show up and be more on time to school." Both Diamond and Deniz have big plans for the summer, with a mix of responsibility and relaxation on the horizon. Whether it's preparing for college, working toward financial goals, or simply enjoying some time off, these students are ready to make the most of their summer break. With just one more year of high school ahead for Diamond and graduation around the corner for Deniz, the future looks bright for these Wendell High School students. As the school year draws to a close, it's clear that summer will be a time for growth, adventure, and making memories. Wendell High School students are embracing the season with enthusiasm and determination, ready to face the challenges and opportunities that await them.



Courtesy of Emiliana Vera



Continued Dystopian

People of all ages can recognize and enjoy what dystopian literature can bring to their lives, as well as seeing some ways that they can resonate with our lives now. "I love the fantasy style of it," said Wendell High School secretary Brandi Clapp. "I think with the example of Hunger Games, you guys have to live in some sort of less intense way of it." Perhaps one of the greatest draws for readers is that they can view the story on the big screen first. "The way I really got into dystopian novels was by watching all 'The Hunger Games' movies," said senior Brylei Beorchia. "I was so intrigued by the movies that I wanted more and read the books." Dystopian novels have been captivating readers for years. People of all ages can use these books as an escape from reality. Others can get into these books by first introducing themselves to the movies, and then using the books as a gateway for more. So all you dystopian fanatics, put these dates on your calendar: The "Hunger Games: Sunrise of the Reaping" movie release date is November 20, 2026, as well as "Pretties" (the sequel to "Uglies") movie is coming late 2026.

Continued Farm-to-Table:

This allows local farms and other producers the ability to bring the freshest ingredients and food to consumers. This, in turn, improves communities and the local economy. It also offers the utmost transparency to consumers because they know exactly where their food is coming from and how it is grown and raised. Along with this, you are also improving sustainability and reducing your carbon footprint by shortening the supply chain and supporting organic and regenerative farming practices. All of these benefits transfer to Mr. Scott and his class, as they are an excellent example of Farm-to-Table in local communities. Mr. Scott is showing his students that they are capable of growing their own food and living a healthy Farm-to-Table lifestyle; they are proof that everyone can do it. Joining a local community-supported agriculture program (CSA) and enjoying a box of seasonal produce every week from a local farmer, starting your own garden, or partnering with local farms for fresher produce in your work or school are a few of the ways you can join this incredible movement. Students at Wendell High School have learned so much, and the class continues to evolve, with future plans of fish tanks and hydroponic towers to offer a soil-free, space-efficient way to cultivate a variety of crops, including herbs. They hope to spread the word and introduce people to a new healthy way of living.

**Freshly Grown
Flowers and
Vegetables for Sale**

**THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
MAY 9TH AND 10TH
10:00 AM-4:00 AM**

**At Wendell
Highschool's
greenhouse**

Emiliana Vera, Trojan Chronicle

Editorials

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History is important to school BY Angel Castillo

What would the world be without history? In school, there wouldn't be any lectures about history nor textbooks or facts about history. History is important to learn and understand since we must know our world's stories from before we were here.

In the source Mooc.org, we learn about culture and how society works despite multiple failures. For instance, let's look back to the past when wars started, ended or treaties were broken. These struggles in history changed the future, perhaps making it better than ever within our society.

One time I worked on a school project with four other students. I used modern books and computers to learn the past about each country, nation, and how they ended up like they are now. It's important to learn about multiple countries as they have a past that was like ours but also different. We can learn from our own and others' history.

The Mooc Blog team suggests that it is better to learn history as it's full of the world's story and how it ended up today. They say it makes us learn from the past and avoid any more mistakes we made before. Lastly, we learn from experience with people around the world and how we were able to survive hard things, like pandemics for instance.

It's very important to know about our past and ancestors to keep us safe. Without history we would be dead or in a pandemic that is impossible to navigate. Consider the Spanish Flu from over 100 years ago. They were advised to wear masks to avoid the spread. Sound familiar? The people of the past learned how to get through challenges, and with the knowledge of history as a tool we must do it as well.

History has over 100 other reasons why it's important to learn and use today; you see it in our daily lives. For example, learning about the evolution of numbers from earlier centuries and how it affects us now. Numbers evolved from Roman numbers to the numbers we now use. We wouldn't have this without history!

On the flip-side, novelinvestor.com argues that history is just a guide for us students, with no new details other than just offering facts of the past. But I say that through history we learn what to avoid, and we will teach the future generations. We make common mistakes all the time, and this loop will never stop. Our future and present will be a guide for the future students.

In conclusion, we must show history our respect. We learn from each other's mistakes; we make new creations that affect time. History is important to learn in order to lead our present now.



Let the Children Play By Randy Garcia

Recess isn't just a break from learning; it's an important part of it. It gives kids time to move, breathe, and refresh their minds so they can focus better in class.

Recess helps students grow in many ways. It supports their bodies, minds, and emotions. Kids run, play, make friends, solve problems, and return to the classroom ready to learn. For example, a student might feel tired and distracted before recess but come back energized and happy after just 15 minutes of play.

Experts say recess improves memory, attention, and behavior. It also helps kids build important social skills like teamwork and problem-solving. Physical activity boosts brain power, and playing together teaches cooperation and emotional control.

Some people think recess is a waste of time that could be used for studying. But without breaks, kids lose focus and struggle to learn. Recess doesn't take away from learning; it helps it.

Recess is where kids feel free and grow stronger. It's not just fun, it's necessary. Taking it away takes away part of what makes school and childhood



Schools give up one day more of school time

By Angel Castillo

What do you see every time you go to school; the fun in classes, how quickly it goes, or how much you get to relax on Fridays. But some schools still have the traditional five-day week experience.

Four-day is better than a five-day school week because we get better time at home than school. Five-day schools have to work more days of the week.

According to NCSL, "A four-day schedule involves reducing the number of school days to four, usually Monday to Thursday, while increasing the length of each school day... The four-day school week has gained popularity over the last decade, especially in rural areas where schools face budgetary constraints and staff shortages."

For example, I go to school Monday to Thursday and then go home and relax for three days. But when I checked out Buhl, they had to go five days to school. I would not want to go through another day at school just to learn and work more.

Nampa Superintendent Gregg Russell explains that 61% of students' grades went up in reading scores due to the four day week and had 500 less substitute teachers to take care of children. Russell had an increasing number of teachers wanting to get the job at his school ever since the four day plan started.

Kids with four days will have better time with their families and will get multiple breaks. With five days, kids will have to spend even more days at school than with their family. We need to get rid of five days to lower school days for students and raise family time.

At school four out of seven days are spent at school while the three days left are restful for us students. But in other schools five out of seven days are school days, making it bad for students as they have to go through one extra day for school.

According to Sweetwaternow, they explained how "four day schools have longer hours, getting home later from activities, and less time to work at school." They also show the opposite view; over 159 people choosing to keep the five days to keep kids educated and hard working. But in truth, by the time we are seniors, we have all the needed hours and actually get release time to spend with families and out of school.

In conclusion, four days is better than five days of school. Students, teachers, and parents prefer four as it's better for them than what five day schedules give.

