

Bulldog Barker

The Student Newspaper of Freedom Area Middle School

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Western Pennsylvania Congressman Conor Lamb visits Freedom High School

LOGAN LARRICK, GRADE 7
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, March 4, the staff of the Bulldog Barker and FHS Press had the heavily anticipated opportunity to meet Western Pennsylvania's U.S. Representative and former U.S. Marine, Conor Lamb, and question him on his political standpoint as well as his opinion on other matters that affect school and the world around us.

When Lamb first got on the stage at the high school he gave a speech about why students should vote in the future and how every vote counts in an election. Afterwards, Lamb told the interviewers he was ready for their questions. But with all the many topics discussed during the visit the main question going through the interviewers' minds were Conor Lamb's views on education.

When asked about his view, Lamb said that the U.S. has over 1.34 billion dollars of student debt and he wants to make higher education free for anyone. However, for someone to be able to be debt free when leaving college they would have to do services



Bulldog Barker staff members Dylan Scheel, Christopher Denkovich, and Joanna Odebode as well as FHS Press members Cade Skuse, Jenna Engel, and Keith Pawlowski stand next to Conor Lamb on Monday, March 4th in the high school auditorium. PHOTO BY CARTER ALTVATTER

for the government. These public services can range from military services, police duty, or working at National Parks. Lamb said that for the government to be able to afford this free higher education he wants to cut funding by giving less tax breaks to people who do not need more money such as the wealthy. Additionally, he wants to make marijuana legal so the government could put tax on the business. Lastly, Lamb wants to give students to skip classes that will not benefit them later on in life so that

students can learn knowledge about what they want to do later in life.

"This will help me with my goal of becoming a petroleum engineer," says Bulldog Barker website editor Dylan Scheel, by allowing him to spend time learning all the work it takes to be a petroleum engineer without having to take classes that he is not interested in.

Overall, Lamb thinks it may be awhile until free higher education is possible but in the lifetime of the students at Freedom it will most likely be implemented.

Smith shares “State of the Building” press conference with Barker staff

MASON GEIBEL, GRADE 8
COPY EDITOR

Recently, the Bulldog Barker staff met with Mr. Smith, Freedom Area Middle School principal, to learn about the state of our middle school. No, this does not mean if it is in Pennsylvania or Florida or even California, what it does mean is the condition of our school, our problems, our successes and what is going on here.

The first topic Smith talked about was programs that FMS has in place to evaluate and improve our school. Our most popular program is the PAWS program. Everyone is familiar with the PAWS Program, which give us standards and goals to live by each day in order to make our school the best it can be. Smith stated that some students are still struggling with doing what they need to do and those students need extra guidance and support until all of their goals can be met. According to Smith, this is what is known as the Tier 2 part of the program. They meet with a mentor each day to set goals, get guidance and have someone to help them until they are able to reach their goals on their own. Tier 2 has been very helpful to those students needing extra support.

Smith also said that FMS staff was chosen to do a presentation at a state conference about our PAWS Program since our school has done such a great job with it. We should all be proud of what we are



Mr. Smith and the Bulldog Barker staff following the press conference during Scholastic Journalism Week. PHOTO BY MRS. MILLER

accomplishing.

Another program that Smith said we were chosen for was a National Testing at the 8th grade level called NAEP. On February 27, fifty 8th grade students were randomly chosen for the testing. Twenty-five took a math test and twenty-five took an ELA test. Their scores will show how Freedom is competing at a national level in our academics.

In addition to these programs, the school is also introducing new policies and safety measures. During part of our time with Mr. Smith, we asked about the school phone policy and whether phones may be taken away from us during class time. Smith said that he does not think that they need to be taken away at this point in time but that they are monitoring the situation. The school's current policy is that phones are to not be

visible and are to be turned off. Smith said that there is a gray area though because some teachers use the phones in class for things such as Quizlets or research. For now, each teacher is deciding on use in their own classroom, but if students are caught misusing the privileges, they will have their phone taken away.

The next policy discussed was safety. When asked about whether our school would be getting metal detectors for safety, Smith said that was not being considered now, but there are other safety changes taking place. FMS received a \$25,000 grant for safety and with that money they are adding more cameras and swipe cards and are also going to be creating a new window at the middle school office for anyone coming to the school. This will

SEE STATE OF BUILDING, PAGE 5

Freedom Math 24 players make finals for first time



Students prepare to leave for the Beaver County Math 24 competition at Penn State Beaver on March 7. PHOTO BY BRYSON DEAL

BRYSON DEAL, GRADE 5
STAFF WRITER

The Beaver County Math 24 tournament took place Thursday, March 7 at Penn State Beaver. The event was sponsored by the Beaver County Lions Clubs and the Beaver County Gifted Consortium. Twenty-one students from Freedom in grades 4 through 8 attended the competition.

Each math class had a tournament to decide who would be on the team. A playoff was held for each grade to decide the students who would attend the competition. Sixteen students made the semifinals and three advanced to the final round. Calla Reynolds, fifth grade, Colton Blank, fifth grade, and Brodie Falk, sixth grade, each made it to the finals in their grade level. Reynolds placed first and both Blank and Falk placed fourth in their grade level. This is the first time in Freedom history that anybody has made it to the

finals.

Math 24 is a game that is played by trying to make 24 using only the four numbers on the card. You can use the operations multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction. The best way to play is to memorize all of the cards. Some kids tend to try to think through the card while they are playing. That causes them to not remember the card.

To prepare for the tournament students practiced during their math class and at home.

“I practice 10 minutes to 4 hours a day. I just want to be the best I can be.” said Reynolds.

Math 24 seems easy but the competition was fierce.

“I was worried about Central Valley and Riverside but I just wanted the trophy and wanted to be on top.” said Blank. In total, there were ten schools and 162 participants at the tournament.

Introducing Ms. Vinson

CHASE GRABLE, GRADE 7
STAFF WRITER

Ms. Vinson is the new hall monitor/security guard replacing Mr. Matthews who retired from his position on Dec. 21, 2018, the day before Christmas break, for the Freedom Area School District.

After Matthews retired, Vinson was hired to help fill his position as hall monitor for Freedom Middle School. One thing she enjoys about being here is that she gets to help kids. Vinson has three kids of her own at home, so she gets to see kind of what her kids are like in school through others and understands why kids are sometimes frustrated or misbehaving. She can also give them a person to talk to, kind of like being a counselor. Before Vinson worked at Freedom Area Middle School, she was a New Sewickley Township policewoman.

One thing that Vinson likes about Freedom Middle School is that is a lot quieter than her usual job as a policewoman. She also likes it here because she still gets to be some sort of a crime watcher, but for mainly children. Vinson's favorite part about the job is the chance to be with kids. Another part about the job that she likes is helping people in a different capacity than working for New Sewickley Township. When Vinson came to the school she felt very welcomed by all of the staff here at Freedom Middle School.

The adventures of the sixth grade ducks come to an end... almost

SARA HARP, GRADE 6
ALEXA HUDAK, GRADE 6
STAFF WRITERS

This year, the sixth grade students have had the opportunity to learn more about ducks and chickens in Ms. Lisa Moore's and Ms. Jeanine Ging's science classes. They adopted a few eggs of each from an unspecified farm and allowed the students to care for them before returning them so that they can be raised properly.

Two dozen eggs were adopted, but only six hatched. Five of the eggs were ducks and one was a chicken, this chicken was named January. Unfortunately, the five ducks said their farewells to the sixth grade students and have returned their farm, but there is no doubt that they enjoyed their stay just as much as the students enjoyed their company. The chicken, January, however, is



Ducklings swim around the baby pool in Ms. Moore's room.

PHOTO BY TYLER MISENCIK

decidedly staying awhile longer with the sixth grade science teacher, Mrs. Moore—she adored January far too much to let him go just yet. It has also been announced that sixth grade can expect more chickens to arrive.

The students received many

good experiences from the ducks, one of them being the morning run. The students ran the ducks through the hallways in the morning to exercise them. Because January is staying at the school, he still gets this luxury. The sixth graders also occasionally took the ducks down to the kindergarteners for a quick visit.

Moore and Ging would often bring the ducks into their science classes so that the students could play with them.

“During my experience with the ducks, I realized that my love for animals is greater than I knew,” stated Sarah Lisanti, a student in Ging's seventh period science class. “In fact, it even inspired me to get my own [ducks].”

Overall, hatching the ducks were a positive experience for the sixth grade students.

“Blackboots Lost Loot” a pirate success

CHRISTOPHER DENKOVICH,
GRADE 6
SPORTS EDITOR

The Freedom Area Middle School Drama Club performed the play “Blackboots Lost Loot” on Wednesday, March 13, in the middle school auditorium. The play was about the pirate captain Blackboot who lost his treasure on his secret pirate island. Then his rival pirate crew, led by captain Scurvy Sal, came to the island also

seeking the treasure. The play was a hour-long comedy with kids from every grade of the middle school in the cast.

“We've been practicing almost everyday since January. It has been great to get all of the stress off your shoulders.” said Tyler Misencik, who played Swink in the play.

All of the cast members were ecstatic for the play and encourage new members to join the Drama Club. One of the directors, Mrs.

Laura Miller, chose the play “Black Boots Lost Loot” because they haven't done a pirate theme and wanted this year's play to be different.

“I encourage kids to join the Drama Club because it's a safe environment [to try acting]. For the people who have stage fright it's a little scary at first when you perform the play for your parents

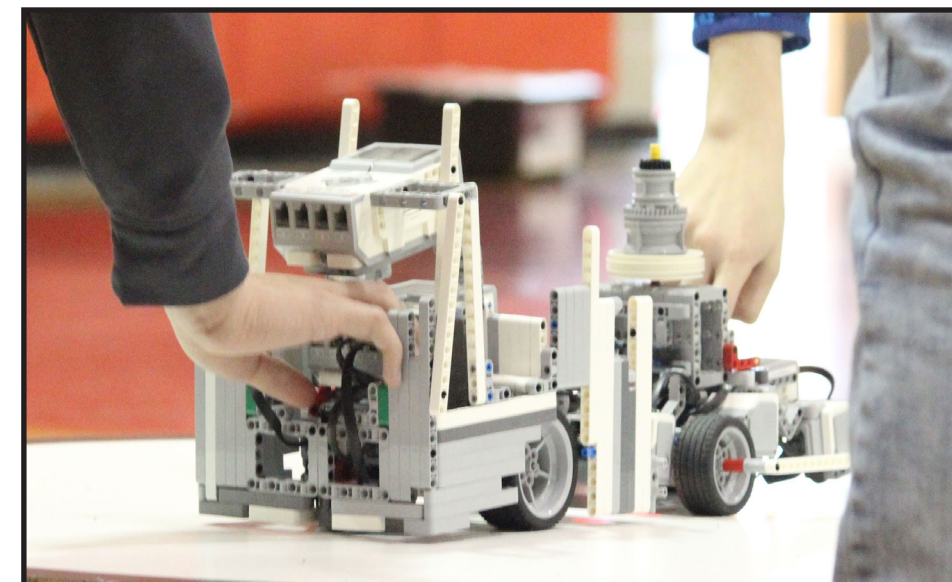
SEE BLACKBOOTS, PAGE 8

Freedom Area Middle School hosts Beaver County RoboSumo competition

POGUE REGAN, GRADE 7
NEWS EDITOR

On Thursday, March 21, the Beaver County Robo Sumo competition was held in the Freedom Area Middle School gym. Twenty-nine teams from nine different schools came to battle with their custom robots. The students have to build the robots using LEGO EV3 kits, making sure they stay within the guidelines, and then they program them to push their opponents off the edge of the board. There are multiple rounds, and the teams rotate. The teams fight for best of three, but they can draw. The eight winning teams have a chance to make it to the finals.

Two of our own teams made it to the finals; *Aries*, built by Luke Snavely, Jacob DiCenzo and David Denkovich, who won second place,



Luke Snavely, 8th grader, and Dylan Scheel, 7th grader, start their robots in a battle against each other in the round robin round of the tournament.

PHOTO BY POGUE REGAN/ALEXIS MULROY

and *Freedom 5* made by Jason Mengel, Beau DeThomas and Christopher Denkovich, who won third place. Western Beaver ended

up taking first place in the middle school division.

State of the Building

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

be similar to the high school and will allow the office staff to talk to people without them being able to enter our building. This will ensure that our school is a safer place.

Finally, Smith was asked what he thought the biggest challenge was at FMS. He said without a doubt that it was transitions. He said that students in the Middle School undergo three major

transitions in four years, making adjusting difficult and stressful. The three transition are 4th to 5th grade, which is going from elementary to middle school, 6th to 7th grade, which is going to secondary school and finally, 8th to 9th grade, which is a transition to high school. The 8th to 9th transition is the biggest since it is to a new building, schedule, teachers and staff. The Middle School is working with the High School to

make those transitions easier for the students.

Overall, FMS is in a pretty good state. Mr. Smith and all the staff are working hard to come up with new ideas and ways to make our school better. We should all be proud to be FMS Bulldogs!

Features

A guide to preparing for the PSSA

DYLAN SCHEEL, GRADE 7
WEBSITE EDITOR

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) testing is just around the corner. Every year the PSSA is dreaded by middle school students around the state. The biggest reason that most students dread the test is the fact that it is so long, and you do not know what to study for. Leading up to the test, many students ask themselves the same question. "What can I do to prepare?"

Eat a good and healthy breakfast.

Try to avoid eating sugary and unhealthy foods. The best thing for you to eat is protein filled foods, such as eggs, greek yogurt, and pancakes. High protein foods fuel concentration and help minimize fatigue.

Never panic or worry too much about the test.

If you start to become too anxious, stop and take a breather and just relax.

Take your time and check over your work.

Be sure to take your time to make sure you answer every question and make sure you answered it in full. It does not matter if someone is done before you, it is most important that you do a great job.

Practice, practice, practice.

You may not know what to study, so each night leading up to the test take all the most important details from one section of your class notes and look at those ideas. Each night study the main ideas from a single section you learned

about over the year. Then, each night study a different section until you feel you are ready to take the test. Chances are if you had the know the information on the section test, you will need to know it for the PSSA.

Get a good night's sleep.

Never stay up too late the night of the test. Even if you are just studying, do not try to cram everything in before the test. A lack of sleep will help counteract your concentration.

Do not try to cram all your studying for the day before the test.

It is good to be sure you are studying, but gradually studying little bits each night is much more effective than waiting till the final night.

Black History: Notable African Americans

TYLER MISENCIK GRADE 6
STAFF WRITER

February is Black History month, and as the month rolls around, some of the world's most famous black role models are recognized for their astonishing work that they have done for the country and even the world. Do you ever wonder why this tradition was created and why it is such a crucial thing to the United States?

In 1915, half a century after slavery was abolished in the United States, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, an African American writer born in 1875 was frustrated of the fact that in school the teachers and school administrators were teaching American history and taught without cognizance of his presence in the classroom. Dr. Carter was disgusted with how the African Americans were barely presented in books and films.

In 1915, Dr. Carter and Jesse E. Moorland discovered the Association for the study of Negro life and history now known as Association for the study of African American Life and History. studying black history as a way to celebrate all the great things African Americans have done for us.

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AMERICANS WHO MADE A
DIFFERENCE IN AMERICAN HISTORY!

Enter the exciting history of Saint Patrick's Day

HELENA BULI, GRADE 5
STAFF WRITER

St. Patrick died on March 17, 461 AD. That's what started the birth of Saint Patrick's day, although it evolved over the centuries. His real name isn't Saint Patrick, it's Maewyn Succat, and it is believed that he changed it upon becoming a priest. Saint Patrick is not really Irish, in fact, he's Scottish. He was born in the year 375 AD. His parents were named Calpurnis and Conchessa. His parents were Romans living in Britain. When St. Patrick was 16 years old, he was kidnapped by pirates and taken to Ireland to work as a slave, his job was to herd sheep. He was held for six years as a slave.

A Catholic church established a Feast day to honor Saint Patrick. He had been a patron saint who died around the 5th century, 12 centuries before it started to evolve into the modern St. Patrick's day that we celebrate today.

When you think of St. Patrick's day, you normally think of a green, energetic leprechaun. Some may think the myth is like a midget troll, but it's actually known as a fairy. Sadly, there aren't any female leprechauns in the myth.

Leprechauns are a part of the Tuatha De Danann, translated to 'Tribe of Danu'. Danu is a goddess in Irish mythology. She is the mother of the earth, the gods, fertility, wisdom, and wind. Leprechauns are very skilled in magic, which explains why a human gets three wishes if they capture a leprechaun, in exchange for the leprechaun's freedom.

European law protects leprechauns, who they say live in caverns on a mountain called Carlington mountain. You would think that leprechauns would live on land, it's not like they have amphibian lungs, right? Well, some accounts say that there is possibly another kind of leprechaun, which probably originates from the story of the King of Ulster, who woke up on a beach, and leprechauns were attempting to heave him into their underground lair. A lot of people believe that leprechauns are cruel, greedy, and not very forgiving. Though, there is a legend where a unlucky nobleman presented a leprechaun a ride on his horse, then returned to his ancient disintegrated castle, where it was filled to the brim with gold.

Some celebrate St. Patrick's day almost like Thanksgiving or Easter,

by having traditional foods. Most people who eat special Irish foods on St. Patrick's day eat food like corned beef, bacon and cabbage, coddle, and colcannon. Those are only a small portion of the varieties of food that people eat on St. Patrick's day, that probably include normal foods for the average joes.

Another popular event is Saint Patrick's day parades. Savannah, Georgia has the largest and the oldest parade in history. Some people state that it has the best parade in the states because it has abounding Irish roots. Once, Savannah attempted to color its river green in 1961. Now in the modern age they just stick to coloring their fountains, not their river.



For additional news, pictures, and more,
visit our website!

WWW.BULLDOGBARKER.COM

Penny drive helps Mr. Matthews

SAMANTHA YOUNG, GRADE 6
STAFF WRITER

The Freedom Area School District recently finished a penny drive which was sponsored by the Freedom High School National Honor Society. Mr. David Matthews, former Freedom Middle School hall monitor, has recently been diagnosed with cancer. As a result of being diagnosed, Matthews has been on leave since the end of December, and we hope to surprise

him by raising this money for him! The money we raised for the penny drive will go towards helping Matthews with his medical costs.

The penny drive raised in all \$3,303.05. That means on average each class raised \$206.44. Hopefully this will really help Matthews with his medical costs. During this penny drive, a dollar added 100 points, a penny added one point, a quarter subtracted 25 points, a dime subtracted ten points, and a nickel

subtracted five points, but it all still helped Matthews.

In the middle school, the class that raised the most money was Mrs. Hartman's homeroom in seventh grade. So, Hartman's class got a \$50 gift card that was donated by the National Honor Society and used it to purchase ice cream for a party in their homeroom. Thank you, everyone, for trying to help Matthews and raising money for a good cause!

Blackboots

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

but as soon as the curtains open you realize that this is what you been practicing months for and all the fear goes away." stated Gianna Guandolo, sixth grader, who played the castaway in the play.

If you are interested in joining the Drama Club, tryouts will be held in October next year. The entire Drama Club encourages kids who want to join to join so they can have a great time just like this year's cast.



The cast of "Blackboots Lost Loot" in the final scene of the show when Rosie Redshoe has joined Blackboots' crew.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FMS YEARBOOK STAFF

Students with Perseverance persist to accomplish difficult tasks and to overcome academic and personal barriers to meet goals, adapt to varied roles, job responsibilities, schedules, and contexts, work effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities, set and meet goals, even in the face of obstacles and competing pressures.

5th Grade: Brianne Casto and Zachary Hill
6th Grade: Harmony Martin and Cooper Young
7th Grade: Emma Falk and Steffan Paganic
8th Grade: Hayleigh McCowin and Chaz Chandler



March/April Students of the Month:
PERSEVERANCE

Sports

Basketball team ends season with win

CHRISTOPHER DENKOVICH, GRADE 6
SPORTS EDITOR

Freedom's Junior High basketball team had a rough season; with no wins they were hungry for their first victory. They won their first game of the season on January 26, in a Southside tournament against the Quaker Valley Quakers. The Bulldogs won by 3 points making the final score 37-34.

Jonathan Hein, a sixth grader at Freedom Area Middle School and son of the Junior High coach stated, "I have no doubt that the Bulldogs will do better next season."

The Bulldogs are indeed training to do better and have shown great progress. With all the hard work, love, and dedication the Freedom Area Bulldogs will do better next year. The eighth grade veterans are



Freedom Junior High basketball team photo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FMS YEARBOOK STAFF

leaving to go to the high school next year, giving the seventh graders the spotlight next year. They are excited for a new season with a fresh record, and are most certainly ready for redemption.

Girls volleyball team welcomes new coach

ALEXA DAVIS, GRADE 7
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The volleyball season has recently ended at Freedom Middle School. The team was made up of 40 girls total, 14 seventh graders and 26 eighth graders. The team was led by coach and seventh grade science teacher, Ms. Dawn Patosky, and assistant coach and high school communications teacher, Mr. Brad Baldwin.

In fact, this is not the first time Patosky has coached. She coached volleyball back in 1999, for the Freedom High School and also the middle school, for seven years. However, as much as Patosky liked coaching, she had to step down because she was expecting her first child in May of that year. Coincidentally, Patosky had to take place for Baldwin, whose wife gave birth to two twin boys, Caleb and Isaac, in January of 2019.

Alexis Mulroy, eighth grader on the volleyball team, said the team has improved from last year. Her favorite memory was when teammate Megan Evans kicked the volleyball at the ceiling during the team's final game on March 21, 2019, against Hopewell. Mulroy enjoys playing volleyball and appreciates the team's support.



Volleyball team huddles mid-game during a home game.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FMS YEARBOOK STAFF

Freedom Voices

Valentine's Day is a ludicrous and unnecessary holiday

STAFF EDITORIAL

Valentine's Day, the holiday when friends and family express their affection with greetings and gifts, has been the cause of grief and stress for many years. The ancient Romans may be responsible for the name of the day. The holiday has begins with the Roman festival of Lupercalia, which took place in February. The festival, which was to celebrate the being of spring, included the pairing off of women to men for partners. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius the first replaced Lupercalia with St. Valentine's Day. This holiday came to be celebrated as a day of love from around the fourteenth century. Although there were several Christian saints named Valentine, St. Valentine's Day, as it's known today, contains origins

in both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. So, who was Saint Valentine?

As for valentines, they began to pop up in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s, printed cards were being used. The first valentines in the United States were printed in the 1800s. Valentines commonly include Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with hearts. The usual gifts may include candy and flowers, and more often than not they are red roses, a symbol of beauty and love. The day is popular in the United States as well as in Britain, Canada, and Australia, and it is also celebrated in other countries, including Argentina, France, Mexico, and South Korea. In the Philippines, it is the most common wedding anniversary, and weddings of hundreds of couples

are not unusual on the day. The holiday has expanded to expressions of affection among relatives and friends. Many children exchange valentines with one another at school.

So, what does a Christian saint have to do with roses and love, and why is this holiday so ridiculous? The idea that having someone's affection not only needs a day to be paraded around, but also to be rubbed in others faces is what's so obnoxious about it. Every day should be an excuse to show someone that you care, but the holiday is really unnecessary. Not to mention the amount of money spent on pointless things, such as roses and chocolate.

PewDiePie, T-series battle for most YouTube subscribers

CONNOR TAVERN, GRADE 8
STAFF WRITER

As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end and change is inevitable, but is this the case in the PewDiePie vs. T-Series battle, the battle between the two most subscribed YouTubers? Many YouTube viewers will already know that most subscribed YouTuber, PewDiePie, is in grave danger of being passed up by T-series, an Indian YouTube channel. T-Series is coming up in subscribers, and they are about to dethrone PewDiePie. It was predicted that T-Series would dethrone PewDiePie in October of 2018. As of now, we can clearly see that this didn't happen, and many PewDiePie fans are only adding to his lead.

The old adage might be proven true, since, at one point, T-Series did take the title of most subscribed YouTube channel away from PewDiePie. On Feb. 22, T-Series took over. This was devastating to all the people who got PewDiePie this far. T-Series was ahead by 10,000 subscribers, and many had thought T-Series had won, but by some string of luck, PewDiePie retook the title. This all happened for about 8 minutes. The next day PewDiePie was up about 100,000 subscribers.

While this may just seem insignificant, or even stupid, it will decide the fate of YouTube. India is now just getting internet mainstream, so YouTube is now

being discovered there. This means that is T-Series passes up PewDiePie, YouTube will be more popular in India. It would boost YouTube's profit a lot and would help out the platform.

With that said, it would basically sell the platform out for companies, since T-series is actually a record company. If they beat out PewDiePie, other big corporations might be inspired to make their own YouTube channel and then YouTube will become a corporate bouncy house. It would be only about one thing, money. That would ruin what YouTube was made for, the idea that the common man would be able to make random videos for strangers to watch. If this idea is thrown out the window, YouTube will become another TV Channel, and it would lose all of its originality. If PewDiePie remains the channel with the most subscriptions, YouTube might stay the way it is, a platform for individuals to make videos for fun or even a living.

In order to "save" PewDiePie, people are going to enormous lengths, some for memes, but some are taking it quite seriously. Take another YouTuber named Mr. Beast, another channel with roughly 15.5 million subscribers. He's gone to such great lengths as buying every billboard in his town to promote PewDiePie, saying

PewDiePie 100,000 times, and even buying 5 lower level end zone seats at the Super Bowl to promote him.

It's remarkable what Mr. Beast has done and how much money he has spent on this, but he isn't the only one. Other YouTubers, famous or not so famous, also give PewDiePie a free promotion. One of the most popular things to do is to play one of his insulting songs, also known as a "diss track", towards T-Series in public. From playing it on Walmart's loudest speakers, to going out and playing it on the piano, there are so many creative ways to do help PewDiePie.

So in the whole scheme of things, change is inevitable, and most likely T-Series will take over, but that doesn't mean that fellow YouTube viewers and YouTubers shouldn't stop trying. There is still a glimmer of hope, but let's not let the old adage come true.

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Unusual weather patterns caused by global warming

JACOB DiCENZO, GRADE 8
MANAGING EDITOR

What? 50 degrees in winter? No snow on Christmas? This can't be real life! Well, this may all be due to global warming. What is global warming? Global warming is when gases that trap heat, such as nitrogen, oxygen, and argon, get stuck in our atmosphere. These gases are released through electricity, transportation, industries, and farming. The gases slowly trap heat inside our atmosphere making the temperature get higher over extended periods of time.

There are many ways that global warming affects us as humans. It has an effect on our weather by making it fluctuate. It also has an effect on our ecosystems. The ecosystems are affected from global warming because it increases the dangers of wildfires, causing unwanted migration, causing species to become endangered, and more extreme and dangerous weather.

According to National Geographic, these are some of the things global warming affects, as the mercury rises, the climate can



Mrs. Gena Tokar's kindergarten class enjoys outdoor recess on an unseasonably warm winter day. SUBMITTED PHOTO. USED WITH PERMISSION.

change in unexpected ways. In addition to sea levels rising, weather can become more extreme. This means more intense major storms, more rain followed by longer and drier droughts—a challenge for growing crops—changes in the ranges in which plants and animals can live, and loss of water supplies that have historically come from glaciers.

It is important that we try to stop global warming because it can lower the quality of our air, increase Vector-Borne diseases, which are

diseases transmitted by insects or arachnids, affect the amount of water we have to drink, and how we grow food and animals. These things are impactful on humans and animals alike because it could change how we live our lives completely. The ways global warming could change our lives are: it could impact our security on food, our water supplies, our transportation, and our energy production. This could be a potentially catastrophic event that couldn't be reversed.