



The Eagle's Eye

October 2023

Homecoming Edition

Volume 37 No. 1

Students Celebrate Annual Homecoming Traditions



Seniors Clinch Back-to-Back Powderpuff Wins

By Drew Shelton

A few weeks ago, ECS hosted its annual Spirit Week. Through dress-up days, Dog Day, and the varsity football win on Friday, it was a week filled with fun and lots of school spirit.

Like years past, on homecoming week, ECS hosted one of its favorite recurring traditions, the powderpuff game. The powderpuff game is an opportunity for junior and senior girls to compete against each other in flag football. For some, this is a very fun activity to encourage camaraderie and teamwork, but this year in particular, the girls were not messing around.

Between multiple 7 a.m. practices and lots of advanced planning, it seemed as if both teams had nothing else but a win in sight. With many confident remarks and challenges from both the seniors and juniors, a friendly rivalry definitely formed that could only be settled on the day of the game.

As that day arrived, the girls all suited up to go head to head, and many guys arrived in cheer uniforms as well, ready to root for their classmates. Once the student body had filled up the stands, the whistle was blown, and the game was underway. It started out intense, with both teams holding off the other

amidst many close calls. The seniors scored two times, then the juniors scored, but their one touchdown would not prove to be enough. Senior Bradleigh Biggs threw the winning touchdown pass to Lia Salazar, sealing the second straight powderpuff victory for the class of 2024.

Bradleigh Biggs said, "I felt pretty proud of our performance. I thought the girls worked hard out there." When asked what she attributed to their impressive performance, she also said, "I think our success was because of our dedication. We wanted to win more, simple as that."

Cooper Acuff, the head coach of the junior team, had this to say about the game: "I think we exceeded expectations held pregame by students and faculty. I was pleased, although there are no moral victories in powderpuff." He also had this message for the current sophomores about next year's game: "Watch out class of '26, because our girls are hungry. They may be sweet, but when we get on that field, ain't nothing sweet. Be ready."

All in all, it was a great day for flag football, and another great year honoring our football team through spirit week.

Letter from the Editor

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Special thanks also to Tracey Simpson and teachers for the use of photographs in this issue.



Dear Readers,

I am excited to bring you the first issue of *The Eagle's Eye* of the year! Following in Betsy Nearn's footsteps leaves some big shoes to fill, but I hope y'all are pleased with this issue and future issues.

For athletics, we have some great articles in this issue. Mullin and Sar-

ah write about our golf and soccer teams, including their success and fun memories. Drew gives a wonderful recap of the annual Powderpuff game, and I explain the new Student Leadership Council.

In fine arts, Evie gives us insight into ECS's terrific production of *Tarzan* and why Ms. Jones chose it. We also have an Art Spotlight featuring Erin Eastlack.

Cooper shares his thoughts on navigating the world of Chipotle, and we have some exceptional interviews written by Annie, Brokke and Anna Grace. Robin ensures that you are caught up on the local political scene and introduces our Mayor-Elect, Paul Young.

Finally, I am very proud of all of *The Eagle's Eye* staff for their articles and ideas! Taking over from Betsy is a very daunting task, but they have made it so easy. In addition, Mrs. Nearn has been a huge help in advising and publishing this paper.

Having people from different areas of the school come together to create this first issue of *The Eagle's Eye* for the 2023-2024 school year has been a great experience. I hope you enjoy it!

Happy reading,
Libby Bourland

Star of the Issue: Ford Crane

Interview by Brokke Scott

Ford Crane is a sophomore and has been going to ECS for five years. He is involved in many activities such as football, baseball, Flight, theater and social media. You may have also seen some of his photos from various athletic events. We asked him some questions, and here's what he had to say:

What's your favorite part about ECS?

My favorite part about ECS is most definitely the com-

munity feeling. The day I stepped foot on campus, it felt like home. It is so amazing how much love you feel, from every single person on staff to all the students around you. There's nothing like it.

When and why did you become interested in photography?

I have always had some creativity and imagination in my life but I never really became too interested in photography and videography until 8th grade. Pho-

tography and videography give me a chance to use my creativity, try new things, and give other people a smile. The best part about it is seeing and hearing all the reactions to the photos or videos.

Who's had the biggest impact on you at ECS?

Before he left, Coach Gilchrist had a huge impact on my life. He taught me what it meant to be a leader and what it really looked like to strive to be a Christian man. I wouldn't

be who I am today without his mentoring.

Favorite memory?

My favorite memory at ECS has been either being Willy Wonka in the middle school play or seeing Mrs. Lillian dance in the SUB.



Local News

Paul Young Elected Memphis Mayor

by Robin Daughhetee

While it may not be the presidential election, a critical vote was taken on October 5 to determine the new Mayor of Memphis. While there were many candidates, the most

notable were Willie Herenton, Floyd Bonner, Van Turner, and Paul Young. These four men consistently campaigned and stayed neck-in-neck throughout the election.

More than 85,000 people voted in this election,

making the voter turnout estimated at more than 22%. Of these 85,000 votes, Young won 24,408, which is 27.64%.

Despite never having held an elected office, Young is very immersed in the Memphis community. He has served as the CEO of the Downtown Memphis Commission, which works to restore downtown into a place Memphians can be proud of for its estimated population of 630,000.

The basis of his platform is to bring in more jobs and a strong economy.

As one of the youngest candidates, Young's focus was on his moderate supporters and their votes. This led to a large array

of endorsements from organizations like Shelby County Young Democrats and celebrities like Memphis rapper NLE Choppa and former Grizzlies player Elliott Perry. Young says he focused on gaining momentum from young voters and families.

Paul Young is a Memphis native. He was born to Bishop William and Pastor Dianne Young, who are both very active in their churches.

In his victory speech, he quoted his late father: "It's not about you; it's about what God has put in you for the rest of our city."

Paul Young will be sworn in on January 1 as the new mayor of Memphis.



Paul Young and his family on election night, courtesy of Paul Young for Memphis on Instagram

Faculty Spotlight: Mrs. Hendricks

by Anna Grace Fletcher

Alumna and faculty member McKenzie Hendricks' journey as an eagle began in 1988 and continues today as the beloved Middle School Dean.

She was at ECS for twelve years and graduated in 2000. Some of her favorite memories as an ECS student include playing sports and being coached by Dee Baker and Steve Collums.

When asked what has remained the same at ECS since she was a student, Mrs. Hen-

dricks said that ECS still has a strong sense of community. She said it has changed because "it is far less legalistic, and there is more of an emphasis on really knowing Jesus, not just following a set of rules."

Mrs. Hendricks was involved in volleyball, basketball, softball, rolling peers' houses, and "signing" yards. ECS's biggest rival was Briarcrest.

I asked if she had to choose one year to go back to high school, which year would

it be and why? She said, "I would go back to my senior year. I battled with some depression that year because I was overwhelmed with all the decisions and stressed about the future - leaving ECS - a place that knew me and that I knew. I would go back and make more of an effort to worry less and trust Christ more."

Lastly, she gave a piece of advice for all students: "Your words are very powerful. They bring death and life. Use them in a life-giving way.



You guys are saying things to one another right now that will never leave a person. Be kind."

School News

Welcome New Upper Elementary Grades

by Annie Brundick

This year, the fourth and fifth graders joined the sixth graders to form a new Upper Elementary school at the Shelby Farms campus. Eagle Hall has been completely renovated specifically for these grades.

This has been an initiative with much excitement and anticipation. It is a momentous stride toward expanding educational opportunities and meeting the growing needs of the community at ECS.

Mr. Matzke, the New Upper Elementary Principal, gives us an inside look at the first days of this new campus.

Mr. Matzke was drawn to come work at ECS because of the mission of our

school. He wants to help provide a place where students can truly know Jesus Christ. From his time at ECS, Mr. Matzke believes that what makes ECS different is the mission and the gospel-centered discipleship provided in the school.

Also, the tight-knit Christian community on campus is something that makes ECS such a great place.

Mr. Matzke loves being on campus with the middle and high school and said it was a sweet transition for the kids. He says the Upper Elementary students love being on campus with the 7th-12th graders, but they also love having their own space where they can flourish and grow.

Mr. Matzke shared his goals for Upper Elementary:



to help lead his students to the Gospel and to shepherd and love them well while pointing them to Christ.

He says other goals for the school, which include pursuing excellent academics, leadership, character and service to others, will fall right into place.

Mr. Matzke is enjoying the

challenges of learning how to problem-solve in this new campus, which is exciting, uncharted territory for ECS.

Mr. Matzke's favorite thing about being the new Upper Elementary Principal is getting to serve his staff and students and continue to point them towards Christ.

New Model of Student Leadership

by Libby Bourland

Starting this year, the previous student council model has changed to a prefect model, called the Student Leadership Council (SLC). The prefect model consists of six prefects who each represent a certain area of ECS and lead a committee ranging from three to five members.

The six prefects are over athletics, academics, fine arts, discipleship, service

and student life, and they are Adison Bednar, Libby Bourland, Patrick Loftis, Ro Richardson, Robin Daughettee and Crews Gieselmann.

All members of the Student Leadership Council meet every Thursday to discuss and plan events, like the third quarter dance and Fall Fest. Each committee also advocates for students regarding the specific area they represent. For exam-

ple, Adison Bednar and the Athletics Committee advocate for athletes during the weekly SLC meeting. The prefects are also in charge of the SLC instagram account.

This summer, SLC met to plan themes for the football games and Homecoming Week. They have also planned Appreciation Day themes and are currently planning Fall Fest.

If you have any questions or concerns about athletics,

academics, fine arts, discipleship, service, or student life, feel free to reach out to the prefects on SLC or members of their committees.



Food



Restaurant Review Chipotle Mexican Grill

by Cooper Acuff

For many decades, Mexican food has taken the mainstream American food world by storm. This began with the common sit-down restaurant and has now been pulled into the fast food world as well.

The restaurant, Chipotle, has combined these two ideas and become one of the world's biggest Mexican destinations.

From what I have gathered, there is a plethora of ECS students who eat at the Chipotle by school, but there are also plenty of people who have not had it. Today, I want to take you all through the process of

Chipotle, take you through orders, and Henry House's favorite Chipotle order.

When you walk into Chipotle, you may be overwhelmed by the fast-paced movement going on. You will see a classic taco bar-type setup with a menu above, but do not look at the menu. Instead, order this: bowl, side tortilla, double white rice, light on the black beans, chicken, queso, cheese, lettuce, vinaigrette, (Do not let this scare you away. You have to ask for it) and a water cup. It costs \$10.30. This order encapsulates every desire you will have when craving this kind of food. This order combines quantity, quality and budget. This

is the best overall Chipotle meal. You may be wondering why you just ordered a side tortilla. What you're going to do is put half of your bowl in the tortilla to create a burrito. Now you have a full burrito with half a bowl left.

Some ideas I suggest doing, if you are hungry: Eat the rest of the bowl. If you

are full, go home, reheat the bowl, grab some chips, and make nachos. You're welcome.

Finally, if you want to look and eat like Henry House, listen up: Order bowl, brown rice, chicken, queso, cheese - it's that simple.



Fine Arts



Tarzan Amazes Sold-Out Audiences

by Evie Johns

This fall, the ECS Theatre Department brought *Tarzan* to life on stage with four performances on October 12, 14 and 17.

Adapted from the beloved Disney film, audience members saw trampolines, aerial silks, and lots of lively musical numbers from this show.

With impressive, vibrant

tricks and a talented cast and crew, ECS enjoyed an amazing treat.

But aside from all the energy and fun aspects of the show, why choose *Tarzan*? Well, I got the opportunity to sit down with the show's director, Ms. Jones, who told me one of the reasons for the show was a biblical correlation to family. Be-

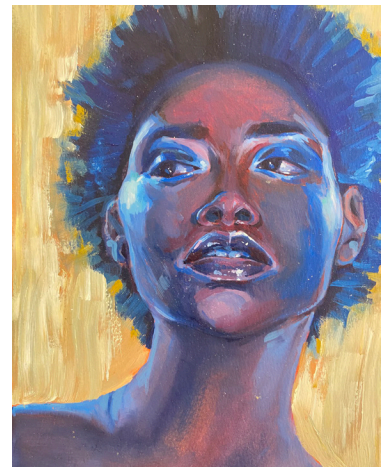
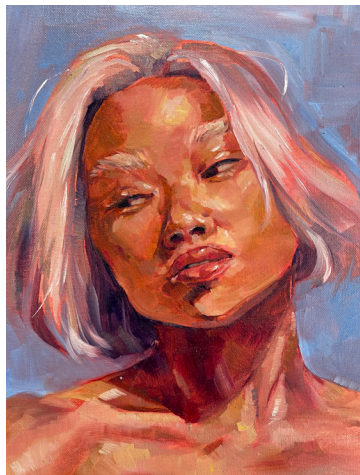
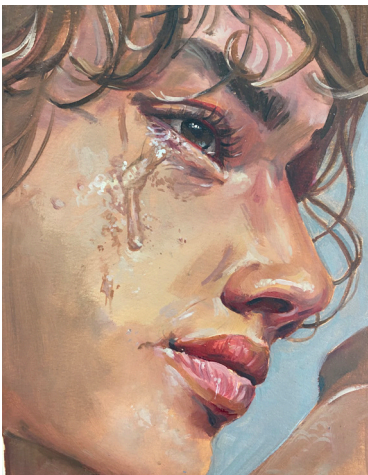
cause family is such a prominent theme in the musical, she told me, "As a body of believers, we're called to respect each other and love each other as one family." With that message in mind, the cast and crew worked hard to make this musical a memorable experience for everyone.

When asked what she was

most excited about for *Tarzan*, Mrs. Jones said, "I think I'm most excited about the cast and the audience to experience something completely different than we've ever done."

Tarzan was an excellent, unexpected show, full of energy and supported our biblical family at ECS.

Artwork by AP Art Senior Erin Eastlack



Sports

Girls Golf: Region Champions & 4th in State!

by Mullin Gillentine



Varsity Golf: Region Champs!

The varsity girls golf team has had an unbelievable season! They won the majority of their matches and tournaments, including the FCA tournament, beating schools outside their division.

After being ranked number 1 in their division, the ECS girls golf team ended their incredible season with a huge victory at re-

gionals! In addition to the team winning regionals by 20 strokes, junior Claire Todd placed 2nd, and 8th grader Mathile Walker placed 3rd, earning medalist honors.

With this victory, the girls' golf team earned their spot at the State Tournament in Sevierville.

At state, the girls team finished in fourth place, and Claire Todd also finished fourth overall.

This season, the ECS girls golf team tripled in size, going from just two girls to six. Much of their success on the golf course can be credited to the great advice Coach Beth Miller gave before one of their matches: "You man-

age the course. Don't let the course manage you." This, as well as several other tips, really helped push this team to their success.

After such an unbelievable season, head coach Beth Miller was asked to describe this team in three words. "Talented," "fun," and "determined" were the three words she thought best summed up this team. All these traits clearly showed themselves at the regional tournament in Jackson.

The team was able to truly showcase their talents and skills at Jackson Country Club, where making it to state was their primary focus. This team was easily able to accomplish that.

This team has great things going for them. With no

graduating seniors and developing young talent, they hope to carry on their success next year as well!



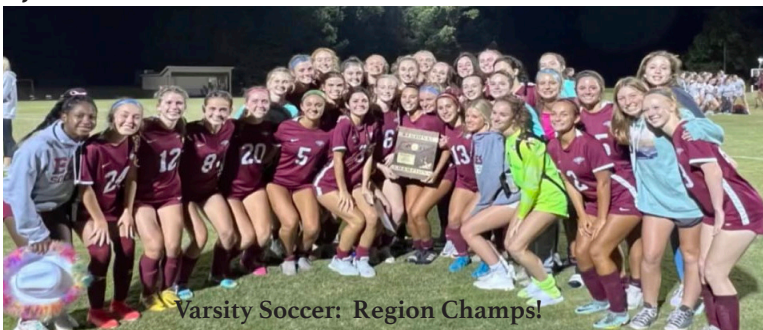
Varsity Girls finished 4th in the state!



Claire Todd placed 4th in the state!

Girls Soccer: Back-to-Back Smoky Mountain Cup Champs! Now Region Champs & on to the State Championship!

by Sarah Nicolas



Varsity Soccer: Region Champs!

Last month, our girls soccer team traveled to Gatlinburg to compete against teams from all over the country in the annual Smoky Mountain Cup.

Last year was our first time competing in this tournament, and we won the championship and the treasured silver cup!

This year, my favorite mem-

ory was when the team went out for ice cream around 10 pm., and the employees of Marble Slab said they were closed. Coach Molly came to the rescue when she challenged an employee to a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors. If Molly won, the team would be able to order ice cream, but if the employee won, no ice cream.

Sadly, Molly lost! But, the employees let all 38 of us order. We cheered! It was such a fun memory and one

of the best moments of the tournament!

Being back-to-back champs wasn't easy, but we came through each game to win and keep our title.

This Smoky Mountain Cup was one of my favorite trips because we made fun memories, grew closer as a team and won the cup!

After clinching the Region Champions title and winning the semifinals, the team is off to Chattanooga for the state championship game!

Stay tuned for more coverage on our Girls Soccer STATE CHAMPIONS in the next issue!

Fun & Games



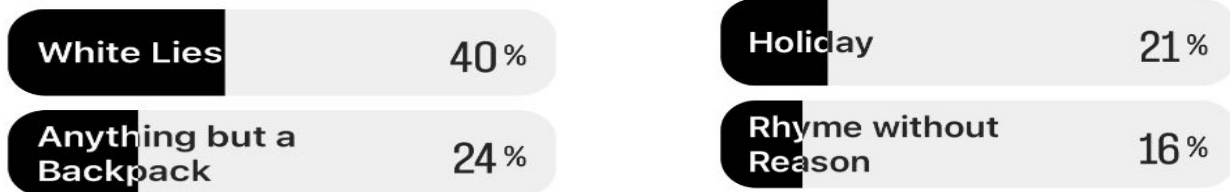
Eagle's Eye Word Search

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HOMECOMING
 MR. BRADY
 CHEER
 SOCCER
 GOLF
 POWDERPUFF
 FALL BREAK
 CROSS COUNTRY
 SEPTEMBER
 AUGUST
 FOOTBALL
 EAGLES
 NEWSPAPER
 SCHOOL
 ECS
 VOLLEYBALL
 TARZAN
 OCTOBER
 SIPS
 DBUT

The Results Are In!

Students Answer: *What was your favorite Hoco Dress Theme Day?*



How Good Has Your Favorite SEC Team Been in the Last 10 Years?

