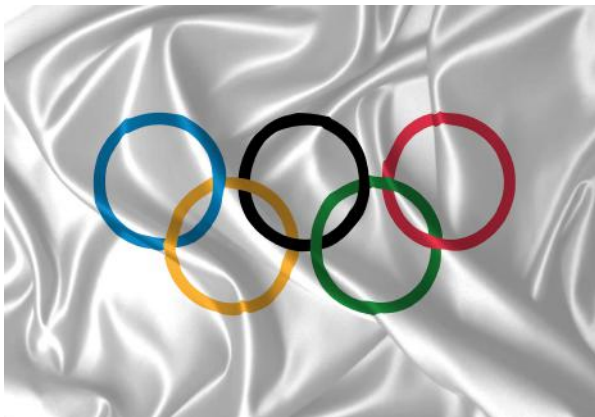


THE WINDSOCK

THE WINTER OLYMPICS HAVE BEGUN!

BY: FORTIE CHIPETA

This February is the WINTER OLYMPICS!!!! Lots of anticipation is building as athletes begin to prepare for the Winter Olympics. During the Winter Olympics, athletes from all over the world participate in an immaculate winter sporting competition. Since 1924, the Olympics have been held in many locations around the world. This year, the Winter Olympics will be held in Beijing, China. As China is preparing to host the Winter Olympics, the presence of the Omicron variant has brought some challenges. However, a spokesperson indicated that China's plan for the Olympics has not changed.



They are confident that the Olympics will be held as scheduled - smoothly and successfully. To ensure this, they have mandated protocols for the athletes. For the 2022 Winter Olympics, they require all participants to submit two negative PCR tests before entering China. Infected staff and athletes will not be able to compete, and will be sent to a hospital or isolation facility based on whether the patient is symptomatic. Symptomatic patients would be discharged after their body temperature returns to normal, and have presented two consecutive COVID-19 tests within 24 hours. If the athletes are not vaccinated, they will be forced to quarantine for 21 days. These protocols will help the Winter Olympics go on.

HARMISON CONTINUES TO IMPRESS

BY: SKYLER HARMINSEN

The Broadway Invitational set the tone for the Flames basketball team this year. After an excellent team win against an elite D5 public school opponent Potomac Falls, the Flames advanced to the championship against Broadway. The Potomac game was a dogfight, but the Broadway game was the exact opposite: a high flying offensive domination led by Harmison. The Gobblers defensive game plan was to allow Harmison to shoot, much to his surprise; and liking. He made 5 three pointers, and in my court side seats I heard him yell after a mad three: "You better step up or I'm going for 20 tonight!"

He finished with 5 threes and 17 points en route to a blowout victory. The tournament team committee took notice, and gave him the nod of first-team honors. Selected to the All-Tournament team for the second time this season, in a different sport, Harmison has continued his excellent athletic campaign. He has continued to play a vital role in Eastern Mennonite's 8-5 season, enough to catapult the Flames to 4th in D3 private school state rankings and 1st in DNR area rankings ahead of Tyler Nickel's East Rock Eagles. "I'm certain North Carolina has taken notice," observed Harmison.

He also received high praise from our interviewees. "What he's been able to do is incredible," remarks an unidentified 6'6' bald man in a pompous Chicago casino. "As much as I hate to admit it, (Harmison) reminds me of myself back in my day." He glanced at the 6 rings on his hand and paused for a moment before adding, "except with a higher IQ, better fundamentals and smoother stroke from the three." Schuyler's consistently effective production begs the question, does Harmison deserve to have his picture up in the athletic Hall of Flames when it's all said and done? To him, the answer is simple. "Absolutely." He boasted before climbing in his helicopter, and added, "I'm like Tiger Woods, Manuel Neuer and Michael Jordan rolled into one. If I don't deserve it, nobody does." The chopper started and he ascended away. Much like his silky smooth jump shot and as evidenced with how well he rocks that buzz cut, his confidence never wavers.



ZELDA: LINK'S AWAKENING REVIEW

BY: NOAH LOKER

Editor's Note: This is an excerpt from a longer review. Please let a Windsock staff member know if you would like to read the full review.

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The Legend of Zelda: Link's Awakening is a 2D Action-Adventure game published by Nintendo for the Game Boy in 1993, and later remade by Grezzo and published by Nintendo for the Nintendo Switch in 2019. It is considered a great game by almost every Zelda fan and some even say it is the best Zelda game. In this review I will give my thoughts on the remake of this timeless classic.

Link's Awakening takes place on Koholint Island, a tropical island somewhere in a dream world. It consists of many different biomes including plains, a desert, a swamp, a forest, a beach, mountains, and more. I really like this overworld because Link's awakening uses every square foot to its advantage. There are mini-games, secret seashells, villages, enemies, npcs, and a lot more to do around Koholint. You'll never be bored exploring this island!

Dungeons in Link's Awakening are great and varied. They are serieses of rooms and hallways that have lots of enemies, puzzles, and a few bosses.

Their shape is related to the main boss of the dungeon or their name. Some examples are Tail Cave being shaped like Moldorm, the boss of that dungeon and Key Cavern being shaped like a key. This detail is fun to notice and makes each dungeon more unique. It's crazy how much care and attention Nintendo and Grezzo put into the minor details in every dungeon. The puzzles and enemies in the dungeons are simple but effective most of the time. The puzzles usually consist of doing a complex or unique puzzle to receive a key, then unlocking a door. You don't have to do each dungeon a specific way as there are almost always many doors you unlock in order to progress. I think this is a huge upside to the dungeons because it makes them more replayable. The enemies are a mix of overworld and dungeon-specific enemies. They usually are very simple and nothing of note, but I really like the stafos in particular because they have multiple variations. One of them tries to avoid you while another is very aggressive. These and buzz blobs (these can be found in the overworld) are some of my favorite Zelda enemies. All in all, the dungeons in Link's awakening are amazing, enjoyable, and replayable.

Link's Awakening's side content is unique to say the least. There aren't any traditional side quests which makes the towns very lacking in content and personality due to you not having much interaction with the characters compared to other open-world games. I absolutely love the minigames here and the dungeon maker is my favorite thing to do in this game. While it's far from a Zelda themed Mario maker, it is still very fun. The Trendy game is fantastic and so is the raft minigame is superb. I also really liked the optional dungeon. There is also a collectathon where you collect secret seashells to get various rewards. Overall, this game isn't lacking in side content and what it does have is mostly great but it doesn't stand up to games like Breath of the Wild and Skyrim. The story of Link's Awakening is not very complex. Link washes up on the shore of Koholint Island and has to wake the Wind Fish to leave. During the game you visit eight mandatory dungeons with short overworld quests in between. These include taking Marin to Animal Village to do an open air concert and exploring an abandoned castle to find a rich man's golden leaves. In conclusion, Link's Awakening is an amazing game. It is very light hearted up front but has dark undertones, which I really like and it prioritizes the quality of its content over the amount it has to offer, which makes it very replayable. I would recommend it to everybody who likes action-adventure games or who wants to try a game in this genre.

Wizard of Oz Cast and Crew Remarks

BY: Claire Parsley

The school's production of The Wizard of Oz is coming up! Here are some responses from the cast about the show.

What aspects of your character are different or similar to you?

"Considering my character is a tree, not very much. The trees are part of a 'sororitree' and each of them has a very sassy personality." -Sophie Hendricks (Glinda Understudy, Tree, Ozian, Wicked Witch of the West)

"We both love flannels and joking around" -Ryan Hostetter (Uncle Henry, Jitterbug, Wizard Understudy, Ozian, Winkie, Crow)



photo by Nintendo



Poster art by Anneke McDonald

Which character is your favorite?

"Nick Gardner as himself" -Mac Lehman (Guard, Winkie, Understudy for Lion, Tinman, and Scarecrow, Crow)

"My favorite character other than my own is Glinda, because she's exactly the way everyone describes her, but she's also kind of quirky in some ways that you don't really notice immediately." -Eleanor Albers (Dorothy Understudy, Jitterbug, Tree)

What's your favorite line in the show?

"My favorite line is 'Some people without brains do an awful lot of talking, don't they?'- said by Scarecrow" - Emily Hess

"'Where's Kansas?' -Scarecrow" -Sophie Hendricks

"Where's Kansas?" -Mac Lehman

"You GAve Me a WHOLE SACK a' KIT'Tn's in there" -Claire Parsley (Dorothy)

(cont. on next page)

What are you most looking forward to the audience seeing?

“I am most looking forward to the audience just seeing the set. There has been a lot of hard work put into making the set look amazing, and it really does look amazing. I think this is one of the biggest sets I have been on at this school and there are so many cool little pieces of art done that I think people will really like.” -Emily Hess

What would you ask the Wizard for?

“I would probably just ask the wizard for a sandwich or something.”-Eleanor Albers

“A hug”- Anonymous



photo by Sugar, Spice, and Glitter

Claire: One good one is to eat healthier. No pressure to commit to a new challenging diet but simply try to avoid certain harmful foods here and there. Maybe eat more muffins!!

Naomi: Drink more water to stay healthy and hydrated! Be thoughtful about what you are consuming and keep in mind how important water is for the human body. Maybe have someone else keep you accountable for water drinking.

Claire: Find more excuses to get out into nature! How educational it is to see how humans have trashed the great outdoors! Then to cleanse your mind and do some good, go visit a lovely local bakery and support small businesses!

Naomi: In order to promote bettering our environment and our future, consider encouraging strangers to improve their littering habits. If you notice someone about to litter, have a heart to heart with them about how they are single-handedly killing everyone's future, and offer them a trash bag to hold their garbage.

Claire: Try being more direct with your thoughts if something is bothering you. For instance, if someone has a gross stain on their shirt, let them know how it's personally affecting your mood! Try saying, “Hi there friend! I'm noticing the stain on your shirt is from ketchup. Maybe try eating muffins next time and that won't happen!”

Naomi: Choose your favorite traits from your top 10 favorite US presidents, and try to implement those traits into who you are. For example, if you admire Benjamin Harrison, you probably know that he had two pet opossums, so try adopting an opossum to become more like your idol.

Naomi: While New Year's resolutions are ultimately about bettering yourself, consider making your friends feel more loved and appreciated by leaving them anonymous messages letting them know how beautiful and special they are. Try putting these notes in unexpected places such as on their pillowcase, in their shower, or in their clothing drawers. You can also write messages on their windows when they're sleeping, so they can wake up to a friendly greeting. Consider messages such as “you look so beautiful when you're asleep,” or “just know someone's always watching over you.”

Claire: Muffins sure are great.

GOOD NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

BY: NAOMI DIENER AND CLAIRE PARSLEY

Well, we've made it through a decent chunk of January and to all those impressive people who have stuck to their New Year's resolutions this long, Naomi and I give a big congratulations. However, there are lots of mistakes to be made when it comes to choosing a New Year's resolution and we're here to tell you whether or not you made a good one. First off, I think it's obvious that if you're one of the goofs who didn't even make a resolution, which I believe is probably well over half of you, then you need to work on that. Maybe you should make a resolution right here and now to be less lame. Now, we will list some of the best resolutions for the new year!