

THE EAGLE EYE

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Cover photo by Darian Williams

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Senior Priority

Dear Editor,
As the entire country knows what happened to our school on Feb. 14, we are all well aware of safety concerns and issues. One major issue is that the class of 2020 (juniors) who have dual enrollment are allowed to park in the senior lot because they're "too scared."

Now do not get me wrong, I am not dismissing their fears or problems, but I just want to make this issue more clear to the school because the seniors this year do not have enough spots for themselves. Plus all of the security guards and staff parking in them along with the seniors.

As seniors, we have waited for three of our high school years to be able to park there, and now, because some juniors NEED to park and not walk to the junior lot, we are losing spots. Seniors are continuously being told they will be put on a waiting list for a pass to park, when we all know the juniors take up all of the spots. It is just ridiculous. Even though it's the juniors taking our spots, it's the administration who lets them.

Alyson Peri, 12

No Connection

Dear Editor,
There is something that has been bothering me for a really long time and it is very simple, Wifi. Our school's wifi is terrible and there is no doubt in that. Ignoring the fact, for now, that we are only allowed to access certain websites, it is far too unreliable that it is barely worth using.

The fact that it doesn't even allow us to use Google Chrome for any sort of research, but the fact that they block websites with no bad content in it just grates on my nerves. If you want to look something up on a wiki, nope, wifi won't let you. Using a server to read a story and don't want to use your data, school wifi disagrees. It's just pointless restrictions that no one literally uses it unless they have a computer they need to use.

The fact that, at one point, certain websites were allowed but then blocked for use is.... Just why!

Given the fact that it was done to prevent us from using our data to cut cost on mobile bills, it completely counters its original purpose. What's worse is that the school has different service strengths throughout the entire campus on all platforms. One classroom can have the perfect signal and five feet away has nothing. Honestly, I would like to see the internet actually help us rather than hinder us.

Mia Oliveira, 12

SEND US A LETTER

Have something to say about school? Have something to say about a local, national or global issue? Have something to say about this issue of The Eagle Eye? We want to hear your opinions.

Email submissions to:
msdeagleeyenews@gmail.com

Submissions must be between 100-250 words

No New Normal

Dear Editor,

It's time for us to stop pretending Douglas is still a normal high school. I know we all wish we could go back to functioning as reckless, rowdy teenagers at school, a form of escape from the harsh realities of the outside world, but we can't.

PTSD is still an issue in this community, and it will be for a very long time. We as a student body tend to want to ignore these things, but the simple fact is, we just can't. We cannot knock on doors loudly or scream and shout at lunch without a care in the world, because we might

inadvertently hurt another student. Not physically, but mentally.

We all need to be conscious of the fact that everyone is at a different stage in the healing process. It is in our nature to judge, but the fact is, that it's impossible to know every student's story. One can never know where someone is in the healing process or what they might have lost. If we're going to get through the rest of our high school careers together, we must first learn to accept and understand each other. That begins with a mutual understanding.

Augustus Griffith, 11

A Limited Lens

Dear Editor,

It appears that in a majority of U.S. news there is a severe lack of insight regarding the rest of the world. The American populace would apparently prefer reading about a magazine analysis of a fake TV show murder case, or about the controversial president breathing weird, rather than news regarding Europe or Asia or Africa. Of course, this news exists, but in a ridiculous minority compared to the "Top Ten Beauty Tips" or the "You Won't Believe What This US Politician Did" categories. The only international news broadcasted or discussed longer than five minutes appears to be when they speak about national issues that affect the U.S. directly, or about a world-affecting natural disaster. The news that is given to the public is often copied, word-for-word, from another writer and given as original

content.

In short, U.S. news does not give its people a magnifying glass into the world; rather, it gives them a mirror to admire themselves in. And the American people have been trained to take that mirror without complaint.

This needs to change. A consistent and reliable section of the news describing the advancements or troubles of other nations, not just the U.S., would help in our understanding of the world politically, socially and economically. With the world being connected stronger than ever in human history, it is astonishing to see the U.S. so divided from the rest of the world. Only by informing the populace of more than just themselves can we hope to instill a vital curiosity that encourages them to realize that the U.S. isn't the only nation that exists.

Katarina Athanasiou, 11

Believe Women

Dear Editor,

If you've been watching the news, I'm sure you've heard about the accusations surrounding Brett Kavanaugh and you probably know what I am about to say. I can understand why there would be skeptics who don't fully believe the accusations against Kavanaugh. Yes, 35 years is a long time to come out about someone sexually assaulting you, but what most fail to understand is that when you are sexually assaulted, it takes you a long time to fully understand what has happened to you.

Most people who argue that she "took too long" have most likely never been sexually assaulted, or have and now

have deep issues they have not dealt with. There shouldn't be a time clock on trauma, it is extremely hard to come out to someone about your experience, whether it's because you feel ashamed, scared or just aren't ready to have that conversation yet. Every person is different and shouldn't be judged on how long it took them to come out with their story.

I am extremely proud of Dr. Ford for speaking out. Her story can, and has, inspired so many people to come out with their trauma, and she makes it known that it doesn't matter how long you take, your story is still valid.

Anahi Maldonado, 11

Eliminate Hate

Dear Editor,

The overwhelming amount of hatred that is prevalent in our world today is alarming. Many of the prominent issues happening in the world stem from hatred. I mean most people in the world are afraid of stepping foot outside of their homes because of the possibilities. Some even feel unsafe in their own homes. That fear stems from the hatred that is engulfing the globe. Day after day there is news about violence motivated by hate.

Prejudice towards race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, a disability or a person's upbringing has become a way of isolating one's victim. Whether it be through verbal, mental or physical abuse. Not only that, but people in your everyday life can spew some kind of hatred. Even if there may not be malicious intent, it can still hurt other people. When did hatred become a way of life? It's 2018 shouldn't love trump hate?

Kiara Doleo, 12

The Next Generation

Dear Editor,

I really worry about the next generation. We are the generation of technology, but we at least grew up playing outside as children. Kids these days are growing up solely on iPads and cell phones.

There's so many game consoles out as well, and with people using headsets to talk to strangers while they play, there's not as much need for kids to get any meaningful interaction. It's so rare to see children actually playing outside or even having kids read a book.

There's no time for kids to be bored and figure out a way to entertain themselves because as long as their phone has a charge, they have something to do. When we were young if we were bored, we went outside or read a book or we played with whatever toy we begged our parents to buy us, but today's children only have technology

Alyssa Kramer, 12

Oceans are Rising. Why Aren't We?

Dear Editor,

A few years ago, climate change was all anyone could talk about. But now that we've got bigger issues in America, it has been way less of a hot-button topic. Reports of environmental regulations being rolled back are buried under the scandal of the week. Regardless, the clock keeps ticking on climate change. Not all of the damage being done is even reversible, and it gets more permanent as time goes on. Global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius has occurred since pre-industrial times, causing dangerous consequences for both the environment and human life.

Hurricanes, like Florence, Harvey and Maria, are growing stronger, slower-moving and more disastrous. Northern Europe has experienced record-breaking heat waves in areas unprepared for such temperatures. Flooding in places like India, Japan, Southeast Asia and the Southeastern U.S. has taken lives and destroyed property. Even here in Florida, a "red tide" of harmful algae has made its way to Palm Beach, filling the waters and beaches with dead sea life.

Rising global temperatures contribute to all of these phenomenons. Burning fossil fuels, pollution, over-farming of cattle and deforestation, among many, many other human actions, contribute to rising global temperatures. Climate change is not just a theory. It's not made up by liberal scientists trying to take over the world or something. Climate change is real, and denying it only allows the impacts to get worse.

Anna Bayuk, 11