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Two more victories for Eagles Volleyball



Dave Gibson
Gilpin County

On Tuesday, September 20, the Gilpin Girls' Volleyball Team traveled to Highlands Ranch for a match against Skyview. Varsity Coach Topher Rouse called it one of the most exciting environments they'd played at in recent years. Rouse noted that, "The Skyview fans were extremely energetic which made for a loud gym. Our C Team and JV players were up to the challenge and during the entire varsity match, it was difficult communicating with my players even during timeouts. We were led by Camryn Ganz who led the team with seven kills and hit percentage of .428 (kills minus hitting errors divided by total attacks). Jordanna Gagnon (14 serves, 1 error, 1 ace, 93%) and Ganz

PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Including a Homecoming win

Above, left; Camry Gatz was one of the many standouts. Above, right; Maddie Sutton bumps the ball for the C Team.

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Nederland mountain bike team takes on Steamboat



PHOTO BY JOELLE WISLER

Joelle Wisler
Steamboat Springs

The Nederland High School Mountain Bike Team rolled into the Showdown in The Boat on Saturday, September 24, at Howelsen Hill in Steamboat Springs. While the weather was perfect, the athletes were met by a challenging course with 51 switchbacks and plenty of climbing.

Laila Waldron's impressive third place finish in the junior varsity girls division was Nederland's top finish for the day. This was followed by Grayson Shurr in seventh place for the sophomore boys and Halle

Peiffer's ninth place personal best finish in freshman girls.

Sophomore Waldron is sitting in third place overall in season points for the freshman girls, Shurr sits in fourth place overall for sophomore boys, and senior Hayden Camp is ranked 18th overall in varsity boys.

At the end of the day, the Nederland team held onto their second place overall spot in the D3 division.

For seniors Camp and Ezekiel Fitzer, their high school mountain biking careers are nearing an end. Both athletes have ridden all four

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Enchanted Forest brings joy to guests



PHOTO BY JAMIE LAMMERS

Jamie Lammers
Nederland

On Saturday, September 24, 2022, Wild Bear held its 21st Annual Enchanted Forest event, and it was a smashing success. The event, which was held at 88 Indian Peaks Drive in Nederland, featured events such as face painting, live music, and tours through a looping trail. The tours, as per usual, featured costumed animal characters that told audience members what they were and how they behaved. Animals this year included a bear, fox, eagle, moose and salamander.

Last year's 20th Annual Enchanted Forest saw the highest numbers in the history of the event, with nearly 1,000 people attending throughout the course

of the day. This year shared a similar attendance. Booths were scattered all along the trail, and the event also featured a live magician, live owls and bald eagle and a friendly neighborhood yak.

Wild Bear is currently celebrating its upcoming net-zero emission nature center, which was initiated this year, with the foundation and framing to be completed by the next Enchanted Forest, the last Saturday in September 2023. The building will be powered by the sun and will be giving back energy to the Town of Nederland. It will be free to the public, with hands-on exhibits, a nature playscape and a half-mile interpreted trail that is on Wild Bear's property at

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- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step." ~Lao Tzu

Gilpin celebrates Homecoming 2022



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

An activity-packed three days

Top, left; Kayla Marr sets the volleyball. Top right; The Varsity Volleyball Team: Front row, left to right, Sierra Ramsey, Abby Smith, Kayla Marr. Middle row, Tommie DiMauro, Camryn Gatz, Kailee Starkey, Sterling O'Sullivan, Faith Ramsey, Joel Sutton, Jordanna Gagnon. Back row, Skyley Ramsey, Annabelle Aloel, Jiselle Osteboe, Bailey Bagwell, Sarah Lovett. Bottom, right; Danni Sterlicht at the net. Bottom, left; Gilpin juniors caught in a time warp. Middle, left; Freshman Elise Vincent.

Continued from page 1

(13 serves, 2 aces, 0 errors, 100%) led the Eagles in serving. We were pleased to walk away with a three set win.”

Rouse added, “Two nights later, Union Colony Prep was a tough varsity home match. It was our Homecoming match so our crowd was energized and extremely loud. Gilpin was led by Skyley Ramsey who had sixteen kills. We won the first two sets. The third set was a challenge. Twice, we had them at match point, but they fought back. We lost 25-27, but the girls did not get down or lose focus. The fourth set was back and forth. I felt the turning point was when Jiselle Osteboe got a stuff block on a back row attack from

one of Union Colony’s better hitters. Jordanna Gagnon again led in serving (24 serves, 2 aces, 1 error, for 96%). Abby Smith led in defense with 40 digs over the four sets.”

Final tally: Gilpin 3, Union colony 1. With two of the Eagles’ regulars missing in action, it was a good win against a quality opponent.

Keep an eye on this talented group. The Gilpin Volleyball Team’s overall record is now 11-4 and 4-0 in league play. They play at home again October 6 against Dayspring Christian, October 11 against Front Range Christian, and October 20 against Highland. The girls wrap up their season at an away match in Lyons, October 25.

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Gilpin Eagles Homecoming 2022



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Football and royalty

Above; Ellis Lopez goes up for the football in Friday's game. Right, from top to bottom; King Trey Lindberg and Queen Skyley Ramsey. Prince Dusty LeBeau and Princess Alexa Braming, Count Connor Holloway and Countess Faith Ramsey. Duke Justin Johnson and Duchess Lizabeth Madrigal-Garcia.

Dave Gibson Gilpin County

On Friday, September 23, the parking lot next to the Teller House in Central City was abuzz in activity. It was Homecoming Day for the Gilpin County Eagles and students were busy making last-minute preparations to their costumes and floats for the annual parade. This year's theme was "Movies from the 1980s."

The freshman class chose the 1985 film *Goonies*. Their "aarghtfully" decorated float was complete with skeletons, cobwebs, a treasure map, and treasure chest. Eye patches, bandanas, and swords were essential accessories. The juniors traveled *Back to the Future* on a trailer rather than in a DeLorean. Sophomores were decked out in official uniforms and specter-fighting weaponry of the 1984 cinematic hit *Ghostbusters*. As the top guns at Gilpin High, the seniors logically selected the movie *Top Gun* as their film while riding on a F-14A Tomcat, keeping an eye to the sky for MIG-28s.

The Homecoming royalty were transported in open-air vehicles from which to wave to the crowd. Sophomores Count Connor Holloway and Countess Faith Ramsey occupied the back seat of a particularly nice ride – a mint condition late 60s fire red Camaro convertible.

The turnout at Gilpin County Stadium for the Homecoming football game was the largest I've ever seen. Not only alumni, family of the athletes, and parents of Pee Wee Cheer members were there, but people seeking an entertaining evening of football. The word is out – Friday and Saturday night football under the lights in Gilpin County is the place to be.

The Eagles were looking to build on their prior victory and came out ready to play. Fans got a thrill when sophomore Aiden Zeilbeck returned the opening kickoff eighty-two yards down the far sideline for a touchdown. Senior Zach Gebhart

scored the first points of his high school football career on a successful 2-point conversion to put the Eagles ahead 8-0.

The South Park Burros fumbled the ensuing

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Gilpin Eagles Homecoming 2022



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

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kickoff at their own 25-yard line. Taking advantage of good field position, Gilpin moved the football to the 2-yard line before sophomore Connor Holloway found paydirt on a quarterback follow play for Gilpin's second touchdown of the evening. Employing their power tank set with their big men at running backs, Zach Gebhart barreled into the endzone for the conversion and a 16-0 lead.

South Park registered a touchdown to end the first quarter's scoring. A safety in the second quarter brought the tally to Eagles 16, Burros 8. A nice drive by Gilpin took them to South Park's 1-yard

line. With no timeouts left, the clock ran out in the first half for the Eagles, unable to punch the ball into the endzone.

The performance at halftime by Pee Wee Cheer was a highlight for many. Spending a half day with the varsity cheerleaders practicing their routine a week before, forty-nine young girls (and three boys) ages three through ten took to the field to cheer on the team just as the cheerleading squad does every week. As cute as can be, some of them might even become Gilpin Eagles cheerleaders themselves one day.

Failure to score in the closing seconds of the first half turned the momentum of the contest. If the Eagles had gone up by two touchdowns, it would have forced the

A big turnout

Top, left; Pee Wee Cheer entertained at halftime. Top, right; James Niedert (54) and Mason Sechler wrap up a South Park Burro. Bottom, right; Who you gonna call? – the sophomore class, of course. Bottom, left; Aiden Zeilbeck hones his pass catching skills before the contest.

Burros into a passing game wherein the Eagles defenders could have disregarded the run and pinned their ears back going after the quarterback. Interceptions are more likely to occur under such a scenario. Instead, South Park was able to find its groove, enjoying success running the pigskin with their quarterback option. In his first start at linebacker, Gilpin sophomore Ryan Hanssen played the best game of his career as the leading tackler. Final score: South Park, 28, Gilpin, 16.

It was a hard loss for the players and coaches in a game they thought they

should have won. In a rebuilding year that includes merely four upperclassmen on the entire roster, the players are still learning, growing, and getting better. It will be fun watching them as they continue to improve in the coming years.

The Eagles play home games against Front Range Christian, Friday, September 30, at 7 p.m., and against Lyons, Saturday, October 15, at 7 p.m. They close out the season with an away game at Boulder High School, Saturday, October 30, against Justice. The kickoff is at 1 p.m.

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Gilpin Middle School Football prevails



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

The varsity's farm club

Above; Running the football was their bread and butter. Top, right; Tauren Paxton applies a stiff arm. Bottom, right; Ryan Mann follows his blocker for the closing touchdown.

Dave Gibson
Gilpin County

As a prelude to the varsity Homecoming game on September 23, the Eagles sixth, seventh, and eighth grade gridironers took on the South Park Burros at Gilpin County Stadium.


Finding themselves down six points early in the contest, the Eagles roared back to score a 3-yard touchdown on a quarterback keeper around the left side by Ryan Mann (16) with 51 seconds remaining in the half. Staying with what worked, the same play yielded them two points on the conversion to make the score Gilpin 8, South Park 6. Another touchdown was scored by the Burros on a rushing play in the closing seconds. The same play yielded them two more points. Score at halftime: Gilpin 8, South Park 14.

In the third quarter, based on the strength of their rushing attack, the Eagles marched down the field to the 9-yard line. Running back Gabe Hockley skirted around the left side for a score to pull ahead 16-14. A momentary lapse of special teams play surrendered a touchdown on the ensuing kickoff to put South Park ahead 20 to 16. Gilpin stuffed the 2-point attempt.

A hard-fought contest on an afternoon where the lead would change hands several times, the Eagles weren't done scoring just yet. A long drive took Gilpin to South Park's 9-yard line. Lining up in a Y-formation, the handoff went to running back Tauren Paxton (42) who scampered around the right side on a reverse sweep for a touchdown. Gabe Hockley (15) threw a key block to spring Paxton for the score. Gilpin 24, South Park 20. The Eagles added another rushing touchdown in the fourth quarter by quarterback Ryan Marr to secure the victory. Final Score: Gilpin 30, South Park 20.

Said Coach Paul Hanson after the game, "That was a great game and tough battle by our guys. I'm really proud of them. They showed a lot of grit, toughness, and resiliency throughout the game. We are fortunate to have an awesome group of Gilpin Middle School student-athletes on the team this year. It's been a fun season! We are really looking forward to hosting the Gilpin County Middle School Football Jamboree on Saturday, October 15, at 10 a.m. Clear Creek, South Park, Front Range Christian, and Gilpin County will be playing a tournament at our field, and our plan is to hoist a trophy at the end of the day."





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The Gilpin County slash site will close for the season October 23, 2022. The County is hosting a Shred-A-Thon, Saturday, September 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Gilpin Fairgrounds.