

# THE SAGE

Cokeville High School

September 2023

## First Week Activities

Our new student body officers did an excellent job planning fun and engaging activities to welcome everyone back for the 2023–24 school year.

### Monday:

The officers took everyone to the auditorium, and we had someone come from a different school and talk to us about bullying and being kind to everybody. The speaker taught that when you are mean to someone, it will affect others. One example he shared was if you were to bully someone who likes to dress differently than others, that person won't be himself anymore; they will change so they don't get hurt again.

Later that day we went outside and played a different version of rock paper scissors. The game went as follows: Each class would line up on opposite sides of the football field, and one person from each team would sprint until they met up with their opponent, then they would stop and play rock paper scissors. Whoever won would keep running until they met another player. The first person to make it to the opposite side of the field won.

### Tuesday:

The student council then called the whole school to the lower gym and had each grade play dodgeball against another grade. We played many times, and the freshmen won against everyone. It was a good time and good class bonding opportunity.

### Wednesday:

On Wednesday, they called everyone outside. We got in a line with our classes and did a relay where you pour a cup of water over your head into the person's cup behind you. The class that had the most water in the last cup would win. Then we went onto the field and played tug of war. There were some good battles, and it was an exciting event.

### Thursday:

On Thursday, we were told to bring shorts or a swimsuit and a towel. We all went out to the baseball diamond, and we had the option to play waterslide kickball or have a water balloon fight. Everyone ended up covering themselves in soap and playing in the water. It was very exciting.

The first week of school was very fun, and the activities the student council planned for us were great. It was a first week of school we won't forget.

–Kacen Milsted



## FAQs: Things going on around the school

### What is going on with the roof?

Mr Dietz described to me that the district had informed us that the roof was way too old and that we needed to replace it as soon as possible. To deal with this problem, we asked contractors to place a bid on the roof, so we'd know how much we would have to pay. The bid came back at about 2 million dollars. Then our district chose a group of contractors to come and fix the roof. The contractors have been working on the roof all summer and some of the beginning of the school year.

### New carpet in some of the classrooms?

The school district informed us that some classes needed new carpet because the carpet in those rooms had gotten too old, so those rooms got new carpet over the summer. Some of the classrooms' carpet had not reached their expiration date, so eventually the rooms with the old carpet will get new carpet too. Essentially, if we didn't put new carpet in the rooms, the old carpet could get bugs, mold, and mice.

### Why did Mr. Linford step down as head wrestling coach?

Now, we all wonder why Coach Linford stepped down from wrestling head coach. The reason for that was Mr. Linford wanted to give someone else a chance to be head coach. So by stepping down, Mr. Teichert can carry on his dream of becoming head coach.

–Kacen Milsted

Resources:  
Mr. Linford and Mr. Dietz

## Teacher Spotlight: Mr. Burgoyne

There is a new music teacher at Cokeville High School, and his name is Mr. Burgoyne.

Mr. Burgoyne grew up in Montpelier and went to high school at Bear Lake High School. He then attended Utah State University for his undergraduate studies. After that, he transferred to BYU Provo for his graduate studies. Since graduating from BYU and USU, he has been teaching music for 32 years. He has taught bands, choirs, theater plays, and many other musical groups. He has lived in a few different states and areas to teach, but then he moved back to his hometown, Montpelier. After moving back to Montpelier, he retired; but after being retired for a short amount of time, Mr. Burgoyne realized that he was too bored. He also realized how much he loved music, and teaching music. Both of those realizations caused Mr. Burgoyne to rethink retirement. During this time, Cokeville High School's music teacher Jonathan Rose stepped down from the music position, which caused an opening for a music teacher at Cokeville High School. At first, Mr. Burgoyne didn't think much of it, but after receiving an email from Lynne Pope (former classmate to Mr. Burgoyne), he decided he would look into the position. He not only looked into the job, but he acquired it.

Mr. Burgoyne now teaches choir, band, and Celebration (show choir) at Cokeville High School. Some of the Celebration members, including Jack Dayton, Micah Petersen, Justin Moyes, Ammon Hatch, Kayson Walker, and Dash Nate, were able to interview Mr. Burgoyne and really get to know him. When they asked what his favorite teaching story was, he replied with, "It is hard to pick a favorite, because I like to live in the now. Once something is done with, I am onto the next thing." He then said, "One of my favorite funny stories was when I was teaching marching band.

I was guiding them through a Z-pull, and then I tried to guide them into a reverse Z-pull, but one person in the band tripped and everyone went down like dominos."

Mr Burgoyne was then asked what a perfect day would look like to him, and he said, "Good sleep. Good sleep so that we can make great rehearsals." Mr. Burgoyne then explained that he would love to spend the day having fun shaping and making music. He said, "There is no perfect day of music, because everyone makes mistakes, but I would love to make great progress." Mr Burgoyne's favorite sport to watch is basketball, and he also really loves to watch baseball. He would love to be able to play those sports but he doesn't consider himself to be the most coordinated athlete. His favorite color is blue, and his favorite flavor of ice cream is huckleberry.

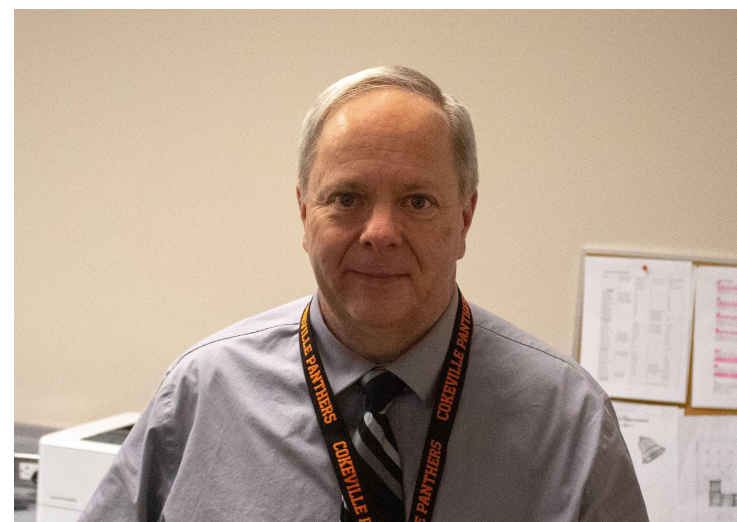
Mr. Burgoyne loves all food, and trying new foods, but his all-time favorite is sweet and sour chicken, authentic made from Hong Kong. His favorite movie/tv series is Seinfeld, and his favorite song is "Be Good Johnny," by Men At Work. He loves all music, but that song in particular he likes because, in his words, "It's my rebellious song."

Some fun facts about Mr. Burgoyne included, he played the trumpet on an album that went platinum (The Mormon Tabernacle Choir). Other than teaching and writing music, some of Mr. Burgoyne's favorite hobbies are watching and quoting movies with his friends. One of his favorite movie quotes comes from "The Simpsons." The quote is said by Homer Simpson and it goes, "Well kids, you tried your best and you failed miserably. The lesson is never try." Mr. Burgoyne one time told this to one of his musical groups after they messed up one of their songs. He was saying it jokingly to try to help lighten the mood, but he said, "They didn't really like that much, it didn't really help." Another fun fact about Mr. Burgoyne is, he adopted two cats. When he adopted them, he was told they were both male, so he named them Charles and Jimmy. After a trip

to the vet, he was told that Jimmy was actually a female cat, but Mr. Burgoyne still decided to call it Jimmy. The last fun fact he told to his interviewing students was that he tried to pick up golf, but one time while he was golfing, he accidentally hit the golf ball into the field next to the course, and he actually hit a horse. So he took that as a sign that he wasn't supposed to golf.

Mr. Burgoyne plans on teaching at Cokeville High School until he retires.... again. But he doesn't plan on retiring any time soon, because he loves music too much. The students who interviewed him believe that he fits in really well at the high school, and they hope he doesn't leave any time soon.

—Jack Dayton





## Volleyball Begins

The beginning of the school year marks the start of sports season for many schools across the country. For Cokeville High School, it means the start of their volleyball season. The Lady Panthers are gearing up for another exciting season on the court. The team has been working hard all summer, attending volleyball camps and practicing regularly to improve their skills. With a strong core of returning players, they are looking to build on last year's success and make a deep run in the state tournament. The Lady Panthers have a tough schedule this year, with games against some of the top teams in the state. However, they are not intimidated and are looking forward to the challenge.

As the season gets underway, the Lady Panthers are focused on one goal—winning a state championship. With their talent, dedication, and hard work, they have the potential to make that goal a reality. With the season well underway and the girls showing their strengths and weaknesses, they will be able to prepare for anything that comes their way. It's going to be an exciting season for Cokeville High School volleyball. So invite your friends and family to the games, enjoy some concessions, and cheer for your Panthers.

GO COKE!

—Dash Nate

**"As the season gets underway, the Lady Panthers are focused on one goal—winning a state championship. With their talent, dedication, and hard work, they have the potential to make that goal a reality."**



## Football is Back

So far into the new season, Cokeville football is back on the top. We didn't have a great pre-season: we beat Kemmerer in a scrimmage but lost to Upton Sundance, 6 - 13. We should have beat Upton, but we weren't playing like we should have been.

But we made it all up with a week 1 conference game against a top-tier high school football team, the Lovell Bulldogs. We came out on top with a 32-18 win over the Bulldogs, with Cokeville passing for 52 yards and rushing for 365 yards, for a combined total of 417 yards. We converted on third down 6 out of 11 times and had one interception. It was a good first conference game and showed the state that we aren't messing around this season. The other games for rest of September are the 15th in Pinedale at 7 pm, 18th is a JV game in Cokeville against Kemmerer's JV at 4 pm, the 22nd is in Kemmerer at 7pm, the 25th is a JV game against Mountain View at 4 pm, and the last game of september on the 29th is our homecoming game against Mountain View at 1 pm. The football team is very hopeful for these games, and plan to win all of them; therefore, they have been practicing hard so that the games will have great outcomes. As a team and as a community we need to cheer on the volleyball team as well so they can play well, and then we can have a shot at bringing home two state championships this fall season. As you can see, Panther football is back and stronger than ever.

—Clay Teichert



## Editorials



### Cool Math Games: We Want Them Back

“Hey, if I catch you on Cool Math Games again, that computer is mine.” This was a phrase that the average junior high/high school student heard much too often two years ago. There were a lot of computers or iPads that were taken because of the abuse of Cool Math Games—but were we actually abusing Cool Math Games, or were we trying to improve our brains because we were playing Math Games that were Cool? I believe we were doing the latter.

Cool Math Games was developed and launched in 1997. The website was developed by two best friends, Michael and John. (They did not reveal their last names.) Michael had been having trouble with math for all of his elementary school and junior high school years. In high school, however, he was introduced to business math. He learned to really enjoy and love math. He went on to study finance and risk management at the University of Georgia. His best friend, John, had a different outlook on math. He always loved to do math and loved to try new types of math. He studied engineering math, and he graduated from the University of Connecticut with a civil engineering degree. So, these two friends got together and wanted to make a website with fun and challenging games, but also games that helped kids of all ages learn to do math and enjoy it.

They came up with the website Cool Math Games. This website also includes CoolMath.com and CoolMath4Kids. These portals of websites allow kids to play educational games that are fun. These websites also help kids build strategy, math, and logical reasoning skills. They became a go-to learning resource in the early 2000s, and it is still a go-to site that includes a little bit of retro vibe with the old-style game play and setup. Popular Mechanics said, “Cool Math Games has been one of the 50 most popular and favorite websites on the internet.”

Cool Math Games are very appropriate for kids of all ages. Kids can start using the website when they are in the first grade and use it to learn and have fun all the way to being a senior. Site officials of Cool Math Games say, “ We police the website daily to make sure that the site has appropriate ads and to ensure that the games are appropriate for kids of all ages. Kids are able to play this website at school, work, or at home. Teachers and parents have also been known to play on Cool Math Games, because it is so fun and educational for everyone, no matter the age. In fact, Mrs. Keetch was an avid Cool Math Games player. This shows that all ages and all people can learn something from Cool Math games.

Cool Math Games was unfortunately removed from us about three years ago. This was one of the saddest times in the history of CHS. We have not lost hope, though, that we will get them back—and now that we have learned that they are educational and challenging while adding in the element of fun, there is a chance we will get back what we want.

–Justin Moyes

### College Football Teams

Saturday Nights are back in full swing with the hype of college football. Fans everywhere are ready to pull out their superfanning clothes and cancel all their plans to watch their team. Here are the teams that everyone needs to watch out for:

Georgia Bulldogs – As the name says, these guys are seriously dawgs. They have been national champions in the year 2021 and 2022. These guys are coached by one of the greatest to ever coach the game of football, Kirby Smart. He used to be one of Nick Saban's assistant coaches, and he has taken what Nick Saban taught him to Georgia, and that is winning. They also have had a great selection of running backs that have come through the team. Nick Chubb and Zamir White both played for Georgia, and they are now fantastic running backs in the NFL. This program is very successful, and they are expected to continue that tradition for years to come.

Colorado Buffaloes – Coach Prime has brought Colorado back from the dead. They are now 2–0 with a thrilling win over the runner up team from last year, TCU. They won 45 to 42. This was a very back-and-forth ball game, with Colorado having 565 total yards of offense and TCU having 541 total yards. The quarterback from Colorado, Shedeur Sanders, had a fantastic game passing for a new school record of 510 yards. The Buffs also have a rare player, Travis Hunter. Travis plays wide receiver and also cornerback, which is very uncommon at the college level. He also played a great game, with 11 catches for 119 yards and an interception. These players are coached by the great Deion Sanders. He is a great coach, and he will be able to get these players NIL deals that will help them get money. These deals will cause recruits to want to go to Colorado in the years to come.

BYU – Even though this might not be a team to go to the playoffs or the national championship game, a lot of people are expecting big things from the Cougs. They just joined the Big 12 conference, and they will have a greater competition level. They might struggle for the first couple years, but being in a big conference should allow them to get better recruits and get better transfers.

Wyoming – This team has had a great start to the season. They beat Texas Tech in a thriller Week 1 and have continued to play well in Week 2. Wyoming beat Portland State 31–17 in Week 2: Even though this win over Portland wasn't a very big one, it was still good for them to get two wins in a row and get their confidence up. This week they play Texas. Texas just beat Alabama by ten, and if Wyoming can hold their own, Wyoming will seriously be a team to cheer for and believe in this year.

There are a lot of great games that happen every week in college football. It's the most wonderful time of the year, College football season is here.

–Justin Moyes



## Editorials



### Big Bucks and Bulls

With the new hunting season upon us, we need to be respectful of wildlife and nature in general, because it has been a hard winter and those animals are getting ready for the next. In order to be respectful to nature, we need to clean our camps, leave nothing but great memories, and make sure your fire is completely out so we don't have any fires on our hands. Most of the deer and elk were pretty small as of this last spring, so hopefully they have put on some weight for us hunters, because no one likes small deer and elk. You also need to make sure that you are hunting on public land, unless you have permission from the landowner if you are on private land. We need to be respectful not only of the land but also of the animals. Last year I was hunting and I walked up on this big brush, so I pushed through the big plant and a poached bull, with his antlers cut off, lay at my feet.

Now it is bow season, and it is going to be a good one for hunters, because the weather this fall is very warm and pleasant. I don't know about rifle season, though, because even in the valley it has been getting mighty chilly for the middle of September. But I think it will still be a great season for both bow and rifle hunters. Hopefully it doesn't snow throughout the entirety of hunting season, because there is no better way to put a damper on a hunt than to get snowed on.

Another thing about hunting is going on a good pack trip. When we go on these trips, let's be smart and safe, because horses are unpredictable in the mountains, and there is no telling what they might do. No matter what, I can tell this hunting season is going to be a good one even if it snows, or if we miss the biggest buck we have ever seen, because at the end of the day, we were with the people that we love, in the places that we love, doing what we love—hunting the big bucks and bulls.

—Clay Teichert



# Special Interest



## Messi to Miami

Lionel Messi is arguably the most well known soccer player of all time. He has been playing professional football for over 19 years. When he was 13 years old, the European team, FCB (Football Club Barcelona), saw Messi playing in the streets and signed him. Even though he was signed at age 13, he didn't play in any games until he turned 16. He is currently 36 and is still playing. Over his still-active career, he has scored over 800 goals and has collected over 44 trophies. He is one of the best soccer players to ever live, and he has come to America to play.

On July 21, 2023, Lionel Messi signed with the MLS team, Inter Miami. The contract he signed for Inter Miami is unheard of. He is getting paid over 60 million dollars per year, not including benefits. He also had a massive signing bonus, which includes partial ownership of the Inter Miami Club, that means Messi partially owns the same team that he plays for.

Some people are asking the question, why did Messi sign to play for Inter Miami? He is still good enough to play for European teams, and they are much better football teams. Lionel Messi had a few reasons why he chose to sign for an American team. One reason is, a few years ago Messi's team, FCB, was looking into signing new, younger players, so they needed to cut some players due to the money. Messi was one of the players who was cut. Fast forward a few years, FCB wanted Messi back, and Messi loved playing for FCB, but he knew that signing with them would mean other players would be cut. So Messi declined the offer and signed with Inter Miami only a few weeks later.

What's the significance of Messi coming to play in America? He's pretty old, after all. Many soccer fans from America would've never had a chance to watch the G.O.A.T. (greatest of all time) play, if he hadn't signed for a team in America. And since Messi has joined the club, ticket prices have gone up over 400%! The average price to attend an Inter Miami game was around \$152 dollars. Since Messi has joined, the average price has been up to over \$850 dollars! (CNBC.com) If a soccer fan wanted to attend a Messi game, but not in Inter Miami, it would be less expensive to buy season tickets for that team, rather than go to one Miami game. Messi is making the MLS so much more popular. Since Messi has signed to play in the MLS, over 24 million people have followed the MLS.

Messi is also giving the fans legendary moments to watch. Since Messi has joined the club, he's played 10 games and scored 11 goals (NBCSports.com). Messi has also brought his team from being the worst team in the league, to winning the league cup and winning 10 straight games. Messi is so incredible that, in his first game for Miami, he scored a game-winning free kick in the final minutes—and his first-ever game in the MLS, he scored a game-winning goal.

Lionel Messi coming to America is arguably one of the most wild things to happen in football, and the people in the U.S. are loving it. After all, he is the greatest player of all time.

-Jack Dayton

# Entertainment & Review

## The Cultural Impact of Scooby-Doo

The season of mystery is coming, and in that fashion I would like to re-introduce you to the original spooky spies, the Mystery Gang.

Scooby-Doo and the rest of the gang made their debut on September 13, 1969, in Hanna-Barbera's newest Saturday morning cartoon, "Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!" It depicted a group of teenagers and their great dane solving mysteries and unmasking monsters.

The series was developed during a time of political upheaval. With the Vietnam War and assassination of Robert F. Kennedy (JFK's brother), violence filled the screen. Even cartoons showcased villains or monsters being hunted down and killed by superheroes. The media was obsessed with the investigation of the assassination, so Hanna-Barbera decided to create something new, a show with low-stake investigations and a more lighthearted storyline. A CNN article by Kendall Trammell states, "That's how 'Scooby-Doo' came on the scene: A series that featured not a superhero out to destroy his arch nemesis, but a group of teens and their dog chasing down humans disguised as monsters." Trammell continues with findings from an interview, "People needed relief from all of the terror and from all of the dystopia and from all of the anger, and Scooby-Doo is groovy." Sandler, who is working on an upcoming book about the show, says, "Kids get scared, they watch, they think life is good, the monsters aren't real" (Kendall Trammell, 2019). Scooby-Doo was a show of relief and stayed relevant to pop culture, showcasing a group of groovy teens.



The history of how the show came to be helps us see that it has a lot more behind it than just a predictable storyline and goofy hijinks. The Scooby-Doo franchise shows that even normal kids (minus the talking dog) have the power to help in real problems. They reveal hoaxes that professors could not debunk, and they question what they are told. The Mystery Gang are meddling kids that get into "good trouble, necessary trouble," as John Lewis described it. The characters all have meaningful traits. Fred shows strength (he can bench 220, you know!), leadership, and inventiveness. Daphne is positive, confident, and creative. Shaggy and Scooby have a strong sense of friendship and are intuitive. Velma is observant and intelligent. Each of them have exemplary characteristics, and they all show how much power kids can have. Most importantly, they show that regular people can make a difference. Introducing these things to a young audience is priceless.

Although they are admirable characters, the gang has a questionable amount of freedom, galavanting across the globe and doing a fair amount of breaking and entering. This becomes even more suspicious considering that the characters were originally teens. In "Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!," Daphne is 16, Velma is 15, Shaggy and Fred are 17, and Scooby (the dog) is 7. During that time, they go on a skiing holiday and a boating trip that leaves them stranded; they also end up alone in their holiday home in Hawaii, go to Turkey (which Scooby and Shaggy thought was only a lunch meat), get lost in a Brazilian jungle, and go many other places. Seriously, where are their parents? How are they so independent? Lily Richardson, an avid Scooby-Doo fan, commented on their age, saying, "I always thought they were in college, because they were always going on trips by themselves." To be fair, the gang's ages are not specified in many of the later iterations, leaving room for interpretation.

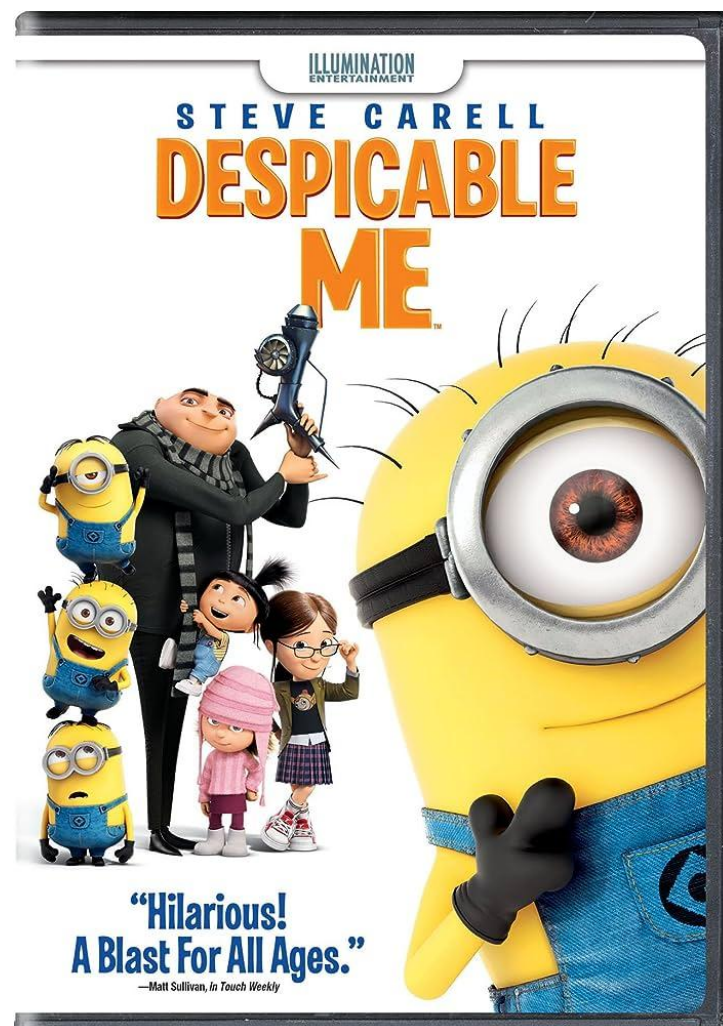
The shows have quite a few other plot holes, like how in the world could they afford all of this? Where do they live? How did their parents let them do these things? How can Scooby talk? (I won't even mention the fact that Shaggy might be a stoner with the munchies!)

Nonetheless, watching the Scooby-Doo franchise led me to believe that being a youth meant driving around in a cool van going on adventures. Even though that was undoubtedly misleading, the show proved that seemingly normal kids have the power to do great things. Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy, and Scooby show us to continually solve issues and find the mysteries in life.

–Amelia Richardson



# Entertainment & Review



## Despicable Me: A Cinema Masterpiece

*Despicable Me* is a heartwarming animated adventure, undoubtedly one of the most popular animated movies of all time. Over the years, *Despicable Me* has become a beloved classic, and for good reason. The movie is an excellent example of how animation can be used to tell a compelling story. The plot of *Despicable Me* revolves around Gru, a supervillain who is trying to outdo his rival, Vector. Gru plans to steal the moon to prove that he is the greatest villain in the world. However, his plans are disrupted when he adopts three orphaned girls, Margo, Edith, and Agnes. Initially, Gru sees the girls as a way to help him with his plan, but as he spends more time with them he starts to develop a bond with them, showing how love and family can change a person's life.

One of the most remarkable things about *Despicable Me* is its characters. Gru, the protagonist, is not your typical hero. He is a complex character with a lot of depth. Gru is a supervillain who has a heart of gold. He is not evil for the sake of being evil, but because he believes that is what he is supposed to do. However, when he adopts the three girls, his perspective on life changes. He starts to see the world differently and realizes that there is more to life than just being a villain. The girls, Margo, Edith, and Agnes, are also well-developed characters. They are not just adorable, they have their own personalities and quirks. They bring a lot of heart and humor to the movie. The relationship between

Gru and the girls is one of the most heartwarming aspects of the movie.

The animation in *Despicable Me* is top-notch. The attention to detail is impressive, and the characters are well-designed. The world they live in is vibrant and colorful, and the soundtrack of the movie is one of the best. The music perfectly complements the visuals and adds to the overall experience. The animation is so well done that it is easy to forget that you are watching an animated movie. *Despicable Me* is not just a movie for kids, though—it has something for everyone. The humor is clever and witty, and the emotional moments are heartfelt. The movie has a great message about the importance of family and the power of love. The movie is well-written, well-directed, and well-animated. The characters are memorable, and the story is engaging.

In conclusion, *Despicable Me* is one of the best animated movies of all time. It is a movie that you can watch with your family and friends and enjoy together. *Despicable Me* is a hilarious animated adventure that will make you laugh, cry, and feel a whole range of emotions. The movie shows that love can change a person's life and that family is not just about blood but about the people who care for you. *Despicable Me* has become a classic over the years, and it is easy to see why. If you haven't watched it yet, do yourself a favor and give it a try. You won't be disappointed.

—Dash Nate