



A high school newspaper practicing professional journalism.

Omaha Central High School

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the

register

DREAMWEAVER

ALUMNA JORDAN SOMERS, PRESIDENT OF MISS AMAZING INC.,
ANNOUNCES DREAMWEAVER GALA IN LOS ANGELES



Photo Courtesy of MISS AMAZING INC.

A winner of Miss Amazing's National competition happily accepts her crown and trophy.

BY TIA SPEARS

editor-in-chief

Miss Amazing is a pageant for women and girls with special needs, which was coordinated by 2011 alumna Jordan Somer, is hosting its first annual Dreamweaver gala. The gala was intended to be held on April 24 at the Scouler Ballroom, however it has been postponed until fall or spring of next year, according to Somer.

"What my goal with Dreamweaver is to go back to where it all started... and really celebrate this dream I had when I was younger," Somer said. At age 12, Somer began volunteering with the Special Olympics. "I was kind of [dabbling] with a lot of different service activities to see what really drew me in. It's a very fun atmosphere," she said.

In addition, she had a strong background in pageantry. By age 13, recognizing an "entrepreneurial itch" she merged her two favorite activities. "I combined those two interests to create the Miss Amazing Pageant in 2007. It came from a very naive place, and it just turns out that it's something highly in demand and making real social change," she said.

In 2010, she received a Teen Nickelodeon Halo Award for her volunteer service, providing Miss Amazing Inc. with a \$25,000 grant and a feature on Teen Nickelodeon. The grant allowed Miss Amazing to grow at an exponential rate. "A year after I received the Teen Nick Halo Awards, I got into NYU. That year we extended to nine different states," said Somer. The organization has been featured on the Today Show as well as MSNBC. Today, Miss Amazing has reached a grand total 30 states, but is still expecting to expand.

"[The grant] basically provided us with the tools to become a non-profit organization and then also to expand nationally," Somer said. The national exposure presented Miss Amazing with the opportunity to excel. "The organization is so much bigger than me as a person now, which is awesome."

Dreamweaver will only fuel the organization's goals. "My desire ... is to gather the support that's been in Omaha for the past eight years," said Somer. The gala will be complete with a jewelry and art silent auction, a three-course

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Hall of Fame inductees reflect Central pride

BY JULI OBERLANDER

staff writer

Central Principal Edward Bennett looks forward to the school's Hall of Fame Induction every year.

It's the time that graduates and current students can look on their experiences as Eagles with a sense of satisfaction over the many long-standing traditions and activities that have existed through the years, such as the Roadshow, National Honor Society and Purple Feather Day.

The annual Hall of Fame induction recognizes various alumni who have contributed not only to the school and community, but the world. According to their website, The Central High School Foundation selects around eight to ten honorees each year whose "support of our association" they believe "will ensure an ever brightening future for our alma mater."

Bennett has attended Hall of Fame induction ceremonies during his time as assistant principal and principal. He has heard the testimonies of numerous Central graduates and how they have been benefited through their time as Eagles.

"The thing that's so important about Central is we don't forget our past," Bennett said. "They try to take representatives from certain decades, as well as factoring in diversity and different professions. All the alums always talk about their magical past at Central."

According to the Foundation, a large percentage of alumni donate their money and time to support Central programs and make the inner workings of the school a success. Their way of showing gratitude is to induct graduates into the Hall of Fame who have dedicated themselves to the well-being of the school, its students,

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Brandon Cool wins regional, state digital cinema event

BY CHOTEAU KAMMEL

staff writer

Central High School Senior Brandon Cool is one of the students, who competed and won in the digital cinema competitions for state and regional and now looks forward to the national event this summer where he will travel to Kentucky to compete against high schoolers from all across the United States.

Although his passion for directing short films is relatively new, Cool has always felt drawn to cinematography. "I've always been interested in movies," Cool said. He said how the Career Center had allowed him to really discover his enjoyment and talent for film making. As he rounds out his second year at the Career Center and its digital cinema program, he also said how when he first

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JEA CONVENTION ►

Four newspaper students place in write-off competition at JEA Spring Conference in Denver.



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Sophomore JROTC student is selected as rifle team commander.



PAGE 3 GIBEOM KWON ►

South Korean exchange student shares his experience at Central.

DENVER

BY JORDAN YOUNG
co web editor

Five students from the newspaper and yearbook staff ventured to Denver for the annual Journalism Education Association (JEA) spring journalism convention.

"The reason why we wanted to go to the spring convention is because we didn't get "best of show" in D.C.," said Tia Spears, editor-in-chief of The Register.

"Best of Show" is one of the many different award categories at JEA. This one specifically hands out awards based on the overall content and presentation of a newspaper. "They're looking for a whole entire package," said Spears. "So like the writing, the layout, the graphics. The design aspects like certain objects. Like the teasers that we have, are they aligned correctly? All that little stuff coming together."

However, despite the determination and hard work it took to submit a finished product for the competition, The Register still didn't come away with the award.

"We were bummed," said Central's journalism adviser Hillary Blayney. "[I'm] still proud of my newspaper staff." Spears explained that the little details and story content is what most likely what judges deducted the paper on. Although the spring convention, nearly identical to the convention they attend in the fall, didn't go as expected, it was still a success.

All four newspaper students won "Write-off Awards." Spears won an excellent in editorial writing, Maya O'Durfee won an honorable mention in review writ-

ing, Natalie Nepper won an honorable mention literary magazine layout and Kelsey Thomas won an excellent in commentary.

"That was really exciting," said Blayney. "Having four of them win was really neat."

Unlike the outcome of the competition, the convention was almost the same as expected. The competitions, write-offs and the "break-out sessions" weren't too different from the past trips to Washington D.C. and Boston, Massachusetts.

"I was expecting it to be smaller," said Blayney. "Usually the spring conferences are smaller." On average the fall convention has 5,000 students and the spring convention has 3,000.

The convention was located in downtown Denver, an interesting contrast to JEA's location in Washington, D.C. this past fall.

"Denver reminds me of the futuristic Omaha," said Spears. "With obviously the legalization of recreational marijuana you get a lot of people who move there because it's legal...the types of people you run into, like kinda 'hipstery', young, free-spirited, liberated kind of people are there...There wasn't as much to see like in D.C. and Boston."

So they ate, visited the 16th street mall, sat in on an editor's meeting at the Denver Post, slept and enjoyed their time in Denver, despite a little bit of unexpected weather.

"I thought it was going to be sunny," said Spears. "But once we got there it started snowing." The group of six traded in their cute flats and skirts for coats and sweaters. "It was just kind of gloomy," she said. Despite the gloomy atmosphere, CHS journalism walked away proud and even gave Spears ideas on what to look for while picking a new Editor-In-Chief for the next school year.



Photo Courtesy of KELSEY THOMAS

Left: The Denver skyline as seen from the Contemporary Art Museum. Right: The students pose with their awards.

Students of all skill levels set to perform at OPS guitar festival

BY MICAH MARTIN
staff writer

On Saturday, May 9, Omaha South High School will host the second annual Nebraska Guitar Festival. Bringing students from all across the state, ranging from elementary to high school, this event is all about bringing attention to guitar programs in Nebraska.

"It [guitar festival] is really great, because it's the only thing like it in our state," said instrumental music teacher, Brad Rauch. "It really helps promote guitar programs, and it gives students a chance to perform outside of their schools." For Central's guitar program, which was started four years ago, this festival allows for the group not only to perform, but to improve as well.

The idea to start the program that has become Central's guitar ensemble was conceived by the Performing Arts Department Head, Peter Wilger. He believed that offering guitar classes would benefit the musical department as a whole by increasing opportunities for students that may not have an avenue into other musical programs such as band, orchestra or chorus.

This and its wide popularity among students are some of the things that has made it so successful in the past years. For Julie Christensen, a junior in the upper level, 3-4 class, it's enjoyable because of the variety it includes. "I like the diversity of the music we have. We're doing some Spanish songs right now," said Christensen. "And we're also doing some slow songs and upbeat songs. It's really nice to have the diversity."

By developing students' skills through playing cords and melodies, the guitar program allows these musicians the opportunity to play all sorts of styles that use different techniques. Ranging from blues and jazz, to folk, heavy metal and improve, the guitar classes allow students to make music in both ensemble and solo playing.

With almost 50 students in the three classes, two of which are beginner 1-2 courses and one being an advanced 3-4, the program allows for guitarists of all levels and all backgrounds, a place to practice and learn. "I think it brings in a very diverse group of students, and students that aren't in or haven't had band or orchestra...and I think it provides just another opportunity for students in performing arts new musical experiences," said Rauch.

One of the newer opportunities presented this year, for the 3-4 class, being the Nebraska Guitar Festival. This daylong event provides a stage for guitar groups from elementary, middle and high schools from all across the state. At the festival, participating groups prepare pieces to perform, and work with a clinician in order to get feedback and constructive criticism. Unlike some other musical events, this festival isn't about ranking or scores, it's about recognizing and fostering guitar programs in Nebraska schools.

At this event, there are also guest performers that are able to exhibit a range of techniques, while providing entertainment for those attending. For some people, this festival is all about the music, while for others it's about the fellowship and friends made. "We are all there for one reason, to play the guitar and I think that's really cool that people can come together over a certain thing like that," said Christensen.

The Nebraska Guitar Festival may be a fairly new event, but for Central, it is a welcomed addition to the guitar program. Being a musician may require attention to detail and practice, but for those who are impassioned by music, the opportunity to create something like this with their peers is well worth everything put in. "It's a lot of hard work, but it's very rewarding," said Christensen. "There are lots of hurt fingers, but it's worth it in the end."

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Exchange student embraces life in America, enjoys atmosphere

BY MAYA DURFEE O'BRIEN
co web editor

Gibeom Kwon is an exchange student from South Korea. Kwon will be walking across the stage on May 20th for the graduation ceremony, embracing all of what American school and culture has to offer him. Kwon has gained new experiences, learned new things, but most importantly has really liked being in the United States.

Kwon is from the eastern portion of South Korea. Kwon came to the United States hoping to better his English. He came here to learn more about American Culture and to gain experiences in a new setting. "I wanted [to make American] friends," said Kwon.

As far as school is concerned, American school is quite different than the Korean school Kwon is used to. "[In] Korean class we don't change class, we just stay in one class. [In] American class/school always changes class," said Kwon.

Another thing that Kwon had to get used to were the people. For instance, in South Korea, Kwon said that they "don't have gay people [in schools]," or they hide it. "At first I was shocked," said Kwon. "Now it's fine."

Kwon said that the people here are just genuinely nice. "Real kind friends, people are really kind. If I ask something like what does this [word] mean they always teach me [in a] really kind [way]," said Kwon.

Kwon said that American school is better than Korean school. "I think because Korean school is really small I can experience something, but here- cross country, soccer, football, I can experience a lot," said Kwon, which is what he wants out of school. This year Kwon said he tried of for soccer, but didn't make it. "Here it is more professional (competitive)," said Kwon.

Here at Central Kwon said he has made a lot of friends.



Photo Courtesy of GIBEOM KWON

Gibeom Kwon poses with his family in South Korea. Kwon is an exchange student at Central from the eastern portion of his country.

"Recently I take picture[s] with them a lot," said Kwon. For fun Kwon likes to hang out with friends, but even more so go to the Zoo and play soccer.

Among all the classes Kwon takes at Central his favorite is Team Sports. "I play piano and guitar, like instrument lessons, and I like that also," said Kwon. "I'm learning guitar, but I used to play piano [for] eight years," said Kwon. Lunch is another one of Kwon's favorite parts of the school day. "I like talking so I like talking to my friends best," said Kwon.

Kwon goes by the name "John," instead of his real name "Gibeom." "When I came here most people didn't know how to pronounce my name," said Kwon. "So I just made [an] English name [for] myself."

Kwon said he misses his grandma's cooking. "I just told my

parents that when I go back to South Korea I want to eat my grandma's food first," said Kwon. Kwon's favorite American food is a hamburger and fries, with the occasional smoothie thrown in there. Kwon talks to his parents every few weeks, but said he talks to his Korean friends more frequently than that.

Kwon said he is excited to participate in the graduation ceremony. "For experience, and I [will] go to prom too," said Kwon.

One thing Kwon wants other people to know is that: "Most people think like Asians eat dogs or something, so like Korean[s] [don't] eat dogs," said Kwon.

From South Korea to Omaha, Nebraska, Kwon has come a long way to improve his English, and to gain experiences he would not be able to gain anywhere else.

JROTC selects female as rifle commander for 2015-2016 school year

BY MADELINE HAYKO
staff writer

Roxie Wattier is a sophomore who has been very involved in the JROTC program. She has been selected as the rifle commander for the rifle team for next year.

In Central's history, it is rare for a female to be a rifle commander, so much that in the last 14 years there has only been three female rifle commanders.

"Not a lot of females become rifle team commander because not a lot of females are on rifle team. The varsity team this year has not a single girl there (unless I come down to shoot). But the JV has several other females," said Wattier.

At first, Wattier didn't know she would be interested in the rifle team. When her freshman class was taken out to the range to shoot, that's when she started to take an interest in it.

"At the end of freshman year, Sergeant Major Sutter takes some of his freshman down to the range and my class happened to be one of the classes to shoot and I found I was good at it. Then my friend Devin got me to finally put it on my schedule," said Wattier.

Wattier wanted this position because it's something she has really developed a passion for. She was confident that she could be a good leader. The rifle team can have up to 18 people combined varsity and junior varsity, which is a large group to lead. To be chosen for this position there are things that have to be considered before a final decision can be made.

"They must show a certain interest for the position and they must also be recommended for the position. Then we go through all the possible candidates and choose," said ROTC Commander Lieutenant Colonel Michael Melvin.

Her commanders also believe that she will be the right person for the position.

"I always select the most improved marksman as Rifle Team Commander, if they are returning the next year. Besides she has earned it with her poise, determination and drive towards excellence," said Sergeant Major Dwaine Sutter.

The rifle team commander also has important duties to perform in their position.

"The priorities of a rifle team commander are to make sure to prepare their team and practice hard. They must also pass an exam and make sure everything goes safely during the exam. If it doesn't then they will be stopped during their exam," said Melvin.

Wattier will also have to perform many other tasks when she takes on the position.

"From what I've heard you do a lot of paperwork, but this is expected for any commander position. I'll be posting placings for rifle and pistol league and keeping up a binder, which includes making templates. But I'm not technology savvy so I might need a refresher on that," said Wattier.

Wattier plans to keep this position throughout her senior year as well so she can keep improving her skills on the team. When it comes to applying for a different position Wattier isn't

sure if she would like to step out of what she already loves.

"While I'd like to try something different, staff work takes a lot of outside school work, JROTC is almost completely student run. I respect the people that have that kind of dedication, but I'll have to wait and see if there's a position (other than RTC that appeals to me, or where I can fit)," said Wattier.

Not only does the rifle team commander have to make sure their team is practicing hard, they have to make sure they are ready for competitions. There are three main competitions that the team participates in according to Wattier.

"First is pistol league, schools compete for placings shooting air pistols. Biathlon, you run and shoot basically. Third and finally, is rifle league," said Wattier.

The rifle team just finished their competitions for this year, and feel confident about where they placed.

"This year we placed second. We held first until our bi-week (week where scores don't count in competition). That threw us a little," said Wattier.

Overall, the position is a lot to take on, but Wattier is prepared for what she has to do to pursue her passion.

"Shooting has definitely become a huge part of who I am and who I hope to continue to be. I've found some of my best friends through the JROTC program and especially in marksmanship," said Wattier. "I'm very excited to lead this team of very talented people through next year. Who knows, maybe there's a first place in our future."

SCREW COLLEGE DEBT

BY KELSEY THOMAS
executive editor

"Screw College Debt," a book recently released by local financial advisor Marco LeRoc, aims to help prospective and current university students receive a degree without racking up thousands of dollars in loans.

A college education is commonly thought of as one of the most important pieces of any successful person's career. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most expensive investments a person can make, especially in the U.S., where one year at a typical private university means expenses upwards of \$50,000.

Though the price of college continues to rise, the amount of people wanting to attend college does not waver. Thus, students and their families find themselves with insurmountable debt after receiving a diploma.

LeRoc hopes that he can solve some of these issues for students. In his book, as well as in his speeches at various high schools, colleges, and other organizations, he recognizes the many ways that student debt can be alleviated. For some, attending community college for a couple years before attending a private school may work best. Students should also aim to work through college, and try to pay as much as they can while still attending school.

"My message to students is to look for free money, scholarships [and] grants first, when planning and attending college before applying for loans," LeRoc said.

"Screw College Debt" is not the first book LeRoc has published concerning finances. He also wrote "Cash In with Your Money: Tools for a Better Financial Life" with similar intentions, to "raise financial literacy as it applies to college debt."

Having attended college and receiving a degree, LeRoc has personal experience when it comes to college financing.

"I am fortunate to say that I graduated debt-free from college. I was getting into a heavy debt when I was at a four-year private institution. I made the decision to transfer to a community college instead. Later, I returned to the four-year institution after my associates degree, worked and paid my way through college," LeRoc said.

The writing process of the book LeRoc describes as "very long, but fun." It involved researching constantly, and reading dozens of articles about college debt and students. LeRoc also conducted several interviews with people familiar with the issue, in order to receive the most comprehensive view in his book.

Since releasing "Screw College Debt," LeRoc has received very positive attention from colleges and college students. He

THE REGISTER SPEAKS WITH COLLEGE FINANCE ADVISOR AND EXPERT MARCO LEROC ABOUT HIS NEWLY RELEASED BOOK

has given speeches at various high schools and learning institutions, and gives advice to students nationwide.

He also has some insight considering the actions that should be taken by the government with college payments and debt.

"I hope to see more reforms from the government to assist students, who are heavily in debt. Programs like the income-based payments are great, but don't help everyone. We need to make college affordable in the U.S. like many developed nations," he said.

In the future, LeRoc hopes to continue helping students graduate from college successfully with minimal debt. The nation's total for college debt is \$1.2 trillion, meaning that spread out among the U.S. population, each person would owe a little under \$4,000.

Though paying for college can seem to be a daunting task to overcome, LeRoc encourages students to consider all of their options, and stay motivated for college.

He says, "I invite students to look at college as an investment. They need to understand the total cost of attending college, how to pay back their loans, and how those loans will affect them in the future. It's all about the return of the investment."

Dreamweaver gala to amplify voices of girls with disabilities



Photo Courtesy of **MISS AMAZING INC.**

Miss Amazing pageant participant receives sash, crown and trophy.

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dinner and entertainment by an award-winning percussionist. The event will be emceed by Omaha Morning Blend's Mary Nelson and Mike DiGiacomo, who are also Central alum.

"Our goals still stand the same. We're just excited that we have more time to get larger sponsors and really fill the seats the second time around," said Somer.

Going forward, Somer stated that within five years, she hopes to expand Miss Amazing to all 50 states. She recognizes a few tweaks are necessary, in addition to the publicity gained from Dreamweaver. "We're excited to create more training materials and training protocols. [Management is] scattered across the country. With that, we'll have the capabilities to continue to expand to other states even faster," she said.

In addition to Dreamweaver, Miss Amazing Inc.'s national event will be held in conjunction with the Special Olympics in Los Angeles from July 24 to July 28.

"It's definitely inspiring because I was originally inspired by the special Olympics and now it's... come full circle and we're holding an event with them," said Somer.

Six queens are selected and then another six are selected after traveling to the national event. "Their voices will be able to be heard louder than ever before... We'll have the opportunity to share our message with 177 countries," said Somer.

In the coming years, Miss Amazing Inc.'s goal is to continue building up the national event. "Our goal is to amplify the voices of...girls with disabilities and allow

them to define themselves on their own terms," she said.

Somer believes that her skills learned as a Central student definitely contributed to all of her successes and will forever be essential as she graduates NYU with a degree in media, culture and communication.

"I think the primary skill as a Central grad that I've brought over is respect for diversity," she said. "I don't think I would have done such work with very different types of people and ways of thinking in any other high school in Omaha as I did at Central."

Somer was a part of Diversity Club, as well. "It was really important. I was fifteen and looking into different kinds of prejudice. That was such good practice for what I do now as a full time job," Somer said.

She also mentioned that having respect for diversity has enabled her to make great use of her post-secondary education, as it is essential and imperative to have. She does not believe that making a social change and providing opportunities for all types of people could be possible without the skill. "[Respect is] the primary skill or strength that Central has offered me," she said.

Looking forward, the prospects for Miss Amazing are high and have been supported by its expansion across the country.

Somer expects Miss Amazing to reach all 50 states within the next three years.

"It all started with that one dream that I had as a little girl, basically, that's now turned into something that propels and amplifies the dreams of young women with disability nationwide," she said.

Hall of Fame inductees live tradition of excellence for over 150 years

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staff and parents.

Bennett has seen multiple cases of alumni who have stepped up to improve the conditions of the school.

"Alums will come out the woodwork to support Central," Bennett said. "The Hall of Fame is a way to honor them and make them see we care."

The Hall of Fame induction has a profound effect on the graduates who see themselves and others recognized.

However, according to Bennett, it's also helpful for current students to hear the stories of the honorees and how their lives

have been impacted by Central.

"It's like an unmatched streak of success for over 150 years," Bennett said. "Year after year there are kids that graduate and do amazing things. It's a reminder to current kids that they can be successful."

Bennett has been affected as well, as a principal and strong believer in what the student body can accomplish.

"It makes my job a little bit easier," Bennett said. "I tell kids, 'Go look at the Wall of Fame. You're a Central Eagle, so why can't you do it?'"

From the Foundation employees in charge of selecting alumni to the Hall of Fame to Central's principal, the yearly

event has no equal in the way it brings out nostalgia of years and decades past.

Like the Foundation, Bennett understands how vital the Hall of Fame is to the legacy of Central. Both groups recognize the optimism and drive that defines the school.

Through the Hall of Fame, Bennett continues to hear from students past and present about how thankful they are for Central High.

"It ties the past to the present," Bennett said. "Central kids have such an appreciation for it. They like history and relate people's past adventures to them. That experience is richer than anywhere else."

Senior wins state, regional digital cinema event leading to national competition

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came he was involved in the broadcasting aspect of filming, "I was actually on TV last year, I was the news anchor," Cool added.

This year, working with his friend and fellow senior Cole Flores, Cool has worked tirelessly in improving and developing his passion for film shooting and directing. The two of them began entering competitions this year starting with the regional event, in which they were given the prompt to shoot and edit a short film about overcoming challenges. "You have 48 hours and a set block radius that you are allowed to film in," elaborated Cool. He and Flores decided to utilize the rather relatable situ-

ation of stage fright and the conveniently located auditorium of the Career Center.

On qualifying for state, the duo was given the same 48 hour window and filming radius as well as the prompt which was "to be the best." For this, Cool and Flores centered on the job interview and career process and how one must be the best his or her field in order to have the greatest chance of promotion and future success.

In order to keep the competition fair across the board, Cool will not receive the prompt until he arrives in Kentucky for the national competitions that begin June 22 and runs through the 26.

Currently, Cool doesn't entirely know the specifics of what

he would like to do post high school, but he does know he would like to continue to expand his knowledge of film and the techniques practiced by those in the business. Like all great directors, just as Michael Bay blows things up, Cool always strives to include humor in his productions, "we try to do awkward comedy," he said.

All in all, Cool believes that the Career Center programs that have opened up so many doors for him are certainly worth looking into for any other students who have an interest in film or its production. To any prospective students he said, "I would definitely recommend it, broadcasting or digital cinema. Either pathway is a great class, the teachers are great, and they can really teach you a lot if you're interesting in learning."

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It is the goal of the Central High Register to represent the student body in issues affecting their lives as young people and students. If you feel that we are not covering an issue that is important to you, we welcome contributing writers who bring fresh ideas to the issues.

If you would like to write a story for your student newspaper, please contact Hillary Blayney at hillary.blayney@ops.org or come to room 029 to discuss your idea.



The Omaha Central High School Register seeks to inform its readers accurately as to items of entertainment, interest and importance. The staff strives to uphold the principles of journalism in all of its proceedings.

The Register is a member of the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), the Nebraska High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). The Register is an 11-time Best-in-Show winner for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA national conventions in San Francisco, Boston, Phoenix, Dallas, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Chicago. The Register also won first place in Front Page News Layout for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA convention in St. Louis.

The Register has won multiple NSPA Pacemakers, which is considered the Pulitzer Prize of high school journalism. It has also won many Cornhusker awards from NHSPA, and has been awarded the Gold and Silver Crowns from CSPA for its overall work. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of The Register staff and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Central High School.

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Senior chosen as recipient of Mercer Presidential Scholarship

BY GEORGIA CHAMBERS
staff writer

“I received a number of scholarships. Applying early was a decision I made that helped to acquire many scholarships, as sending an application in early gives you better chances of receiving merit aid...,” senior Mary Knickrem said.

In early December, Knickrem traveled to Georgia to be among the many hopeful students to interview for Mercer University’s Presidential Scholarship, which would pay \$136,000 in full tuition.

Among today’s society that leaves many students drowning with the stress of paying off student loans after college, this was definitely a promising opportunity.

On Christmas Eve, Knickrem was rewarded with what was probably the best Christmas present that year: the Presidential Scholarship for Mercer University.

“They invited 450 students out of the entire applicant pool to be interviewed. Out of those 450, 20 were selected to receive the scholarship. I never expected anything, I could only be hopeful. However, I was not extremely surprised since I have worked very hard the past four years to develop a well-rounded resume and maintain a high GPA,” Knickrem said.

This scholarship is what made it possible for Knickrem to attend this college in Georgia.

“I would not be attending if I did not have the scholarship. I think it is a smart move for any student to go where it is most affordable, especially if they are considering applying for a graduate program after undergrad, like myself,” Knickrem said.

The Presidential Scholarship was the largest package Knickrem received, but on top of this scholarship, she applied for various other scholarships, some of which she ended up receiving.

“[Other than the Presidential Scholarship for Mercer University] I only applied for one other out-of-state scholarship, which was the Edwards Foundation Inc. scholarship. All I had to do was fill out the application, write an essay and get three

recommendation letters. It was a value of \$1000,” Knickrem said.

Knickrem also applied for the Stamps Scholarship, which she was selected as a finalist for but ended up not receiving the scholarship.

Totaling all of the scholarships she was awarded, Knickrem received \$628,290.

One issue students have is finding the opportunities to

“ They invited 450 students out of the entire applicant pool to be interviewed. Out of those 450, 20 were selected to receive the scholarship. I never expected anything, I could only be hopeful. ”

Mary Knickrem

SENIOR AND RECIPIENT OF THE
MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

apply for scholarships. Knickrem described that most of her scholarships were available to her through her acceptance letters. However, Angela Meyer, college counselor, helped her find out about the Edwards Foundation Inc. Scholarship.

Going to Meyer early on will help students find out what is available to them and help their chances of receiving financial aid to help them pay for their education.

Meyer described that in order for Knickrem to be eligible for the Edwards Foundation Inc. scholarship, she had to be in the top ten percent of her class.

For this scholarship, Meyer reached out to all of the students within the top ten percent of the senior class.

Academics are a large portion of scholarships, but Knickrem stresses the importance of becoming a well-rounded student.

“Challenge yourself, take away valuable skills and knowledge from your learning experience and make connections,” she said. “However, do not just stop with your academics.

Schools want to award those with a well-rounded resume. Get a job, volunteer, and show that you are truly working towards developing skills for your future, and using those skills to make your community a better place.”

As applying for scholarships may seem daunting and very stressful, Knickrem explains that it is not as stressful as some make it out to be.

“The only hard part was managing my time and remembering to meet all the deadlines. Senior year is already hectic enough, and applying for scholarships just adds to the stress,” Knickrem said.

To cut down on the stress of applying for scholarships, Knickrem advises to apply early to all of the schools you are interested in.

“You will have a much better chance of receiving merit awards, and you will be relieved from a lot of stress during your second semester,” Knickrem said.

Knickrem also advises for students to keep in mind their situation. They must remember that each and every other student applying for the scholarship wants it as bad as them.

“Use your application to market yourself. Try to identify a common thread of your interests and accomplishments, and emphasize how you succeeded with those and what you learned from them. Set yourself apart from other applicants, and make sure your admissions counselor actually wants to read your application,” Knickrem said.

Doing this will better students’ chances of receiving the scholarship they are applying for. Knickrem took advantage of these various opportunities, and is now going to get an excellent education that she would have otherwise not have been getting without the scholarships.

Having gone through both high school and the application process, Knickrem advises students to pay more attention to both of these areas. Sometimes, it can be overlooked.

“Many students seem to overlook the importance of high school. Keep in mind that your performance during these four years will determine where you will attend college,” Knickrem said. “That being said, always work your hardest.”

Junior NeSA testing scores improved from previous year’s results

BY SAN JUANA PARAMO
staff writer

Nebraska State Accountability, otherwise known as NeSA, aims to show how students’ progress towards meeting academic standards and how schools are doing to ensure the learning success of its students. Central is just one of the many schools in Omaha that participates. From April 14 through the 17, juniors tested in reading, science, math and writing.

State government is in charge of all public schools, in order to provide the schools with money they need to ensure what the students are learning and how. “It’s kind of a quality control check,” said Dr. Ed Bennett, Central principal. The government comes up with the test then gives them out the third grade through the eighth graded and then the eleventh grade.

Although official scores won’t be released until July, the numbers indicate that this year’s junior class did better than last years.

“They look at the results and they do things with them, they make judgments about our schools based on those results,” Bennett said.

Although there are other ways to attain information about a school, such as looking at GPA’s, NeSA testing is “their own way of coming up with their own information, they prefer to do it themselves.” Once testing is complete, the results are reported to the public. They wish to show that students are learning and whether or not they are prepared for the job world or college.

“They report to the public, its taxpayer dollars, they feel responsibility to let the tax payer know what they are getting for their money,” Bennett said. “If they’re not, then what could we do to make it better... if they are, we need to applaud them.”

Central does not provide specific initiatives, but students are to prepare based on standards. After which they are tested based on the standards.

“The state comes out with these standards, these are the standard that you’re supposed to teach,” Bennett said. “As a school, if you are teaching what you are supposed to teach you will be tested on that information.”

Teachers do participate in NeSA prep in classrooms. Students prepare for the reading portion by taking Acuity. The district also prepares students as sophomores, they also pre-test the juniors in the fall. This year there has been an emphasis in preparing students for the mathematics portion of the test.

“This year we’ve been working on, especially in math, doing daily cumulative review, to help them make sense of what they are learning today,” Bennett said. “Also to help them remember for NeSA.” The overall test group is 608 students. That includes every junior and any students who may not actually be attending Central.

The results that school administrators currently have aren’t official until July. Then the state gives August first as a release date. They release the scores to the media first, then the media will publish that information.

“We’re not allowed to give it out until the district gives it out,” Bennett said. “Overall, I can tell you roughly that, we didn’t quite meet our goal in reading or math.” The overall prediction is that the school will be pleased with the results. The scores indicate that this year’s junior class did better than last years.

“It’s not official,” Bennett said. “But the numbers look pretty good at this point... compared to last year’s numbers. I think we’re going to be okay.” There are a variety of different factors that could have affected the results.

“They’ll look at the results from the year before and then

they will adjust their teaching,” Bennett said. Administrators look at the results to figure out how better to support teachers. “Every group of students is different, it might be that this year’s class paid a little more attention,” Bennett said.

The cut score is still unknown, and since there is no rubric for NeSA it is difficult to know whether or not students pass. NeSA conducts a statistical study of the test results, then they establish what the cut score will be.

“I look at our numbers based on last year’s cut score, if they use last year’s cut score that’s where we’ll be from the passing standpoint,” Bennett said. “I always want our scores to go up, that’s my expectation.”

Last year NeSA embargoed the writing scores due to faulty computer programs. This year the “writing scores look particularly well.”

“Our writing scores might be up as much as 8 points from last year, it that turns to be the case when it’s final, that would certainly exceed my expectations,” Bennett said. “I’d be really pleased with that.” The goals have been set for each area of testing: 70 percent for reading, science and writing is worth 65 percent and math is 50 percent.

Last year, Central ranked either second or third at all tests but the increased test scores Bennett is “optimistic.”

“I guess I’d be surprised if we were any lower than second on all the tests,” Bennett said. Bennett expects the students to feel “proud about the test results.” “Because they put effort into it, because they tried and prepared for it I think they’re going to be happy,” Bennett said. “They did things the eagle way.” The task then falls to this year’s sophomore class, next year they will be the ones testing.

“I hope what they do is challenge next year’s juniors,” Bennett said. “[They] need to uphold the image of Central the standards of excellence that we have at Central, that’s what I hope

Free physicals no longer offered at Central due to Lewis’ retirement

BY ALEC ROME
staff writer

An announcement was put out that free physicals will no longer be offered at Central. This is due to the man who ran those physicals, Dr. Jack Lewis, retiring. They had been going on for years, but now without these free physicals, it now leaves some without a convenient and low-cost way to get a physical for a particular sport. However, there may be more options for people looking for a physical.

Dr. Jack Lewis had been doing it “on his own good merit” for free for an extended period of time for Central students. He gathered a group of physicians and ran these physicals, but now he has retired. Now, students will need to go to another location in order to get their physicals.

“It has been something we have been blessed and lucky to

have,” Luke Dillon, athletic director of Central said. “It’s a big hit for our kids but at the same time we were the only school that was receiving that free benefit.”

With healthcare becoming more of an issue, some don’t have health insurance due to costs or other reasons, which translates over into a school environment. Luckily, Lewis and Clark along with other schools in the past have offered low-cost options. Recently, Lewis and Clark middle offered physicals for \$15, which is a much lower cost than usual. “There are a lot of options to try and help those families out for those that may be struggling a little that don’t apply for aid or benefits,” Dillon said.

As for the possibility of ever having the privilege of free or low-cost physicals again at Central, it seems to be highly unlikely. “Unless somebody else decides to come along that decides to do the same thing, but as far as the school goes we will be on the

same level as other schools,” Dillon said.

A long term solution to provide physicals for those in the district could be beneficial. “It would be nice, I just don’t know. Everything is driven by taxpayer dollars. It would be something nice, but I don’t know if it something that the public would get behind as far as funding that,” Dillon said. “I don’t know if the medical physicians are able to get that going. It would have to be a district-wide effort. Obviously we would be more than open to accepting that.”

The question that remains to be answered is the effect of not having these physicals, and if any students are not able to play because of it. “It will be interesting to see, at other schools they haven’t had that luxury. We will have to make a strong push to get kids to go to these \$15 physicals just because of that reason, but we’ll kind of see what happens.”

GOODBYE SENIORS

A FAREWELL FROM YOUR SENIORS ON THE REGISTER STAFF AND
ADVICE FOR FUTURE STAFF MEMBERS

TIA SPEARS

editor-in-chief

University of Nebraska Omaha

“As students, we have a voice that is to carry a very unique and insightful perspective. As journalists, we seek the truth and report it. I will miss the close friendships I have created with my staff members. I am very proud of what we’ve accomplished this year.”

MAYA DURFEE O'BRIEN

web editor

Columbia College of Chicago

“Journalism has helped me overcome shyness and just get out of my shell. I am more confident than I was as a sophomore. Future staffers- don't be scared, be on time for everything, and always bring your own food.”

JORDAN YOUNG

web editor

University of Nebraska Lincoln

“Journalism has made me aware of what's going on in the world and allows me to write and be passionate about most things. I will miss our private and comfy space in the basement!”

PAIGE COLBORN

photographer

Metro Community College

“I think I will miss the close connections I have with not only my friends but the staff members. Journalism has impacted me by showing me how to go with my dreams even if someone disagrees with it.”

SAN JUANA PARAMO

staff writer

University of Nebraska Omaha

“Pay attention to deadlines, they can either be your friend or worst enemy. Have fun, enjoy the experience and get the most out of it. I'm very excited about pursuing my major and seeing where that takes me.”

TRENAY NEWSOME

staff writer

University of Nebraska Lincoln

“I will miss The Register the most, and all of the staff members and the different perspectives everyone offers. It's bitter to say goodbye to The Register, but its also sweet to say hello to a new path.”

JULI OBERLANDER

staff writer

University of Nebraska Omaha

“Don't be afraid to pursue a story you think needs investigating. I will miss all the friends I've made at Central and on The Register. I will always think of 029 as a place for music, snacks and destressing.”

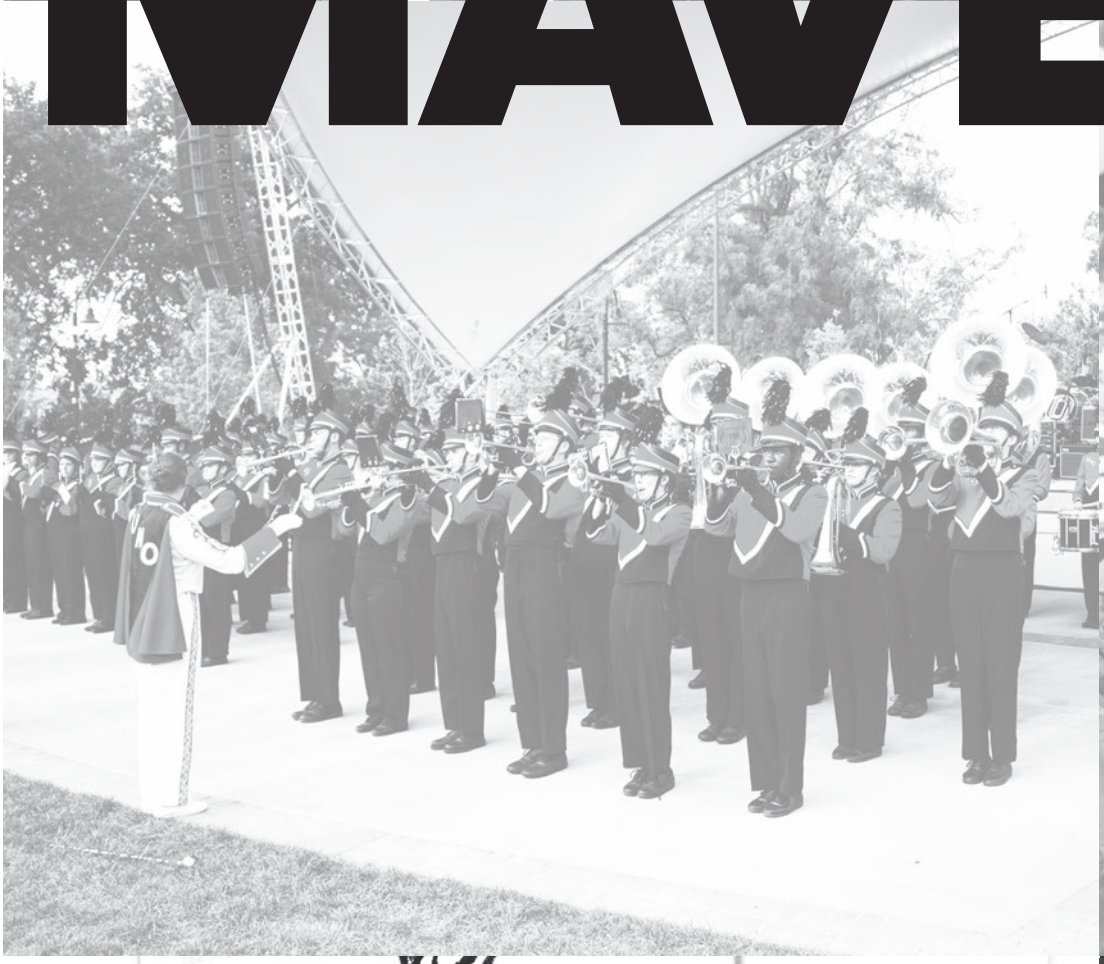
FAREWELL TO THE SENIORS

“This group of seniors were awesome to work with. They brought quality writing to The Register and unique personalities that I will truly miss. This is the first group of students that has been with me since I took over the journalism program so it has been fun to watch them grow and mature not only in their writing but in their everyday lives.”

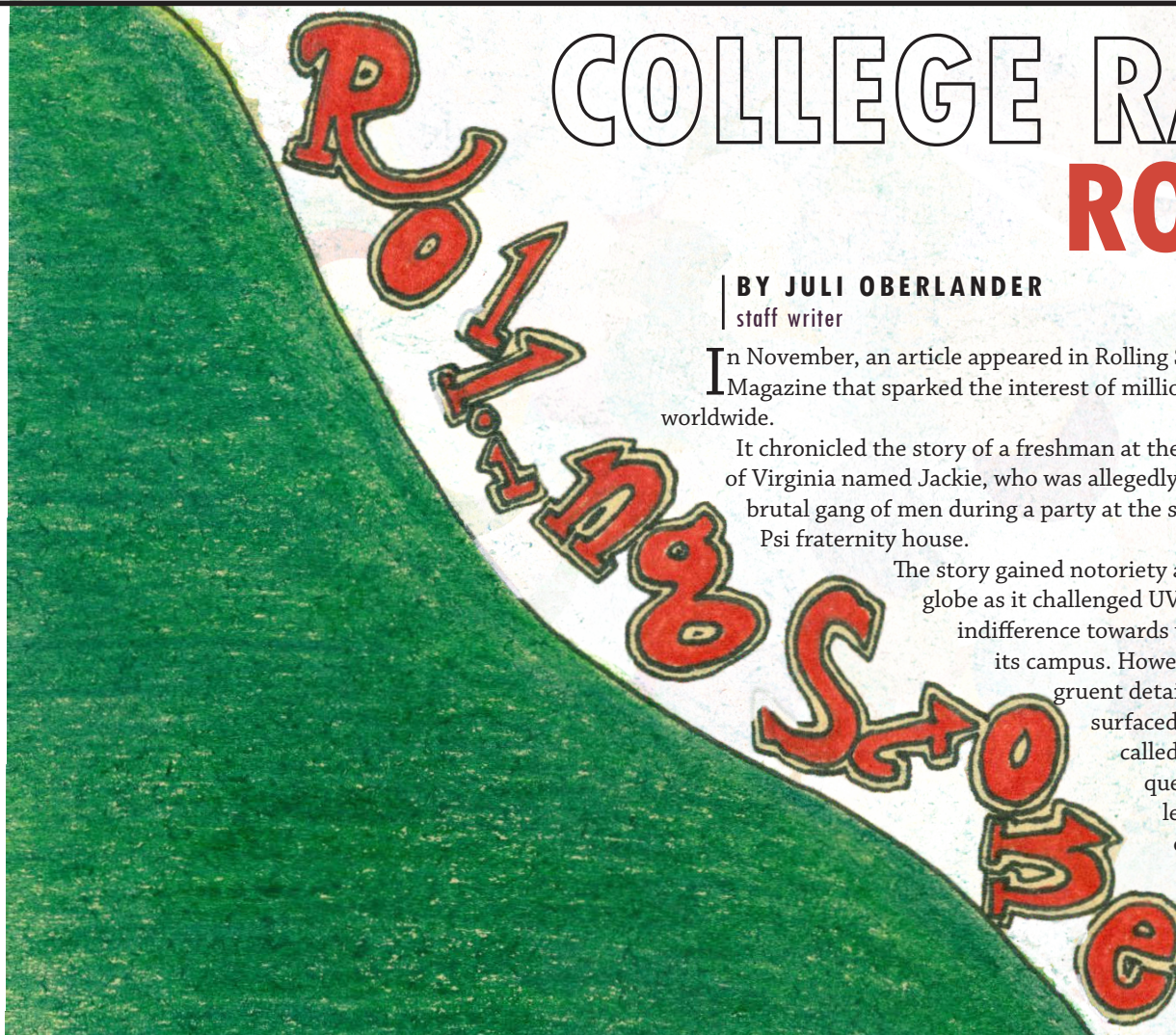
-HILLARY BLAYNEY
adviser



There's no better time to be a **MAVERICK**



perspective & commentary



COLLEGE RAPE SCANDAL ROCKS MAGAZINE

BY JULI OBERLANDER
staff writer

In November, an article appeared in Rolling Stone Magazine that sparked the interest of millions of people worldwide.

It chronicled the story of a freshman at the University of Virginia named Jackie, who was allegedly raped by a brutal gang of men during a party at the school's Phi Psi fraternity house.

The story gained notoriety across the globe as it challenged UVA's historic indifference towards violence on its campus. However, incongruent details quickly surfaced that have called into question the legitimacy of Rolling Stone as a national magazine.

Immediately after the feature was published, University President Teresa Sullivan promised a full investigation, including an examination of the way the school investigates sexual assault allegations.

Yet, upon further analysis of the article, it has become clear that the details are vague, and the possibility of various existing discrepancies points to a lack of journalism ethics and common sense on the part of Rolling Stone.

On Dec. 5, Will Dana, the managing editor of the Rolling Stone wrote an apologetic note to the magazine's subscribers following the story's condemnation as an inaccurate piece on the more than likely untrue saga of Jackie's assault at the fraternity party.

Dana's comments on the November article demonstrate Rolling Stone's inability to generate a trustworthy story about the college girl's experiences at UVA.

"Because of the sensitive nature of Jackie's story, we decided to honor her request not to contact the man who she

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ON PAGE 12

EMMA PETERSEN | Contributing Cartoonist

Destruction of artifacts by terrorism must be globally recognized, stopped

BY MICAH MARTIN
staff writer

Throughout history, there have been cases of blatant disrespect and destruction of timeless historical sites and artifacts. From the countless historical buildings and places destroyed in WWII, to more recent sites destroyed by ISIS, ruins of these sorts of sites have been left all over the world.

Perhaps these sites seem to be of little importance, but they are the things that mark human evolution and tell our archeological story. These structures hold the keys to the past, as well as the clues to the future. Despite the exact origins or importance to any specific group, it is the world's responsibility to protect these sites from anyone who wishes to deface and destroy them.

In their fight for Islam, ISIS has no problem resorting to violence or destruction. This ideal is one that makes their rise in power increasingly dangerous. Along with the power they obtain, this group becomes even more aggressive and assertive in their actions and ideals. It is this change or development that has led them to defacing and destroying ancient sites that they disagree with or believe oppose their religion.

This destruction of art and historic relics in regions under ISIS's control is something that isn't going to stop without intervention. Allowing them to destroy such things is about much more than war or violence. When it comes down to, it these structures truly have a deeper meaning than just mortar and stone.

By letting ISIS destroy these pieces of history, we are enabling them to degrade not only the physical objects,

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ON PAGE 9



YEILY BARRERA | Contributing Cartoonist



POLICE BRUTALITY & TECHNOLOGY ▶ **PAGE 11**

The case of Walter L. Scott brings to light questions about camera usage and the police.



ANOREXIA ▶ **PAGE 13**

France passes laws prohibiting anorexic models from walking the runway and being shown in advertisements.



PRESIDENTIAL RACE ▶ **PAGE 14**

The Register considers two of the current candidates in the 2016 Presidential Race.

MATERNITY MANDATE

BY SAN JUANA PARAMO
staff writer

The United States is notorious for having a poor approach when it comes to maternity leave policies. The United States does not have a mandated national maternity leave, most women get little paid time off after the birth of a child. Not only does it have consequences for both mother and child, but for the economy as a whole.

Many mothers struggle to face the financial difficulties that come with the arrival of a new baby. If the mothers are working, it becomes even harder since many have to make do with the salary of their spouse or to cut down expenses to make ends meet. Pregnant women also face discrimination in the workplace because they can't perform at optimum levels.

There has been a recent trend of mothers who work while pregnant and return to work almost immediately after given birth.

According to the Washington Post in the early 1960s, fewer than half of women in the United States worked at the start of their pregnancies and only 15 percent continued to work until a month before their due date. In the mid-2000s nearly two-thirds of women worked through the beginning of their pregnancy and over 50 percent were still working a month before their due date, states the same report.

Congress passed the Pregnancy Discrimination Act in 1978, which prohibited employers from discriminating against pregnant women.

Though it is illegal for employers to discriminate, many women still lose their jobs due to pregnancy and because it is difficult to provide evidence of discrimination, women can do little about it.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 mandated 12 weeks of unpaid leave for child or family care. A minimal accommodation for working families, it has enabled women to stay in the labor force during and after pregnancy.

But more needs to be done to ensure a fair maternity leave that benefits both the mother and her employer. The United States is the only developed country that doesn't mandate any paid maternity leave.

When it comes to women in the workforce, it's causing the U.S. to fall behind other countries, making us less competitive in the global marketplace.

California, New Jersey and Rhode Island are the only states that offer parental leave paid by payroll deductions. The results have been positive, the cost to workers is less than a dollar per week, reports the Washington Post.

This is further proof that paid maternity leave is beneficial for women. A positive outcome from this is that women continue to work afterwards.

There are plenty of policy changes that the U.S. could adopt that would provide benefits to women nationwide. Aparna Mathur, writer for Forbes, offers a proposal that is effective. Her plan is to use the existing system of child supports in the tax code, but with modifications.

First to make the Child and Dependent Care tax credit refundable and second, to allow families to access benefits at the time they need them the most through advance payments.

Families with children in the U.S. are rewarded tax several breaks through the U.S. tax code.

These include the Child Tax credit which allows households with children to reduce their federal income tax liability by up to \$1000 per qualifying child. The Child and Department Care Credit available to working parents who paid expenses for the care of a child and the Earned Income Tax Credit, a credit available to low-to-moderate income individuals who work.

Marthur proposes to make the Child and Dependent Care Credit refundable so that that the benefits to the families would be higher.

Most importantly it would help low-income disadvantage families during maternity leave. It would be a useful supplement to family incomes, of distinct households.

There is reason to believe that paid maternity leave would be beneficial for the health of the child.

A mother's desire to maintain her job and to continue after giving birth makes it difficult to continue working. The United States makes it extremely difficult for women to enjoy a benefit that should be a right. Various countries have proven that paid maternity leave has been beneficial in many aspects. If the United States really wants to continue as a leading competitor in the marketplace then there should be a bipartisan consensus on the means to fund paid maternity leave and to make it a nationwide mandate.

CONTINUED FROM 'ISIS' ON PAGE 8

but also the very ideals that those things stand for. In a way, it's almost a submission or even a type of assimilation to those ideals that the destructor is supporting.

When we decide to stand idle and literally watch 3,000 year old sites such as the Iraqi city of Nimrud fall, we are, in a way, accepting their accusations and claims of inferiority. Not only does this enable the unspeakable things that ISIS is doing, but it is also allows for the decimation of priceless artifacts.

If we don't step up and fight for the protection of these places, at the end of this "war" with ISIS we might very well be left with nothing. However, with the efforts and help of everyone, we could very well save these pieces of history. By increasing the understanding people have of historic sites all over the world, including their importance, we can create a society that not only understands the past, but can protect the future. If we can foster understanding in all people, hopefully events such as the destruction ISIS has caused can be prevented. This way, the protection of these places won't have to come down to violence in the first place.

However, at this point, a fight against ISIS is impending, so why not step up now and save some of these sites while we fight this group? In the end, if it's going to come down to sacrifice, we should be able to say that we fought for freedom while also preserving history. Without action being taken against them, ISIS isn't going to stop. So why should we decide to end this after the sites worth saving are obliterated? Or should we stand up now and say enough is enough?

If we allow these historical sites to be destroyed not only are we letting the other side win the battle, but we're almost making it seem like their cause is the righteous one. Violence is never the ideal answer, however, unfortunately sometimes that is what it comes down to when everything is said and done. Whether we decide that this is the way to go, or we're able to figure it out some other way, everyone has to step in, so that in the future, we are able to save places like Nimrud.

Some may think that saving these sites isn't worth what would have to be sacrificed, but before anyone makes that decision one has to remember that once these places are gone there's no getting them back. In a matter of seconds, centuries of history could be reduced into a pile of rubble and a cloud of dust. So the question is, are we okay with that?

DEAL OR NO DEAL?

THE PROLONGED ATTEMPT TO REACH A DEAL WITH IRAN, IN HOPES OF PREVENTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ARMS

BY ALEC ROME
staff writer

The Iran nuclear program has always been a problem for many countries, including the United States. Now, the United States along with other United Nations delegates are now attempting to reach a deal with the Middle Eastern country to prevent them from developing nuclear arms. The deal has been highly criticized, because it includes Iran being allowed to continue to develop uranium in their centrifuges. Now there are confusions as to the terms of the deal, and if things don't get on track soon, the two sides may not reach a deal.

This is quite a big issue in terms of keeping dangerous weapons out of the wrong hands. Iran has continually shown anti-Semitic views. The main reason why many nations want nuclear weapons as far away from Iran as possible is because of the threat that Iran could launch those weapons against Israel. President Barack Obama is focused on finding a peaceful resolution to the conflict. "I've been very clear that Iran will not get a nuclear weapon on my watch, and I think they should understand that we mean it. But I say that hoping that we can conclude this diplomatic arrangement and that it ushers in a new era in U.S.-Iranian relations," Obama said. He has also made his view concrete in the sense that, "What we will be doing even as we enter into this deal is sending a very clear message to the Iranians and to the entire region that if anybody messes with Israel, America will be there."

This has now led to the negotiations being made by both sides in order to reach some sort of agreement. But this point seems moot. Iran and the United States both have different terms that they seem to have in mind. For some completely odd reason, both sides have miscommunicated. That is unacceptable in a situation as serious as nuclear talks. This is a high stakes game, and it is quite important for the future of United States

foreign policy.

If the United States can reach a deal, it would mean a huge victory for diplomacy. The United States would keep nuclear weapons out of the wrong hands, and it would resemble the victory of Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Both sides have a couple of months to draft and create a final resolution or else Iran may be able to create a nuclear weapon for inhumane intentions.

The main thing that needs to be focused on is a clear statement as to what the terms of the deal are. Iran has demanded for immediate relief on its economic sanctions or else the deal will fall through. The United States and other nations need to clearly state the terms of the deal that they are trying to reach, and when both sides have a clear idea, negotiation can move forward in a positive direction. Also, the United States needs to be more lenient in some areas of the deal and "clamp down" in other areas. Sanctions on Iran's economy should be quickly lifted, sometime within the next year or two. However, allowing Iran to resume enriching uranium is not very smart. Without any enrichment of uranium, a nuclear bomb is practically impossible. Allowing research about uranium or other relating topics is alright, as long as the research is for the good of mankind instead of themselves. The one part of the deal that seems to be sufficient is the strict inspection terms. The International Atomic Energy Agency will be allowed to obtain information about Iran's nuclear program, along with being able to inspect suspicious nuclear sites with reasonable allegation. Overall, this is the one part of the deal that is just lenient yet assertive enough to get both sides to compromise.

There are still a lot of obstacles for both sides to tackle. A deal needs to be made by June 30, unless the sides choose to extend the deadline in order to reach an agreement. Both sides need to get on the same page and the United States needs to refine some of the parts of the deal in order to satisfy both sides and spectators to have any sort of victory in diplomacy.

want to see more of **THE REGISTER?**

Catholic school should not be allowed to fire teacher over sexuality

BY KELSEY THOMAS

executive editor

Receiving attention on new sites such as BuzzFeed, Fox News, and others, the recent decision to fire a teacher at Skutt Catholic due to his sexuality has stirred controversy across the nation. Though almost everyone can agree that Skutt's actions are discriminatory against members of the LGBT community, the question of how far the rights of the school as a private religious institution may extend has caused a debate amongst many.

The name of Skutt Catholic High School speaks for itself. The values that the school teaches are what one may expect: the students attend theology classes, wear uniforms, and are expected to attend church. However, Skutt should not be allowed to force Catholic practices upon its employees and students outside of its campus.

Instead of viewing Skutt as a religious organization, or an affiliation of the archdiocese, people should realize that its primary person is a learning institution, a school, intended to educate young people, to prepare them for the real world, and to make their future brighter. These purposes should take precedence over any political agenda or religious belief.

As a role model for their students, Skutt's administration has failed miserably. They have taught young adults that something so fickle as religious values are more important than simply treating your fellow man with kindness and respect.

Unfortunately, Skutt has the right to fire the teacher because of religious freedom. The man's sexuality goes against their beliefs, and no legislature can force a private institution to go against their values. Yet, the school does not attack other "non-Catholic practices" with such fervency.

If Skutt wishes to rid the school of all non-Christian practices, perhaps their scope should extend further than firing homosexual teachers. It is highly unlikely that all students and teachers are following the exact words of the Bible; if homosexuality is being punished, then premarital sex, the use of birth control, and birth outside of wedlock must also result in expulsion or termination of employment. If following the word of the Bible, the consumption of shrimp, as well as playing football, must also result in punitive action.

Perhaps the most troubling argument in Skutt's defense is that the teacher should just go find a job somewhere else. Some reason that he should not want to teach at the school anyway, given that they do not support his lifestyle.

Through this defense, support to racial segregation is also given. If people are expected to follow this, black people in the 1960s should have settled for another water fountain, or a different grocery store.

Of course, despite a very small minority, nearly every American today finds racial segregation appalling. Ironically people do not feel the same way about discrimination against homosexuals, even though both are supported with the same false arguments. Even the Bible, which people use to

justify discrimination against LGBT people, supports slavery, at one point saying, "as for your male and female slaves whom you may have: you may buy male and female slaves from among the nations that are around you." Since humanity has progressed from the time the Bible was written, Christians tend to ignore this piece of the "word of God."

Similarly, times have changed, and perspectives on homosexuality have changed. Religious people should accept this fact, in the same way that the abolishment of slavery has become the norm. Though Skutt's actions are clearly wrong, they are technically justified with religious liberty. Maybe in coming decades laws will pass stating that discrimination against the LGBT community is illegal, as with the civil rights movement years ago. People must remember that their rights end where another's rights are infringed

upon, no matter their personal values or belief system.



KELSEY THOMAS

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

THE REGISTER ANALYZES RECENT ACTS DEALING WITH RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RIGHTS, DISCUSSING THE LIMITS TO WHICH THESE RIGHTS CAN EXTEND

Religious freedom legislature necessary for equality

BY CHOTEAU KAMMEL

staff writer

The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantees the right to freedom of religion or lack thereof, but not freedom from religion. Whether someone likes it or not, there are followers of various faiths throughout the country and they have the constitutional right to practice their beliefs as long as it is not at the forced expense of others.

However, on the other hand, members of society cannot have their way if it comes at the forced expense of those people of faith. That being said, these ideas of mutual protection have come under attack by the leftist media of late, without the laws themselves actually being clarified.

It is also important that the emotionally charged, yet factually lacking, assaults on Christian business owners be shown for what they really are; biased and ignorant misunderstandings of the Constitution and a blatant blind eye to the real travesties of justice against the homosexual community.

Early in his presidency, Bill Clinton signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, a landmark bill that received vast bipartisan support. In fact, 19 states have enacted the same or at least similarly worded bills. The law essentially said that in order for the federal government to involve itself in religious freedom there had to first be certain proof that it was at other's expense, thus outlining the balance of freedom.

The philosophical idea behind the balance of freedom is that all people are ordained with unalienable rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of property," and any other right mentioned or even not mentioned in the amendments. However, if any of these rights come at the forced expense of another person's rights, they are no longer guaranteed and are therefore no longer rights.

In the case of religious freedom and the Restoration Acts that are signed to defend it, the balance of freedom has most recently come into play with the provision of contraceptives under the "Affordable" Care Act and the on going same sex marriage debate. Earlier this year the Supreme Court ruled that corporations and other businesses did not have to provide certain contraceptives that the ACA had previously required due to religious objections to certain drugs that are classified as abortifacants. The balance of freedom had once more won out, as the right to these abortifacants is negated as a right when it comes at the expense of forcing business owners to compromise their religious beliefs.

More recently, the balance of freedom has come under fire in Indiana and in the arena of the so called "tolerance" movement. There, a Religious Freedom and Restoration Act (RFRA) brought upheaval due mainly to two clauses which make it different from the 18 other RFRA's across the nation.

First off, it allows private businesses to use it as defense in court if they feel their free religious exercise is burdened or going to be burdened, and secondly it also allows this right to be used as a defense in court.

The first clause of this bill makes little sense as the legal system does not deal with defenses against events that have not even occurred yet nor that lack sufficient evidence to prove they will take place, the second clause does contain validity.

When someone is forced to compromise their religion in order to satisfy another's perceived rights, their First Amendment Rights have been violated. Therefore, refusing to allow this violation is in line with free religious exercise and should be an admissible defense in a court of law.

With the signing of this RFRA in Indiana, the liberal uproar across the country was immense. MSNBC headlines screamed that private businesses run by those darn Christians could now refuse service to all homosexual patrons. However, had they actually been thinking, it is obvious that this is not the case. This law does not make it legal to simply refuse to serve a patron. It protects the refusal on religious grounds to serve an event, not a person. A Christian business owner's refusal to cater a same sex wedding has nothing to do with the individuals; Christians are called to love all. It is a refusal to cater a ceremony that they do not believe in.

Once more, the balance of freedom must be upheld. A gay or lesbian couple's right to a wedding cake cannot come at the expense of forcing a Christian business owner to be an unwilling component of an event that they do not condone. Especially when there are dozens of businesses who would happily serve same sex couple's wedding receptions.

The same sex marriage movement continually chants that they just want tolerance. How can they chant this while also shutting down businesses, suing and firing people who dare to hold an opinion contrary to their own? It appears that this road of tolerance is only a one way street.

All in all, once RFRA's are clarified and no useless or petty text is preset in the bills so as to invite anger, they do serve a very important purpose in insuring that one of the first rights mentioned in the Bill of Right is defended.

Whether it is Joe Biden and his \$650,000 country club ranting about the rich, Elizabeth Warren opposing corporate welfare but supporting bailouts and the Fed or President Obama easily calling Christians out for the Crusades but suddenly becoming tongue tied when faced with radical Islamic terrorism, there are many interesting and amusing contradictions across the left.

For example, as Christian business after business has been bullied into closing or coughing up large payouts by the "tolerant" left, the treatment of homosexuals in Islamic countries goes unspoken. Apple CEO Tim Cook announced that Apple would boycott Indiana because of its RFRA, while at the same time Apple has opened up stores in Saudi Arabia and Nigeria and other nations that in their radical ideologies have committed mass crime against homosexuals, women and children.

Cook would like to pull out of Indiana because a Christian business owner can say no to a gay wedding, but will overlook the fact that gays are beheaded, stoned and thrown off buildings in the Islamic world, all so that he can sound intelligent and tolerant here at home while making billions overseas.

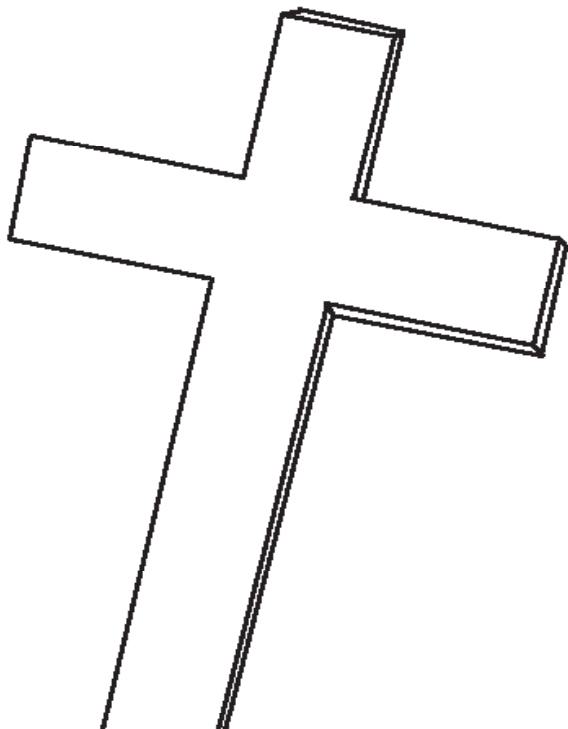
Many liberals adamantly oppose and boycott Chic-Fil-A because of its owner's affirmation of marriage between a man and a woman, yet also own cars and fuel up at the pump with petroleum imported from countries that murder gays. Yet again, no word of this is spoken.

Why is it that Christians are evil and intolerant for wanting to peacefully practice their faith, while it is simply something cultural for Middle Eastern countries to prosecute and kill people for being attracted to the same sex?

Christians are increasingly under attack in America by a relentless movement of "tolerant" liberals who cannot fathom the insane idea that someone could possibly disagree with them for any reason other than hatred. True tolerance is based on mutual respect, not affirmation. RFRA's protect those with strong religious convictions from being forced to violate their conscience and hopefully it will soon be understood that rights end when they come at the expense of others.



CHOTEAU KAMMEL



WALTER L. SCOTT

POLICE BRUTALITY CASE RESULTS
IN DEATH, OFFICER INDICTMENT
AND PUBLIC SCRUTINY

SHOULD THE VIDEO HAVE BEEN SHOWN?

BY JORDAN YOUNG
co web editor

The breaking story was huge, another tragedy added to a growing list for 2015. Walter Scott, an unarmed black male was shot eight times in the back by a white police officer. But unlike the past incidents, like in the cases of Michael Brown and Trayvon Martin, there were no questions, no “what ifs” that trailed behind the facts in the story simply because the entire event was videotaped by a bystander.

Once news and media outlets got their hands on it, the cold-blooded murder was shown to millions of Americans across the country.

But was it the right thing to do?

When it comes to ethics in journalism, the problem is, they’re just...ethics. They describe what a journalist should do, what we would hope journalists would do, but making the right decisions in a certain context doesn’t always happen. And the Walter Scott video is a prime example.

According to newyorker.com, the man who recorded the video, Feidin Santana, held the video for a couple of days out of fear of public retaliation and in hope that Officer Michael Slager would come forth with the truth about what happened. When that didn’t happen he turned in the video to Scott’s family instead of the police department and the family then released the video to the media. The New York Times was the main news outlet that first presented the video to the public.

To argue that the video should not have been released at all isn’t fair. Before Scott’s family released the video, the police department reported and Officer Slager’s recollection of what had occurred at the scene of the crime wasn’t exact to what actually took place according to nytimes.com.

The video showed Scott running away, back turned to Officer Slager when he was shot at eight times, apparently moments after the two were in a struggle for the taser. Slager stated that Scott had taken his taser in a scuffle after a traffic stop. However in the video Scott was running away with the wires of the taser hanging from his arms.

What’s even more disturbing is after Scott fell down, Slager handcuffs the dead man and appears to pick up the fallen taser sitting by his police car, away from Scott’s body. He then drops the taser by Scott moments before he calls

for backup.

In response to critical feedback from those who were upset over the clip, New York Times Editor Margaret Sullivan said, “...The Times went out of its way to show that the police officer’s account didn’t jibe with videotaped reality.”

The Editor for Times, Rebecca Corbett, stated “This was a very powerful record of a violent episode. We thought it had very significant news value — and that is the standard we apply, including in coverage of war zones.”

She added that “it provided very critical information that called into question and raised profound questions.” Not long after the video went viral Slager was arrested and charged with murder according to flavorwire.com. In that way, the Walter Scott video brought justice to a situation that would have otherwise been written off as a stereotypical murder.

The real ethical problems lie within the way smaller news networks displayed the video.

On the Society of Professional Journalists website, parts of their code of ethics states that journalists should, “Show compassion for those who may be affected by news coverage. Use heightened sensitivity when dealing with juveniles, victims of sex crimes, and sources or subjects who are inexperienced or unable to give consent” and “avoid pandering to lurid curiosity, even if others do.”

Accusing the New York Times of breaking these rules simply because the video was released wouldn’t be completely right. But news stations across the country were no doubt being lax when it came to abiding by these ethical standards.

Not only were some of these stations (Channel 7 in Omaha for example) showing the video repeatedly on local television with no warning or discretion for viewers. The actual death of a man was played as if it was a short movie clip.

That can’t be right.

The case of this video is almost similar to footage taken during the 9/11 attacks in September 2001. Pictures of people jumping off buildings were shown on TV and published in newspapers but were taken back not soon after.

The same should have happened immediately for the Walter Scott video.

WAS THERE A PREJUDICED MOTIVE?

BY TIA SPEARS
editor-in-chief

Where to begin? Should the story start with the feeling of pain and disgust or does it start with a detailed definition of the issue that fills America with unmentioned predispositions—ethnic stereotyping.

On Saturday, April 6, a white North Charleston, S.C. officer by the name of Michael T. Slager shot and killed a black man named Walter L. Scott after an escalated traffic stop.

The NY Times published a story on the following day, in which a four minute video, filmed by a bystander walking to work, could leave someone in tears. After hitting replay a couple times, the tears dry and anger rises.

Fifty-year-old, Scott, ran away from Slager. In the video, you can see something (the Taser that they were supposedly shuffling over) drop and Slager pull out his handgun. Eight shots were fired, ripping through Scott’s body, a jerk from Scott’s body following five of them... then he collapsed.

Immediately, Slager reported to the radio that shots were fired, Scott was down and that his Taser was taken. He then proceeded to tell Scott to put his hands behind his back as he lie on the ground, returned to pick up an object (which was most likely the Taser) approximately 20 feet away and drops it next to Scott’s body (which appeared to be deceased).

Slager told CNN that he was following protocol and that he feared for his life.

If following protocol is synonymous with “shoot first, ask questions later,” then he’s right, however it’s certain that better actions could have been taken. Considering Scott’s age and the obvious limp he had while running, it’s plausible that 33-year-old Slager could catch him and arrest him for fleeing, like he should’ve done.

North Charleston Police Chief Eddie Driggers said that he was “disgusted” by what Michael T. Slager did.

Slager was terminated from the North Charleston Police Department as an officer and incarcerated as the investigation continued. If he is convicted, he will face life in prison and possibly even the death penalty. Following this incident, 150 body cameras were ordered so that every officer on the street in North

Charleston could have one if needed.

So, considering the video recording and Slager’s inaccurate verbal explanation of the traffic stop, one question is left to be asked... Why did Slager shoot Scott to death? With all the controversy following police brutality, specifically on black people, it is speculated that ethnicity was a factor Slager could have been motivated by.

The Scott family attorney, Chris Stewart, seems to think otherwise. He told CNN, “We can’t get into the brain of another individual, so we can’t state that. It would be irresponsible to say that and try to inflame a community or anything of that nature.” This was a very mild and incorrect statement.

Slager’s statement about fearing for his life reveals a large clue as to what his intentions were. Why would someone fear for their life if they are in a position of authority in addition to being armed and the person who is “threatening” them is running away from them? Slager’s statement about being fearful is indeed a cover up, if the circumstances of this homicide are thoroughly considered. In addition, he drops an object believed to be the Taser next to Scott’s deceased body to support his false claim of him taking it. Clearly, he’s framing Scott which makes him a prejudiced, coward.

It’s become such a subconscious thing that it’s impossible not to look at someone and have a plethora of wonders about them that may or may not be positive, just because of the color of their skin. It’s a deep rooted American custom. It would be ignorant to subtract this as a factor in the death of Walter L. Scott.

Stewart’s comment about not inflaming a community with ethnic controversy is understandable, it is impossible to dismiss it. That’s the reason the “race issue” is still problematic in society and the government. People constantly dismiss it just because slavery was abolished and integrated conditions exist.

In the footage, it is blatant he doesn’t think twice about drawing his gun or showing another sign of apprehension out of fear. He aimed and shot the gun not once, not twice, but eight times. Point, blank, period, that’s extremely aggressive and indeed a use of excessive force.

Whether or not it is determined to be ethnically fueled is an argument that absolutely no one will win, but at least there is enough evidence to convict him of his murder and bring justice to Scott’s family.

Unraveling police brutality cases prove body camera as necessity

BY TRENAY NEWSOME
staff writer

The media plays a vital role on how Americans perceive their country. An extremely important topic that has been in the news for the past few months is police brutality against minorities.

Why are these stories just now becoming important? Why is the media now making this into a huge national issue? It’s because people currently have the technology to record such events that unfold in areas where there are few amounts of witnesses. Now that videos serve as a source of evidence there will be no need for false witnesses or pointing of the finger.

In the past many would believe the officer because they are the people that society needs to feel safe around. They are supposed to be role models to the community, and they are the people in power. Not all officers are biased in their profiling but some are. With the use of a fingertip, the secret world of police

brutality is slowly being uncovered.

Still this does not explain why or how this issue has finally been brought to light. The answer is simple, people are tired of the discrimination and want a change on how they are perceived by the world. Technology’s role in this is shedding light on what actually happens when police take advantage of their power. No more pointing of the finger and believing the one with the most power.

This then leads to the question, should police wear body cameras? Why not? This would encourage the police to think twice before deciding to excessively shoot someone.

Recently a police officer, Michael Slager, in North Carolina shot and killed an African-American male, 50-year-old Walter Scott. The video revealed that Scott was excessively shot in the back, while running away from Slager. What would the outcome of this case be if the person who recorded this was not around? The officer apparently didn’t have body camera, so at the end of the day the only person around would have been Slager. It would

be his word against a dead man’s body. Without any hesitation the police force would have went with his word. Because what police officer lies right? They are always the good guys.

All police officers should be required to wear body cameras because that would influence them not to do anything rash, possibly saving lives, and to ensure the truth comes to light. Videos don’t lie.

Technology has played an important role in capturing these potentially fatal moments with police and providing solid evidence. It is also one of the many factors that explains why police brutality has become such a significant topic in the past few months.

With these cases finally being shown in the media everyone is impacted because officers are supposed to protect Americans, not use unnecessary force. This brings the U.S., morally, to an all-time low, no highly developed country should have to question the word of their officers but the day has come.

Rape story leads to loss of credibility for magazine

CONTINUED FROM 'ROLLING STONE'
ON PAGE 8

claimed orchestrated the attack on her nor any of the men who she claimed participated in the attack for fear of retaliation against her," Dana wrote.

He continued, "We reached out to both the local branch and the national leadership of Phi Psi, the fraternity where Jackie said she was attacked. They responded that they couldn't confirm or deny her story but that they had questions about the evidence."

The suspicions on the part of the university were followed up by the Washington Post as well as other credible publications. The results of their investigations turned up loose ends and disparities in the Jackie story, such as the fact that the fraternity issued a formal statement that completely denied the assault's occurrence.

The credibility of Rolling Stone has been further proved as nonexistent, such as when the fraternity claimed no "date function or formal event" on the night of the alleged assault. Further, Jackie herself is unsure if the man she claimed lured her into the room was a Phi Psi brother at all.

According to the Washington Post, the man labeled as "Drew" belongs to a different fraternity than Phi Psi and denies any acquaintance with Jackie. This illustrates just how unprofessional and shameful the Rolling Stone acted in publishing a questionable, sensitive story in a magazine that should have high journalistic standards.

The Post also reported information from a friend of Jackie's who said he found Jackie that night a mile from the school's fraternities. In his words, she appeared shaken but not "physically injured at the time". He does not recall her identifying a specific house where the supposed gang rape occurred.

Ever though Jackie has stated she firmly stands by the account she gave to the Rolling Stone, it is obvious that the story was hastily written in order to bring publicity to the magazine and the issue of campus rape.

However, writing a dramatic sob story about a misguided college girl is not the way to respect among the nation's readers, and the Rolling Stone should be aware of this. Their actions are completely against the code of journalism ethics that they should aspire to uphold, and it is an embarrassment to the name of reporting and the American press at large.

Rolling Stone should have ensured that their facts were completely accurate, that Jackie had her account straight and was aware of the impact of her words. The story has not only brought negative publicity to the University of Virginia, but it has wronged the millions of readers who were affected by the feature and who enthusiastically trust in the credibility of the Rolling Stone.

The magazine made a judgment when it decided to publish Jackie's story, and a wrong one at that. Their mistake is a disgrace to the young woman, to the university, and the entire country, and the consequences will be felt long after America turns its attention to the latest breaking news and scandals in the making.

“ We decided to honor her request not to contact the man who she claimed orchestrated the attack on her nor any of the men who she claimed participated... ”

WILL DANA
Managing Editor
Rolling Stone



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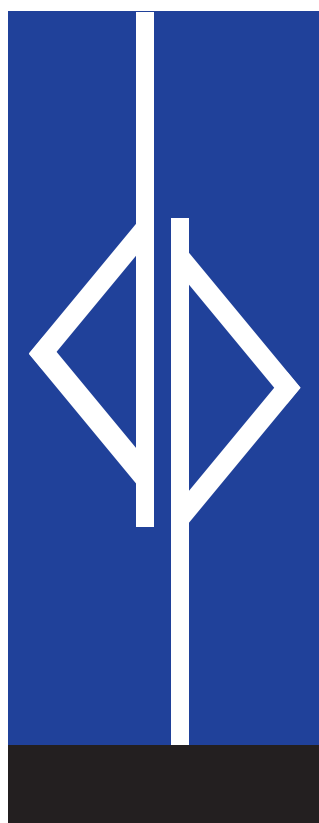
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TOO THIN FOR THE RUNWAY

BY JULIA BIELEWICZ
staff writer

The use of anorexic models or those who encourage anorexia may become a crime decided upon by the French Parliament. Authorities of France are trying to enforce the criminality of glorifying severely thin women. France is not the first country to do this, they are following in the footsteps of Israel and Spain. The two biggest questions are why is this extensive measure being taken and should other countries to do the same?

This amendment was given to models at the beginning of April as part of a public health bill working through the legislature. This reform could potentially forbid anyone with a body mass index below 18 from earning money as a model. This would require a 5 foot 7 inch model to weigh approximately 121 pounds. Fashion companies that are exposed as not following regulations could face up to six months in jail as well as a fine of \$82,000.

The bill would require models to have a certificate vouching that they have, what the government believes to be, a healthy BMI. This movement is also being paired with a recent bill that bans pro-anorexia websites. This regulation is an attempt to stop the idealization and glorification of the alarmingly thin women in France.

Some people are protesting the legislation of a considerably 'healthy' weight, claiming that thinness in no way automatically signifies that a disease is present. The motive behind this notion is being questioned on whether the possible law is really targeting anorexia. Some say thin people in general could be unrealistic goals for people who are easily manipulated.

As many as 40,000 people are believed to suffer from anorexia in France. About 90 percent of them are women, according to the health ministry and a majority are teenagers as well. There is no doubt that this will be an influential bill if passed. Although, it has been talked about and researched that it may be a possibility to be born with a brain abnormality that allows people to develop eating disorders. Therefore, this law would only help those who are not already exposed to the illness.

If the bill moves forward, it would still only benefit



IMANI BROWN | Contributing Cartoonist

France, not all of Europe. However, that will not stop it from having a symbolic impact. Due to the country's huge influence in setting style trends throughout the world, it is impossible for other countries to not follow right behind. The question although, is not will it, but should it?

It will have an impact on other countries but not instantly. One by one if positive results are found from France taking this step, countries will begin to do the same. This could actually be the one push the world needs to move forward in

the battle against eating disorders and those who encourage or glorify them.

Despite the fact that this plan could not go as smoothly as France hopes, this is a huge milestone in history that will benefit men, women and children who need help or prevention from this life threatening disease. This bill has the power to change the world and the lives of future generations to come if treated with the right sense and motives it began with.

Gender identity should be added to curriculum

BY TIA SPEARS
editor-in-chief

"Until your life is touched by someone...who is transgender...you really don't get it," said Shelly LaTerra, an English teacher at Brighton High School who supports the transgender community.

In a society where gender nonconforming is common, the LGBT community (specifically the transgender community) is wrongly discouraged and misunderstood.

Fox 2 News in Denver, Colo. reported that 74% of transgender students felt harassed at school and 90% felt unsafe because of their gender identity. It's a no brainer that it is unjustifiable for any student to feel this way; however, once sexual orientation and gender identity become factors, people like to make exceptions.

"Gender expression" refers to how people express their identity in the way they dress, the length of their hair, the way they act or speak and in their choice of whether or not to wear makeup," according to the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, which works to guarantee liberties associated with gender expression.

If being told that self-expression is wrong and too difficult to understand, then this issue should spark some motivating controversy.

The U.S., specifically, is supposed to be a nation of civil liberties and basic human rights. It's supposed to be the land of the free and the home of the brave, with its streets paved with gold. All of it comes with a cost and for many that means not expressing themselves for the sole purpose of being accepted.

Camryn Molina, a former student of LaTerra, has experienced this first hand.

"In the third grade, I learned that I liked girls, but I kept it to myself," he said. Molina was born a girl, but always found himself interested in masculine games, toys, and activities. Once he hit puberty, Molina felt disconnected from his body and emotionally depressed. Subsequently, he visited a therapist who presented the idea of being transgender, which transformed his life.

By Molina's junior year of high school, he declared his gender identity as a man. The following year, he was confident enough to run for prom king. He was surrounded by supportive friends who made his transformation very smooth.

Unfortunately, his family choose not to conform to his gender identity. That serves as proof that there is an existing society that makes the transformation process difficult for most of the transgender community. That's the society everyone lives in today.

In order to eliminate this, since it is indeed a restriction of human liberty and self-expression, it is essential to teach students in Human Growth and Development classes about the variations in sexual orientations and gender identifications.

The curriculum needs to be scientific, unbiased and most importantly, inclusive. In Nebraska, Human Growth and Development begins to cover more in-depth content at the middle school (seventh and eighth grade) level. This is also when puberty is entering a more advanced stage, thus allowing anyone with gender identification issues to understand themselves better.

Some arguments with this may include the possibility of convincing students at a young age to be something they're not just because it's being exposed to them. While kids at the middle school level may not know who they truly are yet, this is still a fallacy.

Human Development is a co-education class that discusses mature subjects like sexually transmitted diseases, methods of contraception and how to use them in addition to understanding how the reproductive organs work.

By large, students comprehend this very well, yet no one complains about swaying kids toward the choice of being sexually active because it's not truthful. Therefore, presenting kids with information about being of a sexual orientation or gender identity is no different.

Ultimately, if studying the reason why people are gay, straight, bisexual or transgender is taught, there leaves little room for misunderstanding and ultimately seldom room for bullying and harassment. It's no secret that a little understanding can go a long way.

No one knows if a transgender person is struggling with suicidal thoughts, depression or any similar condition. Simply offering an understanding can turn their life around, which is something any selfless person should agree with. It probably is the greatest gift they could receive in a difficult time of choosing their gender identity.

Early start times damaging to youth



KELSEY THOMAS

WE'RE GETTING THERE

I am caffeine fueled. From the time my alarm sounds at five a.m., until the time I close my eyes around midnight, my body is dependent upon a constant supply of energy and motivation deriving straight from coffee.

Certainly this is unhealthy; a teenager should not be able to down four cups of espresso and feel only a slight increase in liveliness. Yet, I, like many others, ostensibly have no other choice. Early school start times force students to lead a sleep-deprived, artificially energetic lifestyle, damaging health and academic achievement along the way.

The main argument in support of delaying school start times is one that cannot be denied. Studies show that only 13 percent of high school students gain the pediatrician-recommended eight to nine and a half hours of sleep per night, leading to increased levels of depression, obesity and risky behaviors. Sleep deprivation undoubtedly creates an amalgam of issues that not only endangers teenagers, but also the world around them.

Given that sleep deprivation, which is directly exacerbated by early school starting times, has such a profoundly negative effect, it is clear that school should be delayed. Some say young people are merely lazy, when in fact, research has shown that adolescent sleep patterns are biologically determined, meaning that developing teenagers simply cannot control their tendency to stay up late and rise at a later hour. School starting times before eight a.m. do not teach students the principles of responsibility or self-discipline, instead they only punish them for their unadjustable behavior. It sends the message that grades and standardized testing are more important than personal health or happiness for children.

EMMA PETERSEN | Contributing Cartoonist



THE REGISTER ANALYZES
CANDIDATES AND LOOKS
INTO THE 2016 RACE
FOR PRESIDENCY

2016 Presidential Race

BY MADDIE HAYKO
staff writer

Hillary Clinton recently made the decision to run for president, Hillary reached out to her supporters by visiting a small town in Iowa called La Claire. She also visited New Hampshire to rally more people for her campaign and to let people know what she stands for. It is good to get a head start when starting the campaign race, so candidates can rally as many people they can to support their cause. Hillary is doing just that.

The last time Hillary ran was in the 2008 election where she did not get enough votes to move on. Even after she was done with her run in 2008 she still helped Obama in the 2008 election by getting together people for rallies, so that she could get her supporters to help the cause. After president Obama was elected she later became secretary of state under president Obama.

"Although we weren't able to shatter that highest, hardest glass ceiling this time, thanks to you it's got about 18 million cracks in it," said Clinton on hillaryclinton.com.

Hillary has the right tactics to run again for president. When she ran for the state department even republicans said she ran for the state department very effectively. Hopefully she will be able to run for president just as effectively and when she visits New Hampshire she will be able to help rally the democrats together for this next election.

Clinton should also win this election because she has done so much when it comes to the human rights campaign and working with foreign affairs. Some things she did outside of the U.S. was building a coalition for tough new sanctions against Iran which instigated negotiation. She also brokered a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas that ended a war and protected Israel's security. The things that she's done outside of the states have stopped wars from continuing and starting. With this leadership applied in the US, she will hopefully be able to help stop the war and work more with the United States foreign affairs.

Clinton has also worked hard for the Human Rights Campaign. She is a strong supporter of women's rights and LGBT rights. If she is elected president she will most likely be able to apply what she's done with the Human Rights Campaign to make some helpful laws.

Especially laws like the Equal Rights Amendment which hasn't been talked about for a long time but should be brought back up due to the fact that many women are not being fairly in the work place along with the LGBT population. The ERA did have lots of supporters at first when it came up but it wasn't enough to get the law passed because there were still so many people that still had the mindset that women and men shouldn't be equal. Once LGBT rights are available in all states the ERA should really be brought back up by Hillary Clinton because I'm sure that the law will have many supporters.

If Hillary Clinton was to win this next election it would be beneficial because human rights and equality would be taken more seriously and foreign affairs could be seen in a new light.

BY CHOTEAU KAMMEL
staff writer

For the past two presidential elections, the Republican Party has run lackluster candidates, lost by huge margins amongst young people and lost touch with their promises. However, all of that is beginning to change as Kentucky Senator Rand Paul has announced his candidacy for president, and at last with a message that appeals and doesn't alienate the growing Libertarian base amongst the GOP. Looking forward to 2016, he stands to change both his party and the nation as a whole.

Although Paul has only been in the Senate for almost four years, he has already managed to garner the ire of both establishment Republicans and Democrats alike. With the way Congress has been behaving for the last five plus years, one thing is for certain, when the establishments of both parties dislike you, you're doing something right. Paul has angered many in the Republican Party because he has no qualms about pointing to cronyism and hypocrisy in both parties. He has also worked to find common ground on many social issues such as bipartisan criminal justice reform, less severe drug penalties and helping to defend victims of sexual assault in the military.

As his campaign slogan goes, "Defeat the Washington Machine, Unleash the American Dream," Paul aims to defeat the growing gap between citizens and their elected officials.

In previous elections, the Republican Party has considerably alienated those who lean more Libertarian on topics such as the government's role in marriage, foreign intervention, fiscal policy. Paul has taken his Libertarian father Ron Paul's views and blended them into a conservatarian belief so to speak.

Although one of the most common talking points of all Republican candidates is the excess of government spending, not one has successfully balanced the federal budget. Paul however, seeks to fully implement a Balanced Budget Amendment so that the federal government will cease to spend more than it takes in.

Under Obama, the debt has increased to 18 trillion dollars, and although the Internal Revenue Service is forecasted to rake in almost 4.8 trillion dollars in taxes this year, it will be overspent by half a trillion dollars. As president, Paul would seek to reign in the IRS and prevent its use as a weapon. He would also take a tax code that began with 400 words and has now grown to tens of thousands and instead implement a flat income tax of 17 percent.

The Democrats only want to tax the rich more, as if making the rich poor will solve poverty. According to the Heritage Foundation, the top 10% of the income brackets already pays 68% of all income taxes. If two thirds is not considered a "fair share," then what is? Paul seeks to reform the Washington political climate so that it is no longer detached from the people whom it is under and restore once more that the government works for the people, not the other way around. Just as presidents are limited in their terms, Paul would work to institute congressional term limits as well so as to prevent any one politician from making a living off of other people's money and falling prey to the corruption that comes with it.

Although it may seem like a common sense idea, Congress reads very few if the bills that they debate and often pass. Just as the great legislature Nancy Pelosi said, "We have to pass the bill to find out what's in it," Paul has proposed a Read the Bills Act that would require Congress to wait a specified number of days for however long the legislation may be.

The Federal Reserve was created to fall under the jurisdiction of Congress in managing the monetary supply, but has evolved into a neo-governmental organizations that bails out banks that should be allowed to fail, diverts tax dollars to special interests and destroys the currency with its inflating the currency with quantitative easing and artificial interest rates regardless of the market. Paul will conduct an audit of the Fed in order to further reign in spending and open up to the American people about what is really happening with their money. Paul's foreign policy mirrors that of Ronald Reagan's "peace through strength." He recognizes that the government's first duty to the people is to protect their rights and acknowledge that these rights are inherent and not gifts it bestows.

He will retain the necessary budget in order to insure that the United States remains a viable power, but also seek to mitigate foreign interventions, something his colleagues have failed miserably at in the past. As commander in chief he would recognize Congressional approval and end interventions such as the air campaign in Libya or the arming of rebels in Syria. Unlike the other GOP potential candidates, Paul would only increase military spending if corresponding cuts are made elsewhere. For example in order to provide increased funding for roads and bridges, Paul seeks to gradually end all foreign military aid, starting with the Middle Eastern countries that riot in the street chanting "Death to America." A country borrowing one million dollars a minute shouldnt fund countries that hate it.

Paul has sought reform the criminal justice system and end the racially biased outcomes of the war on drugs. His REDEEM act would seal non-violent offenders criminal recorders as long as they had paid their debt and remained out of the system and thus allow them better opportunities to find employment.

“ With the way Congress has been behaving for the last five plus years, one thing is for certain, when the establishments of both parties dislike you, you're doing something right. ”

CHOTEAU KAMMEL

staff writer

The Civil Rights Voting Restoration Act would return the right to vote in federal elections to non violent offenders. There is also the RESET Act which reduces small amount drug possession down from felony to misdemeanor and the FAIR Act which forces the federal government to prove that a person's property is being used for illegal purposed before they can seize it.

Socially, Paul would allow federalism to rule in allowing states to decide on same sex marriage. He also opposes abortion, as it violates the government's duty to protect life as defined by the Fourteenth Amendment. Over 55 million children have been denied their right to life since Roe V. Wade, and he adamantly supports allowing states to pass their own laws against abortion as well as ending federal funding for organizations that perform them. After all, if it really is the personal decision that the left claims, why should public funds pay for it? The greatest threat to the nation's economy is that of Washington and its rhetoric of "for the middle class," while passing regulations that only hurt the middle class. Big business and big government go together. Big banks need the government to bail them out just as big government needs the big banks to fund their candidates. Regulations are often passed with the support of many of their industries wealthiest. Why? Well because it provides an opportunity to put smaller competitors out of business.

All in all, Rand Paul is everything Republicans haven't been for decades. He's in touch with the youth, wants to end the war on drugs, allow federalism to rule and wants to give people the keys to their destiny back from the hands of bureaucrats and ensure that every American is independent to pursue their own American Dream's "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

entertainment

BY ALEC ROME
staff writer

Sometimes, students believe that teachers don't have a life outside of their job. Central has a teacher who has creativity along with being able to perform. Jonathan Flanagan, part of the English department, will be performing at the MAHA music festival along with other local talent on Aug. 15.

His band originally landed the gig after a Facebook message. "The band 'All Young Girls are Machine Guns,' which is run by a woman named Rebecca Lowry...She just Facebooked me randomly one day and asked if I wanted to join their band," Flanagan said. "They are kind of shifting their sound from a pop/jazz sound to more of a soul/funk band. So she thought of me because I had played in a band of another person's on their record, and she liked my sound. And that was before MAHA reached out, which is kind of strange."

Flanagan currently has a lot on his plate, with teaching and graduate school. "I figured once summer hits I'll have a lot of time to devote to it and really dig in, and then the next week MAHA reached out to her, which put some pressure on me to write some horn parts and get it going," Flanagan said.

MAHA will also have other local talent from around the area, and Flanagan is excited to be able to perform along with them. "Omaha has so many talented people, and so many different types of acts. It's really an honor to be asked to do it, but again a lot of pressure now to step up and bring it."

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LIVING A DOUBLE LIFE

Photo Courtesy of **JONATHAN FLANAGAN**

IB English teacher Jonathan Flanagan and his band "All Young Girls are Machine Guns" gather together for a group photo.

Student pursues passion for photography, art



Photo Courtesy of **PEYTON BELL**

Animals are just one of many things that sophomore Peyton Bell takes photos of. His passion started in middle school.

BY JORDAN YOUNG
co web editor

Believe it or not the social media outlet Instagram can be more than a forum for self-loving selfie takers and snapshots of three course meals. For sophomore Peyton Bell, Instagram is the place where his budding love for the art of photography blossomed and where it continually develops every day.

"[My love for photography] started probably in 8th

grade," Bell said. "I started seeing pictures on Instagram and it started--kind of--exploding."

"Some of the pictures I have seen are just breathtaking, like sometimes I will see like a landscape and I just want to go there."

He described a passion that began in 8th grade and finally materialized in the middle of 9th grade and since then

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Teachers share zeal for performing arts

BY JULI OBERLANDER
staff writer

Performing arts department head Pete Wilger has brought color to the music program at Central for 25 years.

However, his passion for music has been in existence for much longer. Wilger recalls himself having many interactions with the craft from a young age.

"Some of my family liked to sing and my mom taught herself piano," Wilger said.

The band instructor dates his first desire to participate in music back to his fourth grade year at the former Ashland Elementary. Wilger would watch with interest as boys played trumpets loudly from the fourth floor.

It was then that Wilger decided he wanted to pursue the trumpet.

Since then, the teacher has taken on a variety of different instruments in order to become the well-rounded musician he is today.

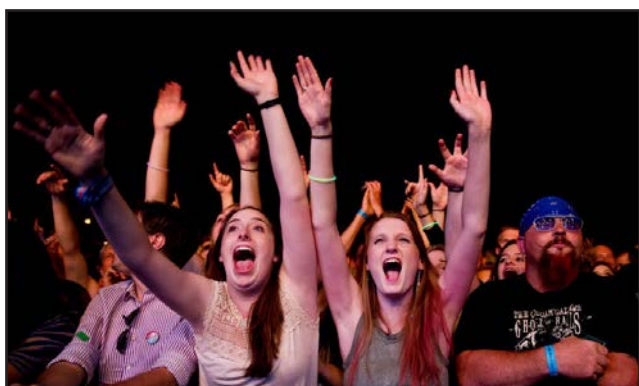
"I learned all the band instruments for my undergraduate degree," Wilger said. "I also started playing guitar four years ago, which has been a fun experience."

Wilger's favorite part about his job as a music educator is that he has the opportunity to interact with a variety of people, from his students to the other teachers in his department.

One of these teachers is Brad Rauch, who also was influenced heavily by music during his childhood.

"My parents listened to a lot of music when I was growing up," Rauch said. "I started cello in the fourth grade and I played through the ninth grade. I started playing guitar and bass in the

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CONCERT SERIES ►

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Omaha and the surrounding area will host a plethora of concerts over the summer.



OMAHA ENTERTAINMENT ►

PAGE 18 & 19

The Register explores the best entertainment spots around the metro.



PROM 2015 ►

PAGE 20

A look at student promposals, prom set-up and after prom celebration.

English teacher to perform at Maha Music Festival with band



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The band will get 20 minutes on the stage, and Flanagan has a lot of preparing to do in order to have the right music set. "Every practice we talk about what songs we want to do. Most of the songs are fairly short, but we'll just have to see," Flanagan said.

Sometimes, the band has to try and test the crowd and go from there. "There has been some talk of having a couple of set lists and just feel out the crowd. If we need to keep the energy up we'll stick with the faster set, if we really have people's attention or if the mood is kind of chill we will stick to the slower set."

It is a little weird for Flanagan to have others see him in a non-typical setting such as one of the biggest events of the summer in Omaha. "I imagine it's stranger for them than for me. I'm used to seeing them places, but when they see me at the mall it is a big deal. I'll find myself on Twitter later on, saying 'Look who we saw at the mall!' but it doesn't seem that weird to me," Flanagan said. "The students that come to these events tend to be cool with it."

Music has always been a part of Flanagan's life, and it has carried him a long way. "My dad had a bunch of records, just like The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, stuff like that," Flanagan said. "I started playing trumpet when I was fifth grade and loved it immediately. I played in all in all the ensembles I could in high school, and friends of mine would form bands outside of school and we would play like jazz type music or where trumpet is kind of important."

Photo Courtesy of JONATHAN FLANAGAN

In fact, pursuing music continued into college, where he majored in music for a few years. "I pretty much played in all of the trumpet ensembles UNK offered," Flanagan said. "I was going to be a band director/music teacher. There was a point through my freshman and sophomore years when I was studying music I started informally tutoring a lot of the dorm members. They would end up getting much better grades, and I hit a point when I realized that I am really good at teaching English, and it seems like I would be a much better English teacher."

Flanagan tries to balance his music with everything else going on in his life. "It's tough. Some nights I set aside just to lesson plan, some nights just to write papers and read for my graduate class and some nights are for writing trumpet music for five, six, seven hours," Flanagan said. "I try to play trumpet for at least an hour a day just to stay in shape physically, but the actual writing is the time-consuming part."

He doesn't do it alone, however. "I have a guy I collaborate with on writing more horn parts as I become strapped for time, and his name is Nick Waszak," Flanagan said. "He is a Central alumni, I have known him forever, and he lives in Chicago, and through the internet we have been able to collaborate, and he has really helped me write more horn parts."

Flanagan hopes to continue with music for years to come, and hopes to continue playing more festivals like MAHA. "They're booked at a few events already. Once I have all the parts written and I have learned it all, I think I will be able to balance it."

The Imitation Game proves a near miss, could have been masterpiece

BY MICAH MARTIN
staff writer

Based on the emotional, true story of Alan Turing, a genius mathematician, *The Imitation Game* was an amazing film. Well, at least it was until director Morten Tyldum tried to shove anti-bigotry beliefs down the audiences' throats. The worst part of it, was that it happened within the last five minutes of the film. It was almost as if, after pulling off this beautiful execution, Tyldum decided that it was too perfect, so he gummed it up at the last possible moment. The ending left such an unpleasant taste, that the film only earns eight out of ten stars.

Setup from the beginning to be a versatile picture, *The Imitation Game* was masterfully written. Including facets of wit, sadness, intellect, desperation, action, suspense and hope, this movie truly had something for every viewer. Having far from a shallow storyline, the plot of this movie was layered with different stories, meanings and emotions. Yet, despite everything that was going on it always flowed perfectly, explaining just enough without overdoing it. By using flashbacks and multiple narrators, the movie was able to progress smoothly without any major hiccups.

However, not only was the majority of the directing of the film done with a stroke of genius, but it told a story that was

not only captivating, but meaningful. Based around the development of a machine able to crack enigma, the seemingly unbreakable Nazi code, the events of this film took place during World War II. Mainly focused on Alan Turing, who originally conceived the idea of this codebreaking machine, the movie not only follows his journey of solving the puzzle of the code, but also that of his personal life.

MOVIE
REVIEW
8 / 10

Being homosexual in Turing's lifetime was a crime in England, which causes an additional means of grief for the already "troubled" young man. Due to Turing's sexuality, throughout the film there is an underlying theme of personal oppression and the need for acceptance. Themes which were conjured in such a way that its importance was conveyed more powerfully than it ever could have been blatantly addressed. These subtle themes, and the overall power of the feat that the group accomplished, truly set the stage for a masterpiece. There was just something about the way this film was able to exemplify humanity, the good and the bad, that made it amazing.

Everything about *The Imitation Game* was genius, the cast worked beautifully together, the plot was wonderfully written, the story inspiring. It was truly the perfect movie until the very end. Since it was based on a true story the director decided to end with facts, which would have been perfectly fine, welcomed even, if he hadn't strayed from the whole meaning of the film.

Until the ending, he movie never really focused on Turing's homosexuality. There had been some references, and it had been present, but it never seemed to be the overarching theme. Throughout the movie, the story was one of intellect, strength and the ability to overcome more so than anything else. However, by the end Turing's sexuality was pretty much the only thing that the movie seemed to care about. The way that it was presented before, allowed the audience to create their own feelings and opinions, which, in the end, would have had much more weight than fact, blatantly supporting someone else's opinion, being force fed to the audience.

Perhaps it had been the director's goal to highlight the injustice done towards homosexuals during the time period that Turing lived, but after the rest of the movie this agenda seemed out of place. Otherwise, if it was the director trying to make sure that the audience actually picked up on the note of injustice, it undermined the intelligence of those watching.

This fact is so disappointing, because otherwise *The Imitation Game* could have easily been the movie of the year. Despite the rest of the movie being a masterpiece, the ending really degraded the integrity of the whole thing. If nothing else people always remember how something ends, which is why endings are so important, and why this movies last words were so very disappointing.

OMAHA SUMMER CONCERT SERIES | BY SAN JUANA PARAMO staff writer

STIR CONCERT COVE

Stir Concert Cove is an outdoor concert series that brings the biggest names in the industry for a summer long concert series. Concertgoers have the ability to sit where they please. Though the event is open to all ages, everyone entering the Cove must have a ticket. Guests under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times, anyone 16 and older must present a valid ID as proof of age. The lineup for the 2015 season has been released. Kicking off the event on May 20th, Judas Priest with special guest will bring a glimpse of their Redeemer of Souls Tour to Harrah's Stir Concert Cove stage. Neon Trees with special guest Alex Winston and Yes You Are will perform in an intimate setting on June 26th. Little Big Town's Painkiller tour will make a stop along with David Nail and Ashley Monroe on July 10th. The Roots will bring their legendary hip hop, neo soul sound on July 18th and Hozier will perform for the first time with Dawes on July 31st. The lineup for this year's series proves to be one of the best, guests can expect to enjoy a great evening at which ever date they choose to attend.

LOESSFEST



Loessfest is an annual celebration held in Council Bluffs established in 2013. The festival kicks off the summer on Memorial Weekend with a wide array of free events for everyone. Much like Bank of The West Celebrates America it starts with a free concert on May 23. Hailed as one of the most important bands in music, Chicago will kick off Loessfest this year. The concert is free to attend and open to all ages. On Saturday, May 30 Maha Music Festival will have its MiniMaha performing at Loessfest. Maha alum Ben Kweller, The Dodos and Oketo will hold the stage at this free show. Unlike most of the music festivals occurring in and around the Omaha area, Loessfest offers a variety of activities suited for everyone throughout its ten day festival.

CELEBRATES AMERICA



For 25 years, The Bank of the West has held a concert and fireworks show at Memorial Park. The event is open to all ages. Joan Jett & The Blackhearts are a 2015 inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame known for their classic hit "I love Rock 'N' Roll." Grammy nominated rock musician Eddie Money will also be in attendance. The series will add one more band through a contest for up and coming bands. Enjoy a night of classic rock followed by a spectacular fireworks show.

MAHA MUSIC FESTIVAL

Omaha has experienced a growing music scene, the local bands and festivals that make a stop in Omaha prove just that.

The Maha Music Festival appears to be a staple summer festival to attend, it quickly has become one of Omaha's most looked forward to event. The festival is open to all ages. General admission is \$50 and the Broadmoor VIP Package is \$175.

The nonprofit indie music festival has announced its lineup for the 2015 season. Modest Mouse, Purity Ring, Alvvays, The Good Life, Speedy Ortiz, All Young Girls Are Machine Guns, Atmosphere, Wavves, The Jayhawks, Ex Hex, Freakabout and Both will all be in attendance on Sunday August 15.

The lineup for this year's season appears to bigger than last years, proving that the series has definitely grown and is probably staying. If you're looking for the ideal experience, why not try and enjoy an authentic indie music festival at Aksarben that makes Omaha proud.

RAUCH & WILGER



ANN MILROY | The Register

Left: Rauch conducts orchestra students on the auditorium stage during their class period. **Right:** Wilger commands role of conductor as he leads his students along in their musical piece.

CONTINUED FROM 'TEACHERS' ON
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ninth grade as well."

Even though Rauch's original college major was English, the orchestra teacher couldn't ignore the power that music had over him. "I decided in college that I really enjoyed teaching," Rauch said. "I taught guitar to friends and it was rewarding. After playing in bands for a while, I went back to school for music education and studied cello as my main instrument."

It was under the tutelage of David Lowe at UNO that Rauch felt he could have a future as a music teacher. Wilger had a similar experience with the craft after high school.

"In college, I decided to go into music education," Wilger said. "I am glad that I made that choice because music kids are the brightest people in school. It's rewarding to work with kids. As a band director you get to have a relationship with them and watch them grow up."

Rauch attributes his favorite part of teaching to his students, as well.

"I love interacting with talented, good students in performing arts," Rauch said. "Teaching an elective is rewarding because students want to play music. They don't take the class because they have to."

Both teachers believe that music has impacted them for the better. In the eyes of Rauch and Wilger, they would be very different individuals if it wasn't for the grounding influence of the art form in their personal and professional lives. Music is not just their job. It is their passion and calling, something never of them could ever do without.

Sophomore explores interest in creative outlets, working around city



Photo Courtesy of PEYTON BELL

Above: Various photographs from sophomore Peyton Bell's collection of work. "I got to build a portfolio first to see what people are interested in me and where I can go with that," he explained.

CONTINUED FROM 'PHOTOGRAPHER' ON PAGE 15

he has been able to dive in head first in to his craft.

"I got a camera at the beginning of 10th grade year and I just started taking pictures," he said. And since then Bell loves taking pictures of everything.

"The landscape, my friends, myself," he said. "Clothing...a lot of things."

He uses tripods and cameras with high quality lenses.

"The camera is not the most important part of taking pictures," said Bell. "Lenses. Bad quality lenses you can tell the difference between those and really good lenses. And tripods just keep [the camera] still.... There's a lot more things but that's all I use."

Bell also uses filters and other editing apps to improve his photographs, like Photoshop or light room. For a quick edit he puts the picture in VSCO cam or Visuals of high company cam. He can change contrast, exposure and make other minor edits.

"Usually I only use one [program] at a time," said Bell. "It depends on what I'm feeling for that picture."

The camera he has now, a Canon XTI, isn't as high quality as he wants in a camera which is a Cannon 6D. "It has a better pixel count and more features. That's what cameras are mainly about features. My camera right now doesn't have too many special features. It just gets me by," he said.

With a small group of three to four other photographers, Bell takes pictures during his free time of virtually anything and everything. Central sophomore Chandler McNichols, Burke senior Miles Carlisle and Central sophomore Brandon Ran join Bell in an unofficial, yet official, group nicknamed "Call vs Culture."

"We just say 'we culture' a lot," said Bell with a smile.

Bell knew McNichols in middle school and met Kirby Tilley and Carlisle this school year. They're into clothing, fashion, photography and art...but mainly photography.

Most of the time they do shoots in the downtown area and even around Central. "We're probably going to expand this summer," said Bell.

"Sometime we do it to send a message, sometimes we do it just to take pictures," he said. "Just because taking pictures is fun. Be yourself. That is the main message we are trying to send. And do not care about what anybody else say about you."

Outside of the group, Bell has worked with Central sophomore Tilley.

Career wise Bell isn't entirely sure where he wants to take his hobby.

"I was thinking about maybe trying to be a wedding photographer but I don't know if that would be that fun," he said. "I got to build a portfolio first to see what people are interested in me and where I can go with that first."

OMAHA ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS

THE REGISTER EXPLORES THE BEST PLACES IN THE METRO FOR ENTERTAINMENT AND ENJOYMENT

dave & buster's

BY JULIA BIELEWICZ
staff writer

As one walks into Dave and Busters, it is easy to be overwhelmed. On one side, there is a dining area and on the other, there is a huge room filled with over one hundred games.

However that does not stop one from having a good time. The friendly and speedy dining service, versatile arcade and laidback environment is what makes Dave and Busters unique.

This restaurant is a great fit for families with kids of any ages. Everyone can enjoy a meal together in their spacious dining area and afterwards the children or entire family can go play games to win prizes.

On the arcade portion of the building there is also seating which is convenient if the kids need to be kept under close surveillance.

The food and overall menu is very high quality. The menu itself has every genre of food imaginable including seafood, pasta and what they are known for, burgers. They also have a large variety of appetizers and desserts.

Dave and Busters' portions are also enormous. Their new portobello swiss burger takes up more than half the plate. The bun is lightly toasted which adds texture when compared to the soft portobello mushroom. On the side is a light mixed green salad topped with sun dried tomatoes and a thick balsamic vinaigrette. Just like their burgers, the salads are also gigantic. A new item on their menu, the Thai chicken chopped salad includes crisp greens, shredded vegetables, marinated and grilled garlic chicken tossed in a sesame ginger dressing. It comes with crispy wontons and is definitely enough for two servings.

On the other side of the restaurant is the arcade portion. The arcade can be flexible enough to fit any age group.

There are games that small children could play but also more challenging games that old kids and even adults could enjoy. Through the vast room, there were tons of different generations enjoying games.

The arcade is also expansive. It has classic games such as Pac Man, Frogger, and Skee-ball. It also has famous games like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy, and The Price is Right. Lastly, it has games that pertain to pop culture, like a variation of Frozen where you have to catch more snow than your opponent.

The entire point to the arcade is to win tickets. There are several games that have no other point than winning tickets and all have 'jackpots' where there is a very little chance of actually getting them. When you are ready to leave Dave and Busters, you can go to their mini shop where you can exchange your tickets for prizes such as travel mugs, candy, basketballs and much more random, cheap things.

Dave and Busters is a truly family oriented place for people of all ages. The restaurant portion is high quality and the service is very friendly and fast.

On the other side, the arcade is spacious and fun

the old market & underground passageway

BY TIA SPEARS
editor-in-chief

Seventeen acres of downtown Omaha hold every form of entertainment someone could fathom. Between south 10 and 13 street, from Farman to Jackson, a neighborhood known as the Old Market attracts people of all demographics for one purpose -- to have fun.

It is no secret that it is the most historic neighborhood in Omaha, but since the beginning of its existence it has progressively encompassed an assortment of restaurants, hotels, retailers and art galleries.

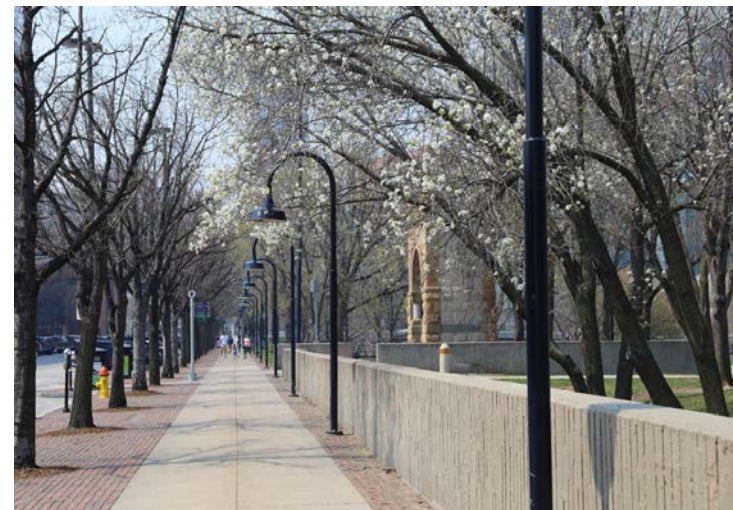
There's truly a place for everyone to come enjoy themselves, no matter what age they are. That's what makes it so valuable and distinctive amongst other entertainment districts in the city.

If I were to thoroughly review the Old Market, I would have to write a book. To keep it concise, I will pick my favorite places throughout.

Whether I go with friends out to lunch or just want to stop for an inexpensive meal after school, Trini's Mexican Restaurant on 10th & Howard Street is my top choice. It's located in the passageway, which has a much fancier restaurant adjacent to it and a number of shops around it.

It has two outside tables with the rest of the seating area under a dim light, secluded space. There are few artistic paintings and pieces hanging from the walls.

Every time I've visited, which is probably around five or six times, the same hostess and waiter assisted me. I assume that the staffing is not too large, which is fine because it never seems



ANN MILROY | The Register

A stroll along Farnam street exhibits scenery and landmarks.

to get ridiculously busy. Both ladies were pleasant and happy to have me, so I can't complain.

The last time I visited, they had a Mexican lasagna special for eight dollars, which was perfectly priced for the frugal phase I'm going through as I'm entering college.

I'm unsure of how much it cost at regular price, but it certainly didn't lack any flavor. They have a pretty similar menu to Roja, so expect traditional Mexican menu items and platters.

When I first visited the Old Market my freshman year of high school, I had a friend who was a part of the hipster scene and introduced me to some shops where I could find trendy, yet vintage clothing.

Of the shops was The Flying Worm Vintage Shop on 11th & Jackson, which has a second Omaha location in the Westroads Mall (however, it wasn't in the mall at the time.)

I was quickly greeted with down to earth, genuinely happy sales associates. The store has amazing vintage apparel pieces, perfect for spicing up a bland wardrobe. There are enough accessories, shoes and unique pieces to deem it a "vintage retail heaven."

Since my first visit, I've moved to west Omaha, so my visit to the Old Market location is seldom and I regularly shop at the Westroads Mall. Unfortunately, I have sacrificed quality by doing so. The Old Market location is the better location to visit, as the neighborhood matches the vibe and style of the store. Plus, the Old Market location has more merchandise and a more enthusiastic staff.

In addition to stores and restaurants, there are a number of art galleries that are consistently updated. Of those, the Garden of the Zodiacs is my favorite. On a day where the weather isn't complimentary to walking around outside, the Passageway is my hideout which is how I discovered the Garden of the Zodiacs.

It has a magical, whimsical feel to it. I am a Capricorn and unfortunately my zodiac head has a crack and chip in it, as do some of the rest.

Although I think the damages need to be restored, I can't help but wonder if it was intentional. There are a few cob webs that I have to dodge, but visiting the Garden of the Zodiacs is always a tranquil experience.

I encourage anyone who loves dining, art galleries, shopping and a historically prevalent community to visit the Old Market at some point.

A lot of time, the perception of the midwest doesn't align

the v bowling center

BY JULIA HALONEN
staff writer

“The V” is a popular entertainment complex in Omaha. They offer many activities, including arcade games, dining, and their most popular attraction, bowling. This venue could host anywhere from small groups of friends or family to large business groups and meetings.

When I first walked in The V, I was hit with the aroma of fried food. Traditional party favorites like pizza and nachos are served. There also is an updated electronic Coca-Cola machine, which is very convenient. The lights were dimmed with hanging neon signs and flashing lights from the arcade games. Immediately I was greeted by a friendly employee offering his assistance.

General Manager Jason Geppert greeted me happily and guided me to a sitting area near the entrance where we could hear each other over the blasting pop music throughout the complex. He openly spoke about his position at The V. “I love it, it’s challenging. I have a background in hospitality, such as restaurants, but this job is different.”

When it comes to popularity, it fluctuates depending on the season. “We are especially busy in the winter because that is when everyone wants to be inside,” said Geppert.

The atmosphere of the building itself was very enjoyable. I went to The V early on a Friday afternoon and the business was surprisingly busy. Nearly all of the private party rooms were in use and multiple bowling lanes were crowded with cheering groups of people. Apart from an upset toddler, I didn’t see one unhappy customer.

The employees were very helpful and quick to tend to anyone’s needs. It was evident they were all trained to be as friendly as possible, but to not forget how to manage everyone so that people could fully enjoy themselves.

The V has an arcade section where any friendly competition is welcome. The traditional games like the basketball shooting games, skeeball and ice hockey are available, but there weren’t any games that made this arcade unique. There is a rock climbing wall that wasn’t too difficult to complete and seemed a little out of place, however there was a line of people ready to try so it’s apparent that most people must enjoy it. The rest of the venue makes up for simple arcade room, with modern decor and fun games.

As you leave the bowling area, you get to the bowling area where the lanes are compact and illuminated with neon lighting. There are projector screens that displays 80’s music videos that are a little comical, but not too vintage for the modern venue.

The last part of the venue is the laser tag section where a nine minute session of light hearted competition with friends, or even strangers, will have you back in line as soon as you’re done.

Overall, The V is the ideal place for people of many different ages to let go and enjoy themselves at a decent price. For the teenage demographic, it is the neatest entertainment venue in Omaha. I would recommend coming to The V for birthdays, a friend or family night out, and even a date night.



ANN MILROY | The Register

The V Center not only has bowling, but also other activities including arcade games, laser tag and a rock climbing wall.

family fun center

BY TRENAY NEWSOME
staff writer

Ever have a hard time figuring out what to do on the weekends? Well here is a suggestion, go to arcades -- they are year round and offer fun for everyone. More specifically, go to Family Fun Center.

Family Fun Center, unlike other arcades is not directed just towards younger children. That being said, they do have an area that is closed off for toddlers to play safely, but most of the games and attractions are for older people. Family Fun Center XL offers new attractions ever since their move to 108th and L Street in March 2012. These attractions include laser tag, paintball, bazooka ball, laser maze and the rock climbing wall.

If one wants to play attractions on a Friday or Saturday night, go after 9 pm for a cheaper price on food, maybe even and take a larger group for the fun of it. Compared to other laser tag arenas in Omaha Family Fun Center as the best one because there are three levels, giving one an advantage and higher position to target the enemy. Once the game is over they will print out score cards for everyone that played and the player with the most points wins.

Laser tag at FFC compared to The V is much more difficult. At FFC the laser must directly hit one of the six areas on the vest, while at The V it is easier to aim and shoot the larger areas on the vest, making Family Fun Center a great place to play laser tag, giving you and your friends a challenge.

What you don’t hear too often is an arcade place having a paintball arena, which is what makes Fun Family Center different. Since it is indoors it is paint-less paintball,

so you can paintball with friends without getting messy. The paintballs still have force and can leave welts and sting so if getting hurt by a flying paint less paint ball then this attraction is not for you. Bazooka ball would be an alternate choice because these balls don’t leave bruises or welts, as the paintballs would do.

Adding XL only explains how large it is. There are so many games and only a \$10 card you can play a lot of games. It is however, not worth it to play ticket games because they lack a large variety of prizes.

On Fridays and Saturdays after 9pm they offer four dollar unlimited pizza, pop, ices and ice cream and the games are 50 percent off (not including ticket/prize games). Awesome deals for a great time.

Family Fun Center is an ideal place to go because there are always great deals. Currently they are having a spring deal. On their home page they have coupons that will last until May, one giving up to eight people unlimited buffet and drinks and attractions all day long for less than twenty dollars. It may be a far drive for some people but the deals will definitely make up for the gas.

Not to mention the service is great and all the workers are nice. Some even crack a few jokes. The only down side to FFC is the fact it is kind of messy, which is the result of kids running around everywhere, but they could tidy the place up a bit.

Although located on 108th and L street, Family Fun Center is a great place for fun with a group of friends, not to mention they offer great deals after 9pm. So if you enjoy hanging with large amounts of people this is a great place for fun.



TIA SPEARS | The Register

Top: The exterior of the revamped establishment. Bottom: Inside, a mix of classic and new arcade games are available for play.

PROM 2015



BY NATALIE NEPPER
executive editor

The annual Student Council Promposal Contest motivated students to ask their significant others to prom in some very creative ways. Juniors and seniors had the entire month of April to submit their promposals- documented work of them asking or being asked to the dance. Boys and girls bought supplies, spent time brain-storming their ideas and executed their plans while a friend or family member

photographed or videotaped the promposal.

Prom was held May 2 in the courtyard. Student council members voted on the theme "Under the Sea" weeks in advance. The decorations included treasure chests, paper fish, lantern lights and a whole lot of blue.

The promposal contest winners were junior Kaylee Land and her boyfriend Tad. They received two free prom tickets, \$50 cash each, dinner for four at a restaurant of their choice and a

Village Inn giftcard.

Prom Queen was crowned to Syranda Poole and Prom King was Blaine Meyer. Syranda is a member of the varsity girls' track team. Last year, she set the school record for pole vault. Blaine Meyer is on the varsity boys' baseball team. Their first dance was to "I Believe I Can Fly" by R Kelly while family members, faculty and friends looked on.

PROMPOSALS

Promposal season was in full swing last month as countless Central students and their significant others or friends asked each other to the annual dance. Students flooded craft stores, purchased balloons or blank t-shirts and set to work to create the perfect promposal.

Five of junior Chase Day's friends held up posters spelling out "PROM?" and surprised junior Megan Fitzgerald after school about a month before prom. "At first I didn't really know what was going on because there were a lot of people but I saw the letters and I was really happy," Fitzgerald said. She was also given a bouquet of roses by Day. "As there were a lot of people, I would assume she would be very confused, but seeing her big smile I think she was really happy," said Day.

Beforehand, Day and a few of his friends spent time buying paint and posterboards. They decorated the signs and bought roses at Hy-Vee for Fitzgerald.

The promposal tradition has been circling the nation for more than a few years now, and as long as students continue to harness their creativity, it looks like it's here to stay.



Photos Courtesy of CHASE DAY AND THE GIVING BACK GALA

AFTER PROM

Student Council hosted the annual "Giving Back Gala" as an after-prom celebration. The event was held at the Midtown Cinema CineDine Auditorium beginning at 11:30.

The 15 dollar tickets granted students access to the pizza bar, with salad, garlic bread, unlimited pop and popcorn and free parking until 2:30 a.m. "It was first offered up to seniors and juniors as a part of the prom package," said junior and student council member, Chris Winchester. "The sophomores and freshman could purchase tickets to go if [were] not sold out already."

Before the event, students walked the red carpet and took group photos wearing the props provided by PEP. The photos were shared across twitter for after-prom parties to retweet and favorite.

Some of the movie options for the Give Back Gala included Avengers 2 and Pitch Perfect, however the final choice was Avengers 2.

A portion of the proceeds from the ticket sales went to the Make a Wish foundation and Douglas Country Nebraska CASA. Because of its success, student council plans on hosting the party again next year.



Far left: Chase Day asks his girlfriend Megan Fitzgerald to Prom.
Left: Fitzgerald and Day take a selfie before their big night.
Above/Far Right: Students gather in the cinema for the "After Prom" celebration.
Right: The Red Carpet at the Giving Back Gala was a big hit for prom-goers to be goofy and have fun.





Annexed gallery makes restaurant more interesting

Located at 157 West Broadway in Council Bluffs, stands an appealing building with big windows known as Dixie Quick's. Not only is it a restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, they are also an art gallery for local artists.

The gallery is called the RNG gallery which is attached to the restaurant by a narrow hallway. The inside of the building is just as nice as the outside. The gallery is a rather small space with white walls and there is also a small gift shop that is next to the gallery. In the restaurant, the décor is very eye catching and modern, table tops have news articles and pictures attached to them and the menu is displayed on a giant chalk board.

The restaurant is kind of high end and professional, which gives it a nice high class feel. The staff is very nice and is willing to help you choose what is best for you on the menu.

Dixie Quick's not only has an amazing atmosphere, it has food to die for. It doesn't matter what time of day someone goes to eat at Dixie Quick's, all their food is flavorful and will leave you wanting more, so you really can't make a bad choice no matter what you order. Just be prepared that you will be



Convenient coffee shop gives students ideal studying spot

In late March, white walls and wooden floors encasing a simple coffee shop was opened to the public. Beansmith Coffee Roasters, on the corner of 25th and Harney Street has decorations scattered around a few tables spread out. It seems the counter and tables within the shop fill about half the space available. Simple but sleek.

Few people seat themselves around the shop with their coffee cups in hand while reading the daily paper or simply working on various tasks. It is definitely not as busy as a Starbucks, but it is obvious it sees business since its recent opening.

Of course, offered here are coffee, various lattes and tea. Not being much of a coffee drinker, there is nothing that seems appealing to me on the menu.

Seeking the workers' advice, they convinced me into trying a chai latte. If you have ever tried chai tea, you would most likely love this drink. Made with milk, the spices mixed in this give it an almost ginger taste with other flavors mixing in it to create a unique taste. If you are not much of a coffee person, I would highly suggest ordering the chai latte. It seems this drink would be seasonal, more for the fall, but I would enjoy this drink even during the summer. I came in not expecting much and left very pleased

MADDIE HAYKO | staff writer

restaurant

Dixie Quicks

location:
157 W Broadway, Council Bluffs

rating: 8 out of 10

taking leftovers home. I went there for breakfast and I ordered pancakes but they weren't your regular pancakes; they were very big and condiments included whipped cream, berries and chocolate chips. It was extremely delicious, but there was just so much food I couldn't finish it all and I didn't end up eating for the rest of the day.

The gallery is just as amazing as the restaurant. It is very organized and it is also a place where local artists can share what they have done.

In March, there was a show by Nolan Tredway in the RNG gallery and it was breath taking. The space was perfect for his show and even with some of his bigger pieces, they still fit well among the rest. In the back of the gallery, there is a small hallway where more art can be displayed to the public. Over all, the entire gallery is meant to display all kinds of work, not just paintings. There have been collaborations in the RNG not only by painters, but by performance artists, who work together to get a point across with their art, showing people what their opinion is on a very controversial matter.

Dixie Quick's is a very unique restaurant that lets people express themselves and also gives them some amazing food to try. Even if you are just stopping in, the look at the gallery Dixie Quick's will impress you on many levels because there aren't many restaurants that include their own gallery and out of this world comfort food. This restaurant is definitely worth a visit if you are looking for something new and exciting to try.

GEORGIA CHAMBERS | staff writer

café

Beansmith Coffee Roasters

location:
2452 Harney St

rating: 9 out of 10

order it again in the future.

Pastries are also on the menu. One of the various pastries is a homemade blueberry muffin. However, the Beansmith Coffee Roasters' blueberry muffins were abstract and were made with a quite unique recipe. I was not completely in love with this unordinary recipe. The blueberries were in chunks and did not blend well with the muffin and instead were chewy. Sugar was sprinkled on top of the muffin, and I feel this did not complement the muffin well. The blueberry muffin was decent, but it was not among the better pastries I have tried at other locations. I would most definitely go back to this coffee shop for the chi latte and not for the blueberry muffins. I cannot speak on account for all of the pastries, but I believe the drinks to be the shops best asset. Next time I return, I plan on trying a different latte knowing it will be just as good as the latte the employee's suggested.

Due to its convenient location close to Central, this coffee shop makes for a perfect place to study after school to get homework done. The space offers enough room to efficiently complete any assignment. Due to the quiet environment, this place would serve better than other coffee shops or various popular restaurants such as Panera because it offers no distractions.

A visit to Beansmith Coffee Roasters on the corner of Harney Street would be a good idea for students. This coffee shop makes it possible for students to be efficient while enjoying a cup of coffee or latte. The taste of that latte will definitely stay with me until I go back to fill the craving to have it again. I encourage everyone to check this place out even if you are not a coffee



Artist strays away from R&B, creating mature 'chillwave' album

"What for?" This is what Chaz Bundick, or otherwise known as Toro y Moi wants you to think about. His fifth studio album comes at a time of renewal and change for Bundick, but Bundick is sure to stay true to himself through this album.

There's a uniqueness to this album that is easy to recognize. First, Bundick sways away from his usually dreamy-pop, chillwave vibes and instead makes more of a grown-up album.

To some degree it's nothing that the listeners have ever exposed to when listening to Toro Y Moi and Bundick. Bundick finally has transcended into the world of music adulthood. In a review from NPR, they are quick to note that the beginning of Bundick's new album starts out with the sound of racecar engines. "Bundick has never sounded like a man taken with velocity; with speeding quickly from one destination to the next," this making the racecar very relevant to the start of his album.

He was one of the first people to coin the term "chillwave," which is essentially

MAYA DURFEE O'BRIEN | co web editor

album

What For?

artist:
Toro Y Moi

rating: 8 out of 10

a dreamy genre of music with a lot of electronic music mixed in.

The album itself is comprised of 10 songs largely based on guitar usage, drums and things of the like. NPR described it as being like "70s pop radio, with all but two topping four minutes. 'The Fight' evokes memories of Todd Rundgren's early-'70s heyday." The track is filled with vintage undertones of Bundick serenading the listener with his soothing voice, giving way to an entrancing type of song.

In an interview with Rolling Stone Magazine in 2013 Bundick said that he is getting tired of music, more so getting tired with the style of music he is so well known for portraying and creating. "I'm trying to see, exactly, where it can go from there," he said. He also said in that interview that he doesn't like to do what everyone else is doing. "If electronic music is popular, I don't want to do that kind of music. I mean, I'm constantly making electronic music, but I'm not going to release it." Fast forward to almost two years later and Bundick finally is beginning to branch out from his place of comfort to something new, something still similar to the Toro Y Moi we all know and love, but something still different, something creative, something that encompasses a lot of things and not just one thing.

While Bundick might not know what he's going to do next, what we all know is that it's going to be great. This album is unlike anything else Bundick has ever produced. It's grown up, and it shows his versatility while still staying true to himself.



MICAH MARTIN | staff writer

movie

Get Hard

director:
Etan Cohen

rating: 5 out of 10

Director makes stereotyping faux pas, distracting from film's comedy

For anyone looking for a few good laughs "Get Hard" should definitely be considered. However, be warned that it is far from politically correct. Starring Will Ferrell and Kevin Hart, this film is loaded with jokes, some of which are offensive. Overall, it earns five out of ten stars.

Based around a white, wealthy man who is framed for embezzlement and a black father trying to provide for his family, "Get Hard" pokes fun at stereotypes of race, economic class and sexual orientation. At different points throughout the film, some of these jokes are hilarious and other times vulgar. This made it both enjoyable and painful to watch. Oftentimes referring to prison rape and violence, this movie is not for the faint of heart.

The plotline was promising, but it was somewhat strayed from and left behind. In the end, everything did tie together, but it definitely wasn't a movie with a strong storyline. There were definitely some scenes that could have been omitted. "Get Hard" would have no doubt brought in higher ratings if it hadn't focused on some of the things that it did. With the presence of a looming sentence to a high-security prison,

Cohen, could have gone with the story. However, instead of branching outside of what could be expected he stuck to the basics and played it safe.

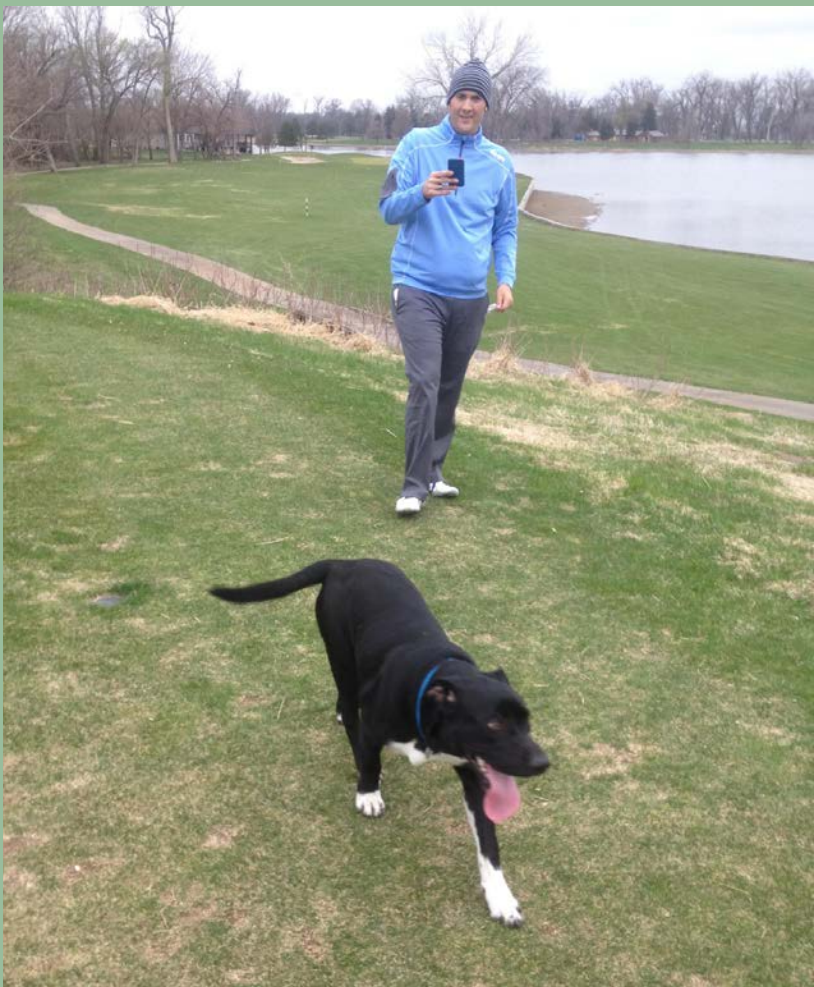
With the starring actors, this film had the potential to be the best comedy of the year, but it fell short from that. While some of the scenes, such as the staged prison raid, were hilarious, a lot of the time the script was written so that jokes previously seen were reused again. To an extent, this would have been acceptable, but after the third or fourth time hearing a similar joke, it just isn't funny anymore.

Going into it, no one expected the best movie of the year, but you did expect a better comedy than what was presented. Sure, there were some parts that were funny, others that were beyond that, but when comparing those to other ones, there were also parts that were incredibly overdone. Sometimes this approach works, and other times it really doesn't, Get Hard was one of those other times.

It wasn't that the film was absolutely terrible, because it wasn't. It's just that it wasn't exceptional either; in truth it was mediocre at best. So if you're looking for an outrageous movie that will supply a couple good laughs, "Get Hard" would be a good option. However, for anyone easily offended or someone who dislikes "vulgar" comedy you'll have to keep looking.

"Get Hard" may not have been the worst movie in the world, but it by far wasn't Hart or Ferrell's best work. The thought to cast those two together was a spark of genius, but they'll have to try again in order to live up to the expectations that comedy lovers have of them.

sports



Golf coach Ben Mihovk takes a photo of a dog who ran onto the course during practice. He will end his tenure at Central at the end of this year.

DRIVING HIS WAY TO DUCHESNE

FOR ENGLISH TEACHER & GOLF COACH, BEN MIHOVK, THIS WILL BE HIS FINAL YEAR AS AN EAGLE

BY CHOTEAU KAMMEL
staff writer

Golf, in the way people today would recognize it, originated in Scotland in the 1400s. However, the first variant of the leisurely past time and sport can be found in the ancient Roman times of Julius Caesar, in which a ball stuffed with feathers was hit with a tree branch that was shaped like a club. Although Rome's place in the history of golf is little known, it is renowned for its literature and the works that would be inspired by it. Central High School's Benjamin Mihovk combines both the ancient sport of golf as well as a love for literature, effectively combining the two Roman relatives in his teaching of English as well as his roles on the boys and previously girls golf teams.

Mihovk was born and grew up in Lincoln, Neb attending high school at Pius X, where he continued an enjoyment of golf that started in his younger years, still he only played with friends recreationally. When he saw his younger brother taking golf seriously and competing, traits of brotherly competitiveness and rivalry began to kick in. "My younger brother was better than me at golf. We're about even now," Mihovk said.

Starting sophomore year, Mihovk developed a thirst for knowledge through reading that still has not been quenched. With a literary analysis book review assigned, he said up until that point reading really had not been his thing and that he really just didn't want to do it. Naturally, this is not what a mother wants

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CAMERON CLABORN:

SOPHOMORE BETTERS CENTRAL EXPERIENCE AS A TRANSFER STUDENT WITH HIS COMMITMENT TO BASEBALL

BY GEORGIA CHAMBERS
staff writer

Cameron Claborn, sophomore, transferred to Central and immediately began attending conditioning practice readying him for the upcoming season. Claborn is one of the pitchers for varsity, but is out due to injury.

Claborn transferred to Central for various reasons, and baseball may not have been the deciding factor, but it certainly has been beneficial for Claborn.

"Baseball was not much of a reason for why I transferred, but I knew there was a good program here at Central, so it was definitely a plus," Claborn said.

Jerry Kreber is the head coach of the boy's baseball team and sees Claborn as a great addition to the team.

"I think Cameron will be able to contribute to our program in multiple ways. First, he will add pitching depth to our staff. Also, he will be versatile in the field with the ability to play a number of different defensive spots. And finally, [he will] be one of his classes' leaders when it comes to attendance with weight training and conditioning," Kreber said.

The baseball program at Burke is well put together, but Central's program has certain aspects Burke did not have to offer.

"Both programs are really well run, but the main difference I can think of is the batting cage that we have

in the gym. At Burke we did not have any cages inside of the school, so during the winter there was not as much we could practice," Claborn said.

By getting this extra time to practice during the off-season, Claborn was able to prepare himself physically for the spring season. On top of this, Claborn got additional time to meet his future teammates and get comfortable with the coaching staff.

Teammate sophomore Marshall Biven is glad to see that Claborn joined the team.

"We need more pitchers and he will add to that... From what I have seen he is a team player, he is going to be supportive and he is a funny guy. It will not be boring and he will add to the family-like atmosphere, not to mention he looks like a natural athlete," Biven said. "[He] is smart. Baseball is a mental game and a strong head is key."

The boys on the baseball team have been key for Claborn's smooth transition as well as the coaching staff.

"The coaches have made my transition to the team a really smooth experience. They're a solid group that knows how to win," Claborn said.

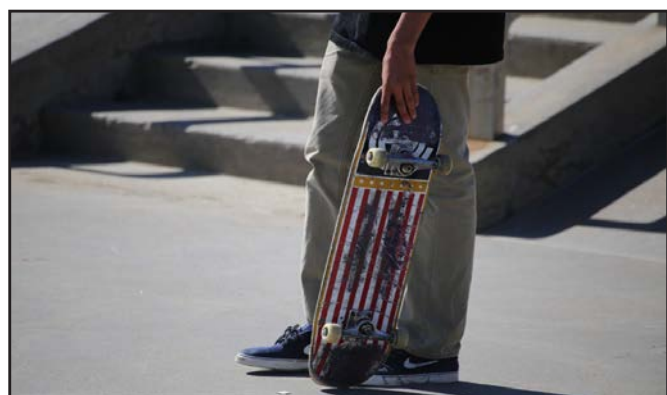
The coaching staff has done everything they are capable of to try and assist with Claborn's transition and to make experience with the program so far a positive

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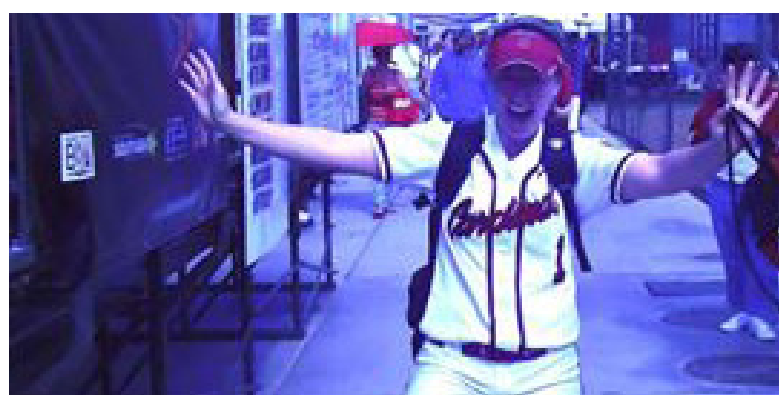


Photo Courtesy of JADA WILBARGER

Sophomore Cameron Claborn waits for a ball to come his way. He transferred to Central from Burke.



SKATEBOARDING ►



LAUREN WEGNER ►



STAGE FIGHTING ►

Sophomore Sihley Pawaskar is coming back to participate on the girls tennis team this season.

"I have played on the Central tennis team for two years now, but have been playing tennis for five years, first learning from my dad and then attending clinics, leagues and taking private lessons," said Pawaskar.

Pawaskar became interested in tennis through her dad. When she was younger her dad took her and her little brother out to the tennis courts, inspiring her to become proficient at playing this sport.

"My family supports me a lot when it comes to tennis, especially my dad," said Pawaskar. "My dad has been helping in coaching the team this year and he shows up to almost all of my matches."

Pawaskar has also participated in swimming and soccer in addition to tennis, but tennis has always been the most important to her. She also prefers tennis because she finds it as more of a mental challenge than other sports.

"I like that you have to think a lot in tennis. You can be a lot better than your opponent even if you are a lot weaker or smaller," said Pawaskar. "It's a very mental sport. It's also a quiet sport which can be enjoyable."

Since she first started playing tennis she has improved due to the constant practicing she does inside and outside of school.

"I feel like I've done well so for this season and also have improved a lot, particularly in doubles. I've also won the majority of the matches I've played [don't have an exact record yet]," said Pawaskar.

As a team Pawaskar does believe that there is always room to improve.

"I feel like the team as a whole should work harder on serving, finishing our strokes and being more aggressive out on the court," said Pawaskar.

The problem this year with the team according to Pawaskar, is that they lost a lot of good players that either decided to move on or have graduated.

"I feel like we're not as strong as last year considering we lost some good seniors, but we're still a fairly strong OPS tennis team and we put in the effort," said Pawaskar.

When it comes to balancing school and sports, Pawaskar works hard to keep it under control. She said that it becomes difficult to balance things as practices get busy with any upcoming meets.

Tournaments take up a lot of time because there are constant games going on all at once.

"Tennis doesn't really interfere too much with my education unless we have a long march or a tournament. Then I'll usually stay up an extra hour or so to finish homework," said Pawaskar.

Pawaskar feels, being involved in a sport that you are dedicated to can be hard work but it is also rewarding. Pawaskar plans to continue to work hard for the rest of this season in hopes of setting a record.

sihley pawaskar



Photo Courtesy of **SIHLEY PAWASKAR**



Photo Courtesy of **TINCA JOYNER**

tinca joyner

The sound of the racket hitting, the grunt that comes along with it—this is what encompasses the mentally and physically exhausting sport which sophomore Tinca Joyner enjoys so much. This sport is tennis.

Joyner got her start in tennis last year as a freshman. For Joyner, someone who had never played the sport before, it was something new for her to try. In regards to learning how to play Joyner said that it came fairly easy to her. "I pick up on sports pretty quickly," said Joyner.

Joyner's reasoning behind going out for the tennis team was simple. "I really like wearing skirts and dresses and the tennis players get to work out while wearing skirts and dresses. And that is so cool. So that's what made me want to do tennis," said Joyner.

During Joyner's first year of high school she played on the junior varsity team. Now, onto her sophomore year Joyner is on the varsity team.

As far as the season as a whole Joyner believes that she has improved. "At the beginning of the season I played two or three matches and I was playing singles. I was doing ok and I was getting better. It was pretty good," said Joyner. Coach Tucker then decided Joyner should be switched to playing doubles. "At first it was rough. We weren't communicating very well," said Joyner. In spite of that in the last few matches the pair has played together Joyner said they have improved a lot, even beating some of their opponents.

For Joyner her favorite part of tennis is playing in the matches. "I like the matches— they're fun because you get to watch everyone else play. Then you play and your team is there supporting you, it's just fun," said Joyner.

It's not all fun and games, sometimes it can be a little stressful but Joyner said once you get over that you can forget about everything else and play.

"It's mostly mental, and if you're not in it mentally you won't do very well," said Joyner. "It's a lot of strategy too— you could play forever just doing volleys— easy shots that they can respond to, but if you really think about where to place the shot, where they can respond to— it's a lot to think about if you are playing competitively."

With tennis comes great competition. Joyner said there are a lot of other schools that are great at tennis and super competitive. "When you play them, I think my goal for that is to stay in it mentally, because once I start getting down I will just continue to go down," said Joyner. At the end of those matches, the hard ones, Joyner said she is going to think more about how well she played, not necessarily what the score was for that match.

The weather is probably one of the worst things about playing tennis Joyner said. "We can't control that obviously, so we have to learn how to play in it."

From humble beginnings to a freshman on the Junior Varsity tennis team, to her start this season on the Varsity tennis team Joyner said she has come a long way.

game. set. MATCH.

Stories by **MADDIE HAYKO** and **MAYA DURFEE O'BRIEN**

Faculty member pledges to break down gender norms with feminism

BY **JULI OBERLANDER**

staff writer

Social studies teacher and girls soccer coach Casey Denton has spent much of her life playing sports. From a young age, Denton has been able to compete on a variety of rosters and teams as a female athlete.

"In high school, I played three sports, cross country, basketball and soccer," Denton said. "I played club soccer year round. As a kid, I participated in track. I also played softball for a bit and was on a summer swim team." For Denton, having the freedom to participate in sports as a woman has been an integral part of her life. "I think I was lucky enough to grow up in a time where there were measures taken to limit discrimination," Denton said. "If you can play sports as a girl, boys respect you. At the same time, they may play harder because they don't want to get shown up by a girl. Some may go easier on girls as to not hurt them, but I don't think it is done consciously."

Throughout her time participating in athletics, Denton has always been aware of the difference in play that exists between men and women. In her youth, basketball was the

hardest sport for her to assert herself in as a female. Today, she notices a divide between the fan base of the NBA versus those who support the WNBA in America.

"Basketball is dominated popularly by males," Denton said. "As a girl, that's disappointing, but the style that men and women play is different. If you're looking for pure excitement, then boys' basketball is the way to go. If you're looking for fundamentals, then girls outshine the men."

Denton has observed the notable distinction between men's explosive play in comparison to the more technical style of women in her co-ed soccer league. "It's a different dynamic," Denton said. "Fewer women play in the league. With adult sports, various have become mothers or are career-driven. Men make sports a bit more of a priority, though I don't want to stereotype."

Despite her understanding of the obvious differences between men and women, Denton has been able to balance her femininity with her drive to compete as an athlete. A majority of that has had to do with her experience as a player and as a coach. "I started coaching younger girls at the age of 18," Denton said. "I started at OPS five years ago, so I have been

coaching for about eight to nine years. The person I am off the field is completely different from the person I am on it. I am intense on the soccer field, but more laidback as a person."

Whether through co-ed soccer or coaching at Central, having the opportunity to participate in sports is what provides Denton satisfaction.

"You have a sense of pride and accomplishment knowing you did all you could to win," Denton said. "I try to transfer this enthusiasm to the girls, to have no regrets about how the game went."

As a coach and sports fan, Denton believes there should be no gender discrimination in athletics, whether it is against females or males. "There may be less hype in female sports," Denton said. "Ideally, girls and boys will be treated the same as athletes even though they can't necessarily be coached the same. If you love a sport, you should watch no matter who is playing." Denton's belief in gender equality on the field is among the values she instills in her soccer players at Central. "I try to stress having a passion for the game, having a strong work ethic, and taking pride in oneself. Don't accept failure. Demand greatness."

SAYING GOODBYE TO MIHOVK

“It's been a lot of fun, I've loved it here and I can only hope the next job is as fun.”

BEN MIHOVK

English teacher & girls golf coach

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to hear from her teen, so he said, “My mom made me read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo Nest*.” The novel by Ken Kesey sparked Mihovk's interest and he has been an avid reader ever since. He currently prefers nonfiction, but also enjoys many of what 20th Century American literature has to offer as well as favoring authors such as Earnest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Sylvia Plath.

Following high school, Mihovk attended art school in Colorado for a little under a year. He transferred to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln due to a program change and then to the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he graduated with a Bachelors of Science and Secondary Education with endorsements in English and history.

Mihovk traces his decision to pursue English back to his English class experiences in high school. He said of his teachers there, “They were funny, smart and caring. Everything people should be.”

In the spring of 2006, Mihovk student taught at Central with social studies teacher Jimmie Foster in some of his human geog-

raphy classes. He said of his first impressions in the school, “I loved it, [and] thought it would be a really great fit.”

In the fall of the same year, Mihovk taught sophomore English and English review

He carried over his love of golf, working as a boys assistant coach for his first six years, a girls assistant coach from 2007 through 2012, and then became the boys head coach starting in 2013.

Even though he began golfing around age nine, he said, “I would not have made our high school team.” Inspired by his brother however, Mihovk worked consistently at his golf throughout college on a recreational basis. He was motivated by his love and enjoyment of the game as well as its finer metaphysical aspects. “Golf is unique as it is something you can never really win. There's always something you can improve at,” said Mihovk. He also added that a lot of the work needed is mental and that the hardest part about it is simply being patient. To Mihovk, golf can really be summarized as follows, you have to, “Think your way around a golf course.”

Throughout his life, Mihovk said that it can be divided quite mathematically speaking

in that one third is spent as a teacher, one third as a golfer and one third as a husband. Although teaching ends when summer starts, golf lasts year round, as when he isn't coaching or playing he also works at a golf store. On the home front, he spends time with his wife Kellie whom he married in 2008 after meeting through mutual friends and the social settings that accompany it.

Mihovk is currently rounding out his final year at Central, before taking up a new English teacher position at Duchesne Academy. As he was raised in parochial schools, he said, “The pull of returning to Catholic schools just got too strong.”

Even as he is leaving, he said that the memories he has made and people he has met will not be forgotten. Since he will not immediately be involved with Duchesne's golf programs, unless he is asked in which, Mihovk said, “of course I would say yes,” he will always have his Central golf days to look back on.

All in all, Mihovk hopes that this next chapter of life will only read as well as the previous one when he said, “It's been a lot of fun, I've loved it here and I can only hope the next job is as fun.”

Transfer student heavily commits to baseball

CONTINUED FROM 'CLABORN' ON PAGE 22

one.

“[The other coaches and I] were certainly excited when Cameron transferred here after attending Burke his freshman year.” Kreber said. “After Christmas break, we tried to tie Cameron into our program immediately inviting him to open gyms and pitching conditionings. I think he has been able to meet up with some old friends that he knew from Buffett Middle School and has gained new ones.”

Throughout the season Claborn continued to work with the team and got used to the new program. Knowing he was liking his experience this far, it was interesting to see how the season played out for Claborn and the team.

The boys alongside Claborn were hopeful for the season. Claborn in particular had a positive outlook on the season.

“I see lots of potential this upcoming season for our team,” Claborn said at the beginning of the season. “I think we have a lot of dedicated guys that are willing to put in the work we need to win.”

Unfortunately, the season did not go as well as the team had hoped it would.

Claborn described that many players were out due to injuries and that made it hard to bounce back.

Looking forward onto the next season, Claborn stays positive and sees only room for improvement. He hopes the following seasons will go better than this one went this season.

“A lot of players got a chance to get the varsity experience,” Claborn said. “We can only build off of the season we had although it was disappointing.”

Baseball players do not get much of a break between their spring and summer break, allowing for the talent to continue to develop without a break in the practice.

This hopefully will allow for the team to recuperate from the disappointing spring season and focus on how to improve and utilize the strengths of the team.

Fans of the team are excited to watch the team grow throughout the rest of the year.

Claborn's friend, Regan Siems, says, “Cameron has natural talent, which will continue to benefit the team. I can't wait to go and see the games in the summer, and I think they will have a better summer season than their spring one.”



Photo Courtesy of JADA WILBARGER

Cameron Claborn attempts to outrun a throw in order to make it to base.

Hurdler signs with Briar Cliff University, aims for championship

BY TIA SPEARS
editor-in-chief

Briar Cliff University in Sioux City, Iowa is the college choice of senior and 300 meter hurdler, Brad Kolvek. Ultimately, he chose to sign with the university after impressing athletic representatives with his performance.

Kolvek has been running track for five years, one year at the junior high school level and four as a high school student. He has enjoyed his experience as a part of Central's boys track team.

Although he said his trials and tribulations made him into the athlete he is, he doesn't allow the work of his teammates and coaches to go unnoticed. “It's been [quite] of an experience, honestly. I enjoyed my team. I enjoyed my coaches. They pushed me to where I am and developed me into the athlete that I want to be heading into college,” said Kolvek.

After years of hard work, Kolvek and his coaches believe that he is more than prepared to pursue track at the college level. “With all the work he has done there is no question he is the type of kid any coach would want in his or her program,” said Elliott Evans, boys track coach. Kolvek's dedication is the ideal attribute Evans believes every track team member should have.

Evans believes he has motivated himself to reach new milestones within his high school track career. “He's a pretty self-directed kid, who has set goals over the four years that we've had him. He's met those goals, year by year and raised his standards with each new season,” said Evans. These goals have allowed him to compete at important track events like the state championship.

The Nebraska State Track and Field Championship is Kolvek's annual goal. Athletes must qualify to compete and he has had the opportunity to do so. If they perform well enough, they will have the opportunity to compete at the national championship. “I really enjoyed compet-

ing at districts and I look forward to competing at state,” said Kolvek. “I want to finish this year with a trip to state and then heading into college I want to try and go for the national championship.”

Evans agrees that he has the self-determination and dedication that is both impressive and motivating. “His work ethic cannot be topped,” Evans said. “I truly believe that if every member of our team put out the effort that Brad has over the last four years, Central would be a contender for a state title on an annual basis.”

Evans also commented that he fully expects that Kolvek will succeed at the college level due to the level of consistency he has shown his coaches.

Kolvek advises prospective track team members to persevere. “No matter where you start from, don't ever quit on it because you will get far someday, if you work for it,” said Kolvek.

Kolvek has thoroughly appreciated being a part of the team, specifically the influence of his team. “Our team is very supportive... very rowdy... They love to get everybody out there to do their best,” said Kolvek. As for the coaches, there's one piece of advice that he keeps in mind before every race. “They say, ‘Don't let it be a mental game. Just go out there and run your race,’” he said.

Aside from his positive experience on the track team, he has the utmost respect for Central and holds his learning experience obtained as a student here in the highest regard. “I love the teachers and the teaching they have given me. It's just awesome, it's the best school to go to,” said Kolvek.

Looking ahead, Kolvek plans to excel both academically and athletically, placing an emphasis on advancing in the classroom. “It's student first as always and then athlete second so I will definitely be heavy on my books and then I will focus on track,” Kolvek said.

“With all the work he has done there is no question he is the type of kid any coach would want in his or her program.”

ELLIOTT EVANS

Boys track coach



ANN MILROY | The Register



This recreational pastime has become wildly popular over several decades. Skate parks have opened up to house the youth, and the proper clothing and equipment has dominated sports stores. However, many still see skateboarders as rebellious, non-conforming teenagers. Controversy arises over the safety of the activity and the frequency of property damage with public skating. The Register sits down with a Central skater to ask his opinion on the issue.

SKATEBOARDING ?

trendy or troublesome

Natalie Nepper: Skateboarding is a prominent force in popular culture today. How did you first get involved in the sport and how has it influenced you as a person?

Julian Hock-Beaty: When I was really, really little (I'd have to say probably about four or five years old) a video game came out; it was a Tony Hawk game. My cousin and I started playing it and we just became fascinated by skateboarding through that. We started the next day and we've been skating ever since.

PUBLIC NUISANCE

NN: Often times, skateboarding can cause damage to curbs, benches and ledges, which can require costly replacement. Private property may often have "No Skateboarding" signs posted. Do you think this is fair to the skateboarding community? Would you change these rules if you could?

JHB: I feel that people use public places, private properties and all the places that they're not supposed to skate at, simply because there aren't a whole lot of places that have those structures. A lot of skate spots have unique structures- that's what makes them really cool. Everybody that I know of (that skates here) goes downtown because there are a lot of cool places. It seems pretty cut-and-dry with every single skate park just because there's not a lot of difference between them.

SAFETY

NN: Skateboarding can be dangerous, as many riders may be thrown from their board or fail to properly land a trick. What are some common injuries you or people you know have faced? Why continue skating if it is dangerous?

JHB: I think the feeling of landing something that you've tried so hard to accomplish over a long period of time is more satisfying and overpowering than the pain you experience messing it up along the way. I've hit my teeth on metal rails. I've broken both of my wrists. I've shattered both of my kneecaps. I've done all this crazy stuff, but I'm still skateboarding.



"I've hit my teeth on metal rails. I've broken both of my wrists. I've shattered both of my kneecaps. I've done all this crazy stuff, but I'm still skateboarding."

STEREOTYPES

NN: Skateboarders are sometimes considered dirty, rebellious punks. Do you think this stereotype is accurate? Do you think you fit in to this mold?

JHB: I don't think I personally fit into this mold, but there are going to be dirty, rebellious punks in every single clique, age-group- no matter where you are. I feel like skateboarding just gets a bad rap because a lot of times people are in places that they shouldn't be and it just sort of gets associated with delinquency. I know a lot of really down-to-earth people that just skate because they like the feeling of having a physical activity and they're accomplishing something. It's a good mode of transportation, I literally skate everywhere.

Following in his family's footsteps, this freshman has a lot on his plate



Photo Courtesy of **CARLSON KOCH**

Carlson Koch, freshman, practices golf with the team at Arbor Links in Nebraska City.

BY KELSEY THOMAS
executive editor

The Koch name is one that many Central students and teachers alike will likely recognize. Including him, there have now been four Koch brothers to attend school at Central. Each has certainly left a mark, and has their own unique story.

For the freshman, he is having a little trouble finding his niche, though he is sure that in the years to come he will find a way. The youngest of the four brothers, he says that the thing that makes him special is how much of a combination he is of his siblings.

"I think what sets me apart is that I'm...kind of a combination of everyone. I love golf, and my sister was really into academics. Everyone else has their own personality, but really...we're all so much alike," he said.

His oldest brother, Caleb, is the most important to him.

"He's had the greatest influence on my life...He would always encourage me to do better than I had been, especially with golf and school. He always had a different way of teaching me things," he said.

Now, Caleb is getting his Ph.D in sociology. Before that, he received degrees in engineering from Virginia Tech.

The freshman has been playing golf from a very young age, and hopes to continue to play throughout his high school career at the very least. Now, he is a player on the varsity team.

"My dad was a very good golf player...when I was around three years old I started playing. It was kind of endorsed in the family, and I've been playing since then," he said.

Besides loving to play, he also uses it as a way to connect with people. To him, it is a "social" game that he can use to become closer with his family, friends, or anyone else.

The tradition of attending Central is one that the Koch family has followed for over a decade.

It started with the oldest brother, Caleb.

"He's always been the leader in the family, so when he came here, and was really successful with academics...we all ended up coming here," he said.

In the future, Koch has several ideas about what he wants to do.

"My uncle is a sportswriter for the Omaha World Herald, and I find that very interesting. Maybe I'll be a journalist," he said.

No matter what his future holds, Koch will be sure to hold on to the positive mentality with which he lives. His family places a large importance on family values, and his mom is the biggest supporter.

"She just gives out so much love. She is the sweetest person," Koch said of his mother.

Koch looks forward to several things in the next few years at Central. He will continue his golf career, and also join the Academic Decathlon team. Besides that, he is unsure about what else will occur in his next few years, but he is positive about his future.

Notable Central alum dominates in softball at Stanford

BY JORDAN YOUNG
co web editor

Lauren Wegner was president of the National Honors Society her senior year in 2014.

She was an Advanced Placement, honors student and second in her class. She was avidly involved with outside activities including Omaha City Sprouts, the Omaha Creative Institute and has been one of the most talented softball players to grace the field at Omaha Central High School.

However when it came to grasping her longtime dream of attending Stanford University, at first Wegner didn't deem that dream achievable.

"Stanford had been kind of my dream school, or it was my dream school," she said. "I never thought it was attainable. Once I was given the opportunity to go there it became more about...my education. And if you have the opportunity to go to Stanford so few people have that opportunity and so many people want that opportunity that if you're given it you should take it."

Before her senior year, Wegner made the decision to verbally commit to the University of Nebraska- Lincoln and was headed down a different path leading far away from Stanford.

"I was very excited," she said. "I knew the coaches well, the team really well...But I don't think I ever thought of UNL as somewhere I wanted to go just for the academics."

Then the unexpected happened.

Wegner's batting coach gave her second thoughts about her decision, asking her if she was certain about her commitment to Nebraska. In the winter of her junior year she received permission from the Nebraska coaches to attend a camp at Stanford and they became very interested.

During a summer tournament in Colorado between Wegner's junior and senior year of high school, the previous Stanford softball coach gave her a call about their interest and she filled out an athlete application.

"I was just like holy crap, I didn't know this could ever happen," said Wegner with a laugh. "I was with my mom, jumping up and down, freaking out kind of. It was pretty surreal because I thought that my freshman year I already knew where I was going to college and three years later I was going to do something completely different."

But mixed with the feelings of excitement was the slight dread of fear that came with the change of seemingly concrete plans. Eventually she would have to tell friends staying in Nebraska that she was leaving and even more importantly the UNL softball coaches that she would no longer be a part of their 2014-2015 roster.

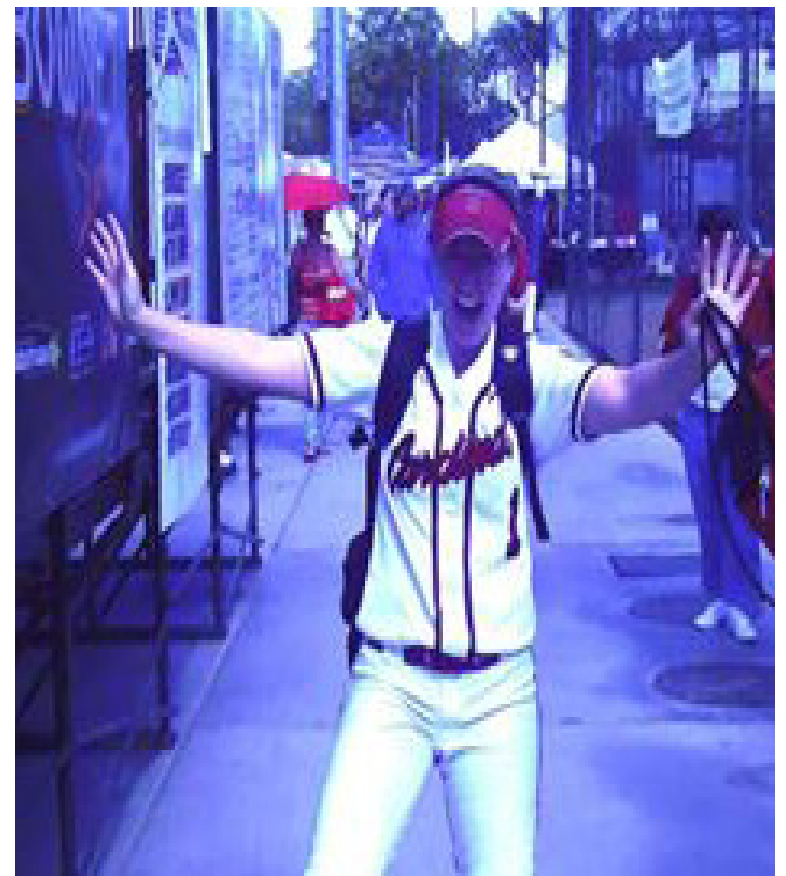
"It was very emotional for me because I had built up this relationship with them," Wegner said.

She went to many of their camps, spoke to them on the phone and the UNL staff had in turn gone to her games on many occasions. Some of the teammates on her summer team were going to attend the university.

"It was emotional for me to call them and say 'I think I want to be a part of the team more than I want to be a part of Stanford's team but I want to go to Stanford more than I want to go to UNL,'" she said. "[Coach Ronda Revelle] was like



Left: Lauren Wegner is broadcasted on television as she plays in a game. Right: Wegner shows excitement before a game.



Photos Courtesy of **LAUREN WEGNER**

"Well, I always knew you were different. You're going to put your education first and that is going to be important to you and I understand that."

Despite the tough decision she had to make, Wegner is glad that she chose Stanford.

"I went on a couple visits [to Stanford] and first of all you fall in love with the weather, you fall in love with the campus and they tell you how many resources they have available," said Wegner. "The amazing classes all the professors have, their cutting edge research and it just kind of gets you excited about trying something new."

Currently her major is undecided, but she is has taken a variety of "exploration classes" and is most interested in studying animals and the ocean. While she has enjoyed exploring the possibilities of her major, she has also enjoyed her time getting dirty on the softball field.

"That's been really fun to get to know girls from all over, get to know their playing style," she said. "Pac 12 pitching, it's amazing," she said. "It definitely takes some time getting used to."

"I never expected to start as a freshman," she said. Her main goal this season has been to "get her arm back."

It has only been a year since she had shoulder surgery and for now, she can't play shortstop. Despite that slight setback, she has gotten some time at second base as well as in the lineup because of injuries and has become more comfortable with the position.

"It's a lot more about process for me," she said. "At the begin-

ning I had a little bit of a relapse with my shoulder out for a bit and that was frustrating for me but after coming back from that I just feel like I've gotten a lot more calm...I've been able to have a bit more confidence in myself."

And as she trains and works on her softball skills, she is also managing to do the same with her school work.

"It's really all about sacrifice," she said. "There have been times when not much sleep happens."

For Wegner, it's school first, softball second and social life last.

"It's definitely difficult still because there are days when you're like 'oh, I'm so tired I just want to lay here and watch Netflix,'" she said. "But you just have to remember that you didn't come here to do that you just have to keep a good attitude about it."

Wegner uses that attitude and motivation from the lack of extra time she has for school work to get it all done and has no regrets on her decision to choose Stanford.

"Coming here this year and not knowing the coaches who recruited me were going to leave, that's been a really difficult transition for me and the entire team," said Wegner. "And although it's been hard for everyone and harder than expected and like school is really difficult here and there are times when I'm up at 3 a.m. and I'm like 'what the heck am I doing' but at the end of the day I'm happy with the decision. It's gonna open up a lot of doors for me."

Stage fighting proves exhaustive, skill required



Photo Courtesy of **SCOTT MEAD**

Drama students practice their stage fighting skills during class. Showing emotion is a key part of making it believable.

BY MICAH MARTIN

staff writer

Dating back to the Elizabethan era and before, stage fighting is to this day a vital part of live performance. When it is well-executed, stage combat seems almost like fluid dance, but it is a complex concept that takes focus, practice, and dedication. “[Stage fighting is] a complete adrenaline rush, because I’ve never been in a fight, but throwing a punch and physically seeing someone react to that in a way that is believable, that they are truly hurt, is such an adrenaline rush. You feel really powerful,” said sophomore Lily Gilliland, who plays a greaser in Central’s spring play *The Outsiders*.

This play, revolving around Pony Boy and the struggles that he goes through with his friends has a more serious message than some of the other shows that have been performed, which is what allows it to contain the element of stage combat that other plays don’t offer. “I like that it allows students to engage in a more serious type of performing... It’s a good experience for students to perform in a more dramatic type of play. And there is the stage fighting, so I think that’s a good experience too for the students to have,” said drama teacher and director Scott Mead.

Despite the fact that stage combat is woven into a dramatic performance that calls for coordination and control just like other athletic activities do. Including basics such as punches, pushes, kicks, throws, and knaps, which are sounds made by actors to imitate noises produced in fighting, stage combat is an art that requires a specific skillset.

Stage fighting takes concentration, control and physical ability unlike what is called for by any other activity. No other art form calls for participants to portray actions of something like a fight without having them actually go through with it. “It takes a lot of practice so that it looks real, but at the same time no one’s getting hurt onstage. It’s fun, but it takes a lot of time and work...It just doesn’t magically happen,” said Mead.

The commitment that has to be made to master this technique requires actors from high school level to professional to devote themselves to stage combat. For some, this component of acting allows them to connect with their character and story in a powerful and meaningful way. “Loving the book, the movie and the play, you just kind of feel that you are a greaser and that you are that character,” said Gilligan. “Though it is a fight, it really is a turning point in the show and you kind of feel that.”

Though actors enjoy stage combat, it can be a difficult concept to grasp masterfully. For *The Outsiders* production Central brought in guest artist Vincent Carlson-Brown from Nebraska Shakespeare to help teach the cast and crew about stage fighting in a workshop, as well as helping stage the various combat scenes throughout the production. These workshops included learning the basics of stage fighting with a partner.

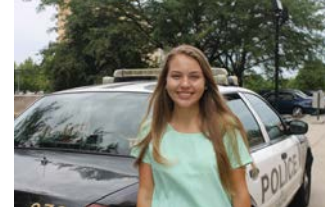
Actors begin learning this skill by establishing trust with their partner, then identifying a target and slowly swinging toward it. As these skills are mastered targets are removed, swings are sped up and knaps are added until the scene can be taken at full tempo.

Stage combat isn’t just about these basics, because even if they are followed there are no guarantees that the scene is going to feel real to the actors or audience.

“Vince [Carlson-Brown] uses the tag line ‘maintain the pain.’ If somebody punches you, it hurts, so you have to be able to show the pain whether you are receiving the punch or giving the punch. You need to be able to show or react,” said Mead.

Without understanding the basics, and the other components, a well-staged and executed stage fighting scene is nearly impossible. Without correct position, sound-effects and pace, stage combat isn’t believable or powerful. With the concentration and engagement that stage combat requires from actors, it has the possibility to set the stage for a breathtaking performance.

Female sports vastly unrepresented on television, in media



JULIA BIELEWICZ
KICKIN’ IT BACK

Women play sports, but one wouldn’t notice if they just watched the television.

Although it is common knowledge that sports played by females are not broadcasted as frequently as males, how much of a difference is there?

It was found in a 20 year study done by USC and Purdue sociologists that men make up 96 percent of sports news and headlines in 2009.

Even the ESPN Ticker gives women less opportunities, 96.4% of the information and news scrolling along the bottom of the television is focused only on men’s sports.

In the studies done in 1989 and 1993, it was noted that females received rare coverage on televised sports.

The 1999 study revealed an increase in the proportion of sports news that were devoted to covering women’s sports.

Within 10 years, the percentage dropped more than seven percent, by far the lowest statistic measured over the past two decades.

It may not be shocking that men’s sports get more coverage. However, it is outrageous that researchers found that women’s sports coverage accounted for less than 2 percent of ESPN Sportscenter. Network affiliates ran 60 stories on men’s NCAA basketball in March 2009. There were zero stories about women.

Commonly, sports news broadcasts begin with a lead story. Lead stories, in particular those on Sportscenter, tend to also be the longest stories mentioned.

Typically, they contain the highest production values and include interviews, game footage or statistics.

In the study conducted by USC and Purdue, 100 percent of the Sportscenter programs and 100 percent of the sports news shows began with men’s sports.

It is astounding that more women than ever participate in sports, while coverage of their participation is declining rapidly.

In the 20 year study, it was discovered that 6.3 percent was dedicated to women. In past years, it has gradually dropped to 1.6 percent.

It can be troubling to many women athletes.

With the feminist movement around the world, it would make sense that the air time of women’s sports would be increasing to reach the same level as men.

Women deserve the same coverage as men because the sports are equally difficult and require just as much effort.

Women’s rights have come a long way and sports coverage in the media should not be the last situation in which women are treated as equally as men.

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