



## BILLIE JEAN KING 02

Tennis legend and activist for social equality speaks to girls at the Girls' Inc. sponsored event, Lunch for the Girls.



## TRANSGENDER 13

Should transgender students be allowed to use the restroom of the gender they identify with? Where should the line be drawn?



## BRUSHING UP 15

Students participate in the Kent Bellows Studio and Center for Visual Arts program through the Joslyn Art Museum.

# the REGISTER



Omaha Central High School | Volume 131, Issue 1 | October 1, 2015

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## BREAKING NEW GROUND

A \$21 million addition set to be completed in fall 2018 will include a black box theater, a new library and performing arts classrooms



ANN MILROY & CLAIRE LAVENDER | The Register & The O-Book

A depiction of the new addition to Central. Based on the designs, the 20th St. side of the building will be completely remodeled.

Choteau Kammel  
executive editor

Throughout the continental United States, there are thousands of high schools. However, very few of these schools can say that they've been existence for over a century and a half, including one hundred plus years in the same building.

Central High School's building and aura that it exudes bring many awe inspired questions and suppositions in regard to its regal appearance and historic location. No, it is not the original state capitol building of Nebraska, but it is still the oldest building in continuous use with OPS.

In fact, the building that currently stands at 20th and Dodge has been there in some form since 1900 and with longevity of that magnitude it is only inevitable that certain parts of the campus receive less attention than others. One of these assets, the department of fine arts, will be receiving an upgrade all to its own through

the generosity of one of Central High School's own graduates who would prefer to remain nameless.

This renovation program, which was only just recently announced, will include a host of new features including a black box theater, a new library and essentially a face lift of the building's east side to house new art and music facilities. All of this is being made possible due to the personal loyalty one Central graduate feels for his school and also the dedication and steadfast fundraising abilities of the Central High Foundation.

In August of 2014, a symposium was held at the home of a married couple who graduated from Central. This event was designed to help connect alumni with the current teachers and staff of their former high school. The various departments discussed their own needs and goals for the school

The overarching needs of these departments and the fine art division as a whole was to have more dedicated

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## Board approves extended school day, does not consult parents, teachers

Alec Rome  
web editor

Extra instructional minutes were added for all OPS students in June, just before the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year. Middle schools and high schools extended their days by 20 minutes, while elementary schools added 25 minutes.

A needs analysis created by the district, made public in 2013, showed some alarming statistics as to how much time students in OPS were being taught compared to surrounding districts. Despite the benefits of extra instructional time for students, parents and teachers have voiced opposition. Some teachers and parents felt they were uninformed about the changes, which has been a major reason why the changes have been met with controversy.

The needs analysis of OPS showed that, on average, students in OPS receive 61.17 less hours of instructional time compared to the average of most school districts in the Omaha area, on all education levels. On the high school level, it averages to 71.47 less hours of instructional time. OPS came in last in instructional time compared to surrounding school districts.

To school board president Lou Ann Goding, it was quite eye-opening. "It was a big concern for us," Goding said. "It means we were shorting our students [on average] ten days of instructional time per year." That would mean over the course of a student's time in OPS, they will miss out on 130 days of lesson time compared to other school districts like Lincoln, which stood out as having the most average instructional minutes of all surveyed eastern Nebraska school districts.

“ For us not to provide 130 days of instruction over the course of their time with us is a travesty. ”

LOU ANN GODING  
OPS School Board  
President

In elementary school, less instructional time can impact a student's ability to gain an understanding of math and develop reading skills. The question Goding and the school board thought about was a simple alternative to spending money on summer school programs for students across OPS. "If we beefed up the instructional time, would it help us to be able to provide additional resources to our students?"

Through research, the school board found that adding more days to the school year did not necessarily mean more quality instructional time. "Adding minutes to the day does, because [teachers] are taking more time covering a topic," said Goding. For a school district with the highest rate of student poverty in the Omaha learning community, Goding felt it was an obvious choice to approve the additional minutes. "For us not to provide 130 days of instruction over the course of their time with us is a travesty," Goding said.

The additional minutes were approved with a 5-3 vote in the school board. Goding was one of five board

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## WHAT'S ON THE WEB



Donald Trump continues to garner a majority of camera time in political debates. Voters beware: he is not the conservative maverick one may think.

TRUMP EDITORIAL

## TRAINWRECK REVIEW

Amy Schumer has more to offer than comedy: Trainwreck shows a delightful new side to this versatile actress.

omahacentralregister.com



# Tennis phenomena doubles as women's activist, inspires local girls



**Kelsey Thomas**  
*editor-in-chief*

Tennis legend and activist for social equality Billie Jean King spoke at the Century Link Center on Sept. 16 to hundreds of attendees, donors, and volunteers for Girls, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering young girls and leading them towards a positive future.

King was chosen by a board affiliated with Girls Inc. that arranges the organization's annual event "Lunch for the Girls." The Executive Director of Girls Inc., Roberta Wilhelm, suggested in a meeting that King speak at the event, but unsure how to contact her or if she would be willing. Fortunately, Susie Buffett, an acquaintance of King, is another member of the organization. Buffett proposed the idea to King and she excitedly accepted.

King was chosen as a speaker because she exemplifies the motto of Girls Inc., "Strong, smart, bold." King has a long history of striving for equality in women's athletics. She established the Women's Tennis Association, as well as the Women's Sports Foundation. She has spoken at many events regarding female equality and advancement, and was eventually given the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to a civilian. Years later, at 71 years old, she continues to energetically fight for the cause.

When King began to play tennis at a young age, very few women were involved. Even if women were interested in playing, funding at clubs and public schools for women's sports were drastically less than the funding for men's sports, as Title IX had not been passed in legislation yet.

King also has helped to make strides in the prevalence of women of color in sports. "In my sport, I didn't see anyone of color, and I thought, 'Where's everyone else?'" she said.

The final cause that King fights fiercely for is LGBT equality. King has a personal connection to the cause herself; for most of her life she has undergone the emotional turmoil that goes along with being gay. She encourages all less advantaged groups, including women, minorities and LGBT people to be true to themselves and follow their dreams. In her speech at the luncheon she encouraged the girls to have a positive outlook on life.

"We are what we think. Attitude is vital," King said.

Past speakers at Lunch for the Girls includes Michelle Obama, Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, and Warren Buffett. The event is centered on promoting gender equality, and encouraging young underprivileged girls to seek success and an enjoyable lifestyle.

At the luncheon, King spoke to young members of Girls Inc. before giving her speech to the entire audience, one that included Mayor Jean Stothert, Susie Buffett, and several members of the Omaha Public School board.

She took photos with the girls, at one point saying that they "looked like winners" in the photo, but she wanted to look "like champions." She also had conversations with them, asking the girls about their "goals and dreams," hoping to hear future career plans and academic goals. The answers ranged with each girl, from lawyer, to architectural engineer, to OB GYN. King praised the young women for having dreams, promising them that that was the "first and most important step in being successful."

In her personal conversations with the girls, she also encouraged them to look at the world through a wide scope.

"It is more important to be interested than interesting," she said. "You're not interesting if you aren't interested in anyone else."



ANN MILROY | The Register

**Top:** Billie Jean King speaks to a group of young girls at the Girls Inc. sponsored event Lunch for the Girls.  
**Bottom:** King, a tennis legend, sits comfortably on stage as she answers questions from the audience.

## Q & A

The Register sits down with local nonprofit movie theater Film Streams to discuss student night at the establishment

**Anna Kaminski**  
*staff writer*

### How did student night start?

Film Streams' Board wanted to reach younger audiences and felt that removing the cost barrier would be the best way to bring students to the kind of films we show. The Peter Kiewit Foundation stepped up with a grant to make it happen.

### How long has Film Streams been hosting student nights?

We started in January of 2009 and have had one a month since then. October will be our 82nd Student Night!

### What's different about student night than any other night at Film Streams?

Student Night is always a fun night at the theater! A free movie is hard to beat, but we sweeten the deal from time to time with giveaways of student memberships or movie swag!

### Why should people come to student night?

The obvious answer: who doesn't love free movies?! The less obvious answer: As students encounter an increasingly media-rich world, it is important that they develop analytical skills enabling them to better understand and evaluate the media they encounter daily. Students who acquire these skills are empowered to become active rather than passive viewers, with a greater awareness of media misrepresentation and manipulation.

Commercial theaters choose the films they exhibit with the bottom line in mind while our intention is to serve the entire community and to that end, our programming is deliberately diverse. Since Film Streams is a nonprofit whose mission is the presentation and discussion of film as an art form, we begin the programming process with the highest artistic ideals for the community in mind. For over seven years, we have offered film programming typically only found in [larger] cities that you can't see at the big chain theaters.

We offer extraordinary new films, including movies from all over the world (so far films from over 65 countries have graced our screens!), and our repertory program has featured classics

from almost every year of the past century. Our programming has deliberately featured voices underrepresented and underexposed in American cinema. Needless to say, there is always something interesting and fun gracing our two screens!

### Has student night been a success so far?

Yes, indeed! Since we started in 2009, more than 8,800 students have attended Student Night. 2014 was our second most successful year for Student Night with a total of 1,741 students attending from over 90 schools, taking advantage of the opportunity to attend our programs for free.

### How often is free student night?

Student Nights are the first Monday of every month and free to full-time students with student ID (if applicable), any grade and any age.

## Students experience foreign culture in Europe



Photo Courtesy of **VASILI SGOURAKIS**

**Top: Students walk Omaha Beach. The Europe trip included various historic sites. Bottom: Students gaze into a crater created during the Battle of the Somme. Many opportunities were given to the students during this trip.**

### Vasili Sgourakis staff writer

Students were given the opportunity to go on a once in a lifetime trip throughout Europe centered on World War I and II. Students, along with Scott Wilson, Tom Wagner, Vicki-Deniston Reed, and Jennifer Statsny traveled to England, France, Germany, Holland, and Belgium touring historical sites of both world wars.

Wilson spent years coordinating the specifics of the trip and finally was able to fulfill this journey.

Since there were thirty five students and only four supervisors, teachers were forced to take a more managing role as losing a student in Europe was not in their radar.

However, this did not hold them back from having an amazing experience. Tom Wagner, assistant principal said, "It was an awesome experience. It was pretty close to what I expected. It was a little tough doing it in a supervisory fashion, but the kids were so great, it didn't really feel like work at all."

As students and teachers alike had the time to spend so much time together, they began to bond past just a school environment.

"That is a great bonus to this kind of travel, we recognize about one another that we are also people with lives outside of school. Also, as teachers, it is very thrilling to see our students have 100's of 'wow' moments all along the trip. Makes it all worth while for us," history teacher Scott Wilson said.

Students and teachers got the opportunity to witness some of the most prized monuments in each country. Having never been to Berlin, this was a particularly new experience for history teacher, Scott Wilson: "Berlin was a completely new experience for me. There was a lot of 'wow' moments there. The soviet war memorials, the Berlin Wall, the great guide, the history of the city...[it was] amazing." John Woodworth, a tenth grader said, "My favorite part of the trip was the beaches of Normandy. While they were pretty and all, it was weird to think that thousands of people actually died in this very loca-

tion."

The trip was filled with extensive experiences for all involved. "It was memorable, but several things stood out. Seeing our students talking to the British D-Day veterans on our ferry across the English Channel was amazing. Being able to talk to our students about the Normandy invasion while standing on Omaha Beach on June 6 was too impossibly cool to describe. Finally, the trip to Margraten Cemetery in Holland to meet the families that take care of our Central Eagle graves was about as touching a ceremony as you could imagine. I won't forget that as long as I live," Wilson said.

Throughout the trip, students took away various lessons. "I enjoyed seeing the effect of the places and events on students who may not have traveled so far before. The visits to cemeteries were rare opportunities, and I could tell a number of people just don't get to the beach enough," said Vicki Deniston-Reed, a social studies teacher.

"Before, the trip I always heard about the devastation and effects on life World War I and II caused but I never truly grasped what that meant. Now I know how many families were affected especially after seeing the graves of all the soldiers in the cemeteries," said tenth grader, Carter Bruneau.

This voyage has paved the way for other history tours out of the country organized by Mr. Wilson. Especially because of how successful it was.

"Our tour director, the weather, the group of students, and the chaperones were all as good or better than hoped for. The flights were on time, the guides were great, and there were no real problems on the trip. It all went along as planned... which was a huge relief. The last flight home from Atlanta, I just crashed out of exhaustion. It was a wonderful experience," Wilson said.

For all who were unable to experience this trip, another in the summer of 2017 is in sight.

## Students should focus on education, not pursuing love



**CARLSON KOCH**  
CARL'S SON

For students, high school consists of four solid years that should be spent studying, testing and learning. These three key items are the most imperative aspects of high school, but fellow peers fail to see these things as an important part of the equation to success.

Those who choose a different path make a decision to follow a dark one, the route of acting out in Public Display of Affection (PDA).

Not only is this behavior not enjoyable to look at, but they also poorly affect those participating. Instead of displaying their love for one another, the two could be walking and talking about their next class engaging their brains more to further advance their learning experiences at school. Many PDA participants wonder why they cannot seem to salvage a passing grade, and this is why.

The love that is shown for the whole world to see, affects others too. Once in a while, PDA leads to extensive hugging which, in result, crowds the halls.

With only five minutes for students to make a trek from the basement to the fourth floor for math class, we do not have ample time for roadblocks. As a result, the innocent student becomes late.

Frequently, the peers who are involved with PDA have issues with tardies.

Probably the most frequent issue that a student finds themselves in is a teacher either asking or taking their phone away.

Eliminating high school relationships would solve part of this problem, because people text back their significant other in class.

Without the temptation of texting or messaging a partner in class, phones would become much less of a problem. As well as the amount of offenses that a student finds a way to get in trouble.

Students may find that being single can be much more of an enjoyable experience. It provides opportunities for enriching one's mind through academics. With college on the horizon, most couples avoid the topic of what they will do after high school, and the truth is they do not wish to even think about it.

The percentage in which high school sweethearts marry one another is slim to none. High school is a time to figure out your life, not spend it with a relationship that will probably not last.

To save heartaches and headaches, high school students need to find their own identity and friends to have a stable experience that will lead to a successful four years of preparation.

High school is only for four years, but that does not mean that it should be enjoyed just for one purpose. Reasons such as morals are developed and who someone decides to be with for their life. Friends are developed in this era of life.

Temptation rules many people's actions, and the appeal of being in the group of friends that looks to be the most highly thought of is apparent in many people's lives. Dating a way that some satisfy this.

Many believe that if they were to date someone from this group, then they automatically are invited, but this is not true. Once the couple no longer exists, the sought after group will neglect and forget.

Personally, my experiences with relationships have failed. I have learned bits and pieces of what to do from them.

Looking back, they were foolish, the relationship never had a solid foundation so there was no possible way for anything to be built on top without the bottom giving way.

Most relationships before adulthood end before a quarter of a year even comes around.

If it were not for the learning experience, dating would bring about no other point other than being gross with PDA, clogging hallways and distracting hardworking students from school.

# Funding for new addition provided by anonymous Central alum

CONTINUED FROM 'PROJECT' ON PAGE 1

space and modernization. After all, as Principal Ed Bennett said of them, "There really hasn't been any major changes since 1932."

Following the discussions of the symposium, Bennett, the Foundation and the Art Department were approached by a Central graduate who wishes to retain his anonymity, and asked them, "How would you like a building addition?" recounts Bennett.

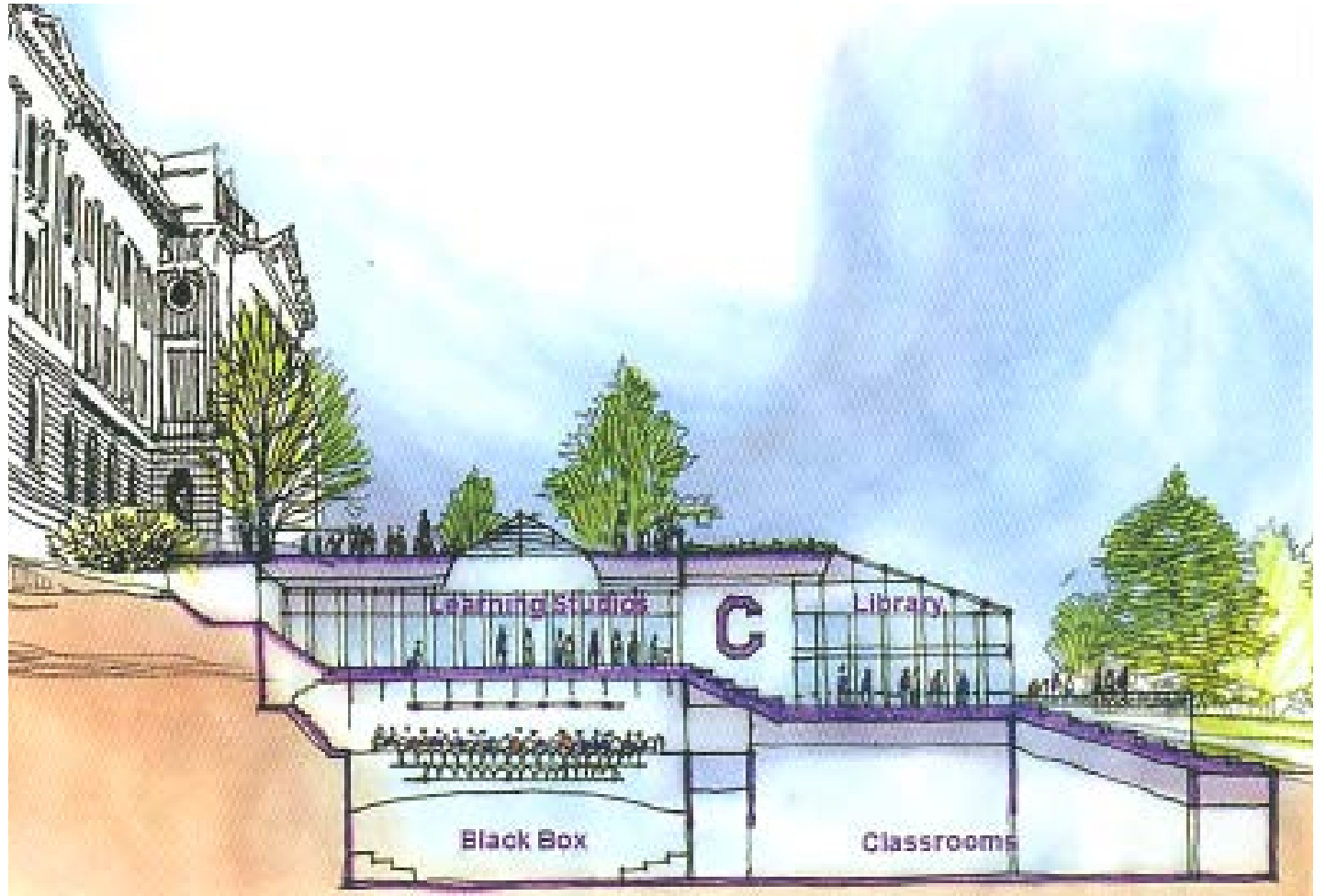
Bennett added, "We thought for fifteen, maybe twenty seconds, and then said, 'what would you have in mind?'" From that point on, the donor then came to Central to look over the grounds and lay out the best way to implement his dream with the chosen architects, the DLR Group.

One of the first questions asked, aside from the new addition, was what should the school do with the existing space?

Data systems administrator Tom Wagner is already chomping at the bit to make use of all the possibilities the freed space brings. He said that the space being vacated will need renovated, but once that's taken care of he can begin moving classes into them to diminish overcrowding. Two groups of students who have overgrown their existing rooms are the ESL and Alternative Curriculum Program departments. "We can finally put them in a place that meets their needs and that's what really gets me going. If we take care of those with the most needs first, there is so much more we can then do. That's what I'm excited about," Wagner added.

Although the Art Department additions and existing space renovations will coincide at roughly the same time, they are funded separately. Once the school, donor and architects had come to a consensus, they had to take that plan before the Board of Education. The Board decided that the Central High Foundation must first complete a letter of intent in which the financial support provided by private donors and the support requested of the district is laid out. Ultimately the additions will be donor funded, while the renovations will be requested of the district. "The district has a financial consideration here, but not an obligation," Bennett said.

Private fundraising as orchestrated by the Central High Foundation will officially begin following formal approval of the letter of Intent by the Board of Education. "My estimates are that the fundraising takes a year and the building itself will take another two," said Bennett. He also added, although describing it as pure conjecture at the moment that the new addition could be open and ready fall of 2018. As always, the safety of the students will be a



Courtesy of THE CENTRAL FOUNDATION

The renovation will feature classrooms, a black box theater and a new library. Preliminary drawings detail how this will look.

top priority, and as some of the construction will take place while students are present, the school will be working closely with the contractors to insure students remain protected.

When the addition is complete, it will offer music students new classrooms and better acoustics to practice their various instruments, new rooms and better equipment for the art students and a redesigned library with a panel of windows facing out over the cityscape. Perhaps the most unique of all, is the inclusion of a black box theater.

This room will be built to house upwards of around 300 students, and will allow music practice or a lecture seminar to occur with the same amount of ease.

Bennett said, "It will both enhance and make possible a host of opportunities for the students." To put this into perspective it will essentially be a Ted Talk room, at Central High School.

Along with the renovation and additions, the Central High

Foundation is also working to implement a planned Legacy Walk to honor donors and alumni who follow the Eagle tradition and continually give back to their community. They would also like to work on building a new walkway along Central's southeast corner with a new historic marker to denote the site.

Although nothing has been formalized as of yet and the timescale is only rough estimation, the new renovations and additions will almost certainly become realities due largely in part to the fundraising and organizational prowess of the Central High Foundation and the generosity of Central's alumni in working to insure future generations get an even better educational experience than they had.

Every kid will have a chance to use the library, the black box theater or a new classroom," said Bennett, "No matter what kind of student you are, you are going to be a part of that."



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.

Signed editorials are the opinion of the author alone, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Central High School or The Register staff.

Special thanks to all the faculty and staff of Omaha Central High School and Omaha Public Schools. Your cooperation with our students helps us maintain a professional atmosphere in order to teach media education.

Thank you, readers.

## A note from the editors:

We are so excited to present the newly reconfigured Register for the 2015-2016 school year. Many long hours have gone into the creation of this publication. We have put together a more professional and sophisticated paper that we hope will honor The Register's lengthy and honorable tradition. The past few years have been more experimental than usual, but this year is all about business. With aspirations to place on the national level, The Register has really amped up its game. We want this student newspaper to be an interactive experience. Join the conversation on our Facebook: The Central High Register, our Twitter: @CHS\_Press, our Instagram: @chs\_press, and our Flickr: chspress. If at all possible, we hope the student body can get a little old school a write letters to the editors, which we would be extremely happy to receive. Thank you for picking up this issue of The Register.

*Natalie Nepper*  
*Kelsey Thomas*  
**ENJOY!**

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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](mailto:hillary.blayney@ops.org) or come to room 029 to discuss your idea.

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# Deli opens doors at new location, values quality over convenience

Hayley Raney  
staff writer

This school year Central students have another close place to go for a bite to eat. Star Deli's original location is at 6114 Military Ave, but another location has opened one block northwest of Central's campus in the space previously occupied by Corner Creperie.

Star Deli is most known for their delicious artisan sandwiches. They also serve a variety of soups and salads. Star Deli plans to start opening at 8:00 am and serve coffee in the mornings.

The history of Star Deli lies in the hands of the owner, Jay Muller and his dedicated employees. Sean O'Hara, is the manager at of the new location. O'Hara said the history behind Star Deli is "to create a full menu of artisan sandwiches, one for every taste and personality."

Their Benson location has an art gallery, which opened in 2012. Muller and his employees decided to combine a sandwich shop with an art gallery to become more local and open with their customers. The art is contributed by local artists, and Muller enjoys giving back to the community in this way

Star Deli wanted local artists to be able to express their talent and have other people be able to admire it, all while eating a delicious sandwich, he said.

Star Deli's philosophy of quality before convenience is evident in the fact that all of their ingredients are made from scratch. "It is more time consuming and there is a lot of prep-ping," O'Hara said.

Star Deli's goal is to try to keep all of their ingredients local, fresh and almost everything homemade. They purchase all of their supplies at a wide range of local food markets, too.

Star Deli has catered for Central events in the past and plans expanding by catering to Creighton students soon.

As of now, Star Deli does plan to open in other locations in the future.



JULIAN HOCK-BEATY | The Register

The Star Deli features a prominent display that emphasizes its sandwich variety. Soups and salads are also available at the deli.

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## IB graduate to study abroad

Natalie Nepper  
editor-in-chief

For Michael Kelly, graduate of the class of 2015, the United States was never big enough.

"I've had that international mentality my whole life," Kelly said.

Just fresh out of second grade, his father packed up the family to go abroad. It was Kelly's first time out of the United States. Bolivia- the heart of South America.

The next time, he spent two years in the Dominican Republic. And the next time, it was seven months in El Salvador.

It seemed that every time Kelly got settled in Nebraska again, his family would pack up for humanitarian work overseas. But he never really minded.

"[Going abroad] made me very curious and really kind of wonder about the real nature of things," he said. "It kind of opened my mind, in a sense, and also in a way that you can't close it."

In high school, Kelly got traveling down to a science. School months were spent indulging himself in Central's International Baccalaureate program. And then, as finals week would draw to a close- Kelly planned out his June, July, and August. A new country, a new experience.

Three of his four summers in high school were spent overseas. His interest for language and culture brought him back to Bolivia the summer between freshman and sophomore year. After that, six weeks in Lima, Peru serving in a slum. Just recently he returned to the Dominican Republic to do humanitarian work on a bridge between the D.R. and Haiti.

"Once your mind's been opened you can't really go back and pretend you haven't been there," Kelly said. "It's definitely shifted the way I look at things and the way I live, for sure."

It was these unique experiences, paired with his IB schooling and the extra push from Central's foreign language department that added up to Kelly's ultimate decision to pursue secondary education in the EU. Belgium, to be exact.

He will be spending his college experience at the Catholic University of Leuven. For how long? Kelly doesn't know for sure.

"I could really there anywhere between 3 and 7 years but probably most definitely in Europe at least 6 or 7 years," he said.

He's planning on majoring in psychology, a subject he feels very personally inclined

to study. "Some people would say, 'well why don't you just study philosophy and study nature philosophy in the UK?' It's because it's a different type of philosophy," Kelly said. "They teach the his-

“Be willing to take the chance to go outside of, not necessarily your comfort zone, but your own culture, and see things from the inside-out”

MICHAEL KELLY

central grad and former IB student

torical method which I think, and which has been recommended to me, is one of the best methods to learn philosophy at least at an introduction level."

Central's Spanish teachers have always had an extra influence on Kelly's future. He describes their dynamic as more of a friendship than anything else.

"Junior year, Garcia sat me down and tried to convince me to study in Spain instead of in Belgium," he said. "But that wasn't happening."

The IB program here was also the perfect platform for Kelly, who was looking for college credit accepted worldwide. He dealt with the program just fine, but notes that IB is really only recommended for students "who would put learning and workload above social life."

His advice to anyone willing to go through the experiences he did? "Be willing to take the chance to go outside of, next necessarily your comfort zone, but your own culture, and see things from the inside-out."

## Authors scheduled to speak in the library via Skype, in person

Choteau Kammel  
executive editor

Even with the new building renovations and library addition several years away, librarian Beth Eilers and the library staff are making the most of their current accommodations in providing books, computers and further learning opportunities for interested students. One of the programs they offer to progress these goals has been bringing in authors from around the world via Skype to speak to students, many of whom are aspiring authors themselves. With one such visit already down this school year, there are currently five more scheduled for the coming months including authors from the United Kingdom and even one from the Omaha Metro.

The author visits program is now entering its third year, and encompasses a total of six Omaha Public schools, in which the authors rotate between each establishment. This cyclical movement also is used to share books between libraries, as prior to each Skype call, each library receives around 70 copies of books written by that author in order to help introduce them to the student body. "We're really lucky, because being in such a large school district we have a department that arranges the visits while we [individual libraries] handle the promotion and welcoming for the authors," said Eilers.

The first author visit of this school year was from Young Adult Golden Sower award winner Alan Gratz, whose repertoire includes anywhere from fantasy and adventure to historical fiction based on real people and events, such as his Holocaust novel *Prisoner B-3087*. Via Skype, students were able to ask Gratz any questions they may have, but Eilers said that many of the inquiries are about being and becoming an author. She said, "He talked to the students a lot about how authors prepare and organize their writing prior to beginning a work." Advice such as this is quite pertinent to many attending students as often they are interested in becoming authors as well.

Among the upcoming authors who will be paying Central students and staff visits are young adult author Lydia Kang, urban fiction author Sharon Flake and also mystery author April Henry. Although the majority of the authors visit with webcam, occasionally they are able to make an in person appearance, and this year's will be Lydia Kang, who actually lives in the Metro area. "She's a physician, and she also has this young adult series. I've even had students say that she's their parent's doctor," said Eilers.

Eilers also explained that Flake is one of the most well-known



GEORGIA CHAMBERS | The Register

Librarian Beth Eilers has scheduled six author talks with students this school year. This is the third year of the program.

authors to Skype the students and that having her is a bit of a coup for the district and that coincidentally enough, April Henry is actually visiting in the month of April.

For these author visits to work, the Skype calls are only half of the program. The other half is made up by the students. "All they have to do to come is sign up in the library and it will then be run to their class on the day of the event," said Eilers. All events are held during fifth period, and announcements are made many days in advance so as to give students ample time to register.

Although a Skype call does play second fiddle to an old fashioned personal appearance, Eilers still works hard to make sure the visits go as smoothly as possible, as she said,

"I try to make the visits as informal and casual as possible. I don't want anyone to be intimidated on either side of the camera. It's also quite fascinating because you get to see inside the author's homes and they often have décor related to their work."

Based on the average attendance from the past few years of the author visits, and the first one down this year, usually 10-25 students attend, but almost double that sign up. To any students who may have even the slightest interest in coming to learn more about writing from people who do it for a living, Eilers said, "If you have lunch fifth period, or even if you don't, this is the one time you can come and eat lunch at the library computers. All are welcome."

## Added minutes create difficulties in scheduling, transportation

CONTINUED FROM 'EXTENSION'  
ON PAGE 1

members who voted in favor of the additional minutes.

Marian Fey, Marque Snow and Justin Wayne voted in opposition of the changes. Snow felt that the board did not adequately inform the public, and the process was flawed.

"It was not brought up correctly," Snow said. "If we really want to have more time in the classroom and work with kids and figure out how to make it work, we need to be like, 'What are we doing with the current time allotted with the kids now that we are not utilizing correctly?'" As for Central, the extra twenty minutes during the school day translates to two more minutes per period, which has led many to wonder how much high school kids are benefitting, particularly at the high school level.

Some middle schools have used the extra time differently; such as having a time for additional reading, or other options voted on by the teachers of those middle schools.

Buffett Middle School decided to add an advisory program to their schedule, with certain days being put toward helping students bond with each other and create conversation, and other days where students can finish homework and ask teachers questions.

About high schools not having these types of periods, Goding said, "High schools certainly could have looked at it that way, to add an additional amount [of time] to some kind of support system at the end of the day, or something like that. It is really up to the leadership of those respective high schools; it is their minutes, they can use them however they want to. We just wanted to make sure that they could use [the time] effectively and we were expanding the opportunities for our kids."

Principal Ed Bennett decided on adding the extra time to each period, instead of having an extra twenty minute period. "I don't think our teachers mind the couple of extra minutes each period they have now to make that last point or to touch base with students and make sure they understand their homework assignments, so I think the time is being well spent," he said.

However, Snow believes that adding a program that would be more meaningful could have been an option for all schools, if they were given enough time. "You look at some of the high schools, most of it is like, 'Alright, you get some extra traveling time through the hallways,' it really was not thoughtfully

planned out," Snow said. In his opinion, programs should be tailored to the needs of different schools across the district. "You are talking about a self-assessment of each principal going into their classrooms and assessing what are they doing in the classroom that they can kind of tweak before they add another piece [of time] onto that," Snow said.

Timing was a factor in the decision. Bennett felt like staff and teachers would not have adequate time to develop a good way to use the extra time. "We would need to brainstorm possible programs, research their effectiveness in other schools, identify and then customize a program that we think would work for Central students, identify a committee to lead that program, and train our staff to make it successful for our students," Bennett said.

Since most staff members were not on duty when the changes were announced, Bennett did not have enough time to come up with a program to not only benefit students, but also meet the standards of Central. "If we expect excellence from our students, we have to model excellence as adults and there was no way to create an excellent program in the time available," Bennett said.

However, these added minutes to the school day caused problems with transportation and making sure students get to school on time. According to Goding, the district spends \$40,000 for every bus that is sent to pick up students. However, if those buses don't have adequate time to turn around and pick up elementary students after dropping off secondary students, it costs an additional \$40,000 to send another bus (figures are in annual terms). If those buses are used twice, it costs only an additional \$8,000 to pick up elementary school students.

Those buses need roughly an hour and ten minutes of turnaround time in order to make sure elementary school students can have breakfast. "It became a big challenge, because we had to make sure those times were effectively planned out so that we could ensure the correct turnaround time," Goding said.

Snow felt the transportation issues only hurt the students even more, because it's an additional twenty minutes from the time kids leave school to the time they get home. "The way traffic is in Omaha, it pushes that kid back further trying to get home, and buses are running later because of that. A lot of that stuff could have been avoided, if we waited and did some research and figured out how late kids are getting home," said Snow.

To help combat these challenges, the board passed a new student assignment plan in the same board meeting. Currently, OPS offers transportation to 60 elementary schools. With the new student assignment plan, starting in the 2017-2018 school year, students will have ten elementary schools to choose from which provide transportation. On the middle school level, the amount of schools with transportation will be cut in half. High school transportation will remain the same. "I have a hope and desire that we will be able to more efficiently transport students and someday tweak the start times," Goding said.

Goding believes that within two years, OPS might have transportation figured out to the point where start times can be moved so that elementary students do not leave as late in the day. Currently, elementary schools release at 4:05 p.m. "I have been an elementary school parent, and I understand the challenge of that [time]," Goding said. The only solution to fix that problem was to make high school students start at 7:30 a.m. "I felt like asking high school kids who already need more sleep to come to school ten minutes earlier was not the best solution," she said.

However, Goding understands that many parents were not ready for the changes in scheduling, and she felt that the district could have done a better job of informing parents. As for teachers, the changes were not entirely a surprise. When the Omaha Education Association (OEA) teachers' union negotiated their recent contracts last spring, they agreed to not oppose including instructional minutes and put that decision in the hands of the district.

Snow feels like there could have been a better community outreach. It could signify a problem with OPS and its public relations, in his opinion. "I'm just saying, bring these options up so that the community can be well informed in its effectiveness, and also when you add twenty minutes onto the day, we can't measure if that's going to be effective or not," he said. "At the end of the day, that's what we got. Something that happened over the summer, people were not paying attention to it, research was not done on [the time] correctly, and when you do things like that, you have to do a campaign."

In the future, Goding knows the school board will need to focus on better informing parents and the public. "Going forward, we need to make sure we communicate. We want to make sure when there are big impacts to families that we do better on communicating those types of things."

## Principal, alongside foundation, creates promising contacts with graduates



Photo Courtesy of ED BENNETT

**Left:** Danielle Nodal, Ruben Nodal, Dr. Fred Burbank and Melody Burbank show their Eagle support. **Middle:** Susan Lebens, Margot Wickman-Bennett and Dr. Ed Bennett take a tour of the winery grounds. **Right:** Burbank explains the grape farming process.

### Georgia Chambers executive editor

Principal Ed Bennett traveled with members of the Central High Foundation to Paso Robles, California over the weekend of Sept. 26 to help raise money for the Foundation.

The Central High Foundation was established in order to support various endeavors involving the school. Money which funds this foundation comes solely from private donors.

Field trips, foreign language trips and the new additions are all funded by the foundation. "The district won't pay for [these things], but the foundation will," Bennett said.

The board has not yet approved the plans regarding the additions, so fundraising for this has not actually begun, but the trip to California was taken on behalf of the Foundation in hopes of one day receiving private donations.

"Fundraising is a multiple contact operation," Bennett said.

Bennett relates the process of fundraising to a fictional example of him opening a puppy farm for handicapped children. Even if Bennett knew people had the finances to aid in opening the farm, he would not approach them directly and ask for payment of the farm. Instead, he would set up a meeting, get to know each other and eventually mention the opportunity to donate to his farm.

"We haven't raised a dollar for this yet, but there have been numerous conversations on the part of the Foundation with people who are interested and, once everything gets approved, would be likely to contribute," Bennett said.

These promising contacts were made with fellow Central

graduates over the weekend of Sept. 26 in Paso Robles, Calif. thanks to Dr. Fred Burbank.

Burbank is a 1959 Central graduate who has been very successful throughout his career. He has over 80 medical patents, one of which is for a non-invasive, breast cancer biopsy needle. Thanks to this invention, doctors no longer need to cut into the breast to test the tissue; the woman's appearance is not greatly altered.

"This is a tremendous invention that has made the lives of women for decades much better," Bennett said. "Because he patented that, has other patents and ran a full-time medical practice, he was very successful financially; so he and his wife bought a vineyard and got into the wine business."

Michelle Roberts, executive director of Central's hall of fame, contacted Burbank about the new addition hoping to get started in the next couple years.

Burbank was more than willing to put together a gathering at his vineyard to help out with raising money for the foundation.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity I had at Central High School," Burbank said. "I came from a very, very small grade school. There were only 13 kids in my eighth grade class. Eighth grade and seventh grade were in the same room. When I came to Central from that little, tiny grade school, I was just blown away from the size of the whole thing. I had a wonderful time with the range of activities and of the quality of my classmates and teachers. It was a wonderful four-year experience."

Because of this, Burbank felt like he had to give back to Central in some way.

This opportunity given to him by Roberts was his chance.

Burbank invited around 40 Central graduates who currently live in California and have been financially successful.

"The idea was to get all these Central folks together in one place to talk about what's happening at Central, the foundation and the addition. A lot of people want to give back," Bennett said. "They are at the point of their lives where they have been financially successful."

In many cases, just like Burbank, Central was the root to their success, so many of them wanted to give back, but they did not know in what ways to give back. "[This fundraiser] connects us with them. They want to give, and we would love to have their support," Bennett said.

The graduates enjoyed reminiscing about their memories at Central.

"My hopes were that folks come, enjoy each other, remember days at Central and at some point open up their wallets and help out," Burbank said.

Even if the graduates do not wish to donate to help fund the new additions, there are plenty of other projects they may end up donating towards for the Foundation. However, Bennett stresses that no money was to be expected right away from this outing.

"This is not a chance to ask anybody for money. This is a chance to explain what's going on at Central to show the alumni about our current projects, and to give them the opportunity to support any or all of the exciting changes that are happening at Central," he said.

More fundraisers can be expected in the near future along the east and west coast, but as of now, nothing is official.

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## CECIL THE LION 11

While on a trip in Africa, an American dentist shot and killed a famous lion named Cecil. The world has reacted with outrage, but what are the proper consequences for the killer?

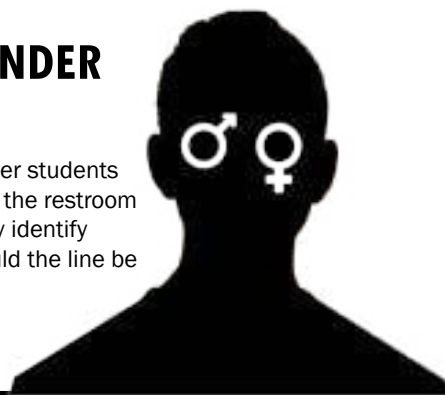


## GREEK LIFE 12

Fraternities and sororities continue to increase in popularity in the U.S., but the institutions come with negative connotations.

## TRANSGENDER 13

Should transgender students be allowed to use the restroom of the gender they identify with? Where should the line be drawn?



# perspective & commentary

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## LAW & (DIS)ORDER

After a Kentucky county clerk refused to administer gay marriage licenses and was sent to jail, the government must clarify restrictions regarding religious values

Georgia Chambers  
executive editor

Although gay marriage is now supported in legislature nationwide, many people who feel that it is immoral still attempt to find their way around the law. Kimberly Davis is one of these people. Davis resides in Rowan County, Ky., and is employed as a county clerk.

Just weeks after the Supreme Court passed a bill making gay marriage legal in all states, Davis turned away lesbian and gay couples wishing to receive a marriage license. After several of these incidences she was consequently arrested and placed in jail. For this she has received national attention and has been shamed by thousands of people.

One of the foremost responsibilities of a county clerk is to issue county licenses and maintain records. Listed in their job conditions is issuing licenses to get married, and as a county clerk, one must marry couples that come in to legally get married.

Before June 2015, people were not held to standards about how to treat gay and lesbian people. Though people are still entitled to their opinions, they are no longer able to infringe on gay people's right to marry, and seeing as though Davis holds a position in government she must carry out and abide to the law.

Noting that she did not exercise this right proves that Davis was rightly put in jail. Davis broke the law; however, she was released from jail on Sept. 8 after only a couple of days in jail. Davis' punishment fit her crime; she did not act with violence or extremism, yet still broke the law, so she should have been put in



ISABELLA FILIPS | Contributing Cartoonist

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## Government 'wars' infringe on liberties, waste financial resources

Choteau Kammel  
executive editor

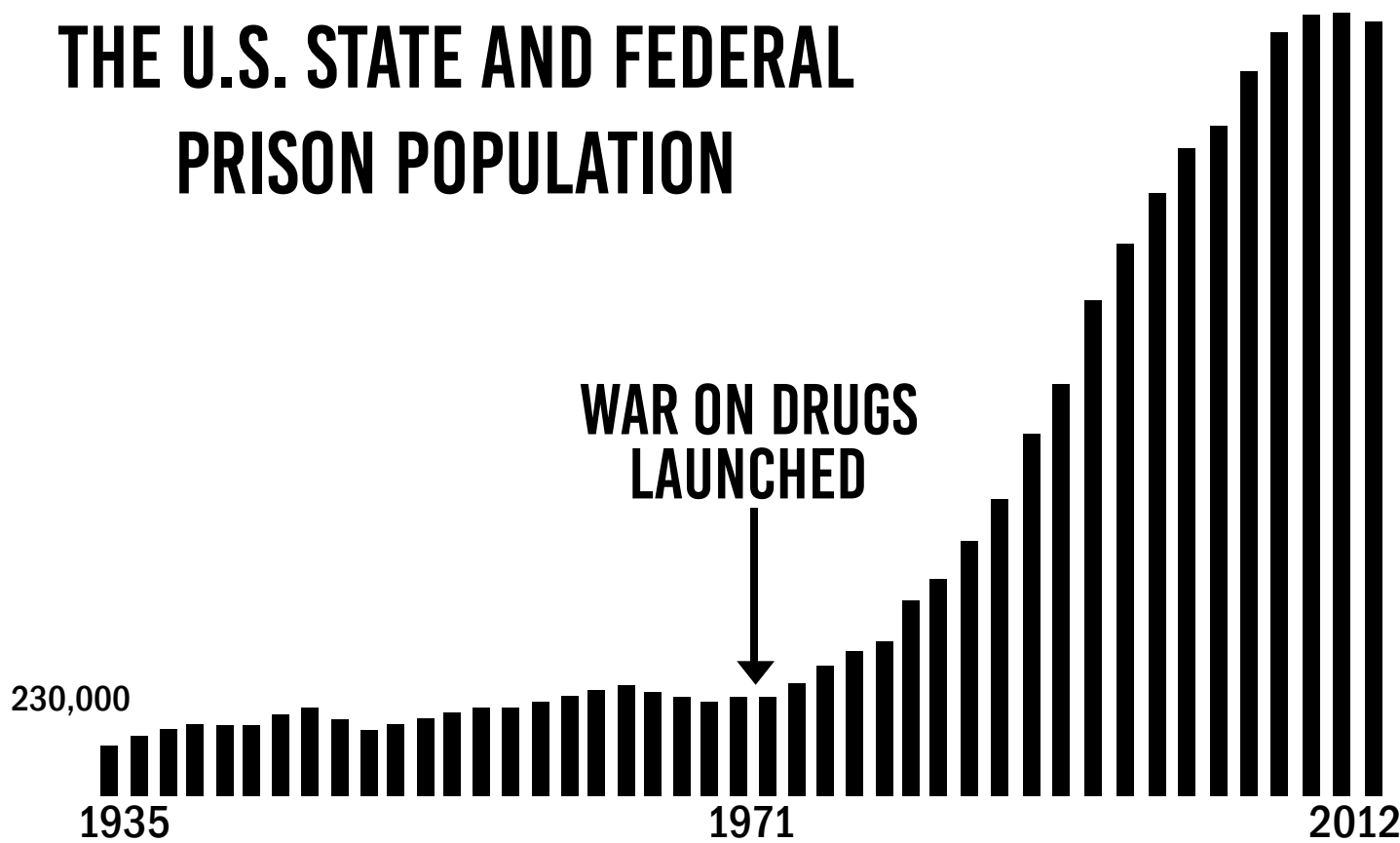
The United States government takes in more tax dollars than any of other nation on earth, spends more money than every other nation on earth and yet still claims to need more. Whether they are reading people's text messages, lying, stealing, bombing kids, wasting money, taking bribes or implementing failed policies, the federal government and the politicians who make it up are essentially just as bad as the criminals they attempt to prosecute. Not to say that these terrible things have bad motives, in fact almost all of them begin with a congressman or woman with a strong opinion, hopefully righteous intent and always economic misunderstanding.

When a politician declares war on an issue, they do so because they want to negate it and make it vanish. In practice however, it also means that the taxpayer foots the bill for a massive spending campaign that accomplishes nothing close to the original goal and manages only to increase the problem it was intended to alleviate. Now, not to say these declarations don't help, they do. They help the government justify the infringement of civil liberties.

While the debt clock has been ticking away to the next crisis, the United States has been involved in several declarations of war in order to apparently improve American society at the cost of, well, money not even earned by generations not even born. To drive home this point regarding the government use of a "war" to increase its control, take for instance the wars on drugs, poverty and terror.

The War on Drugs has been in some capacity for

### THE U.S. STATE AND FEDERAL PRISON POPULATION



INCREASED OVER 800% IN JUST 40 YEARS

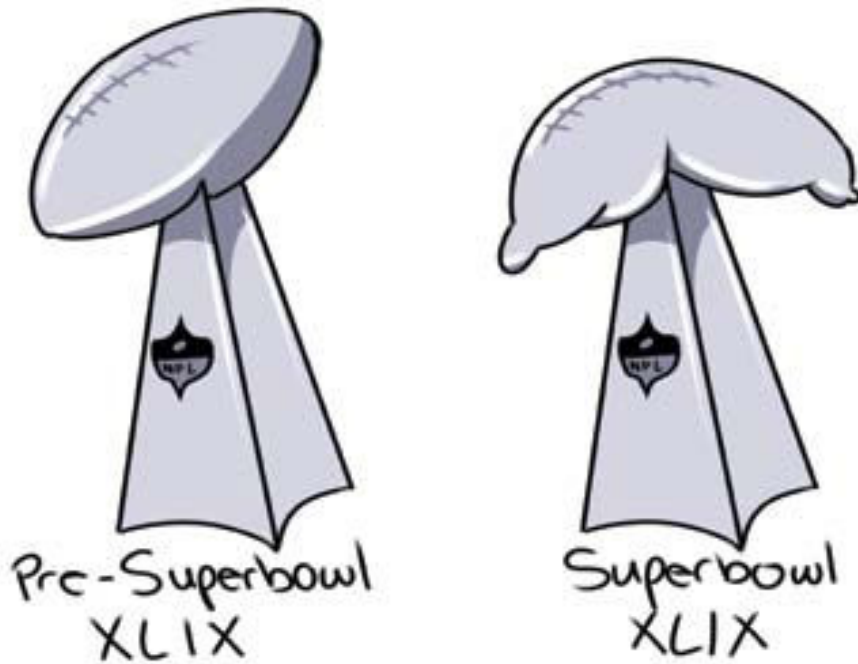
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NATALIE NEPPER | The Register

CONTINUE TO 'WARS'  
ON PAGE 10



# INFLATED CONTROVERSY

The scandal surrounding the New England Patriots football team and their alleged deflation of footballs has been greatly exaggerated by the media and fans



ISABELLA FILIPS | Contributing Cartoonist

**Alec Rome**  
web editor

Since the AFC Championship game on Jan. 18, 2015, the Deflategate scandal has been a media headache for all involved. It's been hard to find an accurate story, with sources such as ESPN being at times inaccurate. A falsified storyline blurred the lines between reality and speculation, and the scandal has been a distraction for all.

Before Super Bowl XLIX, many questions loomed as the nation headed into the biggest sporting event of the year. They were not the questions Bill Belichick and his New England Patriots squad would normally shrug off with a rehearsed answer, or the important questions that should be asked for players that are about to have a career-defining moment. It was air coming out of the mouths of reporters about air. Specifically the air inside of a regulation NFL football.

The New England Patriots were accused of purposefully deflating footballs in the 2014 AFC Championship game against the Indianapolis Colts. There were reports that eleven footballs were two pounds per square inch (PSI) below the legal minimum, though the claim was later debunked and proven to be false. Only one of the twelve were two PSI below the limit. However the rumors and speculation were already too mainstream to change the minds of the public.

Everyone from every corner of the internet jumped on Deflategate. People voiced their opinions and labeled the Patriots as "cheaters." That is, until Super Bowl XLIX happened. As the Patriots hoisted their fourth Lombardi trophy in fifteen years, all doubt surrounding the legitimacy of the team subsided. As expected, the media continued to wait and speculate on what was to happen to the team because of Deflategate, until the Ted Wells report came out, signifying even more hard truth.

According to the Wells report, Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was "generally aware" that suspicious activity was going on. Also, it is known that being "generally aware" does not constitute a four game suspension, which is eventually what the NFL gave Tom Brady for his role in the scandal.

Upon Brady's initial appeal of the suspension, it was upheld. Upheld by none other than Roger Goodell himself, the man in charge of the subordinates that made Brady's suspension. Is there something a little wrong here?

According to former wide receiver Shannon Sharpe, there is a major injustice in the system of punishments. "I have always felt there was something fundamentally wrong with if I am issued a citation by the police department, and then I have to go to the chief of police to have him hear my case," said Sharpe. Parallel to the example, players who want to appeal any suspension given by a member of the NFL have to go to the commissioner in order to fight the punishment.

Brady felt he was innocent and that his suspension was inappropriate. He decided to stand up and took Goodell to court, one of the first people to do so.

He even tried to settle with the NFL because he knew he did not cooperate as well as he should have. Instead, the NFL decided to not take the settlement because they felt they were right, and they had probable cause.

It at last took away some of the "ultimate power" Goodell and the NFL possessed. On the Brady suspension being nullified, Sharpe said, "This is a crushing blow [to the NFL]. Now there are going to be guys more apt to go to court. Once

the judge speaks, no matter how you feel about a case... [the judge] has spoken." Because of Tom Brady, players now have the voice to take their case to court, if they feel they have sufficient evidence to overturn their punishment.

The first crime the Patriots were accused of, they were caught and punished. Spygate caused the organization to lose money and a first-round draft pick the following year. However, many NFL owners felt that once again, Goodell did not give appropriate punishment for what many felt to be a more serious form of cheating. According to an ESPN report, Goodell stated that, "with dead certainty, from then on, cheaters would be dealt with forcefully."

The Patriots and their videotaping empire during Spygate did get quite out of hand. They did cheat, and the public perception that the organization is full of bending the rules still exists eight years after they were punished for it. Even a more recent allegation that the Patriots swiped play sheets was talked about. It has become a phenomenon for all critics and fans who despise the New England organization to find something to deny the absolute dynasty the Patriots team is.

However, Richard Sherman, a Seattle Seahawks cornerback is another example of the unjustified criticism and suspicion of the team winning only because of bending the rules. On the allegations that the Patriots would swipe play sheets, Sherman said that, "they still need to execute."

Just because Tom Brady may have played with deflated footballs or the team may have had an advantage on play-calling does not detract from how talented Bill Belichick and the organization truly is. Amid controversy, the Patriots won another Lombardi trophy. Coming out of court hearings just a week or two prior to the season opener, Brady and his team commanded a shaky Pittsburgh Steelers secondary with four passing touchdowns.

Brady stands just four touchdowns away from 400 passing touchdowns in his career (as of September 13, 2015). Barring any major injury, Brady will easily pass that milestone. He also has 53,546 career passing yards, which is the fifth-most in NFL history. The countless accolades by the Michigan quarterback are enough to conclude a simple fact. Brady truly is a great.

Because of all the talk and coverage about the Deflategate scandal, it has detracted from not only the talent of the players who win these games, but also the game of football as a whole. The statements about the possible connections between Spygate and Deflategate are important, however it needs to stop eventually.

Goodell felt that he needed to prove something to every owner, which is why he conducted an investigation that cost \$5 million. Yet again, he had the Patriots organization within striking distance, just as he once had many other high profile cases within the cusp of glory; only for it to slip away.

It became another reason for doubters and critics of the "golden boy franchise" to put down one of the most powerful dynasties in sports. It was an attempt for Goodell to save himself and the league from the inevitable. The league does not have ultimate power, and it may be the end for Goodell as an owner, with Patriots owner Robert Kraft even beginning to criticize Goodell.

Brady still has four championship rings, and there never will be a dark shadow looming over Brady's head. Only the bright lights of Sunday reflecting from his silver helmet.

## Test scores only measure memory, not students' worth



ANNA KAMINSKI  
HOW YOU DOIN'?

"Here's to the crazy ones, the misfits, the rebels, the troublemakers, the round pegs in the square holes... the ones who see things differently -- they're not fond of rules... You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them, but the only thing you can't do is ignore them because they change things... they push the human race forward, and while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius, because the ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do."

-Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011)

If we've recognized that test scores don't define a student's academic worth, why do we continue to base college entrance on higher ACT and SAT scores? Why is intelligence measured by a number? Why isn't it measured by the amount of hard work and perseverance and creative thinking a student initiates? If flaws are widely recognized in the American education system, why hasn't anything changed?

Test scores are a magnificent way of challenging a student's memorization skills and their ability to obtain and retain information but they most certainly should not determine an individual's future.

Since the 1950s, the United States has recognized the fact that they are significantly behind other countries in relation to academic performance. Competitors include Russia, China and Japan, all of whose students statistically excel in the core subjects.

While core subjects are important, if a student wants to become a musician, why should they have to endure one or more years of finding the average acceleration and velocity of an object moving towards the sun?

Another problem is the fact that, in America, teenagers absolutely dread going to school each morning and are completely miserable nearly every evening when they come home. School should not be considered a 'prison.' It should be a place of knowledge and possibility and prospect.

What can we, as a country, do to improve our education system?

We can recognize that we are part of a structure meant to keep us organized and meant to limit us and give students a gateway to the middle class. There is absolutely nothing wrong with this path; students and guardians need to realize that there are other options.

Another idea is to promote individualism and self-confidence in students. If one receives a 'bad grade' on a test or important paper, it's as if that score determines their self-worth. And one of the most important parts of growing up is that teenagers express themselves and be who they want to be without the likelihood of oppression.

As high school students are the future of America, we are attempting to discover who are and make a rational decision about our future with limited preparation. The American education system forces us down a specific path without the chance of looking elsewhere.

Personally, college is a major issue for me. In today's society, it is only possible to find a job if you have a college diploma and/or a certain degree. College is not a debate for me. I have to go to college, which I have no problem with because I love to learn, but if a painter or writer doesn't necessarily need what a college or university has to offer and they especially don't want to pay for it, they shouldn't have been shamed for their decision.

As a student, I firmly believe that the purpose of school should not be to do enormous amounts of homework every night, study for college entrance exams and placement tests that try to tell me who I am and what I should do. As a student, I want every other student to know that they have a choice. Those choices might have reparations but if it's what you want to do and where you want to go, so be it. Our destiny is not determined by our high school GPA or our ACT score. We are in charge of our own fate. The sooner students realize that, the better.

## Rates of drug use, poverty, Middle East violence remain unchanged

CONTINUED FROM 'WARS'  
ON PAGE 8

the last century or so. According to the [drugpolicy.org](http://drugpolicy.org), the United States state and federal governments spend around 50 billion dollars each year in its enforcement. Since 1970 when Richard Nixon declared his War on Drugs, 1.5 trillion dollars have been spent, while the drug addiction rate has remained at 1.2%, according to the Office of National Drug Policy Control. So what does this show? Well. The federal government failed entirely to put in dent in the drug rate, and succeeded only in putting a dent in American's wallets.

In 2013, there were 693,423 people imprisoned for marijuana related charges, mainly possession. With other criminal offenses tallied, one out of every 110 adults is incarcerated, giving the U.S. a highest incarceration rate in the world.

Why is the government involved in protecting people from themselves, when it can't actually change anything even with billions and billions of tax dollars? All in all, the War on Drugs has cost billions of dollars, imprisoned millions for nonviolence and all while doing nothing to drug use but increasing the burden of the tax payer.

When Lyndon B. Johnson declared his War on Poverty, he sought to relieve anyone in poverty from ever having to suffer again. After all, one would think that after pumping 21.5 trillion dollars into social programs conditions would certainly start to change. However, if one would think that, he or she would be wrong. The poverty rate at the beginning of the war was 14.5%, fifty years later, the poverty rate in 2010 was 14.5%, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

This astounding sum, with such lackluster performance, is distributed by over 80 federal programs to over 100 million Americans who receive assistance through its coffers, but has this colossal cost accomplished Johnson's goal of self-sufficiency? The answer to that is simply no.

The first reason being that the 900 plus billion dollars given out in welfare each year is not actually considered income and therefore people who are not or should not be deemed poor, are classified as such and because of that they annually fall below the poverty line. This therefore increases the amounts of money paid in and makes it increasingly difficult to differenti-

ate between who really need assistance and who are taking it for granted.

The second is that the poor in America overall live significantly better than the poor in other countries. For example, according to the Heritage Foundation, 31 percent of the poor have two or more cars, 40 percent have flat screen plasma televisions, over 50 percent have video game systems and 67 percent have cable or satellite television. One should not dare ask for public assistance if he or she has an Xbox One and satellite TV.

The War on Poverty also made it easier to sustain multiple children outside of a stable marriage, which in terms of fighting childhood poverty, two present parents really is the lifesaver. Prior to the war, only 7 percent of children were born out of wedlock, now that number is 40 percent. The current welfare system reduces entitlements to married individuals and therefore it is more profitable to simply stay single and have more kids. All in all, Robert Rector of the Heritage Foundation says it best, "The welfare state has undermined self-sufficiency by discouraging work and penalizing marriage."

The last to be mentioned, is the venerable War on Terror. In the wake of the 9/11 attacks in 2001, President George W. Bush declared a global war on terror. With that mantra, the Taliban were kicked out of Afghanistan, and rightfully so as they harbored those who attacked the U.S. and therefore it was in agreement with the None Aggression Principle. However, later in 2003, the United States then invaded Iraq and ousted President Saddam Hussein for his alleged chemical weapons.

Although evidence for these weapons is inconclusive, there was never any imminent threat against the United States, and the elongated stay of troops in the country lead to thousands of American casualties, and all for a country that would not even fight for its own freedom. Yes he was evil, but Saddam Hussein actually did fight terrorist groups within his borders and was a counter to Iranian influence in the region.

Even now in the Middle East, the U.S. continues to make the situation worse. While President Obama claims to be fighting ISIS, he's also bombing Syria and Libya. By ousting Gaddafi in Libya, terrorists automatically found a new safe haven. By bombing Assad, the horrible man that he is, Obama is removing yet another ally in the fight against radical Islam. The

United States just cannot come to terms with the fact that secular dictators are the only kind of force or government known in the Middle East, and the only kind that fights the violent theocracies that ISIS is attempting to establish. Removing a secular dictator only allows worse people to come to power.

Along with the United States just invading other countries for aspersions and overzealous politicians, Americans have been assaulted at home by the War on Terror. With the signing of the ironically named Patriot ACT, the federal government gave itself the right to read or record any piece of data or personal information an individual may have. Although supposedly run through a FISA court, as Edward Snowden pointed out, it really means that the National Security Agency records and stores all of your communications. No names and no warrants, but hey, at least some part of the government actually listens.

Lastly, although it began decades ago, the idea of foreign military aid has increased significantly. In 2012, 37 billion dollars was sent to other nation's militaries and governments, according to the Finance Degree Center. Why does the U.S. fund other country's armies? Can we not just leave them the hell alone and take care of our own people or maybe even rebuild some bridges?

18.1 trillion dollars in debt, and the United States still must borrow more money from China in order to send it to Pakistan. That makes absolutely no sense. All things considered, since the War on Terror, the American taxpayer has picked up the check for dropping bombs, drone striking children, paying to have themselves spied on and lastly to buy AK-47s for corrupt governments.

Indeed, since the inception of the War on Drugs, the War on Poverty and the War on Terror, the drug rate has not changed, the poverty rate has not changed, amount of violence in the Middle East has gone up, and at the same time everyday Americans are dug deeper and deeper into debt from their all-knowing and benevolent leaders. Finding that for some reason their dollars are worth less and less each year, while also constantly being told they just need bite the bullet, hunker down and pay a little bit more tax, and then, only then will drugs, poverty and terror finally be defeated, just like President Richard Nixon, Lyndon B. Johnson and George W. Bush said.

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## Religion should remain separate from duties

CONTINUED FROM 'DAVIS'  
ON PAGE 8

jail for at least a short time.

Davis let her conservative and religious views come in the way of her carrying out her duties as a county clerk. The Constitution allows Christians the right to hold negative opinions about LGBT people, but they cannot intertwine their faith with their jobs if they work for the government. The separation of church and state was implemented by the Founding Fathers for a reason, and Americans should remember to keep these two matters apart from one another.

Religion is up to the individual and is based upon faith, not law or fact. Contrastingly, the foundations of government are not up to the individual, and are made up of laws and regulations that are supported by bodies of government. Therefore, intertwining religion with politics will oftentimes cloud the individual into making choices that may go against his or her duty.

It would have been different if Davis was not employed by a government institution. Still, privately owned restaurants and other businesses are allowed to discriminate against LGBT people. For example, back in June 2013 a bakery in Colorado refused to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex marriage, and this is allowed. Another example of the same nature includes people refusing to sell their houses to gay couples.

The Establishment Clause prohibits the government from aiding or assisting any religion. Davis said that it is against God's law what she has been asked to carry out, and thereby violated the Establishment Clause.

All in all, Davis' beliefs can still be carried out in her personal life. It is Davis' choice to marry who she wants, and what occurs within her life is her choice. The relationships of other people, and the relationships of gay people hoping to get married, should not affect Davis on a personal level. Moreover, she does not have the legal jurisdiction to choose what gay people can and cannot do.

If Davis still refuses to give out marriage licenses, she should be removed from her position as county clerk, and a more suitable person should be hired who can keep their job separate from their personal views. David has rigid morals and beliefs. If she wishes to act out against LGBT people and show her beliefs, she should open up a bakery instead.

# CHRIST & CHEMICALS



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

**Choteau Kammel**  
executive editor

When the worlds of Christianity and science meet, it is often assumed and stated that a person may not believe both. Either someone can side with those unsophisticated Bible readers or choose to embrace the world science and knowledge that eventually will provide all the answers mankind could ever need. This belief, which is widely held throughout academia, is historically inaccurate and the idea that faith in God is exclusive to believing in science is simply a fallacy.

First off, this is by no means an argument for the veracity of Christianity, as that would require significantly more explanation; this is simply an argument that someone may have faith in the Bible as well as faith in the modern marvels of science.

Historically speaking, many of the greatest and most significant discoveries made in the fields of science and mathematics were made by men who would now have been coined Biblical creationists. Louis Pasteur, the French chemist who made leaps and bounds in the principles of vaccination as well as the fermentation of microbials, was a scientist, who was also a Christian.

Sir Isaac Newton and his laws of motion and numerous other contributions stemmed from his belief that God was the creator of the universe and that man was tasked with seeking the answers to all that goes on around him on the earth.

Leonardo da Vinci, who pioneered many modern ideas such as flight and aeronautical mechanics, as well as being a renowned sculptor and architect professed belief in the Bible and his Christian faith.

Even the man, to whom the theistically incompatible scientific method is attributed to, Sir Francis Bacon, was a God fearing Bible reading scientist. He was only one of a host of Christian scientists who did not see their faith as a detracting

factor from their work, but more so a driving force for it.

The argument that many of these men, regardless of their scientific achievements, were simply behind any modern philosophies such as evolution or survival of the fittest, is proven wrong as a host of these men were in fact quite well acquainted with the atheistic ideals of the day.

Lord Kelvin who was the father of early temperature mechanics and developed the absolute temperature scale, Johann Kepler and his celestial mechanics, and Ambrose Fleming the inventor of the thermionic valve, all were outspoken critics of the ideas of Darwinism and pantheism that were prevalent in their societies.

Another argument that is often given by those who do not think someone can believe the Bible as well as in science is that anything that science cannot prove is naturally false. This belief and its underlying flaws are laid in by former agnostic turned evangelical Josh McDowell in his book, "More Than a Carpenter."

McDowell writes, "We all accept as true many facts that cannot be verified by scientific methods. We cannot scientifically prove anything about any person or event in history, but that doesn't mean proof isn't impossible. We need to understand the difference between scientific and legal-historical proof."

He goes on to explain that scientific proof is based on being able to consistently repeat a scenario within a controlled environment and then continuing those experiments based off of data and observations. "If the scientific method were the only method we had for proving facts, you couldn't prove that you watched television last night or that you had lunch today. There's no way you could repeat those events in a controlled situation."

The other way of proving something is that of legal-historical proof. This is made up of oral and written testimony as well as physical evidence. This allows past people or past events

such as the Holocaust or something as simple as going out for lunch last week to be proven. The scientific method can only prove things that are repeatable and is not useful for people or events from past history. With all that being said, the scientific method cannot be used to disqualify someone's belief in what science can do as well as the Bible.

The Bible is not a science book however what it does say in relation to science is consistent with modern science. Dinosaurs are mentioned in Job: 40. In Genesis 22:17, the innumerability of the stars is given, hundreds of years before secular scientists would begin to stake claims that all the stars had been charted. Leviticus 17:11, written prior to 1400 BC, establishes the life sustaining properties of blood to living organisms. All of these scientific facts were written hundreds of years before science was proclaiming the earth was flat and that it was the center of the universe.

The biggest conflict between the Bible and secular science is on the creation account. As neither evolution nor creationism can be scientifically proven, meaning they cannot be repeated consistently under controlled conditions, one can be a scientist, with Christian faith, and also choose one unproven theory over another. Since the time of Darwin, many of his theories have been disproven due to the DNA similarities between species being significantly smaller than hypothesized, ultimately narrowing it down to either all life has a common ancestor or all life has a common creator.

All in all, science and the Bible are not in such an adversarial situation as is often stated. For centuries, people having carried the Bible with them as they made discoveries and advancements that have propelled mankind forward, never letting the two detract from one another. In the end, science cannot prove everything, and therefore cannot be used as a disqualification to people believing in its value as well as their own personal faith.

## Death of lion blown out of proportion due to false assumptions

**Carlson Koch**  
staff writer

The infamous Walter Palmer who brought death upon the prized Cecil in July, recently after the return to Bloomington, MN has been chastised for it. The lion was prized for his black mane that many lions do not have, and was killed during a safari hunt by Palmer. Remarks on social media showed a picture of Cecil that included the words "It is hard to imagine anything more beautiful than this [Cecil]."

The dentist returned to work on Sept. 13 and confronted with a shrine made by the public that was dedicated to Cecil that included stuffed animals and roses. Such actions like these are not necessary, the man had no intention for killing the famous lion on purpose.

In Zimbabwe, Palmer was hunting in the dark. With only a spotlight and a guide, Palmer shot, not certain knowing exactly he was aiming at. Protestors who complained for some sort of fine are trying to blame someone for the death of Cecil. They wanted a form of revenge on the dentist.

Officials and citizens who are outraged from this death in Zimbabwe are calling for the extradition of Palmer. Obviously, Palmer has felt remorse for the killing, he spent Sept. 13 performing an interview with the press. The words spoken by Palmer during the interview were filled with confusion, he was nervous because for some of the questions were accusing him.

How the local favorite lion was killed even with a guide preset, the press does not know. But feeling remorse, the

hunter said, "I deeply regret that my pursuit of an activity I love and practice responsibly and legally resulted in the taking of this lion." Other than seeing the black mane, there was no other possible way for either the guide or Palmer to know for certain it was Cecil.

For reasons unknown, Cecil was skinned and beheaded which for a lion there is no reason to do. Most animals this is done to for purposes of eating. Generally, people do not eat lions.

The conservation must had been slipping in order for this to happen. The death of Cecil can be looked into positive perspectives such that people can learn from this by keeping the endangered and prized animals of the world protected in a way that is secure. "As troubling as it is, the rarer these trophy hunted animals become, the more hunters are willing to pay to kill them," said Jeff Flocken, the North American regional director in an interview with CNN.

Big game hunting has always been a hobby of Palmer's. The GPS collar should have told guides where Cecil was, and then Palmer would have been told not where to go. Palmer was given false information, he cannot be blamed for the death of Cecil for this reason.

Animals die in the circle of life, and with Cecil being 13 years old when shot, the lion would have most likely not have had a fighting chance against swift gazelles. Cecil's cubs were all killed by another male lion after she died.

Poachers are a big part of Zimbabwe, elephants were and still are today used for their rare ivory tusks. In the last three

decades, Africa has had a decreasing rate of 60 percent of lions and around 32,000 exist there today.

The killing has led to other people being fined, critical comments that people have said to Palmer and unnecessary time wasted over the incident. People need to realize that this was not on purpose and find a more important topic.

Theo Bronkhorst, the guide of the hunt has now been ruined because he did not recognize Cecil in the dark night of Zimbabwe. Before this Bronkhorst had a smooth job that was steady. The 50,000 dollars paid to each the farmer in which the land Cecil was killed on and guide Theo Bronkhorst have led to suspicion with the innocence of the two.

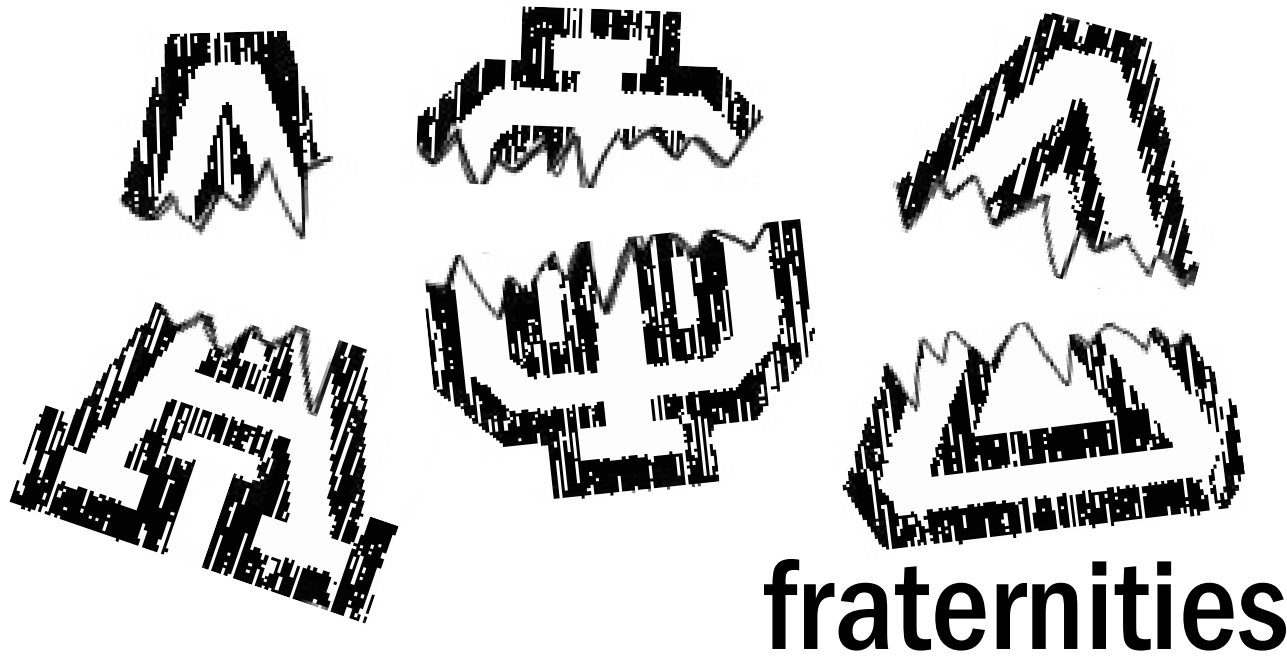
After shooting Cecil with a bow and arrow, the hunters tracked down and killed him with a gun. Before his death, Cecil lived for 40 hours in agony. I do not agree with this part of the hunt, animals should be respected even when hunting.

Bronkhorst admitted that the hunt went wrong from the start, Cecil was killed wrongly, but Palmer should not be persecuted for this even with his wrongness. A jeep dragging a carcass was used to leave a trailing scent to lure Cecil. When Jericho, who many believe to have formed an "alliance" with Cecil showed up to the scene of where the hunt was set up. Palmer refused to shoot at Jericho, and waited for Cecil, and when he showed up Palmer took the shot.

With Jericho protecting the cubs of Cecil, people should not worry because soon enough there will be more black maned lions.

# #GREEKLIFE

Do fraternities promote misogyny?  
Will sororities ever embrace diversity?



## fraternities

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

The terms “fraternity” and “sorority” both hold a certain preconceived notion by many people. Numerous individuals associate them with an exclusive connotation and a preppy attitude. In recent media, there has been much debate as to whether or not fraternities promote a certain ideology in favor of misogyny.

Misogyny is defined as the “dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against women.” In society, white males are seen as the dominant species, excluding all people of color and all women. Members of fraternities are traditionally white males.

Fraternities don’t necessarily promote misogyny intentionally. They, and most other males, don’t seem to mind women when they are pleasing men. This introduces several problems and prejudices against women including objectification, unattainable beauty standards, the wage gap and sexual harassment. Members of certain fraternities may be considered somewhat misogynistic, but the majority appears to be completely content with women as long as they are abiding by the rules and standards of men.

Colleges and universities are called “safe-spaces” when, statistically, they’re not safe at all. According to nsarc.org, rape victimization of women is “between 20% and 25% over the course of a college career.” Additionally, a 2007 study showed that fraternity members are three times more likely to rape within their 4 years.

In 2010, the Delta Kappa Epsilon chapter of Yale University marched through a part of Yale’s Old Campus where most freshman girls resided, chanting various profanities involving sexual acts upon females.

This instance was supposedly an initiation for the DKE pledges. A video was posted online and unsurprisingly went viral. President of DKE, Jordan Forney, later apologized for the fraternities’ behavior and called it “a serious lapse in judgment by the fraternity and in very poor taste.” But this kind of thing doesn’t just happen because of a “lapse in judgment”. Rape jokes and sexual harassment/sexual violence threats are not just because of poor taste. They are because of a predetermined dogma that women are created for the pleasure of men. Women are not sex toys. Conversely, fraternities are most certainly encouraging this notion of male preeminence.

Last year at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, a frat party held by Tau Kappa Epsilon resulted in several women blacking out and being hospitalized. The fraternity reportedly used a color-coded system for drugging female students. Males and females who weren’t deemed “hot” enough by the frat brothers received black X-marks, while the “hot” females received red X-marks, which also allowed them special drinking privileges. These “special” beverages included suspiciously cloudy hard liquor-based drinks, most likely containing a date rape drug called Rohypnol, or more commonly known as “roofie.”

Around 1:20 a.m., officials broke up the party and

discovered 42 individuals in the frat house’s basement with the X-marks on their hands. Police believe that those with the red X’s on their hands were targeted by the hosts of the party for the purpose of date rape. The TKE fraternity was suspended temporarily by the University, but since the house is private property, they have no control over what happens at the house. A year prior to this incident, the fraternity was investigated on three sexual assault charges.

Notoriously, one of the most sexist, racist and discriminatory fraternities in existence is that of Oklahoma University’s Sigma Alpha Epsilon, or collectively known on college campuses by “Sexual Assault Expected.” Another fraternity, with very similar views toward women as SAE, is Pi Kappa Phi in North Carolina. The frat had left a notebook at a restaurant containing phrases saying, “If she’s hot enough, she doesn’t need a pulse,” and “That tree is so perfect for lynching.”

If these three examples don’t automatically prove my point that there is definitely something wrong with fraternities, who knows what will. The fact that any human being thinks it’s comical or enjoyable to severely mistreat another human being or to laugh at the expense of another’s weakness is absolutely disgusting and extremely despicable.

Fraternities hold an immense amount of power that even they are not fully aware of. A sociologist at Stony Brook University, Michael Kimmel, wrote “Those with less power almost invariably dress up for those who have more...So, by day, in class, women and men dress pretty much the same ... At parties, though, the guys will still be dressed that way, while the women will be sporting party dresses, high heels and make up.”

Women aren’t always aware of this power either. Individuals been raised in a society where men are viewed as superior to women. For example, fathers are perceived as the breadwinners, all 43 of the United States’ presidents have been men, women are overly-sexualized in the media in order to attract male consumers and many other cases illustrate that gender inequality exists and is very prominent today.

If these supposedly prestigious institutions (i.e. colleges and universities) aren’t doing anything to halt the ongoing injustices performed by fraternities, who will? Colleges and universities are supposed to be teaching the next generation of doctors and lawyers and writers that society is always evolving and all people are capable of being successful in the workforce if given the opportunity. These schools are instead allowing the exact opposite. If the places where students are supposed to be growing up are essentially encouraging sickening immaturity, when will they learn?

The underlying question is: do fraternities promote misogyny? In my opinion, they do not promote misogyny per se, but frat culture encourages inequality in gender, race, and in appearance. No significant reforms have been seen for fraternities in the past three decades. If it’s been that long, will things ever change?

As a disclaimer, not all views and circumstances are applicable to all fraternities. Conclusions were drawn based upon extensive research and statistical information.

## sororities

Natalie Nepper  
editor-in-chief

Anyone with any remote knowledge of Greek life, or pays even the tiniest attention to the news, may understand that with sororities and fraternities comes conflict. Time and time again, sorority and fraternity houses receive bad marks for drinking, drugs, partying and participating in shocking behavior.

While countless sororities undoubtedly stay out of the spotlight, a few have made recent headlines for their lack of diversity. One in particular, the University of Alabama’s Alpha Phi sorority, has been criticized for their recruitment video. In the video, members of the house are seen jumping and skipping around, blowing kisses to the camera and laughing with one another. Everyone in the video is white.

In fact, the university’s newspaper, The Crimson White, published a report last year that said only one black student had ever pledged to a Panhellenic sorority in 50 years since the school was integrated. That year was 2003.

“Historically, white Greek letter organizations were formed on the basis of exclusion... They mirrored the demographics of their institutions. Not only did they mirror them, they amplified them, so only the cream of the crop, the elite of the elite got in.”

Matthew Hughey

University of Connecticut  
associate professor in  
an interview with ‘Marie  
Claire’

“A member from Tri Delta, who asked to remain anonymous, told the Crimson White the story of a black student with ‘excellent scores,’ an influential family, and ‘awesome résumé’ who was removed from the process because of her race,” said Business Insider, who covered the story this fall. This sheer racism exhibited by this university is not their only downfall; the video also glorified women and their bodies. Writer from Al.com noted that the video was “all so racially and aesthetically homogeneous and forced, so hyper-feminine, so reductive and objectifying, so Stepford Wives: College Edition.”

Only one percent of the women who joined Alabama’s Greek system this year are black. Greek life at the University of Alabama is the nation’s largest, with 8,600 members. One out of every four student in the college is a member of a sorority or fraternity. Yet, the system is 99 percent white.

“We were told we do not take black girls, because it would be bad for our chapter—our reputation and our status,” junior Yardena Wolf, 20, member of Alpha Omicron Pi, told ‘Marie Claire.’

“Historically, white Greek letter organizations were formed on the basis of exclusion,” Matthew Hughey, associate professor in the department of sociology and adjunct in the Africana Studies Institute at the University of Connecticut, told ‘Marie Claire.’ “They mirrored the demographics of their institutions. Not only did they mirror them, they amplified them, so only the cream of the crop, the elite of the elite got in.”

It’s impossible to know how many minorities are in the Greek system nationwide. These numbers if they have ever been tallied, would’ve been done by the National Panhellenic Conference (for sororities) or the North-American Interfraternity Conference (for fraternities). But evidently, there’s no incentives for these conferences to release this data, especially since it makes the Greek system look bad.

The University of Alabama has attempted to change some rules that would encourage diversity within Greek life. The administration released a video restating the school’s antidiscrimination stance. They also opened a process they coined “open bidding” which was intended to allow more minorities into the system. However, sororities instead opted for inviting people they already knew: their friends, coworkers, extended family members, etc. At the end of the process, the system had extended 72 new bids- but only 11 were African-American.

Obviously, Alabama’s racism, especially in Greek life, won’t change overnight. But hopefully, the excessive media attention will inspire other sororities and fraternities to become more diverse, and branch out from their traditions.

# SEE NO GENDER?

Should transgender students be allowed to use the restroom of the gender they identify with?

**Julian Hock-Beaty**  
staff writer

Almost immediately after gay marriage was legalized in all 50 states, subgroups within the LGBTQ community, specifically transgenders, began bringing attention their own equality disputes. Sexual identification and gender is being interpreted in different ways. From a legal/scientific perspective, sex is determined by what set of parts a person has. This is why many establishments have separated restrooms. However, from an individual perspective, someone may desire to identify as the opposite sex, regardless of their naturally given one.

Is it acceptable for a teenage girl (who has yet to undergo a gender reassignment surgery) to use a men's restroom, simply because she mentally identifies as a boy? No. It's not a matter of discrimination; It's not being insensitive. It's a matter of consistency. However, an adult who has physically changed to the opposite sex should have no problems using their applicable restroom. They're obviously committed to their decision, whereas an angsty teenager could possibly just be going through a phase. Additionally, what if a male claims to identify as a female, and is allowed to go into a woman's restroom? This opens the door for sexual or otherwise inappropriate activity. The same would apply to a woman going into the men's room.

A similar case actually happened recently at Hillsboro High School in MO. A male student claiming to identify as a female (who still hasn't had the surgery) wanted to use the girl's locker room. The entire town is divided on the issue, but like it or not, that person isn't legally a male yet. Until a gender reassignment surgery happens, the law is the law.

Too often, people pull the discrimination card and call something unconstitutional because it doesn't adhere to their personal beliefs. If our society is to exist with a universal law of equality among its people, then that equality has to be uncondi-

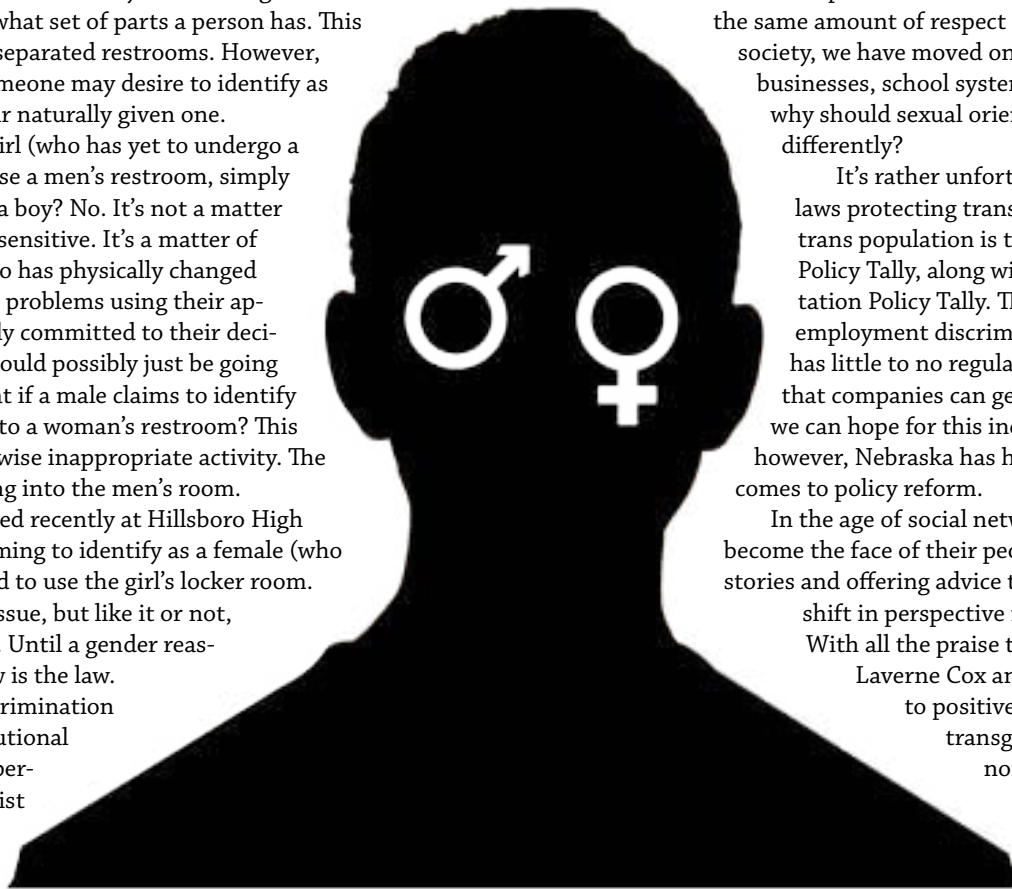
tional. Many find themselves trapped in confusion, because, how do we determine who is right? This is the gutter where many issues get lodged, and unfortunately stay for long periods of time.

On the topic of discrimination, transgendered people deserve the same amount of respect as any other human being. As a society, we have moved on from racial segregation in our businesses, school systems, public facilities and politics. So why should sexual orientation/preferences be handled any differently?

It's rather unfortunate that Nebraska has very few laws protecting transgender citizens. In this state, the trans population is troubled by a low Gender Identity Policy Tally, along with a slightly higher Sexual Orientation Policy Tally. This statistic basically states that employment discrimination against the LGBTQ populace has little to no regulation in Nebraska, literally meaning that companies can get away with it. Towards the future, we can hope for this inequality to change. In recent history however, Nebraska has had a tendency to finish last when it comes to policy reform.

In the age of social networking, trans celebrities have become the face of their people within the media. Telling their stories and offering advice to youth has provided an interesting shift in perspective for audiences all over the nation.

With all the praise they are receiving, public figures like Laverne Cox and Caitlin Jenner have paved the way to positively impacting the attention given to transgendered individuals. As this slowly normalizes the public's view on transgenderism, Americans can expect to see an increase in new laws protecting this group of people.



JULIAN HOCK-BEATY | The Register

## Corporations' large donations to politicians gives unfair advantages

**Vasili Sgourakis**  
staff writer

Throughout the world, money can acquire one many things; however, a presidential race should not be included in this group. So far throughout the 2016 presidential race, over forty people and companies have donated amounts in excess of one million dollars to one or more candidates, Republican and Democrat.

With nearly \$400 million raised during only the first half of 2015, this has been the fastest start to a presidential contest. In a stark departure from previous elections, most of the money is flowing not into the campaigns, but into outside groups like "super PACs" and other political organizations that are allowed to raise unlimited amounts of money from wealthy individuals, labor unions and corporations.

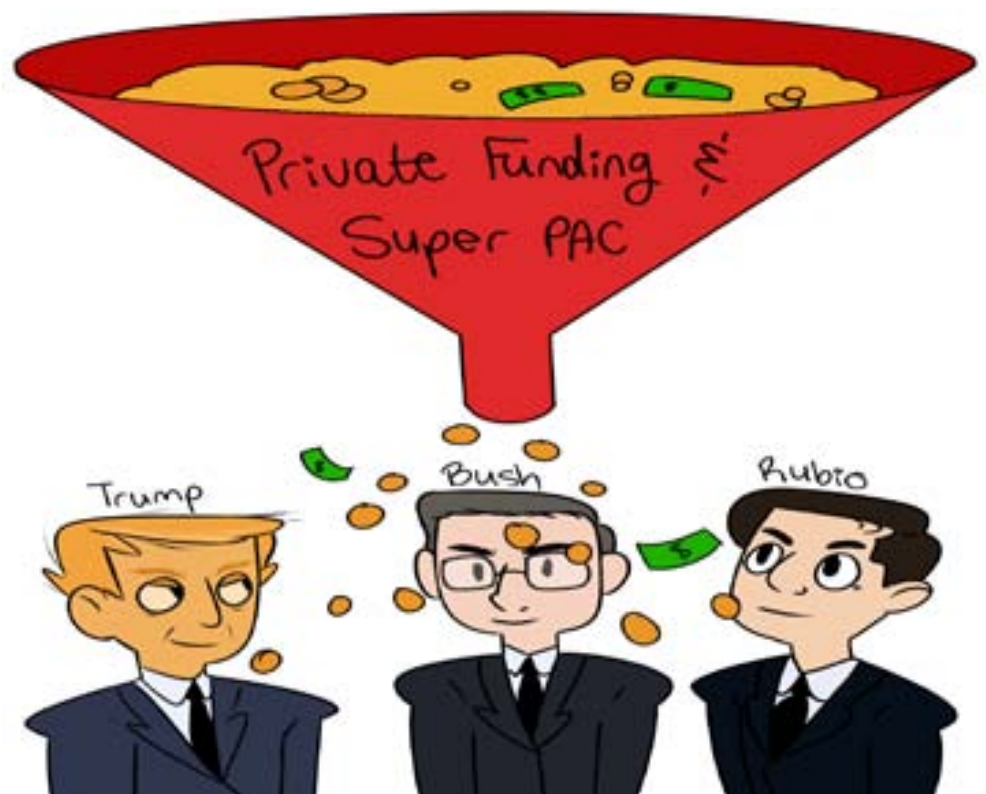
Although nearly \$400 million has already been raised, the Republican parties' largest donors have yet to commit and raise money for their choice of candidate. In early August, the Koch brothers summoned Republican candidate hopefuls, Jeb Bush, Ted Cruz, Scott Walker, and Marco Rubio to convince whom billionaire brothers, Charles and David Koch should elect as their choice for candidate.

In 2012, Charles and David Koch raised at least \$407 million for Mitt Romney; this sum nearly matched his original campaign funds. Previously, in 2004 the Koch network raised more than George W. Bush.

According to an analysis from the Washington Post and Center for Responsive Politics, the labyrinth of 17 tax-exempt Koch groups shielded wealthy individuals from disclosing their donations, including the exact amount the two billionaires contributed. Undoubtedly, along with these donations come expectations for favors from candidates, some of which include: campaigns to undermine Obamacare, minimum wage, and clean energy and the environment.

Although the Republican candidates do receive many donations, Democratic hopefuls also have their own donors. Hillary Clinton's top 10 cumulative donors between 1999 and 2016 were: Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, DLA Piper, JPMorgan Chase, EMILY's List, Morgan Stanley, Time Warner, Skadden Arps, Lehman Brothers, and Cablevision Systems. These donors are not individual people, but rather banks, large corporations, and media.

The largest democratic donors are Fred Eychaner, who donated \$8.1 million during the 2012 election, James Simons and wife Marilyn, contributed \$7.7 million, and Harold Simmons and his wife Annette, who funded \$19 million.



ISABELLA FILIPS | Contributing Cartoonist

These large donors hid behind freedom of speech; however, this does not mean the freedom to buy the United States government. This predicament started in 2010 when the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 on Citizens United act, allowing corporations and the wealthy to spend unlimited and undisclosed money to buy elected officials.

Because of this ruling, the political system is under attack. Billionaire families such as the Koch brothers are able to spend however much money they wish to buy candidates of their choice. In the 2016 presidential election, the Koch brothers plan to spend around \$900 million, which is more money than both Democrat and Republican parties, spent in the last election. The only way to overturn this way is for Congress to pass a constitutional amendment in order to overturn Citizens United.

Though money does play a large amount in politics, some presidential nominees are weary of this. Donald Trump, John Kasich, Carly Fiorina, Rick Santorum, Scott

Walker, Ben Carson and Marco Rubio have acknowledged there is a problem, but do not have a solution. Three democratic candidates- Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley and Bernie Sanders have endorsed some version of publicly funded elections to encourage participation of small donors. Many Republic candidates have all endorsed increasing disclosure of donors; However, they all preface their support for disclosure on eliminating all contribution limits for donating to candidates and parties.

These large amounts of money donated to presidential candidates must be replaced with donations from public funds and smaller donors. Single corporations or groups of millionaires should not be allowed to buy the nominee for their given party. Democracy is meant to be a people's election and this quality of democracy is being taken away from the people when larger than life corporations select their favorite nominee and back him or her with enormous amounts of money.

# seeking refuge

The question of whether or not to allow Syrian refugees within our borders has a clear answer, but the implications are far from simple

**Kelsey Thomas**  
editor-in-chief

When it comes to moral obligation, most Americans exhibit at least a mild case of cognitive dissonance; we proclaim America's position as the "leader of the free world," the savior to those less fortunate than us, while simultaneously denying our aid to those with the greatest need.

The conflict occurring between several militaristic factions in Syria, including ISIS, has incited violence and destruction far beyond the lines of battle. More often than not, attacks take place not against soldiers, but against the general public, through blowing up neighborhoods or common places such as markets and business centers. This method of warfare has resulted in the deaths and displacement of millions of Syrian people, causing them to search for refuge in surrounding states and more stable European countries.

While some citizens of countries such as Germany and the Netherlands have greeted Syrian refugees with welcoming posters and bedrooms to stay in, many others deny the countries' obligation to take in those fleeing from their home state. The amount of people insisting that the refugees not be cared for is particularly high in the United States.

Those who oppose the allowance of Syrian refugees into American borders reasonably claim that their presence would cause economic downfall and a strain on employment rates. Allowing thousands, even millions, of refugees who do not speak a language that is common in the U.S. and are unac-

customed to American ways will find difficulty adjusting to temporary living here. For these reasons, along with the presence of Islamophobia and a fear of Middle Eastern citizens by many American citizens, they would likely have trouble finding steady, well-paying work. While this may be a logically sound assertions, the morality in these statements seems to fall short.

It is clear that hundreds of thousands of Syrian peoples could not find a permanent home in the United States, Germany, Sweden or others, simply for fiscal reasons. However, Americans should be open to the idea of allowing temporary escape to the refugees until the mass conflict ends and innocent civilians are no longer killed.

Syrian citizens have been fleeing on small inflatable rafts across the Mediterranean, desperate to reach a land outside of their native country. Dozens of these rafts have toppled over during travel, causing hundreds of people and young children to drown. The Syrian people are well aware of these dangers, yet they continue to leave the borders through these means, because the possibility of drowning is more appealing than staying in Syria and continuing to suffer random bombings and attacks.

Citizens of the United States have a tendency to approach foreign affairs from inside of a bubble. We demand that boots are put on the ground in the Middle East to fight ISIS, and that all international conflict is handled aggressively in order to assert our power. But when it comes to matters within our

boundaries, along with matters that benefit other human beings, the United States government and our citizens are less prone to act. We don't hesitate to bomb populated areas using drones or capture soldiers during war, but we do act appalled when foreign citizens speak poorly of the country. We take action in foreign lands and start wars in the Middle East without considering how it will affect the citizens of those countries, but when millions of refugees lives are at stake we stall by pondering the economic effects on the United States and whether or not our citizens will be "comfortable" with it or not.

Moreover, the United States government has failed to explore other options that will assist Syrian refugees. If we do not plan to allow more refugees into the country, there are many other ways that we can help.

The countries of Lebanon, Turkey, and other nations near Syria have felt the pressures of population influx of refugees, and struggle to provide for them themselves. Even our European allies such as France and Switzerland could use financial assistance to take care of the refugees. If we refuse to physically take in the Syrian peoples, at the very least we must provide assistance financially.

Time and time again, the U.S. fails to use its wealth and power for constructive programs, rather, we take land in other countries and claim it as our military base. Americans have a tendency to view the global stage as a reality show, where the U.S. acts as an instigator, a hero, and a peacekeeper all at the same time.

## Planned Parenthood vital to women's health in U.S., funding must remain

**Hayley Raney**  
staff writer

Planned Parenthood is a non-profit organization, which means the business counts on donations and funds to keep the place going. Planned Parenthood is an organization that provides vital reproductive health care, abortion, sex education, family planning and more.

Some advocate Planned Parenthood because it's a free reproductive health care system that helps people in need, others would oppose Planned Parenthood because they feel they promote sex and murder because of legal abortion.

Medicaid and CHIP provide free or low-cost health coverage to millions of Americans, including some low-income people, families and children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with disabilities. Both programs are run jointly by federal and state governments, and details vary somewhat between states.

If Medicaid provides some of the same benefits as Planned Parenthood then why shouldn't the government fund Planned Parenthood also?

Planned Parenthood does accept Medicaid insurance through their patients, but the government wants to cut Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood. There should be no in between, between health insurance and reproductive health insurance at Planned Parenthood, and if Medicaid has funded the CHIP program, why not Planned Parenthood organizations?

In the Los Angeles Times, "The U.S. Justice Department told a federal judge that Gov. Bobby Jindal's decision to oust

Planned Parenthood... appears to violate federal law by denying Medicaid patients the right to choose their healthcare providers" due to the under-cover abortion videos and rumors that have been exposed. Planned Parenthood strikes back by saying, "The blatant manipulation of this video renders it useless as 'evidence'. The videos mislead rather than inform the public debate."

Gov. C. L. "Butch" Otter, a Republican, wrote to legislators who had complained about the videos, saying, "Since there is no evidence that a crime has been committed, there are no grounds for a legal investigation." Abortion is legal for women that actually need it, if a twelve year old girl is rape she should be able to have the abortion rather than having to carry a baby full term that she cannot take care of nor is ready for the child.

“ Since there is no evidence that has been committed, there are no grounds for a legal investigation.

Governor C.L. Otter  
Republican Governor  
of Idaho

If the government paid for Planned Parenthood just like Medicaid, there would be no lawsuits to file.

Planned Parenthood is not just for women, but people that are in need. it is disheartening that a place that is so helpful doesn't get very many government funds at all. The government wants to defund Planned Parenthood, but the support

ers of Planned Parenthood are not going to let that happen.

With the help of government funds Planned Parenthood says, "Family planning lowers maternal and infant morbidity; reduces rates of cervical cancer, STIs, and unintended pregnancies; and is tied to reducing health disparities among different groups. Pregnancy planning, in turn, has well-documented benefits for women's educational achievements, careers, and income."

Planned Parenthood also states that if government funding and Medicaid were to help that, "In states that accept the federal money to cover more people through Medicaid, many people with lower incomes will also be able to get affordable coverage. However, if a state turns down the money, those with lower incomes will fall into a 'coverage gap.' In other words, they will not get any help toward affording health insurance, while many people with higher incomes will still get help."

The government should help Planned Parenthood and fund the clinics for the people who need the care will get it regardless of their income. There would be no coverage gaps if the government did something to help.

In the long run Planned Parenthood has helped and changed many people's lives. There is no reason for the government to cut off funds from Planned Parenthood when they should actually help with funding it. "Planned Parenthood, its physicians, and the researchers who do this work should be praised, not damned," said one, because the research "has benefited millions of people worldwide." Planned Parenthood is a completely legal organization and it helps people in many ways not a lot of people can afford.

## DOLCI REVIEW 21

Newly opened ice cream and pastry shop offers a unique selection of desserts for all to enjoy. The little shop is located on the corner of 10th and Howard in the Old Market.



## YOUTH OF OMAHA 20

Student creates "Youth of Omaha," a "Humans of New York" inspired social media account that features local teens through one-on-one interviews and candid photography.

## FLANAGAN @ MAHA

English teacher lets loose at local music festival. 16



# arts & style

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## BRUSHING UP



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Around 50 students from Omaha participate in the student program at Kent Bellows Studio and Center for Visual Arts.

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

The Kent Bellows Studio and Center for Visual Arts is an art studio located off of 33rd and Leavenworth Street that features the like-named Kent Bellows program through the Joslyn Art Museum. It is named after the late Nebraskan artist Kent Bellows. The program is specialized towards the promotion and advocacy of young artists in Omaha's art scene. It noticeably gives students a voice in the local art community.

Around 50 students from Omaha and various parts of Nebraska participate in the program, Central students included. The sub-programs students can participate in focus on ceramics, music, sculptures and woodworking, oil painting, eco arts, urban arts, fashion and a few others. Programs are continually being added onto the list in order to benefit all students' interests.

Senior Cecily Taylor is one of the many students participating in the program at Kent Bellows. She likes to focus on illustration and ceramics, and last semester, she also worked with water colors. Taylor is grateful for the studio because it has allowed her to produce her own identity as an artist and taught her how to be an individual and has given her all of the resources she's needed to better herself as an artist. Furthermore, she has found support at Kent Bellows and says that it is very "open form" and permits her to make her art in an individually structured environment.

Taylor adds that Kent Bellows is an open environment and "nobody discriminates against each other and nobody is mean...also [the directors] just care about everybody and they want you to do well and they support what you're doing, which is really nice. And it's not just art, they help you with anything that you need help with...I don't feel like they're my teachers or instructors, I feel like they're my family..."

"I don't want to not be at the studio," Taylor says, "It's my favorite place in Omaha, I think. It's where I've been the happiest. I had friends [before Kent Bellows] but I wasn't close to anybody and we didn't really have the same interests, so it was kind of hard to get along with people. But now, [Kent Bellows] has made me more open to different

friend groups and it made it easier to be a social person."

One of Taylor's friends, student Owen Zahm, senior, was recommended to the studio by a mutual friend at the beginning of his freshman year. Currently he is working on digital music projects, some individually and some that are collaborative. "Both individual and group projects have great qualities," says Zahm. "With individual projects you get to focus on your own style but with group ones, you get to interact with other people in the studio."

Notably, Zahm worked on a mural featuring a baseball theme for the College World Series on 17th and Cass last semester as a group project. He really enjoys working with the digital music program, abstract watercolors and woodworking.

In regards to the studio, Zahm admires "the commitment it has to the students and the commitment the students put towards it. Basically everyone there are people who are driven to better themselves art-wise or socially... you go there and [you] have a great time, but it's also a place where people go to get their [stuff] done."

Like many others, Zahm says that he has most definitely been changed by Kent Bellows. "When I went into it, I wasn't that much of an artist, it was a hobby for me rather than something I saw doing for the rest of my life... it's changed me a ton and now I'm that nerdy [kid] who just wants to sit in the art room all the time," he says.

Teal Gardener is the Community Programs Coordinator of Kent Bellows. She works with the mentees who are technically part of the program but are unable to come to the studio because they are in an alternative high school or Boys Town. She also organizes events in the community and encourages interactions between the young artists and the public of Omaha.

Her job didn't exist before she came so she's been trying to grow it into "something that brings the students out into the community and also brings more influences from the outside into the studio space," says Gardener. "Personally, I value the relationships between individuals and the community and seeing what that means through an artistic lens or even a social lens," she says.

CONTINUE TO 'BELLOWS'  
ON PAGE 18

## Local artist breaks stereotypes, remains humble in spotlight

Julian Hock-Beaty  
staff writer

Within a society, music can often serve as a bonding experience. Whether people are connecting with the artist, genre, or even the people that listen to them, any given song finds a way to attach itself to daily life. But for one senior in particular, the lyrics and the industry behind the music have a different kind of allure.

Sam Goreham, who goes by the stage name of Sammy Sigma, aims to create a sound that everyone can appreciate. After debuting on the social media hub Soundcloud, Sigma's talents continue to impress his peers along with a vast audience of hip-hop enthusiasts. "I don't want to be the 'next'... I want to be the first," he said.

"I want all people to know that it's okay to be different... to expand your horizons... reach out, be open minded."

SAM "SAMMY SIGMA" GOREHAM

Musical Artist

Sigma describes his dedication to the art as a daily occupation. According to him, the word 'rapper' usually comes with negative stereotypes. To counteract this, he makes it a habit to present himself professionally. His effort to break down this pseudo-label has recently attracted the attention of prominent names in the Omaha music scene.

As of Oct. 2014, he became deeply involved with a like-minded hip-hop group known as LoFi. Sigma cofounded this operation and currently oversees several of its internal aspects alongside Jourdan Devereaux, whose stage name is L Oquence.

Each member of this multi-genre group works independently to market their own personal projects. Additionally, they join together as one cohesive unit to successfully produce quality material. Sigma's objective within the team is to provide a creative push to ensure the audience never stops growing. Through his writing, he ensnares fans with his originality.

In regards to his upcoming music, he admits that emotion has a lot of weight in his writing style, which is complete with poetically-charged paradoxes. By creating an experimental atmosphere and pushing topic boundaries, he allows the listener to freely interpret the underlying theme of his new album.

"I want all people to know that it's okay to be different... to expand your horizons...reach out, be open minded," he said.

In addition to staying creative, he advises all budding musicians to educate themselves in as many aspects as possible. He said, "All knowledge is good to have to a certain extent...if you know more, more power to you."

A fast-paced mind usually proves essential in the cutthroat business of making music. Sigma's got it down to a science, as he's recently discovered.

Sigma's opportunities have guided his approach to his future career as a music artist. Due to his dabbling in radio broadcasting, he has had the chance to make

CONTINUE TO 'SIGMA'  
ON PAGE 18

# Decades-old pieces of art featured in downtown gallery's exposition

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

The Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts' exhibit #BemisPainters offers an opportunity to travel back through time in a single art exhibition.

Bemis was founded in 1981 by Jun Kaneko, Tony Hepburn, Lorne Falk and Ree Schonlau. These four artists created the startup artist residence program to produce a "laboratory for artists to research, experiment and take creative risks free from expectation."

Beginning in the mid-90s, Bemis developed a progressively competitive program with 1,200 artists opting for the 36 residencies. They became an internationally recognized organization and leader of the arts.

Due to Bemis' expansion in popularity, new additions and renovations were allowed on the space off of 12th and Leavenworth. These alterations allowed the residence to become more functional for artists and for visitors.

According to bemiscenter.org, "The mission of the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts is to provide residency opportunities to artists from around the world, so that they may develop new ideas, expand their practice and engage the community."

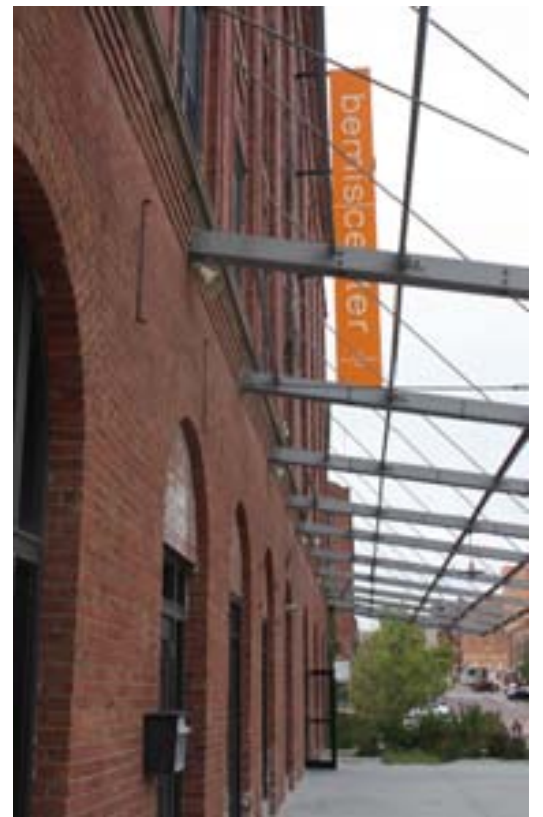
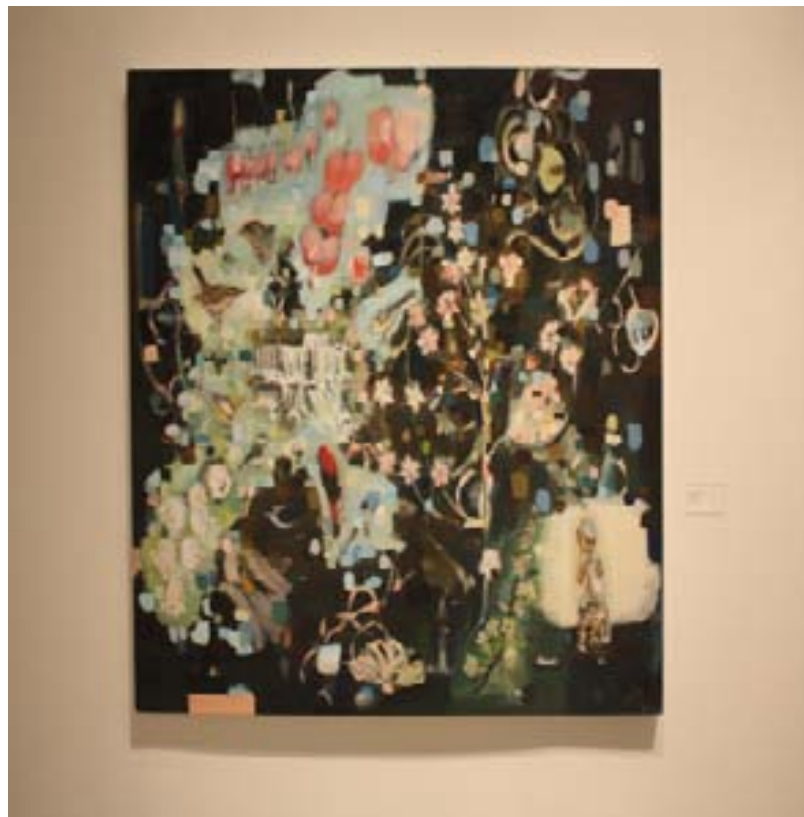
#BemisPainters features artists and works of art from 1980 to 2015. The display was especially interesting because viewers could experience the subtle but ever so prominent evolution of art over the past 35 years.

One painting that really stood out was that of Richard C. Cox. When one walks into the exhibit, his painting is the first one you see. It's a deep red, simplistic painting with black accents. The painting is quite large but that doesn't necessarily mean it has to be the center of attention.

One of the most striking paintings featured is Aaron Stork's "View Off Home Depot's Garden Patio." Stork was a resident in 2011, the same year the painting was created. The work includes cinder blocks, an orange sky, exotic plants and flowers and an 8-pack of canned Sprite. It may seem like an odd mix of factors but Stork makes it work incredibly well.

Another painting that caught my eye was one of Bob Koon's "representations". When you first look at the painting, you may do a double take because you may believe there is something wrong with your vision.

Koon paints in such a way where colors are distinct but blurry at the same time. In order to figure out what it is you're looking at, you must look at the painting a first time and conjure an answer. The second or third time you look at it, you can contemplate whether or not your decision is a practical one.



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

**Top left: A set of paintings hanging against a printed wallpaper. Top right: The Bemis Center, located on the corner of 12th and Leavenworth. Bottom: Six small wax-painted wood pieces are arranged as part of the exhibit.**

The reason why Koon's painting is so intriguing is because it makes you think. If a work of art doesn't somehow stimulate an individual's mind, the effort is unsuccessful.

Overall, #BemisPainters is a fascinating exposition. The progression of art in the past three decades is amazing to witness in one single exhibit. I'd recommend #BemisPainters to any aspiring painters and artists and to those who are interested in the history of contemporary art in Omaha.

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts is open Wednesday – Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission and parking are free. The Center can be contacted by phone at (402) 341-7130. It is located at 724 South 12th Street Omaha, Neb. 68102. #BemisPainters is open for viewing from July 16 – Oct. 10.

# English teacher dedicates spare time to perform at local music venues



Photo Courtesy of JONATHAN FLANAGAN

**Left: Jonathan Flanagan plays his trumpet at an event with his band. Right: "All Young Girls are Machine Guns," Flanagan's band, performs at MAHA music festival in Aksarben Village.**

Alec Rome  
web editor

A teacher who doubles as a musician-it may seem like too much to handle, but IB English teacher Jonathan Flanagan balances his teaching job and his musical ambitions every day. On Aug. 15 he performed at the MAHA music festival, as part of the doo wop/soul band, "All Young Girls Are Machine Guns." In front of thousands, Flanagan played alongside plenty of other talented local acts.

According to Flanagan, his summer has been a whirlwind. Only a few days after being asked to join the band he learned they were going to perform at the MAHA music festival. "Always knowing that MAHA was coming really motivated me to learn the parts," he said. "It's been hard to practice every day for a few hours, trying to make the trumpet parts good."

However, Flanagan had plenty of opportunities to practice for the upcoming event through the many performances he had done prior to MAHA. "Some shows we would play in front of only a few people. Other times, like Stransky Park in

Lincoln, a bunch of people showed up. There were probably around 1,000 people there," Flanagan said. "We have played everything in between. There were bars that were packed and bars that were pretty much empty. It was nothing as big as that. So when MAHA came, we kind of just went on autopilot."

Though most events are enjoyable, Flanagan and his band have had their share of poor experiences. "We played a sweatshop gallery in Benson one night. It was an old garage attached to a building. But, there was no air conditioning, and it was one of the hottest days of the summer. It was humid and just super nasty outside. It was miserable," said Flanagan. The day of the performance was not very surreal for Flanagan despite the crowd size. "It was a huge amount of people. I tried to not let it freak me out and just do my job," Flanagan said. "I went up there and the band went into the set as usual and I focused on what we were doing. It was hard because there were a bunch of Central students waving at me." None of his students have approached him on his performance, but they were enthusiastic. "It's that weirdness where they see me and then they act like it didn't happen. Twitter was receptive, and

some of them tweeted about it, saying it was good. I think we sold some t-shirts too," he said.

However, there was a moment where Flanagan was hit with the realization that he was about to perform on a big stage. "When I first walked up, I saw all of Modest Mouse's gear, which was very sizable, with his logo spray painted on black cases. It was like, 'Wow, we're playing on Modest Mouse's stuff. This is a big deal,'" he said.

Since school has now started, it has become more difficult for Flanagan to balance job and his ambitions, but he finds a way to make it work and to stay sharp. "We really lucked out that MAHA was just right at the beginning of our school year, so I was still able to focus because we really had not gotten back into the swing of things," Flanagan said. "But now it's getting tougher because I'm grading and planning again. I have a lot less energy and time for playing trumpet."

After MAHA, Flanagan feels like the band can perform to any crowd size. He said, "There were so many people there from every stage of my life, it would be hard to imagine another show where I would feel more pressure."



# Indie film 'Grandma' features character depth, shallow plot

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

Film Streams is currently featuring the film *Grandma*, which is about a hardcore, unapologetic grandmother, who happens to be a lesbian and a former poet, who undergoes a heartfelt, genuine journey of self-discovery along with her newly pregnant granddaughter.

Grandma Elle Reid (Lily Tomlin) recently suffered the loss of her wife, to whom she'd been committed to for 34 years. The film begins with Reid breaking up with her girlfriend of four months, Olivia (Judy Greer). Reid seems unremorseful calling Olivia "a footnote" in the story of her life.

Later, a slender, platinum blonde teenage girl named Sage (Julia Garner), who also happens to be Reid's granddaughter, shows up on her doorstep asking for money for an abortion. Reid had previously cut up her credit cards to "prove a point" so she was left with around \$43.

The two women go on a day-long adventure into Elle's past, in a worthy attempt to salvage the money required to deal with Sage's pregnancy.

First, they visit Sage's boyfriend (Nat Wolff), who is quite rude to both Elle and her granddaughter. The grandmother ends up hilariously beating the boyfriend with his hockey stick, finding money in his sock drawer and fleeing from the scene.

Next Elle and Sage wander into a tattoo shop where Elle's old friend Deathy (Laverne Cox) has worked for years. Deathy owes Elle for a favor from over a decade ago. She ends up being broke resulting in a tattoo for Elle. The design is an O-shape, which Sage deduces is for Olivia, but Elle says is "just a circle."

Lastly, they visit Elle's ex-husband, Karl (Sam Elliot), who promises Elle money but then backs out several times. Laughs, tears and unresolved conflicts all surface in the duration of the reunion. In the end, no money is received from him.

Elle and Sage eventually run out of options and have to visit Sage's mother at her work. Mom (Missy Doty) reacts just as the pair expects, but gives Sage the money so she can follow through with the procedure. After a hectic and dramatic trip to the abortion clinic, Elle and Sage make it through the process without any further problems.

In the end, both sets of mothers and daughters are reunited and an unbreakable bond between grandmother and granddaughter has been created. All in all, the film was well acted and extremely humorous. Rotten Tomatoes gave the film an overall rating of 91% and IMDb gave it a



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

An employee lounges at the concession stand at Film Streams. The movie theater showed 'Grandma' until Sept. 30.

6.9/10 and rogerebert.com gave it a 3.5/4.

Tomlin did a superior job in portraying the witty yet deep character that was Elle Reid. Nat Wolff, who played Sage's "baby daddy," displays his multi-dimensional acting skills with yet another amazing performance (also starred in *The Fault in our Stars* and *Paper Towns*). Star of the popular Netflix original *Orange Is the New Black*, Laverne Cox also exhibits her stellar acting abilities by playing a difficult role.

Julia Garner, who played a character who evolved throughout the film, had an average performance overall. She had some holes in her acting, which can be expected

from a young actor, but some of her lines just weren't very convincing. On the other hand, it can be extremely difficult to play a pregnant teenager planning to have an abortion.

Film Streams featured *Grandma* to the public until Wednesday Sept. 30. Additionally, *Grandma* and a French film by the name of *Breathe* will be featured at Film Streams' Student Night on October 5. The website reads, "The first Monday of every month is FREE for all full-time students! Present your valid school ID upon entry and receive a complimentary movie ticket for that day."

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# Art program offers unique experience for blossoming artists

CONTINUED FROM 'BELLOWS' ON PAGE 15

Studio Programs Coordinator Bridget O'Donnell believes that those participating in the program are "ambassadors for a greater creative community." O'Donnell is an artist herself and is working on a collective show in New York City. She has been working with the Kent Bellows program since May and encourages students to "keep making."

"As an artist, I'm always making," she says. She also adds that Kent Bellows is a great environment for doing just that. There are no cliques and there is an abundance of openness in the space creating a healthy atmosphere.

O'Donnell repeatedly mentioned that she would have loved to have had a place like Kent Bellows to go to as a high school student. She firmly believes that every mentee can better themselves as an artist if they find their motivation.

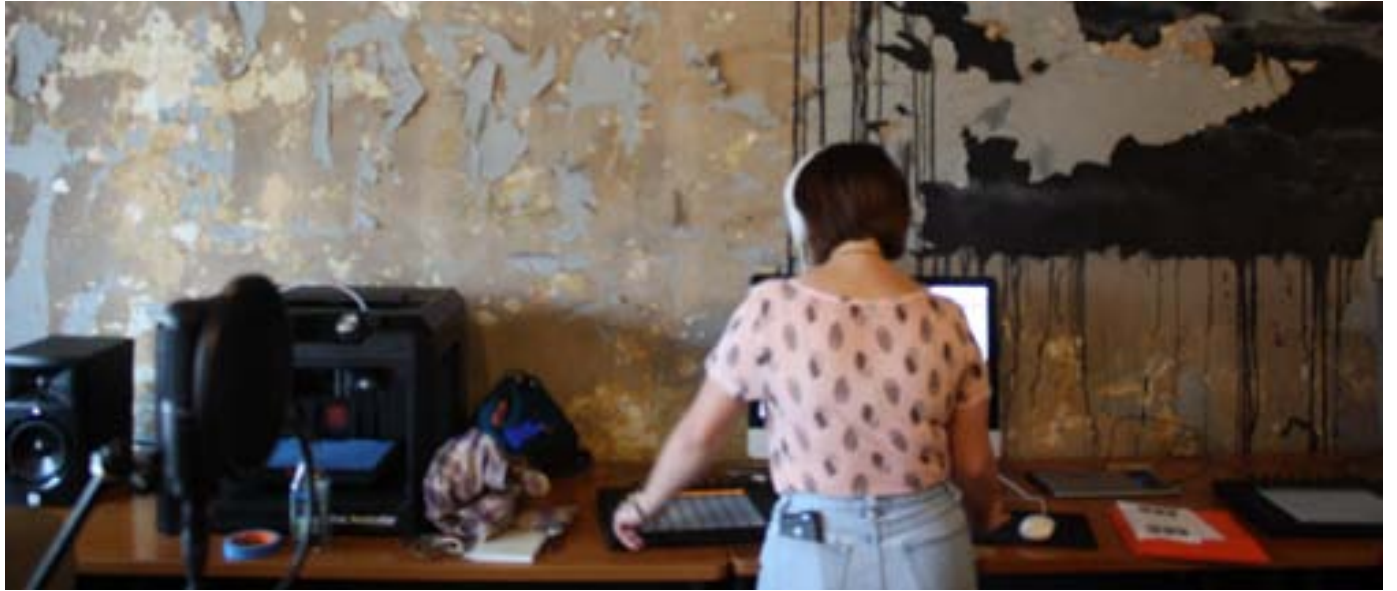
Currently, the Kent Bellows program is collaborating with the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts on the "Urban Fruit Trails" project. The Kent Bellows students will be planting fruit trees in the metro area to correspond with the exhibit at the Bemis.

The application process isn't too tiresome according to both O'Donnell and Gardener. Applications can be found on the Joslyn website or you can stop by the Kent Bellows studio to pick one up. Everybody gets an interview and you are required to bring a few pieces of work with you to talk about with director of the program, Westin Thompson.

"[We look for] motivation and an interest in pursuing their own questions their own curiosity their own drive to make things. My ideal student coming here is someone who is really interested in the craft of art but then also in the ideas that surround you in the world all the time and sort of feeling those out through your artwork," explains Gardener.

Gardener adds, "Students identify their interests and get paired up with a mentor and they kind of just enter a semester's worth of investigation and making things. It's really self-directed and it's really self-motivated work."

The directors of the program emphasize that anyone can apply if they have a passion for art. Both O'Donnell and Gar-



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Creating art in her studio, a student puts graphic design to use. Today, modern technology is often fused with art mediums.

dener wish to diversify the program and ensure that all types of people and as many art forms as possible art being represented.

The program requires that students come into the studio at least twice a week and that they pay what they are able to. It is a non-profit organization through the Joslyn so it heavily relies on donations.

"Being able to work in a highly social environment where people are coming from a lot of different backgrounds and approaches and diversities, it's important for people to be embracing and excited about everybody who's here," says Gardener. "We want a culture that celebrates everyone in the studio so those who want to meet a bunch of people who are just like them do not apply. But there's a common thread: a desire to make and a desire to become an artist."

The future of Kent Bellows remains in the hands of the teens of Omaha. If they choose to acknowledge this program as a pioneer of the young art community, it is sure to prosper.

If they choose to suppress the artistic and social innovations of Kent Bellows' platform, so many youth will be left without an amazing opportunity to meet incredible people with incredible stories.

The late Kent Bellows said, "I see in my mind this mysterious, ethereal museum filled with paintings I haven't done. That's what makes the whole trip worthwhile." This parallels to the potential of the studio today. There is so much possibility and prospective art to be discovered through the Kent Bellows program and all throughout Omaha. Accordingly, it is up to local high school youth to embrace their artistic talent and their passion and let their voices be heard.

Kent Bellows fall semester exhibition will be held at Kent Bellows Studio and Center for Visual Arts, located at 3303 Leavenworth St.

Additionally, the fall semester fashion show will be held on December 12 at the Joslyn Art Museum.

# IB art student discovers passion for volunteer work, giving back

Carlson Koch  
staff writer

Normally, at young ages people find a passion for something, and for senior Mira Williams, it was dogs. At the age of 14 she went to the Nebraska Humane Society website and looked to apply.

"I was so ready to become a part of the Nebraska Humane Society, but I was so heartbroken when they told me that I couldn't until I was 15," said Williams. Ever since Williams was born, dogs have played a role in a way that have led her to caring for animals.

She had waited her whole life for an opportunity to volunteer at the Nebraska Humane Society.

The Nebraska Humane Society has always interested her because of the variety of animals. "I love dogs," said Williams. For Williams, "there is no price for working with animals."

Williams specializes in working with dogs. Essentially, she becomes their best friend by playing with them, walking them

and spending time with them.

"I would sometimes go and read, and they would come to me and just lay on my lap," she said. Not only does Williams help the dogs, they seem to help her as well. "It is a non-profit organization and that makes me want to volunteer there even more," said Williams.

When colleges admit students they select those with the most respectable resume, and volunteering is something that can be on that list. Williams encourages students to volunteer. "People just need to find their niche, and they could do volunteer work with them," she said.

College is a new start after high school, and Williams is considering applying to college of Saint Olaf in Northfield, Minn. "I want to swim for them, I love it and spend a lot of time doing it," she said. She swims all year round and has qualified for state every single year she has been at Central.

"I most likely won't go there because it is such a prestigious college, but it would mean a lot to me," said Williams. Colleges search for hard worth ethic and involvement in

extracurricular activities. Williams will have completed the IB program after all four years at Central, as well as swimming and volunteering.

Dogs are known as a "man's best friend" and for Williams that statement rings true. "I have always had a dog so I'm always so attached to them, and the dog we have now was from the Humane Society," said Williams.

The senior believes that every dog should have a chance to have somebody; she has always adopted from the Society.

The difference between people who work and those who volunteer, is typically that the ones who are working are those who are simply looking to earn money. On the other hand, volunteers do it for the greater good and because they love what they are doing.

Williams believes volunteering helps the greater good of society. "It is globally important to give back and do your part of it," said Williams. "Because everyone needs to at some time."

# Working with locally based artists, senior expands his dream to rap

CONTINUED FROM 'SIGMA' ON PAGE 15



JULIAN HOCK-BEATY | The Register

connections with higher-level contacts. Because of this, he has immersed himself in the field of entertainment.

Even with all the popularity he is receiving, Sigma still remains humble. Coming from a very diverse background has had a major impact on who he is today. A hectic home life often interferes with his work; however, he manages to turn this into fuel for new projects.

Sigma finds his influences rooted in listening to artists like Tech N9ne and Kendrick Lamar. He uses inspiration from these musicians, along with his personal experiences to better himself as a writer. "I just stay open to different people's situations, because what you might know, another person might not know. It's all about perspective," he said.

With newly-forged relationships, Sigma has been able to catapult himself into the next step of self-promotion. In March, he released custom t-shirts with the help of LoFi. The vibrant design had an immediate effect. Within the first two weeks, nearly half of the shirts were sold at school alone, bringing in a sizeable profit.

As of now, as many as 50 people are walking around with his face on their chest. The funds obtained from sales will prove useful for his future endeavors, specifically the upcoming album. As time passes, Sigma books more gigs, writes deeper lyrics and practices endlessly.

It's fair to say that much can be expected from this prodigy moving forward. Not too long from now, people could be seeing his name in lights.

Sigma listens to his music, critiquing his own beats. He has been pursued a rapping career for several years.

# Lo-Lo's brings award-winning, comfort soul food to North Omaha

Vasili Sgourakis  
staff writer

The trend of combining chicken and waffles together as one has finally come to Omaha, in a restaurant located at 7051 Ames Avenue. Larry White founded Lo-Lo's Chicken and Waffles, a restaurant that was originally opened in Phoenix and immediately began to gain traction in the surrounding community. Notable personalities such as Charles Barkley, Shaquille O'Neal and Muhammad Ali made it their go-to destination for authentic soul food. Eventually, this small restaurant garnered enough popularity to open locations in downtown Phoenix, Scottsdale and the Phoenix airport.

Now, Greg Cutchall owner of Cutchall businesses, which includes: Rock Bottom Brewery, Sonic, Paradise Bakery and Café, Famous Daves, and First Watch, has brought this popular Arizona restaurant to Omaha, Neb. Cutchall felt this was a type of restaurant that Omaha needed. "It fills a niche not to be offered in most markets. Really good southern comfort food in a great atmosphere," Cutchall said.

The concept of chicken and waffles among comfort southern food is fairly new in Omaha. "There is no direct competition and it is a new concept not in market today," Cutchall said.

Besides the famed chicken and waffles, there is an entire menu's worth of made from scratch soul food. Lo-Lo's has family recipes for shrimp & grits, salmon croquettes, collard greens, fried green tomatoes and much more and are made completely onsite. Lo-Lo White, Larry White's alias created his very own secret waffle mix recipe that is still used in the restaurant today and the secret chicken spices originate from his father Larry.

Lo-Lo's has no shortage of awards celebrating their food. The restaurant was named one of the top 21 soul food eateries in the country by "Thrill List" magazine. Lo-Lo's also won Arizona's best sandwich in 2013 for their famous "Phat Azz Samich" and made the cover of Phoenix Magazine for their issue on Arizona's 50 best restaurants in 2014.

As the name suggests, chicken and waffles are the staple of Lo-Lo's; however, they also feature a variety of



ANN MILROY | The Register

A customer eats on the outdoor patio of Lo-Lo's restaurant. Omaha is the first city outside of Arizona to have a Lo-Lo's franchise.

other homemade comfort food items. "Besides awesome chicken and waffles, the blackened catfish dish is amazing. They have made from scratch bakery food and unique breakfast options," Cutchall said. Whatever one chooses to order from the menu, he or she is guaranteed a filling meal.

Lo-Lo's home-style cooking and unique menu options are unlike any other eateries. Aside from their food, they also take

pride in the atmosphere. "[Lo-Lo's has] great food not found in most restaurants. A very cool, sports friendly, family friendly, fun atmosphere and a patio with a fireplace view of the lake," Cutchall said.

All of these elements are part of the reason that Lo-Lo's chicken and waffles has become a staple in the Phoenix area and will likely continue to gain popularity in Omaha.

# Concert fanatic travels to see favorite bands, gets tattoos in their honor



Photo Courtesy of NIKOLE GATZEMEYER

Left: Nikole Gatzemeyer with singer Halsey. Middle: Gatzemeyer with One Direction's Niall Horan. Right: Posing with Luke Hemmings of 5SOS.

Julian Hock-Beaty  
staff writer

Most can agree that live concerts provide an exhilarating, carefree atmosphere. The rush of seeing a national artist can attract thousands to a single arena. Junior Nikole Gatzemeyer has made concert chasing her ultimate passion.

As a travel enthusiast, Gatzemeyer craves the experience of being in a fresh, unfamiliar environment.

She claims that this is a major reason why her uncommon hobby manages to stay interesting. "I love traveling, just seeing new places and meeting new people that you wouldn't always see," she said.

Very few national artists make their way into Nebraska's venues, which is why Gatzemeyer makes fairly regular commutes to larger cities, such as Kansas City and Minneapolis. "I go to Chicago a lot, but I think the farthest I drove this summer was Texas," she said. Though some of these destinations are relatively close by, she occasionally finds herself in the car for hours on end to get to a show.

Despite the numerous risks involved in driving to other

states as a teenager, Gatzemeyer's parents are somewhat supportive of her exploits. "My mom's all for it. My dad, he gets nervous, just because I go with friends...he worries, but my mom thinks it's pretty cool," she said. Her genuine love for music has definitely influenced her parents' decision to allow her to partake in concert chasing.

It's no mystery that attending any type of live performance can be costly. Gatzemeyer dedicates a lot of time and effort to ensure that she is able to see her favorite acts.

"I work a lot, but also a lot of my concerts I get into for free, because I meet the artists...it just kinda comes up in the conversation," she said.

Constant travelling and shadowing bands on tour opens many opportunities to meet new acquaintances with similar interests. Gatzemeyer makes it a point to meet with these familiar faces whenever she goes to a show. Around six "regulars" typically join her at the events. "You meet really great people through concerts," she said. She appreciates the importance of connecting with people through music. With each venue she visits, a new bond is formed.

Gatzemeyer's adoration of music expands even to a physical

level. Recently, she got a tattoo in honor of one of her favorite bands, 5 Seconds of Summer. The tattoo on her wrist is of the band's logo, which has since been changed.

Though it may seem quite spontaneous to some, she said, "People probably think I'm crazy... but I don't know... I think it's cool. I don't think I'll ever regret it." She expresses a deep connection with the lyrics written by artists such as Paramore, All Time Low, One Direction and Halsey.

After high school, Gatzemeyer intends to immerse herself in the field of music production and management. She has also taken a significant interest in cosmetology, which she hopes to expand upon.

Whether it's coordinating a tour, or fixing a band member's hair before a set, she is adamant about being involved in the music industry in some way.

College is just around the corner for Gatzemeyer. She anticipates a busy schedule, however, her beloved hobby will not dwindle. Whenever she has time, a concert with her circle of fellow music lovers will definitely be on the calendar, and she aims to go to just as many, if not more, shows this summer.

# YOUTH OF OMAHA

Local high school student, Carolyn Hoover, created a "Humans of New York" inspired social media account that features local teens through one-on-one interviews and candid photography.



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Carolyn Hoover, a senior at Duchesne Academy, sketches in her free time. She founded the popular @youthofomaha Instagram and Twitter.

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

Being even remotely successful in a mid-market city containing an under-appreciated art scene is an extremely difficult feat. Native Omaha artist Carolyn Hoover, senior at Duchesne Academy, created a social project titled "Youth of Omaha" to highlight the opinions, ideas and essence of Omaha's youth.

Hoover was inspired by the social media account titled "Humans of New York" (HONY) calling it "eye-opening and informational". She also focused some aspects of her project on an Old Market based photographer's own project titled "Faces of Omaha."

Another one of Hoover's inspirations for the project is Kent Bellows Art Studio. She said, "Just being in that space, I never really knew other people outside of my high school until I went there and just being there and realizing that there are whole other cultures..." The studio serves as a great podium to get her project to reach people.

Youth of Omaha uses Instagram and Twitter as a platform. On Instagram, she has over 750 followers; on Twitter, almost 2,000. These numbers are quite impressive considering Hoover isn't following anyone on either medium. Additionally, Youth of Omaha continues to grow and evolve on both accounts.

"It'd be really great to get teens and young people to [participate in the project] because: 1. We're all on social media and 2. There's not really an overall interaction between different high schools or in general. This [project] kind of combines all of that and puts us all together...I thought this would be a good opportunity to experience Omaha through different people," says Hoover.

Hoover wanted to incorporate concepts from both HONY and Faces of Omaha by taking photos of people and then getting a quote from them. She has a list of prompts for the people she approaches to choose from and answer. For example, "What's on your mind?", "What's your favorite scar and why?", "What is something you would tell your past self?" or "What do people not expect about you?"

Featured on the accounts are several Central students. Two of whom are brother and sister, Michael, a senior, and Michaela Galeski, a sophomore. They were some of the earliest individuals to be introduced on Youth of Omaha.

The Galeski's, who are friends of the Hoover family and admirers of the project, were approached by Hoover on a Sunday after church. The pair said that they were extremely caught off guard and had no clue what to say. Eventually, they decided on a statement referring to what annoys them in regards to each other.

"It's an interesting account," said Michael, "It's trying to profile the kids of Omaha...and prove that Omaha is a diverse group of people."

One dissatisfaction with the account, though, according to Michael and Michaela, is that Hoover tends to interview only people she knows, which she has already recognized. "She mostly profiles people she knows and people in art classes. I think she should just go to random people," says Michaela.

Conversely, student Owen Zahm, senior, good friend of Hoover's

and fellow member of Kent Bellows Art Studio, believes that Youth of Omaha is solely Hoover's project and if she decides to only feature people she knows, so be it. "At the moment, I'm pretty indifferent towards it...I think it'd be cool to get a broader understanding of all of the youth of Omaha...[but] to me, it's Carolyn's project and it's a cool project and I like it and she should just let it flow..." he said.

In response to the lack of diversity in her project, Hoover said, "I try to keep it objective...the people I approach may include bias because I talked to people I know or people I found interesting." After all, maintaining an extremely popular social media account with high expectations but also ensuring it's still an individual project can be difficult.

Zahm and the Galeski's aren't the only ones who adore Youth of Omaha. For example, one Twitter user said "Love the @youthofomaha account I just looked through them all and it reminds me that [there] are so many bright and ambitious people in Omaha."

In regards to what the overall message Youth of Omaha is trying to convey, Hoover says, "I think that it's really important to see all the different things everyone is doing and I want them [the audience] to appreciate each person as an individual with their own ideas and opinions and not just group everyone into one title or stereotype and everyone has something interesting to tell about"

Hoover says the project is beneficial in a way that she gets to present it in the style she wants and she gets some recognition for her work from people she doesn't know.

On the other hand, maintaining the accounts and keeping them up to date is a lot of work. It can be very stressful to keep the account up and worry about "the anxiety of getting it right", but Hoover said "all art and social pieces are criticized at some point."

Hoover wants it made clear that she didn't create Youth of Omaha for popularity or status or recognition. She created it to give the kids of Omaha a voice. "There are people out there with different stories and I really wanted to hear those stories," said Hoover, "I don't want it to become something that's about popularity. I just want it to highlight cool people."

As for the future of the project, Hoover plans to continue working on the project until she graduates in the spring. After graduation, she will most likely pass on the project to someone younger.

Immediately, though, she is considering allowing people to submit their own photos and a quote. People want to see their friends and they want to see themselves. Allowing people to be more involved in the process can create a wider variety of people featured on the account. It will also help Youth of Omaha to expand, reach a broader audience and evolve as a social project.

Also, this fall, Kent Bellows Art Studio plans to feature her project as an interactive exhibit. Hoover says the exhibition will be under the same topic of teenager's voices being heard and she mentioned the possibility of an open mic night. As of now, no specific dates or times have been set, but the hope is certainly there.

## 'GRAM IT

Central students featured on @youthofomaha instagram



“ Sometimes life gives you spoons and you just gotta keep taking and taking them until you get yelled out of the coffee shop for snatching spoons ”  
OWEN ZAHM



“ I've probably spent a year of my life waiting for her to get in the car before school every morning ”  
MICHAEL GALESKI



“ My greatest struggle is probably myself. So you wanna know why? Because I feel like I'm always searching ”  
CECILY TAYLOR

# Local ice cream parlor crowded, brings variety to Old Market

Georgia Chambers  
executive editor

The Old Market is congested with people on the weekends, but on the corner of Howard Street, tucked away in a small store, resides a quaint ice cream and pastry shop.

A lonesome sign hanging off the front of the shop beckons in customers to a small area, where soft rock plays, a couple of chairs sit, and some newspapers are available to casually glance at while walking on further to the front of the store.

On a Sunday afternoon, there just few customers inside, but due to the small area, the shop is cramped. If the ice cream and pastry shop were in a bigger location, it would attract more customers like eCreamery does, an ice cream shop in the Dundee neighborhood.

If the shop wishes to get more customers, which it likely will since it has been getting much attention in the Omaha World Herald lately, they should highly consider switching locations.

For one, the store is far from where a lot of restaurants in the Old Market are located. People wanting ice cream, or a pastry, do not want to be walking far to get a simple dessert after just eating.

Also, noting that there is hardly any seating inside, the exterior boasts limited seating as well. For customers wanting to sit down and enjoy their snack, they would need more room to sit comfortably.

Setting the location and size of the shop aside, a unique quality to this ice cream and pastry shop is that it has a variety of different sweets to pick from. The different options for ice cream alone are quite impressive. One has the option to choose either flavored ice cream, such as cool lemon or bubble gum, or ice cream resembling that of a Dairy Queen Blizzard with different toppings.

Trying peppermints crunch, the ice cream did too much justice to its name. The peppermint taste was too strong, and the strength of the peppermints crunch was overwhelming. This led to a fairly disappointing ice cream. If there had been less peppermint added, the ice cream would have been better.

But, the mini Reese's Pieces flavor was enjoyable and something one could eat time after time. Other promising flavors include M&M's and cookies & creme. One cannot go wrong with the originals.



ANN MILROY | The Register

Delectables at Dolci are lined up on the counter, waiting to be bought. The treats include a variety of Italian pastries and donuts.

The ice cream itself resembles more of a custard rather than traditional ice cream. However, the taste is unique from other shops, which sets this one apart from others.

Another unique aspect of this store is that on top of serving ice cream, it offers pastries too. There are not any other ice cream shops in the area that offers both ice cream and pastries. This store offers more to appeal to a wider variety of customers' wants, and is definitely not exclusive to one dessert.

The pastries crowd the table top to the right of the register, effectively tempting customers to give in and try one of the countless Italian pastries.

These pastries include: cantucci, biscotti, pastini and countless others. Going only once, it was impossible to try both the ice cream and the pastries. Trying some of the pastries offered will have to wait until the next visit to Dolci.

By simply changing the location of Dolci and upgrading to a bigger store, the shop would become even more popular than it already has become. Until that time, if one find themselves in the Old Market and have a sweet tooth, he or she should make his or her way down to the corner of Howard Street.

## 44th annual Rockbrook art fair cozy, eye-catching



KELSEY THOMAS | The Register

Visitors to the art fair could view works from over 150 artists. Most artists hail Nebraska or surrounding states.

Kelsey Thomas  
editor-in-chief

Artists and art lovers joined together in Rockbrook Village from Sept. 12 to 13 to view, sell, and purchase homemade pieces of art.

Over 130 booths were filled with crafts, metal works, ceramics, sculptures, paintings and more. The background of the vendors varied; though most were from the Midwest, artists from around the country also participated.

The art fair is tucked away in a small portion of Rockbrook Village; one could visit the shopping and dining center and not realize the event was taking place. When out of sight of the fair, the sound of the live music is the only clue that it is there.

The event is cozy and small, though it increases in size each year. The first event was held 44 years ago, in 1971, after being organized by the "Mayor of Rockbrook," Gloria Mathews, a local woman committed to improving the area.

Most of the attendees are couples in their middle to upper ages, with lots of money to spend on decorating their home or garden area. That being said, one can feel a little out of place if they are only in the mood to browse or admire artwork. Still, the vendors are exceedingly polite and do not attempt to push people to buy pieces.

A pagoda area decorated by plants, dotted with tables and chairs, and shaded by trees is available for people to relax and eat in.

The booths are beautifully decorated, and each appears as a small, colorful and eye-catching exhibit set inside a white plastic booth. Inside, one could find handmade jewelry ranging from dainty necklaces or rings with huge stones in the center. Or one could pick up handmade bowls, cups, and pots that were spun on a potter's wheel. In between includes hand-knit blankets, sculpted metal garden accents, or colorful abstract paintings. When looking for a decorative art piece, the Rockbrook art fair is a must-stop.

## 'We Are Your Friends': not as bad as many critics claim it to be

Natalie Nepper  
editor-in-chief

Max Joseph's debut film "We Are Your Friends" hit the theatres during late August with a glittery, but deflated bang. Instead of the success that some predicted the movie might have, WAYF was sent into a downward spiral as one of the worst opening weekends for a major film in decades. Despite movie critic's brash and exaggerated reviews, I found WAYF to be charming, a little predictable, but definitely not worth whining over.

"We Are Your Friends" has some major movie stars such as Zac Efron, the film's protagonist, who portrays Cole Carter, a DJ from California's San Fernando Valley trying to make it big in Hollywood. Alongside him is one of the screen's newest actresses, Emily Ratajkowski, best known for her role as Nick Dunne's (Ben Affleck's) mistress in *Gone Girl*. She's cast as the sophisticated but underaccomplished assistant/girlfriend, Sophie, to a majorly successful EDM disc jockey. Wes Bentley depicts this annoying, thirty something year old DJ, named James. Cole Carter's posse (Jonny Weston, Shiloh Fernandez and Alex Shaffer) are witty and cute but Shaffer's character, nicknamed "Squirrel," has the most depth by far. If it weren't for his contributions to the film, I'd be disappointed in Efron's crew.

The plot line isn't hard to follow along with: the four friends work as party promoters, occasionally selling drugs and trying to get Carter's DJ'ing skills to the next level. Enter: James. James hooks up Carter with a studio to work in and the opportunity to open for him at big name music festivals. Predictably enough, this opportunity drives an interesting rift in the friendship. In the midst of this big opportunity, Carter messes it up by falling in love with the beautiful Sophie and jeopardizing his partnership with James.

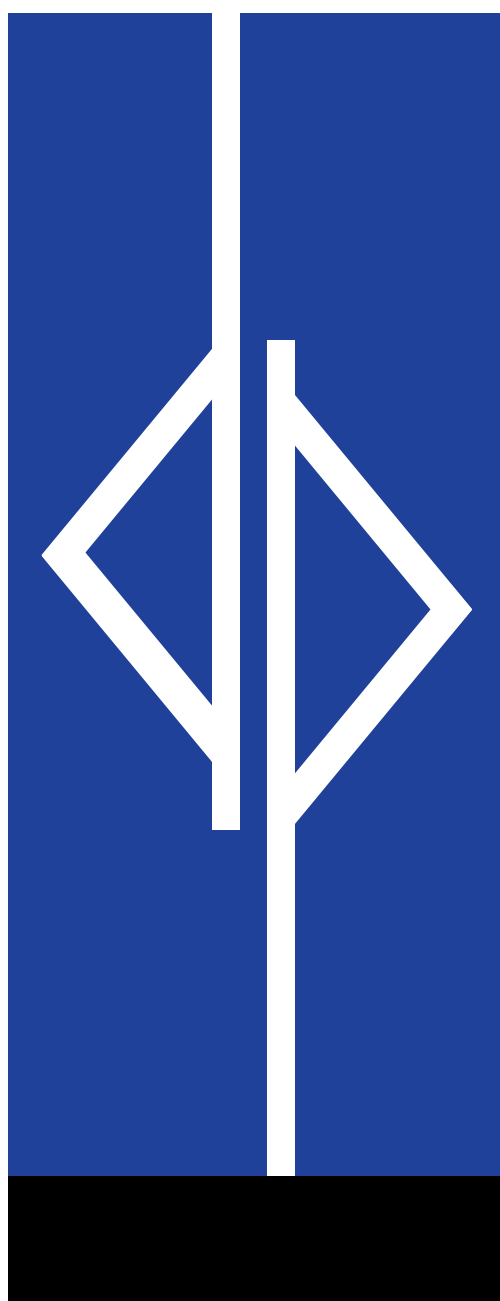
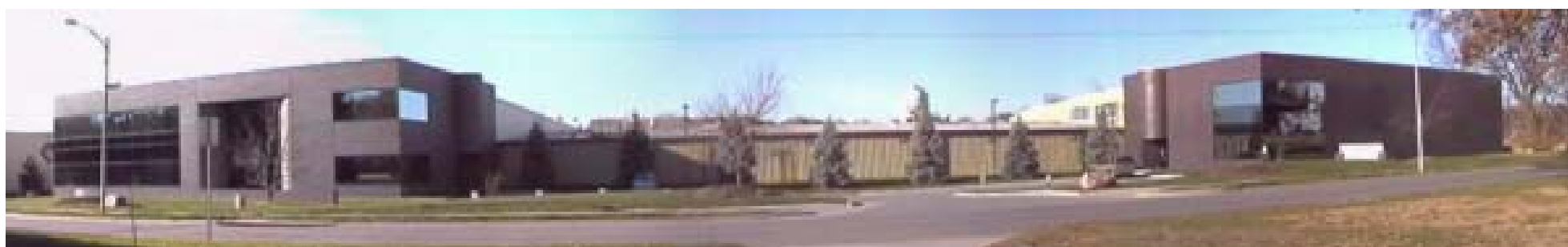
To those movie reviewers who just didn't seem to "get" it: you're too old. Growing up with the EDM music scene and understanding Joseph's style of filmography is something you just have to be born into. The movie definitely does not take a traditional film route.

There were some points in the film that tugged at my heart strings, and some points that undoubtedly made me want to "get out" of my hometown while I still can.

The general consensus is: see it if you're young and into music. If not, don't bother. It'll hit you with a glittery, but deflated bang.

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Former gym teacher takes over a role as both administrator and head girls golf coach.



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Take a sneak peek into the creation of Central journalism's Twitter page, and what it takes to moderate sports events.

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Senior Michael Galeski succeeds both on and off the field.



# sports & leisure

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ANN MILROY | The Register

Left: Junior Jackson Ferris winds up for a downfield toss to his teammates. Right: Senior Michael Galeski goes airborne in an attempt to intercept the disc from fellow frisbee players.

## THE ULTIMATE GAME

**Kelsey Thomas**  
editor-in-chief

Commissioned by social studies teacher Joe Mickeliunas, the first ever Ultimate Frisbee Club began at Central in Sept. 2015. He used social media accounts, announcements, and other students to spread the word about the club. On Twitter, the teacher spread word about informational meetings and the first

meeting of the club. Cole Horner, a senior and Frisbee player, said that, "I heard about the ultimate Frisbee club from my friends and on the announcements, and it sounded like a great time." The group meets at Elmwood Park on Sunday after-

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## Change in national regulations leads to reconfigured football practices

**Georgia Chambers**  
executive editor

Nationwide rules regarding contact procedures account for many changes made to the football program. Other changes have been made to accommodate for the lengthened school day, or to improve the team's performance.

Assistant coach Matt Storm has addressed the changes the football team had to make in order to agree with the new nationwide regulations.

"Due to a state and national ordinance that was changed in the athletic association for high schools nationwide, we had to change our procedure for contact. It's different than what it used to be; it's less contact," Storm said.

Now, they are not allowed to practice in full contact for more than two days in a row. The coaching staff has to monitor everything more closely than how they used to when it comes to contact drills, and they always have to be aware of what is going on.

The new regulations have been implemented to reduce head injuries and concussions, but Storm described them as simply "looking really good on paper."

However, Storm does not believe the players have taken much notice to the alterations in practice.

"I think our kids just work hard, so that makes the practices hard as it is, no matter what we are doing," Storm said.

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## Athletic department revamped inside gym, on field



ANN MILROY | The Register

The announcement for the new field was made at the end of last school year and construction ran the length of the summer.

**Alec Rome**  
web editor

A sea of purple has covered the newly designed football field, along with the new logo in the center of the field. Even though it was not the only planned addition for the athletics department over the summer, it certainly has become a major talking point for many students and spectators. For Principal Ed Bennett, it was something he felt the school could be proud of.

The district replaces fieldturf every ten years, and Bennett was shown different options for the finished product. "It was kind of like a car, some things come factory standard and other things are add-ons," Bennett said. The district was only going to pay for regular green end zones, however Bennett went for purple. "I thought it would look cool. They were going to give

us one logo, but we upgraded so we could have the Central logo. We upgraded the purple shadows on the sidelines and the white player box," Bennett said.

Bennett originally came up with the idea for the shadowed numbers from visiting another school. "We went to Westside and their field really popped out. They have got black shadows behind their numbers, and when you stare at the field that is what really stands out," Bennett said. "It was very affordable to do those shadows. We talked about it, Mr. Dylan (athletic director) was involved, the Central High School Foundation was involved, and we thought it would be really neat to add purple shadows," Bennett said.

Besides the aesthetics of the field, it also needed to be replaced because of its poor condition. A level of concrete under-

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ANN MILROY | The Register

Ultimate frisbee club meets at Elmwood Park and averages around 40 students.

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-noons, where students in numbers ranging from 30 to 40 meet to play for a few hours.

Thus far, student turnout has been exceptionally well, according to Mickeliunas.

"Student feedback has been great. A typical week has us setting up two fields to accommodate the amount of students who show up. Even after the loss of two teeth five minutes into our first meeting, students keep coming back," Mickeliunas said. Teams are chosen each week, and the players engage in the game until they tire out.

Though Mickeliunas tries to maintain a fairly relaxed atmosphere, the players tend to get a little heated. Mickeliunas enjoys the sport because of its "constant movement," and the many strategies one can employ to win.

"Most of the time there is actually a fairly competitive atmosphere because everyone wants to win. There have been people diving to make catches, tackling people, and losing teeth so far," Horner said. In the first week of the club playing, one sophomore boy lost two of his front teeth due to other aggressive players.

For the most part, Mickeliunas sits on the sidelines of the games, only joining in when an extra player is needed. He also takes photos of the students playing and tweets them out.

There are high hopes for the future of the club. The players hope to increase turnout, and improve their skills.

"There are already over 40 members in the club, and I hope to see this same interest in the next few years. This is a new club that will be great for Central," junior Miles Kay said.

Horner hopes that one day, Central's club will be able to "try and face off against other schools or groups, and see how our team would compare to theirs," he said.

In the future, Mickeliunas wants seniors to be able to continue to show their leadership skills. Another expansion the team hopes to make is by including girls in the club. Out of the many players that have shown up to the club, thus far no females have volunteered to play.

Though the club is only just beginning, the players have already had an enriching experience while playing. Others had previous experience with the sport.

"I've played Frisbee for years and now there's finally a place to play it with everyone else who wants to play too," Horner said. Mickeliunas also played Frisbee in high school.

Frisbee also provides an opportunity for students to play a team sport outside of school-regulated athletics. Junior Miles Kay said that, "Frisbee is fun for me because it offers me an opportunity to play a more team-centered sport, unlike the individual sports of golf and tennis that I play."

The Frisbee club allows students a way to unwind after a week of school. Kay said of the club, "It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon."

## Changes in rules, school day felt by athletics, coaches work to adjust

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Another obstacle regarding practices is with the inconvenience of the longer school day. Head coach Jay Ball has had to account for how this new OPS standard has affected practice.

"We have tried to streamline our practices, tried to shorten them up just a little bit, just to try to go faster and to be more efficient. Plus, we get out of school a later, so trying to get the young men home basically the same time they were getting home last year, because they still have homework, they still need to eat and all that type of stuff," Ball said.

Again, the team has adapted smoothly to the changes.

"I don't even know if they know the difference, to be honest with you. They are just out there practicing trying to get better, so I don't think they would know. They probably know a little bit, I mean it's 15 minutes or so, which doesn't sound like a lot, but when you culminate that over several practices, it adds up," Ball said.

Forced alteration of practice aside, there are other additions to practice that focus on the teams' offense.

This year, James Kight is the newest addition to the coaching staff as the offensive coordinator and has already made several contributions to the offense.

"Within a week, we generally spend more time on offense. Offense is harder; it takes timing and precision. Defense is

about technique, pursuing of the football and tenacity. So, it is a little bit easier to play defense and coach it to a degree than offense; offense takes more work. [Kight] has implemented a little bit of what we call "the pistol," which is where the tail-back line ends up behind the quarterback when the quarterback is in shotgun," Ball said.

Ball and the other coaches continue to alter the teams' motion game, as they are fairly confident with their defense. Storm admits that he always works a bit more hard on offense than he does on defense.

"Strategies vary from game to game due to opponents and what they do offensively and defensively. We modify things every week; everything is always modification from team to team due to our linemen and stuff like that," Storm said.

The coaching staff meets on Saturdays to make modifications, for the next week. Watching reels from the upcoming week's opponent leads to many of these changes.

"Every week when you play an opponent, every week you have to game plan and strategize for your opponent. The biggest thing is that the kids understand, not only the opponent, but understand why we are doing what we do. So, not only do they understand what their responsibility is, but what their corresponding teammates' responsibilities are—that's a big deal," Ball said.

Ball and the other coaches watch film with players to help

them strategize, but the players have the ability to do a lot of it on their own by utilizing the app Hudl.

The coaches themselves meet up at Central on Saturdays and Sundays to watch film. Ball speaks for himself when he adds that he also watches film again Monday and Tuesday.

Once the coaches know what modifications need to be made, changes are made almost immediately as it is important for the players to be able to pick up on these changes quickly.

"I've always been a believer that it takes about two weeks to run it in practice before you're ready to run it in a game. The week-to-week stuff, when you play a team they are going to have a different defense, the blocking schemes and everything, that stuff we better know by Tuesday or Wednesday or we have issues," Ball said.

However, there are aspects of the game that will never be modified, and will continue to be vital for success over each opponent the team faces throughout the season. No matter who the opponent is, North, Prep or Bellevue West, both the basics and the drive have to be there.

"We have to play our fundamentals. That's in any game—you have to continue to work on fundamentals," Ball said. "We talk to the kids continually about doing the little things right. We have to continue to improve in all phases, offense, defense, special teams, and I hope that more kids continue to develop so that we can play more players."

## New turf on field not only visually impressive; shows Central pride

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neath was removed to allow the field to drain better. "Our main goal is to never get anyone hurt. I don't care what happens, we want to keep people safe. I believe that turf will do a good job at keeping everybody safe."

The new field is just another reason for students to feel proud of their school, according to Bennett.

He understands the level of pride seen in Central, and he finds it to be just another opportunity for his students to connect with his school on another level. "Of any school I have ever been at, I think our kids are more proud of our school than anywhere I have been. They get a chance to see and physically interact with something so representative of our school, it makes it that much more exciting," Bennett said.

Sometimes, fields with too much color can become a distraction, such as the all-blue turf at Boise State University. "We thought about doing a whole purple field. It was too much," Bennett said.

Overall, Bennett is pleased with the changes, saying, "It was finished two weeks early, and they did a great job. I could not be happier with how it turned out."



ANN MILROY | The Register

The endzones at Seemann Stadium are now purple. "We thought about a whole purple field. It was too much," Bennett said.



# Familiar face doubles as girls golf coach, dean of students

BY VASILI SGOURAKIS  
staff writer

As another girls golf season comes around the corner, an unfamiliar face will be leading the team as head coach. New girls varsity golf coach and administrator Ashley Barna, brings specific merits to the team, "I bring a positive presence to the team, and encourage unity and closeness within the team. I believe we are all here to learn and improve, but we are also here to grow as a team and individuals, in both golf and our everyday lives. As a team we have lots of fun together, but these ladies also know when it is time to work and focus on their games," she said.

Throughout high school Barna had extensive experience with golf. "I played golf all four years in high school. I went to state two of the four years. I also swam and played soccer in high school," she said. She continued her sports in college at UNO, and became an all-American swimmer.

During the school day, Barna is an administrator but after school, she is the girls golf coach. "This has been the hardest part of the year," she said, "I have to make sure that I am prepared for practice the night before (clothes, practice plan, etc.) so that as soon as my bus day is over I can get to the van and the players off to the course. I think preparation is key."

In the previous years, English teacher Ben Mihovk was the boy and girls golf coach; however, he left after last year for a new teaching position. Having been the assistant coach for the past two years, some would say Barna was the obvious choice. "I applied for the position. Since I enjoyed my position as the assistant coach I knew I wanted to continue working with the team. I knew I had the skills and knowledge to continue building a successful program," she said.

Now that Mihovk is gone, the team dynamic is different. "Mihovk was a great asset to the team. He was knowledgeable about the game, was able to recommend



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Ashley Barna replaces Ben Mihovk as the girls golf head coach. Barna played golf all four years in high school.

golfers for lessons, and was fun to be around. Like any team, when the coaching staff changes there will be a different dynamic. I think that overall though, we still have a close team that is looking to improve their games," said Barna.

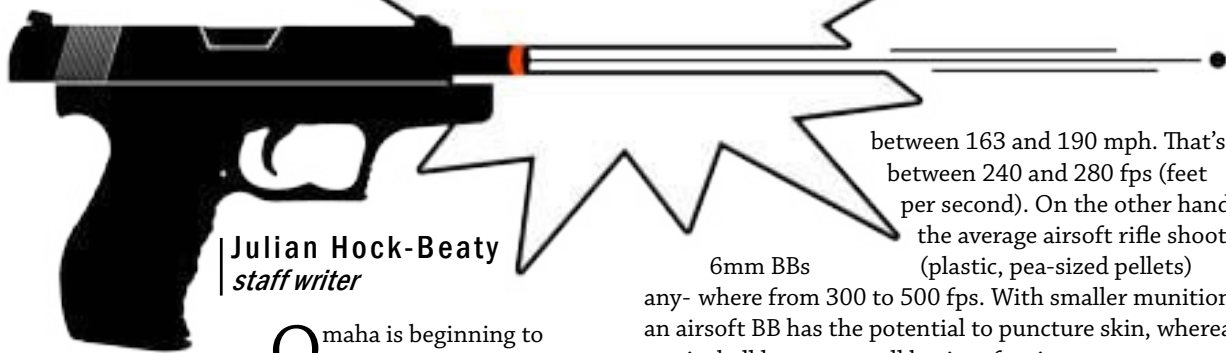
Setting goals for a team can be key to success and Barna has done this, "[I want to] get the beginning golfers to know course etiquette, be able to play 18 holes of golf at a steady rate. Help the

more advanced players become better at their games, whether it is putting, chipping, driving or any aspect of the they are struggling with," she said.

Barna's philosophy to coaching sums her up well: "Academics are always first, fundamentals are key, and always remember the reason we play is to enjoy the sport," she said. "So have fun, relax, and meet new people."

## TARGET PRACTICE

Recreational airsoft shooting has taken Omaha by storm



Julian Hock-Beaty  
staff writer

Omaha is beginning to partake in a newer recreational shooting sport known as airsofting. The growing popularity of paintballing facilities and competition grounds has indefinitely created a large fan base for shooting sports throughout the Midwest. Airsofting has taken a less competitive approach, but still remains quite popular, especially among teenagers.

Invented in Japan, airsoft guns were originally made as replicas of real weapons. Because of their realistic look and feel, they were implemented into police and military training exercises, which still goes on today. Airsoft weapons became publically available in the mid 1980's, growing a high demand in the United Kingdom, and later the US.

Today, the sport caters to participants of all ages, implementing a competitive aspect. Tournaments, scrimmages and target practice have become the norm for recreational shooting enthusiasts. Whether it's in a backyard or at an arena, the thrill associated with the pseudo combat has attracted thousands. Even battle reenactment groups have adopted airsoft guns to use as props.

Sophomore Dane Willenborg enjoys an occasional shootout with friends. "I just play for fun...mostly in backyards," he said. Willenborg describes airsofting as a satisfyingly realistic experience. "It's something that kids don't get to do very often", he said, in regards to the concept of shooting at human targets. During a game, a player may get a few welts, but safety gear and common sense prevents serious injury. Goggles, gloves, masks and vests protect the shooter's vital areas.

A standard paintball gun uses compressed air to fire paint-filled balls approximately the size of a marble

between 163 and 190 mph. That's between 240 and 280 fps (feet per second). On the other hand, the average airsoft rifle shoots (plastic, pea-sized pellets) 6mm BBs any- where from 300 to 500 fps. With smaller munitions, an airsoft BB has the potential to puncture skin, whereas a paintball leaves a small bruise after impact.

Recently introduced technology has made airsoft weapons even more realistic, such as a gas powered clip that allows semi-automatic firing. Instead of reloading after each shot, the shooter can repeatedly pull the trigger, that is, until their ammunition runs out. This concept has made its way into film and TV productions in the form of hyper-realistic props. The weapons perform and operate in a very convincing manner, which makes the actor appear to have a real firearm. Because airsoft guns are not considered real weapons, a lot of money can be saved within a film budget. Actual firearms have to be regulated by an arms dealer, which can be expensive.

Safety regulations and laws have been put in place to protect not only the shooters, but the general public. In the state of Nebraska, airsoft guns are required to be transported with a blaze orange tip, due to their extremely realistic appearance. Recently, a man attempted to rob the Wendy's on 43rd and Dodge using an airsoft pistol. Because the orange tip was painted or removed, the weapon looked like a real handgun. Police shot and killed him on sight. The orange tip requirement is an effort to prevent any accidental misunderstandings or deaths in the future.

Though there are obvious risks in participating in games and owning airsoft equipment, people can still have fun if they play by the rules. "Wear a mask and be responsible...go somewhere that's kind of away from people...private property is good," Willenborg said. He suggests players follow any local laws regarding the use of recreational air guns, and remember to keep themselves protected during a game.

## Cross country team aims high, hopes to place as state champs

Carlson Koch  
staff writer

After a fourth place finish at state last year, the girls cross country team is preparing to perform more competitively this year. Head coach and mathematics teacher Frances Keating, has made some changes to the team that have sparked confidence in the runners.

Keating never was anticipating being a teacher and a coach, or wanted to be one initially. "My coach was a teacher, and I saw how many hours she worked, and thought it was wild, and thought I do not want to work 14 hour days," said Keating.

Keating believes that every workout is important, but teamwork wins races. "I think that you have to want to work your hardest to do your best, you have to be motivated to do it," said Keating. "At the state race last year, runner Mckenna Paintin finished 13 overall as an individual, which overall helped in the team's fourth place finish.

Junior Chloe Klare has been trained in other ways than the years before, saying, "This year there are higher expectations for the team, and we are now required to abdominal work to get our cores stronger. It was only suggested in the past years."

"Coach Keating really puts an emphasis on stretching and dieting, which are critical to continued good performances," said Klare.

Cross country consists of miles and miles of running, which makes it a sport that is not fit for everyone. "I have improved so much through the years, especially mentally. Freshman year, I hated running and dreaded practice, and now I love cross country, and my average three mile time has dropped by three minutes," she said.

Although sports can be for fun, often times it is more about the competition. "We have the best team this year that we have had since I got to Central, and I definitely think that we can place in the top three at state this year," said Klare.

Since 1983, Central High's girls cross country team has never done as well as they did last year. Due to this accomplishment the expectations are higher for the team this year, "Cross country is more serious this year because we are serious about the possibility that we could win state. However, it is not too serious that all the fun is taken out," she said.

To many, the most important aspect of a sport is relationships with other teammates. During the race, other teammates cheer along the way, "A team is so important during races. Part of the reason we make it through the hottest and hilliest meets of the season is our teammates and the boys are cheering for us from the sides," said Klare.

"We can do our best if we can forget about how much running suck," Klare said, "and remember how great its rewards are."

# Senior succeeds on gridiron, excels in the classroom

Choteau Kammel  
executive editor

Sporadically throughout the year, one may often see a news special over a high school student who managed to achieve both academic and athletic successes, all while balancing some combination of the two with the hectic ebb and flow of daily teenage life and preparing for college. Although senior Michael Galeski has not been on the six o'clock news yet, he certainly does fit the criteria for a successful student athlete, as he looks to round out his senior year as a three sport varsity sportsman as well as class valedictorian.

Even before he was garnering attention for both his sports and his school work, Galeski still worked hard on the tasks set before him. He attended Saint Margaret Mary's for kindergarten through eighth grade and competed in soccer and basketball and also earned excellent marks from his teachers.

Upon graduation, he was faced with the common parochial school conundrum of deciding for a public or another private school for the next level of education.

Initially, Galeski was going to attend Creighton Preparatory School and had even taken the entrance exam and been offered a scholarship to enroll there. However, following a Central High School open house, Galeski began to have second thoughts about his future high school.

After getting to know several of the teachers at the open house, learning more about the International Baccalaureate program and being mesmerized by the historic aura of the building, Galeski said his choice became much clearer.

Entering into such a massive school after years in a smaller private school can be a very harrowing experience. "I had to make all new friends because the vast majority of my class went to Prep and I was really out of comfort zone," Galeski said. He also added however, that it's this temporary discomfort, for lack of a better word, that brings out one of Central's most renowned qualities. "I could be whoever I wanted to be at Central," he said.

Although he is the varsity football team's kick off and PAT man, Galeski actually did not start to play football until sophomore year. Although he continued his love for soccer and basketball, he said, "I forgot that kicker was even a position. It's a very overlooked one."

In order to start getting involved with football, Galeski talked with former varsity kicker and 2015 Central graduate Nick Rock about the role and responsibilities that he would be carrying.

As a soccer player, he said that kicking came rather naturally to him, and that he competed with Rock for the top spot, and that although Rock held it the previous few years, "It's all mine now," he added.

Even before developing his kicker abilities and continu-



ANN MILROY | The Register

Senior Michael Galeski sprints alongside teammates to warm up before practice. Galeski has kicked for the Eagles since 2012.

ing soccer, he also started freshman year off by trying out for the basketball team. "I didn't think I would make the team that year, but the coaches liked my work ethic and they were willing to work with me. With time I became stronger, faster and a better shooter, he said, "I wouldn't say I'm naturally an athlete. Hard work has made me become an athlete."

Inside Galeski's IB classes, he said he has certainly made good friends, but that it is his sports involvement that really opened the doors to different groups of people. "I love being around different types of people and I have made many close friends I would never have met without sports," he said.

Putting in all the work required to be a varsity football athlete, he said that the bond formed through all those hours creates a brotherhood of sorts, and that is one of the reasons he has really grown to love football. He said that he has had some recruiting interest from colleges, but that he is still undecided at the moment, but, "I do know I would want to play at a high level," he said.

On an academic level, Galeski enjoys probabilities and mathematics, which he said stems from his sports background, as he

can use probability to manage his own personal kicking statistics and skill. In describing how he has managed his athletics and his number one class rank, he said, "I like to stay busy more than anything. If you procrastinate you end up wasting your day and I'm not about that. I try to stay motivated."

Often times when senior year comes around, the grades and behavior go down. With Galeski, that is simply not the case. "I'm really enjoying my senior year. I've built up a lot of great relationships and it's nice to get some recognition for hard work," he said. Not even the famed senioritis seems to get to him, as he added, "Nobody has time for that."

As he looks ahead to what both the rest of this year and the future may hold for him, Galeski also feels a strong sense of loyalty to his high school as well as thankfulness that he made the choice he to attend there.

"It's an experience you won't get at any other high school. Use every second you have and get everything you want out of it," he said, "I have just loved Central. I loved the classes and I loved the diversity and I wouldn't trade my decision for anything in the world."

## Riley worries about current system, has hope

After another season that lacked a conference championship, former Nebraska head coach Bo Pelini was fired amid a blaze of controversy and disappointment. Many still believe that it was not the smartest move for the athletic program, considering they had just extended his contract the year before. Now, under new coach Mike Riley and his Oregon State heavy coaching staff, lots of questions are looming before the season opener on September 5.

When Pelini was initially fired, many wondered who could fill the spot, considering the consistent success that he obtained over his many seasons with the program.

Numerous candidates were rumored to be taking the position, including Nebraska alumnus Scott Frost, the current offensive coordinator of Oregon. Mike Riley, former head coach of Oregon State eventually was given the head coaching position, and brought in many of his own assistant coaches from the Oregon State program.

Meanwhile, the morale and the chemistry of the players and Pelini was soon to fade away. Many leaders of the football team voiced their respects in the press and on social media platforms such as Twitter. It could be easily inferred that Pelini and his players had a strong bond, and his absence left many Huskers upset.

Fast forward a few months later, and spring training was in session, with an all new head coach and new system, which is always difficult to deal with for players. Rarely will one see a first year head coach at a program lead his team to anything more than a bowl game. Playing in an evolving conference such as the Big Ten, who provided the national champion last

year in Ohio State, will be a big challenge.

However, with a major amount of talent in the Big Ten East, Nebraska has the ability to become the force in the West if they win their signature games. This was the problem with Pelini. Over his tenure as head coach, it's very difficult to find an important game that Nebraska won. Pelini couldn't get the job done time after time in conference championships, or in highlights games on the schedule.

That becomes the new focus for Riley. Although the Huskers suffered a tough loss at Miami on Sept. 19, there are still some highlight games on this season's schedule, such as Wisconsin on Oct. 10 and powerhouse Michigan State on Nov. 7.

Being in the Big Ten West, the only real worry should be Wisconsin. However, if Nebraska wants to look like a College Football Playoffs candidate, Michigan State would be a statement win. Nebraska already has two losses, which for most teams would mean they have little chance at making the national title game. With the new playoff system, there

will be teams that look better than Nebraska, even if they win a conference championship. They can worry about the hardware next season. For now, Nebraska needs to worry about winning games and implementing a system that is consistent and will win the team games.

Nebraska needs a spark in a hurry, because the losses his team has amassed have been quite an embarrassment. It's a little much to ask for a first year coach, but because the public doesn't know what to expect from the "blended" system Riley is implementing, Nebraska fans have the right to be critical.



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# CONNECT WITH CENTRAL JOURNALISM

www.omahacentralregister.com  @CHS\_Press  @chspress  The Central High Register



**Natalie Nepper**  
editor-in-chief

The newly created Central Journalism Twitter, @CHS\_Press is gaining popularity by the second. The journalism classes have come together to moderate sporting events, school-wide activities and other Central related happenings. Gaining close to 200 followers since its start nearly two months previous, @CHS\_Press is on of the most frequently retweeted Central Twitters, especially after football games.

“ I think that it raised awareness for the efforts of journalism students, that have previously gone virtually unnoted. ”

CLAIRE LAVENDER

moderator of  
@CHS\_Press

can find candid photos of themselves online.

But the photography doesn't stop on the field. @CHS\_Press follows the players into the locker room during halftime. With the help of a few photographers and the Twitter page, students, parents and teachers alike can indulge themselves into a behind-the-scenes view, offering a new perspective to Friday night football all together.

Football isn't the only sport glorified over social media, the Twitter account regularly covers softball games and creates infographics for players. Cross country, tennis, golf,

cheerleading, and dance have also been featured on the account.

Additionally, photos of happenings in the journalism room, students participating in spirit days, and local events make it on to the Twitter.

The O-Book and The Register staffs encourage all Central students, alumni, staff and parents to connect with journalism on the website: www.omahacentralregister.com, the Twitter: @CHS\_Press, the flickr: @chspress and Facebook: The Central High Register.



NATALIE NEPPER | The Register

These photos are some of the shots featured on the @CHS\_Press Twitter after the 9/11/15 Central v. Prep football game. The account regularly tweets out pictures after various events.

## Freshman continues family tradition, enjoys the challenges of golf



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Gazing down the green, Kay has worked for years to better her stance and swing.

**Anna Kaminski**  
staff writer

Unlike many, Evie Kay, freshman, associates the term “golf,” with “freedom” and “happiness.”

Kay has been playing golf since the early age of four. Her dad, who is an avid golfer himself, got her into the sport. Although golf was introduced to her by her father, Kay believes that she still would have played the sport without outside influence.

One of Kay's favorite things about golf is that it's a physical and a mental sport. She sees it as an activity that she does for fun but also as an emotional outlet for her.

“It's a really fitting sport for me because it's calming to play. If you have a ton of schoolwork during the day, it feels nice to go play golf,” she said.

In regards to those who don't believe golf is a sport, Kay says “you never know until you've played. Most people think golf is just swinging a club, but there's so much more to it than that. There are tiny parts of your swing that you have to pay attention to [in order to play the game right.]”

Kay says that there are parts of both the physical and mental aspects of golf that are difficult for her to master. For example, her movement and mentally staying calm when she isn't playing as well

as she would like.

Before matches or duels, Kay will listen to relaxing music to get her in the mood to play. She will wear her lucky socks and ensure she stretches and reads the greens, because each course is different. Some of Kay's strengths on the course include teeing off, approach shots and knowing her clubs, which can be a difficult piece of the game to master.

Her favorite clubs to use are her drivers because she is consistent when using them. Kay prefers to golf at Omaha Country Club (OCC) because she's been golfing there since the beginning of her career. She sees it as a great environment and it constantly offers new challenges, plus there are usually turkeys on the course.

Kay believes her biggest accomplishment in relation to golf to be her placing third in a statewide science fair competition. Her project was over the science behind golf balls and golf in general. Another one of her favorite achievements is that of playing well on the Nebraska Junior Golf Team two years ago. She also participates in the “Drive, Chip and Putt” tournaments on an annual basis, which is scored based on distance and accuracy. Two years ago she made it to the regional round and was extremely close to making it to the Masters.

“Golf is a physical game, a mental game and a scientific game,” Kay said. “That's why I love it.”