



## LEGACY WALK 03

Set to be completed with the new addition, The Legacy Walk will honor alumni as well as create a more professional and appealing campus.



## GRAFFITI 08

Taggers with good intentions should not be branded as criminals. Graffiti adds a personal touch to the community.



## LYDIA KANG 15

Local author visits Central to discuss the new release of her sci-fi book, "Control." Kang doubles as a physician as well as an author.

# the REGISTER



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## SAFETY ON STANDBY

Ambulances parked outside local high school football games will no longer be provided in order to better assist emergencies city-wide



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

**Choteau Kammel**  
*executive editor*

High school sporting events, more specifically football games, can often be very dangerous places. Not to mention the physicality of the game itself, the packing of hundreds of adolescents into a compact space carries with itself innate dangers. To help mitigate these risks and to be prepared for all contingencies, OPS has benefited greatly from the complementary provision of a waiting ambulance and EMT crew at many athletic events, however, following this school year, this service will be terminated and the bill then passed on to the school district itself.

For the last two decades or so, the Omaha Fire Department (OFD) has placed ambulances on standby along with EMT crews and firemen at high school sporting events and games. Recently they were called into action at the Central-Creighton Prep football game in order to evaluate an injured player. Although this service has been complementary for around the last two decades, it was revealed in September that the OFD would no longer provide the service beginning next year.

This announcement did not come as too much of a surprise, as in the last year OFD had begun to share the service provision with the private firm Midwest Medical Transport, in

preparation for it taking full control.

The largest reason for OFDs termination of service is that providing staffed ambulances to sports games diverts resources away from where they could be needed. In the article detailing their announcement on Mayor Jean Stothert's website, Fire Chief Bernie Kanger said, "Our primary mission must be to respond quickly to fire and medical emergencies in progress. "As the 911 call volume increases and the requests for standby service grows, it became necessary to re-evaluate our policy, apply it consistently, and recommend alternatives that provide even greater coverage for high school athletic events."

Amongst these alternatives being considered is a proposed payment system similar to OPS's use of Omaha Police Department (OPD) personnel. Security from OPD is provided by off duty officers whose services are exchanged for a fee paid for by the district.

Along with that proposal, Central Athletic Director Luke Dillon said, "it has been talked about having one ambulance strategically located between sporting events and different schools."

With such an overhaul less than a year away, naturally there were many fears about how athletic emergencies would

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## Proposed changes to health curriculum cause controversy

**Alec Rome**  
*web editor*

The current curriculum for OPS' Human Growth and Development program has not been updated since the 1980s. It had drawn few critics until a recent community forum over the update garnered local headlines. Over 1500 concerned parents and community members filled the TAC auditorium to voice their opinion, some more loudly than others. Now, the school board is taking steps to try and calm the nerves of a tense parent community.

The community forum that took place on October 20 was expected to be nothing more than a normal board meeting, planned to take place inside of the TAC boardroom. After everyone showed up, it had to be moved to the auditorium, where parents yelled back and forth for most of the meeting. Karen Spencer-May, one of the curriculum supervisors of OPS, believes that the disagreements were largely due to misinformation and differing beliefs. "One of the greatest parts of living in this country is that everyone has a right to their own beliefs," Spencer-May said. "But, it would also would have been nice for everyone to listen to each other and to be open to new ideas and beliefs. This was not present at the forum."

As a way to combat some of the rumors and misinformation about what the updated curriculum consists of, OPS has posted a "frequently asked questions" section on the district website to clearly state what the standards are planned to be and how they will be implemented. The district plans to hold a parent review night in the winter of 2016 to review some of the possible updates. However, the district has stayed firm in making sure nothing is final, and that parent input will remain a key focus for the school board. There was a community forum that took place in April 2015, a parent survey was administered by an "outside consultant," as well as what the district claims to be "multiple individual parent meetings and phone conversations" about the updates before October 20's community forum.

Exactly how these standards will be implemented into the classroom has not been determined yet, according to Spencer-May. "After we receive input for the proposed standards, we will make adjustments and begin the next phase of figuring out how to teach it," Spencer-May said. Once these adjustments are made, the school board must approve of the curriculum before it starts being implemented into classrooms. It may take another few months at least before any real updates to the existing material is seen by students and teachers alike. However, once the materials receive approval, they will be posted on the OPS website for parents to review.

Abstinence-based education is the foremost principle of Human Growth and Development. But in the parent survey, 93 percent of those surveyed said that both abstinence and prevention of pregnancies should be taught in schools. With Douglas County having one of the highest rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea in the country, an update on ways to prevent pregnancies is needed and will be a positive experience, according to Spencer-May. Most of the current curriculum standards cover prevention topics such as condom use, but other prevention methods such as the Plan B pill are proposed to be taught about. Those topics were met with a more mixed response, with 65 percent of

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## WHAT'S ON THE WEB



This senior does it all as co-captain of the varsity volleyball team, president of the O-Club and future teacher.

**ISABELLA MARTELLO**

## BIAGGI'S REVIEW

This Italian restaurant, just off of 144th and Dodge, offers great service and quality meals that cannot be beat.

omahacentralregister.com





# Politician, investor, NFL athlete among 2015 inductees to Hall of Fame



Photo Courtesy of PAUL NIELSON

The recent Hall of Fame inductees gather on the auditorium stage with their plaques. The induction ceremony was held Oct. 2.

**Choteau Kammel**  
executive editor

Central High School has been in existence for over 150 years, a magnitude of longevity that few educational establishments can match. With so very many years of students passing through the halls and receiving their diplomas, it is understandable that many have gone on to affluence and fame. However, what so often distinguishes Central's alumni

from other schools is that they continue to give back to their alma mater even decades after they have graduated.

In order to recognize and honor these former students, the Central High Foundation annually inducts alumni into the Central Hall of Fame, where they have their names immortalized in a plaque amongst honorees of the past. On October 2, nine more graduates were added to Central's Wall of Fame, in a ceremonial event put on by the Foundation in order to bring alumni back together and to also pay homage to the inductees

for their pursuance of "the Eagle way."

The induction event began with a meet and greet reception around the much venerated and mystical "C". The alumni gathered and engaged in conversation and even a few emotional reunions, all while ensuring never to step foot on that which is held to be sacred. The letter C, emblazoned in tile along the floor and cordoned off to avert any damage to it, because, as almost any student past or present would know, stepping on the C is a step towards not graduating.

Following the reception, the inductees, their families and also others were treated to a catered supper in the courtyard. Escorted by Class of 2016 officers, the inductees were guided to their tables and also received first-hand accounts of what their school is like today. With around 200 people in attendance, both the caterers and the custodial staff worked double time in order to maintain a clean environment and also to make sure that the night progressed without a hitch. Along with the provisions of food and cleanliness, Central's JROTC students also served as an honor guard of sorts for the attendees. "It really was quite the honor to be tasked with welcoming Central's alumni back to the nest," said junior Alex Ketzler.

The induction ceremony began with remarks from both former principal and Foundation board member Dr. Keith Bigsby and current principal Dr. Ed Bennett. In addressing the crowd Bennett said that in over 70 years, Central has only had seven principals due to the commitment to excellence and pride that the school maintains. "[This truly is an] amazing collection of talent in one place," he said.

The first alumni to be inducted was the late Howard Buffett. A member of the class of 1921, Howard Buffett served four teams as a Republican congressman in the House of Representatives. Receiving the induction for their father, Warren and Bertie Buffett both made their own remarks to the audience, when they said, "Each of you have your own hall of fame, and if we were to only have one [person] in ours, it would be our dad, we have him in our hearts every day and we are very proud he went to Central High School."

Next to be honored was Laurance Hoagland Jr., class of 1954. Following his education, Hoagland became a renowned figure in the investment and endowments world and also worked

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# Author publishes book with storyline inspired by haunted local park

**Kelsey Thomas**  
editor-in-chief

Most Omaha residents are familiar with the supernatural legends of Hummel Park, the outdoor area located in the northern region of the city supposedly populated by albino colonies and noseless hermits. Jeremy Morong, Omaha native and published author, made use of these popular tales in his latest published book "The Legend of Hummel Park and Other Stories."

The book is still fairly new, as Morong worked hard to make sure it was out during the Halloween season. The timing of the book's release has seemed to pay off.

"It's still fairly new, and I am always nervous, but so far it has been received great! People really seem to like the stories, and they're a little disturbed by some of them, too, which is actually good for that genre," he said.

Morong is not new to writing or creative fiction- he has published three books just within the last few years. His first book, "On the Backs of Dragons," is a Narnia-inspired story that features a strong female lead, sasquatches and dragons. Morong had been thinking of the idea for years, but after he decided that the main character should be a girl, his writing took off.

"I wanted to write something I could read to my daughter someday that had a character that wasn't obsessed with boys. Being a boy, I can say that we're really not worth obsessing about," he said.

Morong found success with his first book, but he is much happier with the content of his second novel "The Legend of Braxton Revere." In it, the title character comes from a lineage of vampire-hunters, but by his generation, all of the blood-suckers have been killed. Revere is thought to be insane by the local people as he notices the warning signs of the vampires coming back, but he eventually saves the town from the legendary creatures despite their hatred of him. Morong especially enjoyed writing the novel because it's in first person, so he was able to write it from the point of view of a character.

The author has found inspiration in other sources for his

entire life. The Harry Potter series by his "hero" JK Rowling has influenced his love of writing and reading. Though he encourages people to reach out and tell authors when they enjoy their work, except for Rowling, because "she already knows."

"The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" has also been a source of significant impact on him.

"[It's] my all-time favorite book...I've lost count of many times I've read it. It's funny, it's sad, it's an adventure, a drama, even a horror at times. Most of all, it's America," he said.

Morong has been reading nonfiction literature and writing creatively for years, but began to passionately pursue getting published nearly a decade ago.

"I really started digging in about 10 years ago, with lots of stops and starts. I finally dug in for real about 4 years ago. I was rather stupid and jumped right into doing a novel rather than trying my hand at short stories and such first," he said.

Though Morong has a lifetime's worth of experience, writing a novel posed many difficulties that he was not expecting. He realized that it's a slow process, involving "a lot of the delete button." Since beginning his serious writing career, he's learned to save the editing process for the end.

His writing process "varies," he said, but he is almost always in the middle of it; he always carries a phone and a portable keyboard with him, and he tries to work on his latest writing at least once daily.

"This will keep it close to your thoughts and good ideas will often come to you even when you're not writing. A lot of my best ideas have come in the shower or while mowing the lawn, and then the trick is to not forget them," he said.

Morong has been through the writing process dozens of times throughout his life, and has learned many lessons solely through experience. Because of this, he can offer some advice for young writers. He said, "Aspiring authors need to be hard on themselves, but don't beat yourself up, either. It's a fine line. You are the one who will see your work at its worst, but keep working, and make it better. You can and you will."

“ People really seem to like the stories, and they're a little disturbed by some of them, too, which is actually good for the genre ”

JEREMY MORONG  
Local author

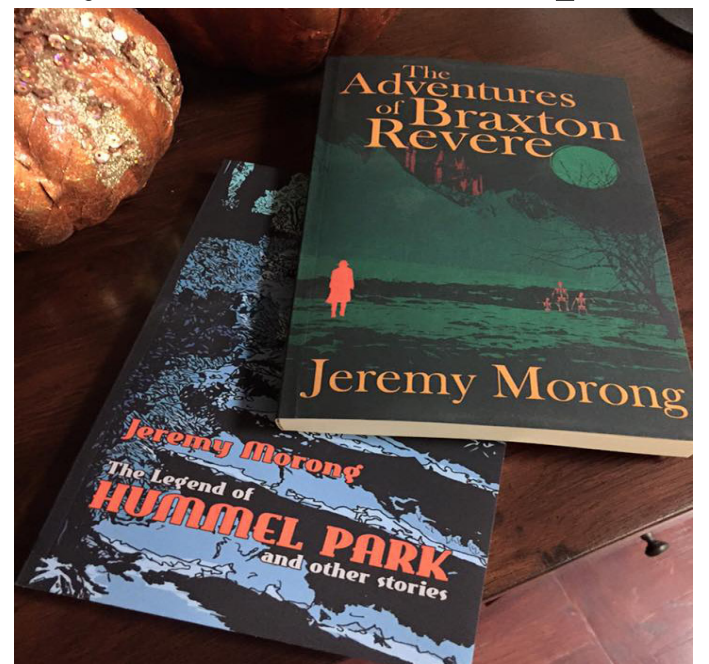


Photo Courtesy of JEREMY MORONG

Top: Morong's latest two publications, a novel and a series of short stories, are shown on display. Bottom: A photo of Morong taken by JennyAnne Photography.



## Postponed foundation project will honor alumni, benefit community



Computer renderings of the proposed Legacy Walk show the proposed plans. The project was organized by the CHS Foundation, however, has been postponed due to plans for the addition.

**Georgia Chambers**  
executive editor

“It is a way to connect the past, to the current, to the future. There are so many people who love Central and who love the Central experience. The Legacy Walk Project gives [alumni] a great opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way and for them to be recognized and remembered,” Principal Ed Bennett said.

The Legacy Walk Project was organized by the CHS Foundation, with the plans of this project being around since two years ago. However, alterations to the plans have come about due to plans for additions on the east side of campus.

Originally, the project began because of several different reasons.

“The first [reason is that] we have many alumni who want to support Central through their financial contributions. They wanted their name on something, but there wasn’t anything they could put their name on,” Bennett said.

Colleges, universities and many high schools display benches and bricks with peoples’ names on them. These bricks or benches will be seen in a walkway with the words ‘donated by’ inscribed on them.

“We wanted something like that, but we didn’t have anything like it,” Bennett said.

Not only did they want to help benefit alumni, but they also wanted to help benefit the community.

“The second reason was with the exterior of Central High School, there has never really been a comprehensive plan for the future of the campus. In the past few years, some of our neighbors have changed their campus. Joslyn, being the biggest example, put in a sculpture garden,” Bennett said.

Other alterations to the community include installations of condominiums and other small businesses such as a new bike shop.

“In our whole neighborhood, people are doing things to beautify the exterior of their buildings, and we wanted to be a part of that. But, we needed a comprehensive plan to change and update all different sides of Central,” Bennett said.

The project would solve these problems, and would add to the community while honoring alumni. Bennett said it was important that it should all tie together in a way that is appealing.

It was important for them to make it possible to ‘connect the past, to the current, to the future.’ By panning out the project now, it enabled them to make room for additions to the walk in the future.

With this in mind, the plan was to start with the fire lane alongside the west side and make it into the monument of the Legacy Walk.

However, once the donor came forward saying he was interested in building the addition along the east side, a new problem surfaced. The Foundation was unsure of how they could meld the new addition with the Legacy Walk Project.

Alterations had to be made in order to ensure a professional result; Central had to look like an appealing, professional campus. Not only this, Central had to have an environment complementary of Joslyn’s campus and other neighboring businesses.

“Right now, we are still in the course of figuring out how to meld the Legacy Walk Project with the new addition. But, I will speculate that we will do more work now on the east side of the campus first to blend it in with the addition before we do anything to the fire lane,” Bennett said.

The project has been divided up into three phases, and due to the addition on the east side, the phases are being accommodated to blend in with one another in a pleasing manner.

In attempt to ‘roll it all into one,’ the Legacy Walk will begin on east side, which was originally the last phase of the project.

Therefore, since construction of the Legacy Walk will be around the same time as construction of the addition, it has been postponed since the plans made regarding construction last year.

Bennett said, once completed, the project will most likely be popular amongst everyone, including the students.

“I think they will love it. Most students see change to Central as exciting; they appreciate the history and tradition of the building, but like anything, kids like new and exciting things,” Bennett said. “I think they will see it as new and exciting.”

## Interactions with high-profile journalists inspires editor to pursue her passion

I shifted uncomfortably on the cold metal bleachers, trying not to make much noise. A crew of television workers told us to be silent, but after a half hour of sitting frigid in my spot, I was fed up. The metal creaked as I leaned forward, ducking my head to the right, trying to get a better view. I couldn’t hear, I couldn’t see. But there, somewhere past the television executives, hanging wires and massive cameras, ‘Meet the Press’ was about to come back live—and NBC’s Chuck Todd was the proud moderator.

A year ago, I hadn’t dreamed of being inside NBC Studios on Nebraska Ave. in Washington, D.C. I didn’t know I would be hearing from reporters from The New York Times and The Washington Post. I wasn’t expecting to meet the editors of USA Today, ask questions to Freedom Riders or even receive a private tour on Capitol Hill.

Yet there I was. The Nebraska representative at the 2015 Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference: an accomplishment I had been obsessing over for months. The experience in Washington D.C. with my fellow Free Spirit Scholars truly changed my outlook on journalism, politics and on myself.

As a sophomore on the newspaper staff, I watched my senior editors stack up award after award. When my editor-in-chief received the honor of representing Nebraska at Free Spirit in 2013, I made a mental note that I would apply as a junior.

But I didn’t really believe I would be the one to receive the all-expenses paid trip to D.C., or the \$1,000 scholarship, or the 50 new best friends, each from a dif-

ferent state. I don’t think the honor really hit me until after I boarded that plane.

Those five days were quite honestly a blur, but the most profound memory I have was hearing from a representative from the Committee to Protect Journalists. She talked about James Foley, the foreign correspondent who was beheaded by ISIS in Syria, in the fall of 2014. I looked at the wall behind her in the Newseum, filled with the names of journalists killed on the job. My eyes scanned over the glass of the 20 ft. tall room. I couldn’t believe how many people were on the list. It was the first time I realized how serious journalism was: people risk their lives every day to report the news.

In the United States, we take our freedoms under the first amendment for granted. The American public’s right to information reported on ethical circumstances is a privilege in many countries and a nonexistent idea in others. Journalists are fighting for their rights and their freedoms every single day.

I left the conference humbled, but more passionate about media than ever. The moralities I never gave a second thought about suddenly became very important to me. I came back to Nebraska with a new perspective, a new experience and a newly found appreciation for my interest in journalism.

The summer I became a Free Spirit, I grew up. I now truly know my role as a high school journalist and I know what role I will play in the professional field. I’m going to do what international journalists do every day: I’m going to seek the truth and report it.



**NATALIE NEPPER**  
NOT TOO DEEP



Photo Courtesy of **MARIA BRYK** **NATALIE NEPPER** | The Register  
Above: Nepper and the other Free Spirits. Below: The set of Meet the Press.



# Termination of free ambulance coming, district looks for alternatives

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be handled and if they would be taken care of in a timely manner. In September when these changes were announced to the superintendent and the board members, Mayor Stothert said, "The safety of student athletes is very important to all of us. [But] We must balance our ability to respond to emergencies all over the City with the potential for injuries at other events. Private medical transport companies can provide this service at a reasonable cost, allowing the Omaha Fire Department to return to full-time fire, rescue and emergency medical response."

This shift in order to better assist in emergencies city wide

is not unfounded, as according to Mayor Stothert's website, 911 hotline volume has increased from 33,000 calls in 2005 up to 49,000 in 2015. With this shift upward, having more ambulances available as well as emergency personnel, will provide an added benefit and helpful safety measures.

Along with safety measures to have in reserve for emergencies, the cutting of the free service at athletic events is also said to be the fiscally responsible thing to do. According to Mayor Stothert's website, OFD has provided emergency standby service at around 450 games since 2010 and yet only 6 student-athletes have been treated in the same time. That being said the city sees it as being somewhat of an irresponsible use of tax funded service and therefore would better be served by a private company being paid to be on standby. Also, as far

as benefits go, the private companies will be able to remain on standby for the entirety of the game and not have to worry about being called away.

Although OFD will no longer be providing for OPS's events, they still will allow for emergency personnel to be stationed at specific events that receive abnormally large attendance and therefore have higher probabilities of risk.

Ultimately, the Omaha Fire Department hopes that the changes will be implemented properly by next year and that an effective alternative will be implemented. Chief Kanger said, "The Omaha Fire Department will continue to work closely with local school districts to ensure the transition in 2016 is smooth, and will be very willing to help coordinate meetings with private EMS providers in our community."

# Green, Buffett among ten impressive new inductees to hall of fame

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with the Hewlett Foundation. For him, Central ran in his blood, as his grandfather graduated with the class of 1909. Hoagland explained how even though Central was an excellent school in his time there, he said, "It [Central] is a much better and distinguished institution [now]. Central has always been a tough high school with high standards."

Lieutenant Colonel Henry Taylor, class of 1959, was honored with the hall of fame induction, following a distinguished career in the military. During his tenure serving and protecting the United States, Taylor received 16 medals for his bravery and courage. As he stood before those in attendance at the induction ceremony he said that over one billion seconds before that night, he stood in that same place on stage at Central's 1959 roadshow, and that "By the grace of God I stand before you [the audience] tonight." He also added that at Central and through its JROTC program he developed in a confident and committed individual. He said, "Integrity, responsibility and learning were all taught and modeled every day by this institution [Central]."

Beatrice Peterson Kalisch graduated in 1961, to ultimately go on to serve in nursing research for fifty years, writing 11 books and hundreds of articles. She has also traveled anywhere from China to Australia. Initially she said that she chose Central because her parents said that it provided the best college preparation and diversity but that when she left she knew it was that exact reason that would forever cause her to cherish her time at the nest.

The next graduate to be recognized was distinguished educator Anthony LaGreca, represented by his son and daughter.

LaGreca served as a Central assistant principal and also the principal of Beveridge middle school. As recounted by his children, LaGreca was extremely proud of his work at Central and also "treasured the opportunity to impact kid's lives," they said. In his role as assistant principal his main method of helping students who were sent his way was a combination of inspiring both healthy fear and compassion in order to allow a second chance. LaGreca's hope, as conveyed by his son and daughter was that Central would remain a "Beacon of diversity and acceptance for all people in the community."

Following LaGreca, next to be honored was class of 1965 graduate Harley Schrage. Schrage, along with the Central Hall of Fame, is amongst the Omaha Business Hall of Fame for his work as president of the Paysetter Corp and also serves on the boards of many nonprofits such as Girls Inc. and the College World Series. He lauded Central for its "exceptional education, AP courses and dedicated teachers." While at Central, Schrage also was the sports editor for The Register. In his closing he addressed Central as a whole when he said, "Thank you for helping shape my life and thank you for this cherished honor."

The next inductee, Robert Batt, graduated in 1966 and went on to be an executive vice president and spokesperson for Nebraska Furniture Mart and also a young person's mentor. Batt explained how many of his high school friendships have carried over into today, which is a highly cherished aspect of Central. He said, "I wish I knew then what I know now. You learn a lot, but you also learn by giving back."

The second distinguished educator to be inducted was journalism instructor Mike Gaherty. Gaherty supervised The Register and the O-Book and also told a tale in which students in his charge printed a bogus April Fools story saying that the

school courtyard was to be flooded and turned into an aquarium. Ultimately he said that many parents and students were found rushing to the school to see this new addition only to hear that it had all been a hoax. He said of the students whose idea the prank had been and all the ones he'd had throughout his years, "They are the reason I'm standing up here tonight."

Amongst Central's thousands of graduates, there have been some to go on to become community leaders in religion. One of these servant hearts is class of 1981 graduate and current Episcopal bishop J. Scott Barker. Barker went on to attend Yale Divinity School and has also lived in New York. For him, friendship was one of the greatest attributes of Central. He said, "Men and women I attended school with are still there for me today. [Central] molded me into a kinder, better human being."

The last Central alum to be inducted that night was class of 1995 graduate and retired professional football player Ahman Green. Green played running back for the football team after transferring from North High School in order to receive a better education. His two years of football there allowed his talents to blossom and attract attention from the collegiate level and ultimately from the National Football League. In professional football, Green played for three teams over 12 years, including four Pro Bowl Seasons. For him, Central's strengths lie in diversity and the teaching staff, and it will always be, "where I'm from," he said.

With the conclusion of 2015's inductions, it will be another year before more of Central's vast number of alumni will join their brethren along the wall of the Hall of Fame, and having a diverse range from a bishop, a businessman and a football player, the versatility of those who pass through Central's halls cannot be understated.



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:

Thank you for picking up a copy of Issue 2 of The Register. We really hope you enjoyed our first issue, seeing as we had redesigned the entire publication. It seems like you did- we ran out of copies! Thank you very much for the positive feedback. We welcome letters to the editor with open arms. Central staff, students and parents are encouraged to write feedback about the stories we published- or should've published. Didn't see something you wanted to be covered? Send us a story; we are happy to print contributing writers who bring fresh ideas to the issues. Special thanks to our staff, who put up with late nights and a heavy workload. Of course, we couldn't do this without our fabulous advisor, Mrs. Blayney, or her student teacher, Ms. Wheeler. If it wasn't for their steady stream of enthusiasm, we're not sure we could've gotten done with this issue. Thanks so much- and don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @CHS\_Press.

*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.

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## New club encourages thinking outside political party lines

**Carlson Koch**  
staff writer

The new club the Omaha Central Students for Liberty held their first meeting Oct. 22. Senior Joshua Denning and junior Choteau Kammel are the leaders of the club. The group, of around 10 students, is open to the entire student body.

"People should join our club because it might be the first instance where they are exposed to something other than two-party politics," said Denning. "The media, schools and culture which surrounds us doesn't involve a whole lot of political flexibility."

Having held two meetings, the group is accepting members to contribute to heated discussions including controversial topics. "Organized discussion at our first meeting took on a wide range of topics, from Donald Trump to the War on Drugs," said Denning.

Rather than telling teens to take a partisan stance, the club promotes the idea that all human beings have sovereignty over themselves in both personal and economic spheres. "We are not strictly conservative or liberal, and... our discussions reflect that," said Denning.

The guiding principle behind Students for Liberty is not Libertarian Party politics, but the independent viewpoint of libertarianism. Tenets of which include self ownership, freedom to contract, Austrian economics and non-interventionism.

"We decided that more young people need to be exposed to an alternative to today's two-party system. Stressing the importance of being proactive in politics is key to securing our nation's future," he said.

Denning also stressed that teenagers do not realize the burden of debt being piled upon them by the government.

"As we progress and grow, this can hopefully become a platform for which we use to debate, inform and contribute," he said. "It is also likely we will take part in outside activities such as petition drives, demonstrations and awareness-raising campaigns."

Not only can students develop deep thinking skills, they can also make friends and sharpen their ability to debate and express opinions at the meetings.

The club is hopeful for their future success. They are planning on inviting guest speakers and holding extra events that would take place outside of the meetings.

Naturally, to make this happen, they must have sponsors. "Our club is sponsored by Hillary Blayne and Derek Anderson. They have been incredibly supportive and crucial to our newfound success," Denning said.

Anderson teaches AP Government for International Baccalaureate students, and takes little credit for the creation of this club.

"I really was not much of any of it, Choteau was the one who really put all the footwork into it," said Anderson.

In his government classes Anderson works to expose the not talked about topics of tax abuse and union money.

Anderson believes that generations of students have become unaware of what the government should do. "Even when I am teaching government to seniors, the amount of people who have no clue of what our constitution says about what our government should not do and cannot do is awe striking," said Anderson.

"This club is a different viewpoint of government ability and the overall outlook of society," he said. "This a way for getting a good outlook on things."

## Politically aware young women attend conference



Photo Courtesy of CASEY DENTON

Young female representatives from Central pose with an eagle hand symbol. The 'Running and Winning' conference was Oct. 28.

**Natalie Nepper**  
editor-in-chief

The League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha held the annual "Running and Winning" conference at the University of Nebraska Omaha Thompson Alumni Center on Oct. 28. Young women from Central attended the conference alongside students from Benson, Bellevue East and Westside. Students opted in to attending based on their leadership potential and their interest in government, history and political science.

The purpose of the conference was to encourage women to become more involved in politics. During the day event, female elected officials were interviewed by the participants in order to help them gain more understanding of the professional field. Some who attended included Lou Ann Goding, the OPS School Board President; Tanya Cook of the Nebraska State Legislator; Freddie Gray, a representative on the OPS School Board; the Douglas County Assessor and Register of Deeds, Diane Battiatto; Anne McGuire, the Director of the OPPD Board; and over ten other politically active women.

The women discussed their process of running for office in addition to the difficulties of being female in a predominately male field. "We need to improve the representation of women in elected positions," said Gail Formanack, President of the

League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha. "In order to do that, we need young women to see politics as an attractive career goal and prepare themselves for that goal. The elected officials here today are eager to share their time and expertise because they believe public service is important, and they believe more women need to be involved in politics."

After the interviews, students were divided into groups and designed a political campaign. The girls decided who their candidate for senate was and then they divided up other positions such as speech writer, publicist and campaign manager. They were given an hour and a half to develop a stance on the legalization of medical marijuana, write a speech, develop a campaign slogan and create a poster.

Audrey Hughes, a senior whose group won "Best Overall Campaign" and "Best Campaign Poster," decided to participate in "Running and Winning" because of her interest in government. "I joined 'Running and Winning' because it was an opportunity to learn more about the political process," she said. "Running and Winning' was lots of fun and it presented running for office in a fun way."

Another Central team won "Best Campaign Slogan" for their phrase, "Let's fight our fears and move forward." Next year, "Running and Winning" will be held at UNO, and they plan to invite politically-active young women from Central again.

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## IB seniors show diligence, commitment, honored at ceremony



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

**Left: Dr. Ed Bennett speaks to parents and staff gathered to honor the IB class of 2016. Right: Shambhabi Paudyal receives her pin from Tom Wagner before giving a flower to her sponsor.**

**Anna Kaminski**  
staff writer

Every year in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP) community, the seniors participate in the Pinning Ceremony which formally classifies the students as contenders for an IB Diploma.

In order to qualify for an IB Diploma, students must complete the Theory of Knowledge course and its accompanying assessments, the Extended Essay and an aspect of the program called Creativity Activity and Service (CAS).

Students study subject areas such as Language Acquisition, Individuals and Societies, Mathematics, The Arts and several more. In the United States, there are a total of 1,694 schools teaching IB programmes; 878 of those schools practice the Diploma Programme.

The Pinning Ceremony is for IB seniors who are officially members of the IB Programme. It honors the diligence and commitment they've put forth to that point with speeches from Dr. Bennett and IB DP/DE/AP Coordinator Cathy Andrus. Additionally, the students were celebrating the completion of their Extended Essays, on which they've spent countless hours working on.

"The Pinning Ceremony is a chance to celebrate not just the Extended Essay, but also all the hard work the students have done in their courses," says Tracey Menten, IB DP Theory of Knowledge instructor and IB DP CAS Coordinator. "The IB DP faculty and students become like family, and this ceremony is a way to invite the parents and extended family into the

mix to see that the hard work is worth the effort, that their students have support and that at times, we even have fun."

IB does indeed require an extreme amount of hard work and dedication. The program promotes ideals of perseverance, time management, quality study habits and getting involved in the community. Although it can be a lot to manage, students

“ If you want to go build a bridge, they [the IB staff] will be like, 'Go build a bridge.' It might not work, but they're supportive. Do what you want. Don't let other people influence you ”

AVERY BROWN

IB senior

say the experience is definitely worth it.

"I honestly would [recommend IB]...I am stressed out about it, but also, in college, I won't be so stressed because I'll be prepared...There's a lot of stuff you have to do with IB and you're learning time management with all of your Internal Assessments and your CAS project so that when you do go to college, it'll be easy," says IB senior Mackenzie Sempeck.

Sempeck would ideally like to attend Vanderbilt University to become a doctor at Vanderbilt. For her Extended Essay, Sempeck chose the topic of the history of women in advertising and the depiction of women in the media "I wanted to look

into the way we sexualize females, but also put history into it and be like 'Oh this is why we do it'" she says.

Aiden Brummel, senior, says "I started dedicating a lot of time to myself as self-improvement time, which also counts for CAS hours." IB leaves a lot of room for self-direction and reflection. Additionally, it's not a traditionally structured environment allowing students to really find themselves through the process of learning.

"If you like the people in your group, you'll just have a great day...I enjoy every period of my day," says Brummel.

Senior Avery Brown says, "We just kind of go with the flow...we're kind of hippies!"

The IB Program was founded in 1968 in Geneva, Switzerland. IB Learners are expected to be "Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced and Reflective" as stated in the IB Learner Profile.

"You can kind of just dream and do whatever you want, like if you want to go build a bridge, they [the IB staff] will be like, 'Go build a bridge.' It might not work, but they're supportive," says Brown. Her advice to anyone thinking about being in IB is, "Do what you want. Don't let other people influence you."

"Honestly though, I have an immense amount of pride for and respect in my students and I love any excuse to celebrate them," says Menten. "Students have always inspired me to learn more and to challenge myself. I see students taking risks and if I am asking them to do that, I should be willing to do the same."

## Italian exchange student embraces diversity, enjoys class differences

**Madison Tharnish**  
contributing writer

Stepping off the plane onto Omaha soil is Benni's most memorable memory.

It was a big change for senior Bennedetta Doro, a foreign exchange student, when she left her home of Cagliari, Italy to spend her senior year at Omaha Central High School. Not only is the city and style of living different for her, schooling is a big difference.

In Italy, a student would take five years of high school instead of just four. The school week is Monday through Saturday with an average of 5 hours of schooling each day. And each class is one full hour instead of just 44 minutes. Having that extra day to her weekend is one of her favorite things about Central, but she does not really like getting out of school so late.

Students at Central are able to pick their own classes depending on what their interests are, but in Italy, you are assigned specific classes that are usually just your basic classes. One does not switch classes as a student throughout the day. Instead the teachers switch classrooms as the students stay in the same room with the same students all day.

One nice thing about not switching classes, students do not have to carry around a heavy bag and a stack of books all day. You do not move anywhere, so it just sits there with you and does not have to be picked back up till the end of the day.

However, there is one thing that is disliked by many students. "I really do not like the stairs. But I'm getting used to them because I like going from class to class," Bennedetta said.

The diversity is yet another person's favorite aspect. "I love the different people here and being able to meet them. The teachers are also very nice," Bennedetta, or as students know her, Benni, said about her favorite thing at Central.

In Italy, the grades are split up into different letters and then that is how the schools figure out what classes you will be taking.

Students in high school take having lunch available to them everyday for granted, but if you go to high school in Italy, no one is given time for lunch. Every student is provided one 15 minute break in the morning. After that break one sits in class the rest of the day and does not get to eat until you are dismissed from school. It may seem weird for students here, but since their school day is only five hours, a student would go a couple hours, have their break, then sit in class for another couple of hours.

Benni has had many changes in her life in the last few months. Every part of it has been an amazing experience for her and one of her favorite experiences. Even though she misses things and people back in Italy, she is definitely going to miss Omaha when she leaves.



Photo Courtesy of BENNEDETTA DORO

Doro, on the far left, has been an active participant in school sporting events.



## Time at Yale program changes lifelong perspective

Only a couple of days into my two-week stay, I received a second degree burn. The mind-numbing pain caused by a hot hair curler originated in my wrist, but seared up my lower arm almost constantly for the rest of the program. The burn eventually healed, but a poppy-colored scar nearly three inches in diameter still hangs on with no signs of fading. I welcome its presence. I like to think that it's my souvenir; my treasured piece of the Yale Young Global Scholars program that will accompany me for the rest of my life.

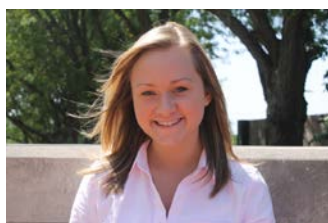
During my time at Yale, I lived and learned with the most incredible people I have ever met. Prior to the program, I had rarely encountered people who were so intelligent, passionate and strong-willed yet still genuinely curious about other people and their beliefs. My 200 cohorts of the International Affairs and Security session defied my expectations, and I am now close to an ever-expanding network of young adults who are just as consumed by their love of the world as I am.

The concepts and skills I learned during the program have become an integral part of my identity. I approach problems differently, with a more open and inquisitive mind. I hear other people differently; I listen more and speak less. The expansive knowledge I was exposed to not only improved my education, but

it improved my ability to educate myself. I have become infinitely more interested in the happenings of the world around me, and the issues we face each day. Because of the Young Global Scholars program, I am a better debater, speaker, listener, friend, student, and human being.

Though the program was primarily academic, the friendships I made during my time there will never cease, and the memories I made will always be with me. I'll never forget late nights in the buttry, watching my friends go on a week-long streak of undefeated ping pong battles. I'll never forget watching Netflix late at night in the library, or the endless amount of time spent walking to and from the lecture hall. I'll never forget dinner together with my friends at Shake Shack, or being forced to seal envelopes during a lunch period after accidentally wandering "out of bounds." My time at Yale was filled to the brim with laughter and friendship, and I wish every day that we could go back.

We studied and worked hard in those two weeks. We survived on three hours of sleep per night, and loved every minute of it. We made friends, we laughed and we got in trouble. I made friends and learned things at Yale Young Global Scholars that will always be a part of me and who I am. I've got the scar to prove it.



**KELSEY THOMAS**  
BE THERE IN TEN

## Gender identity, abortion among issues debated at forum

CONTINUED FROM 'HEALTH'  
ON PAGE 1

parents surveyed saying that it should be covered.

Other proposed topics include gender identity, LGBT inclusion and abortion, which were all met with a generally positive but varied response, according to the survey as well as during the community forum. Statistically, abortion topics were the least supported by the community at around 64 percent.

Spencer-May knows that encouraging students to formulate their own opinions as well as respecting the opinions of others is what will create thoughtful dialogue between parents, students and teachers. "By talking about differences and encouraging the understanding of differences, hopefully we will have less bullying of students that have different beliefs and ways of being," Spencer-May said. She believes that in order to welcome open dialogue, "creating a safe and inclusive environment where all

students feel welcome to learn" is a key factor.

Personal and family beliefs have been and continue to be encouraged. OPS has said that parents should be the primary educator of their children, and will provide resources for those parents who want to discuss topics with their child. Exactly what the line is between what should be taught in schools and at home is fuzzy, Spencer-May believes. "We would like to see a blend of what parents and the school can do to help educate their children by encouraging more conversations to share family views," Spencer-May said. Despite some parents not wanting their children to be exposed to certain topics, they have the option to opt-out their child from sections of class instruction or the entire course.

Tension is still prevalent with the community, but downfalls with implementing balanced curriculum can be prevented, according to Spencer-May. "As long as we continue to keep parents and the public informed of proposed changes I believe the downfalls will become less frequent."

## Principal to receive award for support of music programs

**Hayley Raney**  
staff writer

On November 20, Principal Dr. Ed Bennett will receive an Outstanding Administrator award from the Nebraska Music Educators Association (NMEA). He will be attending a banquet at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln and also giving a speech in regards to how greatly honored and appreciative he is for his reception of this coveted award.

Bennett said the award means a "tremendous amount to me, I'm incredibly honored, music teachers and students feel they are being supported."

The purpose of the Outstanding Administrator award is that it recognizes administrative support for music education, which Bennett has been highly involved in. A love of music runs in his family, as his daughter, junior Morgan Bennett is a violinist in the school orchestra.

Bennett was nominated by Lyn Bouma, Central's performing arts teacher. Performing arts students, parents and music teachers wrote letters on Bennett's behalf to earn this award. The letters consisted of first hand accounts dictating Bennett's proactive approach to music education.

Bennett says he has "a strong support for the arts here at Central," and the NMEA has been "financially supportive" by allowing Bennett to provide a new shell for choir singers, a new piano for the stage and new instruments for the growing amount of band and orchestra students.

This award benefits Central because Bennett says it "sends a message to the community that the administrators value music," and for future high school students looking for a strong music program to attend, Central will most likely be one of their choices.

All in all, Bennett is honored to earn this award and says, "Thank you to everyone who wrote a letter on my behalf and thanks to all of our students and music teachers for their hard work."

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## DONALD TRUMP 09

Presidential hopeful Donald Trump keeps his leg up on the competition through constant news coverage and social media domination.



## EDUCATION 12

No bureaucracy that receives public funding, yet fails to properly serve the public, should be allowed to continue at the expense of the taxpayers.

## SMOKING 14

Anti-smoking advertisements prove ineffective and show that inflicting fear has opposite effect. It's clear that smokers won't quit because of a T.V. advertisement.



# perspective & commentary

the REGISTER • November 5, 2015 • Volume 131, Issue 2

## Young people should reconsider common methods of debate

Kelsey Thomas  
editor-in-chief

I wondered for a long time when I was younger about what my generation would come to be known for. Those who came of age in the 20s gained recognition for raging alcoholism and flapper outfits. Young adults of the 60s protested the war effort and instead proclaimed messages of love and peace.

Each decade of American young adults seem to earn their claim to fame, and I have always wondered what fellow young adults of the 2010s and 2020s would eventually be labeled as. I think I've gotten my answer.

We've got our upsides and our downsides. We are the most tolerant generation so far, as well as the generation most interested in popping the bubble of ignorance regarding foreign affairs that surrounds most U.S. citizens.

I hope that we will surpass prior young adults' voting turnout records, because it seems that teenagers my age may be more politically interested than generations of the past.

But ironically, my generation seems to be the least politically open. We are strong in our liberal convictions, and in this, we find our behavior paradoxical; we are so committed to democratic ideals of openness and acceptance that we are aggressively closed off to others who do not support this belief.

Maybe this is just a hallmark of youth, but we seem to be a highly-opinionated group without the logic or experience to back us up.

Social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr have provided our generation with more opportunities to share our opinions, and perhaps these outlets are the root of our tendency to overdebate.

Moreover, easy access to the Internet and dozens of news sources has caused us to formulate a judgment on every piece of information that comes our way, causing us to be convinced of our own opinions without seeking to be informed of other aspects of any given event.

The most devastating aspect of our generations' general personality is our tendency to inform those around us of our opinions, oftentimes aggressively.

Not only do people passionately rant on social media sites, but they attack others without the ability to intelligently debate or take into consideration the backgrounds of others.

CONTINUE TO 'MICROAGGRESSIONS'  
ON PAGE 10

## ART IS NOT A CRIME

Graffiti taggers with good intentions should not be branded as criminals



ANN MILROY | The Register

Elmwood Park features a drainage pipe donned with years of colorful graffiti. Artists believe graffiti is not a form of vandalism.

Julian Hock-Beaty  
staff writer

The presence of graffiti in urban areas has become increasingly prevalent in the last several years, especially in Omaha. Gangs use vandalism as a way to mark territory, which causes violent conflict, but taggers, a term for a street-level graffiti artists, use spraypaint to create words or symbols on buildings, signs, walls and any other surface that would make their work noticeable.

The varied purposes for graffiti make it difficult to decide whether or not it is of artistic merit. Many agree that there are obvious differences between an unauthorized mural and a gang's turf claim. The inconvenient placement of the paintings is what causes the most problems. In Omaha, we have areas that sport flashy, hand-painted murals, such as Benson or downtown. The owners of these buildings either hired an artist to draw attention to their establishment, or they chose not to remove the work

because of its vibrant appearance.

Law enforcement names graffiti as a form of vandalism. Graffiti normally translates to a minor misdemeanor. In the case of expression, graffiti murals should be considered a form of art. The amount of time put into painting an entire wall in detail deserves a bit of recognition. The legal issues still remain, however. A tagger with good intentions is still breaking the law just as much as a thug representing his gang. Unfortunately, taggers tend to choose bad places to paint, and their work is so publicly placed that people begin to view it as an annoyance.

There is a growing market for street-style art. If graffiti artists had more opportunities and legally-approved spaces to put their work, the public would see a decrease in illegal tagging. On that same note, the art would be a bit more confined to building walls, as opposed to the distasteful vandalism of bathroom stalls

CONTINUE TO 'GRAFFITI'  
ON PAGE 10

## FCS classes provide vital experiences, but should remain electives

Vasili Sgourakis  
staff writer

For many, the family and consumer science (FCS) classes offered at Central provide a way to expand on one's hobby or prepare he and she for life as an adult. Classes such as teen parenting, human growth and development, CAD fashion, child development, culinary skills and clothing textiles are opportunities for students to gain instruction on topics that they are not being taught at home.

Although this branch of classes may not be appealing to all students, this does not mean that they are not necessary. Classes such as culinary skills and teen parenting may prepare students for life outside of or after high school. Furthermore, these aforementioned classes are electives, so if they do not appeal to one, it is not a necessity to take them.

Not all students plan to go into a field that deals with a typical liberal arts education, or plan to attempt to receive a

the realization that a college degree is helpful to their success. On the other hand, some students may simply want to prepare themselves for life outside of high school with classes that will teach them how to live by themselves, work with others, and deal with family life; this is why FCS classes are necessary.

By providing FCS classes, students are given the ability to further their knowledge outside of typical math, science, social science, and English curriculum typically provided. Some students however may find these core classes unnecessary because they are uninterested or do not plan to go into a field that deals with these standards. For example, for one who wants to become a chef he or she may take culinary skills to provide them with basic knowledge to enter culinary school.

Though most of these classes are elective courses, human growth and development is a required course. Instead of being required, human growth should be an elective as well. In OPS students are taught human growth curriculum from fourth grade to eighth grade.

comes for a week and takes the place of another period. However, starting in seventh grade, human growth is a quarter long class, which covers a variety of topics from drug use, safe sex, sexually transmitted diseases and healthy relationships with family and friends.

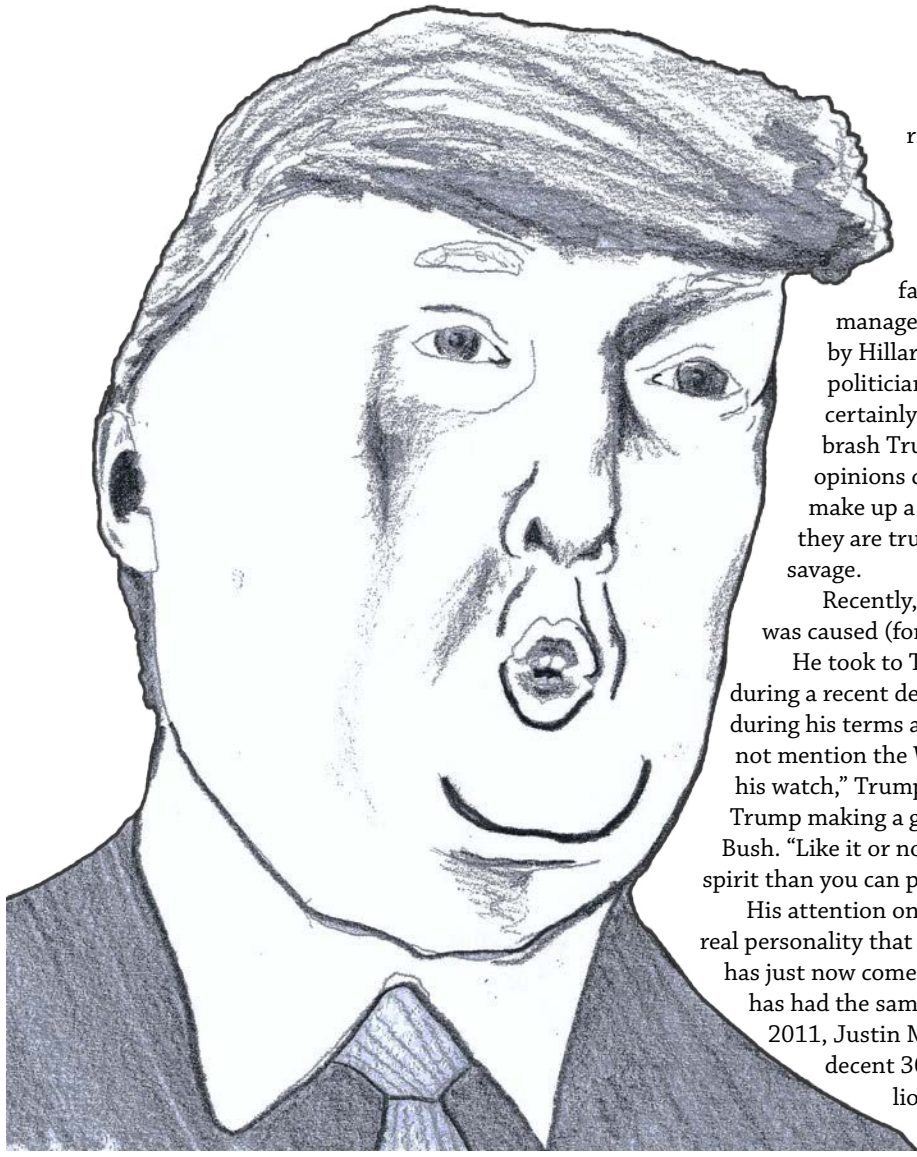
Because most students at Central come from OPS and have already learned this material, human growth should not be a required class, but rather an elective for students looking to further and advance their understanding of this material or for students who have not been familiarized with this curriculum before.

While FCS classes should not be abolished, this is not to say that the core classes should be forgotten for students that are uninterested. Instead, they should be pushed as usual. Nevertheless, the students taking these core classes will have the opportunity to prepare themselves further for their adult life by experiencing the many useful aspects of the family and consumer science curriculum.



# PLAYING THE TRUMP CARD

Presidential hopeful Donald Trump keeps his leg up on the competition with constant news coverage and social media domination



Alec Rome  
web editor

With candidates spending billions of dollars on their campaign, through negative campaign ads or those political bumper stickers seen every four years, Donald Trump has found a cost-effective way to not only stay relevant but also stay at the top of the polls: social media.

The 69 year-old presidential hopeful has dominated social media venues such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and over the past month has kept his popularity high, despite the

rise of other Republican candidates such as Carly Fiorina and Ben Carson.

If you look at Hillary Clinton's Twitter page, she has a grand total of around 2,000 tweets. Most of those look fairly fabricated by a third-party campaign manager, very few apparently being "tweeted" by Hillary herself. It's another criticism of typical politicians being "fake" or "unreal." It is most certainly not the case for the bold, outlandish and brash Trump. With over 28,000 tweets, Trump's opinions can be felt through the very pixels that make up a screen. They don't sound nice or political, they are true to his character and sometimes quite savage.

Recently, Trump has made allegations that 9/11 was caused (for the most part) by George W. Bush.

He took to Twitter to tear apart Jeb Bush for saying during a recent debate that G. Bush kept the country safe during his terms as president. "I wanted to be nice and did not mention the World Trade Center came down during his watch," Trump said. His attack did not stop there, with Trump making a general statement about the nature of Jeb Bush. "Like it or not, our country needs more energy and spirit than you can provide!"

His attention on social media has grown because of the real personality that the public has known for years, except it has just now come out on a more mainstream level. Trump has had the same social media manager since February 2011, Justin McConney, who brought Trump from a decent 300,000 followers to his current 4.6 million, surpassing Hillary Clinton as the candidate with the most followers. Over the past month, Trump has had more than 1.8 million mentions on Twitter, more than Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton combined. That's the kind of powerhouse Trump has become in the media.

It also seems that Trump has become more open with media appearances. With Hillary Clinton making a splash on television, late night appearances have become a small factor in the campaign.

Trump has also covered his bases on that front, making a "huge" appearance on the viral video producing Tonight Show. Trump is also scheduled to host Saturday Night Live on November 7, which should definitely generate media buzz in

multiple forms. However, Trump may need to get even more out of his comfort zone. McConney might be able to help with that.

McConney initially encouraged Trump to participate in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, a social media craze that raised awareness for the disease last summer.

It was a trend that Trump was reluctant to follow, but gained him more than one million Youtube views. Somehow, he was able to pull Trump out of a comfort zone that is quite compelling to see, considering Trump's naturally extrovert nature.

What has really taken politics by storm? Trump's fifteen second Instagram posts, which have been used not only for his campaign but also for his insults. One of his clips features Bernie Sanders being taken off of his microphone by some protestors, and a caption stating, "Bernie can't even defend his own microphone, how will he defend the country?"

Those ads are relatively costless, compared to running commercials, something Trump has refused to do since the beginning of his campaign. It's a smart move; most negative ad commercials are run too much and eventually the general voter gets tired of them.

What does the normal voter/young voter do? They check social media and interact with Trump. Some of his Instagram posts are quite humorous, and in this short-attention generation, Trump is doing exactly what he needs to do to keep people talking about him. Sure, he gets his normal media popularity, but only because of his outlandish nature, not because of Trump choosing to pay for ads.

Once again, a relatively costless way to control media in many forms and use campaign funds in other areas, which becomes difficult for other campaigns who ask for the big bucks, because the only way they can stay on television is through ads.

It is plain to see that most of Trump's 140-character insults come from the hands of the man himself, not someone else. Despite having a social media manager, Donald Trump himself has visible influence on social media, unlike Clinton or Sanders who focus more on campaign rhetoric, then try to act more real and all of a sudden can't compete.

Trump has been real for a long time. Face it, Trump's hair might be more real than most tweets by any competitor that chooses to mention his name. This is politics in the twenty-first century: savage and owned by Donald J. Trump.

EMMA PETERSON | Contributing Cartoonist

## Speaker fails in defense of liberty, resignation brings hope to the GOP

Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner has been in Congress for over two decades and presided over numerous legislative debates and heated issues. However, in the midst of a schism between the centrist establishment Republican leadership and the more libertarian wing of the party, Boehner opted to step down from his position as speaker, barring that the election for the new speaker is definitively being held. Originally he had planned to step down almost immediately, but after the leading candidate for speaker Kevin McCarthy stepped down, the void would have been left open too long and therefore Boehner will remain speaker for a few more weeks. Although this postponement is rather unfortunate, this resignation could not come at a better time, and at last, the sounder minds of the advocates of economic and personal liberty will hopefully be given a voice.

During his congressional tenure, Boehner presided over numerous hot button subjects such as the Patriot Act, the ACA, taxes, and corporate welfare. During all of which he consistently violated core conservative beliefs and often times made his disagreement loudly voiced, but never proposed alternatives to what he loathed.

One of the main results of 9/11 was the increase of the national security state and the emergence of the NSA as a big budget agency. Enacted by President Bush soon after the terrorist attacks, the Patriot ACT apparently simplified the process of obtaining warrants for law enforcement to tap phones, read emails and collect data. However, as revealed by Edward Snowden, all the ACT actually allowed was the federal

government to bypass all legal proceedings and simply collect bulk data on all American's emails, texts and phone calls. Once more, Boehner had been a proponent of this, like many in the establishment GOP, considering this ironically named law as essential to national security. With his resignation, perhaps a true defender of the Fourth Amendment and protector of privacy will be elected.

One of the longest running pieces of controversial legislation that has gone through during Boehner's tenure was the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare. Although Boehner did take an admirably strong stance in working to defeat this gross federal+corporate interference into the healthcare industry, he never successfully presented an alternative to the American people. At a time where the left constantly used the Republican's stand against the unpopular bill to say they hated the poor and elderly, Boehner could have capitalized on the failure

of the Obamacare-like Veterans Administration, the benefits of personalized medicine, the value that interstate competition could bring and cronyism that the ACA brought along with it, however he simply just didn't. Perhaps he was unable to due to the partisan politics of Congress, but the Speaker must be able to take every opportunity presented, and Boehner didn't.

On taxation Boehner generally opposed increases as a conservative would, however all that seemed to come out of his House were revenue neutral tax plans and reforms. Rather than take the true conservative stance in cutting everyone's taxes, or even abolishing the income tax entirely as it is technically theft and replacing it with a national consumption tax,

Boehner and the establishment GOP mainly shifted the burden one way or the other but never eliminated or significantly reduced it. Hopefully the next Speaker will fight for tax breaks for all American's and perhaps even one of the craziest ideas to the federal government, a balanced budget.

Lastly, John Boehner did very little to rid the GOP of the corporate stigma often levied upon them by the left. Even though their own bills often are backed by corporations who wish to regulate out the completion, the left loves to accuse Republicans of only supporting big business. In some ways, this is actually true, and often both sides are equally guilty. Boehner endorsed and supported the Export Import Bank, whose charter expired last year but has seen an attempted revival in the past months.

This bank provides subsidies to foreign businesses in return for apparently purchasing American goods. This leaves many American businesses at a disadvantage as they are forced to compete with foreign firms that are backed by free money from the federal government. Boehner has supported the bringing back of this bank and has been a driving force for the upcoming possibility that the charter for the bank be voted on again, and therefore complicit in purveying the cronyism that has become a hallmark of Congress.

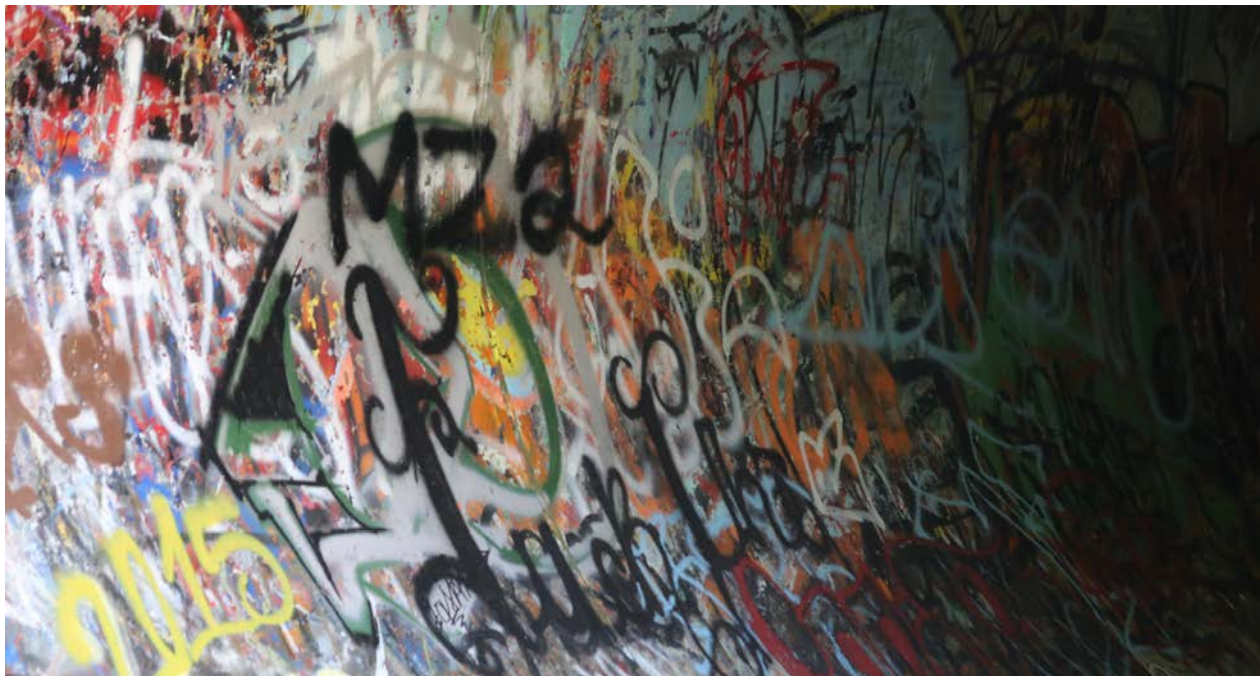
All in all, although John Boehner took admirable stances and never relinquished his character in the heat of politics, he did fail to bring the more libertarian and constitutionalist wings of the party into the fold and in times where the debt clock reads 18.4 trillion dollars and Donald Trump is the leading GOP presidential contender, a more youthful and outspoken defender of liberty is needed, and therefore frankly this resignation could not come at a better time.



CHOTEAU KAMMEL  
SHOW TIME



## Artistic qualities of graffiti undersold



ANN MILROY | The Register

Though graffiti is often found in inappropriate places, many businesses have used the street art to attract attention.

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ON PAGE 8

and playground equipment. Professional graffiti artists would have chances to show off their work in noticeable places without being arrested or fined.

Omaha has many unique examples of street art seen in everyday areas. Just under a year ago, the grain elevators along Interstate 80 at 34th Street featured brightly painted banners along the faces of their silo structures. Unfortunately, the company who designed the art was recently bought by a larger corporation. The new owners spent thousands to remove the paintings while doing a routine highway cleanup.

In the political scene, graffiti-style art still manages to find a place to apply itself. 45 year-old Shepard Fairey, creator and artist behind OBEY Clothing, uses street art techniques when designing his pieces. OBEY was started as a propaganda-esque apparel line for skateboarders. Since its founding in 2001, this brand has become one of the biggest names in both street art and fashion.

Graffiti also integrates politics in the way of subliminal messages. A mysterious English artist known only as Banksy touches on edgy topics in the form of satire. His infamous composition, titled Rage the Flower Thrower,

depicts a militant-like protestor throwing a bouquet of flowers (rather than a lethal projectile). Banksy creates emotionally heavy pieces intended to make the viewer think deeply. His art has been popularized by documentaries, films, and social media. His identity is still unknown to the public, presumably to protect him from legal consequences.

Regardless of the freedoms Americans have, vandalism is still a crime. Urban areas suffer the most from this, but there is definitely a remedy. Providing an outlet for aspiring graffiti artists can create a decent market. Businesses wanting to visually stand out in their area could pay an artist to work their magic. This offers incentive for taggers to apply their skills in an honest, legal way. There will always be gang-related graffiti, but truly talented individuals would be able to express themselves without the fear of getting caught by the police. This, in turn, reduces illegal activity.

For now, the city will continue to take down murals. Hopefully, an effort will be made to preserve the beautiful art, but the law doesn't give much wiggle room for taggers. The only question now is: Who is considered creative, and who is considered criminal? Perhaps the law will change in favor of artistic expression.

## Fight for equality to be won with patience, harsh words only further hatred

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ON PAGE 8

Someone's Instagram post of themselves in mock-traditional Native American garb on Halloween is commented on by others who hostilely declare it as "garbage" or as an instance of cultural appropriation.

The issue is not whether or not concerns such as these are valid; of course a white teenage girl should not dress up as a Native American for Halloween, nor should they get dreads in their hair, or wear a hijab as a fashion statement.

There is no question about the failing morality of these actions, but young people must make an effort not to respond to these actions with hostility and insulting words.

More and more often, I see teenagers resort to name-calling to express their discontent that someone has accidentally used the wrong gender pronoun for a transgender person, or use Twitter as an outlet to rant about microaggressions.

Microaggressions are a real problem in society that have to be addressed. People shouldn't ignore the various means by which many heterosexual white people offend everyone else.

But in order to urge people to listen and actually change their behavior, teenagers must stop using hurtful or violent language. While it may be wonderfully concise, responding to an offensive tweet with the phrase "trash" is unfortunately not effective.

It doesn't stop that person from continuing their behavior, nor does it educate them on the offensive nature of their words.

Blatantly racist, sexist, homophobic, or transphobic comments or actions do not deserve such polite interactions.

Whether one comments "trash" or provides an intelligent explanation about the error of the other party's ways, it's safe to say that they will never understand how to be an upstanding citizen or accepting human beings.

But the truth is, sometimes it's hard to be a good person. It can be hard to know what is offensive to Native Americans, to trans people, or to any other historically disadvantaged group.

A teenage girl dressing up in a Native American Halloween costume is likely not meant to be offensive, and people must realize that insulting someone will not put an end to their behavior.

As young people striving to make an impact on America and the world, we must approach the faults of others with patience, and a willingness to show our peers a better way to interact with those unlike themselves.



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# Bombing of Afghani hospital by U.S. must be considered a war crime

**Kelsey Thomas**  
editor-in-chief

In a wave of air strikes ordered in Afghanistan as an effort to limit the activities of ISIS and other terroristic organizations, a Doctors without Borders hospital was allegedly “accidentally” bombed and nearly destroyed by American drones. Though it is not clear whether or not the U.S. military intended to hit the hospital, the tragedy has made it painstakingly obvious that protocol in the Middle East must be revised.

Twenty-two people were killed in the Oct. 3 attack, including multiple Afghani civilian patients as well as medical professionals from other countries.

Not only were people killed, but an important place in a rural and impoverished area that provided free medical care was diminished to ruins. It is undecided how long it will take for the hospital to be rebuilt, or who will be responsible for financing the reconstruction.

The United States may claim that the attack was an accident, but considering the level of damage done, the length of the bombing, and the technology available to the military, it is difficult to believe that this was truly done by fault. The hospital was not hit by a single bomb, instead, it was hit by dozens over the course of 60 minutes.

Also keeping in mind the level of technology used by bomb targeting programs outfitted on planes and drones, there is no possible way that the hospital was bombed as a result of a faulty computer system.

Instead, it seems far more likely that the bombing was a “precaution” taken by the U.S. government. Reports have in-

dicated that the government suspected that the hospital was a Taliban hide out center, and was in the middle of investigating the true purpose of the facility at the time of the bombing.

It has now been confirmed by both the Doctors without Borders organization and the government that the medical center was exactly how it appeared, and no terrorists were using it as a hiding place.

“ *It is entirely too much of a coincidence that the hospital was considered suspect by the government, and soon after destroyed by extremely powerful weapons* ”

It is entirely too much of a coincidence that the hospital was considered suspect by the government, and soon after destroyed by extremely powerful weapons.

It seems blaringly obvious that the military took too big of a risk, and decided to destroy the hospital without reasonable evidence that it was housing terrorists.

Though it will likely never be revealed what truly happened to the Doctors without Borders center, or how the U.S. made such a blaring misstep, the case must come to a close, and justice must be brought to the people killed in the attack. Operators of the planes that dropped the bombs, as well as the leaders who ordered these attacks, must be brought before an international court and tried for war crimes.

No matter the intent, civilians were still killed in the attacks, and the people responsible for their deaths should not be pardoned simply because they are involved in the most powerful military in the world.

Unfortunately, due to the prowess of our defense department, it is likely that justice will never be fulfilled for the Afghani people. Time and time again we witness the United States mistakenly bomb civilian areas in the name of democracy and freedom, and justify it by stating that there were “centers for ISIS affiliates” in the area.

Though many drone missions are successful in that they kill members of ISIS, a comparable number are dreadfully unsuccessful in that they blindly kill innocent civilians, including men, women and children. It is time that U.S. lawmakers and citizens view Afghani, Palestinian, Syrian, Turkish, Iranian, and Iraqi people as human beings; rather than lesser-thans to American people.

The increased use of drones has caused the government to feel more courageous in its attacks, but has simultaneously terrified many citizens of the Middle East. Numerous news source in the region have spoken with young children in the area to uncover their emotions about drone attacks such as the one on the Doctors without Borders center, and the results are truly heartbreaking.

Boys no more than ten look up at the sky and feel fearful that there is a drone they cannot see, and worry about the wellbeing of their families and friends. The U.S. military must halt the usage of drones as defense weapons, so that children of foreign countries can feel safe in their homes again.

# PUTTING THE DEBATE TO REST

Teenage health and academic performance adversely affected by early school start times and hefty homework loads.

**Hayley Raney**  
staff writer

No one likes waking up early for school. But teens especially struggle with the school starting times. As our generation proceeds working through this terrible sleeping schedules it can result in affecting our minds and bodies negatively.

According to the Sleep Foundation, “sleep is just as important as breathing.” Evidence also shows school start times are depriving teens from needed sleep. A recent poll presented by the National Sleep Foundation found that 60 percent of children under the age of 18 complained of being tired during the day and 15 percent said they fell asleep at school. Even though a lot of the teens don’t fall asleep at school doesn’t mean that they are not extremely tired.

Research does show that changing school start times can be challenging for school districts. Administrators have to delay busing schedules, coaches worry about scheduling practices and many parents rely on the current start times for reasons such as childcare or carpools.

Older students are also worried that school ending at a later time would affect after school jobs and activities. But teenagers gaining more sleep will have a lot of positive effects such as not falling asleep in class, not experiencing depression, less tardiness and absentees, less likely to fall asleep at the wheel and even reduced risks of obesity.

If students were to have more sleep to reduce risk of obesity, students should have a wider variety of “balanced” meals in schools. Since Michelle Obama is cutting back on what schools can serve to students, a lot of the students are still hungry after they eat lunch, because of these “balanced meals.” If the school boards wants their students to cooperate they have to cooperate with us and what we go through throughout our daily lives also. What the school boards don’t understand is that teens go through a lot more now than they did when they were in high school.

Teenagers have much more homework now. They have to maintain their social lives with friends and families. They participate in before and after school clubs, sports and activities. Teens need sleep with all of the hard work they go through. Sleep Center of UCLA explains that, “Most schools start class very early in the morning. After a long day at school, teens may also have to study for hours at home. An early start and a lot of homework can combine to make it hard for them to get to sleep on time.” They also point out how that after school some teen go to work after school, have to help with family, work on school work and study, watch and care for siblings, have clubs, sports or extra curricular activities after school. Teens should get about eight to ten hours of sleep.

Research shows the average adolescent’s time to fall asleep may be 11 pm or later. teens may feel wide-awake at bedtime, even when they are exhausted. As a result when it’s time to wake up for school they are not fully rested and alert. Issues that conflict these hours are cell-phone usage, busy schedules and busy lifestyles. For example some students have to wake up around 5 am because of school transportation, which can also be a cause that teens lose sleep.

Teens not getting enough sleep can cause mood and behavioral changes and poor academic performance, also “teens have a higher risk of drowsy driving,” and “drowsy driving causes over 100,000 crashes each year,” according to the Sleep Foundation. The Sleep Foundation even states, “Many teens suffer from treatable sleep disorders, such as narcolepsy, insomnia, restless legs syndrome or sleep apnea.” They can affect teens later in life by increasing these disorders as they become older.

Sleep is important to developing and growing teens. “Changes in sleep patterns and needs during puberty can contribute to excessive sleepiness in adolescents, which can impair daytime functioning,” the Sleep Foundation said. There are many consequences to teens losing sleep, but that does not mean that there are no solutions. Consequences that teens have trouble concentrating in school, aggressive behavior, weight gain, more prone to forget important things, more prone to acne and skin problems, unhealthy eating such as fried foods and sweets, and increasing your chances of getting sick.

Some solutions to getting more sleep would be staying off the phone, not eating or drinking before bed, keeping track of a to-do list for less worrying and stressing, taking quick naps and keeping it dark and quiet. Since the weekend is a time where teen can get the most sleep. It causes irregular sleep patterns that can hurt the quality of sleep, since on the weekends teens tend to sleep too much. Over sleeping a lot on the weekends can throw off teens sleep schedule for school. In the end, most teens can come to an agreement that teenagers need more sleep to be able to function properly and healthy in life and in school.

Although it is often stated that teenagers just need to go to bed earlier, this is much easier said than done. During adolescents, the teenage body and mind undergo drastic changes that make earlier bed nights almost impossible. This is not whiny teenagers complaining, its biological fact. If student’s well being and success is truly the goal of schools, and more sleep for students mean higher test scores, and higher test scores make schools look better and lead to more funding, than perhaps it is time to stop dismissing teenagers for their “complaining” and actually look at scientific facts and evidence that benefit everyone.

## SLEEP


stats

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that schools start at **8:30 a.m.**

but only **17.7%** do.

Because of this, **58%** of students get less than **7** hours of sleep per night, while **9** hours is the recommended amount.

Teens not getting enough sleep can become **MOODY** or even develop **SLEEP DISORDERS.**





# Journalists persecuted overseas, course of action necessary for protection

**Georgia Chambers**  
executive editor

Usually, when one commits a crime, it is the duty of the government to ensure that the one who committed the crime receives proper punishment. Here in the United States, the judicial system does a relatively effective job in levying penalties upon the guilty.

Since 2008, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has begun compiling an index of cases where journalists are slain and the killers go free. It is a generalization by saying lower developed countries are home to these unpunished crimes. There are more developed countries such as Brazil, Russia and Mexico that also fail to charge criminals of crimes against journalists.

According to CPJ, Brazil currently has 11 unsolved cases of journalist murders. In Russia, nearly 90 percent of murders of journalists no one is convicted. Likewise, Mexico had 19 journalists, whose job was to cover crime and corruption, murdered with the killers having complete impunity over the last decade. On top of this, these countries are within the top ten, with Brazil being eleventh, of the worst offenders. This is not so surprising, since all three of these countries have an oppressive government, some worse than the others.

Usually, CPJ saw a pattern in this index, with Iraq claiming the title of worst offender. However, for the first time since they began the index, Somalia beat out Iraq as the worst offender. Over the last decade, at least one journalist has been killed every year in Somalia. At least 30 of these murders have occurred without any consequences.

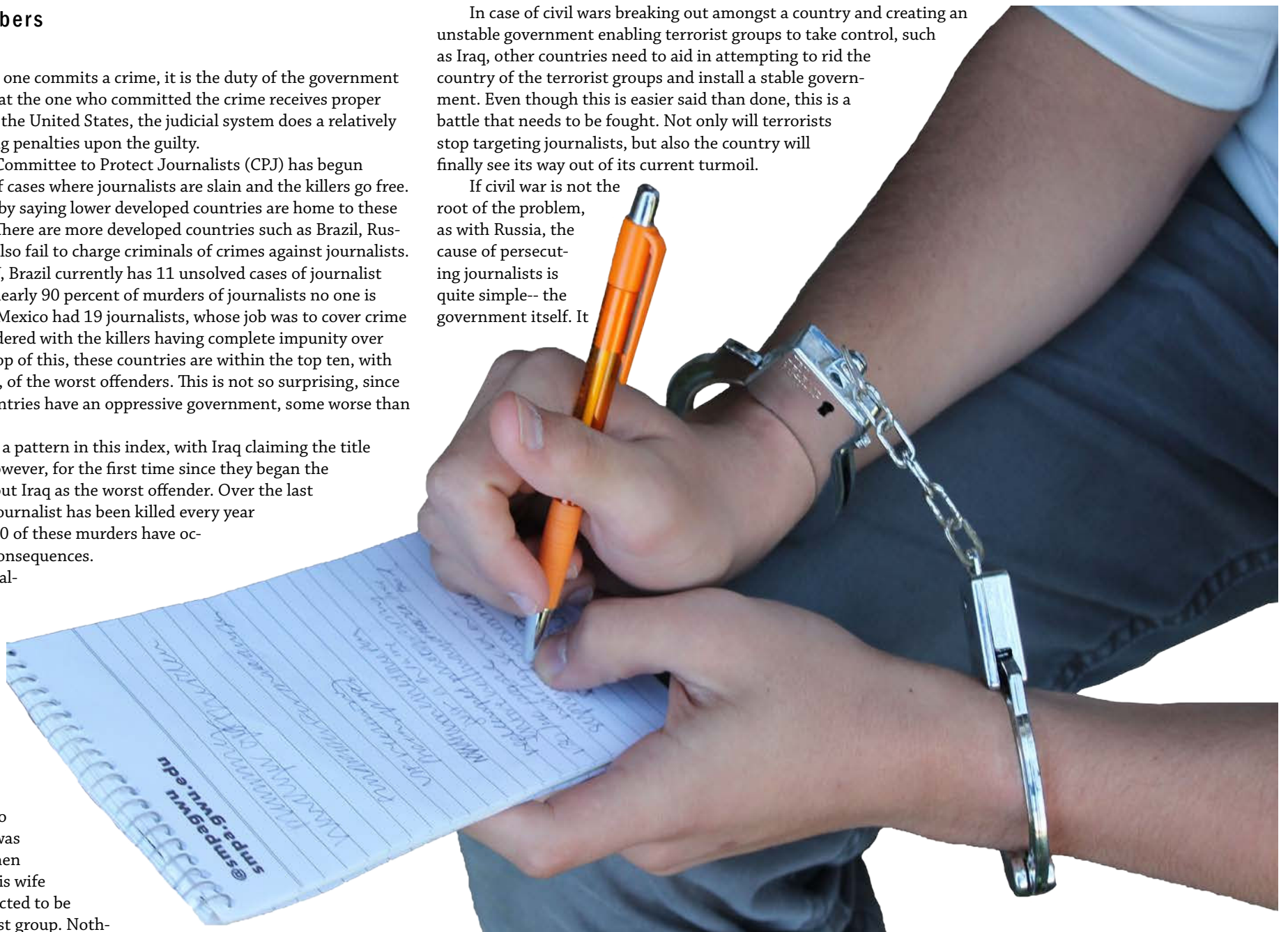
One of the journalists killed in Somalia was Daud Ali Omar. In April, unknown men broke into his house and killed both Omar and his wife while they were sleeping. Omar had worked for privately owned, pro-government radio station, and all that was ever said about the men who killed him and his wife was that it was suspected to be Al-Shabaab, a terrorist group. Nothing further was done to try and punish, or even further identify, the criminals. According to the CPJ, "journalists say authorities fail to conduct even minimal investigations when journalists are killed."

Other countries that see many similar occurrences are Iraq, Syria, South Sudan and Pakistan. In Iraq, 84 journalists have been killed with no legal consequences over the last decade. Furthermore, only one case has been met with any attempt to bring justice. In Oct. of 2014, a criminal court sentenced a suspect to death for the killing of Kawa Garmyane. Garmyane was the editor-in-chief of a monthly magazine in Kurdistan. Even though this is progress, the ratio of convicted criminals to the exonerated is unpromising.

The similarity between these countries is that journalists, carrying out their duty, are either being kidnapped or killed. Criminals on the other hand are going about their life as if nothing ever happened, or as if killing journalists were normality in the society.

In case of civil wars breaking out amongst a country and creating an unstable government enabling terrorist groups to take control, such as Iraq, other countries need to aid in attempting to rid the country of the terrorist groups and install a stable government. Even though this is easier said than done, this is a battle that needs to be fought. Not only will terrorists stop targeting journalists, but also the country will finally see its way out of its current turmoil.

If civil war is not the root of the problem, as with Russia, the cause of persecuting journalists is quite simple-- the government itself. It



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

seems quite peculiar if there are no leads at all guessing who committed the crime. The lower developed countries have the presence of terrorist groups that can be associated with the crimes. More developed countries have no such leeway. In instances with an oppressive government, it is rather obvious that government officials are having journalists killed to not spark rebellion. In cases such as this, courses of action are much more difficult since other countries attempting to alter their ways would result in a war on a much greater scale.

Whatever the root of the problem, something needs to change soon. Journalists cannot continue to be persecuted for doing their job. Moreover, the people who commit these crimes cannot be let go so easily. If the governments of these countries fail to carry out justice, their country will never be a civilized society for both the government and its people.

# New laws must be passed to combat epidemic of gun violence in America

**Vasili Sgourakis**  
staff writer

It is evident that the United States has a problem with guns.

Countries with larger populations such as India and China have a total of 86 million total civilian guns combined, while the United States contains 270 million total civilian guns. It is impossible to tell how many of these people who possess guns have mental illnesses. This information is hard to attain because of the easy access to firearms in America.

In order to stop mass shootings in schools and the workplace, stricter mental health checks and gun regulation must be put in place.

Furthermore, weapons such as semi-automatic, machine guns, pump-action rifles or any firearm with a barrel less than 30 centimeters in length should be prohibited as they are in England. These particular firearms should be banned because of their ability to spray so many rounds in a quick amount of time resulting in more injuries and deaths before law enforcement or security can arrive on scene. Since England has put stricter gun laws into place, there has been a 20 percent reduction in the number of murders in London alone and this is despite London's growing population.

Along with the firearm law from England, the United States must adopt many of the same actions that England took in response to their first school massacre; at a shooting at Dunblane in Scotland, 16 young children and their teacher were killed. The British government soon announced plans to

outlaw almost all handguns.

Similarly, after a mass shooting in Australia in 1996, where 35 people were killed, Australia enacted legislation that restricted and prohibited the sale and ownership of almost every kind of semi-automatic rifle and rapid-fire gun over the course of a little more than two years.

In 2015 alone, there have been 45 shootings at U.S. schools and universities, yet nothing has been done to combat

“ In 2015 alone, there have been 45 shootings at U.S. schools and universities, yet nothing has been done. ”

this violence. Although President Obama has openly championed gun control, after every major massacre stating that something must change, nothing has been done in Congress. Much of this is because interest groups such as the National Rifle Association have so much control and as most Republican are pro-second amendment and the Congress majority is Republican, passing new laws is hard.

For Congress to vote on a stricter gun regulation policy, this must be a bi-partisan issue. Furthermore, the first step cannot be to eliminate the second amendment, but rather input stricter mental health checks, gun licenses and government regulated gun sales.

Many people will argue that these regulations violate their second amendment rights. This is not true; if one wants to have a gun for protection or hunting, they are still able to do so.

However, there should be stricter policies, which will ensure the safety of those around them who choose not to own a firearm. For those who use self-protection as a reason to own a gun, it is more likely that a family member or intruder will use this gun against them.

Research published in the American Journal of Epidemiology similarly found that "persons with guns in the home were at greater risk of dying from a homicide in the home than those without guns in the home."

This study determined that the presence of guns in the home increased an individual's risk of death by homicide by 90 percent. As for those who would like a rifle or gun for hunting purposes, a semi automatic weapon is not necessary and if you are buying your firearms within the law, firmer regulations should not infringe on your right.

Now more than ever, it is evident that the United States faces a major problem regarding gun violence. No other country faces a problem as severe as ours, mainly because we have failed to act on it.

This is why stronger gun policies including mental health checks, banning of semi automatic weapons, and government regulated gun sales must be implemented through legislature before more children or employees in American workplaces are injured due to this injustice.



# MONEY FOR NOTHING?

No bureaucracy that receives public funding, yet fails in its service to the public, should be allowed to continue at the expense of taxpayers, even the Department of Education.



ISABELLA FILIPS | Contributing Cartoonist

**Choteau Kammel**  
executive editor

The presidency of Jimmy Carter was characterized by many things. One of the longest lasting effects of these four years of lows is the often venerated Department of Education, which as of 2011 received almost 80 billion dollars per year and has increased steadily since then.

In return for such generous allotments of tax payer “contributions,” however, the public has received nothing in the way of better educated youth. This unconstitutional monstrosity deserves only to be abolished, and perhaps those it affects actually consulted about how to best serve teachers, parents and most importantly, students.

During Jimmy Carter’s campaign for president in 1976, teachers unions actively endorsed his candidacy. In return for their backing and financial support as well, Carter signed the Department of Education into law.

With this expansion, education could now be centrally planned with tax dollars flowing to Washington before coming back to the states; and the teachers unions, whose money is often laundered back to Democrats, would be pacified as failing schools would now be propped up simply for the sake of maintaining jobs. It is as if the purpose of public education has become not to educate the nation’s children to their very own individual characteristics and tendencies but to be a jobs program to sustain campaign funds from unions.

The left loves to glorify their stance of being pro-choice on abortion. However, on most other issues, choice is ultimately thrown out in favor of mandates or bans.

Rather than supporting the choice of parents to educate their children in any institution that they choose, the Department of Education has fought bitterly against any attempt to move education to a more market based and competitive environment. When Governor Bobby Jindal of Louisiana attempted to implement a voucher system to allow students stuck in failing public schools to have their tax dollars follow them to any school they wanted, the Department of Justice, at the behest of the Education Dept., went in to shut it down.

To put this into perspective, the Department of Education thinks that parents are too stupid to guide their children’s education, and that only a bureaucrat hundreds of miles away could possibly decide what’s best. Is that not the definition of statism? Maybe if helping children is really a goal, they and their parents should choose the right path.

Not only does the federal Department of Education harm children and their families in trying to centrally plan their futures, it also is simply unaffordable. With a rising national debt of 18.3 trillion dollars, a department that receives almost 100 billion dollars a year should not be allowed without equal results. After all, with that much money, one would think that students must just be achieving so much more than they did in those uncivilized days when local schools and parents had a say in student’s educations.

Sadly, as with most federal programs, the intentions and financial cost just don’t equal results. According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, scores in reading, math and science for 17 year-olds have flat lined, while federal

education spending has increased by 190%. With cost not matching results, there is no reason to maintain current levels of spending. This is not to say that those funds would be diverted away from education, in fact they would be multiplied, simply due to the money not having to be centrally redistributed back to schools. The idea about to be proposed is a pretty radical one, and is certainly a fringe theory, but what if rather than sending money to Washington and then getting some back with federal stipulations, the dollars were distributed by states or by localities, who actually know what their schools need and what they don’t? It’s wild, but it might work.

Teachers and principals are right there in the thick of things educating the nation’s next generation. Therefore they know the children, the needs and where money is needed most, far better than a bureaucrat in Washington DC does.

From a legal standpoint, there is no Constitutional basis for the existence of the Department of Education. Article I, Section 8 contains the list of what powers the central government may maintain and exercise. Of these powers, education is not one of them. Therefore education is to be left to the states and localities under them. No school should have to first check with a national bureaucrat before they can adapt to their localities.

It does seem to be the rational choice that local schools and teachers should have autonomy and allow parental choice. It seems rather ridiculous to argue that a person hundreds of miles away from that child should be able to impact where they may attend and what they are taught. Especially when that entity receives significant amounts of tax funding, but yet hasn’t positively increased the intelligence of America’s students.

Many teachers disdain the No Child Left Behind Act, which although theoretically was a good idea, judging teachers on student success, it should not come from the federal level. Plus the law makes it near impossible for students to be kept back for additional instruction due to social promotion. However, even though this law is a burden to many educators, they still support a federal Department of Education, an entity which reduces both independence and school flexibility.

No bureaucracy that was created to appease political supporters, drains resources with no return and uses judiciary threats to fight the freedom of parents and children, should be allowed to exist. Perhaps this is another fantastic example of how government is far less efficient than private entities.

If the Department of Education was a private business tasked with the goal of improving student aptitude, a budget of 80 billion dollars and it hadn’t succeeded in 40 years, it would be fail and be replaced. But it hasn’t, and therein lies the largest difference between the government and a private business. If the government doesn’t work or fails, it simply takes more of other people’s money. If a business fails, it actually fails, assuming no corporatist bailouts from the Fed.

After all, if government truly does its job, it should become less necessary, and that means less tax dollars into its coffers, less bureaucrats and ultimately less campaign donations. Therefore, if the Department of Education can continue to fail and continue to receive tax payer funding, then this must beg the question, is government incentivized to fail?

## ConAgra’s choice to relocate unethical, harmful to city



GEORGIA CHAMBERS  
GO DAWGS

Businesses cheating the public. Sound familiar? The recent announcement to the public stating that ConAgra Foods is moving to Chicago created an uproar—many people are furious that ConAgra, a Fortune 500 company, is leaving Omaha, in a sense, helpless.

Sean Connolly, the president of ConAgra, resides in Chicago. Moving the business to Chicago may seem convenient, no? Whereas the corporation assures the public that there are various reasons as to why this move was necessary, the fact that the president of the corporation lives in Chicago should be a red flag.

There is not really any other reason for ConAgra to move its corporate headquarters elsewhere. It is true that they have been in an economic slump, however, this is a natural course all businesses take.

The fact is, ConAgra impacted Omaha’s community. With various fundraisers and events, ConAgra helped to feed the hungry and helped the community in various other aspects.

Also, ConAgra was a major part of Omaha’s economy. Offering over 3,000 jobs to locals, ConAgra gave people a stable job with stable pay. Now that ConAgra is moving, it will leave many in havoc; over 1,500 people will be laid off. For the people they do not choose to lay off, many will be forced to move to Chicago. Many will not be happy with this move, given that Omaha is considered home for many.

This is a representation of how Connolly and his board are presenting us with yet another example of an unethical corporation.

By definition, ethics is your personal code that guides you to make the right decisions. In business, business ethics are unique and differ from business to business.

Just because something is legal, does not mean it is ethical.

ConAgra presents a perfect example of something that is legal but not ethical. Even though they are not doing anything unlawful by switching locations, they are doing an injustice to the 1,500 people that will lose their jobs and be presented with the fear of not being able to provide for themselves or their families.

They are also abandoning the community and the involvement with it. The community will most definitely start to feel the absence of ConAgra’s food drives and other various fundraisers.

It has also been known to the public that Connolly plans to fire older employees and hire younger ones that will work less.

This screams unethical.

Even though younger employees would bring fresher ideas to the marketing aspect of the company, what makes it right to have them replace older, yet faithful, employees? What will these older employees have to fall back on? Younger people coming out of college have many more options than older people when it comes to job availability. Taking away a stable income for older people would be very hard on them and their family.

Like outsourcing, this is taking advantage of groups of people that will get the work needed to be completed for less pay. Someone should not be fired on account for their age. Failure to fulfill job expectations would be the only reason to fire someone.

This makes me question ConAgra’s ethics, and helps me draw the conclusion that they need to rework their priorities and put the community first over convenience.

ConAgra is much like the game of Jenga. Connolly is attempting to “remove a block” from the greater pile. This corporation is intertwined with Omaha and its community. This will result in these “blocks,” Omaha and the community, struggling to stay standing. Due to this, an even larger mess will be created. Since Connolly is ignorant to this, he will just have to play the game, as he is, and suffer the consequences.

Maybe it is time for a different business to fill the spot ConAgra is leaving. Let us hope that a better Fortune 500 company emerges, one whose actions follow a more just code of ethics.



# GOING UP IN SMOKE

Anti-smoking advertisements prove ineffective, show inflicting fear has opposite effect



ISABELLA FILIPS | Contributing Cartoonist

Natalie Nepper  
editor-in-chief

Anti-smoking ads are everywhere: television, radio, billboards, online and even on cigarette packages themselves. Lately, they've grown quite graphic: portraying smokers as ripping off skin and pulling out teeth to send the message that smoking costs more than just a monetary price. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention spent \$54 million on this

campaign. But as advertisers attempt to curb the purchase of this cancer-causing sticks, one may ask the question: "Are these ads even effective at all?"

The answer? Maybe, but probably not. Recent studies done by Jochim Hansen of the University of Basel in Switzerland tested the idea that death warnings on cigarettes are ineffective. In his study, he split up smokers into two groups: those who smoke to look cool and those who do it to feel good.

He gave the smokers packages labeled "Smokers die earlier"

and "Smoking makes you unattractive." Those who smoke to look cool noted that they felt more compelled to quit from the package that called them unattractive, while those who smoke to feel good had more results from the death warning. The results of this study find two things. One: the looming terror of death may have no effect on a certain population of smokers. Two: the ads are an attempt to inflict fear, a variable which may have the opposite results than expected.

Social psychology says that when people are reminded that one day they will die (in this case, due to their own smoking habits) a panic response is triggered in the brain. And thus, to reduce this stress, smokers turn to one thing that calms them down: smoking.

It seems a little ironic that the advertisements used to prevent smoking actually causes them. The problem of the matter is that smoking is a physiological addiction. Nicotine dependency is really a mental battle. However, it is not impossible to quit. Today there are more ex-smokers in the U.S. than smokers, according to whyquit.com.

Often, a lifelong smoker may see an ad and think "there's no hope for me anyway." The sad reality of it is that the "I give up on trying to quit" mentality is common. Cancer.org explains that despite this, it's never too late to quit. Users can feel the effects of quitting just 20 minutes after quitting.

Although cigarette advertising may not be effective enough to make a difference in a smoker's life, self perseverance and a little help will truly put an end to this deadly habit.

## Elitism practiced at popular clothing chain, discourages diversity



ANN MILROY | The Register

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

Prejudice and discrimination are still extremely relevant concepts in today's society. No matter how often people make the argument that it's the 21st century and that bigotry is a thing of the past, there is still evidence in popular culture that racism, sexism, elitism and unfair judgment continue to play a major role. An example of the fact that prevalent corporations promote an ideology that a specific "type" of human being is superior to another can be found in the practices of Abercrombie & Fitch.

Elitism is defined as the advocacy or existence of a person or idea considered to be a dominating element in a system or society. Abercrombie displays an elitist dogma through the behavior of its former CEO, the products presented to the public and the treatment of its employees and consumers.

Mike Jeffries was CEO of Abercrombie & Fitch from 1992 to 2014. In an interview with Salon magazine, he infamously said "In every school there are the cool and popular kids, and then there are the not-so-cool kids. Candidly, we go after the cool kids. We go after the attractive all-American kid with a great attitude and a lot of friends. A lot of peoples don't belong [in our clothes], and they can't belong. Are we exclusionary? Absolutely. Those companies that are in trouble are trying to target everybody: young, old, fat, skinny. But then you become totally vanilla. You don't alienate anybody, but you don't excite anybody, either."

Some clothing items produced by Abercrombie & Fitch have been known to be very controversial. In 2013, Taylor Swift fans were outraged because of a shirt manufactured by the company that featured the the words "#more boyfriends than taylor swift." Also, in 2014, the corporation featured a shirt that had the slogan "Do I make you look fat?" on it.

"We hire good-looking people in our stores. Because good-looking people attract other good-looking people, and we want to market to cool, good-looking people. We don't market to anyone other than that," said Jeffries. Because of this belief that only "attractive people" may be employed for Abercrombie & Fitch, several lawsuits have been filed against the company for

discrimination in the workplace.

For example, in 2008, a high school student named Samantha Elauf applied for a job at her local Abercrombie & Fitch. Elauf happened to wear a headscarf for religious purposes. In her initial interview, there seemed to be no problems with her attire. Once her application was sent to the district manager, though, she was refused the job because her appearance did not cooperate with the corporation's "look policy." The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission of the United States (EEOC) sued Abercrombie on Elauf's behalf. Subsequently, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Elauf (8-1).

Another example of Abercrombie & Fitch's blatant discrimination and elitist ideals is the fact that the majority of their employees are white individuals. Until recently, diversity in the company was essentially unheard of. Certain higher-up employees were required to visit college campuses and recruit new employees from traditionally white sororities and fraternities. Additionally, in photographs on the company's website, there remains to be little to no diversity.

In the past, Abercrombie & Fitch has been under harsh scrutiny because of the fact that the company never used to sell clothing higher than a size 10, and XL clothing was deemed "plus sized" and "unattractive." Is a size 12 or even a size 22 "plus size"? Is the term "plus size" something to be afraid of? A size 12 woman can work out and eat healthily and still be considered socially acceptable. Just because she doesn't fit the mold Abercrombie is looking for doesn't mean she needs to be fat-shamed. According to businessinsider.com, over 67% of women are considered plus-sized. Plus-size is average and is never something to be ashamed of.

The only reason Abercrombie & Fitch began selling to "plus-sized" consumers in 2013 was because their sales had been declining for nearly seven years. If they didn't start advertising towards the regular demographic of America and start putting their harmful "marketing strategy" aside, they would have gone out of business without a doubt.

All in all, a bad attitude, an elitist system of beliefs and the mistreatment of employees and consumers is what Abercrombie & Fitch is ultimately known for. If this is considered a successful business model, imagine the future of American consumerism.





## HONK! 16

This photo essay pulls a few great photos from the drama department's fall musical, "Honk!" The show is a rendition of the classic tale, "The Ugly Duckling."



## MICHAEL SVOLOS 17

Senior Michael Svolos is a finalist for the national merit award. He is the only person in the senior class to do so.

## COMEDIAN 19

Nick Allen's rising stand-up act is taking Omaha by storm.



# arts & style

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# A POWERFUL PEN

Israeli born author expresses peaceful vision for the future of his homeland

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

Most people don't know much about the issues occurring in the Middle East. In Israel, for example, complicated territorial struggle between two groups of people who predominantly believe in two different religions (Israeli Jew's and the Palestinian Jews are one group and the Muslims are the second). This clash involves a lot of opinions and emotions, which most definitely contributes to the intensity of the matter. Assaf Gavron, 46, is a novelist and former journalist who addresses the political situation in Israel.

Gavron was born in Arad, Israel in 1968, attended primary and secondary school near Jerusalem and then entered the army as all young adults are highly recommended to do in Israel. After his three years of required service, Gavron moved to London, England to enroll at the University of London.

While attending university, Gavron recognized he wanted to be a writer. In the 90's he focused on journalism and wrote for a magazine in Jerusalem from London, where he was still a student. He wrote about music and soccer, which he considered to be his two biggest passions at the time. He also worked as an editor for a while after college and moved around various newspapers. In 2000, he had the opportunity to move to a regular job instead of jumping around different

CONTINUE TO 'GAVRON'  
ON PAGE 18

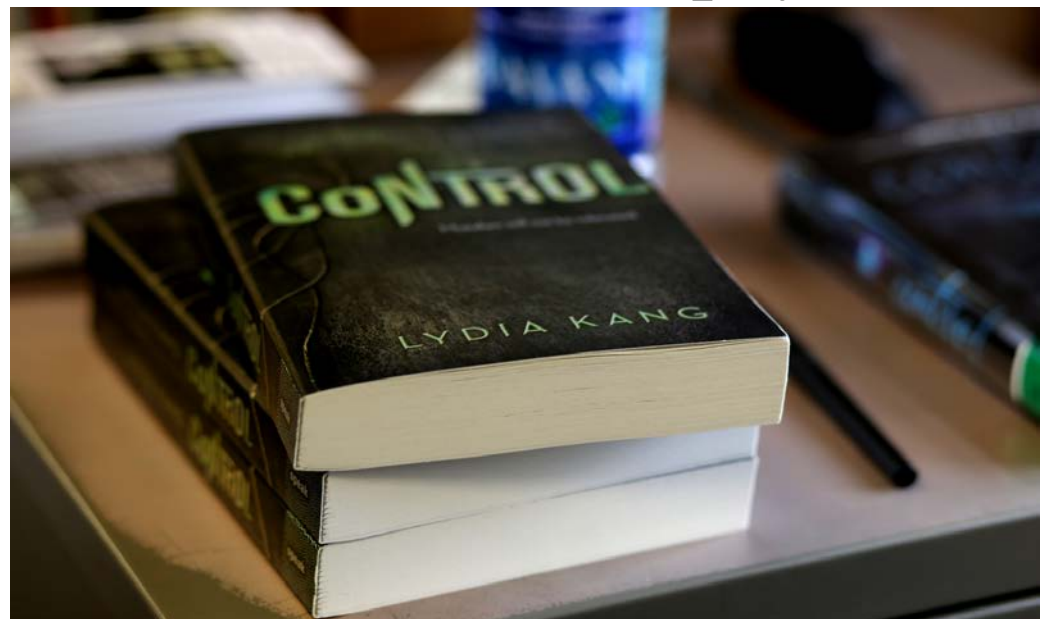


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Photo Courtesy of DIRK BLEICKER

Assaf Gavron speaking on a panel in Berlin. Gavron is an award-winning novelist, screenwriter, translator, musician and journalist.

## Guest speaker splits time between careers as author, physician



ANN MILROY | The Register

Left: Lydia Kang, while talking to students, discusses her difficulties in becoming a successful author. Right: Kang's first novel "Control," set on the table, is a popular sci-fi thriller.

Georgia Chambers  
executive editor

"We came [to Omaha] because my husband got a job here, and I was looking for a part-time position," author and doctor Lydia Kang said. "I didn't know then that I was going to be writing, it's just that we were working really hard in New York, and the schedule was crazy. This gave us an opportunity for a better job, better hours and more time with our children. We made the jump and never looked back."

Kang has been living in Omaha for nine years. The city has influenced her writing and is now the setting for Kang's novel "Control."

"Control" is the first book, preceding the sequel "Catalyst." These fiction novels intertwine Kang's passion for science and writing.

In the third grade, Kang had the urge to write. "I was a voracious reader. While I was reading these books, I kept thinking, 'I would really love to write one of these,' but I didn't know how. I had a great idea for a story... but I didn't know how I was supposed to fill up 200 pages worth of stuff. I figured [being an author] wasn't going to happen," Kang said.

Later on in high school, she began reading a lot more. She was also encouraged by an English teacher to begin journaling.

"I wrote about all the weirdness of school, the boring things, homework, crushes that I had and fights that I was

getting into, not fist-fights, but drama fights. I wrote diaries for years and years—all the way through college. This was teaching me how to get what was in [my head] onto paper, even if it was messy," Kang said.

At the same time as Kang was realizing her passion for writing, her passion for science ignited alongside it. Kang refers to herself as a "science geek," fond of everything ranging from physics to biology.

"They were like a second language to me. It was easy for me to get A's," Kang said. Since science came so easy to her, and because careers in science ran in the family, Kang decided to

CONTINUE TO 'KANG'  
ON PAGE 18





## LIGHTS, CAMERA, HONK!

The drama department performed a rendition of "The Ugly Duckling," renamed as "Honk!" on the weekend of Oct. 24.

NATALIE NEPPER,  
KELSEY THOMAS, &  
NICK WINCHESTER

The Register &  
The O-Book



## Baseball player challenges self with the art of theatrical performance

Choteau Kammel  
executive editor

Baseball and theater have been large parts of American culture for many years. Junior Nathan Farrell combines both his passion for baseball, and his love of stagecraft to keep himself entertained, while also balancing a rigorous academic schedule and family commitments.

Farrell has lived in Omaha, Neb. all his life and has grown up around baseball and education since he was young. Ever since his early childhood, he and his dad have shared an avid passion for the game of baseball, and they make it a habit to continue that tradition every chance they get. He said, "Anytime the Red Sox and his [dad's] favorite team the Royals are playing in Kansas City, we make it a necessity to go down there to watch a game."

To begin his education, Farrell attended Liberty elementary and there he was able to see his mother, a teacher, in action first hand. Interestingly enough, although he would like to possibly pursue education in university, Farrell said that his mother actually wasn't the driving force behind this decision. "It always seemed like she enjoyed it but I never really thought about doing. She is very open minded about what I want to do," he said.

Although his interest in education did not come about until his later years, Farrell still took advantage of the classes offered to him as he progressed through grade levels. While attending Mars Magnet School, he developed a love for mathematics and numbers, which would continue into high school and ultimately his current professional hopes as a math

Continuing his education, Farrell made the decision to attend Central High School over both South and North High. Almost three years in, and he said that he has not regretted it. He added, "It is definitely the best place I could have went to for a good academic school. All the students are very kind and there is lots of diversity."

At Central, Farrell has elected to take a schedule based on high difficulty, college prep and also some personal explora-

“ [Central] is definitely the best place I could have went to for a good academic school. All the students are very kind and there is lots of diversity. ”

NATHAN FARRELL

Baseball player and theatre student

tion. He is one of a few students who have pursued German into the honors level and this year has even entered into the foods classes to explore nutrition and culinary arts.

Although not technically an academic study, theater production and acting has also become a rather large part of Farrell's time at Central. Starting his freshman year, Farrell has already starred in one production and will be appearing in the next musical in mid-October. "I don't know what it is about acting," he said. "But I think its fun. You see all the movies and you always wish you could be like them." He added that the largest part of the fun, along with getting to know and work

as one takes on new roles.

When he has free time outside of school, Farrell enjoys hanging out with friends, checking his fantasy football teams and playing some video games. Aside from playing them, Farrell also has even gone hands on with them., as he said, "I currently just finished building myself a gaming PC and on the weekends my friends and I play and Skype together."

As he looks to his future after high school, Farrell would like to prepare for his career as a math teacher at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). "I'd like to attend UNO for teaching. I don't feel I need to travel somewhere else for college. I can still get a solid education without the extra dorm cost," he said. With his teaching degree, Farrell would like to then return to his roots, and begin a career teaching in Omaha Public Schools and maybe even get an apartment with some close friends. He said, "I used to be really excited to live my future life, but now it just seems stressful, but I still do look forward to one day play out that part of my life."

Looking back on his last two years, and also forward to the next two, Farrell said that his experiences at Central are what will prepare him the most for his future. He also is a firm believer in the inclusive atmosphere that Central has staked its name on, as he said that in a building of 2500 students, the chances of finding a friend are essentially 100 percent. He added, "For incoming freshman who are scared about the high school atmosphere, don't worry. If you work hard in your classes you'll be fine. There are so many clubs and activities to have fun after school and they will help you get involved and make great friends."



## National Merit Award semi-finalist, hoping to become recipient

Carlson Koch  
staff writer

The National Merit Award is easily one of the most prestigious awards given to seniors on their way to college. Michael Svolos, a senior and active participant in academic extracurricular activities recently was deemed a semi-finalist for this honor.

Svolos plays several instruments, conducts the band, and is in National Honors Society, Choir, Tri-M and the Math Club. For Svolos, the experience of writing essays and applying online only foreshadows his soon future of college selection.

To be eligible for the National Merit Award, students take the PSAT their junior of high school as a prerequisite of even receiving examination for the scholarship. "If your score is high enough for the PSAT, they look at your GPA and SAT as well. From here, they select semi-finalists," said Svolos.

Colleges often require a piece of formal writing from applicants, and practice such as going through the operation and forming an appropriate essay. "I had to write up a paper for the application. It was good practice to come up with ideas for the prompt, and could even use it when applying for colleges," said Svolos. For the future, he intends on continuing his education at either Northwestern, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Saint Louis University or Washington University.

"The National Merit Scholarship can either be from the Corporation itself or from the college. If before my first college year starts and awards are announced, the college can be the one to provide me with a scholarship," he said. Scholarships provide aid with finances in the world of college, which is exactly why the National Merit program exists. In doing so, more money is available intelligence is promoted so that college loans become less worry to pay off.

"I was not notified that I became a semi-finalist until this year, and I will not know I am a finalist until next year," said Svolos. Around 7,400 of the 15,000 finalists are notified that they won one of the three types of scholarships that National Merit offers.



ANN MILROY | The Register

Senior Michael Svolos is a finalist for the National Merit Award. He plans to apply to multiple prestigious colleges such as MIT.

Approximately half of the finalists are given an award of some sort. The National Merit Scholarships are 2,500 dollars a year and chosen without the influence of college choices, financial circumstances or major and career plans. The semi-finalist's principal presents him or her with a certificate that is proof to the now finalist the scholarship is within grasp.

Another form of a prize that the Merit program offers is a Corporate Sponsored Award. A company who has a recipient of the award or one in their community can choose to sponsor

them. By paying him or her a lump sum or yearly amount.

Interestingly, a college may undergo the exact same process of providing a scholarship for the finalist who was nominated a winner. For these winners, the amount that the college offers is given for the four years enrolled there.

Since the PSAT is inexpensive and can only bring good things, such as significant financial aid, all students should be encouraged to take the test and possibly receive benefits for college, just as Svolos has done.

## Time is now for gender equality, feminism necessary for this goal

In recent news, the discrimination against women and feminism has become an underlying topic. This could be due to Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton being a major front-runner in the 2016 presidential campaign and to Republican Donald Trump's not-so-subtle comments that are considered to hold derogatory intentions towards women.

Issues such as the wage gap, Planned Parenthood, violence against women, birth control, hyper-sexualizing women in the media, the trans gap, lack of representation of People of Color (POC) and many other examples display why feminism is still a relevant concept and movement in America's contemporary society.

In regards to the gender pay gap, since 2007, women have made approximately 77 cents compared to a man's dollar. A study showed that in 2011, a 25-year-old woman with a full time job all year earned \$5,000 less than a 25-year-old man. Based on this information, the U.S. Census concluded that by the age of 65, the average woman will have lost around \$431,000 within the span of her working lifetime due to the wage gap.

Traditionally, men are considered the breadwinners of a family while the women stay at home and take care of that family. This preconceived notion can't change if men make more money than women working the same exact job with the same exact hours. Society is very focused on careers and status. Without a high up job and power, it becomes increasingly difficult to acquire even an ounce of respect. It's even more difficult for women because of discrimination in the workplace.

Phyllis Chesler, Ph. D., said, "When I say that women are oppressed, I do not mean that men are never oppressed. Men are, not because of their gender, but because they are poor men, or racially despised men, or homosexual men, or men who do not conform to strict gender stereotypes. Women are oppressed in these ways too, and, in addition, because of their gender."

Women aren't historically recognized as contributors to society. In schools, students never learn about how Jeannette Rankin was elected to Congress four years before women could vote, or how well-known actress Audrey Hepburn gave secret ballet performances in Austria when she was young to raise money for the war-ridden country during World War II and was one of the founders of UNICEF. Nor do we learn about how Ching Shih was one of the most successful and feared pirates in history despite the fact that she was a woman or how war photographer Catherine Leroy was a POW and continued to take photos of countries and specific families affected by wars after her release.



ANNA KAMINSKI  
HOW YOU DOIN'?

These women, and many others, displayed enormous amount of chivalry and bravery and should be recognized as pioneers of the movement for gender equality. Without these women, and without any women willing to stick up for themselves as an individual, and as a female, and speak out against oppression and injustices against women, should be considered heroes. Not heroines, heroes.

In the media, the common phrase "sex sells" is used as an advertising tactic. This statement is true, though, because of the fact that it is straight white males who make these advertisements and who created the ideology that women are sexual beings created for a man's personal use.

Women are not advertisement strategies. Our body parts should not be used to sell a man's hamburgers or cars or what have you. We are human beings and deserve to be treated with the same amount of respect and dignity as a man is.

Additionally, in popular American culture, women in the media are generally taken less seriously than men. On red carpets,

people only care about what a woman is wearing, but when it comes to men, they ask them genuine questions and act as if they want to hear what they have to say.

Another example of the inequality among celebrities is a case involving famous cyclist Lance Armstrong and revered actor Angelina Jolie. When Armstrong was diagnosed with testicular cancer, the media profiled his health and how inspirational he was but when Jolie got a double mastectomy to avoid getting cancer herself, the media focused on how she wouldn't be a "sex symbol" anymore.

The over-sexualization of women is a very prominent concept in American pop culture. Females are consistently objectified and reduced to the belief that women are only worth something if they fit the physical normative constructed by hormone-driven males. Also, the clothing industry tries to classify and separate women by having "plus size" specific stores and stores that only sell to women with a maximum pant size of 10, for example. On the other hand, men's clothing is all in one space with no regard to size.

Statistically, this so-called "plus size" includes over 100 million women in America. I believe these labels that are meant to separate those who are considered beautiful by the media and those who aren't traditionally attractive end up making women feel worthless. This can lead to fat-shaming.

Fat-shaming is a major issue that I cannot even begin to stress how much I feel it needs to be eliminated. What kind of person is going to tell a 12-year-old girl that she isn't beautiful

just because she doesn't look like the girls in the magazines? Why is a female's worth determined by her physical appearance? Why not the content of her character? Men have created this norm that women aren't pretty unless they meet a certain criteria (also created by men).

Fat is beautiful. Thin is beautiful. In between is beautiful. None of the above is beautiful. All human beings have the ability to be beautiful, but only if their character proves to be as such. Author Joss Whedon said, "Equality is not a concept. It's not something we should be striving for. It's a necessity. Equality is like gravity. We need it to stand on this earth as men and women, and the misogyny that is in every culture is not a true part of the human condition. It is life out of balance, and that imbalance is sucking something out of the soul of every man and woman who's confronted with it. We need equality. Kinda now."

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when there are obvious differences in the treatment of men and women.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when 1 in 5 girls are allegedly raped on college campuses throughout their college career, but most of these young women don't report their victimization because of embarrassment and/or because they blame themselves.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when 13-year-old girls are receiving cat-calls on the streets from men more than twice their age.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when women of color are seriously misrepresented in today's society.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when the LGBTQ+ community is relentlessly shamed and abused for being who they are and who they want to be.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when I have to worry about offending a man because of my shoulders or my legs. Maybe we should teach boys that they need to practice restraint and respect instead of teaching girls to be ashamed of their body parts.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when groups of people like "meninists" and "feminazis" exist for the sole purpose of the further dehumanization of women.

Don't tell me we don't need feminism when men still make it about them. They think that it is about hating men when, in all actuality, it's about teaching women to stop prioritizing men over themselves, which men seem to see as a threat. Don't tell me we don't need feminism when women still feel the need to justify feminism by explaining how it also benefits men.

Something needs to change, and soon. If not for the sake of women, then for the sake of the men who have to listen to women constantly "whining about equality."



# UNO professor fills many roles, presents new world to readers



Photo Courtesy of **ADRIAN COOK**

Although he holds strong political views, Gavron's work is to inspire, not convert.

CONTINUED FROM 'GAVRON' ON PAGE 15

mediums and writing freelance articles.

His first novel, *Ice*, was published in 1997 and after that, he published five more. His most recent book *The Hilltop* (2013) won the Israeli Bernstein Prize. Additionally, Gavron received the Israeli Prime Minister Award for authors in 2011.

Gavron is still involved in journalism subsequently writing various articles for different news mediums. He is also a literary translator from English to Hebrew and a singer-songwriter. He and his band, *The Mouth and Foot*, have been releasing an album every six years since 1989. Furthermore, Gavron is the founder of the Israeli Writers Football national team and he was the chief writer of a video game named *Peacemaker*.

"I don't give a message, I don't preach what the readers should think. I think a novel is a way to show readers a world and [how to] understand this world and they can make up their mind," says Gavron, in regards to his writing. Although, Gavron does believe in peace and dialogue in regards to the conflict.

As for his journalistic pieces, he wishes to promote an ideal of peace. He is considered a "left-winger" meaning he believes in dialogue and tolerance between the Israelis and the Palestinians, Israel giving up the West Bank and allowing the Palestinians to create a space for themselves.

Gavron considers his biggest inspirations to

be "other writers and reading books...Mark Twain and J.D. Salinger and also younger contemporary authors," he says. "But also, another inspiration for me is pop culture as a whole, not only literature...I grew up in the 80s and pop music was a big influence for me at the time. I think if you write about contemporary life, you have to write about the whole pop culture scene and not just literature."

Gavron believes some of his biggest accomplishments have been that people from a certain group tell him that he 'got it right' despite his being an outsider. When an individual speaks on behalf of or writes about a demographic they haven't personally had experience with, accurately representing that group of people can be an extremely difficult task.

A friend of Gavron's, Sayed Kashua, is an Arab-Israeli author and screenwriter. Gavron and Kashua have been

friends for around sixteen years and both moved to the Midwest to teach at colleges at the same time. Kashua's film *A Borrowed Identity* was featured at Film Streams on October 27. The film is based on Kashua's novel *Dancing Arabs* (2002).

Gavron is currently living in Omaha teaching creative writing at UNO. He plans to move to San Diego in December for six months and then move back to his home in Israel. "I'm 46. I think that's old enough to understand that Israel is my home, and it's my only home," says Gavron, "It's my language, it's my people, my friends, my family...everything there feels home and [I] didn't [feel at home] in all of the other places [I visited]."

“ I don't give a message. I don't preach what the readers should think. I think a novel is a way to show readers a world

ASSAF GAVRON

Author and screenwriter

# Blogging helped local young adult author pursue fiction writing

CONTINUED FROM 'KANG' ON PAGE 15

pursue this subject as a career. She attended Columbia University and received her medical degree from New York City University Medical School.

Even though Kang was being worn down by the demands of college, she did not lose her passion for writing. She ended up minoring in English.

After college, and before medical school, she had a year to research and conduct various experiments, while at the same time continuing to write.

"One of [my friends] during this year off told me about this short fiction contest that she was going to enter. She was in the English world, and I was in the science world. When she told me about this contest I was like, 'Can I do that, too?' and she gave me a look saying, 'This is not for you,'" Kang said.

After pestering her friend long enough, she got the information and entered the contest.

"I thought, 'This is great. I am actually trying to do something I've always wanted to do my whole life.' However, I did not win the contest. In a way my friend was telling me, 'I was right, you were wrong, you are not really meant to do this. Why do you keep trying?'" Kang said.

After medical school, she received another opportunity to pursue writing. Kang, at the time an attending physician, was taking care of a young patient dying from cancer.

He had a very emotional effect on Kang, especially because they were so close in age. "I ended up waking up in the middle

of the night writing an essay about [him], because I couldn't keep it inside," Kang said. "I had to put it down somehow. I ended up submitting it to a medical journal, and it got accepted. This was the first time I had gotten something printed that people actually wanted to read."

Overjoyed at this milestone in her writing career, Kang decided to continue to submit work to other journals. However, they kept getting rejected.

Unsure of what to do next, Kang decided to go ahead and try out writing fiction. "I was a big fan of young adult, and I thought, 'Maybe I could just try.' I kept on thinking, 'I don't have a degree in English, and I don't have a degree in creative writing, so I am not allowed to do this, right?' But then I found out there were other authors out there that didn't have a degree, so I thought that I was just going to try," she said.

Her first novel took one month to write. The writing process was very exciting for her, but also resulted in many sleepless nights.

Kang reached out to many literary agents in attempt to publish her book. "At the end of my first process trying to get a literary agent, I got 155 rejections. It was really painful, because in medicine, when you're trying to become a doctor, it's all about 'if you study hard enough, you'll get a good grade.' You know exactly how to do it. But with writing a book and getting it published, there was no path," Kang said. "I didn't realize you could get so many rejections."

However, the writer did not give up on her passion. Blog-

ging online aided Kang, in a similar manner that her journals did to further develop her writing skills.

"I learned how to create characters, create worlds..." Kang said. She decided she wanted to give back to the bloggers that had helped enhance her writing. On Kang's blog, she began giving out medical advice to various authors needing assistance with complex and scientific plot lines.

Never losing the inspiration to write, she wrote her second novel. However, after she sent it out among literary agents, she was faced with the same response as with her first novel. Kang stopped after 55 rejections, knowing that something was not right with this piece of her writing.

She knew what she had to fix, so when she attempted her third novel, "Control," it was finally a success.

"I thought, 'I am going to do something that I am really good at, which is science and making up stories,'" Kang said.

Publishing "Control" was Kang's last stepping stone in finally doing what she had always wanted to do: have a dual career. Part time doctor of maternal medicine and part time author, Kang describes it as something that has "affected my life in a very good way."

If Kang has learned anything from her experiences, it is to never give up. "For everyone who is going towards a path of something they really, really want, you are inevitably going to hit some doors that are shut," Kang said. "The thing that you need to remember is that these doors are not necessarily shut, they are just pointing you in a different direction."

# 'The Intern' proves to be both captivating, fitting for all audiences

Natalie Nepper  
editor-in-chief

Nancy Meyer's expertly scripted new release, *The Intern*, is both captivating and inspiring for young and old audiences alike. Set in New York City, the plot follows senior citizen Ben Whittaker, played by Robert De Niro and young entrepreneur, Jules Ostin (Anne Hathaway). Ben, becoming bored with his retirement routine, decides to apply for the senior intern position at Jules' successful fashion e-commerce company called *About the Fit*. Although he isn't a technology mogul, Ben embraces the internship, working directly below Jules.

The movie is intellectual and thought-provoking with just the right amount of comedy. Light-hearted appearances from Adam Devine (an employee named Jason) and Nat Wolff (a hiring associate named Justin) appeals to the younger viewers. Although Wolff only makes an appearance on-screen for about two minutes, his bit was comical and memorable.

I really appreciate Anne Hathaway's portrayal of Jules. Hathaway, who is excellent as always, created the personality of this driven millennial, new to the business world who's caught in a sea of seasoned CEO's. Not only that, but she's juggling parenthood and tackling the stress of (spoiler alert) a cheating husband. And although I have next to nothing in common with Jules, Meyer's scripting and Hathaway's depiction are convincing enough to be relatable, and I empathized with Ostin's stress throughout the entire film.

As Ostin's world begins to crumble, the stress of hiring a CEO to take over in addition to her looming absence in her young daughter's life and the thought of getting divorced (and "dying alone") is a lot to take in. Ben serves as someone to listen to, a shoulder to cry on and an expert in all things advice.

I'm not used to Robert de Niro playing such a softie, but this film definitely pulled on my heartstrings. The transformation from intern, to driver, to secretary, to best friend (and honorary family member) is enough to drive anyone to tears.

As we get to see the triumphs and trials of running a business in this modern, technological world, it's great to see "the old guy" among a sea of millennials. Ben, although consistently confused about computers and constantly bored at the lack of jobs he is given, develops great relationships. He helps Jason rekindle his love interest in Jules' secretary, and even begins to form a relationship of his own, with the house masseuse, Fiona, played by Rene Russo.

What I found most intriguing about the film was the set. The *About the Fit* office space in lower Manhattan was decorated in a modern and beautiful layout. The same goes for the homes of Jules and Ben, so props to the set designer for creating a space that was really captivating.

I truly believe my first impression from the movie trailer underestimates the brilliance of this film. I just wasn't expecting something so emotional and worthy of rave. If I could, I would see it again and again and again.



## Omaha comedian brings laughs via stand-up, satirical band



**Julian Hock-Beaty**  
staff writer

A local comedian has Omaha in stitches. Nick Allen, an esteemed comic, spreads his humor in the form of stand-up acts.

Sporting a nine-year tenure in the stand-up entertainment industry, Allen has mastered his delivery methods to cater his material to a wide audience. The versatility in his acts is what truly makes him such an appreciated comic. When writing, he makes his work flexible so it can be performed in front of nearly any age group. "It would be like telling a story to your 16-year-old cousin and then telling the same story to your grandpa. The story would remain the same, it would just be told a little differently." This being said, most of his acts are typically for an adult audience.

Starting out in his early twenties, Allen has rapidly made his way up the chain of Omaha's prominent comedians. In the past, he has had the chance to work with well-known performers, such as Larry the Cable Guy, Kevin Nealon, Robert Schimmel and Tracy Morgan. "Comedy can get you into a lot of really cool places," he said.

Allen has been able to travel all over the United States to meet new people, perform and attend competitions. In March, he filmed for Last Comic Standing, a national comedy tour that awards the victor with a network contract. He gained the attention of a lot of viewers in Los Angeles, including his personal hero, Norm Macdonald.

Allen's average set lasts about 30 to 45 minutes. His corporate gigs (more professional, less risqué content) tend to clock in around an entire hour. This proves to be difficult at times, but he delivers at full strength set nonetheless.

Outside of comedy, Allen occupies his time with side projects. He fronts a fictional metal band known as DRAGONFIRE. This humorous music group has

been integrated into his acts as an added gimmick. He goes on to describe the preparations he makes to perform. "That bit requires donning a wig, sunglasses, a bandana, a blouse and cowboy boots," he said. Going all out for an act is something he loves to do. Allen says all the effort involved makes him feel like he's truly working.

Allen's advice to budding performers is simple. "Just try it," he said. He addresses the benefits of constantly writing and trying new things. "Make a video, write a script, make a movie, start an open-mic in someone's basement...just make it happen," he said. From setting up in someone's backyard, to putting on a show on a national soundstage, he has come a long way.

With all the material around him, it's not hard for Allen to turn his own laughter into a script. According to him, friends, family, other comics and even Kendrick Lamar influence his creative process. He states that being around his funny friends has a positive impact on their attitudes as a whole, making him think they can do anything.

As far as recent activity goes, Allen has made connections with big names in entertainment. Locally, he works with popular venues, such as the Funny Bone Comedy Club. "I've also been able to be in a radio studio...I go up to Todd and Tyler once a week," he said. Expanding his audience is a priority for Allen. "I get onstage as much as possible," he said. Though his gig schedule varies, he claims that even a short period of time away from performing can make a comic rusty.

One thing is certain, the entertainment industry will be seeing a new rising star. Armed with experience, talent and connections (not to mention, a metal band), Allen is sure to leave just about anyone laughing their faces off.


Photo Courtesy of **NICK ALLEN**

## GET CONNECTED WITH NICK ALLEN


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 Tune in to Todd & Tyler weekly on Wednesdays on 92.3 FM



## New muppets show appeals to older audience, brings fresh humor

**Alec Rome**  
web editor

It's been almost 21 years since a show featuring "The Muppets" has been on television, and many attempts at creating a kid-friendly show with the fuzzy and strange creatures have fallen flat. Now, a new "mockumentary" version of the classic gives it the invigorating comedic energy it has longed for, and also a comfortable spot on primetime television.

The Muppet Show debuted in 1976 in the United Kingdom and showed for five years. It continued to have on and off success in movies. However, the concept failed to find a mainstay on television, with some spin-offs that quickly failed. Finally, it seems that this new spin-off, showcasing the personal lives of "The Muppets" and making them seemingly real is what bridged the comedic age gap.

The main plot of the show is just that: a show starring none other than Miss Piggy, and being executive produced by Kermit the Frog. All of the classic characters that made the franchise what it is are shown in a much more entertaining and relationship-driven plotline, with Piggy and Kermit being forced to work together despite their previous romantic connection, in order to make her show a success.

Shot in the same mock-doc style that produced successful television series such as "The Office," "Parks and Recreation," and "Modern Family," "The Muppets" follows the antics and problems of each character, to the point where each character seems to have a true personality.

The viewer gets a look into the lives of each character, and none of them are overshadowed by one another and the entire "Muppets" label.

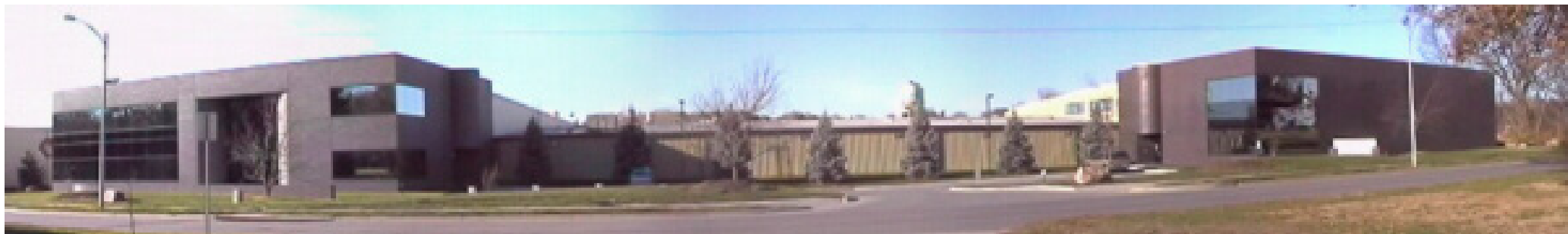
Choosing to follow the crowd was a necessary decision to make the series feel relevant and provide a different type of comedic delivery. Casual fans will love the similarities between other shows while more devoted fans to the original series will not like the "off the shoulder" camera shots and more mature presentation. The more adult targeted comedy has been met with mixed emotions; some feelings as if their "real" personalities don't match up to their already outlandish natures. Others seem to wonder why the series hasn't been thought of earlier.

A good show can thrive with a celebrity guest every once in awhile, and "The Muppets" has had many within the first few episodes: Josh Groban, Laurence Fishburne, Jay Leno, Elizabeth Banks, Imagine Dragons and Tom Bergeron to name a few. That's just the beginning, more stars like Reese Witherspoon, Jennifer Lawrence, Sofia Vergara and Kerry Washington are slated to appear later on in the first season. It the question: Can "The Muppets" keep up the same amount of quality and celebrity appearances to keep viewers watching?

Maybe that's not a disadvantage to have all of the stars come on the show; late night shows have A-list stars almost every evening, and still can keep an audience. The show is in fact about a late night talk show, so it could easily be a good thing. Hopefully, "The Muppets" stay relevant for at least a few seasons, because pop culture has desperately needed a more personal look into the lives of fuzzy creatures that have captivated us for decades. Just as long as Miss Piggy doesn't steal all of the attention.



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## GUBBELS 23

Lighting technician for the drama department doubles as a local hockey coach. Ernie Gubbels has been involved with theater and sports since the age of four.

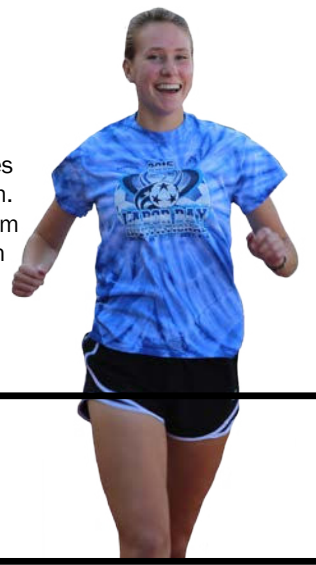


## ATHLETE ALUMNI 24 & 25

The Register sits down with two Central alumni on professional sports teams. Shaun Prater has been signed to the Indianapolis Colts and Pat Venditte was recently traded to the Toronto Blue Jays.

## XC STAR 26

McKenna Paintin takes cross country by storm. The senior led her team to a fourth place finish at the state meet.



# sports & leisure

the REGISTER • November 5, 2015 • Volume 131, Issue 2

## LEAP FOR A CURE

In their fifth year of fundraising for the local charity, the volleyball team raised over \$2,000 by selling T-shirts and baskets in an auction to raise brain cancer awareness



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Volleyball teams raised funds for brain cancer research and also honored those impacted by cancer. The event was held Oct. 13.

### Vasili Sgourakis staff writer

The Central volleyball team raised a total of \$2,430 on Oct. 13 for the Leap for a Cure Foundation, an Omaha organization that raises awareness for brain cancer. This was the largest amount of money ever raised by the team since beginning the fundraiser five years ago.

The team had never experienced this great of success prior to this year and some changes were made to assure a

more successful outcome. "The big thing is we waited until October to hold the event instead of September. By having it later in the season we were able to be more prepared. It was also our fifth year of holding this event and it continued to get a little better every year. Our seniors had done it for four years prior and did a great job of communicating the expectations to younger kids," business department chair and head coach Jodi Brown said.

CONTINUE TO 'CURE'  
ON PAGE 22

## Marathons provide teachers relief from rigors of education

### Hayley Raney staff writer

"I'd like to run two more to hit a hundred," Roxi Erickson said. The biology and forensic science teacher has run 98 marathons and plans to run two more in the future.

Marathons have been around since 490 B.C., but they were first truly introduced to society at the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. Held in Athens, 17 competitors ran the 24.8 miles.

The popularity of marathons increased, and today, a wide variety of people run them. Not only is this an athletic competition, but also a chance for people of all age groups to get together and have fun.

For Erickson, Spanish teacher Melissa Kuskie and business department head Jodi Brown, marathon running is a big part of their lives. Erickson has run a lot of full-marathons and 5k's. Kuskie has run half-marathons and 5k's and Brown has run several 10k's, two half-marathons and one full-marathon.

Erickson used to run for a living. She was noticed during her first marathon, won first place and won money. From that moment on, race organizations sponsored her and racing was her job.

The three explain that training for a marathon is not as easy as it looks. Erickson explains that she had "to put in 60 miles a week," and since she was paid to run she had a set schedule. Kuskie said she had to "build up mileage each week."

For each runner, the training was different. "The key was to get one long run in once a week and increase from there," Brown said.

Surprisingly, Erickson said she didn't like training, but what inspired her to run was coming from a running family. Her dad ran and her sister, Karlene, holds the state record for fastest 2-mile run with ten minutes and 19 seconds, in 1981, and the record hasn't been broken since.

What inspired Kuskie to run was running with friends and her husband. Her husband ran races and ran cross-country. Brown, on the other hand, said she always enjoyed running, and she was a distance runner on her high school track team.

Erickson's favorite marathon she ran was in Lincoln and only because she has won 10 times there. Her other favorite marathons were in Rome and the Bermuda island off of the coast of Florida. "They're beautiful and fun places to visit," Erickson said.

CONTINUE TO 'MARATHON RUNNING'  
ON PAGE 22

## Alumni receives school's highest honor, showed distinction on and off field

### Alec Rome web editor

Hall of fame night during the October 9 game against Bellevue East was a special night for all inductees, as well as the students that were able to interact with them. One inductee in particular, Ahman Green, got to speak with the players who now follow in his footsteps on a field that Green "wishes he could play on." However, Green went on the opposite side of the spectrum to help call play-by-play with Central's live stream, an area that Green is not unfamiliar with.

OPS Career Center students partner with the Central High School Foundation's live stream on Striv to broadcast and analyze Central High's home football games as a part of their normal sport productions. The partnership began when Central played Burke on September 17, and has broadcasted three Central home games so far this season.

Green is used to the spotlight, since he's been inducted into the Nebraska Cornhuskers and Green Bay Packers respective hall of fames. "I've been getting experience in making speeches," Green said. "The one constant theme in all of my speeches is that I didn't do it by myself. It was my teammates, teachers, coaches, family members, [people] like that who affected me. Some of it was bad, but it was a lesson to get me to work hard and to be successful. To pick myself up when I fall down."

He stays in contact with his teammates and the school in general, but coming back to Central is something that Green enjoys, especially since he was inducted into the hall of fame of the place where he began his career. The new field has caught his eye, among other changes to the school. "We had to practice on a field that is now the parking lot of Joslyn Museum. It was old, 1980s turf," Green said. Now, since the field is in a different place, Green wishes he could have played under what are

now the bright lights of Seaman Stadium. "It's good to have it here literally on home property. I wished we could have walked out here on this field in '93' and '94'. It looks awesome."

Green currently lives in Wisconsin, the same place where he created his legacy as a running-back for the Packers. Over his entire NFL career, Green scored 60 rushing touchdowns and compiled over 9,000 rushing yards, most of those coming from his eight years in Green Bay. The legacy of Central as a rushing high school is what drove Green to work harder. "The look on the wall to see the other names that have been here before you... I knew about Calvin Jones, Keith Jones, Leodus Flowers, I knew about those guys and I was hoping I could get on that wall," Green said. "I have to work, make sure I don't get hurt, make sure I have good grades. I knew all of the factors to

CONTINUE TO 'AHMAN GREEN'  
ON PAGE 22





Photo Courtesy of PAUL NIELSON

Former Central football player and NFL Hall of Famer, Ahman Green meets with students during halftime.

## Alumni stays in contact with old teammates, helps students with broadcast

CONTINUED FROM 'AHMAN GREEN' ON PAGE 21

get on that wall."

As for being in the press box instead of on the field, Green says that it's not a big deal for him, considering that he already has experience. He has done it for four years, in the Green Bay area. He does two live shows, a pre-game on Sundays and an interview style show on Tuesdays. "I get into the person. We already are going to ask them all of the football stuff, but I find out what they like to do, what is something that we don't know about you," Green said. "I ask those questions that the fans don't really know." He also appeared on the first episode of Madden NFL Live, where he defeated Maurice Jones-Drew on national television, and got revenge for many lost games against the former Jacksonville running back.

Now, Green can add another title besides all-time leading Green Bay rusher, video game champion, football analyst or star running back. He is now a Central hall of famer.

## Team raises record amount of money for local cancer charity

CONTINUED FROM 'CURE' ON PAGE 21

Preparation for this fundraiser began in the beginning of September by informing the parents and all members of the team. "All girls promoted selling our t-shirts. Also, each team made a themed basket for the raffle. They also went out into the community and asked for other donations for the raffle, such as restaurant gift cards," Brown said.

Money for this fundraiser was generated in various ways. "[We did] jeans day for staff, t-shirt sales, donations, and a raffle," Brown said. "We also had anonymous donor this year. If we made at least \$750 they would match us up to \$1,000. We raised \$1,430, therefore, with the donation of \$1,000 that brought our grand total to \$2,430." She noted that all the

money stayed in Omaha with the Leap for a Cure Foundation; they in turn use the funds to assist the Methodist Estabrook Cancer Center.

Along with raising money, the team also adopted a child. Aiden Deans is a seven-year-old and is currently a second grader at Ponca Elementary. On May 25, he was diagnosed with medulloblastoma, the most common pediatric malignant brain tumor. One of the team's parents works at the school Deans attends and contacted them about being the special guest. On the day of the Leap for a Cure game, the team met Deans and heard his story. "On May 27 he underwent a seven hour surgery to remove the tumor. During the summer, Aiden completed 30 radiation treatments and also completed his first cycle of chemotherapy. He is now on a chemo regimen that requires him to be admitted to the hospital every 4-6 weeks.

He will have to have chemo for the next nine months," Brown said.

According to the volleyball players, his presence and courage inspired the team throughout the game. "Aiden being there helped us win because he gave us something to win for, the team wanted to win for him," sophomore volleyball player Emma Hoiberg said.

Although the team was proud of their fundraising accomplishments, the attendance of Deans at the game put it all in perspective. "Having him at our match brought everything full circle," Brown said. "It put a face as to why we hold this event. There wasn't a dry eye in the gym after introducing him."

## Classroom and school work aside, teachers dedicate time to physical fitness and charity

CONTINUED FROM 'RUNNING' ON PAGE 21

According to Erickson, when she was in Rome it was Rome's first year having marathons. Rome wanted representatives from the U.S. and Erickson was one of two runners asked to represent the U.S. in Rome.

Kuskie's favorite marathon was also in Lincoln because she was running in the rain and her sister ran that marathon with her. "It was inspirational when I finished before people that were younger than I am, it makes me feel young," she said.

Brown's favorite marathon was the Papillion half-marathon because she "had such a great time" running at that marathon. "I like to compete, I like to have competition to train for and keep myself active," she said.

The three runners began their passions at different times in their lives. Erickson started running marathons in 1992. Kuskie started running marathons around 2005 and Brown started running marathons during her college years.

Erickson has ran marathons all over, such as, Canada, New York, Florida, Virginia Beach, Texas, California, Arizona, South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota.

Since Erickson ran for a living, she said "The races flew me to the states and put me in hotels [because] they wanted good runners."

The race organizations which sponsored her were able to pay for everything she needed.

Both Kuskie and Brown have ran locally around Nebraska.

The women run marathons for many different reasons. Erickson runs marathons because she likes challenges. "I like to be able to think I can do things a lot of people wouldn't do or can't do."

Kuskie and Brown both run marathons for fun. Brown also says she runs marathons for health and to relieve stress.

Marathon running has impacted all the lives of these women. "It's made me not to be afraid of challenges and to be more of a patient person," Erickson said. She believes running making her more of a patient person has helped her "be a better teacher."

Kuskie says it has made her "a stronger runner." And Brown says that running has "always been a part of my life."

All three of the women still run, but they don't run marathons anymore "for now" Erickson and Kuskie say. However, the women plan to run more marathons in the future.

They have advice for future marathon runners. "Don't ever think that you can't do it," Erickson said.

"Set a pace and finish strong," Kuskie advises. Brown says simply moving and trying is all that counts.

As of today, according to Marathon Statistics, there are 751 marathons scheduled in the United States and Canada in 2015. Popularity for marathons continue to grow since their first appearance in 490 B.C..




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# Athletic department takes proactive steps to prevent head injuries

**Javier Lepes**  
contributing writer

“There’s no telling if someone has a concussion,” said Central head athletic trainer Bryant Pasho. Concussions are a big mystery in brain injuries and are a huge controversial part of sports.

Concussions are caused by a blow to the chest or head that causes the brain to rapidly decelerate and everything else in the body to stop while the brain keeps going, or a disruption in the neurons in the brain.

It’s impossible to tell if anyone has a concussion, but if they’re experiencing some common symptoms like headaches, nausea, sensitivity to light or noise, blurry vision after a hard collision, there’s a higher chance of having a concussion.

Concussions are a blind spot in injuries. There’s no telling if someone has one due to concussions not showing up on MRI or CT scans. Many people are trying to develop tests to identify a concussion, from urine tests to blood tests, but have yet to discover one.

Between 2001 and 2009 over 170 thousand teens and children under the age of nineteen were treated in emergency rooms for concussions. Age doesn’t seem to make a difference because, since 2012, over 700 National Football League play-

ers were diagnosed with a concussion either during practices or games.

“There have been more documented concussions at Central than when I first started, but this year was the first year when there was a decrease in reports,” Pasho said. Football is

“ I wasn’t even aware that I had been kicked in the head because I lost my memory

CLAIRE LAVENDER

Junior soccer player

the sport which sees the most concussions at Central, however soccer players and wrestlers also sustain concussions.

Because of the dangers associated with concussions, Central tries many ways to prevent these injuries and to help the athlete have a better recovery. If a player shows any sign of a possible brain injury they’re immediately off the field. “We’re extremely careful, any sign and you’re out whether my head hurts or a headache, safety, safety, safety,” freshman football coach Scott Rice said.

Junior Claire Lavender is one of many student athletes who has had a concussion. Last year she was playing soccer and was kicked in the head. She couldn’t see or breathe and then collapsed on the field. “I wasn’t even aware that I had been kicked in the head because I lost my memory,” Lavender said. “People had to tell me what happened.”

Central has a concussion management team to help student athletes deal with concussions during rehab. The team consists of the athletic trainer, administration of attendance, the nurse and the student’s counselor. All of them, plus the student’s classroom teachers get notified once an athlete is diagnosed with a concussion.

Two years ago, if a player would have had a concussion they would have been required to come back the next school day. But due to the new protocol, a student has one to two days to report back to school. “It’s way better than what used to be, but it’s going to get way better in the future, the protocol changes every year,” Pasho said.

Presently there are many rehabilitation centers for injuries, and helmets are being developed to help reduce the effect of impacts to the head. Even though athletes, coaches and fans are becoming more educated and aware of the severe effects of concussions, people must continue to take precautions.

# Hockey coach doubles as drama technician, helps with visual effects

**Alec Rome**  
web editor

Central is a school filled with people who are passionate about the work they do and also passionate about their hobbies.

Ernie Gubbels is just another one of those people, a volunteer stagecraft teacher and technician for the drama program. Not only does he juggle helping with different productions and teaching students about the art of stagecraft, but he coaches hockey and has another job that requires him to travel across the country. It’s nothing for Gubbels compared to the fast-paced game that he has coached for eighteen years.

Gubbels originally was contacted by Dr. John Gibson eight years ago, the drama instructor for Central at the time, to help with sound and lighting. “He had some challenges with the musical he was working, and he just gave me a call,” Gubbels said. The two had been working on shows for almost twenty years before he was contacted to come to Central. This is Gubbels’ eighth year at Central.

Drama and performing have been a major part of Gubbels’ life since he was four years old, when he first appeared on television. His first sound and lighting work came in the fourth grade. His young age had gotten him noticed when he began touring with a thirteen person band while in the ninth grade. His work brought him to New York City, where a newspaper mentioned him as “the youngest sound engineer they had seen.”

His sound and lighting career did not stop there. Gubbels worked at an amusement park as the lead electronics and production tech when he was a junior in high school, and continued to work sound and lighting production for events such as rock concerts, fashion shows and political events for all levels of government. Gubbels later pursued collegiate and professional education in his field at UNO and cities such as Las Vegas.

He also juggles his job as an information technology consultant, specializing in business continuity. “I basically help folks get ready for a bad day,” said Gubbels. He travels the country for Sirius Computer Solutions, based out of San Antonio, Texas. Gubbels handles everything from computer system crashes, to a building being flooded.

Having all of these responsibilities is not necessarily hard to juggle, because the people he works with know that he has full-time job and other things he has to do.

As of January, Gubbels started taking up bass guitar, because of his long tenure on the production side of performing. “I have always been on the recording side of the glass, what about the other side,” Gubbels said. He hired an instructor who is a professional bass player with the local symphony.

There were similarities between how he initially became involved in Central’s drama program and how he started coaching hockey with his long time partner, Larry Battey. He started skating at the age of six, but ended up giving it up around age twelve. “I couldn’t find skates that fit, interestingly enough,” Gubbels said. He then picked up the game again almost seventeen years later. “I found I could custom order skates that fit, and I started skating.”

Gubbels was on a number of adult hockey league teams before being contacted to coach young skaters. He was asked to help coach with introductory program skaters, and it was just the beginning for Gubbels and his coaching pursuits. Gubbels now has a level four USA Hockey coaching certification. He’s coached multiple age groups, ranging from eleven to seventeen years of age.



ALEC ROME | The Register

Gubbels’ team regularly practices at Moylan Ice Plex. As coach, he also suits up with his players in order to teach first hand.

After eighteen years, Gubbels has seen a host of personalities as a coach and a teacher, he believes. “It’s the diversity of the players and students I see all of the time,” Gubbels said. “You make an assumption that in eighteen years, you have seen all there is to be seen. No, not even close. Every youth athlete as well as every student is very unique,” Gubbels said.

Despite there being some common themes, due to the problems that all players and students in the age group face, coaching and teaching still remains interesting for him.

“Everyone has their own story,” Gubbels said. “What keeps it interesting above all else is experiencing those stories for a period and trying to [in ice hockey] make sure the youth athlete enjoys the sport as much as I do. Hopefully, they will continue on in life and ultimately take my place and encourage the next youth to continue on and enjoy the sport,” Gubbels said.

Diversity is something that Gubbels carries as an ideal into every aspect of his life. What Gubbels has found is that despite the stigma of hockey being a brute sport, it is not only diverse but also not a “star-based” game. “It’s a very fast and intense sport,” Gubbels said. “The thing that makes it unique among the sports is it truly is a team-oriented sport. You can’t be an individual and go out and win a game against a reasonable team,” Gubbels said. “Some of the other sports might have a running-back that sticks out or a center in basketball that sticks out. They can really [affect] the game, but even with a Wayne Gretzky who is considered a god of the sport, he will be the first to admit he couldn’t do it by himself,” Gubbels said.

One of Gubbels’ biggest philosophies as a coach is finding the strengths in the players that he coaches and how to exploit them to accomplish a mission. The concept of being a team is something that Gubbels has learned from the sport

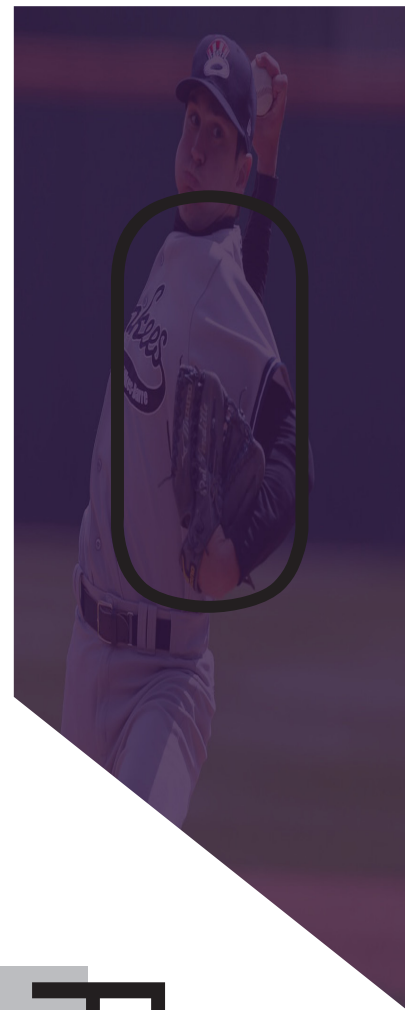
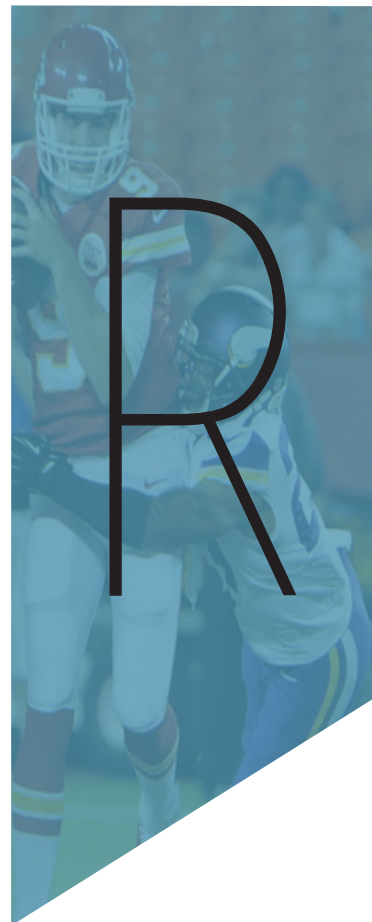
in general, knowing that there is a team around you and how to use that team. The social side of the sport has also allowed him to learn about people in general. “There are so many players involved with the sports, getting to meet different people and play against them or have them on your team is exciting,” Gubbels said.

For him, there is no explaining why Gubbels loves the sport. It’s something he is naturally drawn to. “It’s like asking why you like the car you like or why you like Italian food,” Gubbels said. “That’s what makes me a little different. I have a lot of vocations, things that I do for no pay. You do it because you love it, and why do you love it, because you do,” Gubbels said.

He gets a small stipend for his job at Central, but he does not get paid to be a coach. “If you’re going to do what I do, you have to be somewhat selfless. You are not in it for the thanks and you certainly are not in for the money. It’s about student success,” Gubbels said. “That was hard to get over initially. Ultimately you come to realize that you are there for the wrong reasons. In an entertainment production, you’re there for the applause. You have affected an emotional reaction in your audience,” Gubbels said. The same is true even in sports. “If you’re able to get a youth or any athlete to go out, give it their all, and they come back saying, ‘I want to play this game tomorrow,’ you win.”

As for why he loves the game, Gubbels can’t really answer that question specifically. “As much as it is a broad question, it is a bit of a sketchy answer. All of us in life are drawn to different things, and we all can hope that we are fortunate enough to discover what those things are and actually spend our time doing them.”





The Register sits down with two Central graduates, Pat Venditte and Shaun Prater, who have gone on to become professional athletes in the MLB and NFL, respectively.

Anna Kaminski  
staff writer

Major League baseball pitcher and Central alumnus Pat Venditte takes the baseball world by storm. Venditte possesses the unique talent of ambidexterity (the ability to throw both left and right-handed).

Venditte recalls his father, Pat Sr., being one of his greatest influences. He is the one who taught him to throw with both arms as a kid. Pat Sr. wanted Venditte to stand out in athletic competitions, consequently they trained to establish ambidexterity. Additionally, Venditte practiced kicking footballs with both legs to ensure the proper leg motion necessary to pitch with both arms. "He instilled a work ethic in me," says Venditte, "He told me to reach for the goals I wanted."

In high school, Venditte pitched on the freshman and reserve team his freshman year, junior varsity his sophomore year and varsity both junior and senior year. He earned All-Nebraska second-team honors his senior year.

"It was awesome," Venditte reminisces. Because of baseball, his memory of high school was a positive one. He says he played with a great group of guys and that he built long-lasting friendships on the team. Venditte says he is "so thankful" for Head Coach Jerry Kreber who shaped him to be the baseball player he is today.

After high school, Venditte attended Creighton University and joined the Bluejays as a walk-on in 2005. The head coach Ed Servais wouldn't allow Venditte to pitch with both arms his freshman year for fear of Venditte's rare ability becoming a "circus." At one point during his junior year season, he had a streak of 43 2/3 scoreless innings.

On June 8, 2007, a year before Venditte was to graduate, in the 45th round of the 2007 Major League Baseball Draft, he was selected by the New York Yankees. Venditte refused saying he wasn't yet ready to turn professional and that he still had aspects of his game he needed to work on.

In the 2008 Major League Baseball Draft, Venditte was drafted in the 20th round by the Yankees. This time, he decided to sign, thus beginning his professional baseball career.

Venditte was initially assigned to the Staten Island Yankees. On June

19, 2008, he appeared for the first time in the minor leagues against the Brooklyn Cyclones. Venditte pitched a scoreless ninth inning causing the Yankees to win. However, the last batter for the Cyclones was a switch-hitter (a batter who can choose to hit both left-handed and right-handed). Venditte naturally switched his position in correspondence with the batter's. After the two players continued to change their batting and pitching stance several times, the umpires then ruled that the batter must choose either batting left-handed or right-handed and the pitcher could choose accordingly. Weeks later, the Venditte Rule was adopted by the umpire's association to address the occurrence if it happened again.

Venditte continued to pitch for the Yankees on various levels of playing fields until 2014. During that time, he notably played for the Italian national baseball team in the 2013 World Baseball Classic. Also, in his right shoulder, he suffered a torn labrum consequently spending the remainder of the 2013 season recovering. In 2014, despite Venditte's exceptional minor league stats, the Yankees didn't invite him back for spring training.

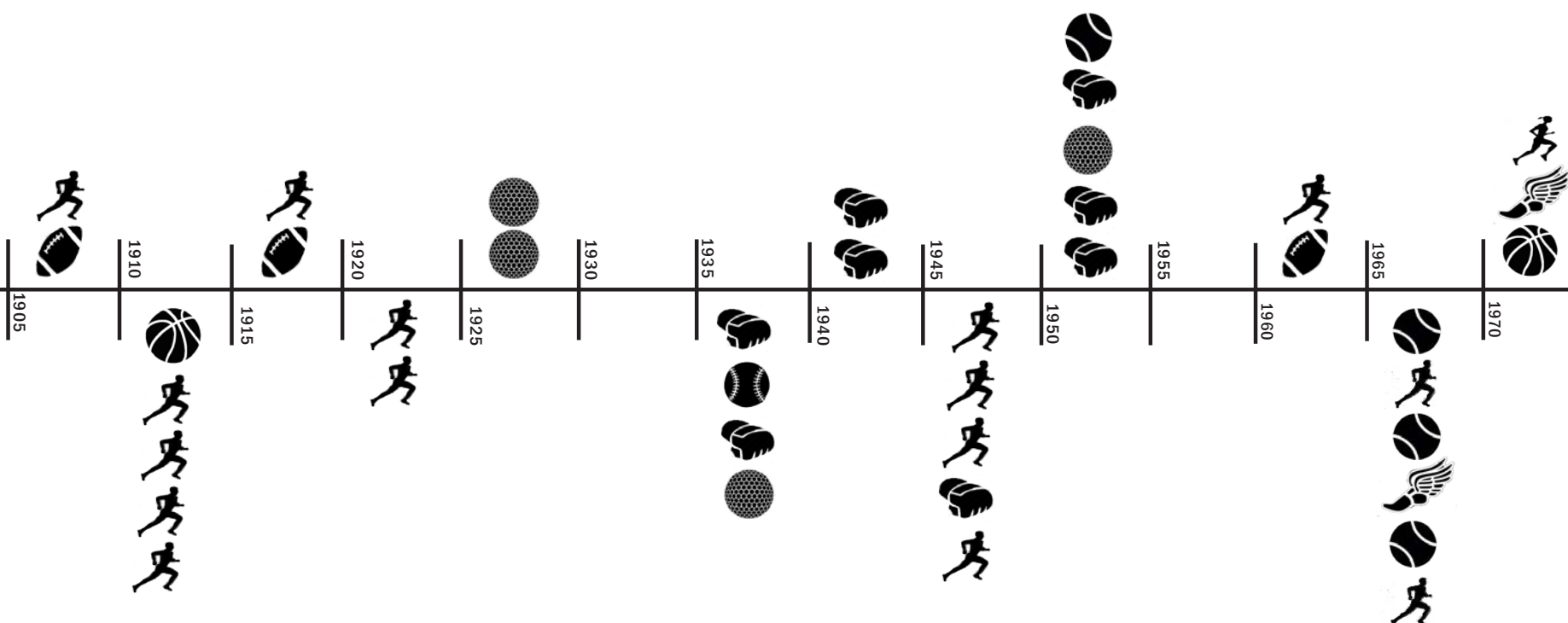
After the Yankees, Venditte became a free agent and signed a minor league contract with the Oakland Athletics. On June 5, 2015 he was promoted to the Athletics and made his major league debut with two scoreless innings. Venditte pitched four games before straining his right shoulder. He was placed on the disabled list but was recalled to the team on August 15 and achieved his first win in the major leagues on August 30.

"I was informed by the general manager of the A's that I was no longer with them and that somebody from Toronto would be calling me," says Venditte. On October 19, he was claimed by the Toronto Blue Jays for the 2016 season. "Going to miss my teammates, staff and the great fans in Oakland. Excited and grateful for the opportunity that lies ahead in Toronto," said Venditte via Twitter.

Venditte has the same expectations for the Blue Jays as he did at the A's. He hopes help the team win and promote a unified dynamic. Venditte lives by the words "aim small, miss small." He believes individuals should have a goal and achieve it. He also offers advice to anybody striving to be successful in any field: "Fight through the tough days and the hard times because there are always better days ahead."

# PAT VENDITTE

CHS CHAMPIONSHIPS 1930-2010





# SHAUN PRATER

Georgia Chambers  
executive editor

“All the work that I put in during high school, I made sacrifices,” Shaun Prater, defensive back for the Indianapolis Colts, said, explaining his path to success in the NFL. “I focused on myself. I would wake up early, 5:00 in the morning to workout and lift and to prep myself to play well. That is what I continued to do in college and am still doing today.”

Prater began playing football during the fifth grade right after his mother signed him and his twin brother up for the local youth team.

“As soon as I got on the field, and was able to tackle and hurt people I knew I was going to love it,” Prater jokingly said. Back in 2007, Prater was a part of Central’s state championship-winning football team. He attributes much of his present day success to his experience in high school. Prater admitted that college football was challenging, but Central helped develop him and prepare him for the next level in his career.

“[Central] shaped me into a great, humble, young man. I had a great coaching staff and a very large school. We were playing football at a very high level, so it prepped me to be ready for college,” Prater said. One of his fondest memories of the team is when they faced Millard North in Lincoln for the state champion title.

Millard schools had typically dominated football in the 2000s, so bringing the state title home to an OPS school was a major accomplishment.

Prater recalled this matchup, and said, “We basically knew what we had to do. We knew that we were a faster team than Millard North, we had plenty of talent; the only thing we had to do was focus on beating them and not beating ourselves and using our skills to help us win the game. After that, we had a great game plan. We knew they would try to double and triple my brother, [Ronnell] Grixby and me, so that left our other players open on defense. Then, we just dominated on defense.”

Scoring on the opening drive, the Eagles ended up defeating the Mustangs 26-21. Prater is thankful for the large student section, which provided a lot of support to the team.

As they began to have an impressive winning streak, the fans crowded in to see the boys play. “When they realized that we were the top school in the whole state, that’s when it got crazy... We loved it,” Prater said.

Given his current career, it may be expected that Prater was always a star on varsity for the Eagles. But this was not the case. As a junior, Prater competed on the junior varsity level for the first couple of games. Head varsity coach Jay Ball recognized Prater’s potential at junior varsity’s first game against Bellevue East. “He was making plays all over the field. I knew he was fast; he was one of the reasons we went on to change our defense. We went from a 5-man front to a 4-man front to get more speed on the field,” Ball said.

Even though Prater believed himself to be varsity material as a junior, Prater acknowledges how great of an experience it was to play on Junior Varsity. “I am thankful [for playing junior varsity] because during that time I was thinking, ‘Uh, we have a brand new head coach, I am better than half the guys here,’ but I never went out and proved it on the field, which was why I was playing junior varsity. Coach Ball gave me a couple of chances to play in varsity, and in every single game I was able to shine bright, go out there and help them win... It definitely helped humble me,” Prater said.

Prater’s contributions to the team did not go unnoticed. “He helped us win a state championship his senior year. He played both sides of the ball. He was obviously a great player for us, he was an all-state player on defense, was a really good receiver and did some things on our special teams. He was just a great player,” Ball said.

Ball was very influential to Prater’s future, and served as more than a coach to him. the guys playing for him were guys who loved being a



Photo Courtesy of THEVIKINGAGE.COM

In his first game against the Eagles, Prater catches the football midair.

Even though Ball says he does not try to influence kids on where they want to go to college, Prater said that Ball helped him choose where he went. After making the choice to attend Iowa, he considered recommitting to the Huskers instead.

“Coach Ball pulled me aside and he said, ‘Once a man makes up his mind to do something, he sticks with it. You made a choice as a man to go to Iowa, [so] stick with it and go there and have an excellent career.’ And that’s exactly what I did. I thank him for it,” Prater said.

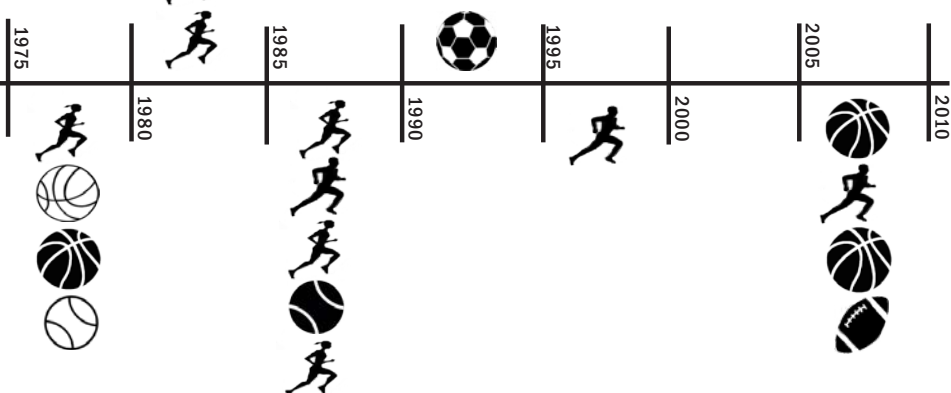
Prater says that attending Iowa helped to develop him into the man he is today.

“It really shaped me into being a man. It made me really focus on the things that I had to do. The coaches developed men not boys,” Prater said.

The biggest challenge he faced during his college career was learning their playbook and gaining weight. Still, Prater knew that he was fast, strong and focused on playing as a freshman. After putting in a lot of work, he was able to play as a freshman at the collegiate level. This led to his career in the NFL, a future he had been dreaming of since he was young.

“As soon as I started playing, I knew I wanted to play professional football. At a young age, I had loved Harry Potter, but when I realized I couldn’t become a wizard, I knew I would become a professional football player, and I told my family,” Prater said. So far, professional football has been everything Prater dreamed it would be. Even though business and politics sometimes get involved, Prater said, “We are all still playing the game. It is about loving the game and playing football.” Moving forward, Prater hopes to keep bettering himself as a Christian, player and as a man. He advises players to put in the work and to focus on their goals.

“Stop hoping and stop wishing,” Prater said. “Sacrifice the girlfriends, the hanging out, the drinking—whatever the kids are doing now, becoming hip-hop artists, sacrifice everything for football. Do it for as long as you can... Wake up early, eat right, put in the time and effort and see what happens. Great things are going to happen.”

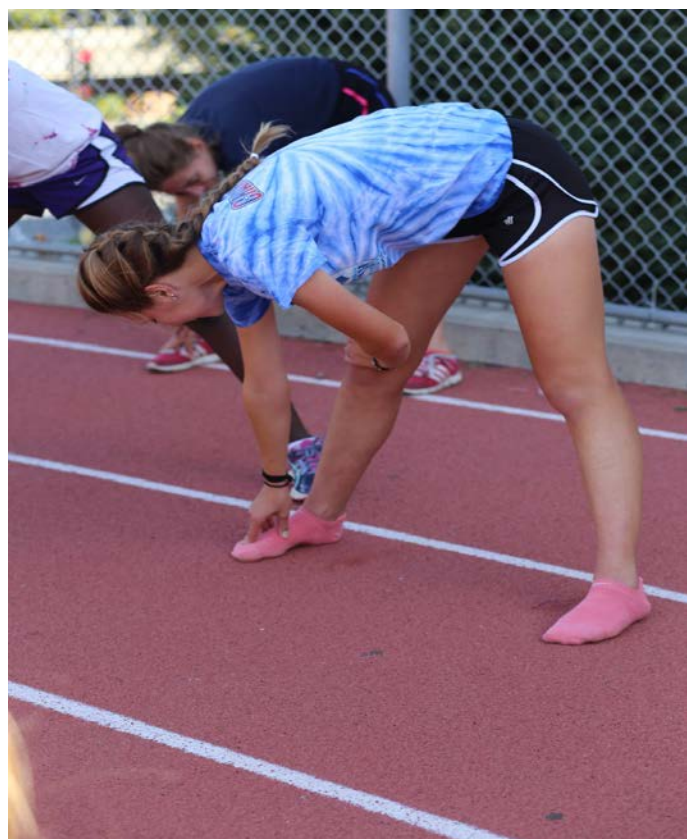


boys basketball	boys track & field	wrestling	girls basketball
baseball	girls tennis	boys cross country	boys tennis
boys soccer	girls track & field	boys golf	football

KEY



# Senior finds enjoyment in running, trains for her success



ANN MILROY | The Register

Before going for a run, Paintin makes sure to always stretch and warm up. Along with physical preparation, she also focuses on the mental aspects of distance running to carry her through.

**Kelsey Thomas**  
editor-in-chief

With a tall, athletic build and a smile on her face as she runs, it is clear that cross country comes naturally to senior McKenna Paintin. Over the course of the 2015 season, Paintin has led her team to a first place finish at Metros, as well as second place in districts and fourth place at state. As a junior, Paintin placed thirteenth in individual runners at state for girls cross country.

Her talent has been nationally recognized by Division I colleges for quite some time, and in mid-October, she committed to running for the University of Kansas. Both of her parents and several other family members are alum of KU, so the school has been Paintin's first choice for college for nearly all of her life.

Cross country has been a large part of Paintin's life for many years, though she didn't have time for the sport during the first two years of high school.

"I started running cross country in middle school, but didn't do it my freshman and sophomore years because I worried it would be too much with club soccer, cheerleading, and the homework load in high school," Paintin said.

But after missing two seasons of cross country, it became clear to Paintin that she still had a passion for the sport. The summer before her junior year she attended practices with the team, which consisted of running several miles a day in the area around Elmwood Park. Though it would take up more of her time and add on to her already hectic schedule, Paintin chose to resume her participation in cross country.

"I fell in love with it again, so I decided I had to find a way to fit in into my schedule," she said.

Since she has begun to race again, the sport means more and more to her with each race. "A year ago," she said, "I would have told you that soccer was my number one priority, but today it is by far cross country."

Paintin's love for the sport comes through in her positive attitude and leadership skills. Her coach, Trent Lodge, is well aware of Paintin's assets to the team.

“ A year ago, I would have told you that soccer was my number one priority, but today it is by far cross country ”  
McKenna Paintin

Cross country and soccer athlete

"Her biggest skill is her maturity and her leadership. This is only her second year running for us, but she stepped in as a leader from the start."

Though Paintin certainly has a natural athletic advantage, she still works hard to stay in shape for cross country and soccer. The team began to practice in the summer by running several miles in the morning, and now the team practices each day after school by running for one and a half to two hours. Additionally, twice a week Paintin must attend soccer practice after cross country.

According to Lodge, Paintin's expectations for herself also

present a difficulty at times.

"Sometimes, her biggest challenge is her own expectations. She always wants to work really hard, and improve after each [race]," he said.

For Paintin, her largest obstacle is time. She has a difficult course load at school, and she plays two varsity sports. Sometimes, it can be tricky to find time to have down time.

"It is definitely challenging to fit everything in, but if anything it has gotten me to be more focused and work harder at everything I do. Junior year was especially hard...but I did it and I feel like I didn't put anything on the back burner... I still have time to go to football games and hang out with my friends. My close friends support me and they understand if I have practice or a game," she said.

For Paintin, cross country has become more than a sport. It has become one of her favorite pastimes, and a place where she has met some of her closest friends.

"All of the girls on the team are so supportive and fun to be around, and it creates such a great atmosphere," she said.

Lodge also appreciates the dynamic of the team.

"They all work very well together, and they all work very hard. They're very close team, and they support each other no matter what," he said.

As the cross country season comes to a close and Paintin says goodbye to her Central running mates, she is sad to say goodbye to high school running and her friends. Still, she looks forward to running at KU, and is thrilled to continue the sport past high school.

"Every time I run, cross country means more and more to me."

# Peyton Manning's time has come, retirement should be in the near future

Peyton Manning, one-time Super Bowl winner and veteran quarterback for the Denver Broncos is in his 17th NFL season. Ever since 2012, after Manning's three neck surgeries, he has not been able to make the throws downfield like he used to. If Manning and the Broncos fail in their quest for a Lombardi Trophy, it might be time to call it quits for the future hall-of-famer.

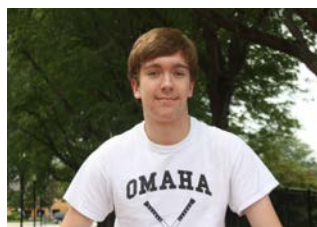
Don't get me wrong; Manning is an elite quarterback. It has nothing to do with his skill or his mental knowledge. In fact, former Broncos offensive coordinator and current head coach of the Oakland Raiders, Jack Del Rio commented on Manning, saying he was "a tough matchup."

He can pick apart defenses like the greats of the game. Mentally, Manning is more focused and knowledgeable about the game than most quarterbacks. Del Rio described Manning's mind as, "...an offensive coordinator with a computer in his head, but he also gets the snap every play," said Del Rio.

Physically however, his throwing arm does not have enough velocity to make long throws like he used to. A few times during his Week 4 game against the Vikings, Manning chose to wait for a closer receiver to find the open field, which could lead to more sacks. He can move around in the pocket,

but soon enough a defense can get to the quarterback. Sure, Manning is an expert at making good decisions inside of the pocket. But not always when throwing down the field.

He threw two interceptions in his Week 4 game against the Vikings, and they were not pretty. In his first four games, his TD to INT ratio is 6:5. Currently, the top five quarterbacks in the NFL all have two or less interceptions. Manning is 26th in quarterback passer rating through Week 4, behind less experienced quarterbacks such as Teddy Bridgewater and rookie Marcus Mariota.



ALEC ROME  
When in Rome

One of Manning's gaffes during the Vikings game was when Manning attempted to throw to a receiver running a crossing route in the middle of the field. He read the defense as a Cover 2, where the linebacker in the middle of the field would drop back, leaving the wide receiver open underneath the zone coverage.

Instead, the Vikings played a Cover 4, where instead of that defender dropping back and playing a cornerback zone on the side of the field, he played a flat zone underneath the deep safeties. Manning threw to the linebacker as if he was on his team.

Sure, it was a simple misread of what the Vikings were calling on defense. Compared to earlier in his career, Manning could have read the defense correctly, since the coverage itself

was not hard to read. In a Cover 2, typically the cornerbacks would play five yards from the line of scrimmage, since that's the zone they would play.

On Manning's interception, those same cornerbacks played eight yards from the line, and with the naked eye it was easy to see they were not going to come up and play the sideline zone. It was a simple coverage, yet an unexpected misread for a veteran quarterback. It wasn't his only mistake, Manning completely overthrew one of his receivers and lead his throw so far to the right that it was easily in the hands of the deep safety. Not to mention his feet were pointing left, and his throw was more toward the right.

It's these types of throws that make me wonder if Manning can keep his production up. He's been sacked ten times within his first four games, which is not good for his physical condition if he hits the turf on a regular basis. Also, as I was writing this, Manning threw an interception to Charles Woodson, a defensive back for Oakland. It did not look pretty.

The Denver Broncos have stayed undefeated to this point because of their defense and in spite of their veteran quarterback. Regardless of their record, another championship is nothing but a dream and an afterthought if Manning can't throw the ball well enough. It's time to hang up the cleats; Manning has had too many injuries, he is no longer conditioned and Denver's title chances currently look bleak.



# INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

While the band marches on the field and the pom squad performs, the football team gathers in the locker room, preparing for the second half of the game.



The roar of the crowd can be heard in the distance as players rush into the locker room, eager to stretch and rest between halves. The halftime pep talk is arguably one of the most important parts of the game. Even though the atmosphere varies based on whether or not the Eagles are winning, the team stays serious and listens to their instructions.

“Coach Ball designates Coach Faulkner as our team psychologist. He’s an old school cat, so he’s always sharing words of wisdom. It’s the way he does it that makes it so appealing. When he talks, everybody listens. [He] has the ability to take a room over and make everybody buy into what he is saying and understand that we’re going to war. He says, ‘You never stand there and let your brother get hit in the mouth, we’re family, and we fight for each other, that’s what football is, it’s a 48 minute fist fight. This is Central Football, baby, one team, one sound!’”

-Matt Storm  
JV football coach



NATALIE NEPPER & CLAIRE LAVENDER

The Register & The O-Book



## Despite loss, Cubs fans should be pleased with team’s direction

“This is our year.” Cubs fans are famous for uttering these immortal words, this four-word phrase that seems to never go out of style. We haven’t won the World Series since 1908, but after a 107 year hiatus it appears that the ball club is finally falling in place.

We might not have won the World Series this year, but we did reach the NLCS, a landmark achievement for any team, and one the Cubs hadn’t reached since 2003. Cubs fans shouldn’t be disappointed in the fact that we lost the pennant, or that we didn’t get the chance to be world champs for the first time in over a century.

Instead, we should be excited for the future. For my entire life, it’s seemed that the Cubs were missing at least one major piece of the puzzle that forms the picture of a successful team. Our pitching has fallen flat for years, and our bullpen has consistently let down our offensive talent, when we are lucky enough to have any.

More often than not, we’ve been unable to hit and get on

base, the primary element that puts together a consistently winning team.

Perhaps most strikingly, our management has been unwilling to put in the finances that are simply necessary to a successful club.

But this season, with solid pitchers including Arrietta and Lester, and players who can hit solidly and consistently such as Castro and Bryant, things are turning around for the club.

Even better, it’s clear that Theo Epstein, President of Baseball Operations, knows how to put together a solid team, and General Manager Joe Maddon knows how to lead a staff that will coach them will.

When the Ricketts regime bought the Cubs, many fans were uneasy, a feeling that’s natural with any change of ownership. But to the delight of most fans, the Ricketts’ ownership has caused a lot of positive things to happen for the team.

It’s clear that they’re willing to spend money to contract

the best players and managers in the league, and they’re committed to building the ball club into a team with a bright future ahead of them.

The Ricketts have also established much-needed plans for renovating Wrigley Field. Though Wrigley is like mecca for Cubs fans, there are obvious updates that need to be made, and fans should be glad that Wrigley will be kept up for decades to come. However, the Ricketts’ venture to buy out the rooftops around Wrigley is greedy, and disappointing to many Chicago residents. The rooftops have provided an entertaining and unique opportunity for fans to watch their favorite team play, and the Ricketts purchase of the rooftops will undoubtedly cause prices to skyrocket, subsequently taking away the chance for fans to witness the game from a different perspective.

Overall, the Cubs are an incredible ball club with a record that’s finally beginning to please the fans who have been waiting for a competitive team for decades. With a team of young, hard-hitting leaders ready to work and a management group excited for the future, it’s clear that it’s nothing but up for the Cubs.



KELSEY THOMAS  
BE THERE IN TEN

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