



COACH BEHRENS

9

Eric Behrens returns to Central after a three year career coaching college basketball to mentor his son for one more year.



ROBIN HOOD

15

The drama department's Spring production of "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood" yielded a stressful but fun experience for actors.

BALLOONGATE

23

The school's 40th Annual Purple Feather Day sparked controversy due to the releasing of balloons. Two students voice their opinions on the issue.



the REGISTER



@CHS_Press

The Central High Register

@chs_press

Omaha Central High School | Volume 132, Issue 6 | May 11, 2017

omahacentralregister.com



CENTRAL IS FAMILY

Senior Kevon Kaylor remains positive after being diagnosed with brain cancer at age 15.

Georgia Chambers
editor-in-chief

At the age of 15, senior Kevon Kaylor was given only 14 months to live after being diagnosed with a serious form of brain cancer.

"Yeah, and I beat that," Kevon said. "You have beat that," Kevon's mom, JoAnn, said, "and you're going on three and a half years."

When Kevon first began experiencing symptoms such as headaches, vomiting, weakness and balance issues, the doctors dismissed it as an ear infection. So, after treating him for an ear infection and not seeing results, Kevon went back to the doctor only to be told he had a virus. JoAnn took reign of the situation and ordered for them to complete a brain scan. Her mother's intuition was right, because that was when they found the tumor in Kevon's brain stem.

Due to the location of the tumor, doctors could not operate on it. Kevon's dad, John, said that they have the best neurosurgeon in the Midwest working with Kevon, so they trusted his judgement. "I feel if he couldn't get it out, then no one could get it out," John said. "We just have to keep trying to figure out what we can do to get rid of that thing," JoAnn added.

Kevon has undergone chemotherapy and radiation, and it has yielded positive results. He has gone through remission twice, but now it is back for a third time. He is currently undergoing chemotherapy again, and he has an upcoming appointment to check the progression of the cancer. His life is nothing short of a roller coaster, but that does not stop Kevon from being the optimistic person his friends and family know him to be.

When Kevon was recently told by a doctor, "You should

probably think about end of life plans," he stayed calm and told his family, "I got this, don't worry about it." JoAnn said he is more optimistic than anybody, which helps her stay strong throughout this fight against cancer.

Since Kevon has been through remission twice already, when the doctor told them to prepare for the end, John told the doctor, "Eh, we've been on this roller coaster before, so when you're faced with someone who has death posed to them, and you have a family member that says, 'No I'm going to beat it,' and says, 'Hey mom, I'm going to outlive you,' you know it's going to be okay."

However, JoAnn having to see her only child go through this has been very taxing on her, and she admits that is has tested her faith. "It's been really hard. My faith has been shaken to the core..." JoAnn said.

It is Kevon's optimism that keeps their family trudging forward. Even though Kevon has been through more than one can imagine, he is forced to deal with memory loss, a speech impediment, balance issues and weakness, he still finds a way to stay positive.

JoAnn finds strength in this. "I see how strong and resilient Kevon is, and that kind of tells me, 'Okay, if he can be this strong, I can do it,' even though he's my one and only child. I fight because he's fighting," JoAnn said.

Kevon has attended Central for all of his high school career, and he tries to go whenever he can. He loves the teachers, and his favorite part about Central is the people. "I would say the kindest of others... Everyone cares for everyone," Kevon said. JoAnn added, "They really do care about you. That's why I like Central. It's a big family."

The surprise at Purple Feather Day was a delight for
CONTINUE TO 'STUDENT'
ON PAGE 5

Board approves one year contract extension for superintendent Evans

Alec Rome
staff writer

The OPS school board approved a one year contract extension for current superintendent Mark Evans at the May 1st board meeting, in hopes to restore stability and confidence in district leadership. After all three finalists dropped out of consideration to replace Evans, he agreed to stay for another school year to prevent the district from becoming chaotic.

It certainly was not a possibility that Evans had expected, especially since he announced his then impending retirement in October of last year. He thought that the issue sent the future of the district into a shuffle, and it seemed to him and the board it was the only alternative. "I think the board recognized that if I didn't stay another year, the shuffle would have continued because if you bring in someone who's not been working the system, and they're only going to work for a year, they'll just be getting an understanding of what we're doing and then they're gone," Evans said, in regards to another person becoming the interim superintendent.

Both Evans and the board felt that he was the only person who could keep momentum moving forward on many upcoming issues, like another bond required to build new schools at 156th & Ida Streets and 60th & L Streets.

That is just one of numerous items on a never-ending list Evans must accomplish within the next school year, which includes but is not limited to a new student assignment plan, a potential replacement for board member Vinny Palermo if he is elected to the city council, and teacher contract negotiations. A new

"I don't know if I necessarily understand the dynamics of what happened, nor was I in a position because I wasn't directly involved in the process."

MARK EVANS

OPS Superintendent

person in the position would have trouble adjusting to those things among other day-to-day operations, according to Evans.

He felt that the group of candidates the board presented were good, but that it is hard to predict why the board had problems completing the hire. "I don't know if I necessarily understand the dynamics of what happened, nor was I in a position because I wasn't directly involved in the process," Evans said.

The aforementioned chaos is not bounded by tasks that need to be accomplished, but also some of the negative publicity the district has received from parents and members of the public. Refocusing attention on other issues is of prime concern to Evans, along with an ongoing process of restoring public confidence in the collaborative ability of the board. "Part of the reason it's a story because it's what happens in many urban areas across America," Evans said. "It's difficult to get stability in those urban settings. We're not the only one that has some of those challenges with stability." Evans knows

CONTINUE TO 'EVANS'
ON PAGE 6

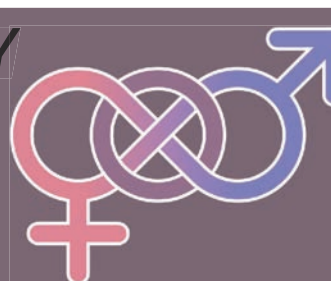
WHAT'S ON THE WEB



Every year, Elmwood Parks hosts an event on April 22 for Earth Day. It consists of various booths and live music.

PANSEXUALITY

The term "pansexual" refers to sexual orientation with no regard to biological sex, gender or gender identity.



EARTH DAY OMAHA

omahacentralregister.com



Photos Courtesy of ARIEL FRIED

OPS students exhibit diversity at ThriveWorld Cultural Event

Sydney Prescott
contributing writer

The fourth annual Thrive World Cultural Event was on Saturday, April 22. Over 1,500 people, including 250 Thrive club members, went to the South High School gym to learn more about these four areas: Latin America, Thailand, Africa, and Nepal. These students, all from the club Thrive, worked for over ten hours to set up tents, cook food, and create trifolds for this three hour event.

Thrive is a leadership club for immigrants, that works with five of OPS's high schools. In total, there are 250 students who participate in community service, do teambuilding activating, and listen to weekly leadership lessons. This club's goal is to unite servant leaders to use diversity, integrity, and education as problem solving strategies. At Central, every Monday students gather in the cafeteria, work on their homework, play games and do activities, learn about announcements, and finally have their leadership lesson. "My favorite part of thrive is that we get to see lots of different people," Central student Decbhen Gurung said.

At the Thrive Cultural Event, the whole gym was decorated in colorful arreglos, a Spanish paper decoration, and multi-colored lights. In the front there was a stage for the many dances and performances, in the middle there were tables to eat the native food, and in the back there were 20 chairs. The main focus though, was the four tents on either side of the stage bearing their continent, country, or region.

Thailand:

The Thailand tent was the first tent most people were drawn to, as it was closest to the door. The tent itself was made of fake bamboo and white sheets while the inside was decorated with flameless candles and real flowers. In the tent there were about six trifolds, each presenting detailed information about the traditional religion, food, housing and arts. The traditional food was delicious and was eaten within the first hour; sweet rice and noodles were two of the most popular dishes.

Nepal:

The Nepal tent was the next tent to go to, and despite having the smallest number of refugees, they successfully pulled off their tent along with an extra dance area. The tent was decorated plainly decorated because most of the focus was the on the dance section. It was surrounded by a black tent, had multi-colored lights, a speaker, and a student DJ playing Nepali pop songs. The girls were all wearing the traditional clothes, which included a sari, black sweater, and a colorful skirt. The food was traditionally spicy, which included chicken and momo, which is a cabbage filled dumpling and one of freshman Asmita Tamang's favorite foods. "I helped make most of the food," she said, "but we all worked together on the food by cutting and mixing the ingredients." Nepal also had many of their workers go up on the stage to dance. Along with some traditional dances, they also preformed some modern songs such as "Nai Malai Thaha Chhaina" by Cartoonz Crew.

Africa:

The Africa tent was a giant tent that was separated by Africa's many countries. At each country, there would be one or two people sitting there with artifacts and a trifold about their country. It was decorated with pottery and traditional rugs. The food at one point took about twenty minutes to reach, but most people felt it was worth the wait. "I helped with the doro wat, biscuits, and gomen," freshman Betty Dessie who was working the Ethiopian table said, "but the doro wat is my favorite. Doro wat is an Ethiopian meaty dish and was one of the many foods served in the African tent.

Latin America:

The Latin America tent was the biggest of all, and therefore had space for dancing. Many of the workers could be found dancing at one time or another in their long skirts and colorful blouses. They had amazing traditional food: Horchatas, Pollo Verde (chicken with green salsa), and pupusas (a famous Salvadoran dish). Of course, many students from this group performed. The classical mariachi band played five songs while a person dressed as a cowboy was dancing with his whip.

All in all, both the students and the audience agreed that this cultural event was a success.



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

The Register is a member of the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), the Nebraska High School Press Association (NHSPA), the Journalism Education Association (JEA), Quill and Scroll and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA).

The Register is an 11-time Best-in-Show winner for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA national conventions in San Francisco, Boston, Phoenix, Dallas, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Chicago. The Register also won first place in Front Page News Layout for large newspapers at the JEA/NSPA convention in St. Louis. The Register has won multiple

NSPA Pacemakers, which is considered the Pulitzer Prize of high school journalism. It has also won many Cornhusker awards from NHSPA, and has been awarded the Gold and Silver Crowns from CSPA for its overall work.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of The Register staff and do not necessarily represent the opinion of Central High School.

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

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

Thank you, readers.

A note from the editors:

We are so excited to present The Register for the 2016-2017 school year. Many long hours have gone into the creation of this publication. We spend much time working on this student-run publication to ensure that we create a more professional and sophisticated paper that in hope honors The Register's lengthy and notable tradition. With aspirations to place on the national level, The Register has really amped up its game. We want this student newspaper to be an interactive experience. Join the conversation on our Facebook: The Central High Register, our Twitter: @CHS_Press, our Instagram: @chs_press, and our Flickr: chspress. Also, check out our website for more stories: www.OmahaCentralRegister.com. If at all possible, we hope the student body can get a little old school and write letters to the editors, which we would be extremely happy to receive and publish. Thank you for picking up this issue of The Register.

ENJOY!

Georgia Chambers
Choteau Kammel

the REGISTER staff

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Georgia Chambers
Choteau Kammel

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Anna Kaminski

WEB EDITOR

Anna Kaminski

ADVISOR

Hillary Blayney

PHOTOGRAPHER

Lily Gilliland

STAFF WRITERS

Simone Davis
Maddie Grabow
Julian Hock-Beaty
Cecilia Huber
Miles Kay
Carlson Koch
Javier Lepes
Zoia Morrow
Hayley Raney
Alec Rome
Vasili Sgourakis
Grace Turner
KayLee Walling

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS&ARTISTS

Jackson Berning
Alexis Blankenfeld
Donovan Dinoff
Dillon Galloway
Anne Gallagher
Chelsea Jones
Preston McLaughlin
Cormac O'Brien
Anna Overbeck
Connor Paintin
Sydney Prescott

ATTN: the REGISTER

124 N. 20th Street
Omaha, Neb. 68102

Phone: 402.557.3357
Fax: 402.557.3339

central.register@ops.org

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

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



Photo Courtesy of PIA TOFALL

Pia Tofall must retake senior year upon returning to Germany and will graduate at the age of 20. She plans to become a nurse after high school.

German exchange student enjoys America, host family helps

Sydney Prescott
contributing writer

“I have grown up in America. I know everyone gets older but I learned about myself. I think it’s because I have had time to think about my goals and dreams and what I want to be and my future in general. I have gained self-confidence and have discovered what my hobbies are,” Pia Tofall, a 16-year-old German exchange student said.

The U.S has a lot of differences from the historic old German town Pia is from called Cologne. For her though, the biggest difference is how the schools are run. First, high school is divided into three different groups: a creative school, an average school and an academic school; while the U.S. has normal schools that specialize in a career past. The other reason the schools are different is the rules. “It’s hard getting used to the new system. In Germany, the teachers don’t care if you aren’t focusing or have your phone out. They believe it’s your responsibility to turn in your homework and do well in class, and if you don’t it your fault.”

Despite the differences in schools, she has two favorite teachers who have helped her this year. “My English teacher Mrs. Omar is my favorite because she is always encouraging people and is such a sweet person,” she said.

“And I like Mr. Wilson because he is always so motivated and makes ninth hour a little bit better.”

Tofall originally decided to become an exchange student because of her best friend. “She kinda of convinced me to go after her brother went to America,” Tofall said. They both became exchange students this year, and she now lives in Chicago while Tofall went to Nebraska. But the beginning of her journey started when she four years old. “My parents put me in a primary school where I learned English.” So now, at 16 years of age, she has known English for 75 percent of her life.

However, she is still able connect to other exchange or ESL students. “My first day was horrible,” she said. “I didn’t know where any of my classes were. It was also hard to understand people, so sometimes I would nod or not say anything.”

Many students have come to Central from other countries, but Tofall’s situation is unique because none of her credits from this year will transfer back over to her high school in Germany. This will result in her retaking senior year, and will push her graduation age back to 20. “Yeah, but it’s okay,” she said. “This was worth it because I met some really awesome people, I understand English better, and I got to learn more about America. And I took a lot of

electives.”

Tofall also misses her family back in Germany, but has enjoyed her time with her foster family. “I love my host family, I am very glad I got to stay with them,” she says. Her host family, along with helping her adjust to America, has also taken her sightseeing. “We have traveled to New York, San Francisco, and Montana.” She only talks to her family twice a month, but they are always texting each other. Her parents each had different opinions on her leaving Germany. “My dad was both sad and happy, because he want to let me go, but my Mom was worried.”

Tofall has a plan when she gets back to Germany. First she will go home and spend time with her friends and family, then she will talk with her teachers about the missing work she has complete. But once she finished high school, she plans to go onto college and then med school to become a nurse.

For any person wondering about becoming an exchange student, she has some advice. “It was hard being an exchange student because there are so many exchange students and it’s hard to make friends. So be very open, self-confident, go to people, and try new things.”

Mishap occurs between select NHS officers, names left off ballot

Simone Davis
staff writer

Every spring, juniors are inducted into the National Honors Society based on qualifications such as grades, GPA and extracurricular activities. The students chosen to be inducted go through a whole process of filling out forms and getting recommendations from teachers. Those who go a step even further choose to run for an office, which includes several different positions chosen to do an array of jobs. These office positions are named at the induction ceremony, though this year was a little different.

Amna Haider was named the National Honors Society 2017-2018 president at the induction ceremony. The ceremony also named those chosen to be in the other office positions. “I ran for NHS president because I felt that I had a lot to contribute,” Haider said. “As the president of NHS, I would love to motivate students to put more effort in their academic and community work.” Haider had many plans as the future president of the Beta chapter of National Honors Society, but that all changed after a small mishap.

“During the election for NHS Officers for the 2017-18 school year, there was a student that was left off the voting for NHS President,” Paul Nielson said in an email to National Honors Society students. Because there was a student left off the ballot, the NHS constitution states that there must be a revote of the students with the

most votes. This news was disheartening to the Haider, who was the initial president chosen.

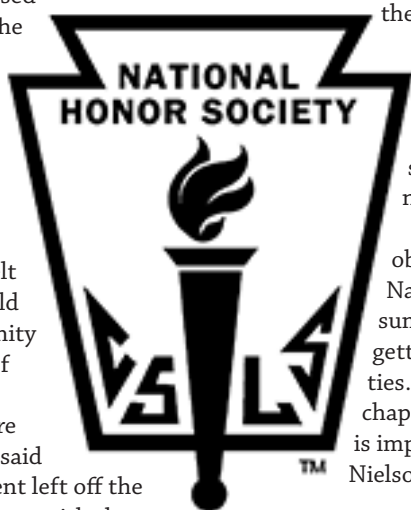
“I felt very disappointed,” Haider said. “The news of the revote totally quashed my morale and tenacity to start”. Haider had the most votes of the candidates, but the rule in the constitution that stated that there was to be a revote had to be followed.

The person with the second amount of votes was Courtney Young. Therefore, National Honors Society students had to go onto their “Naviance” account and vote again.

“I felt happy but I also felt bad for Amna, who had won the first vote,” Young said. Young had similar goals as future NHS president as Hairder. “I figured that next year is my senior year, so I might as well try to do everything.”

The two contestants hold no animosity towards each other, but they both obviously want to win. The revote took place on May 4 and May 5.

National Honors Society isn’t just another thing to write down on a college resume, but there is a lot of work put into being a member. Students must commit to getting a minimum of 30 individual volunteer hours and 3 group volunteer activities. They must keep up the GPA requirement of 3.5, or risk being put out of the chapter. Especially because Central is the Beta chapter of National Honors Society, it is important that a quality standard is held and rules are followed, which is why Mr. Nielson made sure a revote took place.



DUSTING OFF THEIR FEATHERS

Three teachers prepare to retire this school year after working here for decades.

Maddie Grabow
staff writer

Richard Behrens has announced his retirement after 43 years of teaching. He began his career in 1974 teaching at Tech High School. Behrens moved to Omaha Central High School in 1984 and has taught here ever since. He currently teaches World History but has taught American Government and American History in past years.

Behrens graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He received a degree in American History at Iowa State University and attended graduate school at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Behrens received his master's in American History and "studied American Literature, American Civilization, Political Science, African-American History, African-American Literature, Journalism, as well as some Sociology, Science and Educational Methods".

In addition to teaching, Behrens dedicated much of his time to coaching. While at Tech High School, he was the assistant coach for football for 3 years and boy's basketball for 10 years, head golf coach for 5 years, and a letterman club sponsor "for a few years". Behrens was assistant boy's basketball coach at Central for 6 years and head coach for 11 years. Behrens coached basketball for a total of 27 years.

Behrens plans to spend his retirement doing things he wasn't able to do as often as he would like while teaching, such as travelling and being outdoors. "I enjoy playing tennis and would like join a couple of more leagues. I like biking and running and hiking and being outdoors. I hope to find time to read even more. I will look for other worthwhile activities to be engaged in" said Behrens.

Behrens stated that the most rewarding part of his career has been "to teach and share American history, world history, and political events with high school students. I always found the students to be quite interesting and great examples of a diverse, urban area. I enjoyed in being in the downtown schools with the great traditions and great architecture. I enjoyed working with the students in the classroom and on the basketball court. And I especially liked the great people and friends I worked with".



RICHARD BEHRENS



AMANDA KARPF

Javier Lepas
staff writer

Sixty-two year old Barbara Bonacci is known by most of the students here at Central. As school store secretary, she's been working for Omaha Public School for 23 years and has been at Central for almost 20 years. As this is her last year at Central before she retires, she's been planning her retirement for a couple years now. "I have decided a couple years ago, I was going to retire at age 62."

Born and raised in Omaha, she attended Omaha North High School and worked at the Railway educational bureau after high school before she landed her first job in OPS. She first worked at Spring Lake Elementary where she was a lunch account lady and then went on to become a para-professional at Marrs Elementary. She worked at the two schools during the years of 1994-1997.

Bonacci then came to Central High in 1997. "I worked in the counseling office, student services and the main office before I started working at the school store," Bonacci said. She first worked in the counseling office her first three years and then moved to the main office before the school store. She's been working in the school store the past four years.

Her favorite part about working the school store would be the wide variety it has for her. She's in charge of laminations, event tickets, sales, lost and found, processing new textbooks and making sure the money comes out even. "One pain about the job would be having to wake up in the morning and having to be at Central by 7 a.m.," Bonacci said, as she works the school store from 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Although she doesn't really have a memorable experience at Central, her fellow employees that she has as friends are her favorite about Central. She's not so fond of the language she has to put up with outside of the school store though. "Having to listen to bad language in the courtyard is something I don't like about coming to work every day." She also will not miss the school store for having two levels which forces her to run up two flights of stairs every time someone knocks on the door.

One of the hardest part about her job would be "On occasion, trying to get everything done on a set time." When she's not working in the school store, she enjoys sewing, collecting dolls (mostly Barbie dolls), and she has her own Etsy online store. Whenever she can, she also enjoys traveling to Indiana to see her grandkids and daughter twice a year, "They're two of the cutest little grandkids ever," Bonacci said.



BARB BONACCI

Grace Turner
staff writer

After teaching a total of 27 years, 22 at Central, science teacher, Amanda Karpf is retiring. She has taught earth science, chemistry, physical science, and biology among others while teaching at Central. Karpf has been teaching at Central for twenty two years and taught at Monroe Middle for five years before. Karpf has enjoyed working at Central with both the students and other teachers. She believes the atmosphere and philosophy of Central is different than other schools. Karpf said, "I enjoy the fact that Central is different in its philosophy. It aligns with my own, and it has been a great experience because of that."

Karpf started teaching in order to be able to spend more time with her children. She wanted to have the same schedule as her three children, and therefore teaching was a good option. Karpf always loved science, and feels that teaching science has given her the opportunity to explore one her passions. Karpf has many plans for after her retirement. She is most excited to have more time to spend with her three children and five grandchildren, and to be able to take more time to herself. After retirement, Karpf is excited to be able to spend time reading and gardening. She also looks forward to being able to travel. Karpf said, "There are some places I want to go. One of my goals is to go back and visit every national park, both the ones I have visited and the ones I have not visited."

One of the main things Karpf feels has been a benefit while working at Central is working with the other teachers. She has enjoyed working with the other science teachers. She feels that everyone at Central gets along, and will miss all of the other teachers she has worked with at Central. Karpf said, "One of the best things I have had at Central is my colleagues. I have enjoyed all of the people I have known while I have been here."

First generation college student receives full ride to UNO

Hayley Raney
staff writer

Senior Sofia Gonzalez is attending the University of Nebraska, Omaha (UNO). Gonzalez is a first generation college student. Her miraculous efforts throughout her high school career toward her college goals and acceptance has earned her many scholarships.

Gonzalez has received four scholarships. Two of which are the Susan Buffet Scholarship and a scholarship from Partnership 4 Kids. She was so happy when she received the Buffet scholarship. "I was confident I was not going to get it, I just couldn't believe I did," Gonzalez said.

Earning her scholarships was the eye opener for Gonzalez that all her hard work was paying off.

The efforts and dedication Gonzalez has put into her four years of high school leading up to her goals for college was not easy. "From freshman year I made sure I was in honors classes and AP classes I just pushed myself," Gonzalez said.

Her plan is to major in business marketing and eventually run her father's chain of restaurants in the future. Her minor is entrepreneurship.

While Gonzalez is more than ready to graduate high school, she looks forward to more freedom, meeting new people and living in the dorms while she attends UNO in the fall of 2018.

As for freshman year she did not know what she getting herself into but she enjoys challenging herself.

Her parents played a big part in her participation in honors and AP classes. "They told me there was no other option, you're going to college," Gonzalez's father told her.

Junior year, Gonzalez was President of Latino Leaders. She also participated in the Grassroots Leadership Development Program and through the program she did a lot of volunteering. Since then, she volunteers at the Open Door Mission and works at women health centers.

In the seventh grade Gonzalez enrolled in the Partnership 4 Kids. It is a group mentoring program for lower income families. It allows students to meet successful Omaha people and work towards chasing student's dreams for school.



Gonzalez's mentor, Logan Campa, made sure she was prepped for her ACT test and visited college campuses.

Junior year was Gonzalez's hardest year of high school. "I took a lot of honors and AP courses, I started my first job, my mom wasn't working and we were going to move," she said. It was hard balancing all aspects of her life.

One thing she would go back and change throughout her four years of high school would be being involved more and conveniently using her resources.

Gonzalez feels her efforts have paid off because she does not have to pay for college, people have noticed her hard work and she is being recognized for it.

Being the first in her family to go to college she feels it is important because she wants to be a role model for her two younger brothers. "My dad is really proud of me, being the first to go to college he can't believe it," she said.

Though Gonzalez's schooling has pushed her farther than she expected she also felt certain things held her back from trying to pursue her goals towards college.

The biggest factor she felt has held her back from pursuing her goals is her ethnicity. "I was pretty much the only Hispanic in all my honors and AP classes," she said. There were times Gonzalez felt her teachers didn't believe in her because she is Hispanic. "They didn't take me seriously," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez ignored the negativity she felt towards her and continued to push past it and kept working hard.

Advice she has for Hispanic girls is, "Regardless of what anyone says about you or what's going on in your life, think ahead."

Like many women, Gonzalez feels her ethnicity and gender hold her back. Upon talking to some men about her major for business management; they asked her questions along the lines of, "Why?" or "Why doesn't your father pass it down to your brothers?"

The fact that women can be seen differently and express their emotions motivates Gonzalez to succeed.

Throughout her journey towards college her father has supported her the most. "He always told me from a young age education was going to be the key to success. He never let me slack off," Gonzalez said.

Central student maintains positivity, surprised by balloons

CONTINUED FROM 'STUDENT' ON PAGE 1

Kevon. JoAnn managed to keep it a surprise from him, so when he finally saw the balloons spelling out his name he thought it was great.

It was even a surprise for John. "She sent me a video saying, 'Look what they did for Kevon!' And I said, 'Oh, look, balloons, that's really nice,' but then when I actually saw him in the newspaper the day with his name, I was like, 'I only know one person who spells his name like this,'" John said.

The support from everyone has been a tremendous help, and the Kaylor family has continued to take things day by day. Kevon plans to walk with the senior class on graduation,

and he has aspirations to attend UNO for college with an intended major in some type of engineering.

However, it is still a struggle for the Kaylor family, and JoAnn has continued to struggle with keeping a positive outlook on this situation. "I try to hold my faith there... But when you find out your one and only child has a brain cancer that only two percent of people survive, it's hard. You're like, 'Why, why would He do this,' but we try. That's all you can do."

Though, Kevon does not sway from his determination to overcome this cancer once and for all. As he puts it, "I always look for the brighter side."

Argument against Purple Feather Day balloons sparks debate, changes

Cormac O'Brien
contributing writer

Following a widely-circulated petition started by three students in Zoo Academy, the school decided to pursue alternatives to the traditional balloon release on Purple Feather Day. The news was first delivered to students during principal Dr. Ed Bennett's speech before the actual purple feather ceremony.

During his speech, Bennett explained that he had heard the concerns from students and was interested in making the purple feather ceremony a more environmentally friendly tradition. This year, it wouldn't mean a full cancellation of the balloon release ceremony, but that biodegradable balloons would be used in the place of standard balloons, and students would be given a choice on whether or not to release their balloons. Additionally, there will be a committee made to find alternatives to the balloon release for future purple feathers.

"It's a great tradition, but if people want to do something different, that is more respectful and responsible, I mean isn't that what we're about as a school, trying to teach kids to be respectful and responsible?" Bennett said.

Purple feather is a ceremony in which students that have earned a cumulative grade of 3.5 or higher get out of four class periods to get free entertainment, food, and, in all the years so far, participate in a balloon release.

"Purple feather represents two things: It represents academic excellence in a school, but it also shows the willingness of the school to say 'thank you' " Bennett said. "It's kind of like dessert for the students that work hard."

Seniors Brittini McGuire, Evangelina Gomez-Mancillas and Samantha Roberts were the students behind the petition. They presented their concerns to Bennett, assistant principal Dionne Kirksey and another teacher mid-march of this year.

"I really liked how the students approached us, they weren't angry, they weren't yelling at us like we were forcing these balloons on them, they simply said 'Hey this is a problem, and I think

we as a group need to consider something else because we're hurting the environment," Bennett said.

They were primarily concerned that the materials used in the balloons would contribute to environmental problems.

"Our oceans are already really littered, so we have to be aware that what we're doing isn't harmless, and that it affects the world," Gomez-Mancillas said.

Another concern of the petitioners was that the balloons would further drain an already strained supply of helium. When helium is released into the atmosphere, it becomes impractical to regather, and eventually leaves the atmosphere altogether.

"Helium is going to run out eventually," Gomez Mancillas said.

The students also brought several alternatives to the balloon release to the meeting with Bennett. The ideal alternative, Roberts and Gomez-Mancillas agreed would be a Central garden where students who made purple feather could plant purple plants. During the meeting, Bennett brought up the possible downside of students getting dirt on their clothes. Other alternatives that the students did not express to have the same potential would be the placing of colored rocks, which Bennett worried one percent of students might throw, and the blowing of colored bubbles, which Bennett thought might make a mess that would be hard to clean.

The three students came up with petition together, while brainstorming projects a Zoo Academy class. The class meets on Fridays, and requires students to work year-long with instructors on projects that benefit their communities and the world.

"Our teacher likes to say that we're 'changing the world, one Friday at a time,'" Mancillas-Gomez said.

Roberts, Gomez-Mancillas and McGuire all heard the news about the school's decision the same time as everyone else.

"It was really emotional," Roberts said. "It just goes to show that three people can make a big difference in our communities."

Retirement plans on hold, Evans to serve one more year

CONTINUED FROM 'EVANS' ON PAGE 1

this because the issues in Omaha have garnered national coverage in some educational resource pieces.

He also attempted to solidify public perception in a press conference on May 4th, along with board president Lacey Merica. The purpose of the press conference was to show progress on the bond issue and to show the board is trying to work together. As the board solves its problems, Evans looks to prevent any extra turmoil. "What I'm hoping to provide is that stability of not having any upheaval at the district level," Evans said. "It's only about three or four months away, we're going to be hiring a search firm again. I'm hopeful that [the board is] able to make a decision, come down to finalists and hire somebody by December."

Because of this unfavorable publicity, Evans said there is an urgency behind the upcoming bond issue required for the new schools to be built. Since public outcry was apparent for this issue, among others that have come up, it could be used as a point of emphasis for those who may oppose another bond. "I think that's one of the big tasks at hand is we have to reverse that public image. We have to turn back the time a little bit and rebuild the belief that we're working together to do the right things for the right reasons," Evans said.

For the next permanent selection of a superintendent, Evans believes that his successor should possess a combination of professional and personal skills that work synergistically. On the professional front, the next person for the job should be able to facilitate student achievement growth, organize groups, use data to help drive student success and understand the complex logistics of the job, both financially and

litigiously.

Personal skills Evans believes are needed for success are traits such as having an ego that shows confidence and organization, but not a big ego that has a "my way or the highway" philosophy. A leader for the district also needs to be able to handle the stressful demands of the job. "It's a pressure packed, pressure filled position where you can't please everyone," Evans said. Other traits he cites as important are listening skills and a strong knowledge of one's core values.

While Evans is happy to come back for the right reasons, it can become tough as the sudden change of plans has thrown off his retirement. He hoped to spend more time with his wife, two kids, parents and his mother-in-law who is currently battling Alzheimer's disease. They weren't necessarily happy about the changes either. "Luckily, my wife didn't divorce me, which is good, because we've been married 35 years. Dodged a bullet on that one," Evans said. "Although, every time I go home, I still look on the front lawn to see if my clothes have been thrown out the window. So far so good."

Thus, when Evans renegotiated his contract, his only request was extra vacation days, in order to spend more time with family on weekends. He calls himself a "workaholic," but Evans promised his wife and mother he would take more time off.

He continues to remind himself of the purpose of his extension; keeping the district stable and restoring public confidence. "It's good for the students and it's good for progress that we need to make. I don't want it to blow up," Evans said. "We've made too [many] strides and we're seeing great results. We can't allow it to become chaotic."



ALEC ROME | The Register

Evans will serve as the superintendent for Omaha Public Schools another year.

Administrators pleased with building-wide ACT testing success

Miles Kay
staff writer

After months of preparation inside the classroom and intensive organization by administrators and teachers alike, the all-junior ACT testing day on April 19 has passed, and though data will not be released for several weeks, teachers believe it was a success. Attendance was high, students were excited about the opportunity and the preceding months of organization caused the day to go as smoothly as possible. "Planning and preparation led to a successful day of testing," Christy Flaherty-Colling, a member of Central's administrative team, said.

Brent Larson, Mathematics Department Chair, was pleased with his department's ability to incorporate ACT practice into daily classes. Larson received an overwhelmingly positive response to preparation tactics for the math test. Teachers met throughout the year to update each other on their methods for incorporating ACT test preparatory materials into every day lessons and on assignments. Classes with large numbers of juniors even took entire practice tests. "The ones [students] that I have known have said, 'I wasn't surprised by the questions,' and that's the main thing we want, to not be surprised by those math questions," Larson said, "I'm happy with the reaction I got from the teachers that did this."

Jodie Martinez, English Department Chair, acknowledged that the first year of the test was a learning experience, especially in terms of preparation. Martinez believes that the gradual exposure to material in the weeks before the test allowed students to retain more information, however, she worries that students may have found prep work redundant, repetitious or boring.

Science Department Chair Janis Elliott agreed that teachers did the best job they could have done given the time constraints of this first year. She sees room for improvement on multiple levels in the classroom. "I think our [science] classes will have to become richer in those respects [reading tables, interpreting data] so that every day kids are looking at data and calculating percentages and pulling out differences or similarities," Elliott said, "We're going to have lots of work to do in the future, but I think that what we did do was very helpful to our kids."

Results and data from the test will determine where in-

structors will focus preparatory efforts next year. However, teachers are already bringing forth new ideas on tying ACT preparation into the classroom, eager to see novel methods which will keep students engaged. Next year, Martinez hopes to see teachers vary prep work, such as by emphasizing test taking strategies more or using learning tools such as Kahoots. New efforts will also focus more intently on preparation for freshmen and sophomores. "[In freshman level classes] there are a number of questions and material that they can work with," Larson said.

On test day, each department chair agreed that the building attitude was overwhelmingly positive. "From what I heard, it was an efficient process, it was a long day, but the kids knew that 'Hey, we can do something with this score if it goes well,' and it [was] something that they [did] take seriously," Larson said.

They also concurred that stamina was one of the greatest challenges the test presented to students. The sheer length of the ACT dwarfs most other tests students take, and for those with and without prior exposure to a full-length ACT, several hours of testing in a row is grueling. "That's a long test, it's a lot of material and for many of them I'd be interested to know how many of them [were taking it] for the first time through," Larson said, "If that's your first time through, that's a long time to sit and work through stuff."

Elliott and Martinez agreed with Larson that the length of the test presented the largest challenge for students to overcome. "I think that we can do some training with them next year to prepare them for the length of time that they're going to be testing and the fact that when you're done you can't do anything except sit there," Elliott said.

All three Department Chairs agreed that the administration of the test and the intensive organization that went into testing day and the months leading up to it set students up for success. "We had over 600 people operating outside of their normal mode. They all needed to know where to go and what to do," Flaherty-Colling said, "It required deliberate planning and the work of countless people to make this go as smoothly as possible."

The Department Chairs attribute a large degree of this success to the leadership and planning of Christy Flaherty-Colling. "I am very impressed with Christy Flaherty-Colling's leadership in guiding the school through preparations," Elliott said.

On testing day, students were well-behaved, seemed alert and awake and were able to maintain focus through the writing test. As a whole, student attitudes seemed positive. "I was really impressed with the sincerity [students] came with, the care and concern, their preparation; they came with calculators and were ready to take that test," Elliott said, "I think that the counseling and English departments had prepped the kids to understand that the use of cellphones couldn't happen, we just had very few problems which tells me that students were very concerned with the test and their future."

Once again, staff members cited the value of ACT over NeSA for students. Taking the ACT is a major step towards a post-secondary education, and this opportunity is one that may cause students who had not previously considered college as a feasible option to reevaluate. Thus, many students had a positive attitude towards the test. "This year's state test provided a direct benefit to students, and that matters. Students want to use their time wisely and have opportunities beyond high school," Flaherty-Colling said, "It's still a long and challenging test, but it's a long and challenging test with a purpose that's easy to value."

However, Martinez recognized that the ACT is by no means a perfect test. "With any sort of standardized test that a student is going to take, some kids are well-prepared for all the challenges of the content and then some just aren't quite ready for it, you've got that very high-level math that comes at the last part of the math test, some of the reading," Martinez elaborated, "Any standardized test is not the best measure for every kind of learner and every kind of kid."

Martinez does believe that it's a better test than NeSA. ACT is a nationally consistent test, both in how it's written and how it's scored. "It still is a standardized test, and that has limitations no matter how you look at it because some kids just don't do well on standardized tests," Martinez said.

Larson shared a similar perspective on standardized testing, emphasizing the fact that testing companies still hold power over lessons and gauge student performance. "If the students can buy into it [the ACT] and take it seriously, then absolutely [it's a better option than NeSA]," Larson said, "I still don't like the idea that there's a testing company dictating what our measuring stick is, but for lack of a better vehicle it does a good job."

FINAL GOODBYE

Senior staffers say goodbye as their high school years come to an end.

GEORGIA CHAMBERS

Currently as I write my last column for The Register, I am on a flight back to Omaha with Hillary Blayney, our advisor, and some of my staff. We are coming back from the National Journalism Education Association competition in Seattle, and once again, I have made numerous memories while on this trip with what has become my family.



My passion for journalism began at Buffett Middle School, where I served as a producer for the Buffett Bobcat News Television (BBTV) program, but over the four years that I have been on staff at Central I have become a more confident writer and a more passionate journalist. Serving as an editor has also allowed me to grow as a leader and has confirmed my intent on pursuing a journalism career.

Next year I will be attending the University of Georgia with an intended major in journalism and mass communications. Yes, Georgia's going to Georgia, and no, I did not pick this college because it had my name in it; I picked this college due to its reputation as one of the top journalism schools in the country.

After I attain my bachelor's degree I am unsure of where I want to go for graduate school, but I do know that I will do what is best for my future goals. I plan on working my way up to one day becoming a well-known news broad-

caster. Working for ESPN has always been a dream of mine, but I would also be happy working with CNN or one of the other national news programs.

As I write this 'goodbye,' I can't help reflecting back on all of the memories I have made while being on staff and at Central in general. There are too many to name, but there are some that stand out in my mind.

Honors U.S. history with Mr. Mullen freshman year will always be one of my

favorite memories—there's never a dull moment with Mr. Mullen as your teacher, and I have yet to meet someone who is as passionate about what he or she is teaching as he is. Well, maybe Mr. Wilson, but I never had him in class (Mr. Wilson, if you are reading this, we will always have Europe!). I will also always remember Mrs. Mahoney's theme's, and how I went from dreading them to actually thanking her for helping to develop my writing style.

Other memories that I will carry with me include: Getting a compliment from Mrs. Reed. Making a handshake with Mr. Foster. Spending hours in an ER with Mrs. Blayney in Indianapolis. Finally getting Cap to dab with me. Placing at national journalism competitions. Being asked in the bathroom if I was "that dancing girl from Twitter."

There are truly so many memories that I have from my years at Central, and I will miss the school, staff and the great friendships I have made here. I am fortunate enough to have a friend of mine attending a southern school as well, but a majority of my friends will be scattered across the country next fall. However, Central has allowed for me to create such great friendships that I know I will stay in touch with a few friends long after we walk the stage.

Though, there are definitely some things I will not miss about high school. Things such as being forced to learn pointless math concepts that I will never use again in my life, having to wake up at 5:45 a.m., not being able to take advantage of an early out my senior year and arguing with my mom every weekend about what time my curfew should be. Though, all jokes aside, I can't complain about my last four years. Central has shaped me into the person I pride

CONTINUE TO 'GOODBYE'
ON PAGE 8



CHOTEAU KAMMEL

"They were the best of times, they were the worst of times," the bane of underclassmen English class Charles Dickens once wrote, referring of course to the French Revolution, however little could he have known that he was perfectly describing my high school experience. For all intents and purposes, high school was pretty awful. Going four years without sleep, being treated like a child and generally studying things that never interested me certainly does not stack up as the best of my life experiences. Then again, the teachers and peers who have been a part of this journey have been what allows it to be paradoxically described as "the best of times." I can hardly forget entering Mrs. Mahoney's honors English I class considering myself a proficient writer and then spending hours in the style book making revisions as a reward for all my "proficiency." Nor can I forget answering one of Mrs. Whitten's honors biology test questions on the definition of ecology as "The study of logical ecosystems," because I simply had no idea what it meant. Even this year I broke a doorframe in Mrs. Blayney's classroom. These are the moments that truly made high school a memorable experience.

Freshman year is a whole new world of changes but the little I remember certainly was not negative aside from OPS's infuriating early start times. My lunch table and I quickly made a name for ourselves as the center of teenage male maturity in the lunchroom through our trashcan basketball games, open water bottle toss contests and loudly suggestive remarks.

Amongst our fondest memories once we ordered pizza into the court-

yard lunchroom only to be escorted into the conference room where every administrator in the building stopped by to admonish us for our evil deed. Of course, even the coldest of school disciplinarian can be warmed by the offering of a slice of the pizza pie. Assistant principal Tom Wagner even got into the table's Clash of Clan wars, only to lose and be forced to purchase Jimmy Johns for the lot of us. This group of fellas really is what made the year for me and I can only hope relations within the group become amiable once more.

Sophomore year is the year I learned that no one cares. You're more confident than freshmen but certainly not a member of the upper class, but ya also think you're kinda cool. The latter of course upperclassmen will quickly remind you that you're not, but I really enjoyed it. I would give crap to freshman from my middle school about them not being a part of the "sophomore squad," which didn't actually exist, but they were sensitive to it so it was funny. This was also the year that I first started texting in class, coolly hiding it inside of textbooks. Oh, and you can start driving that year, which was dank. There is nothing more satisfying than listening to a parent lecture you about something and then watching their eyes widen as you wait until the last second to stop at a red light.

CONTINUE TO 'GOODBYE'
ON PAGE 8



MILES KAY

It feels like I began my journey at Central as an eighth grader in Honors English I yesterday. Now, it's hard to believe that I'm preparing to start the next stage of my life in an entirely different state. I'm definitely going to miss Central and my friends and family in Omaha; the experiences I've had here have defined me as a person and will follow me to California next year.

Next year, I will be attending the University of Southern California majoring in mechanical engineering in the Viterbi School of Engineering. I'm excited to be living in Los Angeles and cannot wait to get involved on campus with design teams, by doing research and by playing club sports. Though I do not intend to pursue journalism, I am confident that my love for reading and writing will continue to define me as I move forward. I'm never going to stop asking questions, and I'm sure that my curiosity will guide me through all my endeavors, just as it fueled me in high school. Fight on!





Photo Courtesy of MATTHEW STORM

The Special Olympics team was coached by Central teachers as well as members of the dance and basketball teams.

Special Olympics team showcases talent

Cecilia Huber
staff writer

Central OPS Special Olympics Unified Sports hosted volleyball tournament was held in Central's gym all day on Sunday April 30. The special education programs from Burke, Bryan, South, North, and Northwest high schools all participated, as well as the Transition Program. Northwest high school won the whole tournament. There were two volleyball courts set up that each held six games. Central's girl volleyball players volunteered to set up and take down the nets as well as line judge and keep score.

The coaches for Central's team, Matt Storm and Sam Zick-efoose, worked with the OPS Special Olympics coordinator, Stephanie Goodrich to raise over \$500 in just admission donations. There are also limited edition t-shirts for sale to purchase in support for this organization. The profits that were made from these tournaments are donated to the Special Olympics.

This was the second tournament that Central's team has competed in this season. Central earned fourth place at the tournament they hosted last weekend and earned third place at the Bryan High School tournament on April 12th. The athletes received medals and ribbons for their places.

The point of Special Olympics Unified Sports is to bring individuals with and without disabilities together. Central's unified volleyball team includes Juan Alvira-Montalvo, Alyssa Callaghan, Slade Copenharve, Emilee Groth, Wuendy Gutierrez-Valente, Andrew Kreifels, Desi Leeper, Isaiah Poor Bear-Chandler, Brianna Ramos, Annaliese Sailors, Mohamed Ukach, Amanda Wheeler, and Emily Zetterman. Not everyone on the team was able to make it and play in last weekend's tournament however.

"Unified Special Olympics Athletics is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins individuals with and without disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding," Storm was able to explain.

The Central High School Special Olympics Unified Sports volleyball team will next compete in the Special Olympics Nebraska State Games, which will be held at Creighton University on May 17. The team works hard in practices during school gym hours but also manages to have lots of fun while doing so.

High school paved way for hopeful future in journalism

CONTINUED FROM 'GOODBYE' ON PAGE 7

myself in being today, and I couldn't have imagined myself anywhere else. On top of this, both my friends and my parents have been supportive of everything I have done, and I couldn't thank them enough for what they've done for me.

I am a little sad to leave this all behind when I move to Georgia, but I am excited to see what my future has in store. And I know that even though I am becoming a Georgia Bulldog in a short few months, I will always be an Eagle at heart and my blood will always bleed purple.

So, with this I say goodbye and thank you all for being supportive of myself and the staff. Hopefully at the ten year reunion I am a successful broadcaster and not some weather woman in Wisconsin.

Last four years provided a fun, stressful life

CONTINUED FROM 'GOODBYE' ON PAGE 7

Delightful. Anyways, nothing actually happened this year that was noteworthy.

It's been said that "War is hell," but junior year definitely fits in the category. I didn't sleep, you write more research and AP papers than you know what to do with, BUT, you come out actually loving surprise themes and hating prepared ones, which was an odd but humorous outcome. I was nearly dress coded by Mrs. Deniston-Reed on the first day of school as I recall her saying of my pastel shorts, "Mr. Kamme, if those were an inch shorter I'd send you home," and it was at that moment I knew I was in for quite the year. The last few weeks of junior year have been the most fun of high school to date, after nearly a year of no sleep and nothing but academic stress, I just stopped caring, which was excellent practice for senior year.

All in all being a senior has been pretty gnarly, other than having to attend school. Waking up sucks, sitting in class sucks and writing them same scholarship essays over and over is tedious. It's amazing how fast the novelty of a vocab sheet or writing about my feelings on a poem gets old. I've had wonderful conversations with my teachers this year as they have not only worked to provide homework of dubious value but also life advice for our upcoming futures. I also learned super cool facts about them as well, for example, my AP stats teacher jumps out of planes and is an ice hockey gangster. Who woulda think? Oh, also I conducted my college search over this year and will be attending Mississippi State University in the fall.

By far the most rewarding aspect of my time at Central has been that on the newspaper. I've had the privilege of working on staff for the last three years, and before that I took journalism which was taught also by Mrs. Blayney. It has been through this time I developed my love for reason, philosophy, non-aggression and free markets. Using these ideals over the last three years I have written on nearly every political topic with the goal of making people simply think, because I genuinely believe that if you actually just think for yourself it becomes rather obvious that whether you take the red pill or the blue pill, the same banksters are still gonna poison you. Through newspaper I have made my dearest friends and likely angered both students and staff alike. At least I hope I accomplished did. I will forever cherish my memories with this publication and the wonderful human beings who help make it what it is. Doubtless my favorite memory must be being told by an older student last year that my editorial was "too biased" to be an opinion piece.

All in all, high school is over and good riddance, I say. Real life has begun and not a second too late, my only words of guidance being to hold on to that which Charles Dickens solemnly wrote. High school should be a delightfully miserable time, and if it's too much of either of those words you're probably not doing it right.

YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION

PICK UP YOUR YEARBOOK IN ROOM 029 BEFORE SCHOOL

LIMITED COPIES STILL AVAILABLE FOR \$65



SIGNING SENIORS 10-11

The Register sits down with four seniors who signed to many different colleges this Spring.



TRACK SIZE 13

Why aren't there track meets held at Central? Find out inside.

GOLF GURU 14

Junior Peyton Koch shares his love of the game and his inspirations.



sports & leisure

the REGISTER • May 11, 2017 • Volume 132, Issue 6



BACK IN THE GAME

Eric Behrens to return to Central after coaching college basketball for three years. Previously, in his time at Central, the team won seven state titles.

Alec Rome staff writer

After three years in the college game, Eric Behrens will return next season as the head coach of Omaha Central boys' basketball.

Behrens was the head coach at Central for 13 years until his departure for Peru State in 2014. He had a 52-42 record as a college head coach and brought the Bobcats to the NAIA Division I National Championship tournament during the 2015-16 season. He will return in place of Benjamin Holling, who was an assistant under Behrens during his first tenure and the successor to the position for the past three years.

The pedigree of Behrens in Nebraska high school is evident, as Central won seven state titles in the period of 2006 to 2013, with the only season without a Nebraska-shaped trophy coming in 2009.

Initially, Behrens did not believe he would come back after leaving for Peru State, but multiple circumstances lined up to

justify his return. "With my son having a year left to play here and the position opening up at this time, I've still got a little 'skin in the game' as they say," Behrens said.

After reflecting on himself and his family and what he thought was best, the open opportunity felt like the best choice. Even after 13 years at Central, he had to go through the same application process as other candidates did. Luke Dillon, athletic director of Omaha Central, did not necessarily believe Behrens would apply for the position at first. "It was my belief that he had left to move on to college," Dillon said. "There was a small thought of it as a possibility, with his son being here more importantly. Overall, that wasn't my first thought."

As his son Roman enters the final season of his high school career, Behrens believes that a father-son tandem would make the 2017-18 season enjoyable for both of them. "It was probably good for him to come in and establish himself with a different coach and kind of become his own man," Behrens said. "Now that he's been here three years, he's pretty

well-established. The opportunity for us to be teaming up and to try and do something special for a season, I think it should be a lot of fun."

Coaching basketball at a higher level gave Behrens a chance to absorb new tactics and possibly bring them to the high school game, especially from other coaches in the NAIA. While some things will be simply different between the two levels, like the removal of a shot clock and a shorter time of play, the game still translates in some fashion. "I hope to incorporate, adapt and steal ideas from other people," Behrens said.

At the beginning of his first tenure, Behrens had to develop a system with the players he had. The same will be true the second time around, as some faces have joined and departed from the program. "I'm a believer that you have to build your style around the talent and the type of players that you have.

CONTINUE TO 'BEHRENS'
ON PAGE 12

Students give back to Earth, garden in works of construction

Anna Kaminski executive editor

Any student that has ever parked in the junior lot knows the walk up 20th street to Central very well. A part many may not know well, though, is a vacant plot of land directly south of the lot off of Chicago St. This overgrown plot caught English department head Jodie Martinez's eye and an idea formed in her head. This idea has evolved to be called the Central High Community Garden Project.

Martinez recruited junior Anne McElyea to head the project. "I've only been a student at Central for a year," says McElyea, "But it sounds like the lot has been a vacant space for quite a long time...if I can turn that into something beautiful while also helping the local environment, I think it could have a big impact on students and community members."

For McElyea, the Garden Project means much more than simple service hours; she advocates for her the environment and for female empowerment. "In the recent shift of the political landscape, as a young woman I felt very powerless and like my impact on the world would be limited," says McElyea. "However, by leading this garden project I have realized that one person - no matter how young - can make a difference. So I took the lead because I think it's time for young women to take their passions and run with them, even if it's something as simple as starting a community garden."

Simon Schoenbeck, junior, has also played a key role in the development of the project. He is primarily interested in working with technicalities such as the budget and inventory, but he also enjoys the labor involved. Schoenbeck has been present for every meeting and event and plans to continue to do so.

"Anne has been a great person to lead the project," says Schoenbeck. "She is charismatic and ambitious, which are good traits for a leader. She is good with people and this helps build needed connections."

Slowly but surely, the project is moving away from the preparation stages and into the actual action-driven ones. McElyea, Martinez and a group of IB juniors have met almost every week to plan every detail of the garden. They've discussed land ownership, liability, what plants to install, a water source, maintenance, how to bring in better soil, donations, publicity and so much more.

"There were times during the preparation stages when I became very insecure about the project and I thought that it wouldn't work. So I think my biggest setback was not having faith that the project would gain support," says McElyea.

Before major construction can occur on the land, a significant amount of money must be raised and supplies have to be bought, so, to prepare, McElyea and Martinez started a Gardening Club. "...right now [it's] just a couple of IB students, but I would love it if it would be something that all central students could be involved in," McElyea says.

On April 22, at Elmwoods "Earth Day Omaha" event, the Garden Club set up a booth to gain notoriety and raise money. "The Earth Day booth was fantastic," McElyea says. "People told us that we had the best booth there."

At the Earth Day booth, the Garden Club raised around \$300 in spare change. In accompaniment with a newly created "gofundme" page, the club has raised over \$800. McElyea estimates that they will reach the \$3000 mark over the summer after she applies for local grants.

"We need more community, alumni, student and parent support to make the garden flourish," McElyea emphasizes.

Already, the Garden Club has been working with Omaha Permaculture to figure out the best way to transform the land. In addition, flyers can be seen all over town that advertise the vision of the Garden Club.

"I hope that this project will become a club that sustains and improves the lot," says Schoenbeck. "The dream is that it will become like a small park used for events and classes. I envision the area bordered by a small hedge or fence and including a nice lawn area with some tables or a gazebo of some sort."

Presently, McElyea, Schoenbeck and the rest of the Garden club are selling cans May 8-12 as potential Mothers Day gifts to raise funds and begin construction and planting.

SIGNING SENIORS



SAVANNA LAKIN
SOFTBALL

How did you come to decide to play softball at Nebraska Wesleyan?

I have always wanted to play softball in college. Nebraska Wesleyan is the ideal college to play at because of the different opportunities I will receive.



SAMMY ROBERTS
CROSS COUNTRY

How did you come to decide to run cross country at Missouri Western State University?

I wanted to do both track and cross country because I wanted to be able to still run competitively at a Division II level. I love running and the coach there made running feel not like a hassle, but run for the love it.

Q&A

How long did it take you to commit?

SAVANNA LAKIN: I was tied between two schools but when I received my letter of intent I knew that's where I wanted to go.

SAMMY ROBERTS: It took me a couple of months to figure out I wanted to go to MWSU but once I took a tour and talked to the coach I fell in love with the classes they had and the environment of the school.

MADISON CRAIG: Longer than two years.

ERON HAYNES: It took about a month to commit.

Who helped you the most in making the decision?

SAVANNA: Everyone had a great impact on my decision. The people who helped me the most was my parents but also my coaches.

SAMMY: My mother helped me the most.

MADISON: There is no single person I can pick, I had so much help from friends, family, coaches and teachers.

ERON: My mom helped me the most on important decisions.

What did you consider when making the decision?

SAVANNA: The things I considered when making the decision on what college to attend were the Athletic Training Program, the distance from home and also the campus size.

SAMMY: The number one thing that decided which school I went to was the curriculum and if they had

the major (pre-vet) that I wanted and sports came second. Another thing that I had to consider was the money.

MADISON: I learned pretty early I wanted to go to a smaller school.

ERON: I had to think about the price, location and if I liked to wrestle for the college by checking out the team.

For what reasons did you commit to this particular school?

SAVANNA: The Athletic Training Program, the distance from home and also the campus size.

SAMMY: I loved the coach and knowing that track and cross country would be first ever at MWSU I would have the opportunity to be the first in the record books.

MADISON: It was a good distance from Omaha, they have good science programs, I really enjoyed the team and the coaches are great. I haven't heard a bad thing about it.

ERON: The head coach is a two-time all American and a two-time national champ and the team is really good.

How did your family feel before, during and after the signing?

SAVANNA: The signing process brought excitement to my family and I because we both knew that I would be taking the next step to adulthood.

SAMMY: My parents have supported me throughout my decision they were very pleased that I chose MW and they stuck by me the whole way. They aren't too happy about me being two hours away but they are happy that I'm running and doing what I love.

MADISON: Before the signing and before I made my

decision my family was very stressed but during and after the signing we were excited emotional and it was very surreal.

ERON: Before the signing my mom was scared she didn't think I was ready to leave and be on my own, but after she was crying with joy and everyone was of me.

What position do you play at Central?

SAVANNA: At Central, I was the starting left fielder.

MADISON: More often, I play left midfield but sometimes forward and defense.

What position will you play in college?

SAVANNA: In college, I hopefully will be playing anywhere in the outfield, but preferably center field.

MADISON: I am not entirely sure where I will play.

What is the best advice a coach ever given you?

SAVANNA: The best advice a coach has ever given me is to "Play every game like it's your last because one day it will be just a memory" - Dan Wilson

SAMMY: The best advice that I've gotten was from my close friend and coach Francis Anderson (Keating), throughout knowing her we've gotten really close and no matter what she is always there to push me through everything and always told me I have to believe in myself and the rest will come.

MADISON: Get out of your head, just do it.



MADISON CRAIG
SOCCER

How did you come to decide to play soccer at Wayne State?

It was a very hard decision. Soccer has always been my first love but I have grown to enjoy swimming and running too.



ERON HAYNES
WRESTLING

How did you come to decide to wrestle at Chadron State College?

After I won a state title I met some other wrestlers at Midland University who won national titles and I really wanted to one but at Chadron State College.

What is your advice to those who will be in your position in a year or two?

SAVANNA: My advice to those who will be in my position in a year or two is to show you're willing to get the job done and prove it because you play how you practice.

SAMMY: Don't give up on the search, once you find the school you'll know it. Whether it takes two months or six months don't give up and choose the school you'll most comfortable with.

MADISON: Don't be afraid to make the call to any program. You would rather know that you tried than wondering "what if" for the rest of your life.

ERON: Pain is temporary, pride is forever

What are you looking forward to in college?

SAVANNA: In college I am looking forward to playing because I will get to make new friends while doing the thing I love the most.

SAMMY: The atmosphere of just going to college and learning things that I wanted to learn and

be involved with as much as possible. As well as being a part of another team and being able to run for another four years.

MADISON: I am very exciting about the training and the opportunity to play with past teammates.

ERON: Winning a national title for wrestling.

What is your best memory from the team?

SAVANNA: My best memory on the team is just being there with the people I love. My teammates have become my sisters over the past years. My coaches have also turned into my family. I will never forget all the good memories with my team.

SAMMY: The best memory on the team was summer practices and days where I didn't want to run my teammates would help me through it and be there for me. Whenever I was down they could tell and they meant really the world to me and I owe them a thanks for never giving up.

MADISON: One memory that I will always have is the two times when we allowed Marian to score two goals. Although I totally would have loved to win, being able to work together as a team like we did is something I will never forget. There are so many girls with special talents that when we all come together we can do some pretty awesome things.

Home Instead
SENIOR CARE®
To us, it's personal.

the forgotten kettle
a sign your aging parent needs help

Take the first step.
Call us at 402.498.3444 or
visit HomeInstead.com/100

You can't always be there. But we can.

With Home Instead Senior Care, caring for an aging loved one doesn't have to be a struggle. It's why we offer everything from individualized help around the house to advanced Alzheimer's care—to keep them safe and sound at home, instead of anywhere else.

© 2016 Home Instead, Inc. Each Home Instead Senior Care franchise office is independently owned and operated.

Russell Westbrook ends historic season during 2017 playoffs

Jackson Burning
contributing writer

Russell Westbrook notched his 42nd triple double against the Denver Nuggets on April 9th. This was a memorable night for Westbrook, scoring a monstrous 50 points, hitting the game winning three point shot, and eliminated the Nuggets from a potential playoff spot. Westbrook broke Oscar Robertson's record for most triple doubles in a single season from 1962. To add, Westbrook also led the NBA in scoring with 31.6 points a game.

"Very, very blessed. I've got to give all the thanks from the man above, he's blessed me with unbelievable talent to go out and compete at a high level. I'm just thankful for my teammates, for my coaching staff, for the organization, for all the fans, for my family for believing in me and allowing me to do what I'm doing." Westbrook said after the game.

After the betrayal of Kevin Durant departing from the Oklahoma City Thunder, Russell Westbrook was determined to prove that he never needed Durant to be historically great.

He even had to lead his team in rebounding as 6'3" point guard. Westbrook single handedly carried the Thunder on his back by leading the team to a 47-35 record, and getting them a six seed in the Western Conference. Westbrook also leads the

NBA with estimated wins added with 28, one of many stats proving Westbrook is the 2016-2017 MVP. "I see a much better basketball player than I even did last year, because he had to be much better to get them to this many wins to even hold on to the six seed." Skip Bayless, Fox Sports analyst, said.

Throughout this entire NBA season Westbrook has received multiple MVP chants during road games. Usually the crowd boos the opponent however, on multiple occasions

“Westbrook’s astonishing season will go down as the best regular season in NBA history.”

”

Westbrook has received standing ovations and MVP chants from the oppositions fans for his historic season. "I've been feeling it for a while, everywhere I've been, the crowd's been kind of like that, which is truly amazing, something I could never dream about growing up in inner-city Los Angeles. Now being on the biggest stage possible is something I could never dream about." Westbrook said.

Unfortunately, Westbrook's incredible season came to an end when he lost to the Houston Rockets in the playoffs on

April 25th. Although the playoff series was a short 5 games, Westbrook even averaged a triple double in the post-season.

Westbrook's critics say Westbrook is just playing for triple doubles, doesn't care about winning and is a selfish player. This couldn't be more wrong. "I don't give a F*** about the stat line. We lost." Westbrook said after losing a playoff game. In addition, he also takes the blame for losses and always defends his teammates. That's a true leader.

Westbrook's historic season did not go unnoticed. Several NBA All-Stars and Legends including LeBron James, Kevin Love, Blake Griffin, Damian Lillard, and even Kobe Bryant all sent out tweets congratulating Westbrook for his unbelievable achievement.

Westbrook's astonishing season will go down as the best regular season in NBA history. He will forever be remembered as one of the greats.

Eric Behrens' legacy continues as he returns, expecting another title

CONTINUED FROM 'PROJECT' ON PAGE 9

Some teams are more guard-oriented, some teams are more post-up oriented," Behrens said. Without Isaiah Poor Bear Chandler in the post, Behrens thinks that he will have to look at what personnel can succeed and build a system that "accentuates their abilities and talents."

Along with returning to Omaha Central as a basketball coach, he will also return as a teacher. Behrens taught just one class at Peru State this year, so the classroom transition for him will be an interesting one. "I've missed some of the relationships that you get, that are built throughout [teaching] and I'm actually looking forward to coming back, being a classroom teacher, and hopefully enjoy it the second time," Behrens said.

His father, Rick, has taught at Central for multiple years,

even back when Eric played basketball for him. Rick is retiring after this school year as Eric is returning to Central, although Behrens said it is merely a coincidence. "There's been a Behrens in this building for a lot of years and with my father retiring at the end of this year, Roman being a senior next year, I guess that could have come to an end," Behrens said. "But apparently it's going to go on for a while longer."

Behrens expects the Central faithful to want another state championship, and he would not have it any other way. He does not want to entirely set the mindset that any season without a championship trophy is a failure, as there is fulfillment in the journey, but Behrens thinks that a victory in Lincoln should ultimately be the goal for all involved. "I hope that our fans, our students, our alumni, I hope everybody wants that to be the goal," Behrens said. "I don't want to

settle for less than that, because I think if we're going to wear t-shirts and call ourselves 'Champ High,' then we've set high expectations for ourselves and that's a good problem to have to deal with."

Even though Roman has just one more year in the program, Behrens intends for his tenure to be more than a "one and done scenario," as he described it. He hopes to be back to the grind with open gyms, recruitment of eighth graders and more to rebuild what Central had before he left the first time. "The piece with Roman will make next year enjoyable and it will be a unique experience for me because I've never coached him obviously at the high school level," Behrens said. "But, I want to build this program for the future and I plan on sticking around for a while."

EAGLES MAKE GREAT

MAVERICKS

Omaha is our campus and classroom. With three campuses located in the center of Omaha, UNO's ties to the city provide relevant learning opportunities to uniquely prepare our graduates to be professionals and active members of their community.

PLAN YOUR **CAMPUS VISIT** TODAY!

LEARN MORE AT BEAMAV.COM/VISIT



#BEAMAV #KNOWTHEO

The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation in its programs, activities, or employment. 0766ADUGA0517

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha





ALEXIS BLANKFELD | The Register

The Seeman Stadium track is not the regulation size to hold track meets. To rebuild, it would cost five million or more.

Track not regulation size, minor inconvenience to district

Cecilia Huber
staff writer

Central High has one of the largest student bodies in the state, yet the track and field at Seeman Stadium are not regulation size. Central is not allowed to hold track meets because of this.

The track is a little shy of 350 meters and only has six lanes. Regulation size needs to be 400 meters with eight lanes all the way around.

The track was built smaller simply because there was not much room to work with in the first place. Central is so landlocked in the middle of downtown that there was nowhere else to go. So they took the little amount of land they had and made the biggest track they could possibly.

To rebuild the track would be a major project. It would include tearing down the whole stadium, the acquisition of more land (which would mean rerouting or closing down 20th Street), and cooperation from Central, Creighton University, OPS and the city of Omaha. The project as

a whole would take many years to accomplish and cost \$5 million or more. “No such plans are in the works right now and I don’t foresee this happening any time soon,” Dr. Bennett says.

Last summer, our track was resurfaced. It might seem strange to waste money on a track that isn’t even regulation size, but the district places schools on a schedule for projects. Last year was Central’s year to get the track resurfaced and new turf. It cost the district about \$550,000.

Another question about Central’s track arises: where does Central hold track meets? Burke High School – Central’s western counterpart – has one of the only regulation size tracks in the state. Although the Central invites are held at Burke, Central is still responsible for setting up and taking down equipment and providing volunteers to work the invites.

Because of Central’s location and its minor demand of a full-size track, it is not in the school’s best interest to obtain one, nor is it completely necessary. With the upcoming addition to the east side of Central, a new track is not among OPS’s concern. With that being said, the current track fits the purpose of varying athletic practices, which is more than some schools can say.

Senior finds new passion in rugby, combination of every sport

Choteau Kammel
editor-in-chief

In the world of sports, football and hockey are often seen as the most physically brutal due to the ferocity of contact, however, what is less commonly known is that the sport of rugby matches that physical brutality with absolutely not personal protection or padding. Although Omaha Public Schools may not feature an officially sanctioned rugby team, students pushed for and formed the Omaha United rugby team which originally combined Central and Creighton Prep students but has since been opened to any interested players, with one of this year’s members representing the Eagles in the scrum being senior Will Cambridge.

Cambridge was born in Omaha, and during his time here he has had the opportunity to observe the city through both private and public school, attending Saint Pius X/Leo from kindergarten to eighth grade before coming to Central. While at Pius X, Cambridge played baseball, and football and ran track and wrestled. Following eighth grade graduation, he had several high school choices ahead of him including Burke and Prep, however he said, “I didn’t know anyone at Central but it was a good adjustment and worthwhile change.”

As a senior looking back on his time in the Nest, Cambridge also said, “Central has been the best decision I’ve ever made. I would not be where I am today without the principles I adjusted to seven semesters ago. It gave me a greater understanding of what I have and really taught me the purpose of value.” One of the greatest examples of the value of his Central tenure he said has been participating with the Omaha United rugby team this last year, as he said, “It’s a mix of every sport I’ve played along with a new and unique strategy. I could write novels about this new sport of which I have grown extremely fond.”

While at Central, Cambridge has also embraced the academic rigor as well as formed many a strong friendship. Through the years, he has also said he

found time to observe how the world around him works and has seen many injustices occur within society. Consequently, politics and world events he said are very important to him, as he added, “It truly bothers me that people can’t seem to be open minded or respectful of others’ opinions and values. The world would be a simpler place if people just did that.”

Next year, Cambridge plans to attend the UNO to pursue a double major in entrepreneurship and marketing. His passion for rugby may also continue to flourish as he said that their team has support from a few coaches and sponsors to form a new group at the university and have the opportunity to compete at the collegiate level. He also would like to become more politically active in the local arena, he said, “You’ve got to approach this city with what it gives,” and added, “It has quite a lot to offer.”

With graduation now less than two weeks away, Cambridge said he has begun to reflect on his time downtown and summarized his thoughts as he said, “My time at Central will reign as a very important aspect of my life. I truly feel like I have found myself. Forget the education system, it’s a whole other topic. I’ve learned more about people than I have about anything else.”

For Omaha United, as they have had many impressive victories throughout the season and are looking ahead to the future with hopefully a new and youthful crop of players. Cambridge said, “Underclassmen need to come out and watch and see if they’re interesting in playing next year. Quite a legacy we have in our hands and it can only get better.”

Ultimately, for Cambridge, what he will remember most about his high school years will be the relationships and the people, the brothers, he found while pushing through it. He concluded, “Don’t get me wrong, I love learning, but when you meet people who play the system just like you, a bond is formed, and it is not easily broken.”



Photo Courtesy of WILL CAMBRIDGE

Senior Will Cambridge (2nd from right) celebrates with friends after a win. He plans to form a team at UNO next year.

Junior carries passion for golf, pursues sport in, out of school

Miles Kay
staff writer

Some people may recognize Peyton Koch as the student who occasionally dresses up as Elvis Presley. Others may know him as a golf enthusiast. Everyone, though, should know him for his exceptional performance as a varsity golfer at Central, and for the big dreams he has for the future of his golf career.

Koch was introduced to golf by his grandpa when he was three years old. Starting off with chipping and putting, Koch quickly developed a love for the sport and continued to practice and play. He played his first nine holes a year later. At age ten, Koch realized that golf was a sport he wanted to play more competitively, especially in high school.

In his golf career, Koch has been supported by his family and friends. "I play a ton in the summers and they're always willing to take me to the golf course," Koch said.

Particularly, Koch appreciates the support of his grandpa, who has been his golf coach over the years. "He's been there when it's been tough, when I haven't played [well] and got angry," Koch said, "He's always there to help me with my swing."

Koch has been following professional golf for almost as long as he has been golfing. "I'm a huge Tiger Woods fan," Koch enthused, "I hope he comes back."

From golf, Koch has also learned many important life lessons. He cites golf as a major factor in his development of trustworthiness, integrity and responsibility. "Playing in tournaments as I've progressed has built up values that I need in life," Koch said.

Koch's record as a high school golfer is highly impressive, and he continues to add medals and top ten finishes to his already extensive list of accolades. This year, Koch has placed third at the Bellevue East Invitational at Tregaron with a score of 77, seventh at the Bellevue West Invitational at Willow Lakes with a 76 and first at the Bryan Invitational at Elmwood with a 72.

One of Koch's accomplishments stands out for him: winning the Bryan Invitational at Elmwood Golf Course as a freshman. "It built up my confidence and showed me that I can actually play out here [on a high school level]," Koch said.

However, Koch recognizes an obstacle which he hopes to overcome this year: a failure to make the state tournament cut by a mere few strokes during his freshman and sophomore years. "I've been working to get my game in shape so I can make state this year," Koch said.

In the rest of the season, Koch would like to improve his bunker shots and punch shots, shots in which the player hits a lower ball in order to avoid obstacles such as trees. At practices, he spends significant time on his short game, especially his five and ten foot putts, which are crucial for golfers seeking to shoot low scores. He also works on his longer shots on the driving range. "I'll work on all kinds of different shots, I'll pretend there's a tree I need to hit a big hook around, I'll hit low shots, anything," Koch stated.



EMMA NIELAND | The O-BOOK

Known for his Elvis-esque persona in the school hallways, Koch has been golfing for most of his life and loves the sport.

Koch's outstanding performances are a result of his ability to take practices seriously and focus on his game. "When I'm walking I'll talk to whoever I'm playing with, but once I get up near my ball I'm totally in the zone, I tune them [other golfers] out," Koch said.

Outside of golf, Koch is passionate about many other things. Though nothing can top his love for the King of Rock, Elvis Presley, Koch loves following sports besides golf and learning about history. "I'm always interested in figuring out the causes and effects of what happens in history," Koch explained.

Several times throughout his years at Central, Koch has come to school dressed as Elvis, complete with a jumpsuit and slicked back hair. Though most people would shy away from putting themselves out there in this way, Koch has never been afraid of judgement from other people. "I've always been the kind of person who doesn't really care what people think, they say what they want about me but I don't really care," Koch said.

This self-confidence has been an important aspect of his golf game too. As he has improved, his confidence level has risen and given him the knowledge that he can hold his own against most high school golfers in Omaha. "It helps me to know that I am good enough to play with the really good teams like Prep, or at least compete decently with them," Koch said.

Outside of the high school season, Koch has tried to play in other tournaments and is hoping to play more in the coming summer. Koch also is looking to the future and hopes to play the sport in college and beyond. "My ultimate goal is to be a pro golfer," Koch said.

As the season wraps up, people should expect Koch to finish strong. With only a few invitationals left, Koch intends to focus on making the state cut. Koch's passion for golf is clear, and he hopes to see more people picking up the sport or joining the team next year because, in his words, "it's so much fun."

Design, layout of high school district sports biased, needs reform

Carlson Koch
staff writer

High school sports are by no means perfect, but for something as big as districts, which is a direct qualifier for state, districts lacks fairness in many sports.

For golf, Central was seated fifth in the A-1 district and was paired with defending state champions, Lincoln Southwest, Creighton Prep (always a good golf team), Papillion-La-Vista and Kearney. The differentials, (the system that NSAA uses to rank the golf teams) is as follows for district A-1: Lincoln Southwest - 22.886, Papillion-La Vista - 37.200, Creighton Prep - 37.400, Kearney - 51.300, Central - 58.600, Lincoln North Star - 86.533, Bellevue East - 109.933.

With a .2 differential (an average for how many strokes over the team would be as a whole in one tournament) between the second and third seed, the system is skewed, especially when comparing district A-1 to the other three.

Meanwhile, all other districts are much easier including A-2 with a differential of 10.6 between the second and third seed, which is ten strokes more than A-1, ten strokes more likely for Central to win a ticket to go to state as a team. District A-3 and A-4 are even worse with a differential of 13.686 and 17.89 respectively. Any district, other than A-1 would have given the Central golf team that much more of a chance return to state for the first time since 2012, when Ethan Koch led the team with a total score of 167 for the two days.

Since this time, Central's golf team has only gotten better, and has not returned back to state ever since 2012. With a low-

er team score last year at districts than the 2012 team had, the competition may be tougher, but the districts have been simply tougher.

Not only has this been the case for golf, but for soccer as well. Omaha South was Class A state champion last year, and this year, they did not even host a district. Though they are returning to the state tournament, their eighth seed resulted in them being one spot away from hosting a district. As a result,

“With fairer districting and some more prospect golfers, Central can add to its five state championships in golf, which has not happened in a long time.”

they were put in district A-5 with the fifth ranked team. Any team who won the state championship the last year should have an automatic pathway to state. Had South hosted a district, like more likely than not would have made it to state anyway because they beat a fifth ranked team and would have had to play a lower seed than that to advance to state.

The district assignments are skewed and because they do not follow a system that would have an equal differential, even a system that calculated average differentials to be close enough rather than a fifth ranked team against the eighth in soccer and a one, eighth, ninth, thirteenth and seventieth ranked teams against one another. Because there are only four districts in golf, it would be fairer for the first, fifth, ninth and so on to be paired.

District pairing has not only impacted the well being of golf but many other sports as well, often pairing teams of entirely unequal record and talent against each other. Such designs can lead to teams either finding themselves in extremely easy districts or extremely difficult ones. Although the golf teams have been more recently affected by this, the basketball, soccer and football squads have all had to deal with the problems associated with unfair districting.

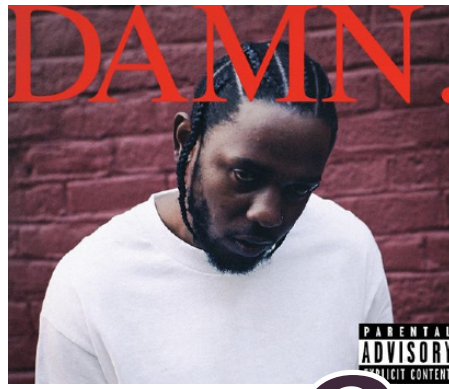
If districts were based largely on team aggregate performance rather than the simplicity of rankings they would instantly be made more fair. It is just as simple as how GNP and GDP are not accurate determiners of a country's success. Instead, its performance within a living standards index must be addressed. Teams are far more complex than mere numerical wins and losses statistics can interpret. They must be held to the standard of performance every other team is, so that teams with different records but commensurate skill levels would be paired, allowing play to be more diverse and competitive. Such results, after all, are the desired purpose of high school sports and would not only be beneficial to the sports of golf but all other athletic contests and feats.

With fairer districting and some more prospect golfers, Central can add to its five state championships in golf, which has not happened in a long time. A resolution for district pairing is sequentially assigning the districts by ranks, which would make high ranked schools earn their ranking in the state tournament, rather than being given a spot.



MULTI-TALENTED 16

Sophomore Connor Paintin sings, plays many instruments, draws and maintains academic excellence.



REVIEWS 18-19

Featured are among the best and the worst albums, Netflix shows, movies and books this past month.

GRILLED OR FRIED? 20-21

The Register reviews four popular chicken restaurants in the Omaha area.



arts & style

the REGISTER • May 11, 2017 • Volume 132, Issue 6

ROBIN IN THE HOOD

The drama department showcases their final production of the school year.



CHELSEA JONES | The O-BOOK

Seniors (from left to right) Will Donlan, Nathan Farrell and Mallari Hangman perform in their final show of their high school careers. Donlan was the lead, Robin Hood.

Simone Davis
staff writer

Every year, the drama department has three shows. There's the musical in the fall, the Roadshow in the winter and the play in the spring. In order to create the high caliber productions that are performed, there are many components that go into play. Several different types of roles, jobs and rehearsals are needed to bring to life what the audience enjoys at the performance, and the "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood" is no exception.

Before the show even begins, there are auditions to cast the actors into their roles. "After you fill out all of the needed forms, you show up and do cold readings," Will Donlan, senior and Robin Hood said. Cold readings are a monologue or dialogue given to the actor that they are to perform without practicing with. "After that, we have other auditions where we have to write our own monologue and perform those," he says.

The audition process isn't a one day endeavor. After the first set of auditions, there are call backs. Call back auditions are exactly what they sound like. Actors from the initial auditions are called to return, and to audition even further. To finalize the auditions, actors were gathered together so those holding the auditions could see who meshed well together and had good chemistry. Though auditioning seems like a ton of work, it is only the beginning of the process.

Once the audition process is over, casting begins. The actors are given roles that best fit their performances at auditions. Not only do the casts get assigned

roles, but the tech students get assigned to crews as well. Most people sign up for the crews they want, and that request is generally honored. Though the actors do the work that the audience see and recognize, the crew are the ones who make the actors and stage look good. There are multiple crews that work together to create the show, such as the Costume and Makeup Crew, Lights, Sound, Publicity, Management, Scenery and more. Once everyone knows what area of the show they are contributing in, the rehearsal process starts.

"I have rehearsal every single day," Claire Mahoney, senior says. The students participating in the show stay after school for a couple of hours to rehearse their lines or do whatever pertains to their crew. Rehearsal isn't just a time to hangout after school though. The work that the students do is tough, and extremely time consuming.

"It's kind of a double-edged sword. On the one hand, I do love performing and rehearsing...but it takes every ounce of energy out of you, especially with this show. There's never any scenes where he [Robin Hood] is in the background....he's always the center of attention", Donlan said. Rehearsing the same show every single day with the same caliber of energy can be exhausting. Rehearsing isn't the only stressful aspect of the show, though.

CONTINUE TO 'ROBIN HOOD'
ON PAGE 16

Modeling industry lacks diversity, needs variances in talent

There are 18 Vogue magazines around the world in some of the most popular countries. That includes the likes of Vogue US, Brazil, Australia, Italia, India and as of recent, Arabia. That's only a third of how many Vogue's exist. The first to cover Vogue Arabia was that of Gigi Hadid. Half white, half Palestinian model who one can say 'nepotised' her way through the modeling industry in late 2015 to now. Hadid



ZOIA MORROW
ZOIA 101

is white passing and her covering the first edition of Vogue Arabia shows the industry's way of trying to be diverse without actually diversifying.

Every monthly issue that Vogue comes out with features practically the same model. It's not

the 90s supermodels the world wants to see, but instead the bland, boring, dull Kendall Jenner. Like her friend Gigi, Jenner also 'nepotised' her modeling career. Unlike Hadid, Jenner is just. That's it. She's just. Nothing really good to describe her. Why she's being featured on so many covers and editorials is mind baffling.

The modeling industry has a lack of representation on behalf of models of color. They tend to be more underrated and genuinely seeking a career in modeling rather than being rich, white and doing it pass time whilst being overrated. It comes down to talent and having a natural essence to one's personality, something the latest signees of IMG lack immensely.

Last month's issue of Allure Magazine is what every fashion magazine should be doing: celebrating all skin types. It featured Latino model Dilone, half Egyptian and Moroccan Muslim model Immaan Hammam and Ugandan model Aamito Lagum for "The Beauty of Diversity". Allure interviewed 41 women of color of various careers to share their stories of their skin, skin tones, diversity and inclusiveness. Allure wrote, "Because our skin can be both a vulnerability and a defense. But most importantly, it can be a source of celebration". All 41 answers were inspiring and eye opening to the ways of society. Where skin tones can hold one back from progressing.

Here are some underrated models who deserve the success of Hadid and Jenner. Maria Borges, Leomie Anderson, Shanina Shaik, Suki Waterhouse, Liu Wen, Ming Xi, Mariana Zaragoza, Fei Fei Sun and Adwoa Aboah. The list could go on.

It's tiring seeing the same models covering every magazine issue when there's so many variances in talent. Don't fret,

while models of color are not covering or being featured in every editorial, they are appearing more often on the runways these past fashion weeks. But according to thefashionspot.com fall 2016 runways were less than 25 percent diverse. Models of color seen on the runway made up one-third of all shows in New York, Milan, Paris and London.

In the modeling industry there is a long way to go when it comes to more diversity and inclusion. Where can it start? Simply by booking more models of color. Not saying that, all models of color are the best models and blow white models out of the water, but if a company can hire someone like Jenner they can hire pretty much any person of color on the street. Side note: hiring one black and one Asian is not diverse.

There needs to be more embracement on behalf of models of color. Especially if the collection features something inherently black culture. Designers cannot appropriate black culture and not us any black models on the runway.

Talent is not limited to ones' skin and there is so much out there to discover to improve the modeling industry. With how many Vogue magazines exist, it suggests the range of talent waiting to be discovered all around the world, from the United States to Australia and everywhere in between.



LILY GILLILAND | The Register

Paintin has been taking art classes his entire high school career. Here, he jokes with classmates while he sketches.

Musically inclined sophomore invests time in various aspects

Cecilia Huber
staff writer

For many Central students, being active or involved is just their daily routine. To sophomore Connor Paintin, involved is an understatement. He plays multiple instruments, sings, dances, and draws in his spare time.

Paintin began playing the piano when he was in kindergarten, stating that his family forced him to. Little did they know his love for music would only blossom from there, but it might have been sparked from the saxophone lessons he also attended. He then picked up other instruments like bass, guitar, ukulele, tuba and clarinet. "I taught myself because I was bored one day," Paintin mentions, but his background knowledge from piano and saxophone also influenced his natural talent.

He was able to use his musical skills to play in the pit for a few of the recent plays Central has put on. He played saxophone for both Honk and Cinderella. He has also made 1st chair in All

State band and in All City band playing the Bari sax and performed multiple times in this and last year's annual road show.

Paintin's dancing skills don't follow far behind his music. He's been dancing since he was in 5th grade and has been a part of some performances outside of school. He danced and acted in Nutcracker Delights, a version of the famous ballet that is put on at the Bellevue Little Theater each Christmas season. He mentions that Nutcracker Delights was really the only dancing production he's been in. It's a different story for his music however, as he states that he "plays some small gigs around Omaha sometimes."

Paintin's musical talents are also used outside of school. In his spare time, he writes music with his friend, senior Ingrid Howell for their band called Bad Self Portraits. He also "jams" with a few of his other friends. He hopes to continue his passion for music in one way or another. "I'm not much of a dancer anymore because I've gotten busy with other things, but I would like to turn either art or music or even better, both, into a full time career of some sort," Paintin informs.

Seniors say stress, fun go hand in hand, final product is worth the work

CONTINUED FROM 'ROBIN HOOD' ON PAGE 15

"Now it's the end of the year and seniors are about to be done so we have to get our grades up," Mahoney said. But to the actors, even the end of the year stress cannot outweigh the

joy they gain from acting. "If we're all just happy with it.... and forgiving when mistakes happen its fun."

Donlan agrees that the show can be stressful, but it's more fun. "As the show gets closer, the stress level goes up exponentially, until you get to the show. Then it gets really fun as soon

as you say your first line and there's adrenaline."

"The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood" took place on April 28 at 7 p.m. and April 29 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Pride of a community.

First National Bank is proud to support the students of Central High School who excel in leadership as well as academics.

Member FDIC

Adopt-A-School Partners

NEBRASKA METHODIST COLLEGE
HE JOSIE HARPER CAMPUS

MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

First National Bank

Thank You!

Hip Hop unlike any other genre, continues to evolve

Though Hip Hop is a somewhat new style of music, it has become extremely popular and mainstream in its short life. Since Hip Hop's birth in the 70s, there have been several factors, both good and bad, that have contributed to what makes Hip Hop original and like no other type of music.

The main factor that makes hip hop as iconic as it is, is its evolution. There has yet to be a time in Hip Hop's history where the music has sounded the same as the previous era. Not one time. Hip Hop in the 70s was centered around beats and MC'ing. Everything was new, therefore everything was innovative. Artists and groups such as Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, DJ Kool Herc and Run-D.M.C are notorious for spinning records in a way that had never been heard before. Most of these early Hip Hop artists had humble beginnings, and would typically begin their career by spinning records and making beats for their neighborhoods. After a while, Hip Hop made its way out of the South Bronx and spread across the country, gaining popularity mainly amongst the black community.

Because Hip Hop was primarily seen in the black community, 80s Hip Hop took on a new edge where it focused on struggles black people face. This new sub-genre within Hip Hop was gangster rap. This type of music took the country by storm, and news outlets and the media instantly named it as violent and wild. Artists such as N.W.A., Ice Cube and Public Enemy were said to have been encouraging violence in the inner city, when in actuality, rappers were just giving a voice to the struggles that both them and other people in their communities faced daily. Gangster rap typically included the same kind of beats and use of samples seen in the 70s, but the sound was completely new because of the lyrics. Rappers were saying things in their music that was extremely mind blowing, typically about drugs, sex and gangs. They weren't introducing youth to these things though, but rather they were just making music about topics that they'd lived through and seen.

Not only did Hip Hop in the 80s introduce being obscene in music, but it also brought about a theme that is still seen in rap today; beef. Rappers still to this day bring their animosity to another artist into the public eye by releasing a diss record. A diss that was infamous in the 80s was Ice Cube's "No Vaseline", which was a song where he called out a group he was formerly a part of, N.W.A. Now in Hip Hop, most artists won't just accept someone talking about them without responding in their songs, and those songs often become classics, as No Vaseline was, and other songs seen in the 90s such as Hit Em Up by Tupac.

90s Hip Hop was similar to its previous eras in that beats were still important and community struggles were still the focal point of the lyrics, but now came the introduction of choruses in Hip Hop. No longer were there just verses in the songs, but choruses were present too, typically sung by R&B singers. In the 90s, iconic rappers such as Jay Z, Biggie and arguably the most famous, Tupac emerged. Their songs got more radio play and publicity because the choruses in the songs made them more appealing to other audiences. Rap was no longer just primarily listened to by black people, but other groups were starting to appreciate it as well. Popular songs by the artists stated above such as "Big Poppa" and "I Get Around" became more welcomed by mainstream media, and it is this type of rap that shaped Hip Hop in the 2000s.

Rap in the 2000s is probably the most unique. Rap became more about beats someone could dance to, and as time progressed, it became less and less about the lyrics. That is not to say that this type of Hip Hop is bad, but it is different. Artists such as Ludacris, Nicki Minaj, Migos and Lil Wayne are examples of this type of rap. People often try and discredit their music because to them it represents that rap has lost its way, but it's just a different type of music that can all fit under the blanket of Hip Hop. Hip Hop is all about change and innovation, and nobody can argue that 2000s rap isn't different from anything heard before. But not all 2000s Hip Hop is like that. Kendrick Lamar, J.Cole and Killer Mike are examples of rappers who still speak on social and black issues, but even they have songs that are just fun, and that is perfectly okay; they change to fit the times just as Hip Hop has and will continue to do.

After all of these changes that Hip Hop has seen, I am anxious to see what will emerge next. Will it go back to its roots? Who'll have beef next? Who will be the pioneers of the type of rap that will be seen when my kids are born? I don't have the answers to any of these questions, but that's where the fun lies. Hip Hop can't fit into one mold, because it's constantly changing. With a genre that is continuously reinventing itself, it's hard not to fall in love with all of its different parts.



SIMONE DAVIS
SIMON(E) SAYS

Strategic Air and Space Museum's interactive exhibit informs visitors

Grace Turner
staff writer

At the Strategic Air and Space Museum, a Black Holes and Time Warps exhibit taught visitors about black holes and space. The exhibit used interactive activities to appeal to younger children, but still had enough information to satisfy people of all age groups. The exhibit opened in January and will be closing on June fourth.

When first walking into the exhibit, visitors receive a card with a username that will keep track of all of the activities they do in the exhibit. The card also works to activate activities, such as simulations of black holes. One of the most popular activities is the black hole identifying activity, where guests learn how to identify black holes using magnets.

Many of the activities are also computerized simulators. One of the simulators involved a story line where participants played a game where they had to escape from a black hole. The simulator was able to combine both education and entertainment by having the participants use knowledge on black holes in order to escape from them. These games would work well to entertain younger children while still educating them.

The exhibit is a great opportunity for children to learn about black holes. This exhibit is best suited for children who are old enough to read. The activities require some reading, but are also entertaining. All of the educational parts of the exhibit include interactive activity where participants can use their knowledge in a game.

The exhibit also uses some reading to help enhance the exhibit. An introduction to black holes is posted at the entrance to the exhibit giving guests some background information about the exhibit and black holes. There is also information posted around the interactive activities, which are not needed in order to succeed at the activity, but add more in-depth knowledge about each topic.

There are many different topics on black holes to learn about. Some of the topics are how to identify black holes, how black holes form, and how black holes attract items in space. All of these topics have interactive games and activities along with more in-depth reading in order to inform the guests. Together the interactive activities and in-depth reading are informative and entertaining, making the exhibit interesting.

While at the Strategic Air and Space Museum there are many other exhibits to see, besides the Black Holes and Time Warps exhibit. There are two hangars with different varieties of planes that give information about the plans, and some of the history of each plane. There is also the opportunity to sit in and view a cockpit of the plane, in order to see the different controls in the plane.

Besides the planes and black holes exhibits, there are also a few other exhibits in the museum. In one of the hangars there is a holocaust memorial and informational exhibit. There is also a tribute to the 9/11 victims and a memorial for soldiers who died fighting in the military.

The Black Holes and Time Warps exhibit is a great exhibit to see at the Strategic Air and Space Museum. The exhibit is great for children, but is educational for anyone who wants to visit it. While viewing the black holes exhibit, there are many other great opportunities to see at the SAC museum.

Frazier Chiropractic

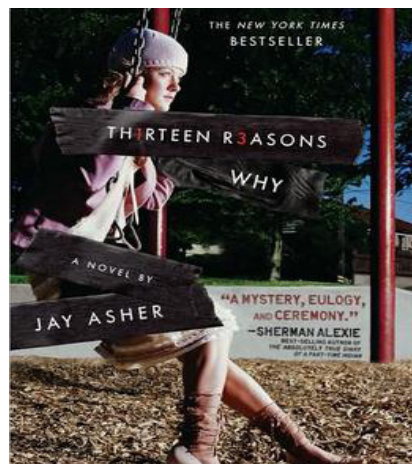
**Specializing in pregnancy
and pediatric health care**

Dr. Cindy Frazier
105 N 54 St. Omaha, NE 68132
402-650-0090



show:

Maddie Grabow
staff writer



Photos Courtesy of
THIRTEENREASONSWHY.COM

Foley's second tape. Bryce Walker was twelfth on the list both in the series and in the book, but he didn't even receive the tapes in the series because Clay skipped over him. Also, Clay recorded Bryce's confession to raping Hannah and created a fourteenth tape to add to Hannah's collection, but this never happened in the book.

Since the book was published in 2007 and the series premiered in 2017, there are some minor culture changes. The use of cell phones and social media is much more prevalent in the series rather than the book just because of the ten-year gap between the two. Word traveled by mouth of Hannah being a "slut" in the book rather than by the sending of pictures in the Netflix series.

Something about the series that bothered me was how long Clay took to listen to the tapes. In the book he listened to all 13 in one night, but he seems to take forever to get through all of the tapes in the series. I think this is because Clay finds it hard to listen to the tapes due to how close he was with Hannah in the show. In the book however, Clay and Hannah weren't really friends. They definitely knew each other through work and mutual friends, but they weren't as friendly in the book as they were in the series.

Most of the other changes were changes in the people that Hannah blamed for causing her to commit suicide. The most obvious change was the name of one of the characters. In the series, she is known as Sheri but named Jenny in the book. Everything else about her character is the same, but the writers for whatever reason decided to change the name of the character. Alex does not attempt suicide in the book, and there is no mention of Tyler planning a massacre either.

Overall, both the book and the series were good. Personally, I liked the book better because there wasn't as many plotlines going on which made it much easier to follow and comprehend. I think the writers for the series made the plot confusing by adding the lawsuit and changing some of the characters. Although I didn't think there was any need for a second book to 13 Reasons Why, I think that because of all the changes that were made for the series that there might need to be a second season to wrap up some of the plotlines that weren't summed up in the first season. I don't even think a full season is necessary, maybe one or two extra episodes to show the outcome of the lawsuit, Alex's suicide attempt, and whatever it is that Tyler has planned.

Netflix debuted its newest series 13 Reasons Why on March 31. The series is based on the 2007 novel by the same name by Jay Asher. Although the Netflix series was originally created to be a one-season miniseries in order to stay true to the book, there are rumors that there may be a second season due to its popularity among viewers.

I read 13 Reasons Why roughly two years ago over winter break in the eighth grade. At the time, there had been rumors of a movie adaptation of the book and that's why I decided to read it in the first place. As I was watching the series I noticed a lot of things that were different between the two. There were both small nit-picky changes and changes that changed the plot of the series.

In my opinion the book was much better than the series. Both the book and the series are narrated by Clay Jensen, but the series goes into the other characters' lives in much more detail. This isn't really a problem, but the book is pretty much just Clay listening to the tapes and moving to all the locations on the map provided by Hannah, as well as occasionally being interrupted by his friend Tony. The book feels much more intimate in comparison to the series for this reason.

The biggest aspect of the series that differed from the book was the lawsuit that Hannah's parents were pursuing against the school. The lawsuit forced Hannah's parents and the other characters to have a much bigger role in the series than they had in the book. The series allows the viewer to get to know the other characters who were allegedly involved in Hannah's decision on a more personal level as well as the repercussions of Hannah's suicide.

Another big change in the series was the order of the tapes. Clay was ninth on the list in the book but eleventh in the series. Number nine in the series was Justin

show:

Julian Hock-Beaty
staff writer



Photo Courtesy of
ALLPOSTERS.CA

AMC's The Walking Dead has just concluded its 7th season with a bang.

After a few long buildup episodes, the final episode is a refreshing shift in tone, violence and plot. Die-hard Walking Dead fans were someone bored with season seven, as it was very political and not very story-oriented. However, the abrupt plot twists and intricate dialogue saved the season near its end.

(Spoilers ahead)

The best moments of season seven (unsurprisingly) involve a lot of tension and violence, leaving viewers in shock and intrigue. The junkyard scene in which Rick fights an armored zombie to prove himself to the Scavengers was nerve racking. In addition to this, the sudden betrayal of the Scavengers during Negan's confrontation with the Alexandria group was a low blow to everyone watching. Lastly, the perfectly-timed appearance of Shiva the tiger and The Kingdom invoked shrieks of joy and gave the audience chills. Even though pacing was a bit of an issue for this season, it's undeniable that the writers threw in some great twists.

In comparison to the comics, the show is moving somewhat slow. Granted, certain liberties must be taken when adapting from source material. However, the show is dragging out events that have been done and over with in the comics for a while now. It is widely known that the show isn't an exact adaptation, certain characters and events are added, omitted or approached differently in the interest of translation to the screen. With this being said, season seven introduced new survivor groups that never existed in the comics. The all-female Oceanside group and the junkyard dwelling Scavengers were entirely made up for the show.

Some fans were all for adding the new groups, while others argued that it made the plot too intricate and complicated. Because the show writers had already strayed so far from the comics, this season was the nail in the coffin for some longtime viewers. Regardless of the odd pacing, season seven still had millions of people tuned in and watching.

Even with the criticism this season received, the show's writers have successfully expanded the established scale of The Walking Dead. With new groups involved, Rick's group is now confronted with a new set of problems and compromises to work through. This makes for great television, and increases the longevity of the show. Also, the calculated deviations from the comics provide a fresh experience for readers wanting to watch the series and compare.

Another rewarding aspect of this season is the deep philosophical undertone it carries. With characters facing new enemies, they are beginning to justifying darker means of achieving their goals. This really emphasizes the fact that even after society rebuilds in the wake of disaster, the limits of one's humanity will always be pushed. Take Morgan's character for example. Morgan started this season as a pacifist, rejecting all forms of violence against other humans. As the season progresses, he starts to realize how brutal the world around him is becoming. After having a bit of a mental breakdown, he finally comes to terms with what he needs to do to protect himself and the ones closest to him. This reinforces the theory that humankind is extremely adaptive in stressful situations.

Introducing this intellectual side of the show has really kept the characters interesting, even after seven seasons. Character development is still a major focus for the show writers, and they seem to be doing a great job of addressing nearly every character in their own unique way. Even secondary characters have their shining moments, and this can be attributed to the genius of Robert Kirkman. Kirkman wrote the original comics, and is an integral part in the development of the TV series.

According to the writers and producers, a much larger future is in store for Rick and the Alexandria group. This season was essentially setting up for a massive event in The Walking Dead universe, which will tie all of season seven's loose ends together. Season eight will include all of the established groups, and possible a new threat to the main characters. Negan's character is becoming a fan favorite, so it will be interesting to see how the writers incorporate him into the predestined story provided by the comic.

With its ever-growing fan base, The Walking Dead will surely remain as one of the most widely viewed shows of all time. As of right now, the show is going strong, and still has loads of plot to cover. The Walking Dead Season 8 premieres in October 2017.

attraction:



Kaylee Walling
staff writer

Lee G. Simmons Conservation Park and Wildlife Safari, located in Ashland, NE, draws in many people of the community. The reasons being that the prices are low, there are new exhibits and it is hard to find a place like that to go to that is nearby (besides the zoo).

I had the opportunity to visit the safari, and I was not disappointed. As there is a drive through area, there are also places that you can hike through, and an area where there are animals you can go up to. Unlike the zoo, Simmons Wildlife Safari has a bald eagle which not many people get the chance to see. There are many events and educational opportunities the park sets up as well.

With the prices being so low, and the amount of time you get to spend at the park, it is well worth the drive to Ashland, Nebraska. Starting off with the ride through the park, and then spending time hiking and looking at the animals from an up-close view is something that is rare to happen, especially in Omaha. Better yet, the animals are in their own habitat so most of them are not caged in. Visitors get to see how they live their life normally, and not being in a secluded area.

This wildlife safari is definitely a good place to plan for a family trip. They even have tents that can be rented to go camping, with a cost of \$37 per person including breakfast and a pass to the park for the next day. I recommend Lee G. Simmons Park to anybody that is interested in wildlife. I give the park a 10/10.

Mike Saniuk
TENNIS PRO

402.498.0220
miraclehillgolf.com/tennis

music:

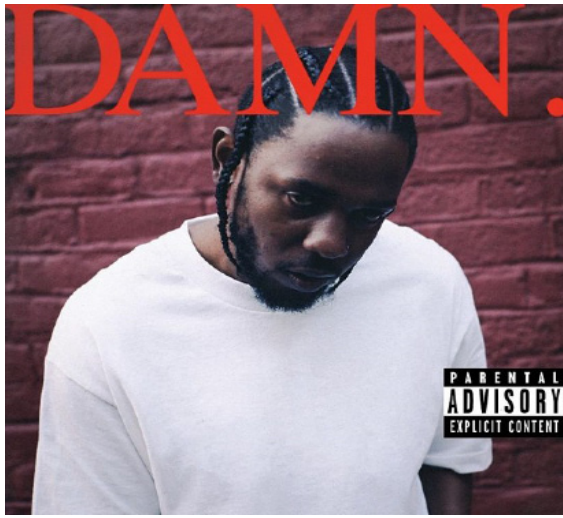


Photo Courtesy of HIPHOPDX

Zoia Morrow
staff writer

In 2015, rapper Kendrick Lamar released ‘To Pimp a Butterfly’ and officially set the bar for rap albums of the decade. It was nominated for Album of the Year, but lost to Taylor Swift’s ‘1989’. Since then, the Compton born rapper has dropped an ‘album’ of unreleased tracks and as of currently, ‘DAMN.’

It has been a long two years for Kendrick fans as they awaited not-so-patiently for new music. Kendrick had a lot to live up to following To Pimp a Butterfly and unfortunately, ‘DAMN’ did not come through. The album features a whopping 14 songs, but personally, only eight of them are worthy, and that’s just being gracious. Track one begins with an interlude called ‘BLOOD’ that sets the tone for the album. The interlude starts with a soothing melody that follows throughout and underlies Kendrick’s words as he begins telling a personal experience.

Track number two; DNA. It’s Kendrick 100 percent. It’s a hype summer song that you can’t help but to pretend to know the words and jump around because the song goes so hard. DNA almost set the tone for DAMN and had all the songs gave the same hype-ness as DNA did, he would have slaughtered More Life and I Decided. On the contrary though, ‘DAMN’ should be ranked on behalf of More Life and I Decided as all three albums overall were trash, but had few bops.

Track number six; LOYALTY (Feat. Rihanna). One of the biggest surprises of ‘DAMN’ was the collaboration between Kendrick and Rihanna. ‘LOYALTY’ is two’s first collaboration and did not dissatisfy. It serves to be a spokes-song for loyalty in a relationship. Everything about LOYALTY, from the harmonies to the lyrics to the beat is fantastic and a song worthy of a listen. The beat in ‘LOYALTY’ is a mix of funk and 90s R&B. The only downside to ‘LOYALTY’ is the fact it isn’t really Kendrick Lamar. One would not expect this to be a Kendrick Lamar song and only proves to the fact DAMN is not his best work.

Track number 10; LOVE (Feat. Zacari). No doubt the best slow song on the album. The amount of mellow and calmness in ‘LOVE’ is soothing to the ears. LOVE is a nostalgic slow jam dedicated to all fans of the spirit of 90s Black culture. The song is an example of how deeply personal Kendrick gets in DAMN when it comes to the pinnacles of a relationship.

The world wants to know: who let ‘YAH’ and ‘LUST’ make it onto the album, it was a sure mistake. These two songs overpower the good songs on DAMN. Even then, had the good songs been on any other Kendrick album, they wouldn’t be ‘good’.

It’s almost unfair in the fact that Humble and The Heart Part IV were singles and Kendrick pegged rap fans up only to disappoint. In the Heart Part IV, one lyric Kendrick said specifically caught everyone’s attention: “Y’all got till April the 7th to get y’all stuff together,” so naturally that’s when the world believed his album would drop.

CONTINUE TO ‘DAMN.’
ON PAGE 22

film:

Miles Kay
staff writer

Nearly twenty-five years ago, Mighty Morphin Power Rangers first debuted. This series would launch several movies and subsequent television shows following groups of teenage superheroes in their fight against monsters and extra-terrestrial beings. The series depicted the teens simultaneously dealing with real-world issues while battling bad guys using humongous machines called Zords. In March, director Dean Israelite’s film, Power Rangers debuted, bringing the rangers back onto the silver screen for a new generation of fans. Power Rangers modernizes the franchise while paying homage to the original ranger team and creating a fun and thrilling film which balances character interactions with lengthy action sequences.

The film cuts straight to the chase; the opening minutes reveal the origin of the Power Rangers on Earth millions of years ago and set up the central conflict of the movie. Then, audiences are introduced to the teens living in the small coastal town of Angel Grove who will eventually become the modern-day Power Rangers. These high school students are a diverse group in many senses. For example, one member of the team is a gay woman and another is on the autism spectrum.

The kids assemble in an unlikely place, high school Saturday school. After Jason, a football player turned delinquent, befriends Billy, the two venture to a mine outside town where they and the other three future Rangers, Kimberly, Trini and Zack inadvertently discover the Power Coins, which bestow superhuman strength and other abilities upon them. The teens are forced together to unlock the mysteries of the Coins, and upon discovering a spaceship hidden beneath the ground they begin training to become Power Rangers with their mentor Zordon and his assistant Alpha 5.

As their training progresses, the Rangers grow closer and are forced to recognize the



scope of the threat they face in the sinister Rita Repulsa, Photo Courtesy of THE LEDGE who intends to destroy all life on Earth. As Rita’s powers grow, the kids must use their new camaraderie, training and wits and embrace their destinies as Power Rangers in order to protect Angel Grove and the entire world from the ultimate evil.

Israelite’s Power Rangers presents a more grounded, grittier incarnation of the Rangers, as evidenced by the PG-13 rating. Though the movie is still family friendly, it isn’t afraid to put the Rangers in more perilous situations, portray the treacherous pitfalls and cliques of high schools or dysfunctional family dynamics. This is a movie for today’s society, and though the concept of kids running around in colorful suits fighting monsters may seem juvenile, it succeeds where most superhero movies fail: it accurately portrays real-world struggles for teenagers living in this day and age. The actors in Power Rangers all give strong and believable performances. The Rangers all have great chemistry with each other on screen, and are able to make audiences believe in their mission and sympathize with their struggles in their day-to-day lives.

CONTINUE TO ‘RANGERS’
ON PAGE 22

event:

Choteau Kammel
editor-in-chief

Star Wars Celebration 2017 took place this past April, where the directors of every show, movie and video game under the franchise’s name took to the stage before thousands of fans to discuss the future of a galaxy far far away. The celebration featured the first official reveal for the next title film in the series Star Wars: The Last Jedi, which will release in December of this year and take a darker spin on the hopefulness brought by its predecessor.

Although I am an avid fan of the movies, what was even more exciting was that following this reveal the Swedish video game company DICE revealed the trailer for their next Star Wars game, Battlefront II. The game before it, released two years ago simply as Battlefront however was a complete flop, and it is imperative that this next game improve on the formers many weaknesses in order to actually satisfy fans and consumers in the fullest capacity.

First off, the game released by DICE two years ago neglected the existence of an entire era of Star Wars films, the prequels, which although cinematically underwhelming still make up a large portion of memory for millennials. DICE’s choice to neglect the Clone Wars and other prequel material ended up leaving many older fans unsatisfied and incomplete. Although they have said they will be including these eras in their new game, little tangible evidence has been provided to corroborate these claims.

My personal biggest pet peeve about DICE’s first game was that they also did not include any capability for story modes or campaign actions. This was an absolute travesty. Star Wars fans of all ages have all generally dreamed at least once of living one of the classic scenes from the films such as a rebel soldier on Hoth or a clone trooper sent to gun down Jedi in the temple. Although the first Battlefront did offer some objective based gameplay, it did not include actual missions based on the movies. A good campaign is an absolute necessity for Battlefront II, and their first trailer suggests that DICE has learned this lesson well, with brief clip revealing a storyline based on the point of view of the Empire. This dark take could have the possibility to entirely reinvigorate the franchise if executed correctly.

CONTINUE TO ‘STAR WARS’
ON PAGE 22



Photo Courtesy of MILNERSBLOG

show:

Hayley Raney
staff writer

The original Netflix series, “The Get Down,” recently released its second season. The show focuses on a group of biracial teenagers who are trying follow their dreams amidst the struggles of the Bronx in the 1970s.

Season one focused on the main character, Ezekiel “Zeke” Figuero, played by Justice Smith, as he struggles to find his purpose and passion in life. What he does know, though, is that he wants to make something out of his talent for written musical poetry.

In season one, Zeke’s group of friends include Ra-Ra (Skylan Brooks), Boo-Boo (Tremaine Brown Jr.) and Marcus “Dizze” Kipling (Jaden Smith). Each young man has his own individual taste, but they share the same love for making music.

All four meet the Bronx’s famous teenage DJ, Shaolin Fantastic (Shameik Moore). The more they become familiar with one another, the more their determination to make music together intensifies. Shaolin introduces the boys to DJ-ing and, most importantly, a specific part of the music called the “get down.” They become more skilled in making music and create a hip-hop/rap group called The Get Down Brothers.

Throughout Zeke’s music journey with The Get Down Brothers, he is love-struck by the beautiful Mylene Cruz (Herizen Guardiola). She is a church girl with a dream of becoming a famous singer. Her father, being the over protective pastor he is, holds her back from pursuing her dream. Mylene does not feel the same way Zeke feels towards her, but throughout season one, Zeke is somehow able to change Mylene’s views as she begins to fall for him too.

The newest season of “The Get Down” primarily hones in on the Get Down Brothers’ fame, Zeke’s indecisiveness for his future and his continuance in The Get Down Brothers and, finally, his relationship with his “butterscotch queen,” Mylene Cruz.

Mylene also experiences struggles of her own dealing with fame and hardship as a singer with an over-protective father.

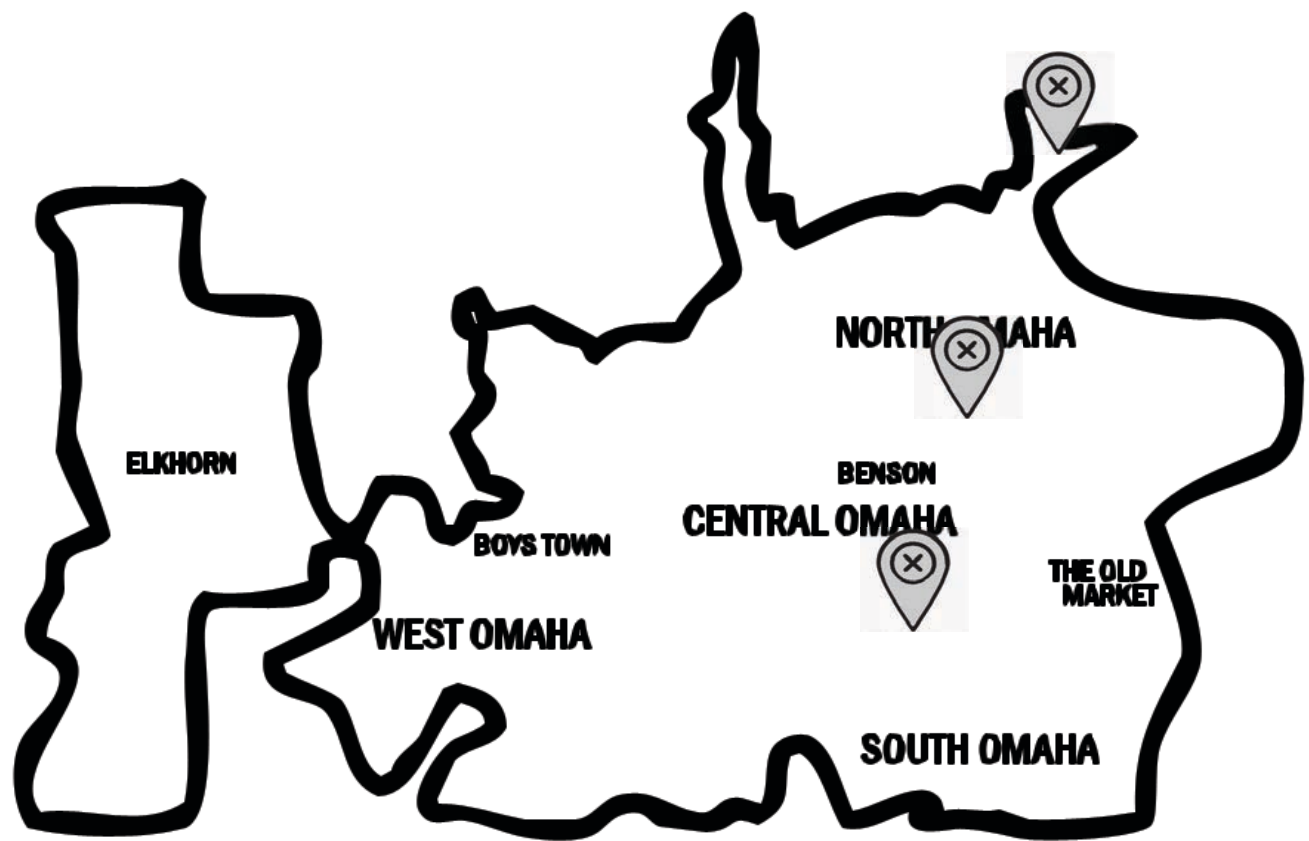
“The Get Down” part two is all about the consequence of fame: trouble. Plot twists arise including issues such as abuse, suicide and the pressure to change. All of this in the midst of economic struggles and disco in the Bronx.



Photo Courtesy of REASON.COM

EAT MORE CHICKEN

The Register staff reviews some of the best fried chicken dives in the metro area



TIME OUT CHICKEN



3518 N. 30th St.



Photo Courtesy of OMAHA MAGAZINE

Georgia Chambers
editor-in-chief

Having relatives from the south has its perks, especially when it comes to eating. My grandma and mom used to cook very tasteful fried chicken, and it has always been a popular dinner for my whole family.

Since my mom does not cook much anymore, we usually settle for some KFC, but after going to 30th and Ames I now have found the best fried chicken served in Omaha: Time Out Foods.

Time Out Foods offers more than just fried chicken; they also offer wings, cheeseburgers and more. However, since it is known for its fried chicken that is what I ordered for my mom and me to try. I got a box combo for myself and a two piece chicken with a roll for my mom.

The chicken was flavorful, and the crunchy outside gave away to a tender, white meat. It had just enough pepper and seasoning, and I felt that their chicken was much more fresh and crisp than what I was used to settling for at KFC.

Time Out Foods' combo meal also came with a roll, fries and cole slaw. The roll was sweet and was a good compliment to go alongside the meal. However, I would have been satisfied with this being all that was given to us, three pieces of chicken and a roll are more than enough to fill me up, but I still tried the fries and cole slaw.

I would never think to pair french fries with fried chicken, but they were alright. They were not the best fries I have ever had, but again, I came for the chicken and not anything else. My least favorite item on the menu was the cole slaw. Their cole slaw has a vinegar base, and coming from the south we are used to a sweeter, creamy slaw.

Finally, even though both of us had eaten more than enough food, we tried two of their desserts offered. My mom had a cherry turnover, and I tried the pecan pie. My mom has tried turnovers from various places, but she admits that Time Out Foods has one of the best turnovers she has tried. As for the pecan pie, it was delicious. The crust was very tasteful and the filling, which there was a lot of, was very sweet and sugary. I could not finish it because it was so sweet, but it was one of the better desserts I have tried.

If you have not been to Time Out Foods yet, I would highly recommend making the short drive over there to try their chicken. It is inexpensive, and you get a lot of food.

RICHIE'S CHICKEN



3528 Center St

Vasili Sgourakis
staff writer

Richie's Chicken & Hamburger is located on 35th and Center. They are open from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturdays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Sundays and closed on Mondays. Richies' specializes in classic homemade family comfort food, including their famous fried chicken. It is also reasonably priced; all entrees are less than \$10.

Besides fried chicken and hamburgers, Richies also serves pork chops, steaks, and ribs. Vegetarian options include a salmon filet, jumbo shrimp, fish and chips, and catfish. Though all

these choices are likely quality options, one who visits should definitely give their fried chicken a try.

There are several different specialty chicken orders. They serve breasts and thighs as well as wings. With each one has the choice of French fries, mashed or baked potatoes, and hash browns. Their chicken is fantastic; it is very crispy but not greasy at all. It is perfect comfort food.

Although it is very simple with few spices the taste of the high quality meat is what stands out. The batter is also well done. While waiting in the dining room you can see everything being prepared fresh. From the chicken to the potato, nothing is old.

Richie's really has the feel of a good old fashioned diner. Everyone is extremely friendly, from the hostess to the cooks and waiters. The place is not large at all so if you are in a rush this might not be the place to go just because of preparation times and the lack of seating. However, other than this there is no reason not to try Richie's Chicken & Hamburger.

Moreover, the portions are terrific. For what you pay it is almost a crime that they give this much food. 2 pieces of chicken, fries, side salad, and rolls are only \$6. The simplicity and comfort of this diner is unmatched and anyone who is a fan of fried chicken or food in general should give Richie's Chicken & Hamburger a try, it will not disappoint.

Fried chicken is actually Scottish and was brought to the American South by immigrants.

Alektorophobia is the fear of chickens.

July 6 is National Fried Chicken Day.

Carlson Koch
staff writer

For just your average crave of fried homemade chicken, Alpine Inn is the homiest diner of all diners in the Omaha area.

Once you walk in, it is easy to know why it is a renowned dive, most people sit on the bar sipping away at their beverage, while some might play a game of billiards and others will sit in the dining area looking outside into the farm.

For instance, in the background there is a red barn, meanwhile the building itself was most likely a barn because of its relative size and deteriorating outside walls. For me, this only added to its character, but for others it can be seemed as a desolate diner not fit to hold a scrumptious dinner.

The farm through the window has a collection of raccoons and cats fighting over food, which is quite the sight to see while eating. Although, something that did not impress me other than the prices was a specific sign saying, "we reserve the right to not serve any customers we wish not to". This sign immediately turned me away and made me hesitate, but through the waitress and other workers, I was not too sure if they really followed through with the sign. But, because the bar and restaurant is open itself until the early morning, the diner may be concerned with not serving people who are already heavily intoxicated.

The waitress when I walked in was serving drinks at the bar, but allowed me to sit wherever, and of course I chose a view next to the cats

and raccoons. With a menu that consists of little variety with chicken, shrimp and a hamburger, I chose to order the chicken dinner chicken strips and French fries.

Rather promptly after ordering, the food came out full of hot grease and ready to be devoured. The chicken itself was very good; it had a good crunch with each bite and was satisfying. The French fries on the other hand, were not superb, they had little substance to them and seemed like they had just come from a frozen bag.

For those who eat vegetarian, this is not the place to go, because Alpine Inn's menu did not seem to have an option without any sort of meat included.

The pricing of my order came to be around 12 dollars, and for what I ordered, it did not seem worth it. Though the food was good and all, the price tag took away from my enjoyment of the meal itself.

Overall, the restaurant can be rated positive solely for the way the food tastes and the environment around the inn. Although Alpine Inn is indeed an inn, I did not see any sort of sign suggesting it was a B&B or had pricings for rooms to stay.

Alpine Inn is family friendly for adults who wish for a family meal or want to have a late night drink with someone, but it is overall too pricey for the options it offers and can also seem like a hostile environment for outsiders. Thus, it deserves a rating of three out of five stars.

ALPINE INN



10405 Calhoun Rd.



Photo Courtesy of CATMORELY.COM



LIVE BETTER
LIVE BROADMOOR

Experience the **BEST** in apartment living!
It's not just a place to live, but a place to call home!

Find your next home with us
www.broadmoor.cc

REGISTER REVIEWS

CONTINUED FROM 'DAMN.' ON PAGE 19

Wrong. DAMN dropped a week later on April 14th, 2017. The Heart was everything one could ever want as a fan of rap. From the egotistical yet confident lyrics to the three (four) beat changes in one song.

One positive thing Kendrick can get credit for on behalf of 'DAMN.' is his sense of sincerity, personality and outstand-

ing lyricist abilities. The album was personal, more personal than any other rap album as of current. It's something to appreciate because it is a rare occurrence.

The album was on the verge of being classified as R&B rather than Hip-Hop. Overall, it gives slow, low sinister tunes but Kendrick's rapping is what brings it back to Hip-Hop. It rates a two out of five stars. If 'DAMN' is the future for Kendrick Lamar, he can keep it.

CONTINUED FROM 'STAR WARS' ON PAGE 19

To give them credit, DICE has an excellent track record with making games that appear beautiful on the screen using their Frostbite engine, and this no doubt will be true for Battlefield II. The first trailer displayed in-game footage that was stunning and this performance is likely only to improve in the final copy of the game which releases this November.

As far as mechanics go the first game did operate quite well, and if it was only tweaked to make it more in line with other FPS games such as Battlefield I it would be absolutely perfect, and in fact DICE has hinted at this, as their official Twitter has repeatedly announced that fan feedback had been the largest driver in the development of the new game. All in all, should DICE include prequel movie content and bring back the ability to reenact childhood dreams on the screen, Battlefield II is sure to be a fantastic piece of Star Wars history.

CONTINUED FROM 'RANGERS' ON PAGE 19

Of all the actors in the film, the most exceptional performance comes from Elizabeth Banks as Rita Repulsa. Banks plays the role of the psychotic alien perfectly, as movie supervillains go Banks' character measures up to the strongest Marvel villains.

At times the film can seem silly. But, despite cheesy parts and some cliché moments, one must remember that all superhero movies are outlandish. And though some might argue that the Power Rangers franchise no longer holds traction amongst Marvel and D.C.'s blockbusters, Power Rangers has something that many of those films don't: heart. Sure, the plot is ridiculous, it's a movie about teenagers battling an army of monsters called Putties and a monstrous creature called Goldar in machines shaped like dinosaurs. But, it's an entertaining movie, one that keeps viewers at the edge of their seats and causes one to leave the theater smiling. One can only hope that this isn't the last audiences will see of this Ranger team.



TWITTER POLL
Central Journalism
@chs_press

Is Kendrick Lamar's new album worth the listen?

YES **71%**

NO **29%**

103 Votes

MAKE AMERICA SMART AGAIN



JACKSON STREET BOOKSELLERS

1119 Jackson Street, The Old Market

402-341-2664

Monday-Thursday 11-6, Friday & Saturday 11-7, Sunday 12-5

Buying and selling used, rare and out-of-print books daily.

ALMOST MUSIC & SOLID JACKSON BOOKS

3925 Farnam Street, The Blackstone

402-614-2883

Sunday & Monday 12-6, Tuesday-Thursday 10-8

Friday & Saturday 10-9

Vinyl records and a sweet little bookstore to boot.



TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS 24

Trump shows inconsistencies during the beginning days of his first term as president.

CENTRAL'S PROM 25

Having Central host prom results in lack of character and excitement.



SENIOR GOOD-BYES 28

The Register cartoonists and photographer say goodbye in their final issue on staff.



perspective & commentary

the REGISTER • May 11, 2017 • Volume 132, Issue 6

BALLOONGATE

Purple Feather Day 2017 sparked a debate among students.

Social media organization shows hypocrisy

Alec Rome
staff writer

On Thursday, April 13, the 40th annual Purple Feather Day was the talking point for most students. Those who had a high GPA got a chance to participate in an impromptu game show and eat donuts. One tradition of the event was called into question, forcing administration and coordinators to adapt.

That ever so controversial balloon release.

Hundreds of students reportedly signed a petition that the release would harm animals in the area and possibly anywhere within the radius of the school. In response, Dr. Ed Bennett offered a compromise of (probably) biodegradable balloons and strings. If students did not want to release a balloon, they had a right not to take one.

From a student standpoint, this is a great example of Central students choosing to voice their concerns on matters that impact the school. Those who mentioned their concerns had proper reasoning and justification, as they are members of the Central community.

However, there was one organization that did not have credibility to speak on the matter, regardless of whether it had the constitutional right to do so. Balloons Blow is an organization created by two women who are concerned with the effect balloon releases have on animals and the environment. They contacted Central (as they were eagerly willing to notify some members of the public on Twitter) stating that the celebration of excellence was killing animals and even the eagles that Central has on its logo. Despite their comments, the tradition continued.

Their message has seemed to pick up a minor following on Facebook with 52,000 likes, but less so on Twitter with 1,800 followers. Yet, as a video was released of the release on Twitter, the organization—which has a website one can donate to—spoke out. “Disturbing video. Honoring brightest by littering & endangering #animals. #Balloonrelease despite learning destructive effects #EagleProud?”

First, using hashtags does not bolster the argument whatsoever, in fact it reduces credibility. While the effects of these balloon releases are legitimate, a video of a balloon release is not on the same level of “disturbing” as other events. One of Balloons Blow’s other tweets included a smiley face, which really helped bring the point home that “the video glorified flyaway death traps.”

Its cause is undoubtedly honorable but the method through which they choose to make their problems known is flawed and inconsistent. If Balloons Blow has a problem with the 800 or so balloons released on Purple Feather Day, the consequences of witnessing a 3,000 to 5,000 balloon mass floating into the air for the Husker spring game at Memorial Stadium must have been appalling, right? It was merely two days after the incident at Central.

Apparently not, because not a single word was mentioned on Balloons Blow’s Facebook page or Twitter account. Yet, the organization called the atrocities at Central a “mass littering alert.” If you are willing to point out a high school in their wrongdoing and blame administrators for caring about tradition more than environmental health, you must do the same with adults in other venues.

The balloon release with Nebraska football is a 60-year-old tradition that has remained unscathed through a lawsuit, animal lovers and a helium shortage. The impact on helium usage and the killing of animals has not been enough for the EPA or the federal government to pass widespread regulations. States have passed laws on the issue, but not enough have to raise the concern of the entire nation. Memorial Stadium seems like a much greater threat to animals than Omaha Central, as releases happen six to seven times a year in Lincoln.

Students speak out against 40-year tradition in hopes of protecting environment

Anne Gallagher
contributing writer

2017 marked the 40th annual Purple Feather Day celebration along with its “traditional” balloon release. Over 800 students were honored because of their cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above and were allowed to release a balloon into the atmosphere, regardless of their understanding of its impacts on the environment.

Opposition to the balloon release began with three seniors: Sammy Roberts, Evangelina Gomez and Brittni McGuire. They attend classes at the Henry Doorly Zoo Academy, one of which includes a community service project. Out of love for their school, they decided to focus on the issue of the Purple Feather Day balloon release and the harm it causes to animals. They learned about the issue of wildlife ingesting the balloon material and the fact that biodegradable latex isn’t much different than what is normally used. They decided to start an anti-balloon release petition that communicated the issues of damage to the property and littering. About two weeks before Purple Feather Day, along with their zoo academy instructor, the girls visited Dr. Bennett and Mrs. Kirksey with an elaborate PowerPoint presentation and the petition which was signed by over 200 students. This forced the seriousness of the situation to be noticed and the switch was made to biodegradable balloons.

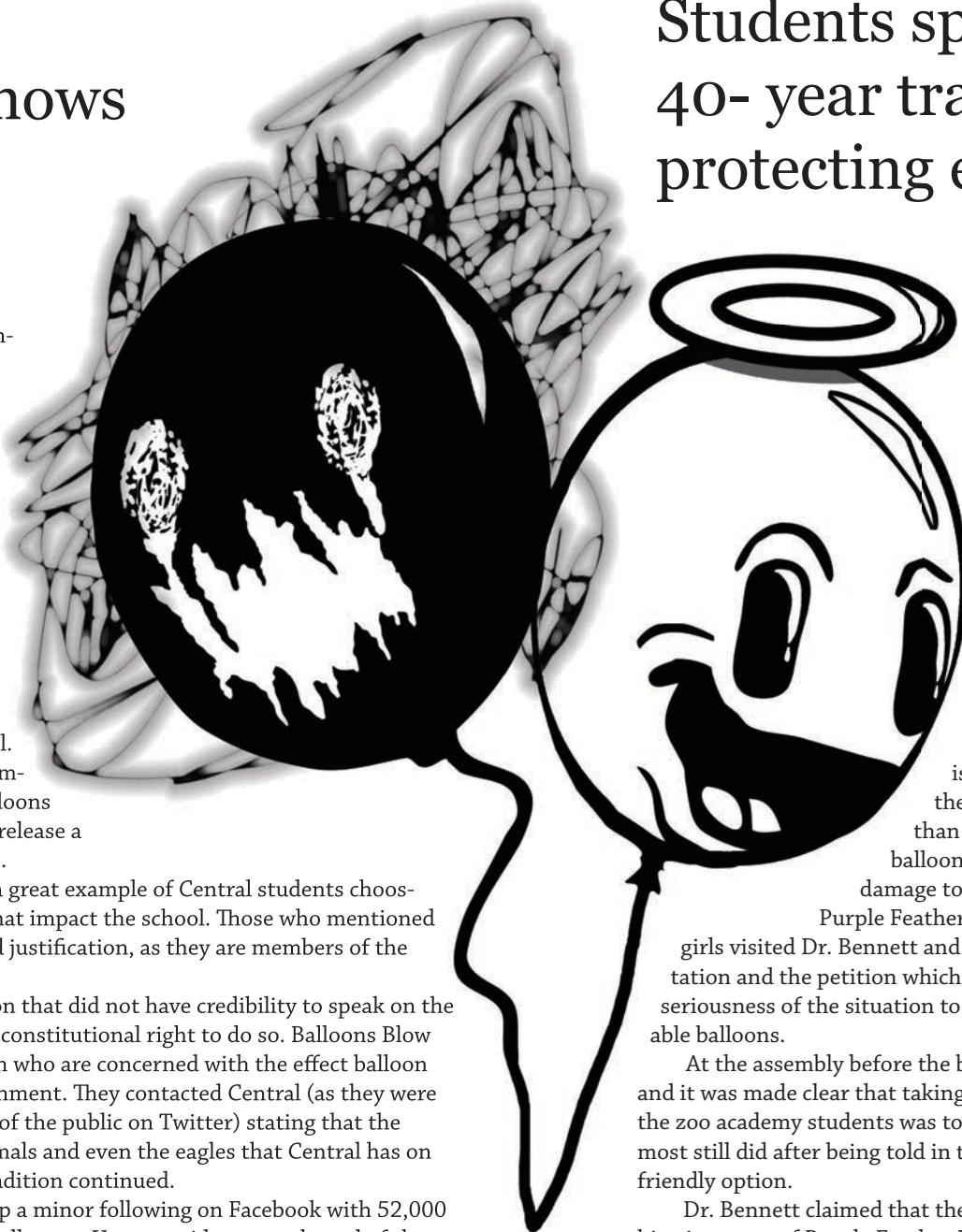
At the assembly before the balloon release, students were told about the issue and it was made clear that taking a balloon was not an obligation. The purpose of the zoo academy students was to encourage people not to release a balloon at all, but most still did after being told in the assembly that Central was choosing a more eco-friendly option.

Dr. Bennett claimed that there had been minimal opposition to the release in his nine years of Purple Feather Day experience. “We had talked about making some changes with the pep organization who sponsors it, then the issue for whatever reason didn’t come up the following year,” Bennett said. “I wasn’t an expert on releasing balloons, so it wasn’t like I was saying ‘hey, let’s litter’. We’ve always done it, they wanted to do it so we did it and it wasn’t until this year when it came up again.”

The issue also works into the perception of Central’s tradition. Doing a balloon release for the past 40 years has led students to think that it is unchangeable. “We had questioned it, but down in Lincoln every football game they do a mass balloon release and it seemed like they should kind of outlaw it for everybody,” Bennett said. “We’ve got a few balloons here, we let them off, it didn’t seem like it was that big a deal. You know how Central is, tradition is important here.” Sammy Roberts had a different take on the habits of Central. “The tradition I feel, and so do my classmates, lies in the academics, not the balloon release, so making it more eco-friendly is not changing how academically and behaviorally advanced the students are,” Roberts said.

The balloon release was also recognized throughout the community through the organization Balloons Blow. Through social media, Balloons Blow recognized Purple Feather Day as a negative impact to the environment and accused the high school of endangering animals. This organization had every right to do that. Not only does the first amendment guarantee their free speech, but there is an overwhelming amount of evidence that supports their claims to the negative impacts that Central is potentially causing through this mass balloon release. Although there may be even larger releases for other events (such as the football games at Memorial stadium), it does not give Central a free pass to willfully harm the environment. There may be an inconsistency in the claims, but there is a foundation of facts that needs to be recognized by the entirety of the community.

Small steps are being taken every day in Central to improve the footprint it leaves, such as the enforcement of the recycling program and the addition of LED lightbulbs throughout much of the school. These advances should be recognized along with the faults. Until the balloon release is ended, Central cannot be recognized as a completely environmentally friendly school.



Trump's first 100 days display incapability

Anna Kaminski
executive editor

The name "Donald Trump" carries a heavy load of connotations and implications. The so-called mogul was born wealthy, raised wealthy and remains as such to this day.

Obtaining an A-list celebrity status as one of the wealthiest businessmen in the world and the host of the ABC reality show *The Apprentice* is one form of power, but being President of the United States is a completely different ballpark.

Saturday, April 29 was President Trump's 100th day in office and the amount of damage he has caused is unparalleled.

NBC News claims that "It's the start of a presidency like no other." In an interview with the news network, MSNBC analyst Jonathan Alter says, "This is the worst, least successful, first 100 days since it became a concept in 1933."

Trump's biggest disappoint among his party was that of his healthcare reform plan. He proposed to repeal Obamacare and instill a "better" plan dubbed Trumpcare. House Republicans extinguished

the replacement for the Affordable Care Act from the House floor. All of this was amidst the president's "coveted negotiation inclinations."

Legislation amongst the Trump Administration has been seriously lackluster in that neither he nor his staff have made any substantial advancements.

Although President Trump has been full of surprises, he has fulfilled some campaign promises - whether they may be in the best interest of the republic, no one knows. For instance, he withdrew membership from the Trans-Pacific Partnership and approved the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Trump's arguably greatest mistake was that of the destruction of climate regulations put in place by President Obama. Trump appointed Scott Pruitt as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator - who has been an open opponent to environmental conservation efforts. Despite the confusingly popular belief among a select few members of the Republican Party that climate change does not exist, even many conservatives say that an environmental disaster could occur.



PRESTON McLAUGHLIN | Contributing Cartoonist

President shows recklessness in bombing

Choteau Kammel
editor-in-chief

President Donald J. Trump of the United States of America. He hates reporters, the inconvenience of the Constitution and women who say no. He loves walls, executive orders and changing all of his campaign positions. These lists of terrifying yet unfortunate attributes could continue indefinitely, however, perhaps the most blatant shift in Mr. Trump's character has been on that of foreign policy. Trump ran on a campaign that lambasted the Obama Administration for its rampant use of military force in the Middle East and for its support of a regime change in foreign civil wars. Fast forward less than 100 days into his presidency, and Trump has now begun to follow in his predecessors' footsteps, bombing Syria and Afghanistan and promising more to come. This use of force, however, is thoughtless in its wide ranging repercussions, it goes in direct contrast against the division of powers laid out in the Constitution and represents only a failed continuation "bombing for freedom."

Trump first announced his change of position on intervention in the Middle East following the use of chemical weapons against civilians allegedly at the hands of the Syrian government. To this day, such claims remain to be verified through independent investigation. In response, Trump ordered Tomahawk cruise missile strikes on the Syrian government airfield from which the chemical weapons had been deployed. One would assume that for a government to attack another government a declaration of war would be necessary. However, in this day and age of disobeying laws, if you are in the government that isn't actually true. Although it can be argued that such action is necessary to prevent the usage of chemical weapons, there still remains the fact that it must be done by the Constitution. But of course, when has the government ever cared about that?

Trump's action was justified by the media because just like their lord and savior Obama, bombing other countries is always a presidential move. It was also justified by lawmakers and his staff through the War Powers Act, even though that itself required the United States to either be attacked, facing an impending attack or have facilities or personnel at risk. When this is known, it becomes quite clear that such a law does not in fact justify Trump's use of unilateral military force, however, he could have petitioned Congress for an official declaration of hostilities which would have opened the same door for the strike and would actually have been legal. The fact that both Obama and now Trump have used the 2003 Iraq War authorization to bomb several more countries is merely more evidence that Congress has shirked its duties.

A very important question to ask regarding the United States once again committing to bomb other countries is whether or not the endgame has been considered, because usually it's not. Good old George W. Bush thought all you had to do in Iraq was drop a few bombs and then all of a sudden democracy would exist. Obama thought bombing Libya would mean women could have rights and gays would be protected. Now Trump thinks bombing Syria will do the same. Yes, Assad is a terrible human being. Yes, chemical weapons are a scourge upon the earth and must be opposed at every turn, however is creating another failed state and safe haven for terrorists such as ISIL worth it? Such an answer will not be simple nor will it be easy to accept, but the very fact it is not even being looked for is troubling.

Looking upon Trump's actions as dubious is not a nod of consent to the Syrian government if they are indeed using chemical weapons, but rather it is a voice of reason that would like the use of force by the most powerful military machine the world has ever known to be exercised only in the most dire of circumstances and when is justified under law. The bombing of Syria may not have in and of itself been wrong, however it could set very dangerous precedent as well as definitively proving Trump a hypocrite. As if nothing else could have done that. Once more, an American president can rain down death and destruction upon another country with no relevant authorization and no plan of what comes next. Even if one exists such unilateral actions present the notion that America has not learned from its mistakes and wants to again bomb freedom into cultures incompatible with it.

Obama was a war monger. Under his watch, 26,000 bombs were dropped in his final year alone and thousands of civilians killed in drone strikes. These travesties did not go unnoticed and Trump's will not either. After over a decade of such imperialism in the name of the War on Terror partisanship means nothing as it had become ever so apparent neither side of the aisle wants peace.

It may not quite be an equitable comparison, however, the British Empire's track record of screwing over other countries and then leaving them to become successful states is significantly better than the United States'. That is saying something considering how dismal a record both the former and the latter are. Maybe what Trump did in Syria was the right thing to do if chemical weapons are being used, however we should not hasten to forget that Iraq was given the gift of democracy bombs under the auspices of "WMDs." After decades of trying to bomb hospitals, funerals and other sovereign states in the name of freedom, the United States must turn from such reactionary policies with no plans for the future of the region before it is far, far too late.

TRUMP BY THE NUMBERS

President Donald Trump completed his first 100 days in office on Saturday, April 29. Here is what he has accomplished thus far.

100
days

a
\$614,000,000
bomb dropped in
Afghanistan on
April 13

41%
approval rating

19
golf outings

2
travel bans

2
attempted health
care plans

Central prom lacks character, location change needed

Simone Davis
staff writer

Every year, thousands of high school juniors and seniors await their spring dance, or prom. People dream about buying the perfect dresses and tuxedos. “Promposals” gets students excited to go with their date or friends. Extravagant photos are taken at a pretty venue so students can showcase how they looked their best for a night. There is so much put into having the perfect night, only for the one thing that students don’t have control over to be boring. The venue.

Central’s prom takes place every year inside of the school courtyard. The courtyard is a very beautiful place, and students get the privilege of eating in a place with such a nice aesthetic every day. With that being said, having prom there is less exciting. It’s one thing to be able to dine in such a pretty setting, but prom is a different story. Students see the courtyard every single day, and having prom there feels less special. Prom is a day where everything should feel fancy and new, and this is the one time that many students get to dress up and be formal during their high school years.

Having prom in the courtyard is also slightly reminiscent of homecoming, which takes place at the school too, but in the gym. That setting makes sense, though, as homecoming is a semi-formal affair. But since prom is supposed to be extremely formal, the setting makes it anticlimactic. Students are dressed in their best expecting to have a good time, only to go to school in what is usually a casual setting. That is not to say that the courtyard isn’t decorated or students can’t have fun at prom because it takes place at Central, but rather that it is makes it more causal than prom should be.

Other schools have their proms at different venues every year. Some of the places where other schools in the area have had their dances has included the Century Link Center, the Durham Museum, hotel ballrooms, and even coffeehouses. The courtyard is without a doubt a nice place, but too casual for prom. It’d be more suited for an after prom or something of that caliber.

Not only is having the prom at different venues more exciting, but it makes more sense. If the money that students spend on

tickets isn’t going towards the venue, where is it going? Prom tickets are \$15, and if that solely goes towards the DJ and decorations, tickets are overpriced. It would make sense to spend that amount for a ticket, or even \$5 more if the money also went towards the venue, but it doesn’t. The tickets cost little more than homecoming tickets, and there was a DJ and decorations there, just like prom. Therefore, it only makes sense to spend more money on prom tickets than homecoming if there is an upgrade, such as a different venue.



ANNA KAMINSKI | The Register

Central’s prom is held in the courtyard every year. This year’s prom theme was City of Stars.

With all of that being said, prom can still be fun. With plenty of friends to dance, eat, and spend time with while at the prom, it can be a blast. Central is blessed to have a place that can even pass as nice enough to host a prom, but it’d be preferable to have prom elsewhere. The dance would simply be an even better affair if it took place at a venue that was less familiar and more impressive.

Vogue honors Japanese fashion designer, Rei Kawakubo during Met Ball

Zoia Morrow
staff writer

Come the first Monday in May is the annual Met Gala event for the benefit of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts in New York City. Extensive details, custom designs, long gowns and a day’s worth of preparation for the Met Ball 2017. Upon the event, the theme for the gala is based off the current exhibit being featured in Metropolitan Museum. The Met marks the opening of the museum and serves as a fundraiser. In the past years, fundraising has been a success and a prime source to the upholding of the Metropolitan. Formally known as the Costume Institute Gala, the Met Ball is known to be the ‘Super bowl’ night of fashion, except it is a lot more expensive.

In attendance are high profile musicians, models, designers, actors and actresses, whom show up side-by-side to showcase exquisite looks. The guest list has a wide range of 500 to 750 invites. According to New York Times, tickets this year were 30 thousand and the cost of tables were 275 thousand. The Met Ball 2017’s theme comes from the iconic Rei Kawakubo, founder of the brand Comme des Garçons. This gave people a chance to be absolutely unconventional, outstanding and daring. This year’s Met Gala was more special as the founder of such a legendary brand was in attendance. The last time a living designer was honored at the Metropolitan Museum/Met Ball was Yves Saint Laurent in 1983. Comme des Garçons is not a brand to be worn in a simple manner for street style.

That being said, do not go to the Met Gala if you are going to completely ignore the theme. It is understandable that this year’s theme is difficult to follow, but trying would be nice. Pay respects to Rei Kawakubo and the brilliant designs and innovative creations behind her masterpieces by at least trying to channel the theme.

The world can always count on the One and Only, Rihanna. As usual, Rihanna is always fashionably late—and the Met Ball 2017 was no exception. She indeed wore Comme des Garçons dress with a modern twist on her shoes. The world was preparing to be in awe of Rihanna after her 2015 Yellow Guo Pei gown. She came. She delivered. In a sexy chic layered floral dress full of dull reds, pasty pinks and blue hues paired with thigh high red strappy shoes.

Along the lines of gracefully following the theme, these ladies did not come to play. Rita Ora in Tom Ford, Ashley Graham in H&M, Ruth Negga in Valentino, Aymeline Valade in Marni, Rila Fukushima took on a more edgy Rei Kawakubo inspired look with a short black and white ruffled dress. Cassie (and Diddy) in On Aura Tout Vu and Rick Owens, Janelle Monáe in a Ralph Russo Black Swan-esque gown, Dakota Johnson in Gucci, Priyanka Chopra in custom Ralph Lauren, Caroline Kennedy and Tracee Ellis Ross in Comme des Garçons.

On the other hand, taking fashion risks as a man in modern society is extremely difficult with the pressing issue of stereotypical gender norms and limited room for creativity. Besides Rami Malek who wore a striking, bright, all red suit with

a black flower on his jacket—paired with black shoes Followed by Michael B. Jordan in a navy, green and plaid suit paired with suede navy blue shoes. The crisp white shirt under his suit jacket contrasts the dark tones of his outfit which is pleasing to the eyes. Talk about Donald Glover, also known as Childish Gambino wearing a perfectly patterned navy suit. Jaden Smith showed up true avant-garde with an all-black ensemble. To complete this daring look he carried his recently cut dreads in his hands.

As disappointing as the outfit could have been, there were few that were utter disasters. Many of the looks were dreamy, but not appropriate for the Met Gala. It used to be called ‘Costume Institute Gala’ for a reason; it celebrates various cultures in the art that is fashion. This isn’t supposed to be the average red carpet look and designers and stylists have turned it so.

The best average looks happened to be the ones who tried to follow the theme but didn’t quite get there. They get credit where its due, which is in their outfit and how well they pulled it off. This includes: Zoë Kravitz, Lily Aldridge, Cara Delevigne, Zendaya and La La Anthony.

We can conclude that Kendall and Kylie Jenner Madonna, Maxwell and Lena Dunaham wore the most tragic outfits of the night. They tried to be risqué and edgy but it turned out to be plain ugly. Obviously not everyone will be on Rihanna’s level of fashion expertise, but they all ought to be writing down some pointers of what to do and not to do at the Met Gala.

Complaints of balloons pointless, threatens ongoing school tradition

CONTINUED FROM ‘BALLOONGATE’ ON PAGE 23

A study conducted in 2012 at Clemson University may even refute the impact of animals digesting latex. While articles and experts have stood firm on the environmental impact, this study found that the species they tested, after digesting latex, showed no significant impact on digestion, except for turtles, which saw a percentage of species with buildup in their bodies. The author goes as far as to suggest that “consumption of latex balloon fragments may not pose a threat to many wildlife species” in the abstract of the paper.

What does this all mean?

Simply that we seem to be morphing into an activist society, which brings benefits and obvious shortcomings. People in general seem to speak up on issues that they have not previously been involved in, or do not follow up on their

protests with action and attempts to create change in society and policy.

In this example, students and the outsiders chose to voice their concerns armed with general facts. Once again, it is difficult to argue that balloons do not harm wildlife. However, it cannot be proven that Purple Feather Day and what Central chose to do created a major impact on animals in the area, as there is no hard evidence and observation that says such. If people so desire, the balloons could be tagged and the burden on animals measured. That idea can be saved for next year.

In the meantime, this is a lesson to those who do have a nature of activism.

Yes, it is completely okay to protest issues that you feel are important; it is a Constitutional right.

However, if you do so, make sure that you are consistent and do not simply choose an issue so you can be angry about

it. Follow up on that anger with action, as Balloons Blow has done, to which it deserves credit.

Activism is not a passive way to complain about what you want, which is why the root of the word is “active.” It requires a recurring participation that refrains from picking and choosing battles.

Purple Feather Day may or may not last until the end of Central, but this should not be the last time this “issue” is discussed before the 41st annual.

Modern literature just as valuable as classics, should be taught

Maddie Grabow
staff writer

Why are "old" books considered to be so much more educational than newer books? During elementary and middle school I was a total bookworm. I used to get in trouble a lot for reading during class, that's how obsessed I was. I would finish 400-page novels in a week and I was pretty close with my school librarians. Bottom line is, I used to absolutely love reading.

I started to lose interest in reading around the beginning of my freshman year. This was partially because I didn't have the same amount of free time both in school and out of school that I had previously had. I had to make time for homework and other responsibilities I hadn't had before high school. The other factor that contributed to my loss of interest was the fact that I couldn't get through a single chapter of any book we were reading without having to take a break out of pure boredom.

My distaste for reading developed during my first semester of freshman English. I loved my teacher and the class itself, but every single book we read was extremely bland and boring – almost to the point where reading became a chore that I had to force myself to do. I didn't understand the language, the plot, the characters, or really anything going on within the book. I couldn't relate or draw any kind of connection to the book that we were reading, which I was able to do when reading books of my choosing. This attitude towards reading has continued into my sophomore year, even though I thought things might start to look up after my freshman year.

For whatever reason people think that the publication date of a book determines its educational value –but I don't really find that to be the case. Why are "the classics" such as *The Odyssey*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, and *A Tale of Two Cities* considered to be so much more educational than a book written in the last twenty years? Or even within the last century? I think it's safe to say that like many other things, literature has evolved over the last hundred years or so. Times have changed, so why haven't the book that we read in our English classes changed with them?

My current English teacher told me that the teachers at Central do and do not pick the books we read in class. OPS has an approved list of books that we are able to read each year that teachers can choose from, but there are also a few required books for each grade level. She also said that the books we read are limited to what books are available at a particular school. So we're obviously not going to read *The Great Gatsby* if Central doesn't have it.

There are many contemporary novels that contain similar themes to the boring classics that we're forced to read. The Huffington Post comprised a list of "8 Modern YA Novels to Pair With Classroom Classics" that match contemporary novels to some of the "most-taught books in the country". The current books include bestsellers such as *The Fault in Our Stars* and *The Hunger Games* to traditional novels such as *Romeo and Juliet* and *Lord of the Flies*.

The same concepts and lessons that appear in classic books can appear in some newer books as well. Educational value isn't exclusive to books written before the 20th Century. Ways of life have changed, popular culture has evolved, it's a given that life is completely different today in 2017 than it was 100 or 200 years ago. So why are we hanging onto these outdated books?



CONNOR PAINTIN | Contributing Cartoonist

Students should wait on employment until after graduation

Grace Turner
staff writer

Many high school aged students are pressured to get a job during their high school career. There are many reasons why teenagers get jobs, including saving money for college, having more money to do what they want with, and getting real work experience. However, there are many reasons why students should consider waiting to get a job until they are out of high school.

According to the Monitoring the Future Study ran by U-M Institute for Social Research, students who work over ten hours are more likely to see a drop in grades. This could be linked to students spending more time working than they are studying or do work for school. By not getting a job, students are less likely to experience a drop in grades and GPA which could have potentially harmful effects.

It is also more likely for teenagers who have jobs to become stressed, which could eventually lead to bad habits. According to the University of Wisconsin-Extension, students working more than twenty hours a week are more likely to start using cigarettes and alcohol. Many of these students started these behaviors because they were stressed by everything they needed to do. Therefore, not having a job would help to lower these stress levels.

While both of these statistics and reasons seem unreasonable and unlikely there are many different reasons to think about waiting on getting a job. For example, students who work are less likely to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Students working part-time jobs are required to dedicate a large portion of their time to that job. Therefore, they are also less likely to be participating in an extra-curricular activity such as a sport, or other in-school or out of school activities. In a study by University of Wisconsin-Extension, they found

students who work many hours are likely to participate in fewer extracurricular activities.

Additionally, many times once a student starts working they are never going to stop. Eventually, many if not all people, will have to get a job, and often those who get a job at a young age are not likely to stop working. This takes away opportunities for students and teenagers in general to be able to experience the world and their life without having to worry about working.

There are many cases where students who start to work begin to see negative consequences. To avoid these negative consequences, there are many different options students have.

For example, instead of getting a job, a student may want to look into a volunteer position. In a volunteer position, a student would be able to learn many of the skills they would gain while working a job, without the stress of a job. Volunteer work is also a great way to be able to explore more in-depth what career path a person may be interested in. Such as, if a person is interested in becoming a zoologist, he or she may want to look into volunteering at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

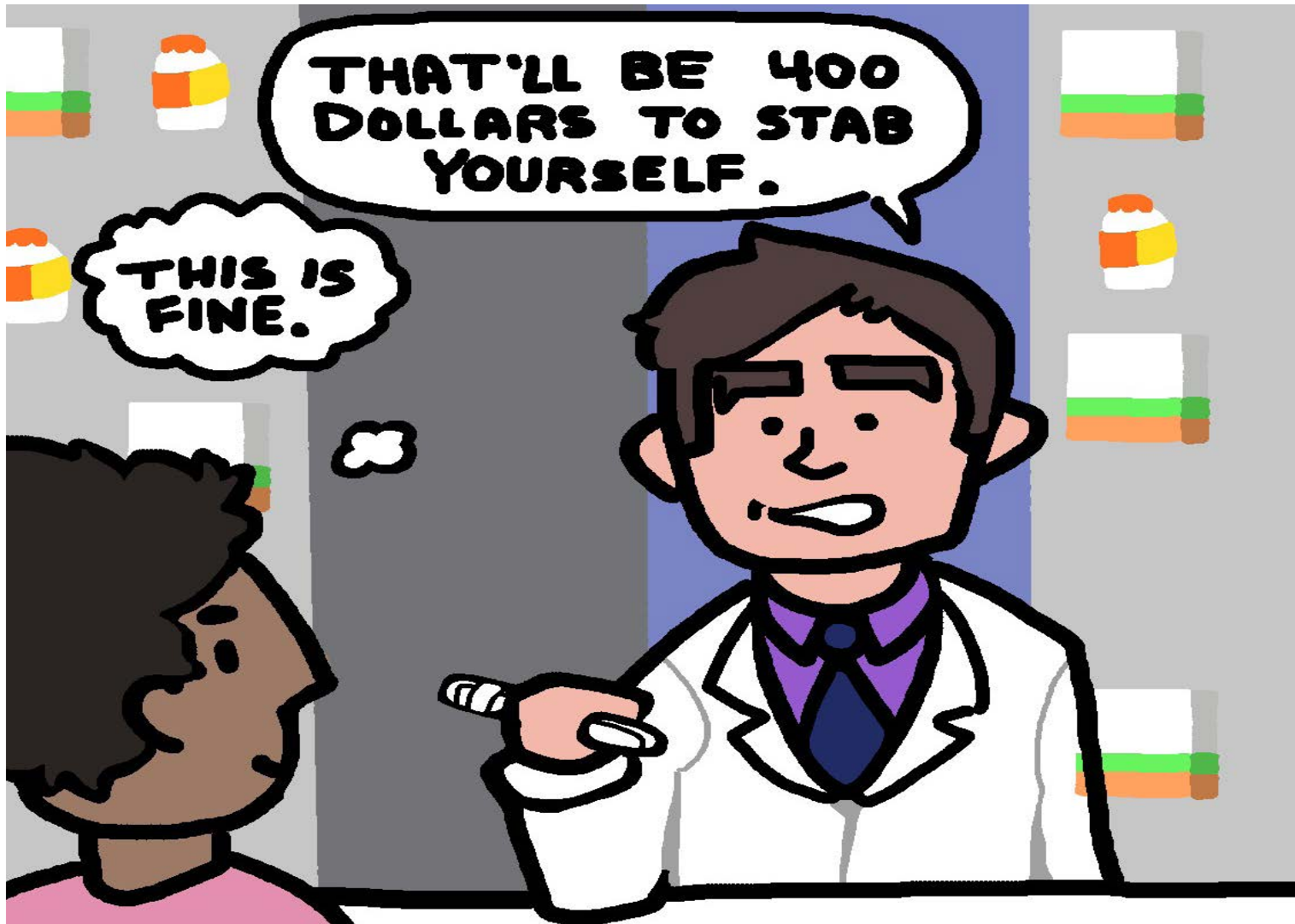
Another option is to become more involved in extra-curricular activities. There are many extra-curricular activities students can choose from both in school and out of school. Students could become more involved in an activity, or he or she could even start doing more activities.

There are many reasons why teenagers may want to get a job in high school, such as saving money for college, getting spending money, or gaining work experience. However, there is some reasoning on why students should wait until they are out of high school to get a job, instead focusing on school work and extra-curricular activities while in high school.

“ Students working more than twenty hours a week are more likely to start using cigarettes

University of Wisconsin-Extension

”



DONOVAN DINOFF | Contributing Cartoonist

Mylan, entire pharmaceutical industry, cheats American people

Miles Kay
staff writer

In this era of divided government and partisan politics, it feels like nothing can be agreed upon in Washington. Whether on immigration, the budget or foreign affairs, President Trump and the Republican Party have repeatedly clashed with Democrats on a range of issues. However, Trump has found a position he shares with Senator Bernie Sanders, one on the excesses of the pharmaceutical industry and its role in cheating the American people.

Sanders has been a vocal critic of companies like Mylan, a company which produces epinephrine pens, devices which can be used to treat severe allergic reactions, for some time now. In September, Sanders tweeted, “There’s no reason an EpiPen, which costs Mylan just a few dollars to make, should cost families hundreds of dollars.”

In January, President Trump openly criticized the pharmaceutical industry, saying that companies are “getting away with murder.” Though President Trump has made his political enemies through his stances on contentious issues, this is one stance which should bridge the partisan divide. It is one that is not a question of politics, but one of ethics and fundamental human decency. Mylan continues to exploit the needs of people with severe allergies by charging exorbitant sums for EpiPens.

Currently, individual EpiPens cost anywhere between \$50 and \$300. The price varies due to the existence of coupons and other deals, though more often than not such discounts are not available, and even when they are the price remains high. However, this cost does not take into account that most EpiPens are only available in packs of two. Thus, most people spend over \$600 on these two packs.

If Mylan were able to identify a reason for this cost increase and provide direct evidence of its necessity, consumers could be put at ease. However, Mylan stands on shaky ground when it comes to justifying the price inflation the EpiPen has undergone since 2007 when Mylan acquired the rights to the device. In 2009, the list price for an EpiPen two-pack was \$100. Since then, prices have risen by nearly 500%, with EpiPens costing more than \$600 to those without insurance. Making matters worse, EpiPens are not devices which can be used more than once, nor can they be used years after they are purchased. Most EpiPens expire within a year of purchase, making EpiPens a yearly purchase for individuals with severe allergies.

What has Mylan been using the increased revenue from EpiPen sales for? Mylan’s CEO Heather Bresch testified before Congress in September on the issue. So far, the EpiPen has made over \$1 billion, and last year its pay was \$18 million. Though she claimed that this pay was in the middle of the spectrum when it came to executive compensation in the industry; in actuality Mylan ranks near the top when it comes to paying its executives. She also stated that price hikes were due to the nature of the healthcare industry. In a statement released by Mylan, the corporation stated, “With changes in the healthcare insurance landscape, an increasing number of people and families are enrolled in high deductible health plans, and deductible amounts continue to rise. This shift has presented new challenges for consumers, and they are bearing more of the cost.”

Despite this justification and a supposed commitment to ensuring EpiPens are more accessible, Mylan has much explaining to do to consumers, including parents who are no longer able to afford to purchase the device for their children with severe allergies. Sure, Mylan has increased access to EpiPens by donating injectors to nearly half of all schools in the United

States and created an EpiPen savings card and other discounts to provide people with EpiPens for free. However, this still leaves thousands of Americans facing the towering cost of the injectors.

Though Mylan has stated that it intends to introduce a new lower-cost generic device carrying the same drug but lacking the brand name, this change is one that should have been made years ago. Ethically, if a company is capable of producing a lower-cost good with the ability to save lives it should do so. However, Mylan knows that since it controls over 90% of the EpiPen market, it has the ability to price the EpiPen as it pleases.

This is not a new phenomenon. In fact, it is basic economics. Mylan’s control of the market allows it almost unlimited control over its pricing. For most consumers of EpiPens, demand for the good is highly inelastic, meaning consumers will purchase similar quantities of the good regardless of price. Mylan has recognized the fact that by producing a life-saving drug it can exploit the inflexible demand of those with severe allergies, and in doing so make millions upon millions of dollars. As a result, Mylan has unfairly targeted individuals afflicted by allergies, and in doing so has made EpiPens a luxury good within the reach of the financially fortunate, forcing many with severe allergies to forego purchasing an EpiPen due to the cost. Those who cannot afford the devices are put at a heightened risk of suffering a reaction which cannot be treated in time. Mylan’s selfishness is putting American lives in jeopardy.

The American government must thoroughly address the abuses of consumers by companies such as Mylan and fight to ensure that the pharmaceutical industry does not continue to exploit its power. Every day that this issue is not addressed more lives are put in danger; this is a terrible reality which must be acknowledged and rectified as soon as possible.

Providing subpar educations, colleges inflate cost with waste

Vasili Sgourakis
staff writer

Most can agree that college is becoming overpriced. However, the way the issue should be dealt with is under dispute. Bernie Sanders, senator of Vermont, is one of the main voices behind free college. He proposes that Wall Street should pay a \$75 billion tax each year to make public colleges tuition free. Sanders also supports need-based financial aid and work study programs. Although this is nice on the surface, the reality is that is unlikely to occur anytime soon.

One approach which has not been given as much publicity is the reformation of college administration. Per an experiment on college costs from the Delta Cost Project, the biggest increase in cost per student at large universities was not in instruction but administration.

The “administration” aspect of college entails student services, institutional support, research, and academic support.

Although each of these aspects are at times beneficial to students, the pay of professors means much more to development.

While administration is important, colleges have an excess of people in this department. According to Goldwater Institute, between 1993 and 2007, the number of full time administrators per 100 students at major U.S. universities rose by 39%, while the number of employees who teach and do research rose by only 18%. Spending on administration per student increased by 61% during the same period. It is apparent that administrative positions in college institutions are being overvalued.

To start the decrease in college tuition costs, the amount of administrative employees must be cut. Not only are they over staffed, but administrators are also very well paid. Vice Presidents at the University of Maryland earn well over \$200,000. Moreover, they employ six vice presidents, six associate vice presidents, five assistant vice presidents, six assistants to the president, and six assistants to the vice presidents. This is a perfect illustration of the bloated administration sector at uni-

versities.

According to Washington Monthly, administrative costs have increased from eight percent to 15 percent of college and university budgets. Consequently, cuts to the amount spent on administration would significantly cut the cost of tuition for perspective college students.

While cuts to administration would not make college free, there would be a significant decrease in the cost of tuition. It is apparent that there is an excess of people hired in the department of each college as well as money spent for this sector. Institutions would be well served to make changes to the makeup of administration if not for the sole purpose of saving money themselves.

Universities should place an emphasis on instruction and cut down on the costs of administration. As management consultants from Bain & Co. wrote in a report, “In no other industry would overhead costs be allowed to grow at this rate – executives would lose their jobs.”

CARTOON CORNER



DONOVAN DINOFF | Contributing Cartoonist



ANNA OVERBECK | Contributing Cartoonist

LILY GILLILAND



In the Fall I will be going to UNO, until I figure out what endeavor I want to devote my life to. At this point, I want to delve into the study of law, linguistics and neuroscience. One thing I will always carry with me from high school is nerdfighting with my IB fam, and the time we've spent together in the acquisition of knowledge.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THIS YEAR'S CARTOONISTS

- Donovan Dinoff (12)
- Preston McLaughlin (12)
- Anna Overbeck (12)
- Connor Paintin (10)