

the REGISTER

Vol. 133 No. 5 | April 5, 2018 | omahacentralregister.com



Sophomore follows in family's footsteps

Latrell Wrightsell Jr. has experienced great success this season as he takes after his father, a former Creighton player.

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Junior Ben Lane's animated film won Scholastic Award, featured in Omaha Film Festival

Ben Lane's debut film received several awards and was shown in New York.

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School walkouts a point of contention

Two writers give their contrasting opinions on school walkouts.

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JULIAN HOCK-BEATY | The Register

THE GUN EPIDEMIC

With Omaha being a blue city in a red state, the gun control debate has been a major point of contention.

Molly Ashford
staff writer

Around the perimeter of Central, there are fifteen entrances. Students swarm around the two-side door and the basement entrances during passing periods and knock while waiting for their peers to open up the door. As calls for tightened school security and gun control have swarm the nation, new concerns regarding safety at Central have arisen.

In a survey randomly distributed to 83 students, 90

percent of students agreed that Central is easy to get in and out of and 17 percent of students said that they didn't feel safe at school. If the survey accurately represents Central's population, that is approximately 425 students who do not feel secure.

"The issue is that we have so many doors", says Dionne Kirksey, who administers training to teachers regarding mental health and safety. "On the student's part, I think there is apathy because they think that they can just go in and out and nothing will happen. Until something happens

and it hits close to home, people will continue to leave and come back."

There is a general consensus among guards and administrators that one of the greatest security issues at Central is the abundance of entrances and exits. "All the doors need to lock", says security guard Jermond Bonner. "You go to other schools and their main doors lock, they have to walk through metal detectors and walk past security. There's too many

SCHOOL SAFETY on page 6

Senior awarded "Youth of the Year"

Simone Davis
staff writer

As the end of the year draws nearer, seniors are beginning to commit to colleges, apply for scholarships and win awards. Teiah Wells is no different. Wells is a senior who is active both in and out of school, participating in both track and field and the Boys and Girls Club.

Mid-March, Wells won the title of "Youth of the Year" with the Boys and Girls Club. To win this title, students who are in the Boys and Girls Club compete with one another. The title has a hierarchy: beginning at the local level, then going onto regional and national. Each level involves a competition, and the winner advances onto the next level. Teiah is still in the process of competing.

"I participated and won at the North Omaha Club," Wells said. "Then I went on to compete at the Midlands competition, which is the Omaha area. Then on Friday, March 23, I competed in a state-wide competition."

Each competition has its own requirements and awards. One of the perks of each is that there is usually a scholarship involved.

"Each competition has given me an opportunity to win scholarships. I have won up to \$12,000 in scholarships," Wells said. Though she's already earned up thousands of dollars through the compe-

SENIOR on page 8



Photo Courtesy of **TEIAH WELLS**

The Boys and Girls Club awarded senior Teiah Wells with the "Youth of the Year" award.

\$400 million bond addresses overcrowding throughout OPS

Alec Rome
staff writer

May 15th is circled on the calendars of OPS Board of Education members, as the public will go to vote on a \$409.9 million Phase 2 bond that could significantly change the outlook of education in the city.

That money would go towards two new high schools: one at 60th and L Streets to reduce crowding at South and Bryan, and one at 156th and Ida Streets to provide an closer choice for families living in the more extreme northwest part of the city. Both would provide capacity for 1500 students, enough to keep them at a Class A level for NSAA athletics. There is also two new elementary schools being planned, one at 10th and Pine Streets and one in Bellevue, along with a middle school for 1000 students at 42nd and U.

Millard and Westside recently passed tax levy overrides to help generate more revenue in order to balance budget shortfalls. While OPS is facing a budget shortfall of its own due to a

mandated pension increase, this upcoming bond is strictly for construction on new facilities. The plan to put the Phase 2 bond on the ballot has been in the works for some time, but got delayed because of the deadline passing to submit ballot language for last November's election.

Now, the Board moves forward in hopes of convincing taxpayers in the district to approve around a seven-cent tax increase, which would add approximately \$105 in taxes to a home assessed at \$150,000. Like during Phase 1 in 2014, a PAC has mobilized working on promotional material for social media and for yard signs.

Board member Lou Ann Goding believes the public knows the significance of how the Phase 2 bond could widely improve overcrowding issues in OPS schools, even despite another large price tag. "Phase 2 would be coming back to the public with construction of new facilities to alleviate overcrowding and to accommodate students that we currently don't have room for. The public

OPS BOND on page 8

Senior's artwork nominated for Regional American Visions award



Mac O'Brien
staff writer

Senior Sean Monahan was nominated for the American Visions award, the most prestigious regional award presented by the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, for his artistic print entitled "Brent." The piece gets its name from Monahan's friend, whom it depicts in black and white from the neck up. In the print, Brent's hand is raised to cover his mouth and glasses obstruct his eyes and much of his face. Monahan drew him how he saw him, the hand representing his reluctance to talk to new people, and the glasses, his shyness. The earphones Brent is shown wearing represent, as Monahan said, that he "[doesn't like] to listen to things unless he's very interested in them."

"Him and another group of people who I feature in my artwork were a really close-knit group of people who I hang out with," Monahan said. "I would say I try to portray them in my art the way I that I see them in real life, just a bit more expressive."

Monahan makes art about the people he feels strongly about, because when he's not passionate about the subject of his art, he can't envision it.

"The strong feeling doesn't even have to be positive, it can be negative, or even hateful," Monahan said. "It just has to be something that means a lot to me or had a great enough impact on my life that I can envision how I see them, and how I want to portray how I see them in my art."

The appeal of art, to Monahan, comes from its ability to express thoughts and emotion in a genuine way.

"You can always talk to someone about what's going on in your life, but I didn't want to just talk it through with someone, I wanted to process it on my own, and art was just a good release for that."

Monahan's inspiration isn't always clear to him while he's creating. He just knows that what he's making means something to him, even if he can't articulate what it is at the time.

"I think a lot of the messages that I interpret from my art come after making them or early on before making them," Monahan said. "During the process of making them, I wouldn't say it's feelingless, but it's not this rush of emotion, because it takes hours to make these art pieces, and it's hard to hold those feelings for a long time."

The process Monahan used to create "Brent," and several other of Monahan's award-winning pieces of art is called, "printmaking." Printmaking is the process of making prints, primarily by either linoleum cuts or drypoint etching. In linoleum cuts, the linoleum is etched then put through a printer, and everywhere that hasn't been cut is dyed black, leaving the cut portion white. Drypoint etching works in the opposite way, leaving ink on the mounds ("burrs") that form next to the wells of the cuts while the rest is left blank. Last year Monahan was awarded a Scholastic Silver Key for his linoleum cut, but this year he switched to drypoint etching on plexiglass. He won five golden keys for the five drypoint etchings he submitted.

"The trick about linoleum cuts is that you can't have very much texture. You can't have any gradient, or value in it," Monahan said. "It has to be heavy black on heavy white,

there's no grayscale in between. With etching you get a lot of grayscale because you have the varying burrs."

Monahan's interest in art began in first grade at St. Robert Bellarmine, but he didn't learn to love it until he switched to Beveridge Magnet Middle School. At St. Robert Bellarmine, art education wasn't emphasized, with art classes available just once every other week.

"You can't really fall in love with something if you're not given the chance to do it," Monahan said.

When he switched to Beveridge Middle School, his passion was ignited, but his lack of previous art education meant that he had to struggle to catch up to his peers. He has continued taking art classes and improving his skills throughout high school.

"My freshman year I met one of my best friends, Ashley, she was in my first period art class, and she's been in every art class of mine since freshman year. I always looked up to her artwork and it's been interesting seeing it now become a back-and-forth since I feel like I've fully caught up to the level that [she's] on."

Monahan was accepted into Creighton with art scholarships and plans to major in marketing with either a minor or a double major in the fine arts, depending on what's available.

Monahan wants to stay at Creighton, but, as he said, "College is a crazy place; My parents both transferred from college to college."

"To put it easily," Monahan said, "Wherever I go and whatever I do, it will always have art in it."



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Upcoming anniversary of WWII Benson balloon bombing in April

Emma Whaley
staff writer

April 18, 1945. Omaha, Nebraska. The Dundee community had long since gone to bed when a sudden boom woke them. Those who saw from windows described the sight as a "ring of fire" 500 feet in the air. Some concerned citizens ran out in their pajamas, but, seeing nothing they went back to bed. Though they didn't know it, a Japanese balloon bomb had exploded over 50th and Underwood. They wouldn't be told of the explosion's true nature until after World War II ended.

This was happening all over the western part of the country, and some of the balloons, which were 32 feet in diameter, even made it as far as Michigan. The target, however, was the wooded Pacific Northwest. Starting in November 1944, the Japanese released 9,300 hydrogen-filled balloons into the jet stream carrying small bombs. Scott Wilson, who teaches U.S. history, says that, "the balloons were the only way that Japan could bring the war directly to the United States." The Japanese technicians hoped that the bomb would go off and ignite the hydrogen gas to start forest fires. They wanted to, "create a distraction large enough to impact America's war economy," according to Wilson.

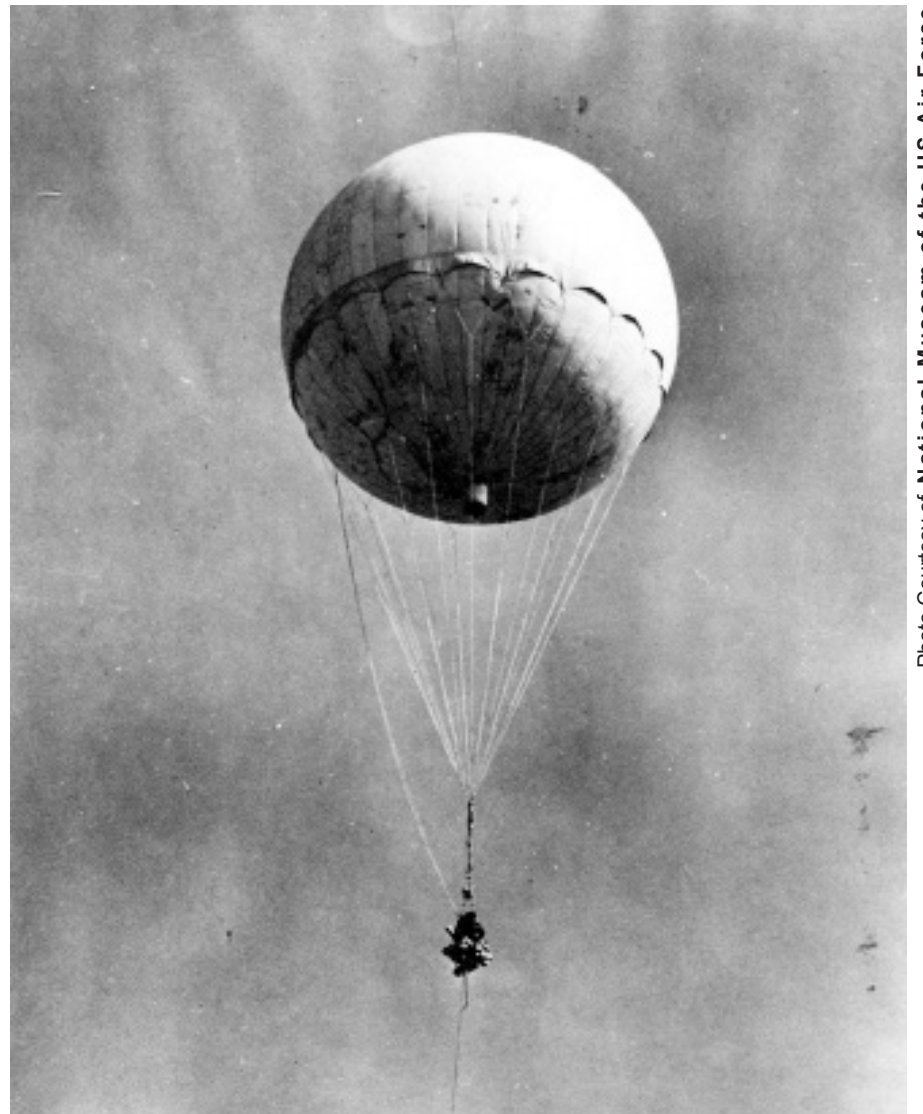
Their plan did not go as well as they may have hoped. "Japan never knew what became of the bombs once they released them," Wilson says, "America had a voluntary news blackout regarding these sorts of events for the sake of national security." Americans who heard the bombs go off were sometimes told it was the result of a problem with a gas main. According to David M. Kennedy's book, *Freedom from Fear*, the bombs, "ignited some

minor forest fires, many of them promptly extinguished by the 'Triple Nickles,' the 555th Negro Parachute Infantry Battalion, co-signed to duty as smoke-jumpers."

The balloons were, however, the cause of the only citizen deaths in the 48 states. As Wilson puts it, "The six total U.S. civilians killed by enemy action in the lower 48 during World War II were killed by a Japanese balloon bomb in [Bly], Oregon on May 5, 1945. U.S. bombing raids are estimated to have killed hundreds of thousands of Japanese and destroyed 40 percent of Japan's urban areas...even before Hiroshima."

This highlights the technological disparity between Japan and the United States. According to Wilson, "the U.S. was sending, in a route over the Pacific that would intersect the balloons, hundreds of state-of-the-art B-29 'Super Fortress' heavy bombers, many of which were built in Omaha, nearly every night to directly pulverize the industrial cities of Japan." The Japanese balloons were assembled by schoolgirls in arenas, theaters and music halls. Conditions were so bad in Japan by 1945 that the starving children would steal and eat the potato-flour paste they were using to glue together the panels of the balloons.

April 18, 2018 will mark 73 years since the balloon bomb went off at 50th and Underwood, over what is now eCreamery. Though the building sustained no damage and the people of Dundee weren't told about what truly happened until the day after the war, that intersection is now marked by a plaque put up by the Dundee-Memorial Park Association in 1992. It is a place of World War II historical significance right in the neighborhood.



A Japanese balloon bomb floats after being shot down

Photo Courtesy of National Museum of the US Air Force

Central senior to participate in DECA International Conference

Jackson Godwin
staff writer

It takes a lot for one to qualify for DECA Internationals, but that didn't stop multiple Central DECA participants. During DECA competitions there are various events that students are judged based off how well they would perform in a certain situation. A few categories of situations that are given are Business management, marketing, finance, and hospitality. For many, the conferences help provides more knowledge of 21st century and modern-day life, but for a few the conferences are an opportunity to go to Internationals and to show their skills in their category. Conferences also help kids fix the categories that he or she did not perform well to help them get better for the following year.

DECA is very popular among high school students and is a fun creative way to not only learn in the classroom but out

of it too and it also helps young adults learn how to react in certain situations. There are over 219 thousand students each year and 3,500 schools around the world that participate in DECA. For many of these kids after being a part of DECA for their high school years, affects their career choice, "I wouldn't be who I am without DECA. Wiles and Gaylor have become my second parents, and DECA wouldn't be possible without them. Being a member has opened my mind to a completely different career field, and I'm really thinking about going into marketing or economics because of the lessons I have learned in DECA," senior Jessica Ferguson said. With success in each conference the judges enjoy giving credit and recognition to those individuals or teams that win.

One of the three qualifiers at central that are rewarded by being able to participate in Internationals is Ferguson. Each year there is a lot of work and dedication that goes into each event, "I was honestly really shocked when I qualified, and

was definitely not expecting getting first in my category. I got fourth last year, so I did a lot more practice tests to be more prepared," Ferguson said. During events, judges have specific things they look for students to say and do. Sometimes it is what they fail to mention or should not mention at all. Each small part of presentations affects how they are judged. Since there are only three qualifiers that get the opportunity to attend Internationals many that still present more than decent presentations do not get to go.

The International Career Development Conference will be on April 21-24 in Atlanta. This conference includes over 7,000 members, advisors and businessmen that attend each year. As the qualifiers from each state prepare, each individual will be practicing more and more to try and get their event to perfection.

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Seniors commit to alternate school choices, further careers

KACIE BENAK

U.S. Army

animals but college didn't give any stable careers that interested her for rescuing animals.

"There was nothing I really wanted to do in school," she said.

She feels she wouldn't have been as successful, which is why after retiring from the army she knows she will be able to rescue animals.

Benak is excited for the army. To wear the uniform and she gets along great with her recruiters. "I'm excited to be surrounded by people like me," she said. Because Benak's grandfather served in the army she feels that was a small part of her reasoning.

She plans to serve in the army for 20 years. To start, she is currently enlisted for six.

Her biggest motivation is her father, who originally wanted her to join the Air Force. "He's like my side-kick," she said. She knows her father wants her to do something that will make her happy. "He's there for me for whatever I want to do," she said.

Benak feels her decision on choosing the military over college is what is going to work best for her. "Surprisingly a lot of people are against it," she said, "but it's what I want to do."

In the future she does plan to attend college or take online classes, but she knows college is not for her at the moment. Benak knows the army will benefit her future by opening opportunities for her and traveling around the world. "I think it's going to make me find a value in life," she said.

Kacie Benak decided to take a different route after high school rather than the typical college path.

Benak will be joining the army as a combat photographer.

She goes to boot camp on July 23. She will be in Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

After boot camp she will go to schooling in Fort Mead, Maryland to become a photographer.

Benak's high school career has been fulfilling, but she is more than ready to be done.

She has participated in JROTC since sophomore year. Benak loves the friends she has made, "were all just super close I love it but it's kind of a pain," she said.

JROTC has helped Benak do things she normally wouldn't do, like becoming more adaptable to high school environment and getting involved.

This year she is on the JROTC staff as the S-4. She is in charge of issuing all the uniforms to student cadets and obtaining them when the year is over.

To be on the JROTC staff she participated in a lot of events her sophomore year and moved to Let. 3 her junior year.

Benak has chosen the army because it's always been in the back of her head. "I really want to experience boot camp," she said.

She decided not to take the college route because she was never really into it. "I don't know what I want to do," she said.

What Benak wants to do is rescue



John Krause, top, Kacie Benak, right, and Shianne Irwin, bottom, have chosen alternate routes to continuing their education. They will be attending trade, military and cosmetology school respectively.

SHIANNE IRWIN

Cosmetology School

Ari Saltzman
staff writer

There are many paths that students can take once they leave high school. A student can go to college, enroll in the military, attend community college, get a job right out of school, etc. One of the options is going to trade school. Shianne Ferestad-Irwin is doing just that. She said, "I am going to a Trade School Cosmetology School, here in Omaha most likely, and to do hair and makeup for salons."

"I have always been into makeup and cutting people's hair. I cut my dad's hair all the time, so I am already a barber I guess you could say," Ferestad Irwin said. The current Central senior said she wants to do the craft, "as like a side job, and then photography for my other side." "I

always thought about photography as my career, but that (hair and makeup career) is another option to do," she said.

Ferestad-Irwin wants to accomplish a lot while at the trade. Aside from learning the basics of the craft she is, "hoping that more people will recognize me as a person, and (I) will get my name more out there in the world." Like many careers, marketing and making a name for yourself is very important in this profession. It is important to be able to land a job as quickly as possible.

Networking is also very important to a successful career in the industry. Ferestad-Irwin hopes she is able to accomplish some of these important difficult tasks at the trade school. She said, "I do not want to be a nobody, I want to be somebody."

Most graduating seniors in high school plan to move away from home and study college at a four-year university, but one of the more unknown paths that graduating seniors take is trade school.

Trade school involves practical training for specific jobs, unlike a four-year college which focuses on training students for careers in a professional field. Specific jobs include welding, plumbing, construction and electrician work to just name a few.

Senior John Krause has committed to trade school to become an electrician. After trying out different classes at the career center, Krause was fascinated the most by the electrician class. "My uncle is an electrician, and none

JOHN KRAUSE

Trade School

of the other areas really appealed to me," said Krause.

Since trade school prepares students for hands-on jobs, it is important for students to have that experience of electrician work, in Krause's case, in order to deal with any situation they may face while working. He has already been able to do some work as an electrician, "My dad deals with rental houses, and I always have to help him and sometimes get to do electrician work," he said.

Besides trade school, there are other options to getting a job in the workforce. For example, "You can also go to a company and see if they will hire you as an apprentice," said Krause, "and after four years, you take a test to see if you become a journeyman." If someone passes the test to become a journeyman, compa-

nies will often then hire them for their specified area of expertise. This is a similar process to trade school in the way of it being a direct link to a specific area of work.

"I am excited to make some pretty good money right out of Union Hall," Krause said. "If I get into the union, it [the cost] is just the Union dues, they just take that out of the hourly rate from your paycheck." Rather than leaving students with thousands of dollars in debt, trade school can be both cheaper upfront and easier to pay back.

With some degrees only taking two years to receive, and then graduates being able to jump right into work, it is no wonder that trade school is an option that Krause has taken advantage of.

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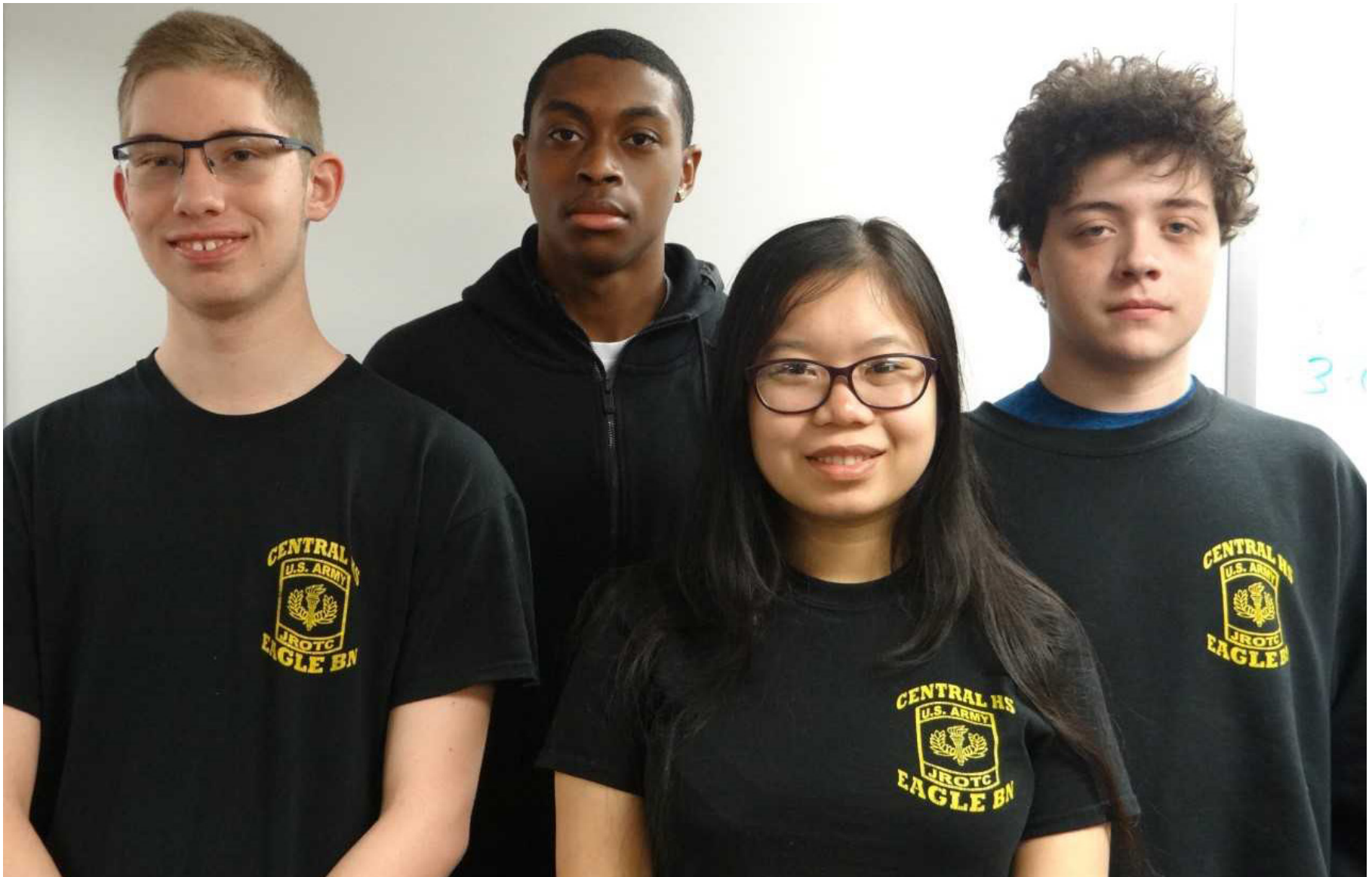


Photo Courtesy of LTC. MICHAEL MELVIN

Cadets Alex Garabrandt, Anthony Bonner, Shar Soe, and Aidan Marhenke will head to Washington D.C. in June for the Junior Leadership and Academy Bowl.

JROTC plans to win Central's first JLAB competition in D.C.

Sydney Prescott
staff writer

Central is known for being one of the best academic schools in OPS and now the JROTC academic team has proven this. Central's team is one of the top 32 in the country and is going to the Washington D.C. championship from June 22nd to the 26th. They plan to win and bring home the first win in the JLAB championships.

Central has made it to the championships once before in 201. This was with the leadership team, which is based on knowledge of JROTC curriculum and leadership theories rather than ACT and current event knowledge. Seven years ago, Central placed 18th in the entire country.

Just like the leadership competition, the academic bowl has three stages. Stage one is in November, where every team in the U.S. can take the test, which is 25 percent JROTC questions, 65 percent ACT questions, and 10 percent current event questions. In the second level, the top half of teams take

a second test in February, and this test has more emphasis on the ACT section. Finally, the top 32 teams advance to the stage three in Washington D.C. "I am looking forward to go to Washington D.C. mostly because of the sightseeing," The team captain for this year's team junior Shar Soe, said.

Central's students didn't get to be on of the top academic schools in the country without some work. LTC Mike Melvin, the team coach said, "You can see it is all about the kids because we started competing in 2006, and now 12 years later this is our first time for the academic team going to Washington D.C." The four members (Shar Soe, Anthony Bonner, Aidan Marhenke, and Alex Garabrandt) and two alternates (Sa Hay Mu and Gloria Taw must agree to be committed to the team, get a high score on the academic practice tests, and be younger than a senior. This is the criteria for all team members except for the captain, which is picked by the coach.

These students must study for the three types of questions, typically about three to four hours a week. They spend time reviewing ACT practice tests, JROTC textbooks, and cur-

riculum they can study online. For current events, Melvin send them to major news websites such as CNN and FOX News to pick out the important and influential events they need to know.

Although much of the team's time will be spent studying, they will also go sightseeing. "Team get an all expense paid trip for five days to Washington, stay at a university, and go sightseeing. We will visit most big sites such as the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Memorial, White House, and Smithsonian Museum," Melvin said.

All in all, Central's win would inspire the students and add another record to the ever-growing list, but for Melvin, winning would mean a bit more. "I have immense pride. Just going validates the things we do in JROTC, but I am proudest and happiest for the kids, they do the work; my part is pretty easy, I just facilitate. Really, seeing how excited the kids were when they found out they made it meant a lot to me.

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In the event of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, a debate on gun control has erupted across the nation. Since the shooting on February 14, Omaha area high schools have experienced numerous threats of gun violence. The editorial staff of *The Register* believes that we have a duty to provoke and initiate conversations that will move the community forward. The goal of this in-depth coverage is to bring to light local issues and opinions that we deem valuable for the public to take into consideration.

WHAT MORE



SCHOOL SAFETY

MOLLY ASHFORD
staff writer

SCHOOL SAFETY from page 1

doors and just too many that get left unlocked.”

As for newly implemented safety procedures, there are no large changes. The doors on the West and Dodge street entrances now lock by themselves. Teachers receive online training to recognize potential threats and lockdown drills become more frequent. “I think there should be more being done”, says Bonner.

But the physical aspect of safety heavily relies on the student’s willingness to comply and refuse to let classmates into the building. “The kids need to pull their weight and not open the door for other students or anybody”, says Bonner. Kirksey adds, “I just need people to be more diligent”.

Unease is heightened after the Parkland, Florida school shooting that left seventeen people dead. “(A shooter) already has a leg up on us if the doors are unlocked”, explains Bonner. “It’s something that I think about every time I come into work.” ■

MENTAL HEALTH

ANNE GALLAGHER
staff writer

The obvious rise and exponential amount of deaths caused by gun violence in recent history are often attributed to the mental state of the perpetrator. The 19-year-old that murdered 17 people in the Parkland shooting was excused to an extent because of his mental background. It was noted in the news that the boy had a history of mental illness and was an orphan. Although it has proved problematic for people with mental illness to be able to purchase firearms so easily, there is no prominent connection between mass shootings and mental illness, nor is there a higher likelihood of mentally ill people to be more violent than anyone else.

Mental illness may alter one’s perspective or morals, but it doesn’t change the result of one’s actions. There are 17 members of a

Florida community that will not see another day at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School because of the lack of concern for life, which cannot be solely contributed to the perpetrator’s mental state. There are many places within a school where students can reach out and find refuge. “For a student who is in need of support, whether that’s you personally, or a friend, your assigned counselor is always a good place to start” counselor Jennifer Walker said.

Sleep deprivation, homework overload, and extracurricular activities are just a few factors that contribute to teen stress. Students spend about seven hours a day at school and are expected to contribute even more time on homework. Overall, there are countless struggles for teens that promote mental illness. Transitioning through adolescence brings hormonal changes that affect one’s attitude. Partnered with the hustle and bustle of high school, these physical changes cause one’s mood to shift and mentality to alter. Depression and anxiety often stem from one’s childhood experiences and can be heightened by this high school stress.

Counseling programs are implemented in many schools across the country, yet students are often unaware of their advantages. Around the Omaha Metro there are many school districts that have partnered with Boys Town to create an anonymous tip hotline. OPS is planning to implement a program like this in the coming months “it’s going to be an OPS phone number that you can call and it is going to be answered by a trained Boys Town hotline staff” Walker said. Not only our school district, but the whole country is taking action to help those with mental illness so that these issues can someday not be a prevalent problem anymore. ■

GUN ACCESS

ANNA KAMINSKI
editor-in-chief

Historically, I am a very curious individual. I have always liked to know things and I’ve

always been an experiential learner. This probably fueled my interest in journalism, and furthermore, the purpose of this article. With the recent controversy surrounding gun possession and gun control, I was curious: would I be able to purchase an automatic rifle and walk out of the store with it with minimal limitations. The short answer: yes, it would almost be too easy.

On Saturday March 31, I went to Scheels sporting goods store to see if I could buy a gun. I could have walked out of the store that same day with a long gun which is a classification that includes rifles and shotguns – most notably, semi-automatic rifles like the one used in the Parkland shooting. An employee explained to me that semi-automatic rifles are sold “stripped down” without any of the magazines or added features, but they are easily customized.

“To buy a long gun, the only thing that is required...is a driver’s license with a current address. Now if it was a handgun, you’d need to have a special license,” he said. He also explained that the store’s systems do their own background checks based off of a limited amount of information from a 4473 form. According to Nebraskalegislature.com, “Dealers must verify buyers are not prohibited by federal, state, or local law from purchasing guns. Doing this requires that dealers (1) check buyers’ government-issued photo identification, (2) have buyers complete and sign a firearms transaction record, and (3) contact the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) through either the FBI or a state point of contact.”

Although this may seem sufficient, Nebraska is doing the bare minimum of gun laws. Gun.laws.com says that “Bulk purchases, universal background checks, ammunition records, and ballistic reports are not requirements of Nebraska.”

Article 1, Section 1 of the Nebraska Constitution states that “All persons...have certain...rights, among these are...the right to keep and bear arms for security or defense of self, family, home, and others, and for lawful common defense, hunting, recreational use, and all other lawful purposes, and such rights

shall not be denied or infringed by the state or any subdivision thereof.” But at what cost? If I, a high school student who only just turned 18, can walk out of a national conglomerate affiliated store with a weapon of mass destruction, what is possible in a dingy pawnshop? Two semi-automatic rifles? Three? And with minimal background checks?

What more must happen for lawmakers and representatives to do something? We are not asking you to get rid of your guns, we are asking you to pay attention to us. We are asking for justice and for safety and freedom – all of the things your guns supposedly symbolize for you. What more must happen? Another unarmed person of color shot dead in their own back yard? Or in his own car in front of his girlfriend and child? Another club shooting? And still another school shooting? What more must happen? ■

ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

SIMONE DAVIS
staff writer

After the shooting at Stoneman Douglas, the country has been focused on guns. There are those that believe that America’s gun laws are fine as they are, and there are those that believe gun laws need extreme modifications. Both sides of the discussion seem to be set in stone on their argument, which leads to a lot of nothing getting done. However, both those in favor and not in favor of gun control seem to be able to agree on one thing- criminals getting guns illegally is an issue.

Both data and events demonstrate that America is a gun obsessed culture. Data collected by the Pew Research Center shows that 37% of Americans say that they or someone else in their home owns a gun. But that doesn’t account for the estimated number of guns in the country. The same research states that there are some 270 to 300 million guns in the country. So, who owns all of the guns? How are criminals obtaining guns illegally?

The typical protocol for obtaining a gun in America is somewhat simple. Guns can be

82%

know who to talk to if they need to report something suspicious

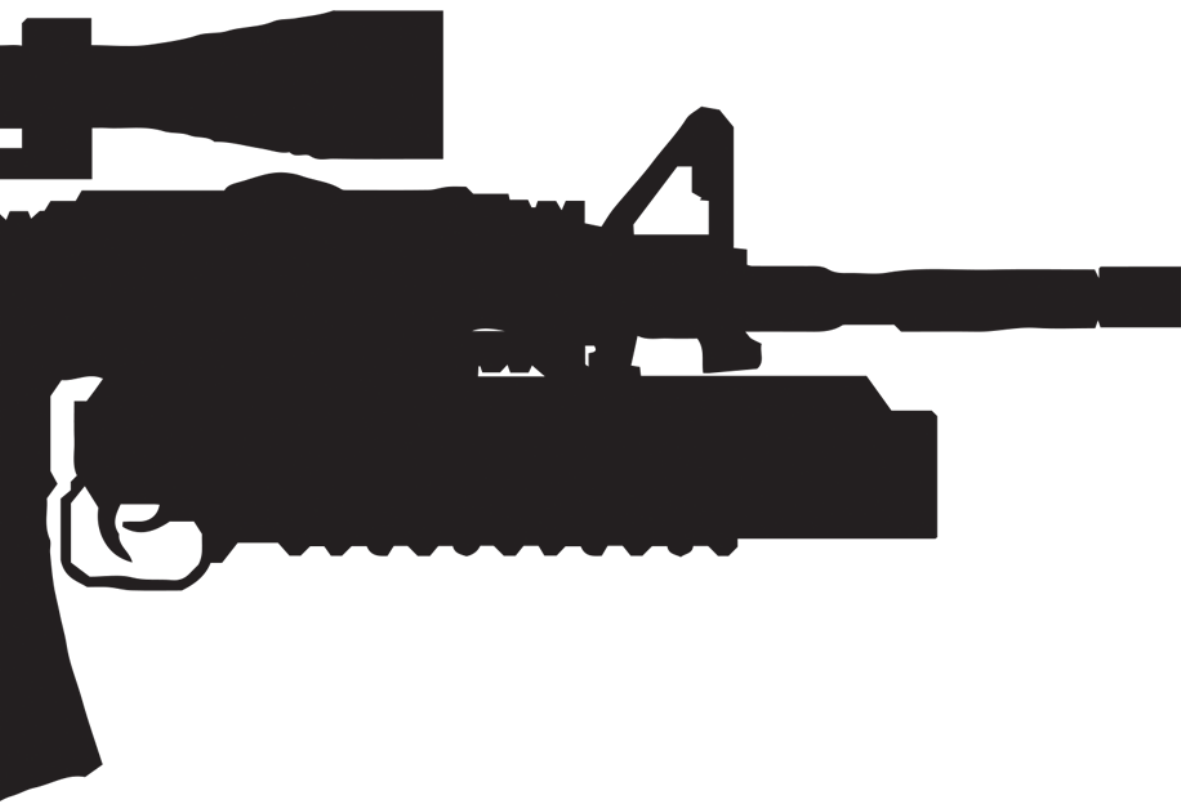
90%

of students feel that it is very easy to get in and out of Central

83%

of students feel safe at Central

MUST HAPPEN?



purchased at gun stores, gun shows, pawn shops, and more. To obtain a gun, someone simply must go to one of these institutions and present an I.D. and pay the money, given that they pass the background check. Gaining a gun illegally is just as simple.

A study conducted by “Science Direct” calculated how male inmates between the ages of 18 and 24 obtained a gun. Only 10% of the inmates claimed to have gotten their guns from a gun store, or in a legal fashion. The rest of the inmates stated that they got their guns in various other ways, including as gifts from friends or family, from drug dealers, or a shared arrangement with gang members.

One of the leading causes behind the illegal gun market though, are unlicensed sellers. According to “Giffords Law Center,” people who are not licensed gun dealers are still allowed to sell guns online and at gun shows. They don’t have to conduct background checks or maintain records. This makes it easier for them to distribute guns to those hoping to acquire them illegally. Another way criminals obtain guns is through what is called “Straw Purchasing.” Straw Purchasing is when someone who is legally able to buy guns buys one for someone who can’t or someone who doesn’t want their name associated with the transaction and records kept. It’s not illegal to be a straw buyer when they’re doing the latter, but buying a gun for someone who cannot legally own one does compromise the straw buyer. Studies conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives state that straw purchasers and buyers were involved in or associated with almost 26,000 drug trafficking cases.

Looking at the ways that guns are obtained illegally is important to the gun control debate. Both sides argue about the thoroughness or lack thereof of background checks and the steps that need to be taken to ensure safe

gun laws, and no matter one’s stance on the issue, the laws argued directly impact how guns are obtained illegally. ■

PREVENTION

ZOIA MORROW
executive editor

Recent years have brought upon the issue of gun violence in America. Mass shooting and high-profile cases of police brutality have made America’s youth aware of the world they live in. Sandy Hook, the elementary school mass shooting that shook the world to its core. It was real; 26 people died, 26 students and faculty died at the hands of gun violence. But it was the Stoneman High School Shooting Valentine’s Day 2018 that America finally woke up to its loose gun laws and outlook toward mental health. Since then, a series of protests led by the survivors of the Parkland shooting have occurred. Their leadership, bravery and strength encourage current students—the ones who are aware—to think about their own schools.

While lockdown drills have always been necessary, there are now lockdown drills specifically attained to active shooters. Here at Central, the latest lockdown drill involved teachers and students to move large objects in front of the door, as well as cover the window so no one can see inside. Administrator Dan Wilson speaks of the training for security guards and teachers saying, “As an administrator I have had the same training as teachers, in addition to crisis training; people from Omaha Police Department come in and talk to us about what to do in different situations.” There is also mandated training for suicide awareness and other mental health aspects that prepped online, distributed by DEAN ADMIN, Ellisa Kirksey. When administering online training Kirksey ultimately makes

judgement calls for what she believes is important right now. “I look at the E-Rip classes that they [TAC Building] offer and from there I make a judgement call,” Kirksey said. “Also, I try to pay attention to what’s going on in the world, so I assess what the training is and assess the temperature of the country.”

Even though teachers and administrators have the online training about mental health and what seems to be ‘How to Spot a School Shooter 101,’ what is different from Central’s training from last year is, “We’ve added additional steps to try and keep our students safe, we have additional check-points,” Wilson said. The main objection is maximum protection for staff and students in the high school. “We barricade the doors now, we’re adding blinds to the doors to pull down in every classroom.” This is pre-cautionary to an active school shooter but, “Now it seems you can’t rely on locked doors, you have to go through the scenario: run, hide, fight. This technique is currently being taught to teachers to make quick decisions in life-altering situations. The basic principles of Central training goes as such: run, hide, fight. “...You can’t think in a linear like I have to run, then hide and worst case I have to fight,” Wilson said. Central is in the stages of teaching this technique more for the deans, administrators and teachers, the one who can protect.

After the shooting at Stoneman High School, Central has become more diligent. Staff went to each department and had presentations on Emergency Situations. It is more or less preparedness. In this, Kirksey amongst others inform department heads about lockdowns, being aware and run, hide and fight. “We had two people come and talk to us and when it comes to safety, it is no one person’s job, it’s all of our jobs, but I am asking people now to be more aware than they have been before,” Kirksey said.

“You can never prepare for a school shooting and that’s the unfortunate truth,” Wilson said. This is now an issue that students and teachers must prepare for; the fact that they may have to fight for their lives because of the NRA’s strict hold on the government, especially under the Trump administration.

It is already rare for Central to do more than two or three lockdowns a year, but this semester alone there has already been two. “I’m more diligent this year than I have been...to me that shooting in Florida was different than the other ones,” Kirksey said. “I saw young people getting upset about what was going on and I think you all have a voice...I think we will be able to get some things changed.” With the current prospect of protests and adamancy for stricter gun laws, Kirksey believes that since young people are emotional, combined with their agenda, now people are listening.

According to Wilson, the security guards have their own specialized training that they receive at the Teachers Administrators Center (TAC) building. But for everyone else, they are always getting new training. As the days progress and the world changes, teachers and students must be in the know about current social issues as it affects them just as much, sometimes even more. ■

83%

of students consider themselves familiar with lock down procedures

69%

know where the school security guards are located

Data based upon a randomly distributed survey of 83 students.

Senior shows leadership skills at local, state levels of competition

SENIOR from page 1

titions, she still has the opportunity to earn more. "I can still compete for \$10,000 more and the title for regional competition."

The competitions in the Boys and Girls Club program include lots of tasks for the students. They are required to speak in front of people and do an interview with a panel of judges.

"I am required to give a speech that tells my story and how the Boys and Girls Club has impacted my life," Wells said. "I am also required to sit with a group of judges and answer interview questions about leadership, community work, school and life skills." After the students do that, the judges are given time to deliberate and decide the winner, which is announced during an end

of the day ceremony and dinner.

Now that Wells has completed at the local and state level, she gets to compete in regionals. Five students from the lower levels of previous competitions will advance to nationals in Washington D.C., where they will be able to meet President Trump.

No matter the outcome of the next competition, Wells already feels accomplished in what she's done so far.

"I feel like I have a strong voice and I am very confident when it comes to speaking. I have a vision for America's youth and every time I've received feedback from the judges, they are proud of that," Wells said. "I am proud to say that I am a leader."



Photo Courtesy of **TEIAH WELLS**

Posing with the Boys and Girls Club Committee, Teiah Wells holds her \$10,000 scholarship.

OPS plans to increase building sizes, decrease number of portables

OPS BOND from page 1

was fully aware of that," Goding said. "This amount ended up being more than what was anticipated."

According to Goding, this was due to other components at buildings that were expected to have a short life expectancy, such as windows, air conditioning and other immediate needs.

Another aspect that contributed to an increase final amount for the bond was board members' desires of decreasing the number of portables at different schools all across the Metro area. "There will still be portables," Goding said. "This [bond] will not eliminate portables, but hopefully it right sizes more buildings."

One of the board members, Ben Perlman, expressed a concern with how new buildings would impact an already

complicated budget. Goding got a chance to look at the information provided by OPS' chief financial officer, Connie Knoche. "He felt she communicated clearly that expenses could be covered at new buildings," Goding said. She also mentioned that the state provides extra funding for every school district on a new building for a period of time.

Goding hopes that new buildings will allow OPS to retain students who choose to go to other schools for secondary education. "The reality is that we have 6000 students from OPS that currently go elsewhere to other public schools, not private schools, that have been our students that are opting out of the district. Primarily because we don't have enough space for them," she said. The bond may contribute to more current OPS fourth graders choosing to remain in the district for high school, since the current fourth grade class would be the first to spend all four years in the new buildings.

Changes to attendance boundaries would "definitely have to change down the road," Goding thinks, but that the district will be very careful with looking at total populations to keep buildings at a Class A level. Current OPS staff would have the opportunity to transfer to these schools before new teachers would be hired. Transfers would be by choice, and would not be forced by the district, as they always have been, Goding said.

Even with challenges still ahead, Goding states that the Phase 2 bond would provide the district with a great opportunity to stay competitive with other districts and address looming issues within the classroom. "[The bond] shows that we're being proactive with the issues that are out there and that we want to take care of the students whose parents are paying taxes in our own district."

Art student receives scholarship from Creighton University

SEAN MONAHAN from page 2

"You can't really fall in love with something if you're not given the chance to do it," Monahan said.

When he switched to Beveridge Middle School, his passion was ignited, but his lack of previous art education meant that he had

to struggle to catch up to his peers. He has continued taking art classes and improving his skills throughout high school.

"My freshman year I met one of my best friends, Ashley, she was in my first period art class, and she's been in every art class of mine since freshman year. I always looked up to her artwork and it's been interesting seeing it

now become a back-and-forth since I feel like I've fully caught up to the level that [she's] on."

Monahan was accepted into Creighton with art scholarships and plans to major in marketing with either a minor or a double major in the fine arts, depending on what's available.

Monahan wants to stay at Creighton, but, as he said, "College is a crazy place; My parents both transferred from college to college."

"To put it easily," Monahan said, "Wherever I go and whatever I do, it will always have art in it."

EDITOR'S NOTE:

I am so excited and honored to present to you the fifth issue of *The Register* of the 2017-2018 school year. Some major changes have been made to the paper to enhance the appearance of professionalism and sophistication. The front page of this issue is much different than the two previous issues and issues of the past.

In the design of this paper, I drew inspiration from various iconic works such as *The New York Times*, the *Omaha World Herald*, *Politico* and *Time* magazine.

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. In addition, if any of our readers are interested in writing a piece for the paper or illustrating a graphic, we highly encourage it. Thank you for your continued support and readership of *The Register*.

Anna Kaminski
Editor-in-Chief

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.

It is the goal of the Central High Register to represent the student body in issues affecting their lives as young people and students. If you feel that we are not covering an issue that is important to you, we welcome contributing writers who bring fresh ideas to the issues. If you would like to write a story for your student newspaper, please contact Hillary Blayney at hillary.blayney@ops.org or come to room 029 to discuss your idea.

The 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.

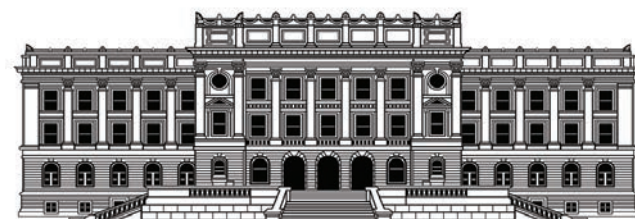
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Girls powerlifting team experienced great success this year with five seniors placing

The girls powerlifting team made a lasting impression at the Class A State Powerlifting competition in March.

PAGES 10-11

Four NCAA basketball teams visited Omaha, only one left a winner

In an Elite Eight matchup between Kansas University and Duke University at the CenturyLink Center, Duke left as the team to continue on to the Final Four.

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Sports opinions

The Register writers offer opinions on prevalent sports-related issues including Super Bowl ads, Tiger Woods and the NCAA tournament

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sports & leisure

THE REGISTER

Vol. 133 No. 5 | April 5, 2018

BALL OUT

A young basketball player has dreams beyond Omaha and even beyond his father's established NCAA career.



ALEC ROME | The Register

Basketball has been sophomore Latrell Wrightsell Jr.'s sole passion since he was young, and it runs in his blood. His father and sister played Division I basketball and Wrightsell plans to do the same.

Hayley Raney
staff writer

Latrell Wrightsell Jr. is one of the top sophomore basketball players in the state. This is probably because he has been playing basketball for nearly 13 years. "Ever since I grabbed the ball I fell in love with it," he said.

He began playing basketball at the YMCA. His biggest inspiration and motivation was – and still is – his father, Latrell Wrightsell Sr., who was a former guard for the Creighton Blue Jays. Basketball means the world to Wrightsell. He has proven to himself that he has passion and a love for the game which makes him want to continue to pursue basketball throughout his life and

eventually turn it into a career.

Wrightsell feels that being named after his dad is a big responsibility. "I'm following his name," he said, "I have to live up to it and excel higher than the goals he's had."

During the season, Wrightsell and his father do a lot of training in water and yoga sessions. Intensive yet enjoyable training sessions have helped Wrightsell to get to where he is today.

In addition to his father both having a successful basketball career, Wrightsell's older sister plays basketball at Tennessee State. When Wrightsell is compared to his father his sister encourages him to focus on himself and work as hard as he possibly can instead of listening

to what others say about him. "I try and do something that he never did on the court," he said.

Wrightsell sees a different player in himself when he looks back on his father's history. "I don't want to be remembered as just his son," he said. He plans to change the expectations of his father's legacy by going further in basketball possibly making it to NBA.

Next year his goal for playing basketball is to make the all-metro team. "It means a lot because as a junior it's pretty hard for people to make [the team,]" he said. \

Opinion: Value of college athletics lost in money, branding

Jackson Godwin
staff writer

Within the past year, a scandal has come out regarding the NCAA offering money under the table to high school athletes. Various coaches, associations, businesses and many others like these have been persuading players to sign with a certain college by offering more than their fellow competitors. In previous years, the NCAA has been known for slipping under the table offers to outstanding players but never have federal investigators exposed such corruption. One

of the more popular names involved in this case is Louisville head coach Rick Pitino, and an executive for Adidas. The problem with having money involved in a student's commitment for a certain team is the fact he or she is still an 18-year-old kid who should be picking their college on what fits them best – not who is offering them the most money.

The way that companies and coaches are deceiving kids is by taking advantage of the players trust and talent. Over time, agents started to realize that bribing weak and corrupt coaches to pressure kids would work especially if those players ended up with

success in professional athletic leagues such as the NBA, the NFL, the MLB and so on. Some of the teams that are heavily involved in this scandal include Arizona, Oklahoma and Louisville. Multiple Power Five conference schools are under watch as well. What many of these teams tried to do is funnel money through the Adidas corporation to three different players and their families in return that once the player goes pro they sign with Adidas.

These scandals have been occurring in college since the NCAA organization has banned players from going straight to the

National Basketball Association right after high school. As of now the rule is that players must stay at least one year in college to be eligible to play in the NBA. Because of the recent scandals it may force the NCAA to go back to the original rule where players are permitted to enter the NBA draft after high school to reduce the frequency of corruption issues in college. As more and more teams in professional sports focus on money and branding, it rubs off on future athletes causing the meaning of the game itself to be lost in the shuffle of money.

GIRL POWER

The girls powerlifting team had one of its most successful seasons this year with five seniors placing at the Class A State Championship.

MARIAH MYERS

1st in 114 weight class

Carlson Koch
staff writer

Among the girls placing first at the powerlifting state meet was first place finisher and senior Mariah Myers who placed first in her 114-pound weight class.

Powerlifting is a sport based off brute strength and technique, and to win first, it takes grit and consistent hard work. Competitors work hard to based off their weight, they compete against other people with a similar weight, lifting as much as they can in three lifts: squat, bench and deadlift.

After placing in all three meets leading up to state, Myers had high hopes to compete well in state to give her team the best chance possible to place first. For an individual placing first place, it gives a total of five points to the team score. She lifted a 185-pound squat, 94-pound bench and 250-pound deadlift, with the team supporting her in each lift. "[The team was] cheering, excited and happy with and for me," said Myers.

Myers has been competing ever since freshman year, and said that, "I went from not placing at all to placing in every meet and winning state." For

this to happen, Myers lifted on and off the season to improve the amount she could lift.

Many NSAA high school sports have a state competition, and even though powerlifting is not connected to Central a sport, they also have a state meet. "[State is] my last one [meet] ever and it's the biggest payoff for all the hard work," Myers said. Powerlifters must constantly lift weights throughout the season to keep their muscles primed and ready to lift their maximum capacity at the meets, especially state.

At state, she lifted 250 pounds on her deadlift, which broke the school record for her weight class, according to Myers, this was her biggest accomplishment of the season. Myers was not the only one to break records as many of her teammates including Courtney Young broke existing school records.

"After years of not winning, we all worked hard to win," said Myers, "the moment was amazing when they announced us as the winners." The team celebrated together with Head Coach Dennis Baker and Assistant Coach Bryan Calder.

For Myers and her team to win first, she said, "this season was amazing."

ANGEL SCHNEIDER

BEST LIGHTWEIGHT LIFTER

1st in 132 weight class

Mac O'Brien
staff writer

Senior Angel Schneider placed first in state powerlifting, breaking the weight class record in bench press. At competitions, the powerlifters compete in squat, deadlift, and bench press, stretching the competition into an all day event, and the totals of each category are used to rank the athletes. According to her coach, Dennis Baker, this is the second year in a row she's broken her weight class record, holding a total of three powerlifting records.

Schneider first became interested in powerlifting when her brother joined the team. She went to his meets, enjoyed them, and decided that she would join the team as well.

"Ever since I was really little I was told I was really strong for my height and weight so when I found out my brother was on it I went to the meeting and I really enjoyed it," Schneider said.

The practices are hard, according Schneider, because her coach, Baker, likes to push her to do her best. Baker has coached the team since 2008, when he brought back the powerlifting program. It was the first time Central had had a team since the nineties. Since then, it has grown from seven powerlifters on the team, to seventy seven

students showing up for the meeting.

"I actually have to do cuts now because of the number of kids," Baker said

For Baker, powerlifting is more about mental strength than physical. According to him, a person can be physically strong, but not have the mental fortitude to be successful at powerlifting.

"Powerlifting is a tough sport, you get beat up, you beat yourself up, you get hurt, pull muscles, hurt yourself doing things, so mentally you have to learn how to fight through some pain, fight through some injuries," Baker said

Baker likes to call this mental strength 'grit,' which he defines as obsession plus hard work. He pointed to Schneider's attitude towards lifting as a demonstration of grit. She's lifted all four years of high school, and has continually improved.

"It's very important to her," Baker said. "I don't think she does any other extracurriculars, so she's taking it pretty seriously. She's a good leader, always helping the younger kids out. She's going to be missed next year."

Baker has said that Schneider is considering returning next year to help coach the team.

MAURA BAGSTAD

1st in 138 weight class

Vasili Sgourakis
staff writer

For the first time in five years the girls powerlifting team placed first in the state. Senior Maura Bagstad was a critical part of this achievement. Bagstad placed first in her weight class at state, squatting 250, benching 110 and deadlifting 295 lbs.

She has competed on the powerlifting team since sophomore year, however, Bagstad did not foresee this success. "If someone told me 4 years ago I would be lifting nearly 300 pounds I wouldn't believe them. I learned to push myself every day in practice as hard as I could so when meets came I could really perform," Bagstad said.

While there may be a stigma that one must have a certain build to compete in powerlifting, she would encourage anyone to join the team. Bagstad said, "I would tell anyone who's thinking about going out for the team to do it. It doesn't matter what size you are, anyone can be a good lifter if you apply yourself."

Moreover, Bagstad notes that one of the

main goals of powerlifting is development and improvement. "Coach Baker always says 'it's not where you start but where you finish' and I think that really defines the mindset of powerlifting," Bagstad said.

Though powerlifting obviously encourages physical health, there is also a confidence that develops through participation in this sport. "I've seen so many girls become amazing lifters and amazing people throughout my years lifting and it's such an empowering and inspiring experience," Bagstad said.

Though she will admittedly miss competing, the end of participating on a team is just as hard. Bagstad said, "I will miss the family aspect of powerlifting the most. We spend so much time together and you learn so much about your teammates, whenever the season ends, I always feel a little lost."

As a senior, this feeling is compounded. "Especially this year as a senior, it's hard to accept I'll never compete or practice with the powerlifting family again," Bagstad said. It will be up to the underclassmen to continue the individual and group success of this year's powerlifting team to the future.



COURTNEY YOUNG

BEST HEAVYWEIGHT LIFTER

1st in 165 weight class



DESIREE DORSEY

1st in 181 weight class



DESHAWN DIAL | The O-Book

Grace Turner staff writer

Senior Courtney Young won her weight class and helped lead the Central powerlifting team to a first-place victory at the state competition. She has been powerlifting since she was a freshman and has enjoyed her time on the team. She also says at the last meet she lifted differently than she ever had done in the past. "I felt really excited about how I did. I had some goals I wanted to meet, especially on squat and bench," Young said.

There are only three meetings during the powerlifting season. At each of these meetings Young improved in her squat and dead lifting, breaking her own record multiple times throughout the season. At the meet she squatted 400 pounds and dead lifted 480 pounds. She almost made it to a 500-pound deadlift, but it was called invalid. While deadlifting 500 pounds was one of her goals for the season and was therefore disappointed, she also believes that she did the best she could and is proud of how she did.

During the state meet, Young had a scholarship opportunity which she had to leave for in order to be considered. So, during the meet Young left for the scholarship opportunity and came back to the powerlifting competition to compete in the squat competition. She only had 10 minutes to warm up before competing, and still squatted 400 pounds.

Young also a part of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Central, Young said that she used some of what she learned at FCA to motivate her

when lifting at the last meet. She decided that she was going to lift for her faith instead of lifting for herself. This change in viewpoint is one of the reasons that Young believes she lifted better at this competition as compared to others. Young said, "As a Christian you want God to be at the Center. So, I decided I was doing this for him, not for me. When I went up to the 400, I made it."

She also believes that Coach Baker was one of the reasons that she was able to win her weight class and why the team was successful. She says that Coach Baker pushes all the people on the powerlifting team and makes them the best lifters they can be. Young also believes that he is one of the reasons that she was able to improve in powerlifting throughout her time at Central.

In her opinion, powerlifting is a sport that nearly anyone can join because the school has a lot of the equipment, which allows for more diversity on the powerlifting team as compared to other sports teams. She also believes that participating is rewarding because the boys and girls on the powerlifting teams are supportive of one another and it makes being on the team a better experience.

"I like the people. I really enjoy it because it is a club, so there are a lot of different kids from different places in the school," Young said. "I love how hard everyone works and that we all have to work really hard and the season is really long, but we all just grind through it together. I really love that sense of family."

Anne Gallagher staff writer

Although powerlifting is not considered to be a formal sport in the NSAA, senior competitor Desiree Dorsey says the team is still like a family to her. Dorsey started powerlifting her sophomore year after excelling in weight training class and wanting to move further. "I thought 'why not?' Because it seemed like something I would be good at," Dorsey said. Powerlifting offers more of a challenge to those interested in becoming stronger.

Throughout her three seasons on the team, Dorsey has competed in each of the three meets and plans on continuing her passion through college. "I'm going to Midland College and it's actually one of the number one powerlifting colleges" Dorsey said. She has been inspired by the sport over the past three years, with her main motivation being "to get stronger than a lot of the boys and even men out there."

This winter "club" only partakes in three meets per season, so that they have

enough time to improve between each one. Regardless of where the preliminary meets are held in the season, state powerlifting is always done at South High School. For the last four years, the girls team at South has taken first place at state, leading athletes to suspect bias towards the team. "I feel like it's unfair for a lot of powerlifters to have the state meet at South," Dorsey said. "South High School girls have won every single year since 2013 and we just kind of feel like there is some bias." However, this year, Central placed first overall.

Overall, the fact that powerlifting is not considered a sport frustrates a lot of the people on the team. "All we get is an announcement in homeroom and we feel like we aren't as important" Dorsey said, "Coach Baker has to put in a lot of work and effort and money all by himself." Yet, Dorsey believes that the team has helped her grow as a person and helped her to gain many new friends. "One thing I've learned is that it doesn't matter where you start, it's where you finish in the end that's important," Dorsey said.



The girls powerlifting team placed first overall at the Class A State Powerlifting Championship competition.
BACK ROW: Coach Chris Sturgeon, Kaelynn Caldwell, Shania Ramsey, Ruby Martinez, Tysa Dethloff, Miroslava Salazar
MIDDLE ROW: Coach Agustin Castro, Madeline Bohn, Mariah Myers, Carly Flynn, Courtney Young, Desiree Dorsey, Maura Bagstad, Jade Boner, Coach Dennis Baker
FRONT ROW: Briana Tuttle, Ashley Cordes, Kippy Factor Garibo, Darian Faulkner, Jarithza Martinez, Rylee Bonafilia, Alexis Blankenfeld, Marisa Antunez



Photo Courtesy of CASSIE WEST

Connor Mahoney and his teammates pose after winning the Bryan Invite. He plays the position of defender, preferring left side of the pitch.

Freshman athlete focuses on improving grades, soccer skills

Alec Rome
staff writer

Freshmen athletes that come to Central hope to make a name for themselves immediately in whatever sport they play. Connor Mahoney, a freshman soccer player, is no different. He tried out for the soccer team this year and got a chance to start as a defender on the JV squad. While he only started playing the backline last year for his club team, soccer has been in his life since the age of four. "It's been ten years of my life just devoted to soccer, and I've developed a lot," Mahoney said.

When he was younger, soccer was not originally the sport he was attracted to. He played baseball and football for a while but said that he never felt real passionate about either sport. Along came soccer, and his attraction began to grow. It allows him to "release energy from being bored in school" and some of his natural craziness.

Mahoney played for select teams, starting with Elite Boys Academy three years ago (he does not count his club teams when he was little). He played with them for two years before moving onto Metro Wolves last year. This fall, he played with

Nitro, and now is fully focused on playing as an Eagle.

According to Mahoney, there is an apparent difference between the style and intensity of playing for Central this year and playing for select teams. "The competition when you go to tournament is way harder to play and it's better if you want to become a better soccer player," Mahoney said. He has also noticed that his opponents in select have a lot more knowledge about the sport. When his Nitro team played against some of the best teams in the nation down in Kansas City, he took note of players that had "a quicker mindset, more [skills], amazing touches, and a good first pass."

Now, he hopes to improve in the right and left back positions on the JV team, although he prefers the left back slightly more.

His goal next year is to make it onto the varsity squad, and by the middle of the season, become a starting defender. One of his select coaches gave him good advice that he hopes to implement to improve his chances. "Know your coaches. You get a good bond with your club coaches and your school coaches, then get a good bond with the varsity players," Mahoney said. "Soon enough, they'll look at you more, you can

tryout and maybe make varsity that year."

While doing that, Mahoney tries to focus and excel on his schoolwork. He felt that he did not focus as much as he wanted to on academics during his last semester, and has tried to improve this semester. "I realized that getting 2.5s and 2s aren't good. This [semester] I have cared a lot more about academics and studying and it's carried me farther in school," Mahoney said.

This comes along with the high expectations placed upon him by Marcella Mahoney, a Central teacher who he calls the hardest English teacher in the school. "If you think you're a good writer, you're not once you take her class," Mahoney said. Having a parent as a Central teacher has its perks and its burdens, as he not only gains more bonds with other teachers but has to hear about the difficulty of her English class from his peers.

Looking far into the future, Mahoney hopes to play at Bellevue University, as his cousin is a freshman on the girls team. But, he knows he still has a long way to go and it starts with building upon his soccer skill set within the narrow sidelines of the downtown.

NCAA tournament held in Omaha makes for epic game

Ari Saltzman
staff writer

The city of Omaha has seen plenty of incredible sporting events over the years. The two Nebraska Volleyball national titles, Purdue-Kansas and Norfolk State-Missouri in 2012, Three United States Olympic Swim Trials and Kansas-Wichita State in 2015, just to name a few. Even Joe Frazier came to Omaha for a world heavyweight title bout in 1972. But the 15-round fight on the hardwood at the CenturyLink Center on March 25, was an instant classic.

As soon as the Sweet 16 games were over the preceding Friday night, the stage was set for what would be an incredible Midwest Regional Final. For the right to go the Final Four, Kansas and Duke went blow for blow, each refusing to back down to the opposition.

From the opening tip, it was wildly entertaining. The Jayhawks ended the first 20 minutes down 36-33 after missing a shot at the buzzer, and went to locker room hoping to end their recent troubles in this round of the NCAA Tournament. Kansas had made the Elite Eight each of the previous two years, and both times lost, failing to reach the Final Four.

In the other locker room, Blue Devil coach Mike Krzyzewski was 20 minutes away from

making his 13th Final Four. It would break John Wooden's record of 12 appearances in the national semifinals. Within the first two minutes of the second half, KU guard Malik Newman buried two threes and had his team up 39-37. It was part of a 15-5 Jayhawk run that had Kansas leading 48-41 with 15:13 remaining. Duke then responded with a quick 6-0 run, and got within 48-47 with 13:33 left. The largest the gap would get for either team the rest of regulation would be five points.

The Blue Devils finally tied it at 57 at the 9:57 mark on Marvin Bagley III's layup. The two teams then traded runs and Duke headed into the final media timeout up 68-67. After a Kansas dunk, four made foul shots by Duke guard Grayson Allen and a missed Newman three, Duke had the ball up 72-69 entering the final minute. On that possession, Kansas big man Silvio de Sousa came up with a big defensive play, forcing Duke forward Wendell Carter Jr into missing a lay-up, and then grabbing the defensive board. Jayhawk guard Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk then, after missing two straight wide open threes with 3:07 left, hit a game tying three from the right wing with 27 seconds to play. He said, "I was thinking about passing it to the corner, but I think it was Wendell just gapped it, so I just shot the ball and it went in."

Krzyzewski elected not to take a timeout on the ensuing possession, and Allen ran the clock down before taking a step back 10-footer from the left side of the lane in the final seconds, that shot circled the rim twice before falling out, and the game was headed overtime tied at 72. Allen said of his shot, "It came really close to going in and it didn't. You know, I was trying to drive right, he cut me off, went back left, and their big stepped up to help. And I had to get a shot up over him and tried to bank it in and it was right there, rolled out."

In the extra 5-minute session, Duke jumped out to a 74-72 lead on Trevon Duval's layup on overtime's first possession. Newman then nailed a three before Bagley made a layup, and the KU guard split two foul shots. After that sequence, Duval made a jumper, and Newman hit two foul shots to tie it a 78 with 2:18 to go in to overtime. The Jayhawks then took the lead for good when Newman hit another three, this time from the left corner off a beautiful feed from Lagerald Vick. Allen then missed two straight Duke threes, and Kansas held on for an epic 85-81 win in overtime. Krzyzewski said afterward, "it was an honor to play in this game."

Malik Newman's performance should be remembered for a long time in Lawrence. He

scored all 13 Jayhawk points in overtime and had a career high 32 points in the regional final. "He made a lot of tough shots a lot of timely shots for them. A lot them -- obviously the game was close the whole game -- but a lot of them it just felt like, right when we felt like we were about to get a run he hit one", Allen said of Newman's performance. Mykhailiuk also pitched in an 11 point, 10 rebound double double for Kansas. Duval paced Duke with 20 points, and Bagley snatched 10 rebounds. Kansas, a bad rebounding team coming in, won the battle of the boards against Duke, one of the best rebounding teams in the nation, 47-32. KU shot over 43 percent from the field and over 36 percent from deep as Duke shot almost 43 percent from the floor, and over 24 percent from beyond the arc.

The win sent Kansas to its first Final Four since 2012, and back to San Antonio, the city where Kansas and head coach Bill Self won its latest national title in 2008. That was an overtime thriller against Memphis in the title game. With the loss the Blue Devils end a successful season on a disappointing note. Duke will lose Allen to graduation, and Bagley will certainly be a lottery pick in June's NBA draft.

Self said, "That was an epic game that -- one of the best ones if not the best I've ever been a part of."

SPORTS OPINIONS

From great basketball upsets, legendary golf comebacks and advertising during sports games, The Register staff weighs in on the current sports climate.



Photo Courtesy of NCAA.COM



Photo Courtesy of ATHLONSPO RTS.COM

Numerous basketball upsets lead to parity in tournament

Vasili Sgourakis
staff writer

While it is common that upsets occur throughout the NCAA basketball tournament, they are beginning to become more frequent. For instance, never has a 16 seed beat a 1 seed, however, this year it came to fruition when University Maryland Baltimore Country beat Virginia handily.

Although unforeseen scores could be simply seen as flukes, it is apparent that there is an explanation for these results. There are three major reasons for this increase in upsets: the one and done rule, transfers, and the three-point shot.

Nowadays it is uncommon for a top recruit to stay at a school for more than a year. While it is reasonable that a player leaves after only his freshman year rather than leaving millions of dollars on the table, it is undebatable that this is evening out the playing field during the tournament.

The average seeding of the Sweet 16 this year is 5.3. That is among the highest of all time. Teams such as Loyola Chicago, Florida State, Kansas State, and Syracuse

all made it to the round of 16. While analysts around the country may have said they lacked outstanding talent, there was one area in which they were not deficient: experience. None of these programs are known for one and done players and ultimately the camaraderie and experience gained by having a senior laden team helped them carry out upsets.

Moreover, transfers have become a crucial part of the college basketball landscape. It is now common practice for players to leave schools if they do not feel they are in the right system or general fit. As a result, teams pick up on these gems who did not work out at one school but happen to be the perfect fit for another.

Notable examples of transfers who have impacted programs exist right in the state. Marcus Foster transferred from Kansas State and lead Creighton to an eight seed in the tournament this year thought they were defeated in the first round. Terran Petteway, a former Nebraska player who transferred from Texas Tech and led Nebraska to one of only seven tournament appearances during the 2014 season. Whereas previously players were formerly expected to tough it out no matter what the situation, they are now free to seek a better fit more likely

to help them succeed.

Lastly, the three-point shot has completely revolutionized the game of basketball. Teams are taking more of these shots than ever and they help inferior teams stay in games. Outsourcing your opponent takes a lower shooting percentage from 3-point range than inside the arc. In other words, if two teams take the same amount of shots, a team could shoot 50% taking all two point shots; however, a team shooting only 40% but taking 3 point shots would outscore them.

In the case of inferior teams, they may be forced to take longer shots because they do not have the skill or athleticism to get to the rim. Resultingly, being able to make threes is crucial to upsets. This is especially true in college basketball where a wider range of talent is accepted and a skinny, pure shooter could thrive in the college game but not even be on the radar of pro scouts.

While people enjoy seeing the most glamorous teams go at it during March Madness, nobody ever complained about a good Cinderella story. It just so happens that this year we have seen more than usual and a lack of experience, transfers, and the increase of the three-point shot may explain this trend.

Super Bowl ads expensive, distracting

The cost for a 30-second time slot advertisement in Super Bowl LII was roughly five million dollars. That number is five times the amount the starting quarterback who is playing in the Super Bowl earned over the entire season. The majority of people watching the Super Bowl focus on the game itself but for many, commercials play a big part in the attention and talk of the game. Over the years commercials have become more and more popular and talked about for the fans to watch because of the comical impression they give off.

Over time, prices for TV spots have increased because of the number of people who watch the game and companies realizing the potential of exposure they have. Although with the popularity for the Super Bowl rising each year, the price for an advertisement doesn't come cheap. Advertisements for this past year's game was \$5.02 million. Not only do companies have to pay to secure a time slot, they must also pay to market the ad itself. Companies spend an average at least 25 percent of what they pay for the time slot on marketing their product in other ways such as social media posts or short teaser videos leading up to the actual commercial during the game.



JACKSON GODWIN

J G O D

With the cost being so high and the marketing being difficult to find something that will please all fans, is it worth spending so much without a guaranteed pay out? Some companies say that instead of putting in all funds for one big ad, it works better over time to spread out money and buy less costly time slots to advertise. Having advertisements that cost less and are put on everyday TV you have more of an opportunity to gain viewers over time rather than risking that everybody watching the Super Bowl pays attention to your ad specifically.

Although some commercials played during the Super Bowl do not turn out as planned, many make headlines and are talked about for days gaining more and more popularity. Having the opportunity to gain popularity is a big deal to companies but they want to know that what they are paying for will pay off.

Overall, many businesses must be careful in what they spend money for advertisements in order to make money back for profit. Some have the idea that spending five million dollars for a 30-second ad will pay off and others prefer spreading out money for multiple advertisements.

Tiger Woods' comeback iconic

Tiger Woods can be credited for much of golf's popularity, and after seven years, he may be back on the rise to a level of playing at his prime.

After his performance at the Valspar Championship, many suggested he was making a comeback different than every other time. With a back that had many surgeries and an exposed private life, Tiger needed it to be different.

The thing is, Tiger's golf game looks promising, like this return is truly different, like he could actually win a PGA Tour event again. As Spring rolls around, people are looking for him as a favorite in the upcoming Master Tournament in April. If he wins, it will be his first major in nearly 10 years.

After 54 holes at the Honda Classic, he was trailing the leader by only one shot. This position is not something he could have even swung at two or three years ago. There is no denying his game has improved.

Tiger did not do what he used to, which included dominating the tournament and only being paired with a partner the final day so that the outcome did not seem so predetermined. Although he did not do any of these things he used to, Tiger did show us

one thing in this tournament that may have been more important than winning it, and that is that he can win again. It was only a

one shot difference, and on the 72nd hole, he had a chance to send leader Paul Casey into a sudden death match for the trophy, but just did not make the putt.

Not only does his new swing look promising, but Tiger was also once known for the crowds and popularity he brought to the game. His return has done this

exact same thing.

Tiger's return, if it is for real will make for a revitalization to a sport that has been declining since Tiger's downfall in 2009. Golfers as a whole cannot deny that beyond the ropes at tournaments, the amount of followers on a Sunday evening has decreased ever since he left, but this could change with this comeback being different.

He has become a legend and an inspiration to many golfers even professional ones right now including Rory McIlroy, who just won the Arnold Palmer Invitational. Who knows if Tiger will ever win again, but we do know that his comeback is different, because not only are crowds gathering on the course, but at home to watch and see the fist pump.

CARLSON KOCH
CARL'S SON



Photo Courtesy of RAYA O'NEAL

Located just outside of Chicago, Ill. Dominican University recruited junior Raya O'Neal in November of 2017 to continue her athletic and academic careers.

Junior soccer player commits to college early

Lizbeth Hermosillo-Najar
staff writer

It's no secret that junior year is overwhelming with the ACT, maintaining good grades and looking into colleges, the whole process can be very difficult. Junior year is the most important year out of the four years so making the right decisions can influence the future. Choosing the right college is a huge decision that most students don't make until the end of their senior year but for some juniors it's just another commitment.

Raya O'Neal, a junior, started her soccer career when she was only 3 years old. She played multiple

sports growing but ended up choosing soccer to be her favorite. O'Neal has been on the girls' varsity soccer team since her freshman year and is one of the starting players who play right or left outside defense.

In November of 2017 O'Neal verbally committed to Dominican University in Illinois to further her soccer career. She decided to pursue a major in fashion merchandising. Fashion has always been an interest of O'Neal's since a young age and is what she enjoys. One of the reasons O'Neal decided to choose this university was based on the location, which is outside of Chicago. There would be more opportunities for jobs and such. Choosing a more diverse school outside of Nebraska was also a part of the decision process.

Committing to a college as a junior was a smart choice O'Neal. She felt like other athletes made the decision too early. Choosing one too early could isn't something a student should do because they could change their mind or better offers could come along and they could miss the opportunity.

College is important to O'Neal and her family so making the right decisions are essential. O'Neal works hard in school and gets good grades so opportunities like committing to school like Dominican University could come to her. Working hard provides her with a better future and gets to show all the sacrifices that her family made for her paid off in the end.

The Masters to bring fresh faces, tough competition, record-breaking crowd

The 82nd edition of the Masters gets underway on April 5 at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga. Today officially begins a major golf season with a lot of questions and storylines. Three players can clinch the career grand slam this year, at three different major championships. One of the best of all time is in the midst of his most successful comeback attempt, and this is also the last year before a major shift occurs to the major championship calendar.

Seven years ago, this Sunday Rory McIlroy began the final round of the 2011 Master's with a four shot lead. After an uninspiring 37 on the outward nine, he stood on the 10th tee with a one-shot lead. The ensuing tee shot went 50 yards off line, and barely stayed in bounds. McIlroy ended up with a triple bogey 7 heading to Amen Corner. He played Amen Corner in three over and ended up shooting 43 on the back nine, and a final round 80, finishing 10 shots back. It was an epic collapse. A couple months later, McIlroy had his revenge,

when he smashed record after record in route in an eight-shot win in the 111th US Open at Congressional Country Club. He would go on to win the 2012 and 2014 PGA Championships as well as the 2014 Open. McIlroy would become only the sixth player in the history of the game to win the career grand slam, should he claim the green jacket on Sunday.

Tiger Woods is one of the five players to have accomplished the feat. He is currently in the midst of his third comeback attempt, but the third edition is proving to be much more successful. At the end of February, Woods notched a T12 finish at the Honda Classic. Should he play this week, or any other majors, it will be one of the major storylines leading up to the championship. Woods last won a major in an epic 91-hole dual with Rocco Mediate in the 2008 US Open at Torrey Pines.

This year's US Open returns to Shinnecock Hills for the first time since 2004. Standing the 71st tee of that championship, Phil Mickelson had a one-shot lead over Retief

Gossen. He put his tee shot on the par 3 in a greenside bunker. Mickelson hit his second shot within five feet of the flag, before inexplicably three putting and taking a double bogey



ARI SALTZMAN
DOUBLE DUTY

five. Mickelson parred the last and lost by two shots to Gossen. It was his second most mind-numbing US Open failure, only behind his epic 72nd hole meltdown at Winged Foot

in 2006. After finishing 2nd to Justin Rose in the 2013 US Open at Merion, Mickelson had finished runner up six times in the US Open. It remains the only major the 47-year-old has yet to capture.

In last year's PGA Championship at Quail Hollow, Jordan Spieth had a chance to become the youngest player ever to capture the career grand slam. He ended up having a decent week, but not good enough to beat eventual champion Justin Thomas. Spieth can also join that exclusive list with a win in this year's PGA Championship, being held at Bellerive Country Club. This Championship will also be the last to be played in August. The PGA of America is moving the event to May in 2019 and beyond. The Players Championship, will then be moved to March and the Open will be the last major of the calendar year. The 18-hole leaderboard will be interesting to look at tonight, but 15 more days with as much intrigue are in the near future.



Top Energizing drinks, Mexican restaurants

The top five ways to stay energized through drinks. The top five Mexican restaurants local to the Omaha area.

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Reviews

The Register staffers offer their critique of the latest books, new seasons of original Netflix shows and cafes.

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Metro area bakeries offer variety of desserts

This issue, The Register uncovers the best bakeries in town. From freshly baked cookies to German chocolate pies.

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arts & style

THE REGISTER

Vol. 133 No. 5 | April 5, 2018

lights, camera, action

The Omaha Film Festival featured junior Ben Lane's debut animated short in March.

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
An animated short by Benjamin Lane

Omaha Film Festival 2018
Short Film Block #6 - Nebraska Shorts

Friday March 9, 8:30 - 10:05 pm Village Point Cinema, Theater #9
304 N. 174th St. Omaha, NE

Anna Kaminski
editor-in-chief

First Day of School is an animated short by junior Ben Lane. The film won a Silver Key Scholastic Award and was featured at the Omaha Film Festival and at a screening in New York. Lane completed the entire process by himself doing all of the film work, illustration, music and editing. He used a digital frame by frame technique and did all of the graphics on his home computer.

Lane has always been fascinated with cinematography. He got his first camera in the second grade and began experimenting with editing in the seventh. First Day of School is Lane's first completed film. A major inspiration for him is his father who has worked as a storyboard artist on Zootopia and

The Simpsons. He said that having a family member who already knows the ins and outs of the industry has been extremely beneficial. "He's helped me figure out what I want to do with my life," he said.

"I work best under pressure," Lane said. He cited the process as painful and stressful, but most definitely worth it. His goal is to finish another film by the start of his senior year and hopefully go to nationals again next year.

Lane hopes to go to art school and eventually get a job in Los Angeles, but he is also unsure of how feasible it will be. He worries that art school is too expensive and plans to rely on scholarships, but if he keeps up his current position in the film industry, he is sure to succeed.

New STEM club encourages career-mindedness, independence

Sydney Prescott
staff writer

"When will we use this?" and "How will this help us in real life?" are common questions often heard by teachers. Students often wonder how a specific unit or lesson applies to their life today. That was why STEM Leaders of Omaha Central was created, to apply what students are learning to their future careers. This new club will meet twice a month and plans to be student led.

STEM may have only become well-known in the last few years, but many argue that it started with the Russian launch of Sputnik. This led to a battle to be the best in the STEM field, where the United States eventually bested the Soviet Union by sending a man to the moon. Later in the 1990s, the acronym of SMET was developed, and later changed to STEM in 2001.

Despite the great future of the STEM field, many students have chosen to look elsewhere for their careers. Fifty-seven percent of high school freshman who originally say they want to work in this field, later lose

interest. "I came up with the idea when trying to find a club to join," co-leader Madison Herchenbach said. "I realized Central did not offer at STEM Club and decided to make it happen." She leads with freshman Caroline Dillman and have Molly Jensen, Frances Anderson, and Joyelle Anderson as the sponsors.

For the club itself, it is lead entirely by the students. "Members have a huge say in what the focus of the group is," Herchenbach said. It meets on the first Monday morning of the month from 6:55-7:25 and the third Tuesday afternoon from 3:10-3:40. "We plan on taking field trips when possible and maybe next summer one overseas," says Frances. They are considering going to Iowa for a tour of their high-tech windmills and having a person who works at Google come and speak about the experience working in a technology field. Their goal for next year is to get more students interested.

All in all, STEM Leaders of Omaha club is up and running. "Students should join this club because it is great way to get involved and realize career options in the STEM field," said Herchenbach, "And come for the snacks."



AP, IB art students showcase pieces at Joslyn Art Museum

Emily Engel
staff writer

March is Youth Art Month, a time dedicated to celebrating student art and art education through art shows, exhibits, fundraisers and school activities. For six Central IB and AP art students, this meant having their artworks displayed in the Joslyn Art Museum from March 8 to March 17.

"This started out a couple of year ago so that there was a forum for IB art students to hold their exhibition, because that's part of their grade. AP students have also been participating depending on how many IB students there are and if there is room," IB art teacher, Libby Kane said.

Students were able to choose which pieces they wanted to include in the gallery and how they wanted to display them. AP students could include three to five pieces and IB students, in this case Sophia Seger-Pera, as she is the only senior taking IB art, chose eight to 15 pieces.

"There was a variety of types of art; there was ceramics, mixed media sculptures, paintings drawings, and one student did digital art," Kane said.

Hosting galleries like this can be very beneficial to students because not only does it give them more confidence as artists, but it can also prepare them to present and talk about their work. For future references, students will know how to properly

and publicly present their pieces to the world, all the while displaying great confidence. Students also can get exposure for their work from these public showings.

"It is a big confidence booster for these young artists to show their art in a public place. To leave high school and be able to say that your art has been in a big museum like the Joslyn is good for students," Kane said.

The gallery can even be inspirational and motivating to students who aren't in IB or AP art. Some teachers took other classes to see the gallery once it was open.

"I think it's good to go see this art, especially if you're interested because it's good to see people who are your own age and in your same situation creating artwork and seeing it in a museum where you can walk upstairs and see a 15th century masterpiece," Kane said.

Though the program was started to meet IB art's curriculum, the teachers believe these galleries can be beneficial to all art students. In the future, they would like to hold separate galleries for AP students' art as well.

"In our new edition we will have a little gallery space so that the AP students can display their in the years where there isn't space in the Joslyn's community gallery."



Photos Courtesy of TANYA SIMMONS

Pictured from bottom left: Elena Massey (12), Ben Ervin (12), Hunter Broderson (12), Dr. Bennett, Sophia Seger-Pera (12) and Madison Badje (12). This program started as a part of the B art curriculum.

Long time security guard retires after six years at Central



ALEXIS BLANKENFELD | The Register

Simret Habte
staff writer

Matthew Wagner is one of the security guards here at Central High School. He has dedicated many days and hours of his life to helping and keeping the students and staff of Central safe. Before becoming a security guard, he was a member of the United States Army. After 27 years in the service, he retired from that job and decided to become a security guard. When asked why he became a security guard, he responded, "OPS contacted me and then I got hired." Wagner has been a security guard since 2008. Coming up, this would be a decade of being a security guard.

He's been working at Central High School for four years. His favorite part of the job was working the sports games and state tournaments. This is where he gets to see students in their respective activities and in their elements outside of the hallways. One of his most memorable stories is the district track meet where a student did a 6'5" high jump in untied high tops. The most important part of being a security guard at a high school is

bonding with the students, a task he accomplishes by, "Showing respect and expecting respect back."

His daily duties include taking care of what happens in the parking lots and monitoring the school property. He is also in charge of making sure the busses get to where they need to be every day. Wagner says that he will miss the atmosphere and culture of Central when he leaves and that there's nothing he won't miss about Central. After retiring from Omaha Public Schools, he plans on working for another school district in Arizona. He says he's most excited about the warm weather. His coworkers, Jeffrey Longworth and Jermond Bonner said, "He's a very nice guy, he's conscientious, and he's a good team player," they also said, "He's always here when you need him, he's got it covered." His presence as a security guard will not be forgotten amongst his co-workers especially. Wagner has made an undeniable impact on Central High School and the lives of countless students.

Overseas profit, franchise fans reasons for constant movie remakes

Emma Whaley
staff writer

It seems to be a trend in the cinema these days: from Jurassic Park to Star Wars, older movies are getting updates and new additions. Some might call this a lack of creativity on the writers' part. Still others may embrace these films with open arms, thinking back on better times. Whatever the movie-goer's opinion on these remakes, it must be true that someone felt that the originals were good enough to be redone.

The question still stands whether remaking such classic movies was a good idea. Box office statistics would make it seem that the remakes are even more popular than the originals. Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle earned nearly 200% more in the box office than the 1995 Robin Williams movie. Star Wars: The Last Jedi brought in \$600 million compared to the \$300 million Star Wars: A New Hope earned in 1977.

As far as moviegoer ratings, it would also seem that the new movies are better received by the audience. The 1995 Jumanji movie has 51% on Rotten Tomatoes. Meanwhile, the 2017 Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle movie got 76%. Of course, there are other factors that could contribute to this increase in earnings and ratings and a lot of the money these movies earn comes from overseas markets.

"Obviously movies do well here," Diana Martinez, the education director at Film Streams said, "[but] one of the things that has happened

in the film industry in the last few years is that you're just getting less product ... some people would say that audiences are bored with what they're seeing."

This repetition is the big problem in the American film industry, but other countries eat it up. If you live in China and don't speak English, it's a lot easier to watch American sequels with the same set of characters than an all new movie; you already know who Captain America and Iron Man are, so that next Avengers movie is going to be easier to follow.

Since there are so many sequels, it makes sense to appeal to audiences overseas that make up most of your profit. The thing is that in America the film industry is very profit-oriented. Any movie that will make a huge profit will get made. Films like Star Wars and The Avengers have built up huge followings over the years and these fans will go see the new movie regardless of the plot or quality. Of course, even Star Wars had a first movie off of which to build their fan base. "There's a reason why presales for Black Panther have been through the roof," Martinez said, "And you will bet ... on it that there's going to be five more Black Panther movies ... because Hollywood's going to follow the money."

Other countries have national film boards. These organizations give money to producing film as an art form. Because of this, studios in other countries are incentivized to produce films without the focus of making a big profit. America does not have a film board.

Most studios are also held by parent companies and own the rights to certain franchises. Sometimes this creates very popular products; Disney owns Marvel and Star Wars, so they can make all the movies, TV shows and merchandise they want without having to pay for the rights, all the while advertising these movies on Disney Channel, even if it's the wrong demographic. Other times, this leads studios to try and reproduce movies that didn't do so well the first time; in 2001, Lara Croft: Tomb Raider with Angelina Jolie made only \$115 million, but the company still owns the rights, so they're trying to remake for more profit and overall expand the plot.

The American Hollywood ideal of film has shifted from hard-hitting art to profit-forming cyclic sequels. It doesn't change the fact that America is still the template other countries' film industries base their films on. Bollywood is just the same, sequels and lengthy series' in the name of profit. Regardless, many readers will go to a movie theater and see Avengers: Infinity War and enjoy it just as much as if they went to Film Streams and saw Phantom Thread.



Photo Courtesy of AMAZON.COM



Photo Courtesy of STARWARS.COM

Popular Broadway show 'Hamilton' to arrive in Omaha next fall

Kaitlyn Engel
staff writer

Since its Broadway debut, Hamilton has become a dynasty that has support across the world. Its beautiful fusion of rap and plot has drawn attention from fans across the world, and rightfully so. Lin-Manuel Miranda fuses the upbeat rhymes with the drama and plot of play perfectly to make an operetta that is not only enjoyable, but evokes the audience's emotions.

In the first act, Miranda's score is centered on introducing Hamilton to the audience, told from the perspective of his nemesis, Aaron Burr (Jimmie Jeter). Through this upbeat introduction, the audience is introduced to the characters and Hamilton himself. While the setting is rather bare throughout the play, various props draw the audience's eye and allow for their focus to wander.

Throughout this act, show-goers watch Alexander Hamilton (Miguel Cervantes) build his legacy, from the Revolutionary War to his time as Secretary of the Treasury under President

Washington (Johnathan Kirkland). The crowd also watches as Hamilton courts his future wife, Eliza (Ari Afsar), and how their relationship grows. The music remains fast-paced and upbeat, with short, comedic appearances from King George (Andrew Call).

The second act faces a drastic shift in tone. The audience is once again reminded of Hamilton's nemesis, Aaron Burr. With him comes Thomas Jefferson (Colby Lewis), the main comedic relief (and Hamilton's nemesis), who counteracts Hamilton's every move. The two work beautifully together, in an almost sibling manner.

But the tragedy of Hamilton sets in during this act. His career and marriage are nearly ruined due to his affair with Maria Reynolds. Afsar stuns and outrages the crowd with her soliloquy in "Burn," nearly to the point of turning against Hamilton. Despite his transgressions, the audience still walks away with a connection to Hamilton and root for his success.

Nearly four years after its initial release, Omaha will have the opportunity to experience this Broadway favorite on September 10, 2019. Though it has been out for some time, first time play-goers and fan girls will be in awe of the amount of talent and energy that is brought before them.



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The top five energizing drinks

Heidi Heyden
staff writer

With the end of the school year creeping up faster than one would expect, it is important to be on top of all one's responsibilities. Unfortunately, this means not every night will provide with a good night's sleep. This could lead to a lack of energy throughout the school day, which could turn out to make grades worse. To prevent this, people tend to turn to caffeine: a popular stimulant found in coffee, tea, and energy drinks.

Even though caffeine may seem like the best solution, it is easy to become used to its effects, or become addicted. Also, caffeine only works short-term, which forces drinkers to consistently come back for more. Although drinks with naturally-occurring caffeine—such as coffee and tea—can be healthy in moderation, there are other beverages that may even be better than that Red Bull to keep the brain running strong. Here are the top five drinks to help boost energy for studying:

GREEN TEA

Green Tea with caffeine is a simple way to increasing energy levels while providing important antioxidants. Unlike coffee, green tea is less likely to cause jitters due to its smaller amounts of caffeine, but it has enough to get through another review packet without crashing. Not experiencing jitters may make students more focused and decrease their levels of anxiety. Green tea also can boost brain power. According to WebMD, a Swiss study has shown that green tea was linked to, "Greater activity in the working-memory area," and "block[ing] the formation of plaques that are linked to Alzheimer's disease." Overall green tea is a great way to awaken the brain and help retain a little bit more information.

HOMEMADE SMOOTHIES

Smoothies can be made or bought practically anywhere, but to ensure that your smoothie is the healthiest, it is best to make it at home with different fruits and vegetables. These fruits and veggies can easily make a smoothie packed with different vitamins and minerals that can improve brain function and memory retention. For long-lasting energy, add chia seeds, nut butter, yogurt, or protein powder.

der. Also, using liquids such as water and 100% juice can give the smoothie more liquid fuel.

PROTEIN SHAKES

Protein has always been known to the building block for muscles, bones, cartilage, skin and even the blood. It also supports the production of enzymes, vitamins and hormones, according to ChooseMyPlate.gov. Protein also provides long-lasting energy for possible all-nighters after forgetting about the five-page report that's due tomorrow. Unlike energy from sugar or caffeine, protein is less likely—if able—to cause an energy crash, which can make the studying process that much longer and more stressful. To make a protein shake, you can use protein powder from many different sources, such as whey, soy and casein. You can also blend many protein-rich foods together and get the same amount of protein without the powder.

COFFEE

Sometimes, the best possible solution for quick energy and improved brain function is coffee. In moderation, caffeine is said to, "[increase] memory," "[improve reaction time and logical reasoning] and "ward off Alzheimer's," according to caffeineinformer.com. Coffee is also loaded with antioxidants, which help fight free radicals and may play a role in reducing your risk of diseases such as cancer and obesity, reported from medicaldaily.com. To keep coffee as healthy as possible, it is best to brew it at home and put as little cream and sugar as you can tolerate.

WATER

Everybody knows that water is necessary to survive. No matter if water helps increase energy levels or not, it is important to be drinking enough water every single day. One of the first and most obvious signs of not drinking enough water is dehydration. Dehydration is proven to negatively affect energy levels, mood, and the ability to think clearly, according to news-medical.net. Simply drinking about eight glasses of water a day not only can increase energy levels, but also drastically improve one's health. Water is one of the most important beverages to drink; genuinely no one can survive without it.



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Top five Mexican restaurants in the South Omaha area

Lizbeth Hermsillo-Najar
staff writer

1. El Chavo

Taqueria El Chavo was named after a famous Mexican tv sitcom El Chavo Del Ocho. Paying homage this restaurant serves delicious Mexican food from tacos to tamales to various types of soups. They have various drinks to satisfy everyone needs such as horchata, agua de fresa and agua de jamaica. Conveniently everything is served at a low cost, ranging from \$1-5. You can find El Chavo located on 24 street

2. La Michoacana

La Michoacana Neveria Y Paletteria is notorious for its various ice creams and frozen yogurts. They have an assortment of fruit arrangements and drinks, popular ones include mangonadas. Along with many Mexican desserts, they serve

traditional foods like tacos and tortas. The colorful atmosphere brings people from everywhere to La Michoacana. There's something for everyone to enjoy.

3. El Catrin

El Pollo Catrin restaurant's specialty is chicken. Along with chicken they serve other Mexican gourmet dishes. The restaurant holds attributes of Aztec culture. This restaurant makes you feel at home with the great service and decor of the restaurant. The prices at El Catrin are a bit more on the pricey side but worth it for a day's worth of 'treat yourself.'

4. El Dorado

With a variety of sea food platters and Mexican classics, El Dorado offers top of the line service and foods. One can book a mariachi while there to entertain oneself while eating or waiting to eat. The environment at El Dorado is unlike any other restaurant by comparison because of the music, the staff and

the bright atmosphere. Anyone can get a taste of fresh seafood and handmade tortillas on huge platters. The restaurant is a fun restaurant to dine in at.

5. Churro Spot

The Churro Spot is famous for their churros, tacos and elotes. They have a churro truck when the restaurant is closed and traveling. For special events, they are available to book for catering. Some of the gourmet churros Churro Spot serves is apple and raspberry. Huge plates of churro concoctions are accessible to the public to purchase. Another great aspect of Churro Sport is that there is something available for everyone. The prices for the churros range from \$1 to 10 dollars, because of this, there is something for everyone's budget.

TAQUERIA EL CHAVO



Photo Courtesy of RESTAURANTGURU.COM

LA MICHOCACANA



EL DORADO



CHURRO SPOT



EL CATRIN



Photos Courtesy of YELP.COM

FOOD:

LISA'S
RADIAL CAFE

Photo Courtesy of PINTEREST

No one was able to finish the food at the restaurant. The food tasted amazing. Every dish we ordered was cooked perfectly. It was clear that whoever was making it cared about the patrons' experience. I'm already a huge fan of breakfast food, but there was something special about the food I ate there.

Aside from the food, the best part about Lisa's Radial Café was the decoration. The interior felt like one of those diners that's in an old movie. The late owner, Lisa Schembri's love of the sitcom *I Love Lucy* is made apparent. The waitstaff were all wearing shirts reminiscent of the familiar logo of the show that read "I Love Lisa". All around the diner, there were plenty of images of famous scenes from the sitcom.

Lisa's Radial Café also sells art from local artists. The display of these works emphasized the dedication the diner had to Omaha and its people. It was also just interesting to be able to see some of the talent Omaha has to offer.

While the dining experience at Lisa's Radial Café was pretty great, there were also some drawbacks. The entrance wasn't wheelchair accessible. The building where the café is housed in was constructed in a time did not account for accessibility. Although this presented some issues, the hostess was quick to offer help to try to resolve those problems. One other issue we faced was slow service. The waitstaff were all very kind, but because of how crowded the restaurant was, they were not able to get our order quickly.

All in all, Lisa's Radial Café is an Omaha treasure. It's a great place to get home cooked meals from people who will treat you like family. The few issues that I encountered at the restaurant were greatly outweighed by the amazing food, delightful decorations, and pleasant waitstaff.

Simret Habte
staff writer

Lisa's Radial Café is a small, locally owned restaurant near downtown Omaha. It has been an important part of Omaha for decades, but the current owners bought the establishment in 2000. Lisa's Radial Café is known for their extensive, all-day breakfast menu and homey feeling.

When we visited, we got their waffle with strawberries and blueberries, The Heavy, and the Pork Carnitas Skillet. The Heavy is described in the menu as "a hearty portion of biscuits & Southern style gravy." All of the food we ordered came in a nice, big portion.

BOOKS: I HATE EVERY-
ONE BUT YOU

Molly Ashford
staff writer

In the latest of YouTuber-turned-author debuts, Alison Raskin and Gaby Dunn's novel 'I Hate Everyone but You', chronicles a friendship's attempt at surviving a move across the country. It is told entirely in a series of text messages and emails. While it is a fast and engulging read, the story lacks a deeper meaning and leaves many essential themes underdeveloped.

Dunn and Raskin's book is dubbed semi-autobiographical, but with background knowledge of the authors it becomes obvious that the novel is a direct portrayal of their friendship. Dunn's personality is eccentric with an emphasis on her queer identity and Raskin is the nervous introvert in the 'opposites attract' pair. Their personalities spill over into their respective characters, Genevieve and Ava.

I can partially chalk up my enjoyment of the book to my enjoyment of the authors and my understanding of their dynamic. Dunn and Raskin are YouTubers who ventured outside of their comfort zone and wrote a book, as many do. While the book is so heavily based upon the authors it is left vague enough for readers to relate their own coming-of-age experiences into those of the characters.

The success of this novel in circles of people who are not aware of the authors can be attributed to its relatability. Instead of glamorizing adolescent life like many young adult books do, 'I Hate Everyone but You' speaks to how much it can hurt to go through changes. The text message format is utilized without feeling juvenile and oversimplified; the juxtaposition of long emails to tiny text messages makes the reader feel like they are engulfed in the drama of the moment and brings the story to life. It is a risky formatting decision, but it makes the reader feel like they are reading through texts on a friend's phone. Once you get engulfed in the drama, it is hard to put down.

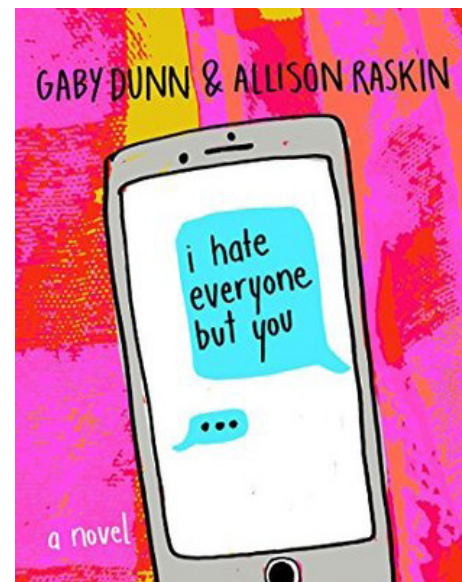


Photo Courtesy of GOODREADS

However, the portrayal of the LGBT community and mental illness fell short. While the unusual format was captivating and casual, the humor was sometimes lost in translation and came off as more offensive than anything. The attempts to handle heavy topics such as transphobia, LGBT validity, and drug addiction were awkwardly placed and often times inappropriately covered up by humor.

Both Genevieve and Ava had flaws and prejudices but rarely learned from their mistakes or showed any viable character development, instead continuing with the endless cycle of drama. If they intended on talking about such important topics, the authors should have at least put more effort in developing their characters from ignorance rather than allowing them to continue being insensitive. There were so many overlooked potential learning moments.

There was not an overly strong plot if there was one at all, but 'I Hate Everyone but You' is a quick and enjoyable read without much weight. While it is captivating, there are more relevant and interesting young adult novels out there that are just as entertaining but possess the depth that this novel lacked.

TELEVISION: JESSICA JONES SEASON 2



Carlson Koch
staff writer

Jessica Jones is one of Marvel's brilliant shows that really portrays the dilemmas and hardships that superheroes or vigilantes face. This remains the shows strength in Season Two, while Jones's past becomes a focal point for the villain she feels she must defeat.

Jones is aware that because of her incredible strength comes the struggle of great mental illnesses. In Season One the show revealed Jones as the sole survivor of her car accident involving her family, which can then be credited for Jones's messed up mental state.

This explains why for two seasons Jones has spent her time running away from heroism and only thinking of herself as a vigilante. Jessica drowns herself in alcohol to numb the pain of distancing herself from feelings, which will possibly amount to a greater problem.

Her damage is the focus of her issues in the second season, it is much more personal than season one as we learn more and more

about where exactly Jones's powers came from. Sure there are times where the show seems to drag on as if everyone is talking for no reason and that it is not relevant, and though this may be true, if you hold out until episode six, that is when it all becomes worth the wait.

In a lot of ways, Jones is simply a victim of an unfortunate situation, and without consent, has traumatic experiences that leaves psychological scars. As Season Two progresses, Jones has to make tough decisions, and they are often the wrong ones, so really aspects of this season are her own fault. To fix this, Jessica must cross lines and as those lines move even farther, she continues to cross them into more and more grey areas.

Jessica believes that a lot of her life affects those around her, and the sort of ethical dilemmas that characters Trish and Malcom face are evidence of this. While the temptations of each one seem so harmless, their own choices cost them responsibility in the future. Even though Season Two focuses on the past of Jones, the develop-

ment of characters around her is just as large. While Malcom is the sole voice of reason when it is most needed, he falters in seeking approval from those around him. Trish, on the other hand, is given an explanation as to why her character's life is often called a disaster.

Jones is possibly the most relatable hero Marvel has ever introduced, and that is much of the reason that her show continues to be such a success. The reminder that she is so often given of how sucky doing the right thing can be, is something that everyone can relate to. Although when she chooses to do the right thing, it may not be heroic, but much more real and attainable.

Overall, while season two begins with a story that seems to not move forward, once it hits the halfway point, everything shifts to an unpredictable and interesting story that is fixated on Jones's past. Given this, Season Three is projected to explore more of the heroic Jones, something that she has been running away from ever since the defeat of Kilgrave.

Photo Courtesy of NETFLIX

BAKED GOODS

For satisfying sweet cravings, The Register reviewed bakeries from around the metro area. From pastries to sweet drinks - "do-nut" miss out.

LE QUARTIER

Malcolm Durfee O'Brien
staff writer

Le Quartier is a Lincoln-based bakery with two locations in Omaha. One of their two locations is at Countryside village. It has a wide selection of breads to buy, as well as a menu with several different items for Lunch and Breakfast, primarily sandwiches.

The atmosphere was very natural and unofficial, which matched the attitude of the quite helpful employees who took my order.

I had a bacon and provolone sandwich on a pretzel bun and a hibiscus blend iced tea, as well as a Cuban sandwich, the vegetable brown rice soup and the regular black iced tea. The order came out a bit faster than expected and turned out fine. The bun was untoasted and had a texture which did not go well with the rest of the sandwich,

as well as the bun's density made it difficult to taste anything on the sandwich. However, the sandwich's texture was quite nice and the eggs were soft and creamy. The Cuban sandwich was not pressed and served on untoasted ciabatta bread, though other than that the sandwich was quite nice and had a nice texture from the pickles and bread's crunch. The vegetable brown rice soup had a nice tomato flavor with good form given to it by the rice. The hibiscus iced tea was just barely sweet and was quite refreshing and the regular black iced tea was generic and fine.

After I ate I had a croissant, which was absolutely fantastic, it was flaky and buttery just like a croissant should be.

Le Quartier is a fine place to eat, though the food itself is generic, the bread and croissants that are available are the strong suit of this bakery.

CULPRIT CAFE

Simone Davis
staff writer

In a city filled with dozens of small cafés and bakeries, it's always nice to find one that you can consider a staple. Culprit Café and Bakery is a small storefront in downtown Omaha. Located on the outskirts of the Old Market, Culprit is the perfect café to stop by after spending a day shopping or roaming downtown.

As you enter Culprit, the environment is relaxed and friendly. Most of the customers are in the young adult range, and many of them seem to be millennials or students. There is a couch area with a coffee table in the middle that is accommodating for a group of people who want to socialize with their food or drink. Along the windows, there are barstools that are more fitting for a customer who is alone. In the middle of the restaurant are small tables that seat two to four people. The glossy wood surface of the tables looks freshly waxed, giving off a clean and polished aesthetic. Overall, the venue looks inviting and stylish.

Culprit provides a well-rounded menu as well. They have an extensive coffee menu, filled with espressos, lattes, tea, and more. The price range is average for a coffeeshop; not cheap but

not too pricey either. They also offer ample selection of sweets. Their bakery has freshly made donuts, scones, pastries, cakes and cookies. The doughnut that I had was a cinnamon flavored one, and it was delicious. The donut was slightly on the expensive side, at \$2 for a single donut. All of their sweets are on display at the front counter, and there are some items that are on display that aren't seen on the menu. For food, they have light lunch and breakfast choices. Their breakfast has a lot of egg choices and different types of bread. Their lunch has a little more range, offering sandwiches, salads, soups and potatoes.

The only complaint I have with Culprit is the hours. Culprit opens at 8:00 a.m., so if anyone downtown wanted to stop by for a cup of coffee, it's likely that they have to be at school or work before then. Not only do they open later in the day, but they close early, too. They're closed at 3:00 p.m., so unless people can make it in during the day, this café is not the place for them.

Overall, Culprit is a nice café to hang out in on the weekends for brunch or over a lunch break. The environment is welcoming and open, the food is good and fairly priced - for the most part. To anyone looking for a relaxed place to stop by and enjoy a light snack and cup of coffee, Culprit is the right place.



Photos Courtesy of **CULPRIT CAFE**



Photo Courtesy of **TWITTER**

SWEET MAGNOLIA'S

Zoia Morrow
executive editor

Occasionally, people can't help but crave some sweets. It usually includes cookies, brownies or ice cream, something a person can pick up from the grocery store. Located off N. 40th Street, Sweet Magnolias offers a wide variety of bakery options. They cater events and sell sweets individually. For six items (albeit three of them were cookies and the other was a huge blueberry scone) the \$12 was worth the money.

Sweet Magnolias has unique options from homemade pop tarts, quiche slices and, my personal favorite, the lemon bar. The lemon bar is a breaded cookie with lemon curd filling topped with powdered sugar. As a supporter of lemon curd, the lemon bar did its justice. The visual itself was very pleasing and it tasted as pleasant as it looked. The outside is slightly hard but once I hit the middle it was a smooth, lemon-y dream.

To satisfy the craving for sweets, Sweet Magnolias offers \$2 cookies. It almost seems like a lot for a cookie but keep in mind, they are huge. So, it feels like the one cookie received could have been two. I ordered an oatmeal raisin cookie and two chocolate chip cookies. One was better than the other. I am biased because I dislike chocolate, but according to those around me, the chocolate chip cookies had the right amount of chocolate chunks and was baked to perfection. I agree with this notion on behalf of the oatmeal raisin cookies. I am not a huge cookie per-

son but the oatmeal raisin ones I adored. They were soft but not too much that I couldn't hold it without it breaking. I especially loved the amount of oats in it. It is not very often that an oatmeal cookie is pure oats (which would make more sense than not).

On to the delightful, fluffy blueberry scone of English dreams. I could eat this at any time of the day, every day. For \$4, Sweet Magnolias has an assortment of scone flavors and I happened to encounter the blueberry one. To top it off, it was sprinkled in icing. It was not overdone or too sweet, it was the perfect balance for such strong flavors. Like the other desserts, the outside was hard, and the inside was soft. Again, it fit the desserts nicely. The lemon bar and blueberry scone were my absolute favorites and I would recommend it to everyone looking for a different kind of sweet.

Finally, I tried a German chocolate pecan pie bar and to say the least, it was interesting. There is not much to say about it besides it may have been too much. The German chocolate and pecans did not mix as well as I was hoping. The point of me trying such a dessert was to get out of my comfort zone, but it only made me stick with what I know. Though, if you like the combining presence of sweet, salty, chocolate and peanut butter flavors, then Sweet Magnolias is the right bakery for you.

Sweet Magnolias is a small, quaint bakery, inside it is warm and has a vintage essence to it with the brick walls and purple and white theme. I enjoyed many of the aspects of Sweet Magnolia and what it could offer. I give this bakery 4.5/5 stars.



ZOIA MORROW | The Register



ALEXIS BLANKENFELD | The Register

LE PETIT PARIS

Kayla Johnson
staff writer

The Le Petit Paris French Bakery has two metro area locations. The first is located in Pepperwood Village, or right off of 156th and Dodge. The second is located in Papillion, off of 84th and Highway 370, where on the first and third Saturday of each month, a signature dinner is served for guests.

The establishment has two head chefs, with one being a native of France as well as an executive chef and owner of West Omaha restaurant Le Voltaire. Head chef Cedric Fichpain is a certified executive chef and a member of the Omaha hall of fame. He is also a published author.

The bakery specializes in authentic and fresh French pastries. The restaurant sells everything from tarts, quiches, macaroons, artisan breads, and "rustic viennoiseries"- which can be likened

to that of a special type of bread. The bakery even has the classic American favorite European pastry- the croissant, which is undoubtedly the best place to find a warm and flaky croissant in all of Omaha. During breakfast and lunch hours, signature Parisian sandwiches are served, but they do sell out quickly.

FILM REVIEW:

Emily Engel
staff writer

One of the latest movies playing is Ready Player One. It is based on the novel by Ernest Cline. Ready Player One is about a futuristic dystopia where people escape the real world by going into a virtual reality called the OASIS. It is set in the year 2045 just five years after the creator of the OASIS, James Halliday, dies. Upon his death, he released an Easter Egg in his virtual reality that will give whoever finds it control of his creation and his wealth.

The Easter Egg is guarded by three sets of difficult puzzles. At this point, most people have given up on ever finishing the puzzles, except for the main characters. Known as Parzival in the OASIS, his actual character's name is Wade Watts, played by Tye Sheridan. Aech is played by Lena Waithe. Art3mis, played by Olivia Cooke. Daito, played by Win Morisaki, and Shoto, played by Philip Zhao. Together they work to crack the

code and find the Easter Egg before the greedy corporation IOI finds it and ruins the OASIS.

Overall, the movie was portrayed fairly well. It was incredibly action-packed but still managed to have a strong plot, though at some points the plot seemed to be put on hold to show action scenes. For example, at one point there is like a two-minute car chase that didn't really add anything to the plot and could've been cut out.

The movie was quite obviously full of 80s pop culture, though it managed to fit in well with the movie without getting in the way of the plot. The humor in the movie mostly sticks well with the audience and rarely came off as forced. Though the relationship between Wade and Samantha (known as Art3mis in the OASIS) feels very forced and over-done.

The relationship didn't really fit well with the story and it would have felt better if they had ended up just friends.

Another problem with this relationship is it made these two-

attractive straight white characters be the only ones with actual backgrounds stories. Aech, a Black woman, is given no story besides her name, and Daito and Shoto, are revealed to be Japanese and that's all we know about them. In the film, most of the characters seemed to be static and un-explored, like they were only there to fill the stereotypical character role. As if the characters were thrown into Ready Player One strictly for diversity points.

The antagonist Nolan Sorrento, is barely given any backstory except to say that he is powerful, greedy, and plans to ruin the OASIS for his own financial gain. Aside from some of the movie being cliched, it was a decent movie to pass time with. I wouldn't go see it again, but I did enjoy it. I would give this film three stars out of five.



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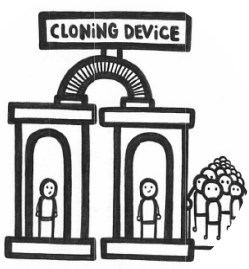
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New development may lead to ethical slipper slope

Recently, specialists were successfully able to clone monkeys. The next step is whether or not humans should follow suit.

PAGE 24

Cultural appropriation has become a common problem in popular culture

Celebrities perpetrate messages of disregard for culture by exploiting certain aspects and causing them to be fashion statements or accessories.

PAGE 26



Humans of Central

Six students give "Humans of New York" style quotes regarding life and struggle.

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opinion

THE REGISTER

Vol. 133 No. 5 | April 5, 2018

TO WALK OR NOT TO WALK

Central is planning to perform a walk-out on April 20, but not everyone is in support of it.

AGAINST

Grace Turner
staff writer

April 20 marks the anniversary of Columbine, one of the most well-known school shootings in United States history. It will also be the date of a national school walk out which has been planned after the more recent shooting at Parkland High School in Florida. Students all over the country are planning to walk out of class at 10:00 am. Many school districts are responding to these students by saying they will punish students who participate in the walk out. While this policy has upset many students, the schools are doing the correct thing by punishing students who participate in the walk out.

The main purpose of school is to learn, and that should be the school's main job, educating their students. The purpose of school is not to make political statements or have protests and administration needs to be ready to punish students who attempt to take away from a learning environment, as a school walk out would do.

Needville Public Schools in Texas have said they will suspend any student who partakes in a walkout or protest. The superintendent Curtis Rhodes has claimed the main reason for this decision was to prevent disruptions during the school day. Other schools are not announcing what will happen to students partaking in the walkouts, instead saying students will not be excused and will receive punishments based on their handbook.

One school district in Wisconsin is following these standards and saying students will receive disciplinary measures because the protests were set up from an outside source, and it is disruptive for the school day. Superintendent Todd Gray has also said students can be called out by parents if they want their children to participate. These schools are doing the right things by making sure that the school day is not being interrupted, therefore completing their main goal.

Every year at the beginning of the year, students sign a contract acknowledging they received a handbook and that they agree to abide by all of the rules within it at the beginning of the year. Students who sign this contract are also saying they understand the school can enforce punishments, such as suspensions, for participating in any actions listed in the handbook. Many of the rules listed in the handbook are regarding safety or distracting oneself or other students from learning. A walk out would fall into the second category, as students would be outside of classes, and therefore not participating in school. There is no reason why a walkout should be treated differently than any other event that distracts from education.

Besides punishing students who participate in the walk out, many other schools are saying they will not mark any walk out participants as present for the day. On attendance one can be marked truant, meaning a student is at school but refusing to go to classes. This is exactly what students who are participating in a walk out should be marked as. Even if they are walking out to protest for social change, they are still on school grounds without being in classes, which is the exact definition of truant. Many teachers have strict schedules and missing class for a protest and missing class due to skipping, while different in morality, result in the same thing – students missing class.

School exists to teach students, not as a platform to allow students to express political opinions. A school supporting or ignoring the interruption of class time for a political protest is failing in their job of teaching students. Education should always be a top priority of the school and ignoring events that will take away from education is a blatant disregard of the purpose of school.

While schools need to be punishing students who participate in a political protest, that does not necessarily mean that students shouldn't participate. If a student feels passionately about having more gun regulations and they feel participating in the protest is the right choice for them, then they should participate. However, the school itself, should not allow protests to go unpunished, because they would be disregarding their main purpose of education. If other distractions to an educational environment are not allowed, then a political protest should not be any different. Schools need to enforce already in place truancy regulations and have a system in place to punish students who participate in the protests, because they should not be encouraging or ignoring the disruption of an educational environment.

FOR

Anne Gallagher
staff writer

In American society, education is highly valued. For children ages 5-18, school is a job that takes up most of their time and helps them to form their personalities. Within their school walls, students should be able to express these personalities freely and without fear. In accordance to the way they feel, students are often smart enough to express themselves in a harmless yet influential way. Hosting a walk out is a powerful way to express the beliefs that students have formed as a response to gun violence in American schools.

In classes like U.S. History and American Government, the past and present states of American politics is expressed throughout the curriculum. The intellectual power of students rises as they make informed decisions about what they politically believe in. A current issue being discussed is that of gun control. The side of the debate that feels reform is necessary is taking a stand so that their input has a chance of making a change.

For seven hours a day, students are cooped up in classrooms learning about solutions to problems surrounding all fields of life. In each class, their points of view change as they learn, helping them to further develop their character. Arguments and discussions happen regarding all topics, and

students can use their voices to express what they feel is right versus what they feel is wrong. A lot of students find the issue of accessible automatic rifles something that they deem wrong. For this reason, they should be able to use the methods they have learned in school to rally against it. Walking out of school may seem like a trivial task that is harmful for the day-to-day routine of the student, but it can teach more than a classroom lesson and have much more of an effect.

Although many algebraic equations do not have prevalent real-life applications, the issue of gun control does. There have been 18 instances in 2018 in which

a gun was brought onto and shot on the grounds of a school. This has done more than alarmed students, it has ignited passion into those searching for a safe place to carry out their education. A school walk out is a safe and powerful expression that may take away from class time but adds to a student's real-world experiences and potential. As the anniversary of the Columbine, April 20 is a well-informed date to carry out Central's walk out, so that the resounding voice of thousands of students can vouch for all of those who have lost their lives due to gun violence.

Students should be able to voice their opinions, and school is one of the best platforms to do this. It is where they have been educated about important issues like constitutional rights and politics. Speaking their minds will prove the importance of practicing the education these high-schoolers have received throughout their lives. Seventeen people at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School with never get a chance to have their voices heard again so it is only fair that those who still have one can speak up against these issues. Our society is heavily affected by the issue of gun violence, so students should be able to use the most powerful platform they have to demonstrate their attempts to change what they believe is corrupt. A walkout is a courageous power move, but the truancy that administrators are so worried about is not what matters to these students or what should matter to this country. Rather, people should worry about the effects on the American legislative point of view.



CONNOR PAINTIN | Contributing Cartoonist

Cloning humans could soon be commonplace, ethical dilemmas arise

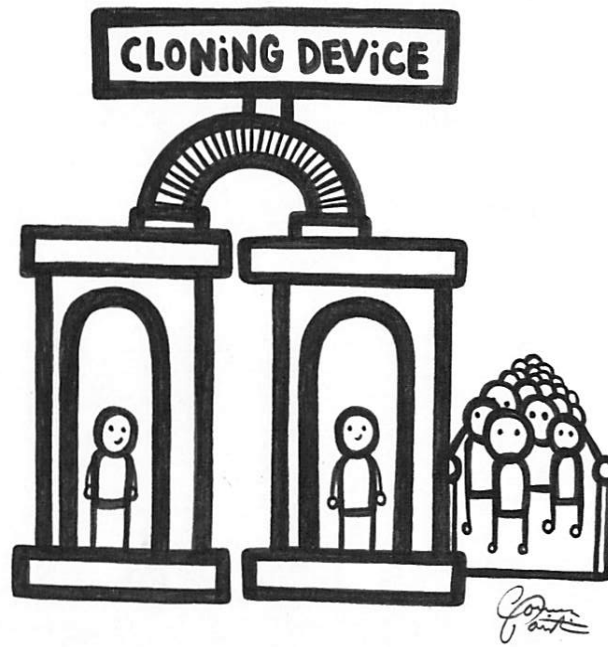
Julian Hock-Beaty
graphics editor

In 1996, scientists successfully cloned Dolly the sheep, starting a decades-long series of experiments and research in cloning other species. With recent advancements in technology and science, cloning has been proven possible with primates. Two genetically identical monkeys were born through a process that involves taking the nucleus out of a cell, and then putting it into an egg that has had its nucleus removed. As of right now, both monkeys are healthy and show no signs of defects or degeneracy. This success confirms that human cloning would indeed be possible, and has divided the scientific community in an ethical standpoint.

The question is, just because something is proven scientifically possible, should it still be done? As of right now, cloning isn't a perfect process. In total, it took 127 eggs to produce the monkey clones, meaning the experiment's failure rate was rather high. The procedure would need to be tweaked to perfection in order to yield more reliable results, and that could take decades.

In addition to the process's integrity, cloning presents a moral conflict. Scientists will no doubt eventually want to make the jump to human cloning. How will this science be regulated? How will a clone's rights and lifestyle be decided? In the instance of human cloning, most clones would be created for medical purposes. For example, a person may want a clone in case of a life-threatening injury. The clone's DNA would be identical to the original person's, and any organ/blood transplants between the two would have a zero percent rejection rate. This is where the morality argument comes in.

Is it ethical to give a clone life for the sole purpose of being an organ donor? Programs would have to be implemented in order to protect a clone's rights and freedoms, as it would



CONNOR PAINTIN | Contributing Cartoonist

still be a conscious, free-willed human being. Another problem that cloning presents is identification. How do you identify someone when there's another person (who looks identical) with the exact same DNA walking around? Cloning would have to be a very controlled practice, as many ethical disputes and legal complications could arise with it.

Like it or not, however, cloning is a part of the inevitable progression of science. Science fiction TV shows may soon become a reality, and the world has to be ready to properly

handle cloning as a part of life in the near future. With the recent breakthroughs in genetic editing, scientists may be able to engineer clones to have different physical appearances and modified bodily attributes. This would allow a clone to have some individuality, all while still being a genetic match to someone else in the world. Clones could be a great thing for medicine, as they could be engineered to be universal donors.

Cloning would push modern science ahead by decades. Clones may give scientists a chance to further study the human genome, possibly leading to the ability to tweak human DNA altogether. Tweaking DNA could help eliminate hereditary diseases, extend life expectancy by decades, neutralize degenerative disorders in the elderly, etc. As of now, this is an astoundingly promising move forward in human evolution. On a much crazier side, genetic engineering could very well grant people heightened senses, increased brain function and (on a hopeful note) superhero-like abilities. All of this is just theoretical, and only time and research will prove what is actually possible.

Cloning would be the first step to gaining an in-depth understanding of how human DNA works, and could potentially allow scientists to edit it. As stated before, all of this is still a very rudimentary practice. As the process of cloning is perfected and more research is done, humanity may be capable of rapidly evolving itself. Despite the risks involved, cloning research should absolutely continue. The study will no doubt take years to develop, and ethical debates can be held in the meantime. 50 years in the future, cloning and genetic modification could be as commonplace as plastic surgery. The scientific community is advancing at an astounding rate, and cloning is just another step towards finding humanity's full potential. Hopefully, there will be no hiccups along the way.

Doubt in faith important for maturity but not necessary for belief

Can you have faith without doubt? This is a question asked by 73 year old Lesley Hazleton, who is an agnostic Jew that wrote a biography on the life of Muhammad. Her argument was the doubt without faith turns into only conviction, which in turn leads to prideful fundamentalists. However, I believe that doubt is not essential for faith, but can be responsible for maturing it.

Hazleton believed that faith cannot exist without doubt, but I believe children and ignorant people are both great examples of the opposite. From my experiences babysitting and volunteering in my church nursery, I have found that children can be quite stubborn. They just cannot share that blue ball, refuse to abandon their nightly routine, or stick with their beliefs about a supernatural being. If given reason why God does not exist, they will still stick with the



SYDNEY PRESCOTT
RUN 'N READ

right answer. Some might see this as not being faithful, but Jesus said "anyone who doesn't receive the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it," (Mark 10:15, NLT). So by having the stubborn and trusting faith of a child, you will receive God. Ignorant people are also like this. They may be close minded to other faiths or thoughts, but lack of knowledge does not mean lack of faith. Education or no education, belief in Jesus means they are Christian and have faith.

Although faith can stand without doubt, doubt is a way for a heart to mature. I have seen this in my own life. Before taking Honors Intro to World Religions, I was pretty set in my beliefs. Jesus, the Holy Spirit, God, and the bible were all true. But by going through this class and learning more about my faith and others, I have encountered much doubt. There was one packet in the Christianity unit that

made the argument that the bible was mistranslated, misunderstood, and different doctrines were never in it originally. Or seeing the Judaism and Islamic faith regarding Christ as only a good teacher and nothing more. This has made me question the beliefs I have always held. So, I researched it using the bible, the internet, and "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis. I found some facts backing my beliefs and others invalidating them, but ultimately it came to faith. I realized that there was only so much I could prove before making a choice. I made the choice to believe, and I still make that choice every day. But through this class I have seen my faith grow. I now have evidence that I can verbalize to back some of my points, and my experience to back the others. I do miss the innocent faith without doubt that I had before, but my faith with questions has resulted in so much growth with me as a person and how my beliefs impact my life.

So, I think that doubt is important for maturity, but not essential. What do you believe?

High school flies by, important to enjoy little things, live in the moment

Get this: 2008 was ten years ago. I know—it shocks me too. In 2008, I was both a kindergartener and a first grader who barely lost her first tooth and was taught bits of that year's presidential election from whatever news I cared to watch. I remember being so excited that Barack Obama was going to become president because we've never had a black president before. I don't believe I was particularly liked by a lot of my peers, but I didn't have a care in the world. Life was much simpler back in 2008.

2008 was also the year that the U.S. economy started to collapse, the Beijing Summer Olympics occurred, and the countries Cyprus and Malta adopt the Euro currency. It's funny how things are so much different now than they were ten years ago. It makes me wonder what the world would be like ten years from today. Will we have flying cars in 2028? Will technology advance beyond our wildest dreams? Will there be a wall? What would be the latest iPhone that all the "cool" kids carry around? This made me want to research what people are predicting about the years to come. So of course, I go to my absolute favorite reliable website—Wikipedia... obviously—and look up the year 2019 (Man, I can't imagine writing 2019 on the tops of my subpar themes). Then, out of curiosity, I went on and clicked on the link for the year 2020. There, I found a link to the 2020s and OF COURSE clicked on it. This is where I started to get carried away. Although I went on the computer hoping to write a column about the joys of 2008, I ended up learning about all the international deals that are about to expire, and a flame in some country that would finally be extinguished in 2252 after

250 years of burning.

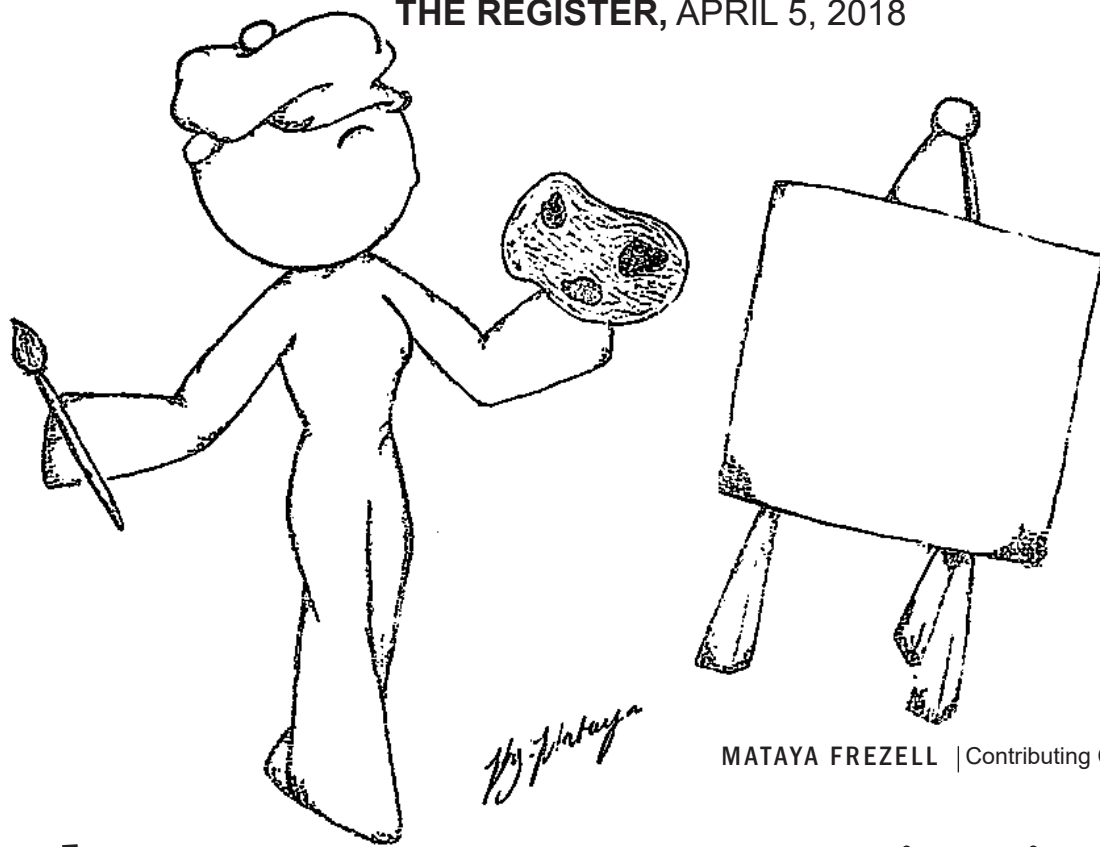
It was at this moment when I learned how fascinating these predictions can be. The contributors of these Wikipedia pages had every solar eclipse, transit, and comet interaction all mapped out up until literally the 100th century (years 9,001-10,000)! After about 50 links later, I was redirected to a link about the 'far future'. This was when nothing was able to be accurately predicted because it was so far into the future. There wasn't much information on that page, but it did talk about the future of the universe in general; to be more specific, it talked about the universe's inevitable heat death.

There was about five to seven minutes left of the class when I got to a diagram explaining the biological timeline of the universe. The period today when humans exist was probably only a pixel thick compared to the rest of the timeline. Here's how this heat death is supposed to play out—according to a theory by Lord Kelvin in 1852: billions and billions of years from now, there will be a super massive black hole, then all the protons in the universe will eventually die out and the universe will mainly be made of a dark, dilute gas. Soon, everything will be gone.

The point is: it is crazy how everything can be different within a span of as little as 10 years. Within 100 years, the world as we know it will be completely transformed. While I'm sure, based off my extensive Wikipedia research, the universe won't go through its heat death soon, it is important to remember life as we know it right now. Everything around us is constantly evolving in ways we can't imagine. Make sure—my fellow readers—to live life in the present, because what the world looks like now may be long gone in the blink of an eye.



HEIDI HEYDEN
NOT THAT COOL



MATAYA FREZELL | Contributing Cartoonist

Local artists deserve more representation in elite galleries

Kaitlyn Engel
staff writer

With the rise of globalization, the need for local artists have never been greater. The arts are the way to preserve the uniqueness of culture in a region against the broad sweeping brush of universal trends and culture. Without these artists, much of Omaha's culture may be forgotten.

In comparison with other cities, Omaha is lacking in the local arts. While the Joslyn does show the arts, very few galleries features works by Nebraska natives. There is only one gallery that is dedicated purely to Omaha

artists, which is a small side room off of the contemporary exhibits.

This insult of an exhibit barely scratches the surface of the local talent that Omaha artists have to offer. A short trip to Hot Shops (13th and Nicholas) shows a variety of local artists that are masterful in their respective crafts. These works range from blown glass to violin making, yet none of these works manage to be represented in the elite galleries of Joslyn or other galleries in Omaha.

The local visual artists are not the only ones who are underappreciated by the elite art institutions. The Orpheum only allows plays that have been established as guaranteed

favorites (i.e. Wicked, Hamilton). And while it is a perfectly accepted to show these established shows, the lack of attention for local actors and playwrights contributes to a cycle of ignorance for the local arts.

On the other side of the spectrum, the Omaha Community Playhouse only represents Omaha. The actors are all local, and many of the productions are fueled by volunteer labor. These locally-fueled productions are critically acclaimed and draw attention to the local talent in Omaha.

By only showing nationally acclaimed art, people become blind to the local artists and shift their support from artists that are

just beginning to those that have established themselves. This makes it more difficult for new artists to become established.

Additionally, these elite galleries and institutions often are much more expensive than local artists-which contributes to the stigma that art is only for the wealthy, when in actuality local artists are more than affordable.

In order to improve Omaha's local arts, elite institutions need to give more attention to the local talent. By doing this, local arts will flourish with new found attention and appreciation. Plus, the new life in the local arts will bring the community much closer together.

High school students show more maturity than elected reps

It was Valentine's Day when the report went out that there were 17 students and staff murdered at Majory Stoneman Douglas High School. The shooter was a 19 year old male named Nikolas Cruz. This is not the first mass shooting to take place at a school in this country, and it is reminiscent of Sandy Hook in 2012 where 26 people, students and teachers alike, were killed. Because of the combination of these shootings, among other mass shootings such as "Pulse" in Orlando and the Las Vegas Shooting incident, gun control is an extremely hot issue at the moment. And the main people taking it on are the most recent victims: students.

Mass shootings, terrifyingly enough, are almost losing their shock factor in American society. But, the students from Stoneman are refusing to be forgotten. After the shooting, several of the students combatted President Trump's tweets where he blamed the incident on the FBI's focus on Russia rather than the shooter, Cruz. Several of the Stoneman student's tweets went viral, where they expressed their anger at what had happened. Rather than this being brushed aside, they are forcing the world to hear what they have to say.

Not only are the Stoneman students being vocal on social media platforms, but they are also making sure that politicians hear them and take into account what they have to say.

Students went to CNN's townhall where they made sure that Marco Rubio was held accountable for his ties to the National Rifle Association (NRA). Rather than staying silent, they are channeling their anger into political action in the hopes to bring about change.

Though some people are doubting the power that the Stoneman students have because of their age, their activism is making a difference. By publicly stating that they'd rather have improved gun control laws over "thoughts and prayers," people are taking notice. Several businesses such as the First National Bank of Omaha, Enterprise Holdings, Hertz, Delta Airlines and many other large corporations have cut ties with the NRA. The NRA is one of the biggest lobbies ever, and many politicians rely on owe their elections to their donations, therefore they are unwilling to push for any legislation that would hurt their relationship.

Similar to big corporations, some politicians are making it known they too are disassociated with the NRA. I, along with other Register staff members, attended a press conference

held by Brad Ashford about gun control. He invited the press from student publications to meet him at the Joslyn Castle and ask him whatever we wanted about gun control and the recent events surrounding it. As both a student and a student journalist, it was nice feeling like adults were actually listening to what we had to say about issues that concern us just as much as they concern them.

The Stoneman students have set a great example thus far. They are speaking up for what they believe in, despite probably going through terrible amounts of grief and fear after having survived such a massacre. They have the attention of one of the largest lobby's in the United States, have combatted powerful politicians, and have set examples for other students on how to protest and bring about change. This terrible tragedy

has brought the issue of gun control to the forefront, and the voices of the movement are those of students.



SIMONE DAVIS
SIMON(E) SAYS

Moderation key to political success, could solve majority of modern issues

On February 25th, the California Democratic Party declined to endorse incumbent Senator Dianne Feinstein for reelection, with many delegates attacking her for being a "conservative" Democrat. This is part of a pattern in which moderate candidates are attacked



MALCOLM DURFEE O'BRIEN
M E H

by their respective parties for being either a "liberal" Republican or a "conservative" Democrat. This is also seen with the national reaction to Heath Mello's moderate stance on abortion, which saw several prominent Demo-

crats call on him to drop out, calling him a "conservative." Moderation is a pivotal piece to democracy and to Republican ideals, which is why it is quite terrifying that both political Parties have all but bucked moderation and have entered a "my way or the highway" extremist mindset.

It is this increasing support for ideological extremism, whether it be socialism in the Democratic Party or paleoconservatism within the Republican Party, which is causing Washington gridlock and driving this nation apart. Without moderation, nothing can get done. Look no further than the Republican attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act and contrast it with the Democrats' passage of the Affordable Care Act. Despite all of the different proposals to repeal and replace the ACA, moderate Republicans voted against every single version of the Obamacare repeal, causing its ultimate defeat. This is due to the fact that the moderate Republicans and their agendas had been ignored in the process of drafting the bill, with Republican leadership

instead turning to firebrand conservatives such as Ted Cruz and Ben Sasse to write the repeal bill. The opposite of this mindset can be seen with the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Moderate Democrats such as Joe Lieberman, Ben Nelson and Mary Landrieu were the primary influencers of the ACA's language and policies, this allowed them to create a bill acceptable to their moderate agendas, causing the bill to become acceptable to them. All three voted for the ACA, without these three votes the bill would have failed, and fortunately for the American public, their voices were listened to and they helped to refine and pass the most sweeping healthcare overhaul since the Great Society which has helped to save millions of lives in just the past few years.

Since the tea party movement began this extremist mindset, we now regularly see bitter primary fights between moderate incumbents and extremist challengers who bill themselves as "a true conservative" or "a true progressive." These primaries, more often

than not, cause the weaker candidate to win their party's nomination. This can be seen in the 2010 Senate Special Election in Delaware to replace Vice President Joe Biden. The moderate Republican frontrunner, Mike Castle led his likely Democratic opponent, Chris Coons, in virtually every hypothetical poll and the it was considered likely that the seat would flip Republican. Castle lost the Republican Primary to tea party candidate and political pundit Christine O'Donnell, who was well to the right of Castle. She lost in a 17-point landslide. In this case, she was by far the weaker Republican candidate, but was chosen by her Party due to her conviction to extremist conservative beliefs.

Moderation must not just be accepted by the nation as a whole, it must be heralded. If every member of Congress was a moderate, nearly all of the problems we face today, whether it be income inequality, global warming, or the division of the United States, would be solved.

Cultural appropriation systemically incorrect, often hypocritical

Emma Whaley
staff writer

Today's world is rife with cultural appropriation. For those of you who may be unfamiliar, the Cambridge Dictionary defines it as "the act of taking or using things from a culture that is not your own, especially without showing that you understand or respect this culture." As a white person, I know I'm not the most targeted of people to have my culture appropriated. But, this doesn't keep me from believing, unlike some others, that cultural appropriation is real and can be hurtful.

White people are the most common race to appropriate culture; one rarely sees a black person wearing an offensive mariachi or Pocahontas costume on Halloween. Because of this, one may be led to think that it is white people who do not believe that cultural appropriation can be hurtful. A survey was conducted to see if this was the truth. People were given scenarios and asked to identify which ones they felt were cultural appropriation: a white person with dreadlocks, a white girl dressed as Moana, Urban Outfitters' Navajo clothing line, a white person listening to Latin music, a white person with Asian or tribal tattoos and Katy Perry's "geisha-style" performance. They were also asked to identify their race.

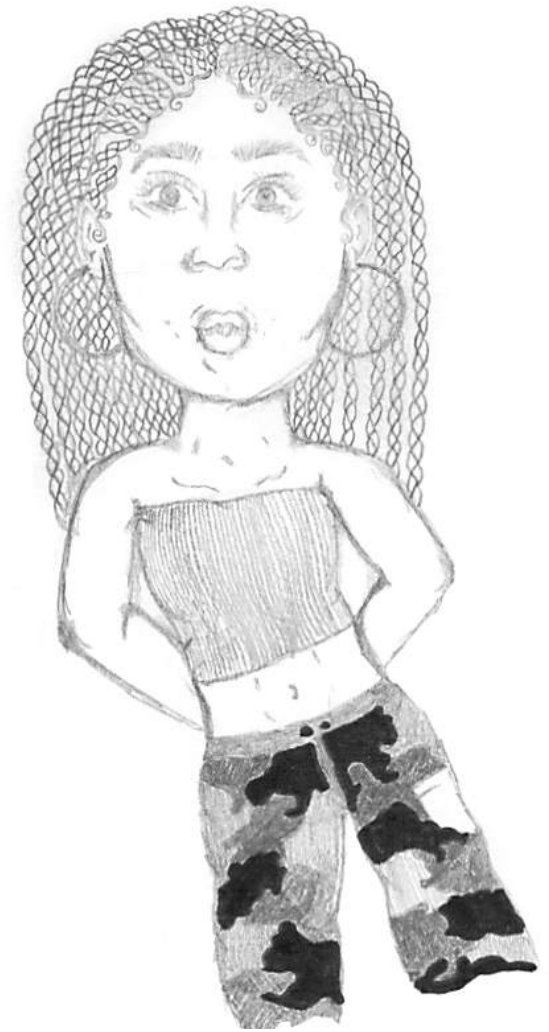
The results were unexpected. The scenario most often deemed as cultural appropriation was Katy Perry's geisha performance, with 26% of people saying it was appropriation, followed by the Navajo clothing line with 25%. A white person listening to Latin music was determined to be the most acceptable with only 6% of votes being against it. It seems that this is where the battle between appropriation

and appreciation takes place.

One might expect different races to jump up at their own defense, but this was not the trend for many. For example, none of the people who identified as Asian in the survey said that a white person getting Asian tattoos or Katy Perry's geisha performance was cultural appropriation. In fact, over half of the people who identified as Asian claimed that all the scenarios were acceptable.

It's clear that cultural appropriation is a problem. The fact that national corporations and personalities, such as Urban Outfitters and Katy Perry, feel it's okay to use figures from another culture to make a profit is proof of this. And they aren't the only ones doing it. Pharrell Williams, Kim Kardashian and Justin Bieber have taken a beating from people calling their hairstyles and magazine covers cultural appropriation. And they all made money from it one way or another.

The root of cultural appropriation is the lack of cultural appreciation. No one can wear blackface and say they respect black people. The only way to stop cultural appropriation is by educating people about different cultures in a way that does not make them seem entirely other. Someone might learn about Japan's culture and what a geisha is, but if they are told that it was all in the past on the other side of the world, they will only see a geisha as a creative costume to show off their newfound Japanese knowledge (if you were wondering, today there are between 2,000 and 1,000 geisha in Japan and it is not uncommon for there to be some in large cities in the US, such as Saeko Ohno who lives and works in New York). So, instead of getting upset when someone appropriates culture, teach them to appreciate it.



MATAYA FREZELL | Contributing Cartoonist

Identifying as trans-racial not acceptable, ignores history and suffering

Lizbeth Hermosillo-Najar
staff writer

The term 'trans-racial,' which wasn't adopted or recognized until a few years ago, is described in the dictionary as classifying one's personal identity as not limited to racial boundaries. In other words, certain individuals who were born one race feel like they identify as another race that is not their birth races. These individuals have gone to such extents as tanning, skin bleaching, and cosmetic surgeries.

Rachael Dolezal is an example of a trans-racial person who was born white who feels like she is an African American woman. Dolezal was a former chapter president of the NAACP and was a civil rights activist. She says that since a young age

she felt like she was black, even though she was not. She has gone to such extents as tanning and altering her hair to adapt to the persona she created for herself as a "black woman." Dolezal's parents are both Caucasian and have stated that Rachael is a Caucasian woman. In an interview defending herself, Dolezal stated that she views race as a construct and as a fluid understanding.

It would be understandable if a biracial person feels like they are more in touch with one race rather than the other(s) and chooses to identify as that race. The problem arises with being born one race and choosing to identify with another race that isn't one of the races that the individual descends from. The person decides to neglect all the history behind the race and chooses to pick up the culture and essentially appropriate

it.

Being trans-racial is not real. An individual cannot choose to be a race. A person cannot pick and choose who to be whenever they want. Race isn't something that is fluid and adaptable. There's pain and history behind every culture and race and an individual who isn't part of that race will never truly know what it feels like to be a member of another race. A person can't choose to be a race because they think it's cute and trendy. Race isn't a piece of clothing you put on one day then decide to take off another day. It's disrespectful, especially with all the racial tension in today's world. A person cannot make this decision because of what each race faces individually, they cannot be trans-racial.

Athletes speaking on politics not new, should not be harshly criticized

Alec Rome
staff writer

Sports and politics are going to intertwine; as much as some may hate the idea, it is impossible to avoid.

Yet, even though the idea of "athlete activism" isn't a new thing, there remains to be a strong distaste toward professional athletes using their platform to address social issues. The most recent example of this ignorant position came when Fox News' Laura Ingraham berated LeBron James for saying that President Trump "doesn't give an (expletive) about the people."

Her response was a sorry attempt at trying to dissuade the three-time NBA Champion. "Must they run their mouths like that?" Ingraham said. "Unfortunately, a lot of kids and some adults take these ignorant comments seriously. Look, there might be a cautionary lesson in LeBron for kids: This is what happens when you attempt to leave high school a year early to join the NBA. And it's always unwise to seek political advice from someone who gets paid \$100 million a year to bounce a ball. Oh, and LeBron and Kevin? You're great players but no one voted for you. Millions elected Trump to be their coach. So keep the political commentary to yourself, or

as someone once said, shut up and dribble."

Wow, there is a lot to address there. "Must they run their mouths like that" is enough to fuel outrage, but the next couple of sentences are where the blood begins to boil. James should be considered a role model for kids because he chose to take a risk and use his talents and money to give back to charities in his home state of Ohio, including his own foundation that gives children transportation to school and college scholarships.

It's also "unwise" to seek information from a Fox News host who

criticizes a Parkland student for his grammar while in the same exact Tweet has a grammatical error. Millions also voted for Hillary Clinton, but of course we forget about that fact conveniently.

All of that jibberish is pointless. The fact is: sports figures will continue to speak up, since they have been for years. The push-back is absolutely nothing new. Whether it's LeBron, or Curry, or Kaepernick, athletes will refuse to "shut up."

Muhammad Ali was among the most iconic for his protest of the Vietnam War

draft, as it cost him his championship titles, boxing licenses and three and a half years of a legendary career.

Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists after winning gold and bronze in the 1968 Summer Olympics and were sent home because of it.

More examples exist from the largest sports leagues in the world to college and high school players. Athletes speaking out is not a bad thing. I repeat, the use of free speech is not a bad thing, particularly when some athletes are sacrificing their position, their earnings and their time in order to level the playing field for others.

The only problem lies in the people on the outside (particularly pundits and our current POTUS) that turn the argument around. The attempts to turn athletes into "liberal elites" is why the battle will never be over. Rather than focusing on the message, those like Ingraham try to twist the context into a negative light. Ingraham does not make a large difference in her community in the magnitude that James does. Trump did not have to sacri-

fice his wealth or his career when he "dodged the draft."

James and other athletes should never their voices silent, as it inspires the next generation to use their voices for good. Especially when he still has to face discrimination (including a racial slur that was painted on the gate of his home over a year ago).

While it feels like a broken record, keeping the conversation going about athlete activism is how we progress forward as a nation. Also, if there are some that want to use the context of an athlete's salary to weaken his or her message, it requires an equal analysis of the critic and the context around which they choose to speak.

The previous paragraph is just a nicer way of telling Ingraham and any future critic to walk a mile in their shoes. I'm sure they have never faced the degree of oppression and opposition that black athletes like James and Kaepernick have had to face.

Free speech is a two-way boulevard. It cannot be turned off like a basketball game on television when you don't want to hear it.

It is time to stop telling those who want to use their platform to "shut up and dribble." That is a better "cautionary lesson for kids."

Parkland, Florida shooting will bring about gun legislation

Molly Ashford
staff writer

Thirty-two died at Virginia Tech. Twenty-seven at Sandy Hook. Seventeen at University of Texas. After all of these school massacres, families of the victims and democratic lawmakers called tirelessly for stricter gun control.

After fourteen students and three staff members were murdered at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., today's teenagers have essentially waged a war on the National Rifle Association and the politicians who submit to them. A group of fifteen or so students from Douglas are spearheading the #neveragain movement from the living room of a survivor. The question that still circulates is, simply, why do these teenagers believe that they have the power to change laws that have been disputed for decades?

They already have. In Florida, one of the most Republican and NRA-led states in the country, they convinced the governor to make the buying age 21 and enact a waiting period to buy firearms. It was the first time in over twenty years that Florida defied the NRA. Thirteen businesses have cut professional ties with the NRA, and lawmakers have been forced out of silence and onto town hall stages and torn apart by the public. It is a firestorm of progress, and it is not slowing down.

It is jarring to hear people my age referred to as the "mass shooting generation". As activist and survivor Alex Wind said, "We are the generation that's had to be trapped in closets, waiting for police to come or waiting for a shooter to walk in the door. We are the people who know what it's like first hand."

Disturbingly enough, he's right. We sit through lockdown drills, huddled in the corner of the room while we gather heavy things to throw at the imaginary intruder. As America seems to become more and more desensitized to senseless violence, children and adolescents are saying that enough is enough. They have proven in a mere month that they have an incredible amount of power.

Of course, this is not a new fight. Parents of students at Sandy Hook, Columbine, and other massacres have devoted

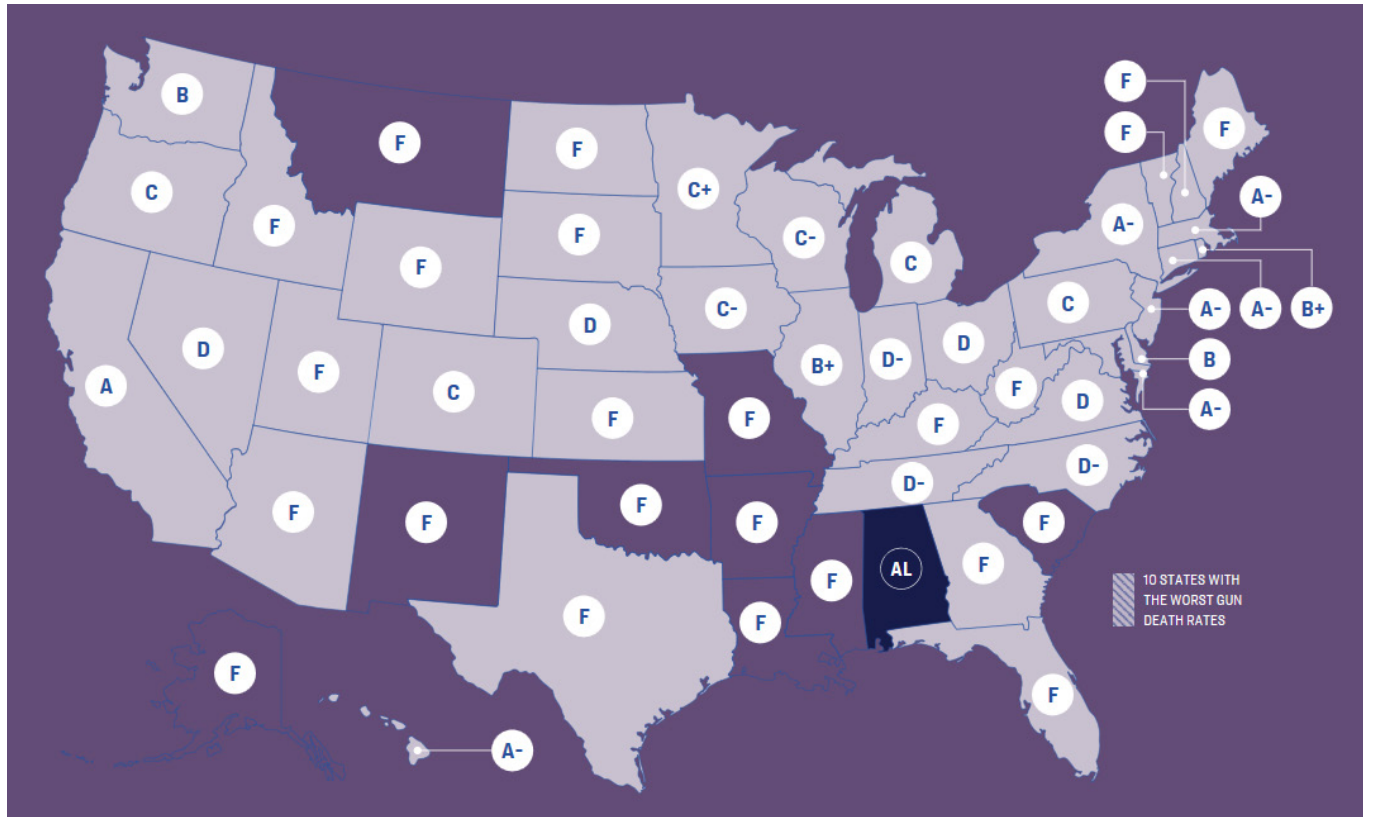


Photo Courtesy of GIFFORDS LAW CENTER

This image gives each state a grade based upon their gun laws. Although Nebraska is not among the worst, it is not passing.

their lives to fighting gun violence. Gun control has been in the public eye for decades. Lackluster gun reform laws have been brought to the table time and time again. Tragedy after tragedy occurred. But the aftermath of Parkland has proven to be vastly more persistent and progressive than ever before. This is largely due to these student's understanding of the problem in a way that adults never could fathom. Elementary kids are given prizes for staying silent during active shooter drills, class time is overshadowed by planning escape routes. While the concern of school safety may have been around in

our parents' day, they did not experience fear the way that the students of today do.

With this in mind, this generation will be the ones to change gun laws and the conversation about school safety. They have captivated the attention of the people and the politicians, and their largest challenge is continuing to stay relevant. With the persistence and momentum that they have amassed thus far, I believe that the Parkland kids and their allies will bring about gun legislation.

Teachers deserve higher salary, should get paid for after-hours work

Teachers have the most important job that there is- to teach the next generation of young adults everything that they need to become successful. They spend countless hours planning and grading so that their students will thrive in whatever pathway in life they choose. While NBA and NFL players get compensated millions of dollars annually to entertain others by playing a sport, teachers get paid a fraction of what they truly deserve.

Although these players are very talented, teachers are the reason why students sink or swim following graduation which can potentially affect the economy and environment. Teachers deal with behavioral issues from students, working through lunches, and free tutoring and after school programs on a daily basis- all to receive lousy pay from the government.

From kindergarten all the way up to high school seniors, teachers are forced to deal with the behavioral issues of their students. Younger students especially are known to cause distractions and interruptions during class. Some students may even have personal issues and take it out on their teachers by being rude or uncooperative. In effect, teachers constantly have to redirect the classroom and put up with rude behaviors.

Truly understanding and caring teachers even act as a counselor for troubled children. They constantly show their empathetic qualities and show their compassion (especially for younger students). Teachers also have to deal with complaints and disrespect on a daily basis and adapt to many different personalities.



KAYLA JOHNSON
NOT CALEB

Also, teachers constantly work off the clock- and do not get compensated for their time. They do not only plan during school hours, but they use their own valuable time at school, home, and on the weekends. Not to mention, teachers work through their lunches. When they are supposed to have "free time" during their lunch break, most of the time they are scheduling or helping students. They patiently and willingly set aside their personal time so that their students can thrive- without extra payment. But why do employees in other career fields get paid for "overtime", except for teachers? Do they not also deserve to be acknowledged for all the hard work and effort they put in?

Not to mention, teachers tutor for free after and during classes. Initially someone would think, "Isn't that what teachers are supposed to do?" But actually think about how much most tutors get paid for their time. Tutors usually get paid hourly for helping students understand and comprehend what they are learning in class. But teachers who help students after school do not get paid to "tutor". They simply have to use their personal time to help their students, which shows their generosity and patience. Teachers also try to get involved in extracurricular activities and clubs after school to provide entertainment for students. But to no surprise- teachers do not get paid for participation in [most] extracurricular events.

Rather than just brush off all of the hard work that teachers put in for their students, students and parents alike should be grateful for all of the time and sacrifices made to teach. Teachers never teach for the salary- they do it for the children and their passion to teach. However, they should still be properly acknowledged for their generosity.

Using awards shows for social awareness is useful, important

Heidi Heyden
staff writer

Within the past year, there have been many people accused of things that were normally seen as taboo. It all started with Harvey Weinstein, when the first of 97 people accused him of sexual harassment and/or rape. This helped people all throughout the performing arts industry open up about their experiences with sexual harassment.

The #MeToo movement helped people who experienced sexual harassment find the courage to speak out against these people and provide others with the courage and safety to talk about their experiences.

A major platform for the #MeToo movement and other budding social movements became award shows, as many people watched these shows and they tend to be highly talked about even without any social movement. According to hollywoodreporter.com, the 2017 Oscars were watched by 32.9 million people. According to fortune.com, the 2016 Grammy Awards were watched by 24.95 million people.

Finally, according to washingtonpost.com, the 2014 Emmys were watched by a little less than 16 million people. Award shows are a great way to talk about topics that people need to know about. In recent award shows this year, many

winners used their speeches to talk about the Me Too, Times Up, and most recently, Never Again movements. In some award shows, however people come together and send an even powerful message through less direct actions.

During the Golden Globe Awards this year, most of the nominees were dressed in all black in solidarity for victims of sexual harassment. During the Grammys, people were wearing all white in honor of the Times Up Movement. This made room for open conversation both on the red carpet and in the media. When being interviewed on the red carpet during the Golden Globes, many nominees used their platform to talk about their experiences and share their support with those who have experienced harassment. Some of the nominees even brought notable activists in the Me Too movement as their dates to the show.

Most recently, the Never Again movement has taken over the media. It was started in the wake of the Parkland shooting, and the survivors led the protests against the government and the National Rifle Association (NRA) to start implementing gun control laws to protect schools and their students.

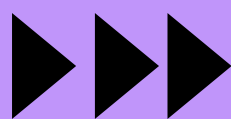
During this year's Oscars, host Jimmy Kimmel mentioned the Never Again movement during his opening dialogue, alongside the Me Too and Times Up movements. These movements are not the only topics being discussed during these

award shows. Over the course of the past years, all the recent award shows have come together and point out the diversity—or lack thereof—of the winners and nominations in each show. This includes the presence of women and people of color in important roles, such as Best Director, that were normally given to white males in the past.

These award shows are doing a great job in using its massive platform to keep people informed about what is going on in the world. The winners and nominees are using their voices to let people know that change needs to happen right now, and that these movements are going to change America for the better. So many people look up to the celebrities being shown at these award shows, and if their idols can so easily spread the message that there is a positive change to come, the viewers will be well informed and make the change that much easier.

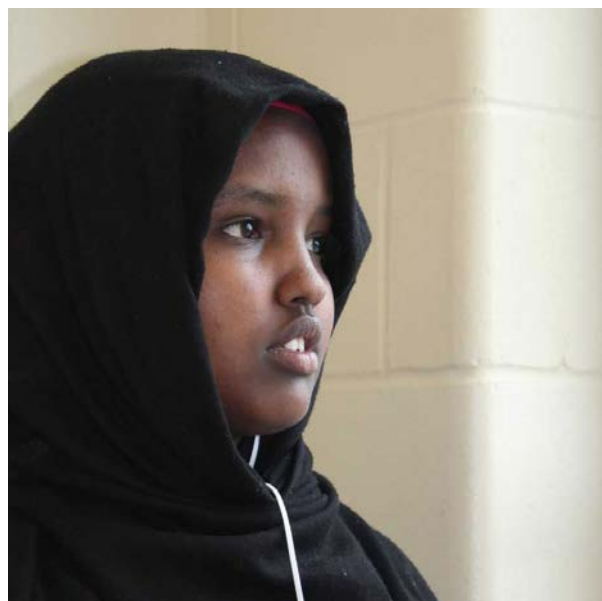
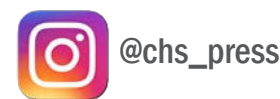
Hopefully, people will continue to use places such as award shows to keep people aware about the impact Hollywood can have on the social justice in America.

WHAT'S ON THE WEB



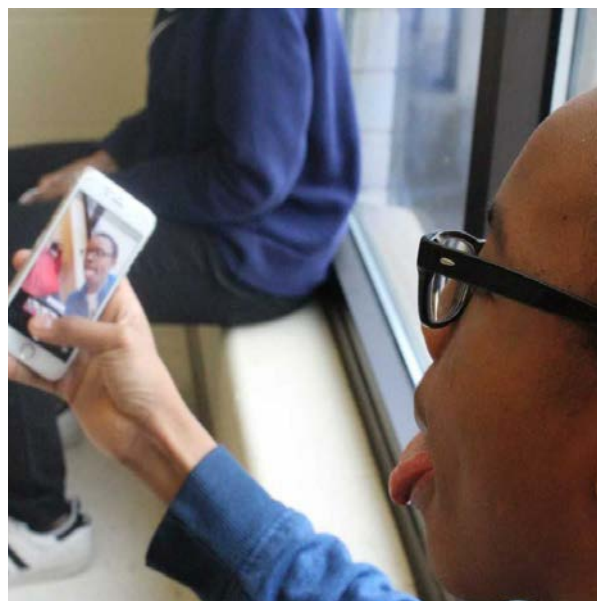
The Quiz Bowl team competed at a competition at Creighton Prep in March. The team placed third overall with several team members placing individually.

QUIZ BOWL TEAM



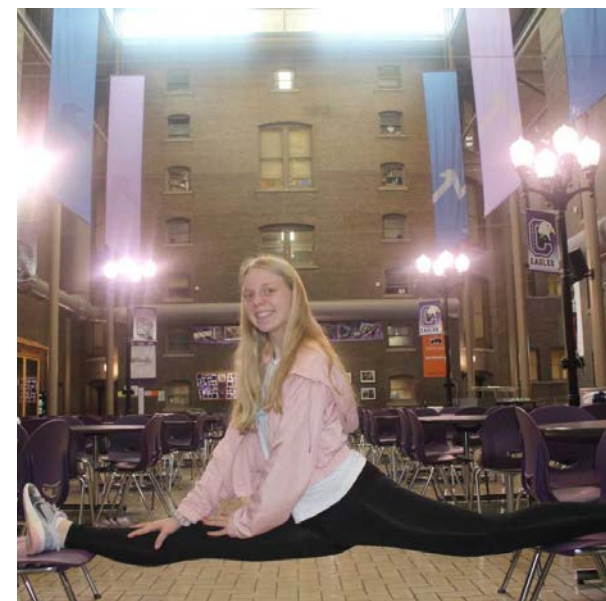
ZEE HASSAN, JUNIOR

My favorite memory was from when I was young and I used to climb trees. I was never afraid of anything. I would just go for it.



DOMANI WALKER, FRESHMAN

Can't sit with me unless you're POP (Pretty On Purpose)



AVERY SCHLOTE, FRESHMAN

My favorite part about Central is how welcoming it is and how diverse everyone is.

HUMANS OF CENTRAL

Inspired by Instagram account "Humans of New York," six students gave quotes on topics of life, school and struggle.



EVA RICHTER, FRESHMAN

I'm pretending to look like Shawn Mendes in this picture.



JACY DUNDEE, SENIOR

Soccer is definitely better at Central than in Illinois.



WAH PAW BWEH, SENIOR

I love lifting because it keeps me toned and in shape.