

the doane OWL

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Cheer and Dance teams compete at GPAC conference. See Page 9 for more.

STATE'S BASKETBALL

STATE CHAMPIONS: 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921
 NIAA: 1927
 NCAC: 1929, 1930, 1939, 1941, 1942, 1943
 NIAC: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1993

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

AAU: 1929, 1930
 NAIA: 1945, 1971, 1976, 1996, 1999
 NCAA II: 1965
 NCAA III: 1975

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1989, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT QUALIFIERS

NAIA TOURNAMENT APPLICANTS

President Biden attacks Syria

U.S. retaliates against Syria for Iraq bombings

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

On Feb. 25, the United States launched airstrikes targeted at Iranian-backed militia groups in Syria in the first offensive military operation carried out by the Biden administration.

According to NPR, the Department of Defense said the strikes were in response to recent rocket attacks against Americans in Iraq.

On Feb. 15, a rocket

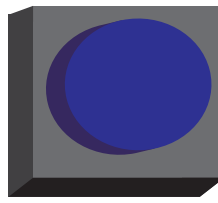
attack on the airport in Erbil, Iraq killed a civilian contractor who was working with the American-led military coalition and wounded six others, one being a U.S. service member.

According to The New York Times, a small group known as Awliya al Dam (Guardian of the Blood) claimed responsibility for this attack along with others that occurred on the same day in various residential areas of Erbil.

The U.S. retaliated by launching seven precision-guided bombs targeted at what the Pentagon said was a logistics hub for Iranian-backed militia groups near Syria's border with Iraq.

The Pentagon press secretary John Kirby called the operation a "proportionate military

Give Americans their stimulus checks like you promised



Bomb Syria over the death of one American



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

response" after revealing the strikes destroyed a number of facilities located at a border control point in eastern Syria.

According to Kirby, the facilities were "used by a number of Iranian-backed militant groups, including Kait'ib Hezbollah and Kait'ib

Sayyid al-Shuhada," despite Kait'ib Hezbollah claiming it was not involved in the Erbil strike in any capacity.

Kait'ib Hezbollah spokesman Mohammed Mohi criticized the U.S. military action and denied any involvement in the Erbil strike.

"We absolutely did not target Erbil or the Green Zone and have no knowledge of the group that did," Mohi said.

USA Today reported that Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, who recommended the action to Biden, told reporters the Pentagon is "confident

that the target was being used by the same Shia militants that conducted the [Feb. 15] strikes."

Despite this, some Democrats criticized Biden's decision, as he did not consult Congress prior to the attack.

"Congress should hold this administration to the same standard it did prior administrations and require clear legal justifications for military action," Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT), chairman of Foreign Relations Subcommittee, said.

Biden defended his actions to Congress in a letter saying his orders for the Syria airstrikes were self-defense.

"I directed this military action to protect and defend our personnel and our partners against these attacks and future such attacks" Biden wrote.

NexTus scholarship created by alumni

Friends come together to help students at Doane

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

In 2018, six Doane alumni who graduated between 1988 and 1990 returned to campus for homecoming. What they didn't know was that the trip would inspire them to create a scholarship for struggling Doane students.

André Davis, Dexter Hoskins, Jerall Moreland, Jerry Gamble, Steve McAlester and Tony Tolliver made a name for themselves while at Doane, being the first and only Black quad on campus.

"I don't know what Doane is like now, but we didn't have that many Black guys or women, so there was a natural tendency to get to know each other," Tolliver said.

They all played football for the Tigers, except for Tolliver who played baseball.

Davis, Moreland, Gamble and McAlester were also part of the Sigma Phi Theta fraternity. Even though they were part of a fraternity, they said they "hung out" and



Courtesy Photo - Dexter Hoskins

got along with everyone.

When the six friends returned to campus three years ago, they talked with students and faculty members about the atmosphere of Doane.

They found out that many students were struggling to stay on top of their financial troubles, something they could all relate to on a personal level.

"From there, we said 'what if we started something and just helped out people who needed \$500 here, why don't we just pool resources together and make a scholarship,'" Davis said.

The group then created

the NexTus Scholarship.

"We chose that because of the word 'Nexus' and the word 'next us,' meaning future people like us," Tolliver said.

The scholarship is relatively new, being only two years old. With the help of Doane faculty on campus, the six friends are able to have input into which two students receive \$500 for the academic year.

They were quick to point out that they don't know the names or personal information about candidates; they only hear the students' stories.

"I think today you have a lot of young kids

that don't have the financial backing. They want to seek an education, but they don't know how, or they don't have the means to do so," Davis said.

The group created the NexTus Scholarship to support students who "don't know where to go" and to help keep students in college despite all of their financial challenges.

The scholarship is need-based, and if someone needs help, the group is more than willing to step up and support that individual through a difficult time.

"This was an intentional group that came together for intentional

outcomes," Davis said.

Since they are friends, the group felt comfortable creating this scholarship because they knew that no one is seeking notoriety or "a spotlight" from awarding scholarships. That is also why they are hesitant to include anyone else in the heart of their group. They don't want the purpose of the NexTus Scholarship to be tainted by vested interests.

"The relationships that you build at Doane, the good ones, are built to last because none of this would have been possible without the relationship that we made at Doane,"

Davis said.

The friends hope to expand the NexTus Scholarship so they can support more students, but they don't advertise for donors to preserve the integrity of the awards.

If students are interested in the NexTus Scholarship or want to learn more about it, reach out to the Financial Aid Office at faoffice@doane.edu or to Luis Sotelo, Vice President of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), at luis.sotelo@doane.edu.

Female scouts celebrated

Boy Scouts recognize achievements of members

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

Beginning in 2018, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) began accepting girls into the Cub Scouts, and, consequently, allowing girls into almost all parts of the BSA by the end of 2019.

At the time of this article's publication, over 140,000 girls have joined the BSA either as Cub

Scouts, in the flagship program or any other part of BSA.

Over the weekend of Feb. 20, BSA took the opportunity to celebrate all of the girls who have reached the highest ranking within the Boy Scouts, the honored Eagle Scout.

In order to obtain the Eagle Scout rank, one must be actively involved within their Boy Scout troop for six months as a Life Scout, the rank before Eagle. They must also have multiple references to attest to their accomplishments. Then, most importantly, they must have earned at least 21 merit badges, 13 of those being required and eight being elective.

Nearly 1,000 girls have reached Eagle Scout status since girls' first introductions to BSA.

Rebecca Wright of Omaha earned 102 of the possible 137 merit badges. Megan Wright, Rebecca's mother, began helping the Scouts in a troop her son belonged to about 10 years ago before more recently being a scoutmaster for Rebecca's troop.

"It's been fantastic to see girls be able to participate in this program. Just seeing the pride, the sense of accomplishment, knowing that they have achieved what so few others have," Megan Wright said.

Isabella Tunney of Minneapolis was also

among the girls who received congratulations for her work.

Ever since she was a child, Tunney had looked up to her brother for what he would do for his Boy Scout troop and for his eventual Eagle Scout status.

"I was very envious of [my brother's experiences so,] when the Boy Scouts opened up to girls, I was so excited to get the opportunity to participate myself," Tunney said.

After joining the Boy Scouts, Tunney worked very hard in whatever she needed to do. Since her brother achieved Eagle Scout status, she was driven to do the same as well. However, Tunney took it a step further.

"Tunney earned all 137 [merit badges], in subjects ranging from welding, to white-water rafting, to coin collection," the Boston Globe reported.

For her Eagle Scout service project, Tunney organized a drive-in to collect essential materials for families receiving assistance from homeless shelters.

According to BSA, around six percent of all individuals involved in the organization achieve Eagle Scout status, around 2.5 million people since its creation in 1911. Now that more girls are beginning to join BSA, it is more than likely that the number will only increase.

Cancun chaos for Cruz

Senator leaves Texas after winter storm hits

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Texas Senator Ted Cruz recently fell under fire for being spotted at a Houston airport on Feb. 17 boarding a plane headed to Cancun, Mexico with his family.

This came at the same time as Texas experienced heavy snow storms, freezing temperatures and mass power outages across the state, leaving multiple dead and many hospitalized.

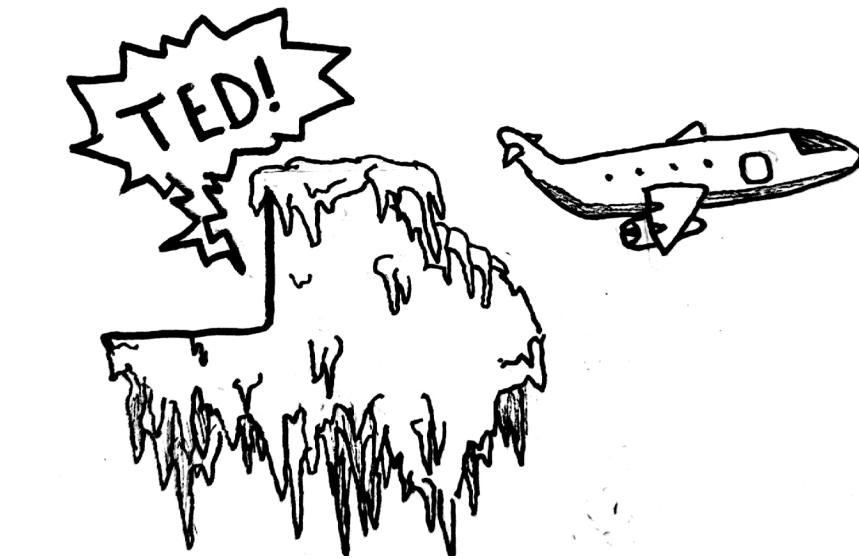
The photos of Cruz and his wife Heidi Cruz boarding the flight circulated social media rapidly and drew heavy criticism from his political allies and rivals alike.

Cruz then promptly released a statement saying he had flown to Mexico "to be a good dad," as he said he was escorting his daughters and their friends and would be flying back Feb. 18 but did not say how long he had originally planned on staying.

According to The New York Times, text messages from Heidi Cruz to friends and neighbors in Houston revealed the trip was planned as a way to get away from their "FREEZING" house and stay in Cancun until Feb. 22.

The text messages were provided to The New York Times and confirmed by a second person who wished to remain anonymous. The messages revealed that Heidi Cruz had invited others to join her and her family at the Ritz-Carlton in Cancun, where they had stayed "many times."

Cruz and his office declined to comment on his whereabouts for more than 12 hours after the



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

airport pictures were released, and the Houston police confirmed that Cruz's office had requested their help for his trip to the airport.

Cruz was seen on Feb. 18 returning to Texas, suitcase in hand.

During this time, millions of Texans were without electricity and had no running water. The Federal Emergency Management Agency was called in to send supplies including generators.

After he returned,

Cruz gave a different explanation for his Cancun trip, stating the trip was "obviously a mistake," and he had begun having "second thoughts" the moment he boarded the plane.

Cruz stated that the trip was intended to be for his daughters aged 10 and 12 as a way to reward them for completing a "tough week."

Despite this, many still criticized Cruz for his lack of action, as New York Representative Al-

exandria Ocasio-Cortez flew down to Texas and raised more than \$4 million for Texans in just a few days.

"When disaster strikes, this is not just an issue for Texans; this is an issue for our entire country," Ocasio-Cortez said.

Shortly after he returned, Cruz posted photos of him loading water into cars for distribution on his Twitter with the caption #TexasStrong.

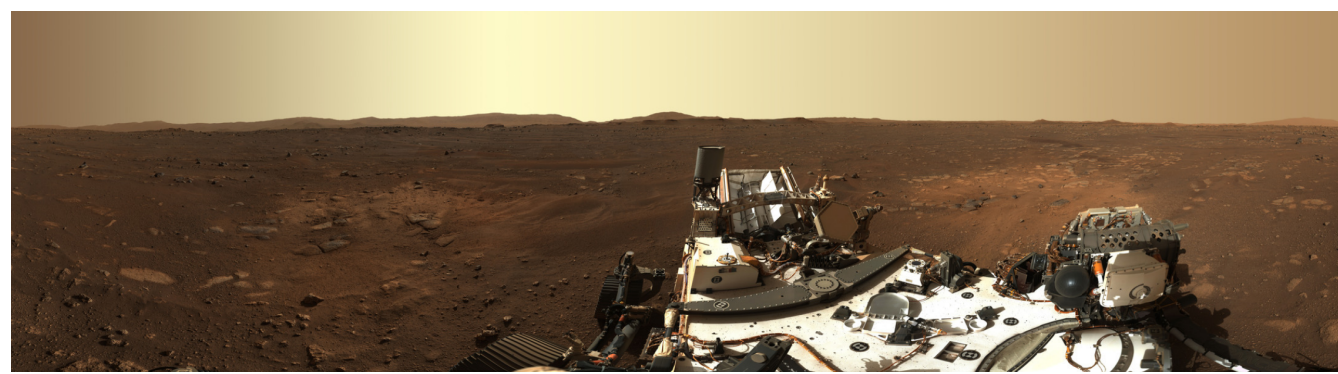
NASA Rover lands on Mars

Rover to see if Mars could support life in the future

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

NASA's Perseverance rover recently returned the first-ever video of a descent through the atmosphere of Mars.

The rover, which launched on July 30, 2020, landed on the surface of Mars on Feb. 18, 2021 and will stay on



Courtesy photo | NASA.gov

Mars for about one Martian year, roughly 687 Earth days.

According to NASA, the Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover will search for signs of ancient microbial life in an attempt to help uncover Mars' past.

The rover comes equipped with a drill to

collect core samples of Martian rocks and soil which are then stored in sealed tubes designated for pickup in a future mission.

The Perseverance rover has four main objectives to support the Mars Exploration Program: gauging habitability by identi-

fying past environments capable of supporting microbial life, seeking biosignatures by searching for special rocks known to preserve signs of life over time, caching samples by collecting core rock and soil samples and preparing Mars for humans by testing oxygen

production from the atmosphere.

These objectives are all aimed at addressing vital astrobiology questions related to the potential of Mars as a place for life, with the first three objectives aimed at identifying the possibility of past microbial life.

This Week's Weather Forecast

Wednesday

3/03



High: 61

Low: 31

Thursday

3/04



High: 62

Low: 37

Friday

3/05



High: 57

Low: 33

Saturday

3/06



High: 62

Low: 39

Sunday

3/07



High: 64

Low: 43

Monday

3/08



High: 66

Low: 43

Tuesday

3/09



High: 64

Low: 43

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

The long-range mobility system on Perseverance allows it to travel on the surface of Mars over three to 12 miles.

Additionally, the Perseverance is testing technology for extracting oxygen from the Martian atmosphere which is 96 percent carbon dioxide.

The landing of the rover is one of the first steps in allowing NASA to begin transporting humans to Mars and to one day establishing a research base on the red planet.

Lincoln RUNNING CO.
Visit our website at www.shop.lincrunningcompany.com
Every Shoe In Stock On SALE
Sale Runs March 3rd - 15th
Shoes for running, walking, cross training, track spikes, leisure & more

Locally Owned & Operated for **OVER 40 YEARS**
Downtown Lincoln 1213 Q St. • (402) 474-4557

Special Sale Hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 9-8
Fri.-Sat. 9-6 • Sun. 12-5

WINNER LINCOLN'S CHOICE 2020

TOP 50 BEST RUNNING STORES IN AMERICA

BULL SALE? Run this size ad in over 150 Newspapers for just \$6.41/newspaper

Place your 2x2 display ad in over 150 Nebraska newspapers & get your message to over 490,000 readers. Statewide coverage for just \$6.41* per publication. *Statewide cost only \$975. Regional ads also available in Central, Northeast, Southeast or Western Nebraska. Other sizes available.



Call this newspaper or 1-800-369-2850 for more information.

Nebraska 2x2/2x4 Display Ad Network

ESE hires new assistant director

Munson joins the Student Experiences team

EMMA RYAN
Staff Writer

Student Experiences have a role to play in every student's journey from the moment they first step on Doane's campus.

The department was originally called the Office of Campus Life but has recently changed to Engagement and Outreach Student Experiences (ESE) in order to accommodate all of the responsibilities and programs they now help with.

Jenna Jelinek, Director of ESE, has been at Doane since last fall. One of her main goals is to amplify the student experience and sense of community at Doane.

Before coming to Doane, Jelinek was in People Program Management at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) for Graduate Medical Education. However, she knew she wanted to take her career further by going to graduate school, so she studied



Photo by Jose Villalpando | The Doane Owl

“I was looking for someone who complimented my skills and communication style with high energy and is execution oriented.”

Jenna Jelinek
Director of ESE

leadership at Creighton.

One of the ESE program revisions was to hire an assistant director to help Jelinek and bring

another perspective to campus.

“I was looking for someone who complimented my skills and communication style with high energy and is execution oriented,” Jelinek said.

She found all of those qualities in Spencer Munson.

Munson graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan where he said he was involved in the programming board, Greek Life, theatre, intramurals and many other clubs.

“I found myself outside the classroom by being hyper-involved on campus, and that is a main goal for me to help

students with at Doane,” Munson said.

The two have teamed up to plan some “super fun” events for students.

Some of the events they are currently planning are the Wellness Days on March 9 and April 29, Dapper Donuts coming to campus on March 17, a VIP Final Four Championship experience, a glow in the dark Casino Night in April and Tiger Jumpstart Days for incoming students.

“We can't put on as big of events this year because of COVID regulations, but we can give the biggest prizes,” Munson said.

Some of these prizes

include iPads, TVs, speakers and Nintendo Switches.

One of their bigger goals is to make the Student Experience pod in the lower Perry Campus Center across from Tiger Den more student-friendly, including seating and meeting spaces.

They will also be having the TVs turned back on in Perry with updates on campus happenings and current events for students to be involved in.

If students have any questions, please contact Jelinek and Munson at jenna.jelinek@doane.edu and spencer.munson@doane.edu.

“I found myself outside the classroom by being hyper-involved on campus, and that is a main goal for me to help students with at Doane.”

Spencer Munson
Assistant Director of ESE

The state of the fair

Questions raised about this year's event

SARAH DALY
Communications Manager

As the weather turns warmer, Nebraskans are looking towards their summer plans. Held in Fonner Park in Grand Island, the Nebraska State Fair is a place where all families can gather and experience fried foods, concerts and appreciate livestock amongst other activities. The COVID-19 pandemic prevented events and activities from occurring last summer, so many Nebraskans are looking forward to this coming fair.

Some of the most prevalent and popular events at the fair include the concerts. Over the years, many famous bands and performers have graced the stage at the Nebraska State Fair. With the COVID-19 pandemic still lingering, many were left thinking that there would be no concerts.

However, the Nebraska State Fair Directors announced they would be hosting outdoor concert events during the 2021 Nebraska State Fair.

During the Feb. 19 fair board meeting, Nebraska State Fair Executive Director Bill Ogg an-

Nebraska State Fair
Concerts

- Three outdoor concerts have been planned for Sep. 2 through Sep. 4.
- They will take place on the infield of the training track instead of the Fonner Park track.
- No acts have been announced yet.

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

nounced that the fair is planning three outdoor concerts during the Labor Day weekend. The Nebraska State Fair will run Aug. 27 through Sep. 6. The concerts will take place Sep. 2 through Sep. 4.

Ogg told NTV that the fair board considered weather and COVID-19 factors into this decision.

“[There is] tremendous risk in the entertainment business, and you can just look at history here and everywhere else to recognize that as the truth. I am very cognizant that I certainly can't control the

weather, but for a couple of reasons, I think both are valid. If the weather is at all cooperating outside, concerts in August and September are more fun. Also, if there are lingering restrictions of spacing and attendance and that type of thing, we can accommodate that outside,” Ogg said.

Concerts will take place on the infield of the training track this year instead of the typical main Fonner Park track.

No acts have been announced by the Nebraska State Fair Board, but more information will be

coming as summer rolls around.

Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reported incidents in their public crime log. Incidents reported between Feb. 15 and March 1 include:

- 02/14 **Motor Vehicle: Reckless Driving**

FISCHER'S
Beer ★ Wine ★ Spirits
1750 Hawthorne Ave

We offer a wide variety of adult beverages such as

domestic beers imported beers
hard ciders wine and spirits
shooters twisted shotz buzzballs

Bring this ad in and receive 5% off of any spirit item of 750 mL or larger

Be sure to like us on Facebook @FischersBeerWineSpirits

156+/- ACRES, SALINE COUNTY LAND AUCTION Thursday, March 11, 2021 • 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: American Legion Hall, Dorchester, NE

FARM LOCATION:

From Crete, NE, take Hwy. 33 west to County Road 1900, go north 4 miles, then turn west approx. 1/2 mile.

Col. Troy Novak: (402) 641-1526
Office: (402) 826-5302

For photos and additions, go to:
novakauctionservice.com

NAA Novak Auction Service
Dorchester, NE

Clarity Real Estate Broker
402-792-2820



Immigrant lives in the spotlight

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

On March 3, filmmaker Luis Argueta will be hosting a free live question-and-answer session via Zoom for the Doane community.

Argueta, originally from Guatemala, will be discussing his third, and final, film in a documentary series about injustices in immigration.

The series includes “abUSed: The Postville Raid (2010)”, “ABRAZOS (2014)” and “The U Turn (2017).”

“abUSed: The Postville Raid” follows the lives of immigrants working in a meat-packing plant in Postville, IA. The plant is raided by immigration officials, and the hazardous lives of the immigrant workers are exposed. Hundreds of arrested individuals were quickly moved through the judicial system, and numerous fair-trial rights were violated by the government. The documentary sheds a light on the injustice and blatant disregard for immigrants in the United States.

“ABRAZOS” highlights the emotional impact the separation between families can create. Argueta follows

a parish’s mission to reunite the U.S.-citizen children of immigrant families with the rest of their family line in Guatemala. This documentary puts a new lens on the struggles and heartaches that accompany the inability of immigrants to stay connected with family members in their home country.

“The U Turn” is the third film in the series, and it is the documentary that Argueta will be discussing on March 3. It is connected to “abUSed: The Postville Raid” in the sense that deported immigrants from that raid were able to return to the United States to work on the condition that they testify in court. Argueta is directly involved in this documentary, unlike the others, as he contacts some of the deportees and tries to convince them to testify. By testifying, some immigrants were able to obtain a U Visa and a work visa, thus able to stay with their family in the U.S.

Argueta’s discussion about “The U Turn” has been made possible through Doane’s Gregory Fund, the Experiential Opportunities Committee and the Department of Modern Languages.

Jared List, Associate

Professor of Spanish, said he is excited that Argueta has agreed to come talk to Doane again, as the filmmaker came to campus for a lecture in 2017 about “ABRAZOS.”

List hopes all viewers of “The U Turn” are able to gain a different perspective about the lives of immigrants through the stories presented in the three documentaries.

“I think his title captures it well in terms of the talk, giving space to sharing migrant stories and to show the human condition in all of the stories surrounding the question of immigration,” List said. “And particularly the fact that his films, the trilogy, takes place in the Midwest for the most part, it is something that hits close to home.”

Argueta’s participation in “The U Turn” is a valued element of the documentary for List. He said he appreciates the unconventional and involved role that Argueta assumed for the benefit of the immigrant community.

“Instead of your typical documentary that potentially is presenting the facts, you see Luis Argueta taking a very present role in terms of the trilogy,” List said.

Students and the Do-



Courtesy photo | Jared List

ane community can watch “The U Turn” for free between 7 p.m. Feb. 27 and 7 p.m. March 2 using the Vimeo link sent out in an email from the

Office of Academic Affairs.

The Zoom link for Argueta’s presentation on March 3 at 7 p.m. is available in that same email.

With any questions or concerns, please contact List at jared.list@doane.edu.

Greek Life excited for rush season

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

Greek Life began the rush process virtually on Feb. 20.

In a poll sent out on Feb. 23, 12 students responded and said they enjoyed the rush parties they had attended.

Junior Nathaniel Nelson is the rush chair for Sigma Phi Theta. He said moving to a virtual format was difficult, but he was pleased with the turnout of prospective students.

“[It was] definitely less than usual, but the turnout was higher than we originally expected which was good to see,” Nelson said.

Junior MaKenna Lindgren is a part of Chi Delta, and she said there was no significant decrease in turnout for her Greek group.

“From my personal ex-

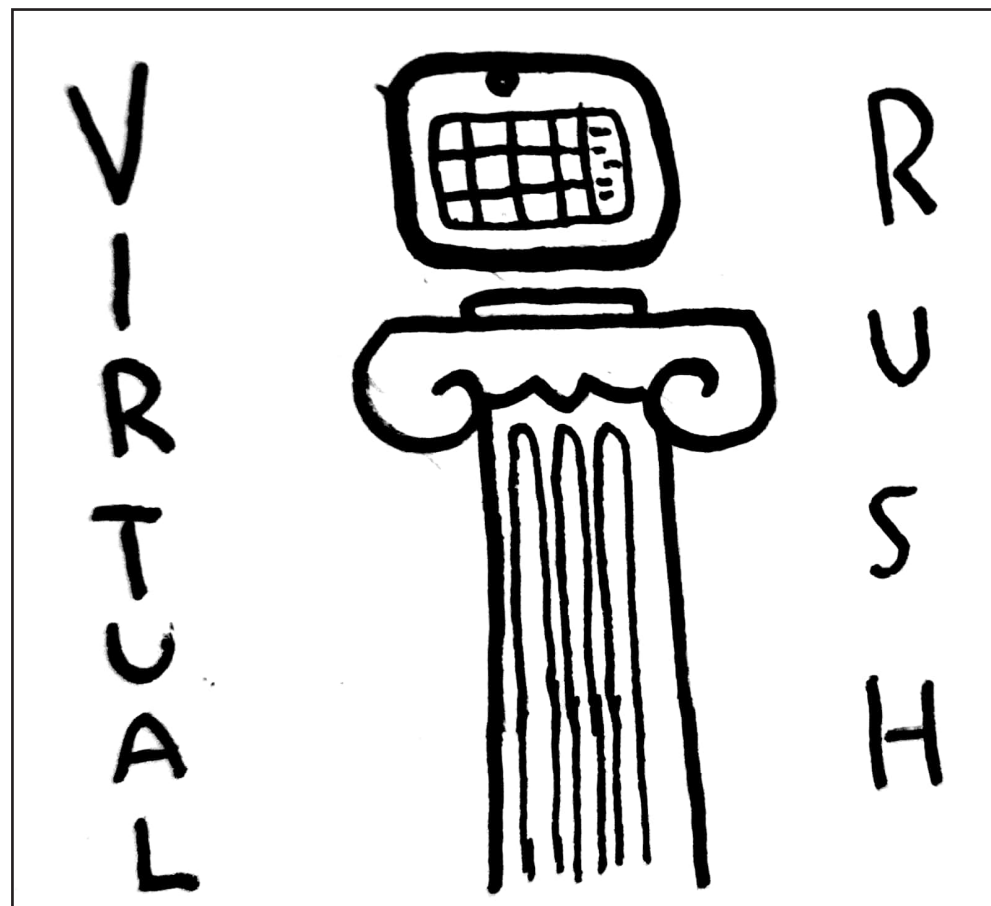
perience, there has been an amazing turnout for rush this year, no significant change in numbers from last year. If anything, it feels like there are more this year,” Lindgren said.

Lindgren also said moving rush online has made her group exercise different skills in order to get to know the prospective members.

“Planning around the pandemic takes flexibility and the ability to adapt to technology, and it really challenges you to get creative,” Lindgren said.

Junior Hunter Drake said he decided to participate in rush this year because his friends are involved in Greek Life, and he wanted to check it out for himself.

“The rush parties are an event, but it’s usually just hanging out, and it’s no different than if I saw [people] at Lakeside or something,” Drake said.



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

Drake said he is excited to make connections with more people on campus

through Greek Life, especially since he was unable to consistently participate

in rush in the past.

“It’s a big commitment that you have to make so

early on in college which is why I’m glad I’ve waited a long enough time,” Drake said.

Nelson and Lindgren both said they are excited to see rush through, and they hope everyone that made rush possible this year knows how appreciative they are.

“I would like to thank everyone who has been working hard behind the scenes to even make rush possible this year. This process means so much to us, and there was a time when we didn’t think it would be possible. So just to be able to still do it given the circumstances means the world to us,” Nelson said.

Students should watch their email or contact the rush chair of the respective groups they are rushing to get information about future rush parties.

NEDA educates about eating disorders

SARAH DALY
Communications
Manager

Feb. 22 through 28 was National Eating Disorders Awareness Week (NEDA). The National Eating Disorders Association announced that this year’s theme was “everybody has a seat at the table.”

Myron Parsley, Director of Counseling Services, sent an email to all students on Feb. 19 with details about the National Eating Disorders Week. Students were offered virtual events to participate in.

There were four events

hosted through Zoom or Facebook live. Each year, a committee from the National Eating Disorders Association picks nationally-known speakers or experts in their field like authors, doctors and counselors to host NEDA events. Students were able to join in on these events free of charge.

During NEDA, the National Eating Disorders Association raised money through the sponsorships of these virtual events.

Topics discussed during this year’s NEDA were how to help a friend or loved one with an eating disorder, the COVID-19 pandemic and

its effects on eating disorders and body image.

The National Eating Disorders Association is the largest nonprofit organization in the country dedicated to eating disorders. The National Eating Disorders Association provides information and other resources to anyone struggling with an eating disorder.

The organization has intervention programs like the “Body Project,” which acts as an early intervention against eating disorders. This project fosters skills and provides tools to combat unrealistic beauty standards.

The National Eating Disorders Association

also provides money for clinical research concentrated on treatment, prevention and training research.

For students interested in more information or

needing resources, they can visit www.nationaleatingdisorders.org.

For an emergency, people struggling with an eating disorder can contact a helpline at 800-931-2237.

These calls are confidential and available 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Scholarship | Opportunities

\$2,000 Nebraska Press Association Foundation Scholarships

Selection based on:

- Scholastic Ability • Good Citizenship in School
- Good Citizenship in Community • Preference will be given to students who will be pursuing print journalism and/or advertising/marketing education at Nebraska colleges/universities.

Applications must be post-marked by
March 26, 2021.

For more information and application form,
www.nebpress.com



Weekly Horoscopes

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): A wealthy time in your life is upon you. Be on the lookout for opportunities to take advantage of this time.

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): Success if upon you, Pisces. All that is needed is to take small risks and that leap of faith will pay off for you.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): Working hard will be a great pay off for you, Aries. It doesn't matter what the reward is so long as you continue doing your best.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): Be on the lookout for any help others want to assist you in. You've been working hard on lately, so the extra assistance will help you greatly.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): Stay ready for the storms that this week threaten you with. Persistence will be your greatest ally throughout the storms awaiting you.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Small acts of kindness this week may bring bigger rewards later. You never know, what may be the key to an important event in the future.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): Just a little push is all you need to reach success, Leo. Take the risk and knock on the door to success.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): Previous weeks seem to have gone by easy, but do not let that guide you into this week.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): This week, Libra, allow yourself to have others come in to help guide your direction. This edge in the right direction will help.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Keep at it, Scorpio. You're on your final lap before victory, it will do more harm than good if you choose to give up now.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): This week begins your new journey that previous opportunities have given rise to. Step up to the challenge.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 20): Getting into the action will be your biggest rewarding factor this week. It would be best to jump in headfirst.

Pagan Hearthkin looks to be approved

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

After coming to Doane and realizing that Doane's Pagan Group had been dismantled, freshman Jayda De Jong took it upon herself to restart it.

As a Pagan, she wanted a safe place for people like herself, where students can come and openly discuss a wide variety of topics and break down misconceptions about Paganism.

"To me, Pagan is just a word that just means not Christian or not Abrahamic. It's an all encompassing umbrella term. You can be Pagan and believe in one God. I personally believe in many. It is just a term that describes my path that I follow," De Jong said.

De Jong's goal is to pick up and restart the Pagan Group with a new name and "new light." Once the Pagan Group gets off the ground, it will be known as Pagan Hearthkin.

Part of getting it off the ground includes the approval process. To go through this process and become a Doane-sponsored club, it first needs an advisor. It needs to have regular meetings, a constitution and at least five members.

De Jong is using what she can from the "skeleton remains of the last group," including the group's constitution. She is also in the process of finding an open-minded adviser, as well as finding enough people to be part of the group.

To see where interest levels lie,



Courtesy photo | Jayda De Jong

De Jong hosted the first Pagan Hearthkin meeting over Zoom on Feb. 18. The meeting was to get to know each other, as well as have an open discussion. Each meeting, a topic will be chosen and discussed throughout the group. The first meeting's topic was the supernatural and ghosts.

The open discussions allow all members of the group to share their thoughts and break down any misconceptions.

De Jong said the biggest challenge they face is "being the Pagan Group in an area that is mostly Christian." The media has a tendency to portray those who identify as Pagan in a negative light, according to De Jong. So, part of the goal of this group is to break down stereotypes or misconceptions through discussion.

"This group is here to educate. I want people to see us as just another normal person. We are not big and scary. We are not secluded in the shadows. Anybody can

come in as long as you don't sit there and bash other people for what they believe," De Jong said.

Pagan Hearthkin is open to anyone. Many of the members are Pagan, Wiccan or poly-theistic; however, people from all religions or lack thereof are welcome to join, as long as they come with an open mind and the intention of learning.

As far as the future, De Jong is hoping that the group gets approved. When that happens, she hopes to hold events beside the normal discussion meetings for the members. De Jong also hopes that Pagan Hearthkin will be met with a positive reception.

"I really want people to see that we are just here. We are nice, fun-loving people. We are just like everybody else; we just worship different things," De Jong said.

Students interested in Pagan Hearthkin should watch their emails for the next meeting to be held sometime in March. They

Theatre forced to postpone production

Directors remain optimistic about work

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

The upcoming theatre production, "Lonely Planet," has been postponed. The production was originally supposed to be livestreamed Feb. 26 through Feb. 28. However, due to a burst pipe in the Whitcomb Conservatory, the production

will be postponed until March 12.

While the burst pipe was a bump in the road for the production, it is ultimately for the best, according to senior and director of "Lonely Planet" Mason Morrill.

"It was incredibly disappointing to have to delay the show, but ultimately, I think it has been for the best. If anything, I'm grateful this has been the only major delay in the process so far and is a testament to how committed everyone has been to getting this show on its feet while in a global pan-

demic," Morrill said.

Morrill was in the building when the pipe broke, so he knew immediately that it would have repercussions on his timeline. However, he was not sure how long it would take to get the venue up and running.

"I'm appreciative the university acted as quickly as it did and managed to get us back in the space in one week," Morrill said.

Though it only took one week to get back into the building, Morrill felt it was best to postpone until March 12 so that no

technical aspects would have to be compromised.

Prior to the pipe breaking, the production was in a good place as far as being ready by the production dates, according to Morrill. Yet, by delaying the show, it has allowed the cast and crew to work on things that would have been rushed or not have been able to get done in time.

During the upcoming weeks, the cast will still rehearse; however, the number of rehearsals will be cut down due to the actors being show-ready.

Though it caused a set-

back for the production, Morrill is grateful he had this learning opportunity that not all directors get to experience.

"Overcoming this delay will hopefully be very reaffirming for myself and everyone involved. If we can produce a show in a global pandemic while overcoming multiple bumps and delays in the road, that really speaks to the willpower of everyone in this department and show," Morrill said.

For students interested in watching the production of "Lonely Planet," they can reserve their

"It was incredibly disappointing to have to delay the show, but ultimately, I think it has been for the best."

Mason Morrill
Director of "Lonely Planet"

tickets by following the link emailed out to all students by Performing Arts. The production will be livestreamed March 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. and March 14 at 2 p.m.

Nelnet program offers opportunities

NELNET VIRTUAL EMPLOYER SHOWCASE

MARCH 4 FROM 2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Registration closes March 3.

The Nelnet Pathways Program offers students:

Mentorship

Competitive Pay

Flexible Hours

Networking Opportunities

Work via Remote

Wellness Program

401(k) Match and Student Loan

Reimbursement

Career Development

Free Nelnet Merchandise

For more information on the showcase, contact career@doane.edu

ANDREUS ABNER
Staff Writer

The College to Career Center sent an email regarding the opportunity to register for the Nelnet Virtual Employer Showcase on March 4.

The Nelnet Pathways Program offers students the chance to receive mentorship with the company's top contributors.

This opportunity is open for all students, and registration closes on March 3. After registering, students will receive a Zoom link for the showcase that will occur from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The remote session will start off with general information from a Nelnet representative, followed by information about internship and part-time opportunities. Students will be able to ask questions and have one-on-one appointments

with the employers present at the showcase.

Nelnet's Pathways Program offers unique perks for students interested in joining. These perks include: competitive pay, flexible hours, networking opportunities, work via remote, wellness program, 401(k) match and student loan reimbursement, career development and free Nelnet merchandise.

The Program has three main pathways students can choose from: Business and Innovation, Finance and Investments and Technology. Each of these paths have their own skill requirements that are met by the individual students that join the program.

For more information about the showcase on March 4 and the Nelnet Pathways Program, contact career@doane.edu.

For the week of March 2:

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING in over 150 newspapers. Reach thousands of readers for \$225/25 word ad. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

BIG GUN Show - March 5-7, 2021, Mid American Center, Council Bluffs, IA. Friday 4pm-9pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 9am-3pm. Nebraska FFL Dealers available for transfers. Admission \$8. Info: 563-608-4401, www.marvkrauspromotions.net.

SOCIAL SECURITY Disability Benefits. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 866-563-0161 [Steppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

PROTECT YOUR yield from soybean white mold and SDS! Ask your seed dealer for Heads Up® Seed Treatment. Cost effective, Proven results. headsupST.com/

plant 21 or 866-368-9306.

COMBAT VETERANS, Free "Lessons Learned (The Hard Way) About Combat." Hated enough to kill? Hopeless? Wanted to die? Close calls - should be dead? Call/text 402-677-7082.

HUGHESNET SATELLITE Internet - 25mbps starting at \$49.99/month! Get More Data. Free Off-Peak Data. Fast download speeds. WiFi built in! Free Standard Installation for lease customers! Limited time, call 1-844-290-3051.

TWO GREAT new offers from AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy 510e on us with AT&T's Buy One, Give One offer. While supplies last! Call 1-855-574-9119.

DIRECTV - EVERY live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS, 1-855-977-3794.

DIRECTV NOW. No Satellite needed. \$40/month. 65 Channels. Stream Breaking News, Live Events, Sports & On Demand Titles. No Annual Contract. No Commitment. Call 1-855-417-4299.

DISH NETWORK

\$64.99 for 190 Channels. Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/month (where available). Switch & Get a Free \$100 Visa Gift Card. Free Voice Remote. Free HD DVR. Free Streaming on All Devices. Call today! 1-877-688-4784.

PORTABLE OXYGEN Concentrator? May be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-385-3580.

THINKING ABOUT installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. Free design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-866-604-0853 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/nepress.

ELIMINATE GUTTER cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a Free LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-671-2859.

THE GENERAC PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services

available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a Free, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-833-513-0190.

SEEKING FRIENDLY, energetic person to manage our meat department in Winner, SD. Three years meat management experience required. Great salary, bonus, health insurance, and 401K. Resume to msteck58@gmail.com.

THE COVID crisis has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K in debt? Credit Cards, Medical Bills, Car Loans. Call National Debt Relief! We can help! Get a Free debt relief quote. Call 1-866-834-5927.

WESLEY FINANCIAL Group, LLC, Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-899-7756.

BECOME A Published Author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing - trusted by authors since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for your free Author's Guide, 1-877-858-2822 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/Nebraska.

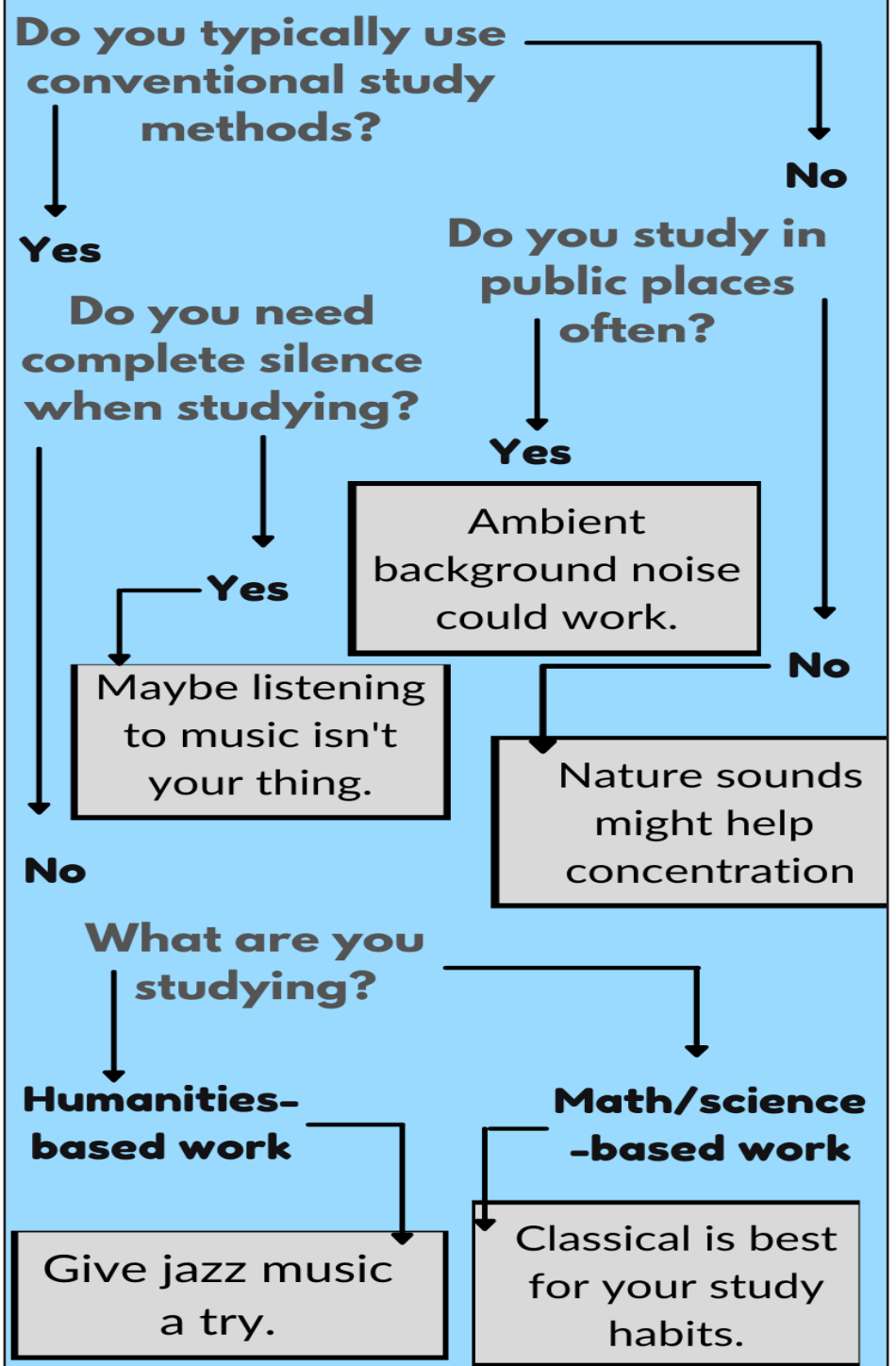
DONATE YOUR car for Breast Cancer! Help United Breast Cancer Foundation education, prevention & support programs. Fast free pickup - 24 hour response - tax deduction. 1-888-309-7108.

DONATE YOUR car or truck to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, tax deductible, free towing. All paperwork taken care of. Call 1-877-730-8167.

DONATE YOUR car, truck or van. Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, Free pick up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-877-312-2360.

Tiger Timeout

What music should you study to?



Graphic by Kylie Hughes | The Doane Owl

Saline Center Consignment Sale

Selling: Tractors & Machinery, Hay, Trees, Guns, Coins/Currency, Livestock, Livestock Equipment & Fencing, Vehicles, Tools and Many, Many More Items.
Six rings selling at once • Bring a friend • Ladies are selling their famous kolache
 Accepting consignments Thurs., Mar. 18, 1-6 p.m. and Fri., Mar. 19, Sat., Mar. 20, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Questions:

Sheldon Kohout: 402-947-2236 / 402-641-1357
 Judy Kohout: 402-641-4137 or salinecenter@gmail.com

Paid for in part by Saline County Visitors Committee

EMPLOYEES WANTED

BSB Construction, Inc. of Curtis, NE is looking for Machine Operators, Pipe layers and Concrete Finishers, Laborers, and Class A Truck Drivers. Travel expected. Paid Per Diem for nights away from home. We offer benefit packages, health insurance, paid vacation, group life insurance, etc.

\$1000 Sign on Bonus if employed by BSB for 1 year.

Please call 308-367-4336 or visit www.bsbinc.net for application.



209 East 2nd Street • Curtis, NE 69025
 Phone 308-367-4336 • Fax 308-367-4575
bsb@bsbinc.net
Excavation • Site Preparation • Utilities



Teaching never stops. Learning never ends.



Thank a teacher.
NSEA.org/stepup

the Doane Owl

Doane University
1014 Boswell Ave.
Crete, Neb. 68333

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Abrianna Miller

abrianna.miller@doane.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

Joey Winton

joey.winton@doane.edu

COPY DESK CHIEF

Kylie Hughes

kylie.hughes@doane.edu

NEWS EDITOR

Jose Villalpando

jose.villalpando@doane.edu

LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR

Kylie Hughes

kylie.hughes@doane.edu

SPORTS EDITOR

Cassie Kessler

cassie.kessler@doane.edu

ART EDITOR

Kendall Meyer

kendall.meyer7466@doane.edu

AD MANAGER

Abrianna Miller

abrianna.miller@doane.edu

FACULTY ADVISER

Eric Tucker

eric.tucker@doane.edu

MULTIMEDIA COORDINATOR OF DOANELINE.COM

Josh Bundy

josh.bundy@doane.edu

The Doane Owl strives to inform, enlighten and entertain students, staff and faculty while maintaining high journalistic standards of accuracy and truthfulness.

The Doane Owl is published weekly under the authority of the Doane College Student Media Advisory Board. It is available every Tuesday of the academic year on www.doaneline.com or by requesting an attachment to an email from owl@doane.edu.

The Doane Owl Editorial board consists of: Abrianna Miller, Joey Winton, Kylie Hughes, Jose Villalpando, Kendall Meyer and Cassie Kessler.

The Doane Owl welcomes signed Letters to the Editor of 400 words or fewer. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. on the Sunday prior to publication. Submissions should be addressed to the editor and sent to the Doane Owl through campus mail, placed in the box outside of Gaylord 130 or emailed to owl@doane.edu. A hard copy of the letter must be signed in the presence of the Editor-in-Chief by 7 p.m. the Monday before publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and content.

Flag photo by Caitlyn Nelson, Crete News

- STAFF EDITORIAL -

Being humble goes a long way

On page one, you got to see the story of a group of friends blossom before your eyes. We think the world could use a little more of that.

Those guys aren't helping students out for the notariety. They are doing it to help support people who genuinely need the help.

Imagine how different the world would be if people weren't always chasing fame and credit for every little thing.

The interview with those six friends took almost two

and a half hours because we were having so much fun. That's what life should be about- having fun with those closest to you while making the world a better place.

All too often we get caught up in the politics of the world when we really should be focusing on how to improve the life that we have built for ourselves.

This isn't all to say that every Doane alum should return and establish scholarships (although that would be nice). The point is that

those guys weren't thinking of changing the entire world with one action.

All they wanted to do was help out the people they could with what they have, and that's more than a lot of us can say.

They were in the same financially unstable situation that a lot of students find themselves in these days. They saw a problem and are trying to fix it, one student at a time.

The resilience and humbleness of those men is admira-

ble to say the least. Most of us would want some sort of recognition for making a scholarship but not them. All they want is students to be able to finish school and stay healthy.

Take a page from their book and do something nice for your roommate, your CA, your neighbor, anyone.

It might seem like a small gesture to you, but it could make a big difference in someone's day.

And who knows, maybe that person would follow in your footsteps.

Hot takes; drummer boy

A weekly rating of random things by Joey Winton

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Instruments, more specifically percussive instruments, are back on the chopping block for this week's Hot Takes.

After ranking band instruments, I figured it was only natural for the percussive instruments to be given a tier list as well.

The criteria for sorting the instruments are almost exactly the same as for when I was doing band instruments: how good it sounds, how well each instrument can stand by itself, how easy it is to learn to play and how versatile it is.

Sound quality is the most important, as if an instrument sounds like trash, it will not rank very high regardless of how good it scores on the other criteria.

How well the instrument can stand by itself without any other sound or support, while not as crucial as sound quality, is still a fairly important factor when determining an instrument's place on the list.

How easy the instrument is to play or learn how to play is the least important out of all the categories but is still worth considering given how wide the range is when it comes to the percussion section.

The final category is versatility, which means how well the instrument fits into the musical genres. If an instrument sounds phenomenal when played in one musical context but has difficulty blending with other



Photo by Abrianna Miller | The Doane Owl

instruments in a different genre, its score will suffer because of it.

S Tier - These drums will always and forever be a joy to listen to. Their rich tones and blending abilities allow them to be played in just about any genre, and whenever I hear the sounds of one of these instruments, I always have a big smile on my face.

A Tier - While not as amazing as the ones above, these drums still have a lot to offer, and they provide a delightful listening experience.

B Tier - To say the instruments in this tier are terrible is to do them a disservice, but to say they are great is giving them too much credit. They have their uses and, when in the right context, can add a lot to a piece, but overall, there isn't a whole lot they offer when compared to the ones above.

C Tier - More often than

not, the drums that reside in this level detract from the musical experience when they're included. Their sound is not good enough to warrant owning one unless you are in a full band or orchestra setting because otherwise, you are just wasting money.

F Tier - Never, ever should anyone, for any reason, even consider thinking about the percussive instruments that are banished to this level. It will be a cold day in hell if you ever catch me enjoying the sound of one of these abominations

*Note: All rankings are final and no amount of hate/convincing will change my mind

S Tier: (The best)- Steel drums, Vibraphone, Marimba

A Tier: (Second Best)- Bongos, Congas, Xylophone, Snare drum

B Tier: (Average)- Tambourine, Timpani, Bass drum

C Tier: (Below Average)- Woodblock, Chimes, Maracas, Gong

F Tier: (Garbage)- Cowbell, Triangle

Again, let me say: no amount of debating with me will change my mind so please save yourself the time and energy, you have better things to do than argue with a college kid about tier lists.

Do you have a topic you want me to make a ranking of? Email me at joey.winton@doane.edu with the subject line Hot Takes and I might write about it!

Double stuff needs to stop



CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

In terms of snack cookies, it is easy to see that Oreos are a fan favorite. With so many different flavors of cookies and creams, they appeal to almost everyone. Oreos even have varying levels of cream in them.

No matter what the flavors are, I am always open to trying new Oreos, since they

are one of my favorite junk foods on this entire planet. But what I cannot get behind is double stuffed any flavor.

To be completely honest, normal Oreos tend to have a bit too much cream in them for my taste. The first bite is always good, but when the cream starts to squish towards the end and your final bite is filled with stuffing, it is overpowering.

So you can see how this might affect my attitude towards anything above normal stuff. Double stuff starts off with the first bite having too much cream. What is the point of having not one, but two cookies if you can not taste either one of them? Well, I will tell you.

There is none. If you are okay with that cream-to-cookie ratio, then why do we not just ditch the cookies altogether? It is not like you would miss it.

Now you might be think-

ing, there are thin Oreos. They barely have any cream; why are you not talking about that ratio? Well, with thinner cookies come less cream. So the fact there is barely any cream on that Oreo is justified by the width of the cookies it is stacked between.



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

So if double stuff Oreos had thicker cookies, then maybe that could solve the problem. But then, no doubt there would be someone complaining about the lack of cream with their cookies,

and we would fall back into the same dilemma of there being too much damn cream on those cookies. The original Oreo was made the way it was because the creators decided that was the perfect ratio. There is a reason Oreos have been around as long as they have

without any change, and it is because people enjoy the way they are made. Different flavors: fine. But leave the ratio alone before we end up with all stuff and no cookies.

A day in the life of Mila McKeag



ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

When my roommate asked me if it was alright if she brought her cat to Doane, I was immediately in favor of it. I've grown up with at least two pets in my house, so I was very excited to have a cat in my dorm room.

The cat, Mila, was just a couple of months old at the beginning of the academic year, and it has been interesting to see her grow up to say the least.

One thing you must know about Mila is that she has a very strict schedule. Zoomies time, when she runs around like crazy and losing her mind, occurs every day at 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Mila usually has the zoomies when she wakes up, too,

but that's only if she's feeling extra wild.

Mila also values her education, attending every class my roommate and I have on Zoom. She pays close attention to the professors, especially when they use a lot of hand gestures and expressions during class.

Friendships are a little tricky for Mila. She met another cat last semester, and it did not go well. In fact, the other cat hated Mila. Since then, Mila has tried to make more friends with humans. She will snuggle in the vicinity of a person and then trick them with a surprise attack. It goes well about 20 percent of the time.

There is one special person in Mila's life, though- Joey. You know, the Managing Editor? Yeah. She absolutely loves Joey, and she will get very angry if she can hear Joey but not see him. Their bond is so tight that when you take her away from Joey, she hides and jumps out to bite your toes until you take her back to Joey.

I have no idea why she has an infatuation with Joey, but let me tell you, that relationship runs deep.

Mila also really enjoys watching videos and TV.

Sometimes we just sit and watch YouTube videos on my phone for hours and then take a nap. I like to watch videos that are funny, but Mila prefers quieter videos with alluring visuals. We usually find a middle ground between the two.

The last thing I'll mention about Mila is how adventurous she is. A recent favorite of hers is to climb on the top shelves of our closets and perch there. My roommate and I have no idea how she gets up there, but it's now becoming a daily occurrence.

If Mila isn't there, she is either in her little tent, on the mini-fridge or in her bed. She prefers her bed for her every-two-hours nap, the mini-fridge if she just wants to relax and her little tent for some fun. Mila hoards stolen sticky notes in her tent, and I think the deviance adds an extra layer of fun for her.

Mila really is a quality cat, even if she doesn't have all of her beans. She keeps me and my roommate on our toes because she is always finding something new to mess with, but I don't think our room would be nearly the same without her.



Photo by Abrianna Miller | The Doane Owl



Photo by Abrianna Miller | The Doane Owl



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

The past year doesn't count



JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

As far as I'm concerned, this past year does not count toward anything.

With my birthday coming up, I plan on celebrating it a little differently. Since COVID-19 has taken a year from me so far, I think it's fair that I get to take a year off of my age and say I'm only 19 years old.

I've done pretty much nothing of true value and

have procrastinated more than enough on a lot of other occasions this year.

The only real things I have been doing this year have related to schoolwork. Now, with this semester coming into full-swing in week seven, I'm having even less time for myself.

Conversely, the less time I have for myself, I notice that I constantly try to give myself even more time for "breaks."

That may sound a little weird, but it's the truth. With my schedule becoming more packed with things I need to do, I notice that I tend to give even less time to do those things and give myself more free time to do whatever I want (mostly consisting of wondering why I'm putting off my work).

This only goes to speak about my recent time at school. My personal life

has been a whole other debacle this past year. Without going into much detail, this past year has not given my family, nor anyone else for that matter, a break.

From beginning online learning after spring break last year, to possibly contracting the virus in May, to finally returning to campus and then quarantining at the beginning of this semester.

Plenty has happened within this past year that I'll be using as experience when it comes to solving problems and what not. However, I still stand by what I initially said, seeing as how the past year has not let up on its onslaught of bad news and constant events, I don't care. In my eyes, I'm still 19 until next year.

Hopefully by then much has died down, and we can all relax more.

Not swimsuit season



SARAH DALY
Communications Manager

As I make the brisk walk into Walmart from my pickup in my heavy coat and facemask, I am greeted at the entrance by the swimsuit display. Why now?

The last I remember, my car thermometer clocked the temperature at 15 degrees Fahrenheit. In the Walmart parking lot there are mounds of snow with shopping carts buried in them. Not typ-

ical swimsuit weather if you ask me.

Walmart is not the first store to start prematurely selling swimwear and summer clothing.

If you looked under my promotions tab in my email, you would find every store doing their quirky "summer is coming soon" sale. Victoria's Secret is advertising their summer panties collection. H&M sent out a 50 percent off last-chance styles coupon to clear out their winter stock.

How do we, as consumers, feel about this? Typically, I would just roll my eyes and think to myself how my body is not bikini weather ready. Why do retail corporations feel the need to push summer before St. Patrick's Day? If I buy a swimsuit in February, it will not fit me in June. I

just think it is absurd to be marketing bikinis and jean shorts when I had to climb over two feet of snow last week to get to my car.

Premature marketing does not begin and end with summer swimwear. The epitome of marketing a holiday too early is Christmas. I could walk into a Walmart on Nov. 1 and see employees carrying Christmas tree boxes to the shelves. Is Thanksgiving not important to the retail corporations? Where are the turkey plates?

Are there bigger problems in the world currently? Yes, but bikinis being on full display at the end of February is easier to complain about. They just body shame me into not ordering Pizza Hut.

...THUMBS UP

Reality TV

Cake Pops

Catfish

Xylophones

Pico de gallo

The Doane Owl editorial staff cast their opinions on different current topics and their responses are represented in 'Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down' every week.

THUMBS DOWN...

Baseball starts season off strong

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

Doane Baseball kicked off their season with three wins and a loss against Kansas Wesleyan before heading to McPherson College to play four more games the following weekend.

This season, the Boys have a surplus of games coming up. Many of the players, such as senior Travis Cowan, are looking forward to the amount of games.

"With our season being cut short last year, it just feels good to finally be back out on the field competing again," Cowan said. "We got a great group of guys, and we are pumped to get the season underway."

However, with so many games to play, it can be difficult for everyone to stay on top of every other responsibility they have to balance.

For senior Jaryn Na-

kamoto, it can be troublesome trying to find the correct way to complete everything that needs to get done.

"I think the most challenging thing about dealing with the amount of games we have, as well as balancing school and practice, is school work," Nakamoto said. "Because we travel a lot during the early part of our season, many of the guys are rushing to stay ahead of their coursework so they don't fall behind."

After finally getting to play a few games with the team, everyone has come together to work towards bettering the team. As more and more games are played, more kinks will be worked out for the players.

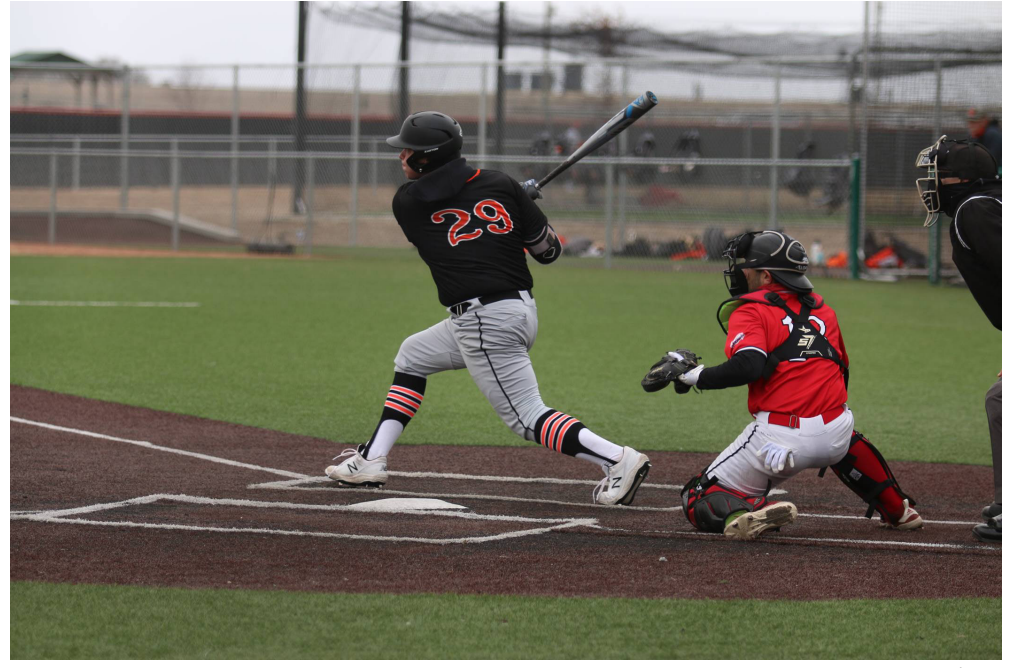
"We have a good team chemistry, and everyone is buying into doing their part to help the team in whatever way possible,"

Nakamoto said. "The things we struggled with this past weekend was due to the lack of being outside and facing outside competition."

Despite getting outside and being able to play a few games, the Boys are still looking forward to just playing all the games they can this season. Senior Aaron Mason is anticipating even more games outside against other teams despite COVID-19.

"We are looking forward to playing more games," Mason said. "We have been inside practicing for a while now and getting out and letting everything fly is going to be exciting."

At this point in the season, the team is already looking forward to achieving a massive accomplishment: winning a conference championship. However, each player has their own in-



Courtesy photo | McPherson Athletics

Junior Lukas White swings at a pitch thrown to him from McPherson's pitcher.

dividual goals for themselves.

"My goal is to lead by example and put the team in a position to win every time I come out to pitch," Cowan said. "For the team, we're just chasing a conference title."

Even with such a

tough season coming, the team is looking forward to being able to play an entire season.

"This team is mature and mentally tough where we can play so many games back-to-back and take it one game at a time," Ma-

son said. "I think that it will be exciting to watch us stay busy playing so much this year."

The Baseball team picked up four losses at McPherson College and will be heading to Sterling College in KS on March 15.

Cheer and Dance go to conference

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

This past weekend, the Doane Cheer and Dance teams competed in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC). Cheer competed against seven different teams, while Dance competed against ten teams.

So far this season, the teams have been motivated by wanting to get out and perform to their highest ability. Senior Renee Lukowicz said they had been preparing to do even better this time around for confer-

ence.

"Our motivation [had] been to increase our score each time and to strive for a personal best each performance," Lukowicz said. "Our coaches [were] also motivating, and they put a lot of work outside of practice to prepare for our competitions and have to think long-term to expect what we should change and work on so we can improve."

For this competition, although it held a lot of importance, the team's expectations stayed the same. Sophomore Kier-

sten Anderson said she believed they needed to continue doing what they had been doing.

"Our expectations [were] that we [were] going to have to work hard and believe in ourselves and our teammates completely," Anderson said.

Even though conference may be perceived as different from other competitions, both teams treated conference the same as any other competition.

"There is more pressure for this conference, but regardless, we [performed] the same rou-

tine and have seen other schools' routines, so we kind of [knew] what to expect," Lukowicz said. "We [maintained] a similar structure in practice and [worked] on things to bump up our score a week before."

Despite this competition being nerve-racking for some, the teams had a motivated and positive attitude getting ready for their championship.

"This may [have been] our last performance, so we [strove] to leave our mark," Lukowicz said. "We all [fed] off each

other's energy, and when the energy is high, we have more energy in our performance."

No matter what the outcome of the competition was, individuals on the team felt as though everyone would continue to support each other.

"We always talk about and tell each other the things we did well during the routine to remind them that you did alright, and we are proud of them," Anderson said.

Even though they may have been treating it like any other competition, all members of the team

were hoping to win a conference championship.

"No matter what the outcome, I'm so incredibly proud of my team, and if we [had won], that [would have] just been an added bonus," Anderson said. "We have worked so hard this year, and I feel nothing but joy knowing that we are giving everything on the mat."

The Cheer team ended up finishing sixth out of seven teams and the Dance team placed fourth out of ten teams.



Courtesy photo | Caitlyn Nelson, Crete News

The Dance team strikes their first pose as they start their routine.



Courtesy photo | Caitlyn Nelson, Crete News

Freshman Megan Wiley is thrown in the air for one of the team's stunts.

Softball kicks off their loaded season

Softball team prepares for another week full of traveling

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

After returning home from Oklahoma with four losses, the Softball team has a few days of recovery before heading out on the road again.

Junior Alicia Vint and her teammates have been looking forward to just having another season after their last one was cut short due to COVID-19.

"As a team, I think we are simply excited to be on the field again, whether it be 20 games or a full schedule," Vint said.

Senior Kailyn Wiseman said that having this many games in one season can make it difficult to balance all of her responsibilities along with games and practices.

"Amongst lifting and conditioning, individual workouts and intense practices, we've had our work cut out," Wiseman said. "With our busy game schedule and missing class, our coaches have done a great job making sure we're on top of our school work."

The entire team is looking forward to being on the field again, having the opportunity to actually have a season and work together to play their best.

"Being back on dirt playing other teams for the first time in almost a year was a bit of a change, but we are

thankful to be having a season in the first place," Vint said. "We all are on the same page and have the same goal in mind and are working individually and as a team to succeed."

Even though four losses was not what the team was looking for, sophomore Jade Hill said the team is getting prepared to better themselves as the season progresses.

One thing the team has been focused on is playing for the GPAC championship at the end of the season. Despite it being a long ways away, that is the end goal for the team.

"We've had winning the GPAC championship in the back of our minds since we stepped foot on campus, and everything we do is purposeful in preparing us to achieve

"Being back on the dirt playing other teams for the first time in almost a year was a bit of a change, but we are thankful to be having a season in the first place."

Alicia Vint
Junior

that," Wiseman said.

Despite there being a difficult season laying ahead for the team, all members are ready for the pressure and cannot wait to continue on the rest of their season.

"With a new coaching staff this year, I believe

having many games is one of the best things we could do as a program," Hill said. "The more games we play, the more opportunities we have to work on situational plays, and the more we

compete, the more we learn, the quicker we react, the more we win."

The team will next be traveling to Wichita, Kansas for their five upcoming games on March 5 and 6.

Athlete of the Week



Baagii Boldmaa
Wrestling

Went 3-0 at the GPAC tournament, qualifying for nationals and broke the school record for tech fall wins in a season



1302 Linden Avenue (402) 826-3784