

the doane OWI

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Doane's Tennis team places second at GPAC. See Page 9 for more.

Honors on the chopping block

Student researches benefits of honors

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

With final decisions regarding the prioritization process looming in the distance, sophomore Nicole Carraher decided to research the benefits of a university offering an honor's program.

Carraher is a member of the Honors Program at

Doane, and she said she was devastated to hear that it was on the slate for elimination. She decided to research the benefits of such a program for a class final, but she soon found herself becoming more personally involved in the material.

"As I was doing a lot of that research and conducting all of these interviews, it made me real sad because I came across that probably 80 to 90 percent of my research was about 'here's why it's great to have an honors program in colleges,'" Carraher said.

Coupled with interviews with Doane students and academic research, Carraher said that all of the information she came across supported

the additional or continuation of honors programs in universities. After her final presentation, she decided that she wanted to share her findings with the greater Doane community.

"There's a lot of research here that really, really shows that it would be damaging to both the university and the students to cut the Honors Program," Carraher said. "There's a reason that a lot of these articles talk about why colleges are adding honors programs and not taking them away."

Carraher found that an honors program makes a university more appealing to prospective students, including high-achieving students.

"Not only do you attract high-achieving students, you attract prestigious faculty, you bolster your institution's reputation because you are bringing in these people that are academically inclined," Carraher said.

She also said student retention rates have been found to be high when a university has an honors program. This means that a university gets more students enrolled and keeps them enrolled throughout an entire program.

Carraher said there is a social element involved in the benefits of an honors program.

"So, you still have gifted students, but there's significant research that shows that it's the environment of an honors

program that is the thing that pushes these students to persist through their academic career," Carraher said.

With her own experience and that of the students she interviewed, Carraher felt comfortable attesting to the effect of an honors program's environment.

Carraher mentioned how honors students' attitudes are maintained throughout all classes, and that attitude frequently gets shared among students, even those not in the honors program.

"If you're looking at whole-campus impact, it even has that sort of impact with just seeing this ambitious peer group, this group of students that genuinely cares

about learning [...] you're going to have that impact still shown in those classes when they go and engage with these different students," Carraher said.

Carraher maintains that it would be "a shame" if Doane cuts the Honors Program because of its impact on all aspects of the university. The program promotes student enrollment, student retention and dedication to one's university.

She said that she hopes the Board of Trustees will look at the research she has conducted and examine it closely before deciding the fate of the Honors Program.

StuCo welcomes new members

JAMESON OFFICER-THURSTON
Staff Writer

Last week the elections for the executive roles of Student Congress took place to determine the new President and Vice

President.

These executive elections resulted in junior Haley Miller being elected for President and sophomore Avery Munson being elected for Vice President.

Miller was re-elected as President, and Munson was newly elected

as Vice President, taking over the role for the upcoming year after senior Quinn Martin.

There are still elections that are taking place, however. The acceptance of names for Student Congress Senators was extended until May 2 due to not enough names

being entered in the running.

The elections for senators will be taking place this week from May 3 to May 5. The requirements to be an eligible senator candidate consist of being a full-time student, as well as having undergraduate status.

This means that many of Doane's students are eligible to run for Student Congress.

"[The mission of Student Congress] is to essentially represent the student body and be their voice to the administration while ensuring the student experience is the

best it can possibly be," Miller said.

Students can vote for a Student Congress Senator online through the email they receive from Student Congress.

COVID-19 vaccine update

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Nebraska is now several weeks into Phase 2B of its COVID-19 vaccination distribution plan meaning anyone between the ages of 16 and 49 are eligible to receive a vaccine.

The beginning of April saw eligibility for this age group first open up, and 33.5 percent of Nebraska's population is currently fully vaccinated.

Around 1.44 million doses have been given to Nebraskans, and surrounding states are roughly in the same percent statistic as Nebraska.

As of May 1, 246 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines had been given, and there were 105 million people who were fully vaccinated, bringing the total up to 31.9 percent of the U.S. population being fully vaccinated.

Phase	Population Group	January	February	March	April	May	June - Dec	
1A	Healthcare and long term care facility residents	[Red bar]						
1B	Persons aged 65 and older	[Green bar]						
1B	First responders, utilities, homeless shelter staff, corrections staff, educators	[Green bar]						
1B	Funeral homes, grocery, food processing	[Green bar]						
1B	Transportation, US postal service, public transit	[Green bar]						
1C	Congregate living (residential treatments, corrections, homeless shelters)	[Blue bar]						
2A	Persons aged 50-64	[Dark blue bar]						
2B	Persons aged 16-49	[Dark blue bar]						

Biden alters immigration

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

With President Joe Biden taking office, one of the issues he has focused on has been immigration reform. He has already rescinded travel bans and halted construction on former President Donald Trump's border wall.

Biden has rescinded Travel Bans 4.0 and 3.0 which have been argued to be discriminatory towards people from Africa and Muslim countries. He has also added measures to existing legislation concerning traveling during the COVID-19 pandemic, maintaining mask mandates and a 14-day entry restriction on individuals from select countries.

Many other pieces of legislation have been adjusted by the Biden administration to ensure that all immigration agencies are under close surveillance, including Federal Register documents 86 FR 7049 and 86 FR 7223.

In the document entitled 86 FR 7053, the

Biden administration details a plan to revive and amend Deferred Action for Children Arrivals (DACA). This plan directs the Attorney General and Secretary of Homeland Security to do everything within legal parameters to preserve DACA.

Executive Orders 14010, 14011 and 14012 are aimed at restoring the immigration process in the United States by redefining the immigration processes, goals and operations.

Other pieces of legislation introduced by Biden are based on reforming the immigration system, protecting Americans and immigrants, protecting immigration workers' rights and ensuring the safety of individuals traveling in or out of the United States.

Additional information regarding the aforementioned legislation, as well as various other pieces are available on the United States' Federal Register website at federalregister.gov.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

President Joe Biden is focusing on immigration reform by

- Ensuring that all immigration agencies are under close surveillance.
- Reviving and amending Deferred Action for Children Arrivals.
- Redefining the immigration processes, goals and operations.
- Protecting immigration workers' rights and ensuring the safety of individuals traveling in or out of the United States.

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

This Week's Weather Forecast

Wednesday

5/5



High: 64
Low: 44

Thursday

5/6



High: 64
Low: 44

Friday

5/7



High: 72
Low: 53

Saturday

5/8



High: 73
Low: 48

Sunday

5/9



High: 63
Low: 46

Monday

5/10



High: 59
Low: 46

Tuesday

5/11



High: 67
Low: 49

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

U.S. recognizes genocide

Armenian Genocide labeled by Biden

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

On April 24, President Joe Biden declared "the systematic killing and deportation of more than a million Armenians by Ottoman Empire forces in

the early 20th century" as a "genocide," AP News reported.

This comes one year after Biden announced a campaign promise to recognize the event that began in 1915 as a deliberate effort to wipe out the Armenian people.

Biden campaigned promises to make human rights a central focus in American foreign policy; however, this proclamation comes after multiple presidencies have passed without using the term "genocide" in regard to the injustices against the Armenian people.

"The American people

honor all those Armenians who perished in the genocide that began 106 years ago [on April 24]. We affirm the history. We do this not to cast blame but to ensure that what happened is never repeated," Biden said.

Turkish officials were taken aback and retaliated immediately as a result of Biden's proclamation.

"We reject and denounce in the strongest terms the statement of the President of the U.S. regarding the events of 1915 made under the pressure of radical Armenian circles and anti-Turkey groups," the Turkish

Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

On April 24, the people of Armenia streamed to the hilltop complex in Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, that memorializes the victims in order to lay flowers around the eternal flame. A "wall of blooms two meters high" was created out of the flowers offered.

The Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister Avet Adonts also spoke at the memorial before Biden issued his statement.

"[A U.S. president using the term 'genocide' will] serve as an example for the rest of the civilized

world," Adonts said.

Both lawmakers and Armenian-American activists alike lobbied Biden so that he would make the genocide announcement either before or on the day of remembrance.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi also had words about the decision.

"The truth of these heinous crimes has too often been denied, its monstrosity minimized," Pelosi said. "History teaches us that if we ignore its darkest chapters, we are destined to witness the horrors of the past be repeated."

Radio host faces backlash

Omaha host fired after offensive tweet

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Omaha radio host Chris Baker is facing criticism following a social media post related to the conviction of the Minneapolis police officer who killed George Floyd last year.

The post in question was a tweet featuring a GIF of what appeared to be four older Black men in body paint and loincloths dancing around a pole with the caption "Guilty!"

The tweet came less than an hour after the Minneapolis jury convicted former officer Derek Chauvin and was later deleted, but Baker was fired from his position.

KFAB area president for iHeartRadio in Ne-



Courtesy photo | Twitter.com

braska Taylor Walet III said Baker's tweet was "completely inappropriate and unacceptable" and that Baker was fired shortly after news of his post began circulating.

In a phone interview with The North Platte Telegraph, Baker cited his tweet as a "boomer Twitter moment."

Baker stated he accidentally chose the wrong image while performing multiple tasks at once, hosting his show, lining

up guests and monitoring the news after the verdict. He also stated he tried to get the tweet taken down immediately but struggled to do so.

"There's a difference between being intentional and being a fat-fingered boomer on Twitter. I don't look at Black people that way," Baker said.

Republican Nebraska Senator John McCollister, who is known for being critical of members of his own party

including former President Donald Trump, shared a screenshot of the tweet and wrote a caption condemning Baker.

"Racism like this is a FEATURE of conservative talk radio, but they usually mask it with dog whistles. But not this time," McCollister wrote.

While Baker did say his tweet was inappropriate, he said his termination was a harsh punishment.

Citing a recent tweet from LeBron James regarding the officer who shot 16-year-old Ma'Khia Bryant in Columbus, Ohio, Baker said James faced no repercussions for his tweet despite his tweet being up for far longer.

"What I did was horrible. I feel horrible about it, and I paid the price" Baker said.

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Final Tiger Wellness Day wraps up

Students enjoy last Tiger Wellness Day

SARAH DALY
Communications Manager

April 29 was the last Wellness Day on Doane's campus. There were activities all day starting at 11 a.m. for students to participate in. Students had options of educational activities, volunteer opportunities, prize-winning games and free giveaways.

For the Wellness Day passports, the activities held covered the financial, emotional, cultural, social and environmental sections. Students could earn stickers after completing an activity to add to their passport. Students that filled their passports were in the running to win a prize.

Junior Alexa Thompson participated in the campus clean-up, the

"I think it was a very nice day to go out and take part in some activities. I think a lot of students really enjoyed the casino night. The set-up was very cool."

Victoria Foster
Sophomore

"Macho-Nacho" CAPE event and the Glow Casino. Thompson won two spike ball sets and an LED-stuffed tiger over the course of the day.

"After the campus clean-up, I got to eat ice cream and talk with my friends. At the glow casino, I learned how to play Blackjack. It was really fun getting to spend time with my friends there and joke about how bad it would be if we were at an actual casino," Thompson said.

Sophomore Victoria Foster helped with the campus-wide clean up and participated in the booths that were on the Tiger Patio. Foster did not find any luck with the prizes but still enjoyed her time.

"I thought the day was great. Being able to have a day off before dead week and catching up on homework really helps. My major highlight was being able to pull weeds with friends for campus clean up. We also got ice cream afterwards," Foster said.

Sophomore Stephanie Wright played the longevity game and won prizes by completing her Wellness Passport. Wright won Apple AirPods and a Cravebox snack package.

"I think it was a very nice day to go out and take part in some activities. I think a lot of students really enjoyed the casino night. The set-up was very cool," Wright said.

Doane students were thankful for the nice weather and the chance to relax before the upcoming finals week.



Courtesy Photo | Doane ResLife Instagram

Doane ResLife offers succulents on Wellness Day.



Courtesy Photo | Doane SPB Instagram

Glow Casino Night teaches students financial wellness.

Jenner to run for California governor



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

Jenner runs as Republican

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor in Chief

On April 23, former Olympic athlete and reality TV star Caitlyn Jenner announced that she will be running for governor of California under the Republican party.

Jenner's announcement came shortly after

a recall petition was introduced against current Democratic governor Gavin Newsom due to his management of the COVID-19 pandemic, among other issues. If the petition retains the proper amount of signatures through June 8, the recall process will proceed. Jenner's announcement, in this case, is a premature call to be considered as a replacement candidate.

Criticism has come down on Jenner, as she previously expressed support for former President Donald Trump, an indi-

vidual whom many Californians did not support.

Citizens of the Golden State have expressed discontent with Jenner's bid for election, but reports of discontent with Newsom are also prevalent.

If Newsom is recalled from his position, the position of governor of California will be up for grabs. It is impossible to tell if Jenner is a legitimate candidate in this race, but first, the recall must pass.

There are no additional updates as of this publication.

Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reported incidents in their public crime log. Incidents reported between April 23 through May 3 include:

- 04/23 Vawa Crimes: Dating Violence - Parking Lot A

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Wellness Day hosts casino night

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

As a final conclusion to the last Tiger Wellness Day this year, there was a Glow Casino Night hosted on April 29 at 9 p.m.

The Wellness Day activity focused around financial wellness, providing students the last sticker to put on their Wellness Day passport before turning them in for raffle tickets.

Prior to entering the Glow Casino Night, students had the opportunity to turn in their passports, getting one raffle ticket

for each event shown on their passport. Students could enter their raffle tickets to win prizes such as AirPods, a Samsung watch, Amazon gift cards, etc. The winners were announced at the end of the evening.

Students who may not have brought their passports still had the opportunity to win prizes at Casino Night. Casino Night had three raffle drawings throughout the night to win a variety of glow-themed prizes. They raffled various types of lights, games and bigger prizes such as an iPad.

"The prizes are also a

great way to incentivize participation in events and get some tuition money back if you win something big," freshman and participant Zekiel Krejci-Hyde said.

Upon entering, students were given five thousand dollars in fake money that they could use for games throughout the night. As students acquired more money with the casino games, they could then trade-in some of their money for raffle tickets. Each raffle ticket was worth one thousand dollars of the fake money.

The theme was glow, so the room was lit with

blacklights.

"I think everyone enjoyed the new environment that we transformed to a blacklight casino. It didn't feel like you were at Doane until you stepped outside of the room," junior and dealer at the Blackjack table Ariel Ortiz said.

Ortiz pitched the idea of a glow casino night after enjoying the experience she had her freshman year. She liked the idea of an environment where students could get away from their stressors.

Students had the opportunity to play a wide variety of common casino

games such as Blackjack, Ace-Deuce-Jack, Roulette, etc.

Some of the tables had students such as Krejci-Hyde as the dealer. He said that working the table was "lots of fun" and that it was a "great event." Despite it being a fun event for participants, Krejci-Hyde noted how many participants may not have been practicing financial wellness.

"In terms of teaching financial wellness, I'm not sure how great of a job it did due to all of the risky behavior with the 'funny money.' [But] that most likely wouldn't

have happened if it was real money," Krejci-Hyde said.

For participants who may have been riskier with their fake money than others and it did not pay off, they still had the opportunity to gain more money. There was a trivia table that charged no fee to play, but students could still win money if they answered correctly.

Even students who may not have won any raffle prizes could still go home with items being given away such as light-up bracelets, glow sticks, neon hats, etc.



Courtesy photo | Riley Spicer

Members of Chi Delta sorority pose with their signs decorated for the Slut Walk. The Slut Walk helps to raise awareness and show support for survivors of sexual assault.

Slut Walk educates about sexual assault

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

As part of the final week of Sexual Assault Awareness month, Campus Advocacy, Prevention and Education (CAPE) Project partnered with Chi Delta sorority to host the Slut Walk on April 27.

The Slut Walk was originally created in 2011 in responses to a situation where police officers in Toronto, Ontario suggested that to avoid sexual assault, women should not "dress like sluts." The walk was created as

an international protest against rape culture and the misconceptions about sexual assault.

"Slut Walk reclaims the word and educates people about rape culture and myths surrounding rape and sexual assault," senior and Lead CAPE Peer Educator Allison Jasso said.

The event started at 6:30 p.m. where students could make signs to hold during the walk. At 7 p.m., students could then listen to speakers that shared various perspectives about sexual assault, stigma and rape culture. Finally, the event concluded with a campus

walk around Doane Lake concluding in Perry Campus Center at the "What were you wearing?" exhibit.

The event had about 20 participants.

Jasso said that this event is important because it educates people about messages that "perpetuate rape culture." The things that people say have consequences. Jasso used examples such as telling women to "cover up," not go outside alone and to watch their drinks are messages that lead to victim blaming.

"We use those same suggestions as reasons why the victim should've

done something to prevent rape, but the only real way to prevent rape is either for someone else to intervene or for someone to decide not to rape another person. That's it. It's never the victim's fault," Jasso said.

Jasso also emphasized that it takes an entire community to end rape culture, which is why events such as the Slut Walk are important.

"Women shouldn't have to feel like it's just on us to end rape culture. It's up to men, too. It takes the entire community to shift a culture," Jasso said.

Play debuts

SARAH DALY
Communications
Manager

After many setbacks, the Doane Theatre Department has been able to perform "Lonely Planet" by Steven Dietz.

This play focuses on a story about Carl, played by senior Calvin Schlautman, and Jody, played by fifth-year senior Wyatt Jorgensen, and how the two react to difficult situations.

Students were able to view the production April 30 through May 2 on the website ShowTix4u. Through this website, the department was able to collect free-will donations and build their email list. The link can be found through an email sent from the Performing Arts account.

Senior Mason Morrill is the Director of "Lonely Planet," with sophomore Nicole Carraher as the Assistant Director.

"Because the pipe in the Con broke and damaged the fire suppression system, we were kicked out of the rehearsal space at least two separate times, I think once for two weeks and the other time for two months or something God awful like that. Given that, the actors did a great job of handling the obstacles, and it didn't take them

long to get back on their feet," Carraher said.

Despite the delays, the cast and crew prevailed and were able to perform.

"Working with such a small cast was really enjoyable, especially because I'm really close with both actors. We had a lot of fun in the downtime, even with the frustrations that came with the process," Carraher said.

A unique aspect to this show is that it was a main stage show and student directed. This was not the first time this has happened, but it is unusual. Morrill was determined to "evolve the show and mold it into its final shape." He was able to stay motivated during the stage setbacks by focusing on preparing for whatever came next for the show.

"I'm incredibly proud of all the work that everyone put into the show, and I think that devotion and dedication really translated into the final product. But the biggest highlight, for me, was just simply sharing this work with everyone who watched the show," Morrill said.

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Weekly Horoscopes

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): Knowledge is important this week, be sure to follow the trail to aid you in your ever-growing pursuit of it.

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): The projects set in front of you are nearly complete, the only issue is taking the time to complete them. You can do it.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): Some of your hardest things are past you, Aries, now it is only a matter of receiving the results for your hard work.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): This week offers a short break for you, be sure to take advantage of the chance so that you can be ready for a bigger push later.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): Be sure to let people know what you're up to, you never know what may come your way for allowing other people in on your plans.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Waiting for others may seem like a bother, but this is all that is left for the week. Hold out and keep yourself occupied.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): The time to finish up your projects is upon you. Try not to let your perfectionist side out too much for this, time is slowly running out.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): High grades await you, Virgo. All you need to do is keep up the preparation and be ready for anything that comes your way.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): The ongoing search for the perfect job continues this week. At times it may seem to be closer than you think, but then fall out of your grasp, just be sure to continue on.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Help is at your fingertips this week, all you need to do is reach out and you'll be surprised by just how many people care.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): Productivity is a must this week. Now it is important to get the important things done.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 20): After all of the work that you have been putting in, the time for a quick recharge is definitely needed.

StuCo holds Student Appreciation Day

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

April 26 marked Doane's first Student Appreciation Day as a result of changes made because of COVID-19 restrictions. Students were alerted of Student Appreciation Day by an email from Student Congress (StuCo) on the day of.

The day began at 9 a.m. with a T-shirt giveaway at the Tiger Patio leading into a Relaxation Station from 9:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. where students could pick up card or board games, crafts, movies or canvases to paint.

At 10:00 a.m., a sand volleyball tournament was available at the sand courts near Frees Hall. The tournament was played with standard volleyball rules and in single-elimination style, where if a team lost, they were out of the tournament.

From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., a Bop It Tournament was available at Cassel Amphitheater. The tournament consisted of 12 participants where the finalist, runner up and even "the absolute worst player" received prizes, the Student Appreciation Day schedule reads.

Canoe races occurred at 12:00 p.m. at Doane Lake. The canoe races began with teams outside the water, pushing the canoe in, filling their water guns to shoot a tree with a target attached and attempting to gather two beach balls of their team's color. The team needed to return their canoe to their other two team members who would then repeat the process.



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Students participate in canoe races during Student Appreciation Day.

At 3:00 p.m., free Chick-Fil-A was offered on a first-come-first-serve basis at the Tiger Patio.

Finally, Doane Idol concluded the day at 4:00 p.m. with multiple acts being judged by Doane Community members.

Junior Sam Coy said he believes that although the old Stop Day and new Student Appreciation Day are nearly the same thing, the importance of adhering to COVID-19 regulations was necessary.

"I honestly think that Student Appreciation Day and Stop Day were basically the same things. Both had the very similar idea of giving everyone a break and having fun around campus, a fun day off," Coy said. "Overall, I would say that it was a decent replacement for what Stop Day used to be, and hopefully, next year things will be normal, and we can resume activities without having to worry about COVID."

"For Student Appreciation Day, I participated in the canoe race, and I watched the Doane Idol along with other activities. I [think] all eight of the [events] were a lot of fun and did a nice job of involving the entire university," freshman Dani Avalos said.

The spelling bee began at 1:30 p.m. at Cassel in single-elimination style up until the final two, where after one person got the word wrong, the other finalist had to correctly spell the word in order to win.

At 2:30 p.m., the dodgeball tournament began in Haddix. Freshman Jess Virgilio participated in the dodgeball tournament.

"I was not planning on participating, but my friends needed more members. I am glad I participated because it was a great way to spend time with people without having to worry about classes," Virgilio said.

Students develop personal statements

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

After a successful first session of the personal statement writing workshop held on April 1, a second session was held on April 28.

The goal of the event was to assist in the beginning process of writing personal statements that can then go on to be used for professional or graduate school applications.

Both sessions were hosted by Associate Director of College to Career Center Sarah Begay, Professor of English Phil Weitl and Pre-Health ad-

visor Melissa Clouse.

Begay said that having multiple disciplines working together for the workshop is beneficial, as it provides new perspectives to better assist students.

"By bringing different disciplines together, we are able to provide all of these perspectives and resources to students holistically," Begay said.

She also said that in working with Weitl and Clouse, she learned things that she can take to her position in College to Career Center which helps students "articulate their interests, skills and values." Weitl provided

"By bringing different disciplines together, we are able to provide all of these perspectives and resources to students holistically."

Sarah Begay
Associate Director of College to Career Center

"specific techniques on how to write" the personal statement and how to check to make sure that they are using those tech-

niques. Clouse had experience and knowledge regarding what professional schools are looking for, according to Begay.

The personal statement can be a challenge for many students to write, as it is the piece that will make an applicant stand out. The first session of this workshop focused on coming up with ideas to answer the question asked. Students then had the time between the two sessions to come up with some sort of draft. In the second session, more of the technical writing components, such as structure, were covered.

Due to conflicts, ill-

nesses, etc., there was a slightly smaller number of participants in the second session than in the first.

Despite a smaller turnout, Begay said she hopes that students took away what a strong personal statement should include both in terms of content and technical components.

Since the personal statement can be a challenge for many, it is important to start thinking about it early. The personal statement is an opportunity to answer the question, "Why me?" according to Begay.

If students are able to

answer the question in a strong way, it could be the reason that they get an interview.

"While a strong overall application is important, oftentimes a personal statement can be the piece that sets you apart from other similar candidates and can mean the difference between getting an interview or not," Begay said.

As far as the future, the personal statement writing workshop is an event that Begay, Weitl and Clouse intend on hosting every spring.

CAs celebrated with banquet

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

The annual Community Advisor End of the Year banquet was held on April 29. This banquet is held to recognize the hard work and importance of Community Advisors (CAs).

This semi-formal event, put on by Residence Life and Education (ResLife) Professional Staff, was an opportunity for CAs to receive recognition for their work over the school year.

While this banquet occurs every year near the end of the spring semester, this year looked slightly different due to COVID-19. Masking policies were enforced, and CAs had to be distanced from each other in the South Dining Hall where

it was held. All other COVID-19 guidelines were still in effect.

The banquet served hor devours, sparkling cider and dessert for the CAs, according to Hansen Community Director, Grace Mosier. CAs were also presented with awards and superlatives for each of them.

There was also a presentation that highlighted the academic year as senior CAs who will be graduating in the upcoming weeks were recognized as well.

Mosier said that this banquet is an important event because it provides an opportunity to share all of the work that the CAs have put into ResLife this year can be recognized.

"The CAs are a vital part of our campus, as

they create community, design programs and serve as a first line of support for all students," Mosier said.

"The CAs are a vital part of our campus, as they create community, design programs and serve as a first line of support for all students."

Grace Mosier
Hansen Community Director

Caf opens self-serve food option

JOSH BUNDY
Multimedia Coordinator

With COVID-19 restrictions loosening around Doane, the cafeteria has seen a major change. That change is the reintroduction of self-serve food.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, the cafeteria has had strict guidelines when it came to the distribution of food, offering pre-packaged meals to students to limit the spread of the virus.

Freshman Garrett Scheet said he was happy with the changes, as he had issues in the past getting enough food to eat with the pre-packaged options.

"I really like how I am able to grab as much food as I want. Beforehand,

they would limit how much food they would serve me, which was annoying and upsetting because they say it's 'all you can eat,' and I would have liked extra food on some days," Scheet said.

Freshman Zane Boudreau felt the same as Scheet, being very excited to eat as much food as he wanted.

Freshman Evan Stiles also noted that he didn't have any real health concerns, a feeling shared by Boudreau and Scheet.

"I personally don't have any concerns [about the safety of the food], but I could see how others would," Scheet said.

Freshman Grayson Meyer mentioned how the food quality had not changed at all, something that the other three were quick to agree with.

Stiles talked about

how it was nice to be able to get food for himself, where in the past, he was unable to.

"I like being able to serve myself much better, I hated before when they would say I couldn't have two sandwiches or something like that," Stiles said.

Scheet felt the same way and noted how it wasn't necessarily about being able to get his own food but being able to get as much food as he wanted.

Boudreau mentioned how he thought it was weird how this change would happen so close to the end of the school year instead of just keeping everything the same to finish it out.

"I feel like it was pointless to make this change so close to school ending," Boudreau said.

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Tiger Timeout

Since this week is dead week...

The Owl staff wants to wish you good luck on all of your finals.

Here are a few tips to get you through the week:

1. Study in small increments. Take brain breaks between study sessions.
2. Eat a healthy three meals a day and get a good night's sleep.
3. Block out any distractions while studying so you are fully involved.
4. Find ways to destress during breaks such as looking at pictures of baby animals similar to this photo:



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Graphic by Kylie Hughes | The Doane Owl

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

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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 Emma Ryan

- STAFF EDITORIAL -

Take it easy, you're doing great

With this week being dead week and finals right around the corner, now more than ever it is imperative that you make sure you get plenty of rest and eat well.

Even without the risk of catching COVID, maintaining your physical health is essential to keeping your mental health up so you can perform your best on your finals.

While it is extremely easy to fall into the rut of stress and anxiety, doing your best to fight it will only serve to benefit yourself.

We at the Doane Owl want to say to all students that you guys are awesome, and you are all going to do great on your finals.

This year has been especially challenging, and we are so close to being done with it. Just two more weeks of work and it will all be over, you can do it.

Take care of yourself over these next couple of weeks by staying healthy.

Try your absolute hardest to get at least eight hours of sleep a night because being

rested is the best way to both feel good and perform well on your exams.

Aside from getting ample sleep, eating healthy foods rich in vitamins and minerals like fruits and vegetables will keep your energy up and your head in the game.

In addition to these two things, take some time for yourself to relax and do things you enjoy.

While it is important to ensure you are studying and working on your assignments to get them in on time, doing

activities you enjoy is also key to keeping your mental health up.

Whether it's reading, drawing, playing video games, watching T.V. or anything else you enjoy, always take time for yourself because you deserve it.

Finally, try to go outside for at least thirty minutes to an hour every day if the weather allows it.

Getting proper sunlight may seem corny, but it actually helps boost your mood and keep your spirits up.

Hot takes; puppet show

A weekly rating of random things by Joey Winton

JOEY WINTON

Managing Editor

For the penultimate Hot Takes of the semester, I figured it would be fitting to rank all the main Muppets from "The Muppets."

Each Muppet is ranked based on a series of qualities that I deem essential to judge the true value of a Muppet.

These qualities are design, voice and talent.

Design is the first and most important quality, as the only way to make it anywhere in this cut-throat world of showbiz is to be instantly recognizable and easily marketable.

The second most important quality is voice because if a character's voice sounds like someone running their nails down a chalkboard, it doesn't matter how good they look, they're going to lose major points for it.

The final quality is talent which boils down to what each Muppet brings to the show in terms of acting chops, musical talents, comedic timing, etc.

S Tier - The Muppets in this tier are the kings of comedy and the shining stars of the show. They always manage to steal every scene they're in and do it with a click of their heels and with a tip of their hat.

A Tier - While not as great overall as the Muppets above, these ones are still not without their merit. They still bring plenty to the table, and the show would feel empty without them.

B Tier - The true neutrals of the Muppet show, these characters are neither outstanding nor are they horrible. They exist in this middleground between good and bad and are nothing more than filler characters.

C Tier - This tier is home to the individuals who really only have a few fans at most. Whatever the reason is, these Muppets are still part of the cast, and I think it needs to stop.

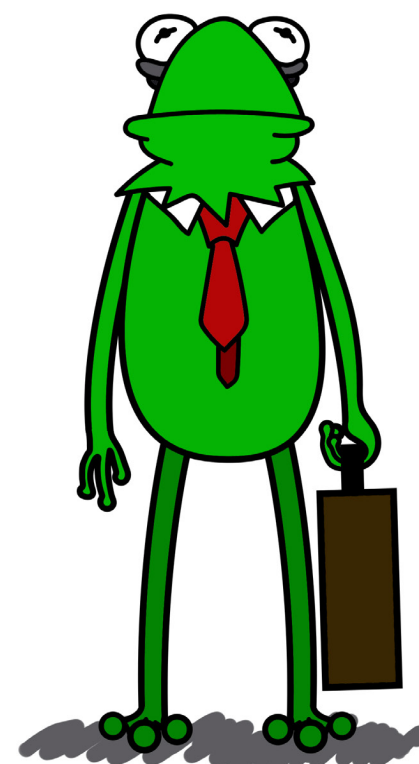
F Tier - Throw 'em in the landfill, shoot 'em into space, just do whatever needs to be done to get them out of the show because these Muppets tarnish the name of Jim Henson.

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

S Tier: (The best)- Kermit, Fozzie Bear, Beaker

A Tier: (Second Best)- Gonzo, Rowlf

B Tier: (Average)- Miss



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

Piggy, Swedish Chef

C Tier: (Below Average)- Animal, Rizzo the Rat, Professor Honeydew

F Tier: (Garbage)- Sam Eagle, Sweetums

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!

Rules of the road still apply



CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

As the weather gets nicer and people start to spend more and more time outdoors, there has been an increase in the amount of bikes and scooters you see around towns. In a lot of major cities, they have made it so you can use public-owned bikes or scooters to travel around the city.

While this is a very nice idea that can serve as a lot of fun for families, groups or friends, it is a very easily abused resource that can end up causing more harm than good.

The problem is not necessarily with the bikes because they normally provide bike lanes for those to ride on



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

the street. Even if they do not, cars are typically wary of where the bikes are and know to look out for cyclists.

Scooters, on the other hand, are a little bit of an issue. The problem here is that, just like bikes, more cities require the scooters to stay off the sidewalks and ride on the street. But scooters are obviously not the same as bikes.

If the scooters are not motorized and people are riding in the street, there is no way for them to go the same speed as cars. If there is a large pack of people riding together, it can block traffic, and motorists could easily

get confused on where they should be going.

Now, if the scooters are motorized, they can easily keep up with cars if people are willing to go that fast. Even if they do not want to go that fast, they are less of an inconvenience in the road.

The issue lies with people just flying past and thinking that because they are not cars, they do not have to follow the laws of the road. When I was driving around a city that had these scooters, people were flying through intersections and coming up to the win-

dow before zooming past me. I was going 30 miles per hour, and these scooters whizzed past me, riding down the middle of the street and doing tricks in the center of intersections.

I do not think that providing these for free use is a bad idea. I love that if I wanted to, I could get on a bike and ride around a city without having to try and transport my bike there. The issue is when people forget that riding on the street means you abide by traffic laws, and then it becomes dangerous to not only pedestrians but other motorists as well.

Stop avoiding difficult resolutions



ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

At some point or another, everyone will have a difficult conversation. It could be about a death, a poor grade, a breakup, you name it.

Most people I know loathe having difficult conversations, but I love them. I love laying everything on the table and figuring out a way to organize the mess.

I had to have a tough conversation within the past few days, and I'm not going to lie, I was so

nervous. I wanted it to go well, but I can't control other people.

Luckily, it did go well, and I felt much better afterwards. But it made me think of why so many people hate raw conversations.

Maybe it's because some people do not like being vulnerable with another person. Maybe a person does not like confrontation. Or maybe a person feels attacked and defensive in difficult conversations.

I don't have the answer to those questions, but I do know that those conversations are necessary. You can't live your life avoiding every single thing that makes you uncomfortable; I've learned that the hard way.

Take my word, it is beyond worth it to make your feelings and intentions known up front rather than when you are in a state that you'll say things you don't mean.

If you truly care about a person, you will resolve conflicts as soon as you

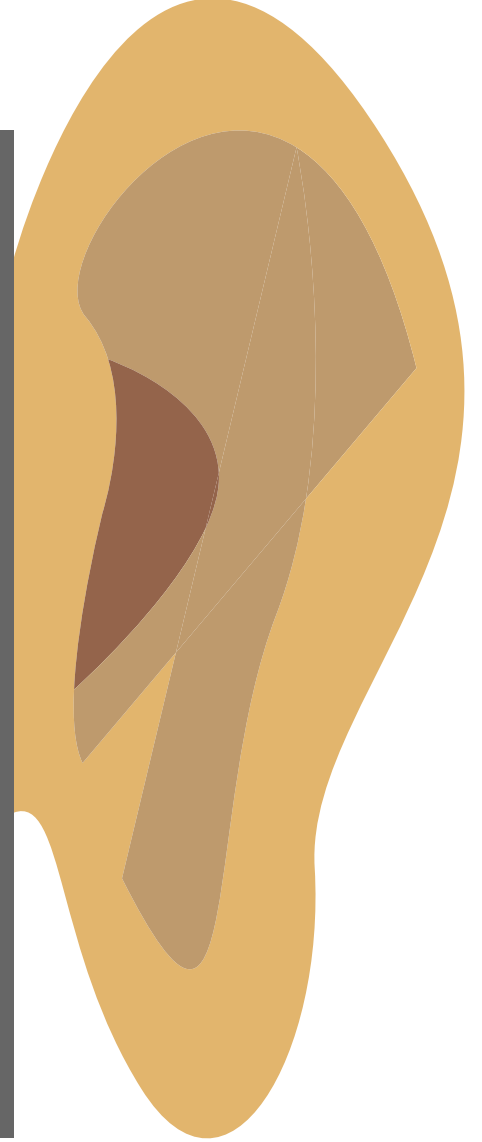
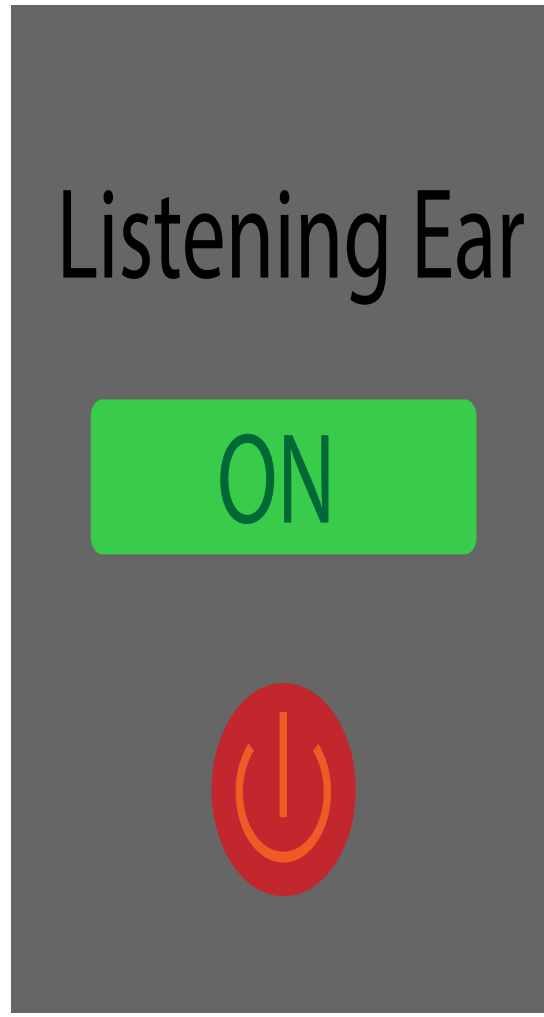
can. Even if a difficult conversation leads to other complications, you have at least expressed how much you care about the other person. They may not see it in the moment, but down the road, they will be grateful.

Don't have difficult conversations just for the thanks because you will rarely get it. You have to be satisfied with doing it for the principal and for your own well-being.

Honestly, if you're having a difficult conversation just to say you did, then it's not a real exchange. Your whole heart and soul has to be in it, otherwise you're just wasting everyone's time.

If there's an issue that has been bothering you, please just address it. Quit hiding behind a curtain of insecurity and set yourself free. Odds are that if you are uncomfortable about something, the person involved in the situation feels similarly.

So, take a moment, reflect and resolve your concerns.



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

Trading hobbies for money



JOSH BUNDY
Multimedia Coordinator

I recently saw a tweet that I related to on a personal level, and I felt it was an idea that many others might share as well.

Now, I don't remember the tweet exactly, but the idea of it was how hobbies are no longer seen as just hobbies; everyone has to be trying to make money off of them, and it was something that I felt guilty about right away.

With the pandemic hitting, one of the biggest hobbies I had growing up has been turned into this absurd business, that hobby being card collecting. It's nearly impossible to find cards for any sport really, unless you're willing to pay for insanely marked-up boxes. Fifty-dollar boxes are now being sold on eBay for hundreds, and it really takes the fun and the desire to continue collecting cards.

This isn't another rant on sports cards, but it is a way for us to think about the things we used to enjoy doing that were purely sources of fun. Some of the things I used to love doing the most have now become a sort of side hustle for me, whether it be taking pictures, collecting cards or even playing video games. Everyone is trying to make money off of everything, and that kind of climate just isn't very fun.

Granted, some things

can't be controlled, and hobbies have always been able to be turned into money-making schemes; however, one thing I've been working on is finding the joy in said hobbies. It's a challenge I have for anyone who reads this. Look back at some of the things you enjoyed doing most and realize why you loved them. The money is always nice, but money can't buy happiness.

Get back to doing those little things that brought you so much joy in the past. Who knows, maybe you'll rediscover a love you had forgotten about in the process.

Hoping to travel after pandemic



JAMESON OFFICER-THURSTON
Staff Writer

With summer approaching, I've been wondering about different vacation destinations and what might be the best place to go if given the chance.

Realistically, I probably won't be able to go many places because of

the pandemic that is taking place, but it's still interesting to think about vacation spots to make it to eventually.

I think the number one spot that I would have to go to would be Japan. I've always wanted to go to Japan since I was a kid because the culture is so different from the norm in the United States. Another reason I'd want to go there is for the culinary experience.

There are many different types of food and food experiences that can be had in Japan; it's almost unbeatable.

For example, if you are someone who loves steak, Japan has a special kind of olive wagyu beef that can only be found in the country. I think that having traditional sushi

would also be an amazing experience.

Being able to have sushi made fresh from fish caught on that same day is something that I've never been able to experience and is something that Japan has to offer.

Outside of food, a lot of my visual taste comes from Japanese culture, so I think that buying a piece of traditional art or traditional-inspired art while being there would be at the top of my list of things to do.

Before going, I would like to learn at least some of the language, which I now have time to do because of the pandemic, so maybe that's what I can do in the meantime while I wait for the opportunity to travel to Japan.

...THUMBS UP

Rainy Days 👍👍👍👍👍👎

Strawberries 👍👍👍👍👍👎

Musicals 👎👎👎👎👎👎

WWE 👍👎👎👎👎👎

Animal (the Muppet) 👍👍👍👍👎👎

THUMBS DOWN...

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

Tennis teams finish season strong

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

Over the weekend, the Men's and Women's Tennis teams competed in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) tournament. This came just after the Women's team had become the GPAC champions.

This conference title was the first that the Women's Tennis team has won in the program's history. Junior Ava Macke and the rest of the team felt extremely excited to have made such an achievement, not only for themselves but for the entire program.

"It feels amazing and surreal finally winning the title because each one of us has looked forward to this moment since we got to Doane," Macke said. "Ever since the Men's team won a couple years ago, we've been waiting for our moment, and it has finally arrived."

After becoming the conference champs, the Women's team received the number one seed going to the conference

championship. Sophomore Nina Ngo said she believes that while this is a huge accomplishment for the team, it comes with a lot of additional pressure.

"Being the number one seed heading into GPAC makes us confident yet pressures us at the same time," Ngo said. "We know every other team is going to have eyes on us with that number seed, but we can't get ahead of ourselves."

On the Men's side, the team was able to win their final home match before going into the GPAC tournament. Junior Henrique Sakoda said he believes that this last win was something big that the team needed before going into such high pressure matches.

"I would say the final win was a nice way to finish a very long but joyful season and was for sure a confidence booster for the tournament," Sakoda said. "We had ups and downs throughout the season but finishing with a win definitely has a special feeling."

Before going into the tournament, both teams had a lot of confidence in their abilities as well



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Junior Brylee Lauby swings to return the ball over the net.

as in each other and were ready to play to the best of their training.

"Our expectations going into the tournament is simply to give everything we have on the court," Macke said. "Win or lose, this team has had an amazing and

historical season, and all we want is to be proud of how we played."

This opportunity to play in the tournament provided a stage to represent Doane, the program and how well they all worked together to make it to this point.



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Junior Jorge Chevez is about to serve at the start of the match.

"Definitely the hard work we put in the whole season and to reward our coaches who really worked hard the whole year is our motivation," Sakoda said. "We also want to play for our teammates and to represent the school in these

big matches that we have."

On May 1, the Women's Tennis team lost in the championship match against Morningside College 3-4, while the Men's team lost 2-4 to Concordia in the semifinals on April 30.

Baseball team clinches championship

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

On May 1 and 2, the Baseball team played four games against the University of Jamestown. The team swept all four games and ended up tying for the spot as GPAC regular season champions.

Just before these four games, the team hosted their senior night, honoring all eight of the seniors on their team. Se-

nior Talon Little enjoyed the experience a little extra since the year before, the season was cut short.

"It was nice to have that time to be recognized for all the hard work that has gone into making it this far," Little said. "It was also nice to have that day since the seniors last year did not get to because of the pandemic, so it was nice to be able to have it for some of them."

After a loss to Briar Cliff the weekend before playing Jamestown,

the team was focused on coming back stronger and playing a game that would help them achieve their goal of being conference champions.

"We all had a bad taste in our mouths after the Briar Cliff weekend, and we went back to work this week in practice, and I think that all the guys are focused and ready to get after Jamestown," Little said. "We still have our goal of winning the regular season title for the conference, and if we go take care of

business this weekend, we will feel good about that and then it will just be about letting the chips fall where they may."

Before playing Jamestown, the team had their sights on becoming the conference champions. The team knew their strengths and was able to remain confident and competitive throughout all four games.

"I think that we have the right team to be able to [win the championship]," Little said. "This team is very confident,

and we know we are a good enough team to beat anyone in our conference if we play to our standards, so that is where our expectations are."

As the team looks now to the GPAC tournament where they will come in as the number two seed, they are ready to continue playing their game while making great strides along the way.

"There is a little extra fire just from being pre-season picked to finish seventh in the GPAC,

and so we are all driving to prove to everyone else in the conference that we belong at the top," Little said. "For me and the other seniors, this will be the last year we get to play, and so, for me at least, I'm going to give everything I have up until the end because it's the last time I will get to compete with my guys."

The Baseball team will start in the conference tournament on May 6 at home where they will play against Northwestern College.

Track teams dominate conference

JOSH BUNDY
Multimedia
Coordinator

The Doane Men's Track and Field team won their fifth consecutive GPAC Championship this past weekend, placing first out of the eleven teams who were competing.

The win was overwhelming for the Men, as they swept all competition out of the way with a team score of 235.5

points. The next closest team to the Men was Dordt, who were only able to muster up 137 points.

The Men's team had 41 all-conference performances, meaning 41 Doane athletes finished in the Top 8 of their individual events. The Men also added two relay teams into the all-conference mix, with those teams finishing in the top three at the meet. The Women's team had

18 all-conference performances, with one relay win and an individual win.

The Women's team was able to finish fourth with their score of 84.5 points.

To add to the success of the teams, there were also five athletes who won their events at the GPAC meet, as well as a relay team for the Women.

Freshman Zach Turner won the 110m hurdles

with his time of 14.08 seconds. This run was the second fastest in the NAIA this season, as well as the second fastest in Doane's history.

Senior Logan Hammond won the 400m hurdles with a time of 53.74 seconds. Hammond's and Turner's victories meant that Doane was the only team at conference celebrating wins in the men's hurdling events.

Senior Jake Heitkamp

joined the winner's circle with his performance in javelin with his throw of 57.07m.

Fifth-year Levi Sudbeck was able to win the decathlon over two days with his score of 6,274 points.

Freshman Madison Sutton added a victory of her own on the Women's side, which put her at the top of the NAIA. Her throw of 50.43m in the discus was the best in the NAIA this season.

Rounding out Doane's event winners was the 4x800m Women's relay team, who won with a time of 9:31.76.

Although the GPAC Championships took place this past weekend, there will be two more meets, known as "second chance meets," to give the athletes another chance to qualify for nationals.

The Bronco Invite will be May 8 in Hastings, Nebraska.

Softball ends regular season play

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

The Softball team played against Mount Marty University on May 1, winning both of the two games they played. The team now prepares for the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) tournament where they will enter at the sixth seed.

Previously, the team had achieved a no-hitter, meaning that not a single person got on base from the other team. This

was only the seventh in the program's history, and sophomore Megan Elliott found it very rewarding to make this achievement.

"It is really exciting to see because our pitchers and defense put in so much work off the field and seeing a no-hitter as a result shows just how talented our program's athletes are," Elliott said.

As the team headed into their final games before the tournament, they were looking to put themselves in the best position for success in

the tournament, along with wanting to play their hardest for the final regular season games.

"We are just hoping to secure some more wins to put us in a better position for the tournament, but I am just hoping that we compete on the field this weekend," Elliott said.

Now as they prepare for the tournament, the Softball team is practicing in order to compete and make it as far along as they can. However, they are also looking forward to just continuing

to play with their teammates for as long as they can.

"[We know] that we have everything we need to be successful in the tournament," Elliott said. "[We also know] that we all have each other's backs at the end of the day and have the drive to want to win."

The Softball team will play in the GPAC tournament on May 5 against Concordia University in Sioux City, Iowa.

Athlete of the Week



Zach Turner
Men's Track & Field

won the 110m hurdles with the second-fastest time in the NAIA this season and the second-fastest in school history with a time of 14.08 seconds.



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