

the doane OWL

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Doane graduates finally got their commencement ceremony. See page 2 for more details.

Votes counted everywhere

Absentee ballots allow students at Doane to vote, even if they aren't from Nebraska

ABRIANNA MILLER
News Editor

November is coming up quick which means it's time to vote! Out-of-state students at Doane are in a unique position in that they need to request an absentee ballot in order to have their voices heard. Each state has their own process and timeframe in which residents can request an absentee ballot.

Many Generation Z individuals at Doane are being proactive, though, as this November election will be the first time

they are able to vote.

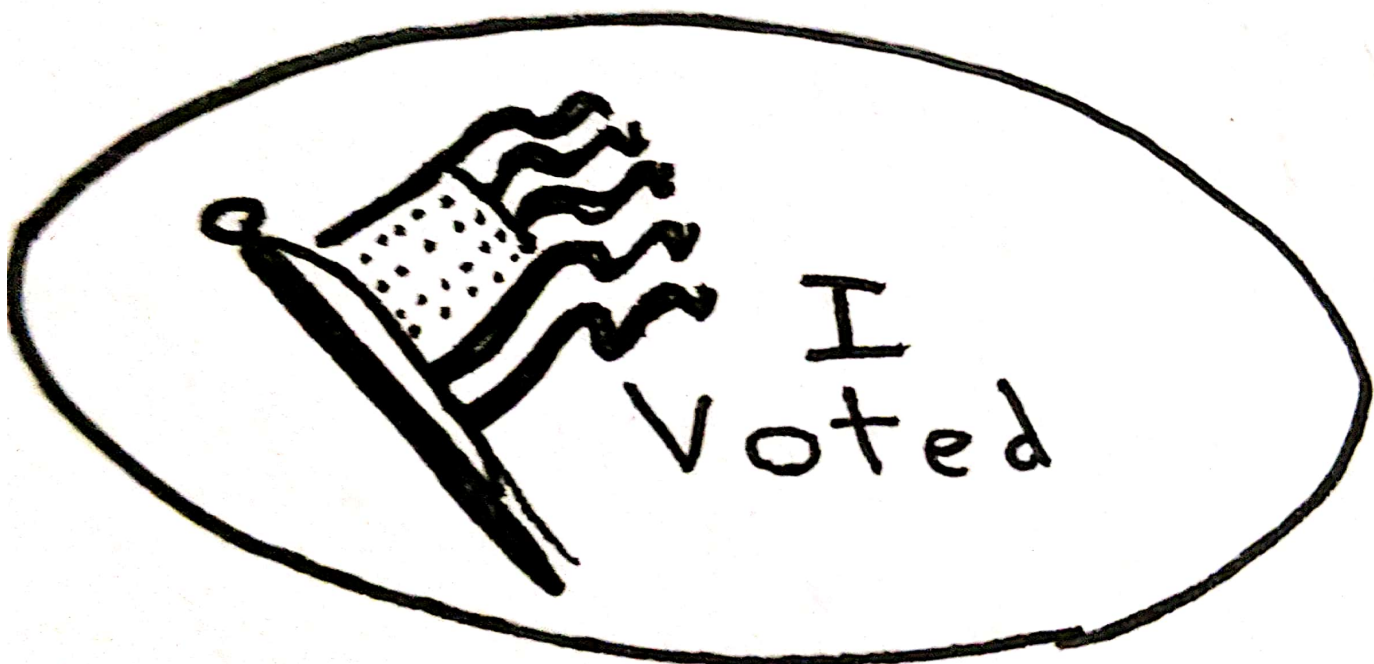
Sophomore Amber Lyons came to Doane from Los Angeles, California. She said she has already requested an absentee ballot from her home state.

Florida-resident Noah Fisher Davis, sophomore, has also applied to receive an absentee ballot.

Sophomore Levi Weinstein is originally from Colorado and came to Doane to play football. Unlike Lyons and Davis, Weinstein has not requested an absentee ballot but hopes to be able to vote.

Weinstein said he was unaware of absentee ballot voting. Since he has learned about this method of voting, Weinstein said he does plan on requesting an absentee ballot.

Recently, concerns about voter fraud have been circulating as more and more people are opting for mail-in ballots. Another issue many people are worried about is eligible voters experiencing significant influence from people around them as they fill out their bal-



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

Many Doane students will be able to vote for the first time this year. However, many students are from out-of-state, which is where absentee ballots are helpful. They allow students' voices to be heard, no matter where in the country they come from.

lots. Others are not concerned at all, believing absentee ballots will help prevent the spread of COVID-19, protect their communities from the contamination risks associated with polling stations and allow more people to vote.

"I am not terribly concerned with the absentee

ballot," Davis said.

Lyons shared Davis' view and said the absentee ballot is the same thing as what she would receive at her polling station in California.

Weinstein also said he was not worried about voter fraud from absentee ballots.

"[...]the odds of my vote actually counting are

pretty slim. It's mainly up to the electoral vote and not really the general public," Weinstein said.

For residents far away from home or those attending Doane from out of state, you can find specific information about requesting an absentee ballot on websites such as vote.org. The process is very simple and should

take no more than 15 minutes.

If you are considering whether or not to request your ballot, order it right away! The window for absentee ballot requests will be closing very soon with deadlines varying from state to state.

Big Ten to proceed with season

The Big Ten Conference announced plans to allow schools to compete in football



Courtesy photo | Big Ten

The Big Ten has recently reconsidered their stance on cancelling the football season. Due to coronavirus concerns, the conference decided to postpone the season.

CASSIE KESSLER
Staff Writer

After a recent reconsideration, the Big Ten conference has decided to let their schools play football this fall season amongst coronavirus fears.

There's been a lot up in the air this year concerning whether sports would be happening, especially college football. Certain conferences decided right away to continue on with a season, while others said they definitely would not be having a season.

The Big Ten conference, including teams such as Nebraska, Ohio

State and Michigan State, originally held a vote that resulted in the verdict of not playing college football this season. This did not sit right with certain fans of college football, such as junior Carson Deisley.

"I thought it was important for the Big Ten to revote because the athletes worked very hard for the whole summer, and they didn't make it clear that this fall was going to get cancelled, so I feel like they kind of got led on," Deisley said.

The vote that decided to cancel the season took place in early August, but a more recent

vote decided to overrule this decision and allow the Big Ten to participate in this upcoming college football season. Opting to play was seen as a smart choice by those like freshman Nate Fox for several reasons.

"It will obviously bring in a lot of money because football is a major money-maker in every conference, so it'll keep things up and running. They also would've lost big recruits because they would not have been able to get the game day experience and see what it's like to play in front of the crowds that the Big Ten brings," Fox said.

Nebraska fans were especially thrilled with the decision to play, as players and even head coach Scott Frost took to social media to describe their gratitude.

Being very close to people deeply invested in the team, junior Brock Johnson knows how much this season means to every Husker football fan.

"I don't think the players could have gone the season without playing, and I don't think Nebraska's fans could have either. Nebraska football is a tradition that can't be stopped. If we didn't have the games, I think

we'd still tailgate and just watch reruns from older seasons," Johnson said.

With the University of Nebraska being one of the first and most vocal schools in the Big Ten to speak out against the vote to cancel the season, they received mixed reactions from the media. Unlike other schools who eventually joined this movement later, Nebraska received a lot of backlash.

"I thought Scott Frost was very fearless in his initial interviews showing what he thought about the decision to play college football and what he

thought was right. The big thing with all this that made me a little upset is that other schools didn't get any banter on social media because they were better football teams than us in past records," Deisley said.

Regardless of the reaction, the decision has been made to play. For a lot of people, this means a lot of different things, but for college football players, the opportunity to have a season during a pandemic means more than just football.



Courtesy photo | Huskers.com

Nebraska is among the schools who will now be allowed to compete in their football season. Many Husker fans will be happy to see the team return to action.

Doane grads get their moment



Recent Doane graduates were finally given their commencement after months of waiting. Following social distancing guidelines, they were able to have the ceremony they earned.

Photos by Meaghan Stout | The Doane Owl

Wildfires affecting the nation

KYLIE HUGHES
Life and Culture Editor

Although the skies may not be an eerie red and orange as they are across the West Coast, that does not mean that Nebraska is not experiencing any effects from the deadly wildfires.

According to CNN, the wildfires have killed over two dozen people so far and forced thousands out of their homes. Out of the five largest wildfires in California's history, three of them are currently burning.

While all that is left of many regions across Northern California, Oregon and Washington is rubble and ash, residents have another problem to worry about—smoke.

The smoke along the west coast is visible from space, according to Time magazine.

However, this potentially hazardous smoke is not confined to the Northwest, it is spreading across the country.

Smoke, even from thousands of miles away, can still pose a major health threat. According to Newsweek, the smoke from the west coast wildfires has traveled over 4,000 miles, posing health concerns for at-risk populations.

For the elderly, pregnant and those with under-lying health con-

ditions, this smoke can create a serious threat.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns if you can smell smoke, stay inside and close all windows and doors. Even if smoke is not noticeable to smell or to sight, that does not mean it cannot cause health problems. Those closer to the source of the smoke may experience coughing, wheezing, irritated sinuses, etc. However, anyone who inhales enough smoke for a long enough period of time will put stress on their heart, causing potential lung and cardiovascular damage later in life.

It is especially important during this time to stay healthy. Health problems caused by smoke can lead to a weakened immune system which makes it harder to fight off viruses such as COVID-19.

With megafires such as those on the West Coast becoming more common, it is especially important to learn how to



Firefighters are busy fighting two of California's biggest wildfires in history. The smoke is carrying thousands of miles away, causing health risks to millions of people.

Courtesy photo | KTLA.com

keep yourself safe.

The National Weather Service, the US Environmental Protection Agency's Air Now and other programs have various forms of air quality indexes to both track where the smoke has spread as well as an hour-by-hour index of how safe it is to be outside. Both websites offer guidelines as to how long to stay outdoors before your health takes any sort of toll.

With deadly wildfires on the rise, it is important to stay informed and stay safe even for those who do not live in fire-prone regions.

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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER FORECAST

WEDNESDAY 9/23



HIGH: 81
LOW: 57

THURSDAY 9/24



HIGH: 84
LOW: 57

FRIDAY 9/25



HIGH: 91
LOW: 61

SATURDAY 9/26



HIGH: 79
LOW: 52

SUNDAY 9/27



HIGH: 79
LOW: 54

MONDAY 9/28



HIGH: 75
LOW: 50

TUESDAY 9/29



HIGH: 70
LOW: 45

Graphic by Riley Souchek | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

Boswell murder trial to begin this week

Trial delayed and moved to Lexington for impartial jury

Madi Warrelmann
Communications

Bailey Boswell, one of two defendants on trial for the death of Sydney Loofoe, is scheduled to have her trial begin later this week on Sept 23 according to an article from the Omaha World-Herald. Boswell is being charged with first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder and improper disposal of human remains.

Loofoe was murdered in Nov 2017 after setting up a meeting with Boswell over Tinder. According to testimony from Aubrey

Trail, the other defendant in this case, Boswell and Loofoe ended up in Wilber during a second meeting arranged over Tinder. Loofoe died, according to Trail, when she was willingly participating in a "sexual fantasy" that included choking. Trail also stated that Boswell was forced to help dispose of Loofoe's body. Loofoe's remains were found in tightly wrapped plastic bags scattered throughout various country roads in Clay County, Nebraska in early Dec 2017.

Trail's trial, which occurred in Summer 2019, ended with him being convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder. He pled guilty to the charge of improper disposal of human remains.

Although Trail requested to have a new trial, this was turned down by Saline County District Judge Vicky Johnson, ac-

ording to an article from the Lincoln Journal Star. As of March 2020, Trail is awaiting a sentencing trial by three judges to determine whether he will be sentenced to life in prison or the death penalty.

If convicted of her charges, Boswell could also be facing the death penalty. Boswell's trial was originally scheduled to occur in Wilber, Nebraska in Oct 2019. Due to the coverage of Trail's trial, it was decided that a fair and impartial jury for Boswell's trial would be unable to be selected in Saline County. Instead, the trial was rescheduled to take place in Lexington in March 2020. Since then, the trial has been postponed to Sept due to a medical emergency in the family of the presiding judge.

The trial will start as scheduled this week, but in the age of COVID-19,

it can be difficult to stick to schedules.

According to a June 2020 order from the Nebraska Supreme Court, courts throughout Nebraska should be following some form of COVID-19 policy. If courts are having hearings or other meetings in-person, the court's order states that "at least one or more of the following measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 to staff, counsel, parties and other participants: screening of individuals for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19, social distancing spacing requirements in courtrooms and offices, use of masks, providing hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing highly touched surfaces and areas where court services and proceedings are occurring."



Courtesy photo | NET Nebraska
Bailey Boswell after being arrested for murder along with Aubrey Trail (not pictured).

Third political parties lack appeal

Confidence in third political parties is minimal among younger students

LUKE URBANAVICIUS
Content Producer

With a growing trend of political engagement in young adults due to various social media campaigns, the electorate is slowly decreasing in age according to "Millennials approach Baby Boomers as America's largest generation in electorate."

With obvious cultural differences from generation to generation, the political environment is shifting in new directions with each election cycle. After an anonymous survey on Doane University's campus, it was found that the majority of students identify themselves as Moderate or Independent.

While there were those that did identify themselves as Democrat or Republican, they were sparsely populated. It is important to note that many students identified themselves as Independent or Moderate. Most of these students

registered as either Democrat or Republican in order to vote in elections, not for their political ideology.

"That's what my parents are [Democrat]. You can't just vote for who's best for your party; you have to think of who's best for the office," freshman Kimberley Kathka said.

Asking students if they were aware of a third party on the ballot or if they had thought of joining a party aside from the Republicans or Democrats, most said they were aware but not too attracted to them.

"People are too focused on the Republican and Democratic parties that they kind of lose focus on the fact that there is another person who might be better suited for the job. But because they might be Libertarian, people just won't pay attention to them," Kathka

said. When asked, 30 random students also said the Libertarian party might be a new approach they would consider taking but because the party lacked numbers and voting power, they weren't confident in the party's effectiveness.

Most of the students interviewed also said their parents were either Democrat or Republican but they themselves chose to remain Independent.

Through these interviews, it was determined the newest group of eligible voters, those turning 18 during this election cycle, seemed to be mostly Moderate, leaning only slightly left or right - contrary to most interviewed upperclassmen aged 20-22 who politically identified as the same party as their parents. Causes for this may include their upbringing and the political environment when they



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

Presenting the new party animal for the third political party...
The Penguin

"If we are the generation to change things by organizing these protests and trying to make a difference, there's no room for political bias."

Kimberley Kathka
Freshman

were eligible to vote for the first time.

"If we are the generation to change things by organizing these protests and trying to make a difference, there's no room for political bias," Kathka said.

More voter registration and party information is available to students from their community advisors and community directors who have posted party information on at least one floor of each residential hall.

After School fun

Many benefits to Program, especially for Education majors

SALEM KESSLER
Staff Writer

The After School Program at Crete Schools is a program that helps students in the city have activities to do when they finish classes for the day.

The program is available to students K-12 and offers a variety of different types of activities to fit all children. Alongside the program being an option for the Crete students, many students from Doane's campus work as mentors for the students.

Sophomore Gilly Pearson has been working at the After School Program for almost a year. "I started out at Crete High School last October and moved to Crete Elementary this August," Pearson said.

Pearson is an Elementary Education major and said working with students outside of a classroom setting has helped her prepare to become a teacher.

"I get to work with kids and provide academic stimuli while also allowing them a space to decompress with fun after a long day at school," Pearson said. Many Doane students who work in the program are Education majors, although that isn't a requirement. Working with students outside of an academic setting can help improve the skills needed to be a teacher while still studying in college.

demographic stimuli while also allowing them a space to decompress with fun after a long day at school," Pearson said.

Many Doane students who work in the program are Education majors, although that isn't a requirement. Working with students outside of an academic setting can help improve the skills needed to be a teacher while still studying in college.

Maddie Brandenburg is another student at Doane who works at the After School Program.

"I think the biggest misconception is that it's 'just' an after school program," Brandenburg said.

She sees it as a way to spend time with the children while also helping them learn new skills.

Maddie is also an Education major and believes this job has really given her more experiences, especially as a junior going into teaching.

"In education especially, the more experience you can get, the better you can teach. You learn through experience and making mistakes," Brandenburg said.

The After School Program benefits both Doane students and Crete students and presents opportunities for those wanting to be mentors and provides young students with capable young-adults to look up to.

Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reported incidents in their public crime log. Incidents reported between Aug. 30 and Sept. 21 include:

- 08/30 Trespassing - Crete: Fuhrer Fieldhouse
- 09/01 Larceny/Theft - Crete: Burrage Hall
- 09/02 Harassment/Threats - Crete: Dining Hall
- 09/09 Trespassing - Crete: Burrage Hall Third Floor Balcony
- 09/11 Larceny/Theft - Crete: Parking Lot M

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Nebraska Counts.org

Freshmen lack college experience

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

Starting a new school or moving from high school to college can be a nerve-racking experience, and it can be an exciting chance to meet new people.

Freshman Lauren Matthies said going into college she "expected to find [her] community really easily."

However, all expectations would prove incorrect as current freshman and transfer students joined Doane University in the midst of a pandemic.

The pandemic has caused the creation of

many new policies students must follow. These policies include wearing a mask in all buildings, not going into other residence halls, social distancing at all times, etc.

While all of these policies are necessary for the safety of students and staff at Doane, many new students are finding it challenging to meet people and adjust to college life.

Out of the 56 freshman and transfer students who filled out a survey, 34 percent of them said they are having an average time meeting people and making friends.

While 34 percent of students are having an above average time meeting people, there

are still 32 percent of freshman and transfer students who state they have met little-to-no people and have made almost no friends. They all attribute that lack of social interaction to the pandemic.

Even students who have made some friends still believe the pandemic is making it hard to meet more people. Only about 18 percent of the survey respondents felt as though the pandemic has had no effect on their ability to meet people. The other 82 percent of respondents gave various reasons as to why the pandemic has impacted the social aspect of college.

Students said there

are few events occurring on campus to meet people at, there are very few places to hang out and socialize, social distancing makes it hard to introduce themselves and some students feel apprehensive about socializing while wearing masks.

For Matthies, her inability to meet people is taking a toll on her academics. She said she is having a hard time setting herself up for success.

"I don't even know anything about half of the kids in my classes. I can't even talk to them in class [due to social distancing] and get to know them better to want to meet them outside of

class," Matthies said.

Because she does not know the people in her classes, she said she feels as though she has no one other than the professor to ask for help or to study with.

For students who commute to campus, such as freshman Alyssa Luebke, who is not currently involved in any extracurriculars, the classroom is the only place she could meet people, but "there isn't very much opportunity for group work or group activities" in order to meet new people.

Freshman Cole Essex agreed that it is hard to meet people in classes because students are not as social in Zoom classes, and masks make it "hard

to read people" during in-person classes.

To help with both the social and academic aspects, Matthies offers a suggestion to professors that she thinks would help improve peer relationships.

"I would have them put together a contact list where people can send [the professors] any contact information... even just social media so we can see each other outside of the classroom," Matthies said.

While adjusting to college life has been more challenging this year because of the pandemic, it is evident that students who are facing a social disconnect are not alone in their struggles.

Music passion drives band students

ABRIANNA MILLER
News Editor

Band practices look different here at Doane as the students and faculty adjust to COVID-19 guidelines. The love for music and passion for learning has not changed, though.

The band now practices in Cassel Open Air Theatre with masks while social distancing. All players except for percussion and string players are allowed to cut small slits in their masks to be able to play. Percussion players have additional concerns, though, because they have to carry all of their equipment outside for each practice.

Junior Sean Murray plays percussion for the Doane Jazz Band. In previous years, he said he had also been part of Pep Band and Concert Band.

"With what I've seen, it is [less enjoyable]-- at least for percussion because they have to move all the equipment outside to Cassel every single time they rehearse, so that's not fun," Murray said.

Practicing in Cassel has been difficult for everyone but especially

freshmen as they never had a chance to experience a 'normal' band practice.

"You still are playing in band but it's just that you're distanced from other people and you can't socialize the same way," Murray said.

Freshman Corina Grimaldo said one of the worst parts about playing outside is the changes in the weather.

"It just sucks. I'd rather actually play inside than playing in the heat or in the cold, which we haven't played in the cold yet but I know it's coming up and I'm dreading it. It wouldn't be as bad if it wasn't for the temperatures; it just gets so hot," Grimaldo said.

Grimaldo said she is not bothered by the guidelines, rather she is grateful the Music Department is taking health and safety so seriously.

Junior Matthew Mittlieder said he plays in Concert Band and Pep Band. He has kept his spirits high despite the challenges the band has faced this semester.

"I mean, honestly, I think I liked the past couple years better than this year. It's a lot more work because we have to move everything outside every-

day but it's fine. I still like it," Mittlieder said.

Jay Gilbert, Professor of Music, created a plan over the summer to keep everyone safe. So far, the plan has been working well with little-to-no adjustments being made.

"He's been handling it well, making sure everyone wears their masks and has a cut-out in their masks," Grimaldo said.

Murray has been under Gilbert's instruction for the past three years. He said he admires Gilbert's passion for music and dedication to Doane students.

"He is one of the most prepared professors at Doane for all the COVID stuff. He took it really seriously since the beginning and he has done his research and talked to professionals in the area to see what were the most recommended options," Murray said.

While it is hard to tell what the future holds at this point, band students are trying to keep their spirits high even with the additional preparation for rehearsal.

"We just have to wear masks and be outside. It's kind of difficult but everyone is just trying their best," Mittlieder said.

"We just have to wear masks and be outside. It's kind of difficult but everyone is just trying their best,"

Matthew Mittlieder
Junior

Matthew Mittlieder, who plays in Concert Band and Pep Band, still enjoys band despite the challenges.



Graphic by Felicity Ramsey | The Doane Owl

Death Cafe provides many advantages

ABRIANNA MILLER
News Editor

One of the lesser-known events on campus is the "Death Cafe". Professor of English Philip Jude Weilt and Associate Professor of Biology Tessa Durham Brooks host the "Death Cafe" bi-monthly on Saturday mornings as a way to openly discuss the topics of death and mortality.

"Death Cafes" have sprung up all over the world since 2011 and Doane began its own in Jan 2019. Despite the group's ominous name, the "Death Cafe" is a relaxed and respectful conversation about death that is led by those who attend.

"They're really about whatever the group needs them to be with the exception of it being therapy or support groups. It's really more of a discussion forum, a 'salon'-- the old fashioned term," Weilt said.

Brooks and Weilt used to hold the meetings at the Brew House in down-

town Crete but with the pandemic, they have moved it to Zoom. This change has come with surprising advantages, though.

"We had people from both coasts, someone from the New England area, someone from the West Coast, someone from Budapest. We had just a nice variety there and topics that I never thought about before so that's a really cool thing about "Death Cafes," Brooks said.

Brooks and Weilt stress the importance of knowing how to communicate in an open and non-judgemental manner, like you would see in a "Death Cafe".

"Nobody has the authority in the context of that conversation. That is another important aspect of it too, is really respecting everybody's contribution," Brooks said.

The purpose of a "Death Cafe" is not just merely to discuss death; it is about sharing ideas and formulating one's own thoughts about the topic while also getting to

know other people well through a vulnerable topic. Weilt said the communication skills learned and practiced at "Death Cafes" are useful and sought after by employers because that skillset has been greatly diminished.

"Yeah, we're talking about death but we're also practicing an art that is somewhat lost and is probably necessary... a lot of it is being about to listen and work with other people, it's not to judge," Weilt said.

Level 300 LAR classes taught by Brooks and Weilt at Doane will be holding their own themed cafes in the future as the structure of the event meets requirements for almost all topics.

As for the "Death Cafe" itself, the next meeting will be held in early Nov via Zoom.

Dates for both the LAR cafes and the "Death Cafe" will be announced through a campus-wide email as the details become available. For more information about "Death Cafes," visit deathcafe.com

stewart@doane.edu

Weekly Horoscopes

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): Try something that you have never done before and learn from your experience.

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): This is going to be an intense yet exciting week. Do some self-exploration this week.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): This is going to be a draining week for you, Aries. Make sure to get lots of sleep and take care of yourself.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): Your patience will be tested this week, member to take a deep breath and keep calm.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): If you are open minded, romance can flourish this week whether it is a new relationship or an existing one.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Take some time to relax and connect with the people who you care about.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): It is going to be a busy and eventful week. Try not to let yourself get overwhelmed over things out of your control.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): Expect to have many innovative and money-making ideas, so be optimistic.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): This is going to be a week of clarity. Use this time to find what is important to you.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Although this week may be low key for you, don't let yourself get behind.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): Use this week to be more outgoing. Figure out what you want and go get it.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 20): Use your newfound confidence that you gain this week to impress those around you.

Crete prepares for Great Pumpkin Fest

LUKE URBONAVICIUS
Content Producer

With communities trying to preserve tradition in times in which "a new normal" might become reality, Crete is taking every opportunity it can get.

Halloween and the harvest season are arriving soon and with it comes The Great Pumpkin Festival, hosted on Oct. 3 and Oct 4, this year by the Crete Chamber of Commerce.

Crete's Great Pumpkin Fest is dedicated to giving back to the community.

Businesses and organizations in Crete will set up and operate stands and booths during the festival in which they can showcase their goods and ser-

vices while providing food, gifts and other treats to families and friends.

Doane has had a large part in the history of the event with numerous student groups volunteering their time to help out at the event. Some of these groups include athletic teams, Green Life and the theatre department. In 2019, the Festival was even hosted on-campus in the Fuhrer Fieldhouse due to inclement weather.

Community service is something that Doane takes pride in, especially when students are the ones volunteering for an event that directly gives back to the community.

The Agricultural Committee of the Crete Chamber of Commerce is the main organizer

of the event, expanding it and developing the programs and events.

Local pumpkin patches also donate time and effort to ensure each child has a pumpkin to take home.

Right now, the main attendees are students and alumni from the University, local businesses and friends and family members of those involved.

"Our goal is to eventually involve the whole community of Crete in Crete's Great Pumpkin Festival," the Crete Chamber of Commerce said.

Highlights of the festival include: carnival games, car show, food court, hayrack rides, petting zoo and the great pumpkin giveaway.

COVID affects practicums

FELICITY RAMSEY
Graphic Design

Student-teaching has been caught up in a mess of last-minute changes and adaptations. Practicum students have had the option to teach online via Zoom or in-person and on Zoom, depending on the students' comfortability levels.

Senior Olivia DeFord said this year feels completely different from previous years. DeFord completed two years of practicum and is now student-teaching. She said her biggest challenges are recognizing her students and getting to know

them because they are only able to meet two or three days a week and the rest of the time is via Zoom.

For some, communication with their schools has been scarce but for DeFord, communication with her school has been great.

Some schools have taken action in different ways- some have even shut down practicum programs completely. If schools do let students in, they have a set of instructions and limitations placed upon them.

"I have had to get my temperature checked and answer screening questions for the past week. Now, all stu-

dent-teachers have to get a negative COVID-19 test before we can return to the building and every two weeks after that. And practicum teachers potentially won't be allowed at LPS this semester," DeFord said.

It is just a matter of waiting until the risk rate goes down for practicum students and student-teachers to be able to actually spend time with their students and get the education they came to Doane for. This is a very good way to figure out what to do in case another virus spreads in the future, though. Being over-prepared is always better than being underpre-

pared.

Tiger Timeout

	9	7	1	6	4		2	
5	3		9	7		1	8	
					4		5	
1	8						4	3
		3		1				
4								
	7	2		3	1		5	8
	1		6	5	8	2	7	

Courtesy of Doane Computer Science Department

The answers to this week's Tiger Timeout will be in next week's issue

The answers to last weeks issue's Tiger Timeout

4	2	9	1	7	6	3	5	8
3	8	7	2	5	9	1	6	4
6	1	5	4	8	3	7	2	9
7	9	6	5	3	4	2	8	1
2	5	8	7	6	1	9	4	3
1	3	4	8	9	2	5	7	6
9	7	3	6	4	5	8	1	2
8	6	2	9	1	7	4	3	5
5	4	1	3	2	8	6	9	7

Importance for suicide prevention rises with COVID

SALEM KESSLER
Staff Writer

September is National Suicide Prevention month.

This is a time when many people spend time advocating for different mental health care bills, mental health in general or even providing personal support to those close to them.

Although every year is important, this year in particular has a lot of people paying attention.

40 percent of adults have reported an increase in mental health issues; 30.9 percent said they have been experiencing feelings of anxiety or depression because of COVID-19.

While depression and suicide rates have been steadily rising since 2018,

COVID-19 guidelines are causing there to be higher levels of symptoms showing.

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline has had an uptick of calls to 45 percent more than usual since the beginning of quarantine.

Symptoms of suicidal thoughts include: withdrawing contact with others more than usual, feeling trapped or hopeless

in any situation, doing risky or self destructive behaviors and many other things.

During suicide prevention month, many are urging those who may be struggling to speak out.

There are various hotlines available for anyone to call including: the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, The Trevor Project, RAINN National Sexual Assault Hotline,

Veterans Crisis Line and many more.

Although there are many resources available on a national level, Doane's campus also provides different opportunities for students to get the help they need.

There are several counselors here on campus for any student to make an appointment with via Zoom.

To make an appointment, please contact any of the following people:

Nurse Kelly: kelly.jirovec@doane.edu

Myron Parsley: myron.parsley@doane.edu

Kristal Flaming: kristal.flaming@doane.edu

Raegan Bartholomew: raegan.bartholomew@doane.edu

Emma Stewart: emma.stewart@doane.edu



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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.

The Doane Owl is published weekly at under the authority of the Doane College Student Media Advisory Board. Circulation is 700 issues per week. Single copies are free to Doane students, faculty and staff. Subscriptions cost \$50 per semester.

The Doane Owl Editorial board consists of: Meaghan Stout, Joey Winton, Abrianna Miller, Kylie Hughes, Josh Bundy and Riley Soucek.

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 Meaghan Stout

- STAFF EDITORIAL - Stay informed, go out and vote

The Doane Owl editorial staff firmly believes that all students, and people for that matter, should try and stay as informed as possible on current events. As young people, it is our future that is decided by these elections. As students, we have a lot going on. It can be difficult to find the time to stay

informed on current events. However, we, as young people, need to take charge. It can be overwhelming to look into politics, especially with everything going on within the past year. It is important that we take care of ourselves, but it is equally important that we focus on our futures.

Politics are not just about the taxes we pay. They influence everything around us. Maybe not all students are being directly affected by politics, but many are. We cannot allow our own comfort in this space keep us from seeing the struggles of those around us. You may want to skip vot-

- LETTER TO THE EDITOR - Commencement brings closure

Dear administrators and staff of Doane University,

Thank you for all your hard work to make sure commencement happened on Sunday. I know it couldn't have been easy, but you made that a special day for us graduates who got to find closure in walking across that stage. So, first and foremost, thank you.

I can't say sorry for writing that first letter to the editor or starting that petition back in May because I think you needed to see how much we care about commencement. If we didn't care, we wouldn't have fought for it. But we do, and that says a lot about our experience at Doane.

We care so much about Doane that we don't want to leave without saying our goodbyes. We care so much that we are willing to travel many miles to come back to get a cover for our diplomas that we already have. We care so much that we don't care that all the photos only show half our faces because of our masks. We care so much we just wanted to come back together to finish what we started four years ago.

Sunday was about closure for a lot of us. For me, it was the moment I cheered on my first college friends for finishing. The moment I congratulated my old group partners on their accomplishments. It was the moment my parents put faces to names I talk so much about. Back when the decision to com-



May 2020 graduate Caitlyn Nelson poses with her diploma cover on Sunday during the belated commencement ceremony.

bine our graduation with December or May 2021's ceremonies came out, I know you received a lot of upset and even angry phone calls and emails. We were upset about the fact we didn't get the recognition we deserved. We care about you, but it felt like it wasn't reciprocated - at least enough to fight for us.

So we fought for ourselves, and you should be proud of us for it. That sounds condescending, but it's the truth. We may have been pains in the butts in the process, but we were fighting for what we believed

in. The goal is for us to go out into the world and make a difference after graduation, right? We proved that we can make a difference. Together, as a class, we made a difference.

On behalf of the Class of 2020, thank you for putting in the work to make Sunday happen. Thank you for listening to us. It meant the world to us.

Best,
Caitlyn Nelson
Class of 2020 graduate

Joey's hot takes; cheese touch

JOEY WINTON
Copy Desk Chief

S Tier: (The best)- Cream cheese, Mozzarella

A Tier: (Second Best)- Cheddar, Swiss, Parmesan, Gouda

B Tier: (Average)- Pepperjack, Colby Jack, Provolone, Manchego, Bleu

C Tier: (Below Average)- Feta, Muenster, Goat, Brie

F Tier: (Garbage)- American, Cottage

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

Curdled milk, colloquially known as cheese, takes many different forms. From soft and spreadable to hard and brittle, cheese can be used in just about anything.

This week's ranking is focused on cheese and its various sub-species as there are some cheeses that are objectively better than others.

Each cheese is judged on a series of criteria that determine its placement; these are taste, texture, consistency and versatility.

Taste is straightforward- if one cheese tastes better than another, it will rank higher up on the list.

Texture is also relatively simple- if a cheese tastes good but has a yucky texture, it will lose points because the texture of a cheese is supposed to complement it.

Consistency is all about how good the cheese is on average. To explain, it is based on how often the cheese is of good quality when encountered. Basically, how easily can a store or restaurant screw up the cheese. If its quality can vary a lot depending on the venue, it will rank lower than a cheese that nine times out of ten will always be great regardless of venue.

Versatility is the most complex of the criteria as it encompasses a couple different aspects of cheese: how many dishes the cheese can be used in and how many variations of flavor exist for the cheese. For example, cream cheese can be used in just about anything and has countless flavors (blueberry,

strawberry, etc.).

S Tier- The cheeses in this tier are a cut above the rest. Their taste is exquisite, their texture is immaculate and one can put them in just about anything, and the dish will only be improved. Anytime a cheese in this tier is spotted in a grocery store or anytime it is used in a dish on a menu, it would be foolish not to get it.

A Tier- Cheese on this level, while not as good as the ones above, still have their merits and are quite enjoyable. Whether it be a lesser taste, texture, etc., there are just one or two things that keep the cheese from achieving greatness. That being said, eating cheese from this list is still a pleasure and an all-around good time.



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

Undermining the power of women

ABRIANNA MILLER
News Editor



Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away on Sept. 18. Her legacy will live on forever as a strong woman that empowered others, fought the good fight and never let anyone tell her she was anything but worthy of her position. The world lost an invaluable role model that day but that doesn't mean the struggle is over.

Instead of trying to find a single person to take over Ginsburg's legacy, we all need to work together and fill her shoes together.

As a society, we need to crush the idea that women are somehow inferior to men. Quit undermining women, ignor-

ing women, disrespecting women and making derogatory statements toward women.

If you see a woman not being treated equally, interrupt the cycle! Do something! Don't just sit back and watch the woman walk away with what shred of dignity she has left.

I have always stood up for myself, a skill my parents made sure I learned at a young age. Boys felt threatened by me because I didn't let them push me around. Other girls felt embarrassed by me because I wasn't passive to disrespectful actions.

No one can take the power from you if you make it an integral part of yourself. More women need to be taught they have infinite potential and influence. We no longer live in a world where men have control over everything and thank God we don't.

Women and men alike need to come together more now than ever to elevate women. We may have lost an amazing leader but there are still thousands of leaders in the country just waiting to step up. This is the time.

No woman should

ever be in a position of doubting themselves because someone else, often a man, felt the need to act superior. Women feel enough pressure from society as a whole; we do not need to worry about reporting a crime because we don't know if our words will be interpreted as the truth or as an over-reaction.

Make the world a safe place for women. When something is wrong, believe us. Do not play hero, we can do that ourselves. Do not minimize the crimes we report, like rape. We are capable human beings, just as capable as men.

Understand the position you may be putting a woman in. We fear walking at night, even in groups. We fear going to the store alone. We fear reporting assault because of the backlash we may receive. We fear everything that men take for granted- remember that.

Support the women around you and empower them. Make them understand their worth and value. It will go a lot farther than you ever expected it would. Who knows, you may be talking to next Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Blood donations: easy, safe, fulfilling

FELICITY RAMSEY
Graphic Design

Blood and needles, oh my! This past Wednesday was the blood drive from the Nebraska Community Blood Bank. I donated blood for the very first time in my life, and I have got to say, it wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. Being afraid of needles isn't a great time, but I must say, the nurses helping with donations were amazing women.

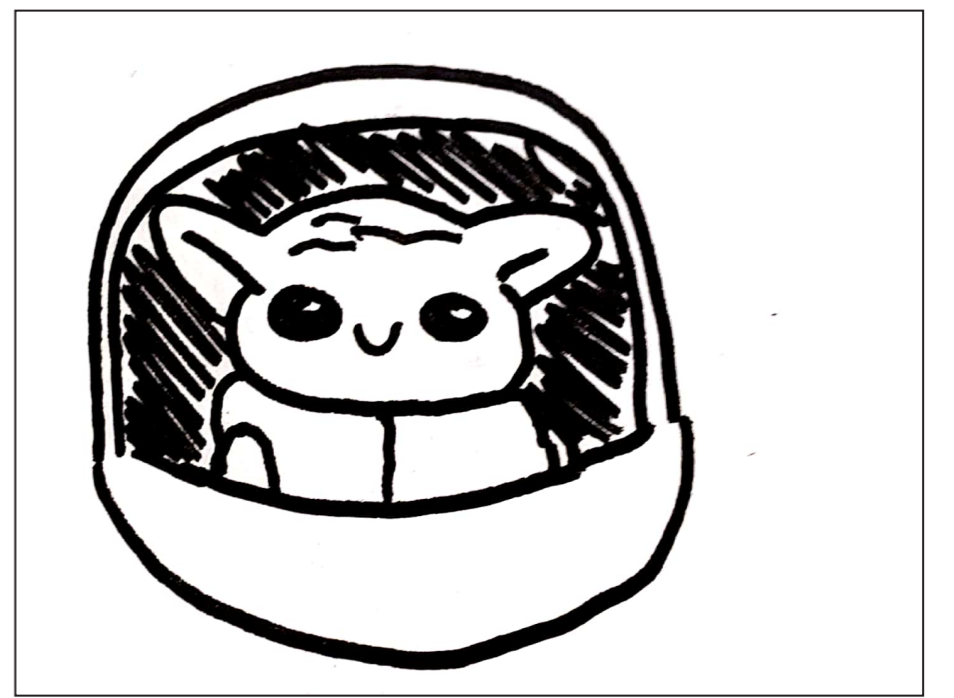
If you donated blood on Wednesday, I thank you for your donations, and I'm sure the people who will be given the blood definitely do as well.

Donating blood is a very safe and simple way to get involved in helping other people because there are absolutely thousands, if not millions, of people who are in need of it. If you have ever thought about donating your blood but are nervous about actually do-

ing it, at least try it once in your life. You might think differently about it afterward because I know I did.

It was a wonderful experience I will absolutely be doing more of in the future. As I said, the nurses there were very kind and cared about your after-donation health. They even had free snacks and drinks afterward!

For those of you who haven't donated your blood, the process is



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

Mandalorian, out of this world success

JOEY WINTON
Copy Desk Chief

In a time of fans either praising what Disney has done with Star Wars or hating them, "The Mandalorian" was something most fans could get behind.

Whatever your opinions are on Disney's treatment of the Star Wars franchise, to say the sequel movies have been divisive is an understatement.

"The Rise of Skywalker" proved to be just as divisive as the previous two installments.

I was not overly fond of it, but overall, I consider it to be a decent Star Wars movie, and I like it enough. There are many things about it I dislike, and there were some decisions that I found baffling, but I go into every Star Wars franchise ex-

cited for a new story and more content to add to the lore.

One of the more popular releases from the Disney era is "The Mandalorian", which first premiered on Disney+ in Fall 2019.

While only eight episodes long, it managed to unite many fans with its good character development, new environments and, most importantly, baby Yoda.

The recent trailer for season two of "The Mandalorian" promises eight more episodes of (hopefully) good content, and is scheduled to release onto the streaming service in late October of this year.

In this time of division in the Star Wars community, fans, including myself, can unify under the enjoyment of the show.

One of the best aspects of "The Mandalorian"

is that it captures the space-western feel of the original movies ("A New Hope," specifically). The central character, played by Pedro Pascal, is a complex protagonist as he is a ruthless bounty hunter, but also has strong morals and becomes the father-figure to an adorable force-user named baby Yoda for fans (it is not Yoda, rather another member of his species).

The show also has strong side-characters, fun environments and good stories that feel small enough to be contained in individual episodes but still connect to an overall story.

With all the craziness in the world today, one shining beacon I can look to for providing joy in my life is season 2 of "The Mandalorian", and October cannot get here soon enough.

very easy. You set up an appointment if walk-ins aren't available, and you review your health history and complete a mini-physical in order for them to see how they should continue.

When it comes time to actually donate, they give you a little squishy toy for you to grasp so they can see where your vein is. Then, they give you the option of looking away.

There is hardly any pain at all, only a pinch like everyone says, and then they draw only one pint of your blood, and that is it!

You are able to sit and drink whatever they have to offer; I personally took the apple juice, and it was divine. After you're ready to stand up, you're free to go, and you just helped someone get the blood they need!

What an easy and quick way to help someone out that really needs it. I highly recommend signing up for the next blood drive, if not, that is absolutely fine- you are your own person!

Tennis teams take three titles

Men and women's tennis to return to competitions

JOSH BUNDY
Managing Editor

All teams have been hit hard by COVID-19, and Tennis has been hit with multiple cancelled matches.

The Women's teams' matches against Buena Vista University, scheduled for Sept. 5, were cancelled.

At the Great Plains Athletic Conference Individual Championships, held Sept. 18 and 19, the teams claimed three GPAC singles and doubles championships.

In the "A" division singles for the Women's team, freshman Amber Weston and junior Ava Macke met in the

championship after both going undefeated in the bracket. Weston defeated Macke in the championship to claim the title.

On the Men's side, junior Jorge Chevez claimed his second straight "A" division title. Chevez needed a tie-break against Midland's Miguel Abete but easily won in the championship match-up.

The final title winners for Doane came from the Women's team in the "A" doubles division. Junior Brylee Lauby and Weston teamed up to take the championship.

Weston feels lucky just to be able to play this season given COVID is still present.

"I count every day at Doane as a blessing. COVID-19 has made me realize you have to enjoy what's in the moment. Regardless if tennis is cancelled or not, I know that my team is capable of being great," Weston



Courtesy photo | Elizabeth Van Der Torre

said.

Macke felt the issues with COVID can be difficult for many players, especially when many have to quarantine due to roommates being sick.

"Having two weeks off of practice can be tough on some of our players, especially when they have to play right when they get out of quarantine. These strange times

have challenged us to put in work on our own time to get better, and I am impressed with the dedication from the team," Macke said.

Weston and Macke both feel as though the team can be successful, given they are granted the chance to play.

"If we are able to compete this year, we will dominate. I will do

what is necessary to get us there. I know the rest of my team will do the same," Weston said.

Macke touched on the value of having a hard-working team.

"I believe that we are arguably the most hard-working team in the GPAC, and I think it will pay off come conference time. By continuing to keep each other ac-

"I believe that we are arguably the most hard-working team in the GPAC, and I think it will pay off come conference time. By continuing to keep each other accountable and putting in the work the best we can, I know you'll see some amazing things from this team this year,"

Ava Macke
Junior

countable and putting in the work the best we can, I know you'll see some amazing things from this team this year," Macke said.

Both teams will return to action on Sept. 25. They will be competing in the ITA Regional Tournament in Wichita, Kansas.



Courtesy photo | The Crete News

The football team got their first win of the season this past weekend, beating Briar Cliff 13-6. They will head to Hastings on Sept 26 looking to continue their winning ways.

Football bounces back from opener

JOSH BUNDY
Managing Editor

Doane Football recorded their first win of the season over Briar Cliff.

The Tigers won the game 13-6 in their second home game of the season.

There was no scoring in the first half, the game being a defensive battle. Both teams had 43 rushing yards in the first half, while Doane led the game in passing yards with 90 to Briar

Cliff's 54.

Senior Riley Homolka spoke about the grit the team showed on defense.

"We were all up for the challenge, and we played physically all throughout the game. The other thing is we played with a chip on our shoulder because we feel that there is something for us to prove, and I think we proved it on Saturday," Homolka said.

The Tiger defense was able to stop two fourth-down plays from Briar Cliff, one of them being on the two-yard line.

Briar Cliff struck first, scoring a touchdown off of a 97-yard drive. They missed the extra point.

Doane was down 6-0 going into the fourth quarter until sophomore Adam Wasserman found Josh Baker on an 11-yard touchdown pass. The extra point was blocked, and the score remained 6-6.

Wasserman would later find sophomore Brehan Lambert in the end zone on a three-yard pass. The extra point would be made and the Tigers would go up 13-6

and would hold onto that lead for the remainder of the game.

The Tiger defense would seal the game by forcing a turnover on downs, where the offense would close out the game and seal the win.

Doane had more total offense, with 283 yards to Briar Cliff's 252. Senior Jamaine Derogene led rushing for the Tigers with 50 yards. Senior Drake Davidson had 112 yards passing, while Wasserman had 46 yards with two touchdowns.

Defensively, junior

Cooper Bates, senior Riley Heithoff and Homolka led the team with ten tackles each.

Homolka thought the team played much better than they did in the first game, proving they were ready to battle each and every game.

"This win should give us the confidence to go out every game and play to the best of our abilities. We didn't show that in the first game, but we really brought it in game two. And we plan on continuing that," Homolka said.

Homolka knows there is still some work to be done but believes the team can be great throughout the season.

"We have a lot more growing to do week-by-week, but we will take adversity head on and take on any task that is thrown our way," Homolka said.

Football will return to action on Sept. 26 when they travel to Hastings for a conference match-up. Kick-off is scheduled for 1 P.M..

Jenny starting his nineteenth season

SARAH DALY
Multimedia
Manager

Coach Brad Jenny is starting his nineteenth season with the Cross Country team here at Doane University. Jenny is the head coach of the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams and is the assistant coach of Men's and Women's Track.

Jenny graduated from Doane University in Spring 1993. While at Doane, Jenny participated in Cross Country and Track. He began coaching at Doane in Jan 1999. In 2006, Jenny was named the GPAC Men's Coach-of-the-Year.

Assistant Coach Dustin Llewellyn has coached alongside Jenny for 2 seasons and when



Courtesy photo | Rick Schmuecker

Cross Country coach Brad Jenny

asked about his favorite part of coaching he stated:

"Helping them [athletes] navigate the athletic piece and then other

things that come up in life outside of the sport," Jenny said.

Growing up running in high school provided Jenny with many positive

role models. His high school coach inspired him to continue his passion of running. Once Jenny pursued a collegiate running career, he looked up to Coach Fred Beile, long-time coach at Doane University.

"He's a guy that I still quote now and then," Jenny said.

If he had to narrow it down, one of Jenny's favorite memories is when Cross Country alumni come back and swap stories. Jenny said he just loves working with people and building relationships with the teams throughout the years.

"What I tell our freshmen is that they need to take school and running serious right away, use their time wisely and make the most out of it," Jenny said when asked to give advice to the

freshman.

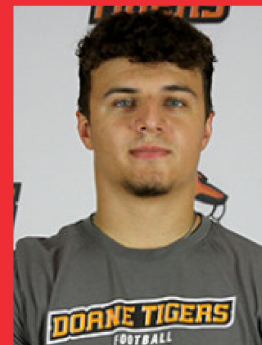
Jenny wanted to make a point of soaking in the moment because we know seasons can be postponed at any moment.

We wish the cross country team a safe and healthy season!

Athlete of the Week

Adam Wasserman
Football

Threw two touchdown passes to lift the football team over Briar Cliff 13-6



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