

the doane OWL

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Doane's Track team competed at the Ward Haylett invitational. See Page 9 for more.

Bill to fight voter fraud drafted

Neb. Senator hopes to restore faith in elections

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Republican Senator Tom Briese of Albion, Neb. introduced a bill which, if passed, would make committing voter fraud in Nebraska a felony subject to a prison term.

According to the Lincoln Star Journal, the bill was introduced on Jan. 6,

2022, and is intended to restore the public's confidence in the election system.

According to an Axios Momentive poll, more than 40 percent of those asked still do not believe President Joe Biden legitimately won the 2020 election despite no evidence of widespread voter fraud.

The introduction of the bill fell on the one-year anniversary of the assault on the U.S. Capitol that saw a large number of protestors gather outside the building and eventually make their way inside, with some stealing and defacing historical artifacts and personal belongings of senators and other gov-

ernment officials.

Briese said his purpose is not to suggest he agrees with critics who believe the 2020 presidential election results were illegitimate but to "enhance public confidence" in the system.

"I choose to believe in the integrity of our election system. It's the bedrock of our government [and] the cornerstone of our democracy," Briese said.

However, he made it clear that there is a lesson to be learned from the storming of the Capitol building.

"The anniversary of Jan. 6 really tends to reinforce the concerns that many folks have over the integrity of our election

process," Briese said.

The bill Briese introduced enhances the penalty for voter fraud to a Class II felony which, according to McGough Law, gives it the same potential fifty-year prison sentence as human trafficking, assault in the first degree, sexual assault in the first degree and robbery.

As it stands, voter fraud is classified as a misdemeanor or a lesser Class IV felony which carries a possible punishment of up to two years in prison and/or up to a fine of \$10,000.

Briese believes restoring the public's faith in the election process is critical to avoid a repeat of Jan. 6.

VOTER FRAUD BILL

A BILL WAS INTRODUCED ON JAN. 6, 2022 AND IS INTENDED TO RESTORE THE PUBLIC'S CONFIDENCE IN THE ELECTION SYSTEM.

Graphic by PJ Ramsey | The Doane Owl

"I believe it's imperative we take steps to both enhance the public's confidence in the integrity of our election process and to further ensure voter fraud does not occur in our state," Briese said.

Golden girl Betty White dies at 99

MATTHEW MITTLIEDER
Staff Writer

This past New Year's Eve, actress Betty White died at the age of 99, almost three weeks before her 100th birthday on Jan. 17.

The "Golden Girls" actress passed away "peacefully in her sleep" at her Brentwood home, according to a statement from her agent and friend Jeff Witjas.

Shortly after her death, many fans began to speculate on what the cause was, with many circulating a fake quote around

Twitter and Facebook that read: "'Eat healthy and get all your vaccines. I just got boosted today.' - Betty White, Dec. 28, 2021."

The quote was also posted alongside a link to an article in a Minnesota news outlet, Crow River Media, titled "Betty White: I'm lucky to still be in good health." However, this news article cited by social media users does not contain the bogus quote or anything about vaccines.

Many users used the quote to suggest that her death may have been related to the booster shot. One post on Twitter shared the quote with a

caption saying, "Died 3 days later! Coincidence."

However, according to AP News, the quote is entirely fabricated. White did not receive a vaccine booster that day, which Witjas has confirmed to the Associated Press.

"People are saying her death was related to getting a booster shot three days earlier, but that is not true. She died of natural causes," Witjas said in a statement to People Magazine. "Her death should not be politicized- that is not the life she lived."

Witjas added that she did not receive the booster three days before she died.

White had said that

she was "so lucky to be in such good health and feel so good" at her age in an interview with People Magazine a few weeks prior to her death.

"Even though Betty was about to be 100, I thought she would live forever," Witjas said. "I will miss her terribly and so will the animal world that she loved so much. I don't think Betty ever feared passing because she always wanted to be with her most beloved husband Allen Ludden. She believed she would be with him again."



Courtesy photo | Fox News.com

Weekly Nebraska COVID update

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

The level of community transmission remains high for Saline County. As of Jan. 7, Doane has eight current cases of COVID-19, with seven coming from the Crete campus and one from the Lincoln Campus.

As a result of this and new information on COVID-19 strains, Doane has made a few adjustments to the COVID-19 guidelines, including quarantining, residence halls, dining, testing, masks and boosters that was detailed in an email from University Commu-

nications on Jan. 7.

Students who have received both their vaccine and booster, yet have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, are encouraged to self-monitor, stay masked up and get tested if possible.

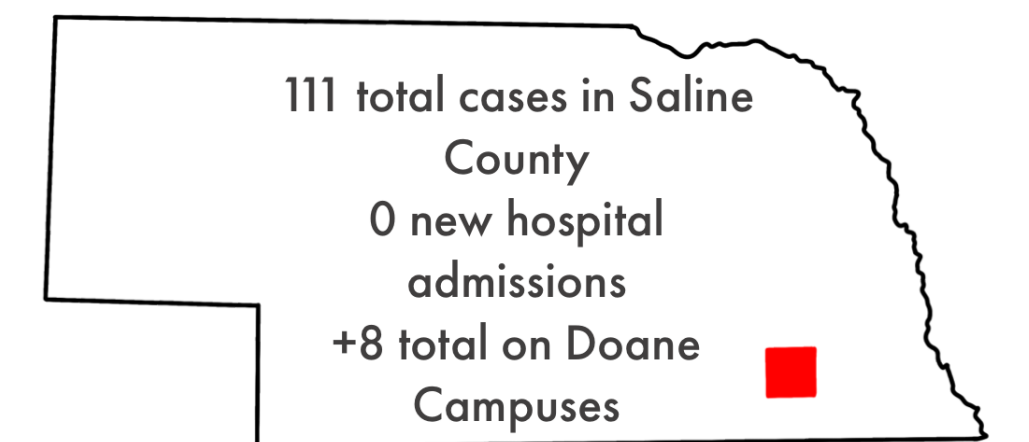
For those who have yet to receive their vaccine or are not fully vaccinated with a booster and have been exposed, they are encouraged to quarantine for five days and get tested.

If any student receives a positive test result or begins to feel symptoms of COVID-19, they must isolate for five days, starting the day after their positive test result or first symptoms. Five days

after not experiencing anymore symptoms, students may leave isolation but will have to continue wearing a mask when around campus and interacting with others.

A full guide to all of Doane's implemented COVID-19 protocols and guidelines can be found on the Doane website under "COVID-19 Tigers Together" in "Emergency Management" from the Public Safety Office page for current students.

Saline County has reported 111 total cases of COVID-19 over the last seven days as of Jan. 10. No new hospital admissions due to COVID-19 have been recorded within the last seven days.



Graphic by PJ Ramsey | The Doane Owl

58.5 percent of the population equal to or over the age of 12 in Saline County have been fully vaccinated, marking 49.6 percent of the total population of Saline County as fully vaccinated.

The Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that all people should still wear masks while indoors or in high foot traffic areas. Although mask requirements are different from place to place, the CDC urges individuals to

follow local accordsances and guidance in stopping the spread of COVID-19. This information was gathered from the Doane COVID-19 Risk Dashboard and the CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker.

GRAMMYS postponed

Music and film festivals cite health concerns

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

The 64th annual GRAMMY Awards has been postponed due to the Coronavirus, according to a statement from the Recording Academy and CBS.

This is the second year in a row that the GRAMMYS were postponed because of the pandemic.

According to the BBC, the event was scheduled to take place at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, Calif. on Jan. 31.

The main reason behind the postponement is concerns regarding the health and safety of the

public and the artists, the statement read.

"After careful consideration and analysis with city and state officials, health and safety experts, the artist community and our many partners, the Recording Academy and CBS have postponed the 64th Annual GRAMMY Awards Show. The health and safety of those in our music community, the live audience, and the hundreds of people who work tirelessly to produce our show remains our top priority," the statement said.

According to NPR, this announcement came shortly after the Sundance Film festival announced it would be moving its in-person events online because of the Omicron variant.

Initially, the festival was planned as a hybrid event, with certain events being held online and the rest being held in Utah.

In the statement released by Sundance, they also expressed health concerns as the reason for the cancellation of in-person events.

"While we're disappointed to not provide the full hybrid experience and gather in-person as intended, audiences this year will still experience the magic and energy of our festival with bold new films and XR work, the discovery of new storytellers, direct encounters with artists and an innovative globally accessible social platform and gallery space," the statement read.

With popular artists such as Doja Cat, Justin Bieber, Jon Batiste and Billie Eilish among those nominated for various musical awards at the GRAMMYS, the coordinators behind the ceremony are working as fast as possible to reschedule the event while keeping



Courtesy photo | GRAMMY.com

in mind the health and safety of the artists and those attending the event.

A full list of the nominees can be found at the GRAMMY Awards

website at <https://www.grammy.com/grammys/news/2022-grammys-complete-winners-nominees-nominations-list>.

Actor Bob Saget dies at 65



Courtesy photo | Newsweek.com

KYLIE HUGHES
Copy Desk Chief

Comedian and actor Bob Saget, best known for his role as Danny Tanner in "Full House," was found dead in his hotel room on Jan. 9 at 65 years old.

Saget was staying at the Ritz-Carlton in Orlando, Fla. as part of his comedy tour, according to CNN.

Saget's family called hotel security when they were unable to reach him. Security found Saget unresponsive. He was later confirmed dead. There was no evidence of trauma, as confirmed by the Orange County Police

Department.

An autopsy was performed on the morning of Jan. 10 and found that there was no evidence of drug use or foul play, according to the medical examiner.

Official cause of death will be released pending further investigation by the medical examiner. The full investigation may take from 10 to 12 weeks.

Since learning of his death, coworkers, fellow comedians and fans have taken to social media to pay tribute.

Actor John Stamos, who played Jesse Katsopolis alongside Saget in "Full House," said in a tweet that he is "broken" and "gutted." Stamos tweeted that he will

"never ever have another friend like [Saget]."

Fans have also gathered outside the town home in San Francisco where "Full House" was filmed to create a memorial. To many, he is known as a "cultural icon who raised a generation of Americans" and a "dad of the '90s" due to his role as a single father in "Full House," according to CNN.

Saget's family is requesting privacy in this difficult time yet asks for fans to remember "all of the love and laughter that Bob brought to the world," they said in a statement.

As of this publication, there are no further updates.

Abortion debated by SCOTUS

Texas laws taken to Supreme Court

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

On Dec. 10, 2021, the Supreme Court ruled on two separate cases regarding the legality of abortion in the United States.

Texas created law S.B. 8 in May 2021 which essentially bans all abortions once a fetus' heartbeat can be detected, usually around six weeks after conception. The law also states that citizens can file lawsuits against any other citizen who performs an abortion, aids with an abortion or receives an abortion.

Because of the way the law is worded, enforcement of the policy fell onto the citizens of



Courtesy photo | supremecourt.gov

Texas, not state officials. As such, no state officials could theoretically be named in a court case against S.B. 8.

However, S.B. 8 was challenged in Whole Women's Health v. Jackson which resulted in an emergency request being filed to the Supreme Court. The Court ruled that it could not prohibit the enforcement of S.B. 8 due to the unprecedented nature of the law and the uncertainty of whether or not the Court could legally intervene in the civil

lawsuits.

The Court states that challenges to S.B. 8 could be pursued against specific state officials. Moreover, the Court issued a statement that their decision does not reflect the state of constitutionality of S.B. 8.

Similarly in United States v. Texas, S.B. 8 was challenged after going into effect. The federal district court temporarily ordered a halt to the enforcement of the law and asked the Court to weigh in.

The Court ruled that enforcement of S.B. 8 was allowed, but it is unclear whether or not the Court can sue the state of Texas over the law. After the ruling, the Department of Justice asked the Court to reverse their ruling.

The final decision in United States v. Texas is that the Court should not have accepted the case, and the verdict was withdrawn. Consequently, the case was dismissed.

There are no further updates as of this publication.

This Week's Weather Forecast

Wednesday

1/12



High: 54

Low: 32

Thursday

1/13



High: 58

Low: 33

Friday

1/14



High: 43

Low: 20

Saturday

1/15



High: 35

Low: 20

Sunday

1/16



High: 43

Low: 20

Monday

1/17



High: 40

Low: 22

Tuesday

1/18



High: 43

Low: 20

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

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Historic wildfire scorches Colorado

Fire blazes
between
Denver and
Boulder, Colo.

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

On Dec. 30, Colorado faced its most destructive wildfire the state has seen in all its history.

According to PBS Newshour, the blaze was estimated to have caused \$513 million in damages and destroyed nearly 1,100 homes and structures across 9.4 square miles in the area between Denver and Boulder, Colo.

An investigation of the fire's cause is ongoing, with interviews being conducted on citizens, workers and passers-by. The best lead that investigators were given was



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

from a passer-by in Boulder, Colo. who recorded a video of a shed on fire on the day the blaze began.

According to AP News, among the many structures destroyed or damaged by the fire, homes were the most affected, with other barns,

outbuildings, commercial buildings and other property being affected as well.

From current reports, the worst damage was done to Louisville and Superior, Colo., about 20 miles northwest of Denver, PBS Newshour re-

ported.

Winds were also reported to have reached up to 100 miles per hour, and the grasslands in the area were described as "bone-dry," according to AP News. The last time the area received a substantial amount of rainfall

was around mid-summer.

All of the grassland was also surrounded by continued suburban development areas, helping lead to the drastic financial damage the fire caused.

These were described as some of the best conditions to facilitate the fire

growing as rapidly and out of control as it did.

Cadaver teams were organized to search this area to look for missing persons, though this was complicated by snowy conditions that resulted in 8 inches of snow covering the smoldering remains of buildings by the time the fire had been contained.

Some experts believe that these types of occurrences will become more common as climate change continues to heat up the planet and especially if city development continues in fire-prone areas.

At least seven people, one first responder and six others, were injured and reported by officials, though they do not want to rule out there being more injured persons or deaths from possible missing persons.

No further information has been released at the time of this publication.

Snowstorm traps Va. drivers on I-95

Travelers
upset by Va.
response
times

JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

Jan. 3 saw massive amounts of snowy weather having contributed to a truck driver jackknifing on I-95, the East Coast's main north-south highway, resulting in both sides of traffic coming to a halt.

Drivers between Washington D.C. and Richmond, Va. on I-95 then found themselves stuck on the road, not knowing when they would be rescued. Although some were able to ditch their cars and get to safety, most would have to wait for a long period of time with few resources and

little to no food.

The New York Times reported that the storm initially began as rain, effectively clearing out road salts that had been laid out to prepare for the snow. As time went on, the rain slowly turned to sleet and then snow.

According to AP News, at its peak, the snowstorm dropped some 2 inches of snow per hour, leading to a total of 12 inches burying the interstate by the end of the storm.

It would not be until the afternoon of Jan. 4, some 24 hours later, for all cars along the 40-mile blockage to be rescued and towed to safety. The stretch of road was then fully cleaned, and the interstate reopened that evening.

Based on the length of time most people were stuck on the road, this caused multiple people to question the response time of Virginia's emergency services.

"No one came. It was just shocking," traveler Meera Rao told AP

News.

With much talk, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) launched its own investigation into the matter on Jan. 5, The Washington Post reported.

"It's critical for VDOT to conduct a thorough investigation into the matter to determine what occurred so history doesn't repeat itself," spokeswoman for the American Automobile Association (AAA) Mid-Atlantic Ragina Ali said. "From what we can gather, it was a situation where everything that could go wrong did."

The Federal Highway Administration also declared they would be taking part in the review, aiding VDOT where possible to figure out what and why something went wrong and created such a long response time.

As of this publication, no further information has been released.



Courtesy Photo | Flickr.com

Rain and snow mixes to create hazardous driving conditions in Hampton, Va., 76 miles from Richmond, Va.

Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reported incidents in their public crime log. Incidents reported between Dec. 10 through Jan. 11 include:

- 12/10 **Drug Law Violations: Possession of Drugs** - Campus Property: Doane Crete: Residence Halls: Sheldon Hall: Second Floor
- 12/18 **Trespassing: Unauthorized Entry** - Campus Property: Doane Crete: Athletic Facilities: Simon Field
- 12/18 **Vandalism** - Campus Property: Doane Crete: Residence Halls: Hansen Hall: First Floor
- 12/19 **Trespassing: Unauthorized Entry** - Campus Property: Doane Crete: Athletic Facilities: Simon Field
- 12/19 **Vandalism** - Campus Property: Doane Crete: Residence Halls: Hansen Hall: First Floor



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Winter Club Craze open to all

SARAH DALY
Communications
Manager

Doane's Student Programming Board (SPB) is hosting a Winter Club Craze event on Jan. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the lower level of the Perry Campus Center.

Spencer Munson, the sponsor of SPB and Assistant Director of Student Engagement, explains that around half of the student organizations on campus have signed up to be at this event. Munson expects that more than the estimated 35 student groups will join as the event draws closer.

"I love having [Winter Club Craze] when students get back to re-connect everyone after the long break. Students can

catch up and discuss goals for the semester," Munson said.

Sophomore Sam Reicher is a member of SPB and is excited to see how the semester pans out for student organizations across campus. Reicher thinks that a winter club event produces opportunities for students who may have been too timid early in the school year to get involved.

"Club Craze is an opportunity to discover all of the differing activities on campus. From DULSA, to the Agriculture Club, to the GUILD, you'll be able to find a group that you fit in with and hang. If you are at all interested in any kind of campus organization, please come to the Club Craze- find your niche,"

Reicher said.

Munson highlights the importance of joining a club or group on campus in terms of personal and professional growth.

"Being a part of a club or student organization is a perfect way to build life skills and stack your resume as you look into the future of finding jobs and opportunities post-college. It is also a way to find new friends, explore your hobbies and build your leadership skills," Munson said.

More events will be announced on the SPB Instagram (@doane_spb). Students with questions or concerns can contact Munson at spencer.munson@doane.edu.



Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Theatre Department hosts auditions

SARAH DALY
Communications
Manager

The Doane University Theatre Department is holding auditions for the Spring theatre schedule on Jan. 11 from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Lee Memorial Chapel and the Whitcomb Conservatory, "The Con." All students are welcome to audition.

The two Spring pro-

ductions are "The Bacchae" by Euripides and "Reefer Madness" by Kevin Murphy and Dan Studney.

Students involved in Doane Theatre in the past have had positive experiences in the department and urge their peers to try it out.

"The Doane Theatre Department does an amazing job at building a community and family. It is not clique based and

everyone is equal. Also, if performing is not your thing, working backstage is an experience you will never forget," sophomore Raven Ovens said.

Students who are interested in auditioning should bring their Spring schedule and conflict list. Students should prepare a monologue no longer than one minute that showcases their acting strengths for "The Bacchae." Students should

also prepare a song from the musical theatre genre (16-32 bar cut) for "Reefer Madness."

The Theatre Department will have monologues available for students to read from as well.

"Auditioning or doing tech is a great chance to meet new people, get introduced to Doane Theatre and try new things you can not do anywhere else," sophomore Kinsey

Knorr said.

Knorr also said that if you are unable to participate in the show, support the department by coming to see the productions. With this year being Knorr's second year working in the department, she is excited to start off another year by putting together two unique and exciting productions.

"Even if you are unsure, try out. If you do

not like it, you do not have to accept the part, but I promise you will not regret it," Ovens added.

Students can find the audition sign-up sheet in the main level hallway in the Con and can direct any questions to the Performing Arts Administrative Assistant Cheyenne Nelson at cheyenne.nelson@doane.edu.

Break prepares students for spring

Students
experience
winter break
opportunities

EMMA RYAN
Staff Writer

As students returned to campus this past weekend, many have different feelings about the upcoming semester.

Based on a poll sent out on Jan. 10, over 30 percent of students who responded said they were nervous for this upcoming semester, the most common reason being classes and homework. One student reported that they were nervous about the unknowns of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Overall, over 75 percent of the students from the survey reported that on a scale of one to ten, one being not excited at all and ten being very excited, they were at a six or above in excitement about being back on campus.

When asked what they



Courtesy Photo | Kennedy Scheele

"Being here and being able to watch and help the surgeries really confirmed what I want to do as a career and has made me overly excited to pursue a career in medicine."

Kennedy Scheele
Senior

as a physician myself and help in any way that I can," Scheele said.

Scheele went on to say one of her favorite aspects of traveling to Africa was being immersed in such a different culture. She said they wore regional clothing, learned about religion and language and learned how to make foods important to the culture.

Even though break is over, it seems to have helped many students prepare for the upcoming semester.

did most over the break, the majority of students responded with either working, spending time with family, working out or attending holiday parties.

One student stated they really enjoyed the

break because they were able to recharge for this upcoming semester.

Some students used the time off to advance their knowledge or travel. Senior Kennedy Scheele and junior Simonie Mendenhall traveled to Africa

to watch and assist in 11 different surgeries and shadow several doctors over the break.

"It was amazing learning a culture so different from ours in the United States. It's been so different you can't even com-

pare the two. Being here and being able to watch and help the surgeries really confirmed this is what I want to do as a career and has made me overly excited to pursue a career in medicine. I can't wait to come back again

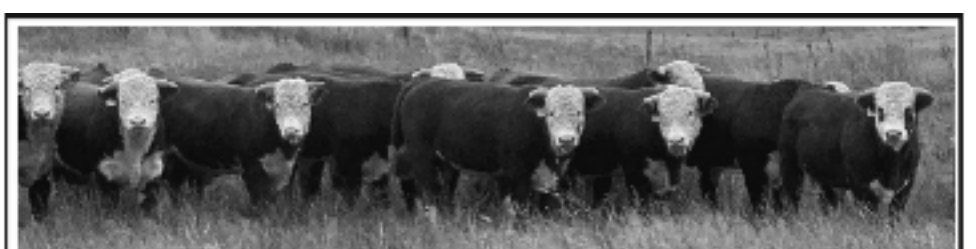
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Weekly Horoscopes

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): Take a step back, it is hard, and sometimes impossible, trying to continuously push yourself forward. If there is a time to rest, now is that time

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): Creativity inspires action this week, Pisces. Though it may seem like a distraction, when creativity strikes, take note.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): Right now you may be feeling conflicted with the choices that you are forced to make. Just remember trust your gut.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): Don't be afraid to tell people that you need your space. Sometimes people like to jump in to help you whenever possible, but don't let them if they're only acting as interference.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): Work with others and take a break from always working independently. If you continue doing so, you may just end up burnt out.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Your old schedule has started coming back to you. It may seem overwhelming at first, but you have it in you to bring it back.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): It may be time again to reevaluate the relationships that you have. Think through your past relationships to help with decisions.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): The world may seem to be very overwhelming with everything going on, but it's important to also take a mental break.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): Remember not everyone is who they really seem to be at first, have a realistic outlook on those you meet.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Although you may have been feeling down lately, it's important to remember to care. Your efforts matter.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): This week offers opportunities for self-reflection. Perspectives change and so do you, take a look deep within yourself and you may just find out more about yourself.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 20): You are in for a loaded week this week, Capricorn. Be sure to take a little time for yourself and those around you so

Ivy Leagues take extra precautions

ERIN BURKE
Staff Writer

As students across the country prepare for a new semester, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 should be added to their potential problems for the year.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) states that having a vaccine shot supported by a booster has a 75 percent chance of protection from the variant. Despite the effectiveness of the vaccine and the increase in vaccination rates, schools are taking major steps to protect their students from contracting and spreading COVID-19 during the Spring 2022 semester.

Most noteworthy are the Ivy League schools which are made up of eight schools based in the northeast including Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Princeton, Columbia, Brown, Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania.

The Ivy League schools have been active in the fight against COVID-19 and are proving themselves once more through the new variant by changing schedules and health and safety policies before the school year begins.

According to CNN, Harvard was the first of the eight schools to announce plans for the Spring. The Harvard Crimson, the university's school paper, report-

ed on Dec. 18 that the campus would spend the month of January with online classes and limiting the number of students allowed on campus. Throughout the month of January, the administration will be considering other options such as requiring students to receive a booster shot.

Yale followed Harvard's lead soon after and announced classes would be held online until Feb. 7 while also shortening the campus's spring break to one week.

"Of course, the past months have been difficult for many of us, but we also displayed unmatched strength, kindness and ingenuity. We are grateful for your tremendous efforts. Together, we will continue to navigate through this extraordinary moment in history," Yale's President Peter Salovey and University Provost Scott Strobel said.

The decision made by Ivy League administrators have led students to be concerned about how the Doane administration will respond to the Omicron variant.

"I was pretty concerned. While I understand that these schools may need to be more proactive than Doane, it is never comforting to see the switch being made before the semester has even begun," senior Travis

"While I understand that these schools need to be more proactive than Doane, it is never comforting to see the switch being made before the semester has even begun."

Travis Handler
Senior

Handler said.

Schools are preparing for the worst as three out of the eight schools in the Ivy League have already pushed spring commencement to the Fall of 2022. Handler expressed concerns about being able to attend commencement if it is postponed.

"If I can, I will. It'll be challenging to plan as I'm not sure where I'll be at that point and whether or not my family would be able to attend," Handler said.

Despite the uncertainty of the Omicron variant and the personal steps students are taking to protect themselves and their classmates, these universities are doing their best to remain leaders in the collegiate world.

Vocal Festival called a success

KYLIE HUGHES
Life & Culture Editor

The Doane Music Department held its annual Vocal Festival on Jan. 9 and 10. This festival was even more important for students involved as it has been canceled twice in the past few years, with last year's cause being COVID-19.

The goal of the Doane Vocal Festival is to recruit

high school students and get them excited about performing in a big choir.

According to one of the Student Coordinators, junior Stephanie Wright, recruiting is a big part of this event, but it is also about giving high school students an exciting opportunity that they may not have had otherwise.

"Being in a big choir like this is something that not everybody has

a chance to experience, and we want to give them that," Wright said.

As musicians, it is a unique experience to perform in a large choir such as this where students meet other music-minded students from different cities.

"We, as musicians, are always thirsty for large ensemble music making. That's where the magic happens- 165 students, most who know nothing

about the person next to them, learning music over two days," Student Coordinator junior Drew Pennington said.

To help give the high school students the best experience possible and keep them safe, many COVID-19 precautions were implemented.

Pennington said that there were six air purifiers being used, masking and social distancing to help prevent the spread.

Aside from COVID-19 precautions, there were many small details that the Student Coordinators had to focus on to make the event as successful as possible. This included mailing out invites, sending out music, making name tags, creating programs, listening to solo auditions, etc.

All four Student Coordinators are future music educators so Pennington thought this was a great

learning opportunity.

Overall, Wright felt that the Vocal Festival was very successful. The students involved were very excited about making music together.

"There is a lot of excitement from the students that rubs off on everyone involved in the festival," Wright said.

Registrar's Office provides reminders

JOHN DAWES
Staff Writer

With the second semester starting on campus, there are many dates that students need to be aware of in terms of their classes.

All classes formally began on Jan. 10. It is noted that all students should watch for room changes, as a class may have changed locations from the time of registration.

Students who are waitlisted for a class should keep an eye on their email as the Registrar's Office will keep students updated about whether or not they will be admitted to the course up until Jan. 18. After that date, students will be unable to join any class they are waitlisted for.

Jan. 17 is the last day to drop any eight-week online classes.

Students can still add semester-long classes into their schedules until Jan. 19. Students who are missing a course for their major or an elective need to register for the course before Jan. 19.

On the opposite side, anyone who needs to drop a class must do so before Jan. 21. Failing

Important Dates to Know

- Classes started on Jan. 10.
 - Some classroom locations have changed since registration.
- The last day to drop an eight-week online course is Jan. 17.
- The Registrar's Office will let waitlisted students know if they were admitted to a course by Jan. 18.
- Students can add semester long classes to schedule before Jan. 19.
- The last day to drop a class is Jan. 21.
- The cutoff for juniors and seniors to change a class to a Pass/Fail course is Feb. 21

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

to drop the course before this time will lock students into the class for the rest of the semester and will affect their GPA.

Some courses can be changed to a Pass/Fail class rather than following a four-point grading scale. The cutoff for juniors and seniors to change a class to a Pass/Fail course is Feb. 21. This change can help stu-

dents who pass a class but need to maintain a certain GPA.

These dates are hard dates, meaning that once they pass, the opportunity to change courses for the semester will no longer be available.

The Registrar's Office will send out a reminder email when the dates to drop, add or change a class approaches.

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January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9	10	11	12 Club Craze	13	14	15
16	17 MLK Day Dinner & Recognition	18 Mobile Food Pantry	19 Last Day of Class	20 Intramural Kick-Off	21 Crete Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Basketball Tailgate	22 Basketball Tailgate
23	24 Tiger Paw Pantry	25 Interfaith Lunch SPB Movie Night	26 Wellness Wednesday	27 Thoughtful Thursdays Glow Casino	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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

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

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

Flag photo by Emma Ryan

- STAFF EDITORIAL -

Have a safe start to the semester

With the start of the semester, we at the Owl are glad to see all of you again.

While it is great to be back, the ever-present threat of COVID-19 and its subsequent variants means we still have to continue being safe.

Masks are now required in all residence halls in addition to all public campus buildings in the hopes of limiting potential infection and spread of COVID-19 or one of its mu-

tations.

While the Omicron variant is not as dangerous to people who are fully vaccinated (including the most recent booster shot), it is much more contagious than other mutations and we must continue to be vigilant.

Multiple awards ceremonies like the GRAMMYS and the Sundance Film Festival have either postponed their events or moved them entirely

online in an attempt to keep people safe.

To avoid taking classes virtually again, we encourage everyone to do their part. Wash your hands, wear your mask and monitor for symptoms.

If you think you may have COVID-19, please get tested immediately. The only way to stop the spread is to end it at its source.

Some people don't report their symptoms so they can

participate in events, but that risk is huge and completely unnecessary.

Please be mindful of those around you in terms of illness and sanitary precautions.

Have a great beginning of the Spring semester, find some time to relax and we hope to see you all soon.

Hot takes; spidey senses

A weekly rating of random things by Joey Winton

JOEY WINTON
Managing Editor

Welcome back everyone! I hope your break was restful and you got plenty of time to relax and enjoy your time off.

This week's Hot Takes will be ranking the (relevant) Spider-Man movies as the newest one, "Spider-Man: No Way Home," is absolutely phenomenal, and I highly recommend you watch it.

Each movie is graded based on certain qualities that I have determined make or break a good Spider-Man flick.

These elements are story, acting, villains and quotability.

Story is the most important part of any movie and this holds true for any Spider-Man movie as well. If the story is cohesive, shows the struggles that Peter goes through both as Peter Parker and as Spider-Man in a nuanced and engaging way and shows the consequences of his actions or inactions, then the movie scores well in this category.

Acting is the second most important aspect of any Spider-Man movie, particularly in the lead and the lead villain(s). This is pretty black and white, as in these movies, someone's acting performance is either good or it's not.



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

The villains are an essential part of any Spider-Man story and each movie is graded based on the motivations, the acting and how much they challenge Spider-Man physically, mentally or philosophically.

The final aspect of any Spider-Man movie is the least important but is still nonetheless important because if you can't quote a good one-liner or villain speech from one of these movies, then that is more often than not the fault of the movie.

If you take all these qualities and fuse them together, you have a Spider-Man movie, but if the film takes these elements and goes above and beyond to ensure everything

is properly executed, then you have a truly timeless classic on your hands.

This is also me telling you to go see "Spider-Man: No Way Home" if you haven't yet because it's so awesome you guys, I'm serious.

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

S Tier: (The best)- Spider-Man: No Way Home, Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse,

A Tier: (Second Best)- Spider-Man: Homecoming, Spider-Man: Far From Home, Spider-Man

B Tier: (Average)- The Amazing Spider-Man, Spider-Man 2

C Tier: (Below Average)- The Amazing Spider-Man 2

F Tier: (Garbage)- Spider-Man 3

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!

Looking at a hectic semester



ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

From what I have heard, most everyone feels like this semester is going to be a tough one. I know I sure feel that way.

My break was shorter than most because I lost about a week and a half with finals in Spain. I was just preparing for my final exams when Doane started their break, so I am feeling a little special kind of unprepared.

I spent my entire break trying to relax and mentally prepare for this semester, but I think my cat may have stolen and hid a few of the tips.

On top of all the schoolwork and classes coming my way, I am also in the process of adjusting back to life in Nebraska.



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

The amount of times that I have mistakenly responded to someone in Spanish without even realizing it is ridiculous at best. Not to mention the very obvious and even more present cultural differences surrounding me.

My semester in Spain was not nearly as challenging as I was anticipating, so I know that when I finally fully dive into my coursework here, I will be drowning until I figure out how to swim.

It's not that I'm literally unprepared for the semester, it's that I have so much work coming at me that my time management skills are really going to have to shine this time around. Fingers crossed.

So far, all I have managed to do is organize my room, get all my school supplies and prepare my new planner. Not a lot.

As the semester progresses, I will obviously have

much more exciting tasks to complete, but for now, I'm satisfied with the fact that I have built a framework for myself.

That said, take a moment to recognize your successes no matter how small. Small victories can really add up, and I will most definitely be reminding myself of that in the coming weeks.

Protect yourself from getting sick



JOSE VILLALPANDO
News Editor

cent stories showing that even vaccinated people were getting COVID-19, I was a little worried. Thankfully, I got tested and received a negative result but found out that I ended up having a cold instead.

That cold knocked me down and wanted to keep me there and still has a few lingering effects on me now, like a sore throat and taking away my voice until just recently.

Around New Year's Eve, I started to feel as if I was getting sick, leading up until around the middle of last week. I have already been fully vaccinated and have gotten my booster shot, but with re-

From nearly not being able to breathe because of congestion to overall fatigue, it was a terrible experience which, as cliché as it is, reminded me to not take advantage of something as normal as breathing clearly or be-



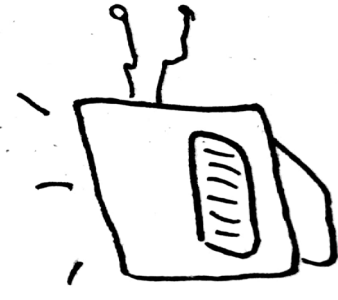
Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

ing able to speak without sounding as if my voice was going to give out any second.

Thinking back, this probably could have been avoided if I had just got my flu shot like I initial-

ly wanted to do back in December but ultimately forgot about.

Now, from what I've heard, I wasn't the only person getting sick during the break in terms of getting a cold or even the flu.



only "good" thing to do, other than taking medicine here and there, is to just wait it out.

For those of you who haven't gotten sick, I wholeheartedly recommend that you go and get your flu shot or COVID-19 vaccine or booster if you haven't gotten them as soon as you can, so that you can try and prevent getting sick as much as possible.

Take it from me, you definitely do not want to be getting sick now and possibly having to sit out for a week or so of classes since the semester has just begun.

For those of you who may be feeling it a little bit right now, definitely go get yourself checked out and tested. If it's anything like how mine was, I sincerely understand and feel bad since the

Review; a nostalgic Spider-Man



MATTHEW MITTLIEDER
Staff Writer

Even though just about everyone in the world went to see the new Spider-Man movie over Christmas, if you haven't seen it yet, "Spider-Man No Way Home" is the latest Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) film about Tom Holland's Peter Parker as he deals with having everyone finding out his secret identity.

The film follows his attempt to undo this revelation with the help of Doctor Strange and the unwanted consequences that follow. This includes breaking the multiverse and summoning several villains from previous Spider-Man films, which

Peter then has to help return to their homes.

While the movie has a bit of a wild premise and not only references, but builds upon, other Spider-Man movies and characters, it's actually comprehensible and emotionally impactful in the story it tells as well.

It's definitely safe to say that you will not only need to be up to date with most of the MCU movies and shows, but also the Sony Spider-Man films in order to remotely understand this one.

My biggest complaint about the movie is that there's so many movies connected to it that it's sometimes hard to keep track of everything. Being a Spider-Man fan, I grew up watching these films and did my best to remember what had happened, but I still felt there were some details missing in this one.

I really enjoyed how much growth they gave Peter's character in this film, as in the earlier movies he felt very young and like a high schooler just beginning to grow up. By the end of this film, though, he makes several very mature deci-



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

sions that solidify him as not only an adult but as his own independent Spider-Man.

My favorite part of this movie was the villains. They did a great job of having the previous Spider-Man characters return and actually giving them some meaningful development rather than just being there for action scenes. Some of them definitely got more focus than others, but I enjoyed seeing each one and their

updated personalities from the prior films.

The best performance in my opinion was Willem Dafoe as the Green Goblin, and I really liked how they crafted his character in this one. He was menacing and powerful, while also having a very distressed human side to him and worked really well as a villain to this version of Peter.

Speaking of other versions of Peter, I think the multiverse aspect of

this movie was handled pretty well as far as paying respect to the former Spider-Men and their movies. There was a lot of fanservice and nostalgia sprinkled throughout and a couple of small plot holes, but it never got too annoying or distracting from the main story in my opinion.

While I've struggled to stay interested in some of the new Marvel content that's been coming out this past year, I real-

ly enjoyed this one. Spider-Man has always been my favorite superhero, and I think this film definitely does the character justice.

I am actually looking forward to what comes next for the character, even with all the multiverse elements coming to make these movies even more complicated. "No Way Home" currently has a 93 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes and is still in theaters.

Movie disappoints



EMMA RYAN
Multimedia Coordinator

"Don't Look Up" was released on Netflix last December. Despite the amazing cast including Jennifer Lawrence, Leonardo DiCaprio, Meryl Streep, Cate Blanchett and Ariana Grande, the movie was a waste of time.

Don't get me wrong, the plot line of two astronomers trying to warn everybody of an approaching comet that will destroy everything

on planet Earth is quite interesting, especially considering no one takes them seriously which very well mirrors today's sad reality.

However, the movie seemed to drag on forever. I initially watched this movie with my family on Christmas Day, and I think at two or three different times we paused to see how much time was left. There seemed to be way too much going on that was straying from the main plot of the movie.

I do have to commend whoever selected such high profile actors and actresses, but clearly the \$75 million budget could have been spent on much more useful things.

I am not the only one who is conflicted on this new big Netflix movie. A lot of controversy has risen after its release. People either love everything about it or completely hate it in its entirety.

One critic on Rotten Tomatoes wrote, "De-

spite a to-die-for cast and a seemingly can't-miss premise, 'Don't Look Up' is a failure on too many levels, and although the viewing numbers may satisfy Netflix, it's a shock to see such a high-profile film self-destruct."

On the other hand, several people have comments saying, "I loved every second of it."

Overall, I would give the movie a two-star rating, but if it didn't have such an incredible cast, it would be a zero. I think it's a movie that everyone has a different opinion on depending on your sense of humor and ability to stay focused on a two hour and 25 minute movie that tends to have a lot going on all at once.

...THUMBS UP

Marvel



GRAMMYS

"Full House"



"Golden Girls"



Antiques



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

THUMBS DOWN...

Women's Basketball record drops

Team fights
to end losing
streak

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

Over the holiday
break, the Women's
Basketball team played

six games and came out with two victories during this time. Their record, which was 7-6 before the break, now stands at 9-9.

The first two games they played were part of the Hoop 'N Surf Classic, which was played in Honolulu, Hawaii. The first game was played against Siena Heights University, a school located in Michigan. This resulted in a 56-81 loss for the Tigers.

The next game for Do-

ane was against Thomas More University, which hails from Kentucky. This was not as close a game as their previous one, with the final score ending in a 54-92 loss for Doane.

Their last game of 2021 gave them one final victory for the year over Waldorf University. In a hard fought game, Doane managed to catch a win of 68-56.

The Tigers started off the new year with a game

played against Concordia University, which ended up going into overtime. During this extended play, Doane could not pull out the win, falling 70-76.

The next game they played against Midland University was when Doane found their second victory over the break. This game resulted in a 83-72 win over the Warriors. Coming off this win, the team faced their last game before return-

ing for school.

Their final game over break was against Briar Cliff University, and although the team put on a strong performance, they could not overtake Briar Cliff. The final score was a 50-78 fall for the Tigers.

During these weeks of break, a member of the team received two honors for her performance. Freshman Mak Hatcliff was named GPAC Player of the Week twice, with outstanding per-

formances and records. Hatcliff currently leads the GPAC in her averaging 20.7 points per game.

In the first week back to campus, the Women's Basketball team will have two games, the first at home on Jan. 12 against Dordt University. The second game will be on Jan. 15 in Sioux City, Iowa against Morning-side University.

Men's Basketball fights for GPAC rank

Team wins
two out of six
games over
break

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

The Men's Basketball team had an exceptionally busy schedule over their break, with six games over the four weeks. The team was able to win two of these games, giving them a 10-9 record on the season.

The break kicked off with a win for the team when they played on the first day of break. Pulling out a 74-70 win over

Manhattan Christian College, the team moved on to their next games.

Following this game, the team traveled to San Diego, Calif. to play their next two games. Their first team they took on was San Diego Christian College, who they would fall to in a very close game, with a final score of 61-64.

However, their next game in San Diego was

against the University of Saint Katherine, who they pulled a win out over. In a relatively dominant game for Doane, they defeated the Firebirds 67-49.

The team returned to the midwest for their last three games over break. The first of these was a matchup against Concordia University, where the Bulldogs would edge out Doane with a score

of 50-60.

All of these last three games were very close defeats for the Tigers, including their fall to Midland University. In another defeat by ten points or less, Doane fell to Midland with the final score resulting in 61-71.

Their final game over break was against Briar Cliff University in Iowa. This was their closest loss of the three final games,

where Doane lost 58-66.

After their performances over break, the team now sits eighth in their conference, one below Dordt, who will be their next competition.

Doane's next game will be against Dordt University on Jan. 12 at home.

Track Teams host first home meet

Five more
athletes qualify
for national
championship

ABRIANNA MILLER
Editor-in-Chief

Doane Track and Field held their first home meet on Jan. 8 in the Ward Haylett Invitational.

Three athletes met their season-best marks and qualified for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Nationals at this meet. Freshman Alivia Baucom competed in shot put and met a distance of 13.15m for the Women. On the Men's side, sophomore Zach Turner completed the 60m hurdles with a time of 8.17 seconds, and fellow sophomore Carter Reckling achieved a height of 2.01m in the

high jump.

Two other athletes also met the mark for Nationals at this meet even though it was not their season-best scores. Freshman Lindsay Adams achieved a 5.66m mark in long jump for the Women's team, and senior Matthew Campbell reached 18.76m in the weight throw for the Men.

In addition to these accomplishments, 17 Tigers achieved their personal best marks at the

invitational.

On the Women's team, sophomores Samantha Bull and Macy Fuller hit their personal bests in the weight throw. Junior Isabel Bothwell hit a personal best in the 60m, and freshman Jacee Zoubek did so in both the 60m and the 200m. Sophomore Cassie Kessler achieved her best in pole vault while junior Jada Lloyd did the same in triple jump. Junior Kaylee Martinsen met her personal best in the

high jump, and Baucom hit her personal best in shot put, which allowed her to meet the standard for Nationals.

For the Men, sophomore Duncan Blankenship and junior Aidan Wheelock hit personal bests in the 1000m. Sophomore Nick Gray achieved his best marks in shot put and weight throw, and sophomore Briggs Songster did so in shot put too. Senior Logan Hammond and sophomore Mike Pulli-

um met their best in the 60m hurdles. Junior Jack Kejci hit his best in long jump, sophomore Jaedon Lothrop did in the weight throw and freshman Jadae Moore did so in 200m.

Both the Men's and Women's Track and Field teams will be back competing on Jan. 15 at home in the Scott Nisely Memorial Classic.



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Senior Joey Stenson looks to launch her weight during the Women's weight throw.



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Fifth-year Logan Hammond strides over hurdles as teammate junior Mike Pulliam follows closely.

Wrestling has successful winter break

CASSIE KESSLER
Sports Editor

The Wrestling team was able to continue to build on the great success they have already found this season. Over break, the team competed in seven duels, four of these matchups being a part of the NAIA National Duals.

The team's first duel was a clean sweep against Midland University with a score of 55-0. The next day had two back-to-back at the Concordia Duals, both of

which were wins for the Tigers. The first was a 57-0 sweep over Central Baptist College followed by a solid win over Marian University, 29-6.

The last four matches that the Wrestling team competed in were all part of the National Duals. On the first day of the national matches, the team went undefeated against both Baker University, 21-16, and Lindsey Wilson College, 31-6.

During the second day of duals, the team had their first and only loss during the semifinals of the competition. This

loss came from Life University, 15-25, but was followed by their third and final win over Reinhardt University, 17-16.

With the strong performance put on by the Tigers during this national competition, the team placed third overall. This was only the team's second appearance at the NAIA National Duals and resulted in a much stronger performance than their last appearance.

In 2017, when the team last appeared, they ended with a result of 0-3, compared to this

year where they went 3-1 throughout the two days. This is the highest finish for a university in the Great Plains Athletic Conference since 2007.

The Wrestling team has their next competition at home on Jan. 14 against Concordia University.

Athlete of the Week



Zach Turner Track & Field

hit an NAIA automatic qualifying mark in the men's 60m hurdles with a season-best time of 8.17 seconds



Scoreboard Snapshot

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

January 5 @ FREMONT, NEB.

5:00 versus MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

TIGERS
83-72

January 8 @ SIOUX CITY, I.A.

2:00 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

CHARGERS
50-78

MEN'S BASKETBALL

January 5 @ FREMONT, NEB.

7:45 versus MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

WARRIORS
61-71

January 8 @ SIOUX CITY, I.A.

3:45 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

CHARGERS
58-66

MEN'S WRESTLING

January 6 @ LOUISVILLE, K.Y.

NAIA NATIONAL DUALS - DAY 1

10:00 versus BAKER UNIVERSITY *NATIONAL DUALS*

TIGERS
21-16

2:00 versus LINDSEY WILSON COLLEGE

TIGERS
31-6

January 7 @ LOUISVILLE, K.Y.

NAIA NATIONAL DUALS - DAY 2

10:00 versus LIFE UNIVERSITY

EAGLES
15-25

2:00 versus REINHARDT UNIVERSITY

TIGERS
17-16

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

January 8 @ HOME

11:00 WARD HAYLETT INVITE

3 NAIA QUALIFIERS

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

January 8 @ HOME

11:00 WARD HAYLETT INVITE

2 NAIA QUALIFIERS

Next week for Tiger Athletics

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

January 15 @ HOME

11:00 SCOTT NISELY MEMORIAL CLASSIC

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

January 12 @ HOME

6:00 versus DORDT UNIVERSITY

January 15 @ SIOUX CITY, I.A.

2:00 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

MEN'S WRESTLING

January 14 @ HOME

7:00 versus CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

January 15 @ HOME

11:00 SCOTT NISELY MEMORIAL CLASSIC

MEN'S BASKETBALL

January 12 @ HOME

7:45 versus DORDT UNIVERSITY

January 15 @ SIOUX CITY, I.A.

3:45 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY