

# the doane OWI

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Men's Basketball recognized at GPAC. See Page 9 for more.

## Biden briefly gives up power

Colonoscopy causes Biden to give powers to Harris

**MATTHEW MITTLIEDER**  
Staff Writer

On Nov. 19, the day before his 79th birthday, President Joe Biden underwent a colonoscopy during a routine physical at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington D.C.

During the procedure, a single 3 mm polyp was identified and "removed without difficulty," according to Biden's physician, Dr. Kevin O'Connor. According to O'Connor, the polyp is similar to one that Biden

had removed in 2008, and he noted that no further action is required at this time.

He also acknowledged Biden's persistent coughing and throat-clearing, which many have noticed during his speeches. O'Connor said the cough is likely a symptom of gastroesophageal reflux, which may contribute to sinus congestion.

Biden has displayed such symptoms "for as long as I have known him," O'Connor said.

He also said that an otolaryngology exam found no polyps or tumors, and a gastroenterology exam found no signs of ulcers, cancer or other serious conditions. A lung examination came back normal.

According to the 25th Amendment in the Constitution, the president may temporarily transfer the powers of the presidency to their vice president if they are sick, temporarily disabled or "unable to discharge the

powers and duties of their office." To do this, they must invoke section three of the amendment by sending a written letter to the president pro tempore of the Senate and the House Speaker.

Before undergoing his procedure, Biden did exactly this, sending a letter to the president pro tempore of the Senate, Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. In this letter he stated that he was unable to discharge his duties while under anesthesia and that he would be temporarily transferring presidential power to Vice President Kamala Harris.

For a total of 85 minutes, Harris was the first woman to assume the powers of the president of the United States as Acting President. However, this is different from actually being sworn in and serving as president, as it is only temporary and Harris does not gain the title of president.



Courtesy Photo | Flickr.com

"President Biden will transfer power to the Vice President for the brief period of time when he is under anesthesia," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said in a statement. "The Vice President will work from her office in the West Wing during this time."

There have been several other times in history where the vice president temporarily acted as president. In 2002 and 2007,

George W. Bush underwent the same procedure as Biden and passed the powers of the presidency to his vice president at the time, Dick Cheney.

Donald Trump also underwent a colonoscopy as president but refused to go under anesthesia. Former Trump Press Secretary Stephanie Grisham wrote in a new book that this was because he did not want to hand power to his vice presi-

dent, Mike Pence.

This physical was Biden's first since he was inaugurated as the oldest president in U.S. history. According to O'Connor, he found Biden to be in good health, saying Biden "remains fit for duty, and fully executes all of his responsibilities without any exemptions or accommodations."

## Record low unemployment in Neb.

**JOEY WINTON**  
Managing Editor

According to The Nebraska Department of Labor (NDOL), Nebraska's unemployment rate is at a record low for the second straight month and now has the lowest

unemployment rate of any state ever.

According to The Wall Street Journal, there are roughly 70,000 job openings in Nebraska, but less than 20,000 people are in need of work.

Nebraska reported a 1.9 percent (down from 2 percent) unemployment rate, with Omaha at a 1.7 percent unemployment rate and Lincoln at 1.3 percent.

According to the Associated Press (AP), Nebraska has maintained its status as the state with

the lowest unemployment rate through much of the pandemic.

According to the NDOL, Nebraska ranks number one in the nation for unemployment rate and number one in employment-to-population ratio, sitting at 68.4 percent.

Additionally, Nebraska ranks second in labor force participation at 68.4 percent.

The AP states much of the private job growth was driven by education, health care, transporta-

tion and financial industries. Sectors which previously suffered during the pandemic, such as leisure and hospitality industries, have largely recovered over the course of this year.

However, the AP argues rural states like Nebraska typically have lower unemployment rates than the national average for a variety of reasons: fewer people per job, more jobs related to agriculture and food production (which are considered essential) and

policies that discourage unemployment.

Additionally, OpenSky Policy Institute, a Nebraska-based tax policy think tank, has argued that the unemployment rate is an incomplete picture of the state's economic health because it excludes people who have stopped looking for work. People who retired early during the pandemic or left the workforce to care for loved ones are potentially excluded from factoring in averages.

Despite this, Governor

Pete Ricketts asserts that Nebraska's low unemployment rate is a result of strong job opportunities and other such qualities.

"The record rate is a sign of our strong job growth, successful re-employment services and extraordinary economic resilience. Nebraska has plenty of great-paying career opportunities for anyone looking to enjoy the Good Life," Ricketts said.

## Weekly COVID-19 update

**JOSE VILLALPANDO**  
News Editor

The level of community transmission remains high for Saline County. The Doane University COVID-19 Risk Dashboard has not been updated since Nov. 18, therefore any possible new cases have yet to be reported.

Saline County has re-

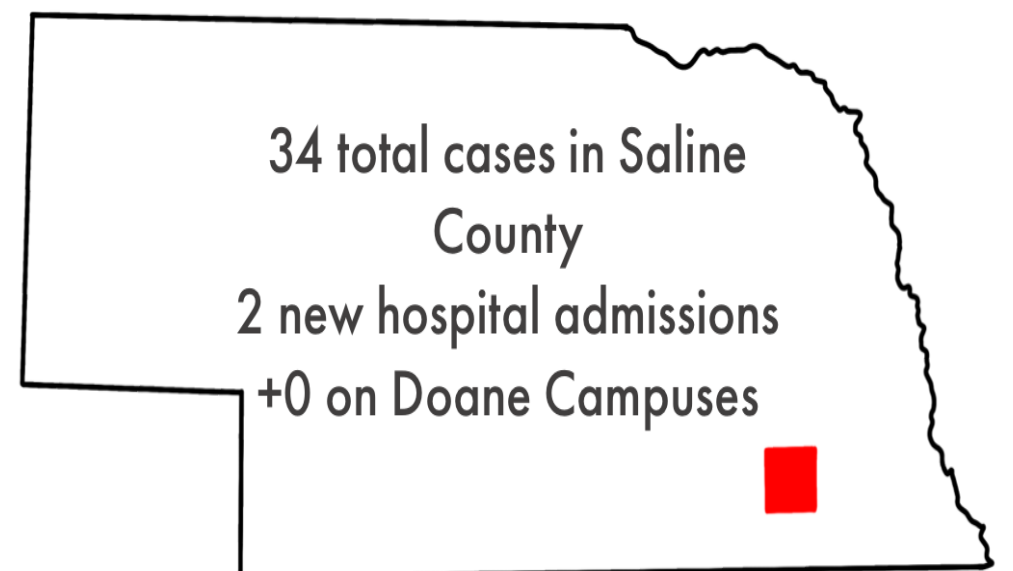
ported 34 total cases of COVID-19 over the last seven days as of Nov. 30. Two new hospital admissions due to COVID-19 have been recorded within the last seven days. 56.5 percent of the population equal to or over the age of 12 in Saline County have been fully vaccinated, marking 46.9 percent of the total population of Saline County as fully vaccinated.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that all people should still wear masks while indoors or in high foot traffic ar-

reas. Although mask requirements are different from place to place, the CDC urges individuals to follow local accordances 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.

According to 1011 News, the mask mandate issued by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department has been extended for a third time, now until Dec. 23.



Graphic by PJ Ramsey | The Doane Owl

# FDA approves boosters

Moderna and Pfizer single-doses authorized

**JOSE VILLALPANDO**  
News Editor

As of Nov. 19, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorizations for both the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 single booster

dosages. The single dose booster shots have been approved for all people over the age of 18 who have already completed their primary vaccination with any FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.

“Throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, the FDA has worked to make timely public health decisions as the pandemic evolves. COVID-19 vaccines have proven to be the best and highly effective defense against COVID-19,” acting FDA Commissioner Janet Woodcock said.

Before this, single dose boosters of Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines were

only authorized for people who were 65 years of age or older, or people between the ages of 18 to 64 that were either at high risk for severe COVID-19 or having frequent institutional or occupational exposure to it.

Authorization has been granted for all individuals who have fully completed their primary vaccination of Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines and have done so at least six months prior to receiving the booster dose. For people who have received the single shot Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine, authorization has been granted for receiving the booster dose two months after completion of the primary vaccination.

Following news of FDA authorization for COVID-19 boosters, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Rochelle P. Walensky endorsed the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ expanded recommendations for booster shots to include all people 18 years of age and older after completing their primary vaccination.

“After critical scientific evaluation, today’s unanimous decision carefully considered the current state of the pandemic, the latest vaccine effectiveness data over time and review of safety data from people who have already received a COVID-19 primary vac-

cine series and booster,” Walensky said. “Booster shots have demonstrated the ability to safely increase people’s protection against infection and severe outcomes and are an important public health tool to strengthen our defenses against the virus as we enter the winter holidays.”

The CDC continues to recommend vaccinations to Americans who have not yet been vaccinated. They also recommend anyone who has already been vaccinated to receive a booster shot before the holiday season in order to better protect one another.

# New COVID variant found

Mutation potentially more infectious

**JOSE VILLALPANDO**  
News Editor

A new variant of the coronavirus has been first identified by researchers in South Africa and has been spotted across multiple countries around the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) warns this new variant could lead to surges with “severe consequences.”

According to the Associated Press, this new variant, named the Omicron variant, has mutations that make it harder for the immune system to detect and allows it to spread from person to person with greater ease.

With assessments

from the United Nations (UN) health agency and the WHO’s “strongest, most explicit warning yet” about this new variant, a widening circle of countries around the world have responded in an “act-now-ask-questions-later” approach.

“Japan announced it is barring entry to all foreign visitors, joining Israel in doing so. Morocco banned all incoming flights. Other countries, including the U.S. and members of the European Union, have moved to prohibit travelers arriving from southern Africa,” the Associated Press reported.

According to a report from WHO, the evidence of this new variant coincides with a recent spike in infections.

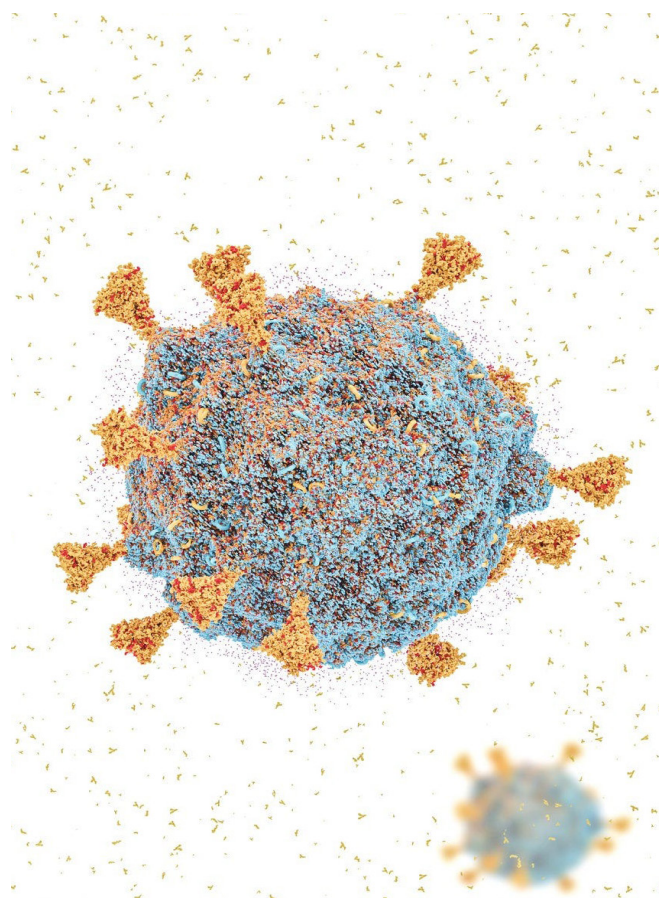
Evidence of this variant suggests an increased risk of reinfection when compared to other Variants of Concern (VOC), with the number of cases of the Omicron variant increasing in almost all provinces of South Africa.

Then, several labs using a specific Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test have indicated that

one of the three target genes are not being detected, thus indicating that this test could serve as a marker for this variant.

“Using this approach, this variant has been detected at faster rates than previous surges in infection, suggesting that this variant may have a growth advantage,” WHO reported.

As the Omicron variant has been named a VOC, WHO advises that countries do the following, enhance surveillance and sequencing efforts to better understand the different COVID-19 variants, submit complete genome sequences and associated metadata to a publicly available database, report initial cases or clusters associated with VOC infection to WHO through the International Health Regulations (IHR) mechanism and to “perform field investigations and laboratory assessments to improve understanding of the potential impacts of the VOC on COVID-19 epidemiology, severity, effectiveness of public health and social measures, diagnostic meth-



Courtesy photo | Cincinnati.com

ods, immune responses, antibody neutralization, or other relevant characteristics,” WHO reported.

Although no deaths have been reported due to the Omicron variant so far, there is still a lot to

learn about this variant. Testing needs to be done on how contagious it is, how more likely it is to cause serious illness and if this variant can evade or is still covered by current vaccines.

# Canada alters travel rules

**JOEY WINTON**  
Managing Editor

Starting Nov. 30, Canada will no longer require vaccinated Canadians to provide a negative COVID-19 test to re-enter the country if they are

gone for no more than 72 hours.

In an update to the country’s travel policy, Canadian citizens, persons registered under the Indian Act, permanent residents and protected persons are no

longer required to take a COVID-19 test and yield a negative result to re-enter the country if they are leaving for a trip that is 72 hours or less.

However, individuals on trips longer than 72 hours, and United States


residents with tests that are “more than 72 hours old when [they] re-enter Canada,” will be “required to get a new pre-entry molecular test in the United States,” the statement reads.


Most travelers, includ-


ing those who are fully vaccinated, are still required to provide pre-entry test results before they are allowed entry into Canada.


According to Canada’s Health Information Base, as of Nov. 26, Can-


**This Week’s Weather Forecast**


**Wednesday**  
12/01  
  
High: 67  
Low: 46


**Thursday**  
12/02  
  
High: 72  
Low: 40

**Friday**  
12/03  
  
High: 58  
Low: 32

**Saturday**  
12/04  
  
High: 45  
Low: 32

**Sunday**  
12/05  
  
High: 54  
Low: 26

**Monday**  
12/06  
  
High: 49  
Low: 37

**Tuesday**  
12/07  
  
High: 53  
Low: 26

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

ada has 25,027 positive COVID-19 cases, totaling 1,782,171 positive cases and 29,618 total deaths caused by COVID-19 throughout the pandemic.



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# Federal judge bars CMS mandate

Ten states  
block CMS  
vaccine  
mandate

**JOSE VILLALPANDO**  
News Editor



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

According to USA Today, on Nov. 29, U.S. District Judge Matthew Schelp, representing the Eastern District of Missouri, ruled against the federal government's mandate on requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for health care workers.

Missouri joins ten other states where this mandate has been blocked, those states being Alaska, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming, according to KFOR Radio.

Schelp argued that the

regulations handed down by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) earlier this month were issued improperly. The agency did not consult Congress for approval before issuing their mandated vaccinations for health care workers, which was necessary due to the mandate's "vast economic and political significance." Along with this, Schelp also argues that CMS did not seek out

or allow for a "standard period for public comment."

"Truly, the impact of this mandate reaches far beyond COVID," Schelp wrote. "CMS seeks to overtake an area of traditional state authority by imposing an unprecedented demand to federally dictate the private medical decisions of millions of Americans. Such action challenges traditional notions of federalism."

Schelp's main issue targets how the mandate seems to be "arbitrary and capricious," and that CMS cannot make claims that vaccination status directly affects the spread of COVID within the health care facilities targeted by the mandate. The only data CMS has pointed to for defense is the information gathered from long-term care facilities.

"No one questions that protecting patients

and health care workers from contracting COVID is a laudable objective," Schelp wrote. "But the court cannot, in good faith, allow CMS to enact an unprecedented mandate that lacks a 'rational connection between the facts found and the choice made.'"

Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts supported Schelp's ruling during his statewide call-in show on KFOR, stating that this ruling is particularly important for rural health care facilities already struggling to maintain adequate staffing. If the mandate goes into effect, Ricketts believes it would be very devastating to Nebraskans.

"I've talked to administrators, for example, who are telling me they would have to stop delivering babies because they wouldn't have enough staff, so this would actually impact the quality of care that we would be providing in our rural settings especially,"

Ricketts said.

Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson also agreed with the ruling and further explained this in a press release through the Neb. Attorney General's Office.

"This is significant for health care workers in Nebraska, especially rural hospitals who were facing serious impacts due to this mandate," Peterson said. "[The Nov. 29] ruling immediately prevents enforcement of the mandate. While we do anticipate the federal government will seek immediate review by the Eighth Circuit, we are confident that the analysis by the trial court will be confirmed."

Updates on all three lawsuits in response to federal vaccine mandates can be found here: <https://ago.nebraska.gov/attorney-generals-response-federal-vaccine-mandates>

# Doane PSO offers advice for winter

**KYLIE HUGHES**  
Life & Culture Editor

As the weather is getting colder and winter break is soon approaching, Doane Public Safety Office wants to give students reminders about parking on campus.

Students who are leaving their vehicles on campus for over 24 hours while they are not on campus either for winter break or for athletic or academic trips need to be parked in long-term parking lots.

This is due to potential snow removal needs as well as construction during the break.

The long-term parking for students include the

Den parking lot, also referred to as Lot J, as well as the far east Hansen Parking lot.

Students who do not move their cars to the long term parking lots during times when they will be off campus for more than 24 hours can face being towed at the student's expense.

Students also must be checking their emails as the Crete campus faces inclement winter weather. Due to snow removal, students may need to move their vehicle to various parking lots. Maps will be emailed out to all students making them aware of the changes and the specific time to move their vehicles.

After snow has been removed, students can move their vehicles back to their regular parking lots.

Similar to long-term parking, if students do not assist in snow removal by moving their vehicles, their vehicles could potentially be towed.

Parking lot maps can be found in emails sent out by the Public Safety Office.

Also, as the weather gets colder and snow is potentially right around the corner, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends preparing your vehicle for extreme weather. This includes packing a shovel, broom and ice scraper as well as

abrasive material such as sand or kitty litter in case the vehicle gets stuck in the snow.

The NHTSA also recommends having blankets, jumper cables, flashlights, a cell phone and charger, food and water in case of emergency.

## Parking Reminders

- Vehicles left on campus for over 24 hours either for winter break or for athletic or academic trips need to be parked in long-term parking lots.
- Due to snow removal, students may need to move their vehicle to various parking lots.
- Maps will be emailed out to all students with changes and specific times to move their vehicles.
- If vehicles are not moved to specific parking locations, they may possibly be towed.

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

# Bar shooting results in homicide

**EMMA RYAN**  
Multimedia  
Coordinator

On Nov. 20, gunfire broke out outside of a sports bar called DJ's Dugout near 114th and Dodge Street in Omaha, Neb. Police responded to two calls made to the scene.

The police stated that Demetrius Johnson (20) showed up to Methodist

Hospital around 11:40 p.m. and later died from his wounds. Another man, Christopher Grutel (20), walked into Nebraska Medicine with injuries to his foot. Grutel is expected to recover.

As of this publication, there is no suspect in custody, but the police have offered a considerable reward for anyone who may have any tips or new evidence leading to the suspect.

"Anyone with information about the shooting is asked to contact Omaha Crime Stoppers at 402-444-STOP or submit an anonymous tip online or via the P3 Tips app. Tips leading to the arrest of a homicide suspect are eligible for a reward of up to \$25,000," 6 News reported.

According to the U.S. News, Johnson's death is the 27th homicide of the year in Omaha.

## Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reports incidents in their public crime log. The Doane Crime Log has been updated on Nov. 29. No further incidents have been reported between Nov. 13 and 30.

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# Students hosting pottery fundraiser



**DEC 2-3, 2021 9 AM - 3 PM**

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**POTTERY SALE!**

**ROOM 204**  
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Courtesy photo | Ceramics Department



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**DEC. 6 FROM 5-8 P.M.**

In Art and Ed Room 204

For more information or questions please contact the Art Department at [art.department@doane.edu](mailto:art.department@doane.edu)

Graphic by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

## EMMA RYAN Multimedia Coordinator

The Doane University Ceramics Department is hosting a pottery sale on Dec. 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Chab Weyers Education and Hixson Lied Art Building in room 204.

Students from all ceramics courses have been

making items for the sale throughout the semester. Plates, bowls, mugs, cups, jars, ornaments, vases and much more are all for sale.

Proceeds from the pottery sale will help fund future visiting artists for the Art Department and student travel fees for upcoming Art Department events.

Associate Professor

of Art and Design Eric Stearns is the ceramics instructor helping students put this event together. Stearns will also have several of his own ceramics pieces within the pottery sale.

Stearns said this is a great opportunity for students and faculty to find one-of-a-kind gifts for family and friends for the holidays.

Several students, including senior Joey Stenson, are very excited for people to come see the work they have been producing all semester.

"I'm excited for the pottery sale because I'm excited for all my friends to be able to see my hard work and my love for the craft," Stenson said.

The Ceramics Department also plans to host an

ornament painting night on Dec. 6 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Students and faculty will be able to paint their own ornament for free in the Art and Education building in room 204.

People who come to paint ornaments can plan on picking up their work by late afternoon on Dec. 8.

Stearns said this event

was planned during finals week for students to relieve some of the temporary stress of finals to make something to take home for winter break.

For more information or questions, please contact the Art Department at [art.department@doane.edu](mailto:art.department@doane.edu).

# Ag Club welcomes all students

## SARAH DALY Communications Manager

Doane University is home to various groups of students with diverse interests. Students can find or create almost any club that suits their inter-

ests.

The Agriculture Club, or Ag Club, is a group of students that meet to discuss agricultural and environmental science.

Advisors of the group are Pete Poppert and Blake Colclasure. Secretary of the Ag Club,

Junior Cierra Meyer, explained that any student is invited to participate.

"Anyone can join, you don't have to be an ag or science major, you can email me or the president," Meyer said.

Meyer added that the group hosts speakers

from a variety of agriculture-related fields for students to gain knowledge of internships and possible job opportunities. Students are also provided exploratory field trip opportunities.

"Anyone is more than welcome to join,

you don't have to have any previous knowledge about agriculture or have to be going into an ag-related field after school to be a part of the group. It's a great opportunity to become more involved and meet more people on campus," Meyer said.

Ag Club meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Lied Science and Mathematics Building in room 152. With any questions or concerns, please contact Meyer at [cierra.meyer@doane.edu](mailto:cierra.meyer@doane.edu).

# Tiger Paw Pantry provides essentials

## SARAH DALY Communications Manager

Doane Serves hosts the Tiger Paw Pantry bi-weekly on Doane's campus. This pantry provides food items and essential hygiene products for all students.

Besides financial struggles, students without vehicles are unable to drive to the local stores within the Crete area.

"Doane University understands that students can struggle not only affording things throughout the year but also even getting to a store to find these items," senior Danielle Dubovy said.

Anyone can take advantage of the pantry, but students can also donate to the pantry. Dubovy explained that Doane Serves will take anything that could be useful to hand back to the student population. Items that the pantry will take include toothpaste, ramen noodles, feminine products and other food or hygiene items.



**Tiger Paw Pantry**

- This pantry provides food items and essential hygiene products for all students
- The pantry has toothpaste, ramen noodles, feminine products and other food or hygiene items.

For more information, contact Volunteer Doane at [volunteer@doane.edu](mailto:volunteer@doane.edu).

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

giene items.

Students will be notified about the times and places of the pantry through emails from Volunteer Doane. Students are encouraged to spread the word about this ser-

vice when emailed.

"My favorite part about working at the Tiger Paw Pantry is being able to just see people's faces light up when they see their favorite snacks or even when they are

like, 'You have toothpaste?! That's awesome, I am just about to run out of mine!' It's just really cool seeing how these little goodie bags can make a student's life just a little easier," Dubovy added.

Students that have any special requests for snacks or toiletries can contact Dubovy at [danielle.dubovy@doane.edu](mailto:danielle.dubovy@doane.edu). Students can also send their recommendations or new ideas for the pantry to Dubovy.

Students that have questions about working for the pantry can contact Volunteer Doane at [volunteer@doane.edu](mailto:volunteer@doane.edu) or

Nick Knopik, the Doane Serves Coordinator, at [nick.knopik@doane.edu](mailto:nick.knopik@doane.edu).

The next Tiger Paw Pantry opportunity for students is scheduled for Dec. 2 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Beige Desk in Perry Campus Center.



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## Weekly Horoscopes

**Aquarius (January 21 - February 19):** Be patient with yourself this week. You have been putting a lot of pressure on yourself and it is causing more problems.

**Pisces (February 20 - March 20):** When life is getting challenging just remember the end goal. It may be hard now but things will get better.

**Aries (March 21 - April 20):** Take time this week to reconnect with old friends. You never know when these people who were once important in your life will come in handy once again.

**Taurus (April 21 - May 21):** Continue to remind yourself that people look up to you Taurus. Use this as motivation to continue to do your best even when you are struggling.

**Gemini (May 22 - June 21):** Remember that there is a time and place for everything, Gemini. Just because this is not the time or place does not mean it will be like that forever.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22):** Take time this week to take pride in your accomplishments. You have come a long way in life and you deserve to be proud.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22):** Look for happiness in unexpected places this week. Your results may surprise you.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22):** Take some time this week to practice some self-care methods. You have been working hard and deserve self-care.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22):** Be on the lookout for opportunities this week. Something big is right around the corner so seize any opportunities.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21):** You are going to have many projects coming up. It is important to trust yourself and what you are capable of in order to succeed.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21):** You are only truly satisfied in life when you want to be Sagittarius. Take time this week to be truly satisfied.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 20):** Expect the unexpected during the next few days. Change is coming and you need to keep an eye out. Keep in mind that change is not always a bad thing.

# Music Department plans holiday events

EMMA RYAN  
Multimedia  
Coordinator

On Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m., the Music Department is hosting Cocoa and Carols featuring the Jazz Unlimited and Jazz Ensemble groups. The event will be held at Lakeside in the Perry Campus Center. Refreshments will also be served at the event.

This annual event is sponsored by the Jazz Ensemble professors for jazz students to be able to show off their talents to others and have a good time before finals.

Senior Sean Murray, who is a part of the Jazz Band and plays the drums, spoke on behalf of the event.

"I am really excited to play and just relax. This performance is one of the most fun because we get time to really enjoy what we are playing while taking a break from studying for finals and finishing up projects," Murray said.


Murray went on to say that the Jazz Band will be playing multiple pieces of various sub-genres, one of which being "Ace of Hearts," a modern piece fusing together a little bit of hip-hop and jazz.

The Doane Music Department will also be hosting their Christmas Concert on Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 5 at 3:00 p.m. in Heckman. Every student gets a free ticket to the concert.

General admission for others is \$6. There are also banquet tickets

## Cocoa and Carols

Event will be hosted  
in the Perry Campus  
Center on Nov. 30 at  
7:30 pm



## 30th Annual Christmas Concert

Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 5  
at 3:00 p.m. in Heckman  
Theatre. Each student  
receives one free ticket.

Graphic by PJ Ramsey | The Doane Owl

available for \$16, which include a meal before the concert with both meat and vegetarian options available.

This is Doane's 30th annual Christmas Festival Performance and is considered one of Doane's most popular and highly anticipated music performances featuring the Doane Choir, Collegiate Chorale, Doane Concert Band, String Ensemble and selected soloists.

According to Doane Univer-

sity's website, if the Christmas Festival sells out, all are welcome to attend the final dress rehearsal on Dec. 4 at 9:00 a.m. Tickets are not required for the final dress rehearsal.

To purchase tickets, please visit eventbrite.com. For more information or questions, please contact Cheyenne Nelson at cheyenne.nelson@doane.edu.

# Students thankful for days off

KYLIE HUGHES  
Life & Culture

Thanksgiving making food and watching a movie.

Sophomore Jared Smith spent Thanksgiving driving from his home to his aunt's house and celebrated Thanksgiving the next day.

"We ate some great food. We had all of the necessities- the cheese and potatoes, sweet potato casserole, turkey and everything like that," Smith said.

When students were not celebrating Thanksgiving, they were able to do a wide range of other activities on their days off.

Householder spent time working, sleeping in and hanging out with family.

Smith spent several

Last week, students had Thanksgiving break that went from Nov. 24 through Nov. 28.

Due to the length of the break, there were limited services on campus and students were expected to leave the residence halls, according to an email sent out to students from Residential Life and Education. Students who filled out an extension were allowed to stay on campus.

Over the break, many students got to celebrate Thanksgiving with their friends and family.

Junior Savannah Householder spent



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

days hunting at his ranch in Texas. However, Smith also spent a lot of his break driving. As an out-of-state student, getting home took many hours of driving. Then coming back to campus ended up being around a 12-hour

drive. This is why Smith felt that he enjoyed the structure of last year's Thanksgiving break better. Last year, due to COVID, students were done for the semester at Thanksgiving break; however, there was

no fall break for students last year.

Smith said that last year was nice being done for the semester instead of having a break and having to go back for two weeks because he had trouble getting his home-

work and studying done while he was on break last week.

Sophomore McKenna Revis said that this break also felt really short.

"I feel like it was a teaser break. I felt like it was too long to be just a weekend but too short to be a long break," Revis said.

Yet despite mixed emotions about the timing of Thanksgiving break, many students were thankful for the time off.

"It was still nice to have a break. I can't complain, but it was just a lot different last year," Smith said.

For students looking forward to the next break, winter break will start on Dec. 10 and go until Jan. 8.

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# December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	29	30 Chi Delta Bake Sale Kappa Care Packages Interfaith Lunch Cocoa and Carols	1 Chi Delta Bake Sale Kappa Care Packages Late Night Breakfast De-Stress Fest	2 Pottery Sale Diwali Celebration	3 Pottery Sale Hanukkah Celebration	4 Christmas Festival Banquet Christmas Festival Performance
5 Christmas Festival Performance	6 Winter Solstice Celebration Late Night Breakfast	7 Christmas Celebration	8	9	10 Last Day of Class	11 Winter Graduation Ceremony
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Winter Break

# the Doane Owl

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The Owl recognizes an ethical duty to correct all its factual errors, whether large or small. We welcome feedback about errors that warrant correction. Comments on news coverage or editorials can be e-mailed to owl@doane.edu. If we find that a correction is warranted, we will indicate the correction in a subsequent issue of the Owl and update the article on Doaneline accordingly.

The Doane Owl Editorial board consists of: Abrianna Miller, Joey Winton, Kylie Hughes, Jose Villalpando 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 courtesy of Doane Athletics

- STAFF EDITORIAL -

## Show finals week who's boss

Thanksgiving break is over, and with finals week just over the horizon, we at the Doane Owl want to try and help get you through it with as few tears as possible.

The first thing we recommend is to get plenty of rest. While that certainly is easier said than done given the copious amounts of work some have, trying your hardest to get at least six to eight hours of sleep

a night does wonders for your mental health.

If you're in a constant state of exhaustion from not sleeping, you aren't going to be able to perform at your best and your grades will suffer so go to bed and get restful sleep, your body needs it.

Another piece of advice is to drink lots of water.

If you notice you aren't getting anything done or are in a bad mood, take a

few big drinks of water and wait a few minutes to see if you were just dehydrated.

It's also important to make sure you bring a water bottle with you (provided it's allowed) to your finals so you don't have to worry about being thirsty or passing out.

It also helps to budget your time out everyday.

Thinking of your workload as a marathon race instead of a sprint helps im-

mensely.

Breaking up your workload into smaller chunks to work on for an hour or two gives you a greater sense of accomplishment and makes the amount of work as a whole seem more doable and less of a daunting task.

While finals are stressful, please be sure you are taking good care of yourselves and those around you.

## Hot takes; Yippie-ki-yay Christmas

A weekly rating of random things by Joey Winton

JOEY WINTON  
Managing Editor

Thanksgiving is over, so that means it's time to move on to all things Christmas related.

This week, instead of the usual Hot Takes, I will be using this panel to formally put an end to the decades-old debate over whether or not "Die Hard" is a Christmas movie, (it is).

Before discussing why "Die Hard" is a Christmas movie, it is important to define what qualities separate a Christmas movie from any other old film that comes out during the month of December.

There are consistent themes (romance, nostalgia, family, good music, etc.) that all Christmas movies have, and they use these themes as the foundation for their story.

"Die Hard" follows police officer John McClane, played by Bruce Willis, as he visits his (soon to be ex) wife Holly Gennaro McClane for the holidays in an attempt to try and restore their marriage and visit his children.

However, during a Christmas party at Nakatomi Plaza, the building Holly works in, Hans



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

Gruber, played by Alan Rickman, attacks the party and holds everyone hostage in an attempt to steal several million dollars of money and bonds. McClane is vastly outnumbered and out-gunned, but by using his wits and with the help of Sgt. Al Powell, played by Reginald VelJohnson, McClane is able to save nearly all the hostages and manages to get back together with Holly.

My main argument for this being a Christmas movie is that it takes place during the holiday season, and the movie starts off with a company Christmas party. Sorry not sorry, but that to me is pretty darn Christmasy.

As far as romance is concerned, while it is not a key part of the plot, there are moments where the audience

gets a sense that despite all that John and Holly have said and done, deep down they still genuinely care for each other.

The same can be said about family because the McClane's children are at home for the duration of the movie, but in the few brief scenes we see them, it is obvious that there is a lot of love in this family.

For nostalgia, "Die Hard" harkens back to a time when movies had simple plots and little moral dilemma in regards to who you should root for. McClane is obviously the good guy and Gruber is obviously the bad guy, there are no two ways about it.

Lastly, while composer Michael Kamen certainly did a fine job with the mu-

sic, there is nothing really memorable about it but because the rest of the movie is so good, this gets a pass in my book.

Hopefully, you can now see why I and so many others like me consider "Die Hard" to be a Christmas movie, and for those still unconvinced, let me ask you this:

Home Alone is a movie that takes place during Christmas time, is about a little kid who has to defend his house from incompetent robbers trying by using various homemade traps and focuses on the value of what it means to love one's family despite their flaws. How is that any different from "Die Hard"?

(Answer: it isn't).

## Dealing with the pandemic



ABRIANNA MILLER  
Editor-in-Chief

It is really weird being away from home during a global pandemic. I can speak to conditions before I left, but, as we know, the situation is constantly evolving.

Now there's a new variant, Omicron, popping up all over the world, and it has just reached Spain and the U.S.

The COVID-19 situation has been controlled remarkably well here, with almost the entire population of País Vasco being vaccinated. Mask restrictions are still in place, but the intensity of

those guidelines are not as amped up as they are in other places.

With the Omicron variant, the Spanish government has been issuing updates and predictions regularly. They have also shared information regarding future plans to avoid spreading the variant as much as possible.

I am impressed with the response to this situation. I feel prepared and safe for the future. I do not worry about going to the store for bread because I know all of the safety precautions that have been put in place.

I do believe that the Omicron variant is dangerous and should be regarded as such, but that doesn't mean

that I am freaking out. Actually, I feel weirdly calm about it.

However, I am worried about when it eventually hits the U.S. hard. Not nearly enough of the general population is vaccinated, and public health and safety measures are not adequate to combat this problem.

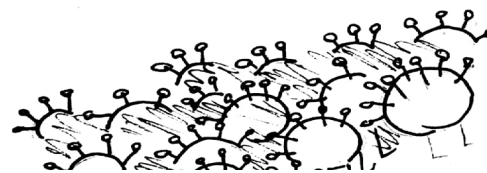
The virus will continue to mutate as it is able to infect more and more bodies, but the least we can do is mitigate the consequences.

I want to be able to see my grandparents for Christmas. I want to see my friends in class. I want to go to concerts and events. I want to not have to wear a face mask.

But guess what? None of that can happen until the pandemic is under control, and it's not.

I'm quite honestly more scared to come home and deal with COVID-19 than I am here in Spain. That is so messed up because I'm not even home. I should feel safer at home. But this is where we're at.

All I'm saying is that variants are going to keep mutating if we don't start to buckle down on restrictions. It sucks, I know, but you know what sucks more? Your friends and family dying. So deal with it so we can start developing a new normal.



Cartoon by Joey Winton | The Doane Owl

# A little drama, scandal and royalty



**EMMA RYAN**  
Multimedia  
Coordinator

Recently I have been binge watching “The Crown” on Netflix. When I first started watching the series, I just

had it on for background noise, but after the third episode, I was hooked.

“The Crown” is a series based on Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom. The show starts the day before Queen Elizabeth’s wedding in 1947 and goes until the 1990’s throughout the four seasons.

On the outside I’d say the Royal family looks quite perfect, but this show illustrates the trouble, scandal and traditions of the Royal family.

Of course, some of the aspects of the show have been exaggerated a bit to enhance the series, but a lot of it is based on real events.

“Although many of the historical events de-

picted in the series really happened, no one really knows what went on behind closed doors— and those imagined, dramatic moments might even sometimes overshadow the real-life of Royal family members,” an article from Parade stated.

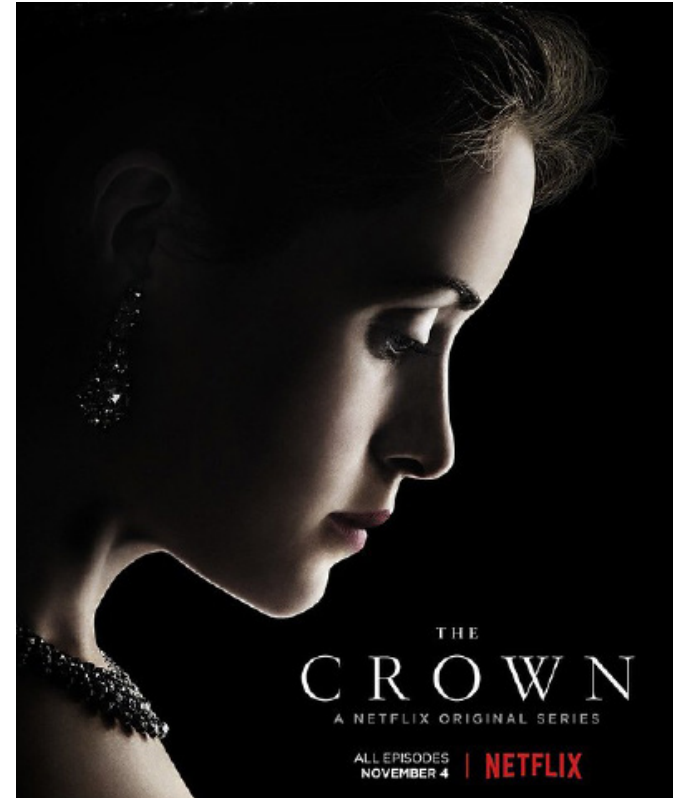
I believe that not all of it is true, but maybe I do because I am now invested in the show. However, one thing I noticed throughout the show was the amount of people that were helping the Royal family undress or wait on them while they were having important conversations and the number of people listening in to their calls.

This leads me to wonder about all of the things

that some of these people knew. Even within the Prime Minister’s office, a young lady is just around the corner waiting for a command. It’s crazy to think that all these “lesser” people saw or heard so much.

I am only on season two right now. Season four of “The Crown” was just released on Nov. 15, and Netflix has already released a statement about season five of the series coming out November of 2022.

Overall, I would highly recommend “The Crown” if you’re wanting to learn a little bit of history but also see some drama, love affairs and daily Royal life.



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

# “House of Gucci” movie review



**MATTHEW MITTELEIDER**  
Staff Writer

Over Thanksgiving break I went to see Ridley Scott’s latest film, “House

of Gucci,” which tells the story of the Gucci family and company as it unravelled and fell apart in the 90’s.

The story mainly revolves around Patrizia Reggiani, played by Lady Gaga, and Maurizio Gucci, played by Adam Driver, as the characters get married and find their place in the Gucci family. Over time, they become at odds with each other and with Maurizio’s uncle Aldo and cousin Paolo over who is to take ownership of the Gucci company.

I didn’t love this film, but I didn’t necessarily hate it either, I just felt

it was lacking in a few areas, including some of the characters and a consistent tone. The relationship between Patrizia and Maurizio at the beginning was cute and awkward and kind of campy, and I enjoyed it for a while, but by the end, I didn’t like either of their characters anymore.

It was hard to stay on anyone’s side or really support the characters when they all were doing and saying some pretty terrible things and for seemingly no reason at times. It was like they all decided they wanted to become awful halfway through, and when it was

finally over, I just didn’t really care what happened to any of them.

The tone was another thing that bothered me, as the film struggled to pin down what kind of feeling it was going for. There was a lot of humor and even some corniness to the story at the beginning, but as time went on and things got more serious, it was hard for the humor to come through, even though they kept attempting to force it in.

There were also several times I got confused about what was even happening and why, like the writers had just stuck in empty scenes for the ac-

tors to play around with but with nothing important happening and little explanation.

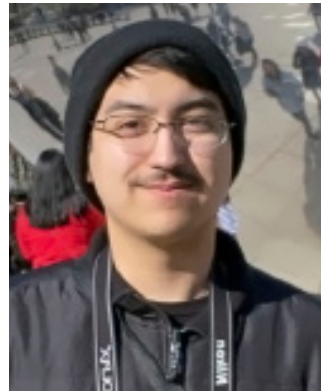
The performances were also a mixed bag. As far as accents go, the actors tried their best to sound Italian, but some of them weren’t quite there, particularly Jared Leto who reminded me of a certain video game plumber. Combined with the obnoxious amount of make-up and prosthetics, I felt like I was watching a comedy sketch rather than a legitimate performance.

Lady Gaga, on the other hand, did a decent job of becoming the charac-

ter and exemplifying her downward spiral into a homicidal psycho. Her accent was a bit iffy at times as well, but I could tell that she was just trying to do her best with what she was given.

To put it simply, the film was just ok, with some extravagant performances attempting to hold up a messy story and a lack of an overall theme of any kind. There was certainly entertainment value to it, but my recommendation if you’re planning to see it is to not take it too seriously and try to enjoy the absurdity.

# 2014 music nostalgia: “Deadroses”



**JOSE VILLALPANDO**  
News Editor

This week, I decided to go a little bit further back and listen to “Deadroses” by Blackbear, which I personally think is a spiritual predecessor to the album I reviewed last week, “Anonymous.”

First off, I want to start out by saying that “Deadroses” happens to still be one of my all-time favorite albums from Blackbear. I don’t even know

if it’s because of the nostalgia or simply because I like every song off of it, though I’m inclined to say that both definitely help.

The album looks at some of the same topics as “Anonymous,” though “Deadroses” looks more at the relationship side of things with conflict added in here and there. The album itself sounds very synthetic with an R&B focus. Again, I’ll be focusing on some of the songs that I find are the best from the album.

The first song “4u” is that Blackbear classic that I was speaking about last week. “4u” deals with conflicted feelings between the regret of “bowing to” someone and the regret of not having done more to pursue the relationship.

“I Needed You” is a reimagination of a previous release, though this time it is focusing on ex-

periencing heartbreak. In contrast to the lyrics, the song itself is a fairly relaxing listen, and Blackbear’s vocals come out and help show that the album is not going to be all synthetic all the time.

“Idfc” is a staple song that was one of the first songs that helped Blackbear skyrocket into popularity, and it is even one of his most popular songs today with over 500 million streams on Spotify alone. The song itself is about emotional detachment within relationships with Blackbear singing about a relationship falling apart due to not wanting to communicate feelings out of fear and putting on a mask as if you don’t care.

Then, “Waste Away” focuses on attachment and wanting to stick with one person until you eventually “waste away.” Although this album came out during Blackbear’s

period of drug addiction and showcases some of that, the production on this track is very slow and relaxing, especially with his feature Devon Baldwin. Baldwin’s falsettos pair amazingly well with the production and overall sold this song as a definitive top track of the album.

Finally, the headlining track “Deadroses” has to

be my favorite from the album. The ballad-like song changes up the tone of the album to signify a heartbreaking end. Everything about this song is amazing- the production, the lyrics and the method of singing alike. Although it is a fairly slow track, the production provides an almost pounding or shaking effect that further amplifies the emo-

tional lyrics. Then, as if I hadn’t already been sold, the final part of the song ends with a sample from an old game show talking about dead roses.

This ends the album perfectly in that Blackbear type of way, a happy and laughable front with a sadder undertone.



Courtesy photo | Flickr.com

## ...THUMBS UP

Hallmark Movies 👍👎👎👎👎👎👎

Gingerbread 👍👍👎👎👎👎👎👎

Christmas Movies 👍👍👍👎👎👎👎

Eggnog 👍👎👎👎👎👎👎

Ugly Sweaters 👍👍👍👍👍👍👍

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...



# Men's Basketball plays over break

Team faces defeat from two ranked opponents

**CASSIE KESSLER**  
Sports Editor

Over the break, the Men's Basketball team travelled to Sioux Falls, S.D. and Wayne, Neb. to play against two division two schools, Augustana University and Wayne State College. While only one of these resulted in a win, defeating a division two competitor was a big accomplishment for the Tigers.

The first game the team played was against Augustana, which resulted in a close loss for Doane, the final score being 57-67. The Men started out well, both teams playing a fairly evenly matched game during the first half.

Doane would then go on to grow a lead during the end of the first half, finishing off with a five-point run to put the score at 32-24. While the Tigers had a lead at the end

of the first half, it would not last long.

This lead by Doane was diminished greatly when Augustana went on a 25-4 run, with senior Tyler Riemersma leading the Auggies in scoring a total of 24 points. While Doane started to answer their run about halfway through the second half, they could not overcome this deficit.

A hard loss to start the week off gave the team extra motivation for their second game on the road against Wayne State College. Teammates such as senior Ben Moxness were on fire during this game, shooting 58 percent from the field.

"Well we weren't super hurt by the loss from Augustana since it was only an exhibition for us, but we showed ourselves we could compete at that level so that gave us confidence going into Wayne State," Moxness said. "We knew if we executed and played our game, we would have a good chance to win."

During the first half, Wayne State only had the lead two times in the first half and both were by two points. At the end of the half, Doane was leading 37-29 and the team was feeling strong

about their first half performance.

"We did a good job of making shots when we needed and handling Wayne State's pressure," Moxness said. "They're one of the best defensive teams in D2. We also continued to play solid defense like we have been doing."

Coming back from half, Wayne State had a hot start and was able to get a seven-point lead over the Tigers after going on a 10-2 run. However, Doane would come back with a 74-69 lead with only 18 seconds left in the second half.

Although a made three-point basket would put Wayne State within the reach of a win, senior Anthony Laravie going two-for-two from the freethrow line secured Doane's win, the final score being 76-72. This was an impressive performance for Doane, with sophomore Josiah Gardiner scoring 27 points, followed by Laravie with 25 points.

"We knew where our shots were going to come from and we were ready to step up and make them," Moxness said. "They kept switching ball screens so we had mismatches all over the



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Senior Alec Oberhauser takes the ball up strong to finish the dunk over his defender.



Photo by Emma Ryan | The Doane Owl

Senior Joe Burt makes the layup shot despite contestation from his defender.

place, that's why [Gardiner] and [Laravie] had great games. They took advantage of those mismatches and made plays."

Doane will be back in action on Dec. 3, when they will first travel to Jamestown, N.D. to take on the University of Jamestown. They

will then travel again to Mitchell, S.D. on Dec. 4 to play against Dakota Wesleyan University.

# Doane recognized at GPAC

**CASSIE KESSLER**  
Sports Editor

The Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) recently announced the all-conference teams for fall sports, with a large number of Doane athletes earning a spot on the team or an honorable mention. Those selected for all-conference teams are up for consideration

for All-America awards. This award is given to the "most outstanding athletes" in each individual sport.

To start off the awards, members from both Cross Country teams were recognized for their performances. For the Women, freshman Madi Muma and senior Allie Binder were honored after both finished in the top 15 at the conference meet. Senior Kalen Dockweiler, sophomore Thomas Oliver

and senior Daniel Reimer were all honored on the Men's team after they also finished in the top 15 at conference.

On both of the Soccer teams, there were three athletes recognized as honorable mentions. Senior Gabriel Calixto was an honorable mention for the Men's team, while on the Women's team, sophomore Payton Cooley and senior Danielle Dubovy were honored.

Senior Gabby Meng-

hini's impressive season on the Volleyball team earned her Second Team honors for averaging 3.30 kills per set, 2.63 digs per set and 31 blocks during the year. Senior Genna Ryan-Piasecki also received honorable mentions. Junior Jaime Renshaw was selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) to be on the Academic All-District team, as well as earning Second Team honors. Renshaw is the

first setter Doane has had recognized since 2015.

The Football team had an impressive number of athletes honored, with eight total receiving either honorable mentions or an award. Three of them received First Team honors, those being senior Damond Brown, junior Ty Barbazon and fifth-year Riley Heithoff, who received this honor for his second year in a row.

Three others were recognized with Second

Team honors. Junior Frazzie Wynn, senior Aidan Mendoza and senior Mason Krause received this recognition. The final two athletes with honorable mentions were junior Donte Wiggins and senior Joaquim Robinson. Robinson had also been honored with Academic All-District team by CoSIDA, making him the first defensive player for Doane to receive the honor since 2017.



Courtesy photo | @DoaneAthletics Twitter



Courtesy photo | @DoaneAthletics Twitter

# Doane Wrestling dominates Hastings

Team secured third team win of season over Hastings

**CASSIE KESSLER**  
Sports Editor

On Nov. 23, the Wrestling team travelled to Hastings, Neb. to face off in a duel against Hastings College. The duel resulted in a large victory

for the Tigers, with the final score being 27-9.

Although the duel resulted in a win, many of the team members were not enthralled with their performances. Junior Daniel Vargas, as well as other teammates, knew that this was not their best match results.

"I got a forfeit, and we lost some matches we shouldn't have, so it was a good experience to learn from and put a chip on some shoulders," Vargas said.

After this duel, the team still has several matches facing them before they compete in both the conference and national matches. The team

is taking each match as a learning experience to continue building on the immense success they have found.

"It's a bit too early in the year to gauge how much progress I've made, but as a team, we've made lots of improvements and brought in a lot of good recruits so I'm excited to see what the rest of the season will bring," Vargas said.

With several upcoming matches this week, the team has the opportunity to show their conference the talents they have. These performances will allow the Tigers to show their true abilities of training.

"The team wants to go and make a statement about the difference in levels between us and the rest of the teams in the GPAC," Vargas said.

With so many opportunities to showcase in the coming week, the team wants to see their teammates competing at the best level they possibly can.

"All I care about is each guy wrestling hard for seven minutes and trusting their abilities," Vargas said.

The Wrestling team will compete in two duels against both Northwestern College and Briar Cliff University on Dec. 1 in Sioux City, Iowa.

They will then compete on Dec. 4 at home in the

Conner Oppenheim Doane Open.

## Athlete of the Week



**Maddie Davis**

**Women's Basketball**

had a team high of four assists in the game against Morningside University



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## Scoreboard Snapshot

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

November 23 @ HOME

6:00 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

MORNINGSIDE  
**68-91**

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

November 23 @ HOME

7:45 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

MORNINGSIDE  
**67-82**

### MEN'S WRESTLING

November 23 @ HASTINGS, NEB.

7:00 versus HASTINGS COLLEGE

TIGERS  
**27-9**

November 26 @ SIOUX FALLS, S.D.

7:00 versus AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY

AUGGIES  
**57-67**

November 27 @ WAYNE, NEB.

3:30 versus WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

TIGERS  
**76-72**

## Next week for Tiger Athletics

### MEN'S WRESTLING

December 1 @ SIOUX CITY, I.A.

5:30 versus NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

7:00 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

December 1 @ HOME

9:00 CONNER/OPPENHEIM DOANE OPEN

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

December 3 @ JAMESTOWN, N.D.

6:00 versus UNIVERSITY OF JAMESTOWN

December 4 @ MITCHELL, S.D.

2:00 versus DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

December 3 @ JAMESTOWN, N.D.

7:45 versus UNIVERSITY OF JAMESTOWN

December 4 @ MITCHELL, S.D.

3:45 versus DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



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