

the doane
OWL
Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Steve Rasmussen speaks at the naming ceremony of C. Donald Brodie Hall. See below for more.

New hall honors C. Donald Brodie



Photo by John Dawes | The Doane Owl

Sophomore Harper Case gives a speech about her experience living in Brodie Hall.

JOHN DAWES
Sports Editor

On May 10, Doane University officially unveiled the name of the newest residential hall. Doane President Roger Hughes and former president of institutional advancement at Doane and Aspen Philanthropy Group CEO Roger Sheffield worked together to pull a banner down, revealing the name for the residence hall, C. Donald Brodie Hall.

C. Donald Brodie was a former Doane trustee and served on the Doane Board of Trustees from 2000 to 2017. Brodie's donation was upwards of 20 million and is the largest donation of mon-

ey anyone has made towards Doane University. The donation was made through his estate, as he passed away in Markham, Ontario, in 2022 at the age of 88 years old. Cora Brodie, his sister, was unable to attend the event. Sheffield represented the estate at the event, as he was a close friend of the family.

Hughes and Sheffield were speakers at the event. Other speakers included Board of Trustees members Susan Fritz and Steve Rasmussen and sophomore and Brodie Hall resident Harper Case, who spoke about her experience living in the hall. Trustee Rev. Jim Keck also led attendees in a blessing of Brodie Hall

to help make the hall a home.

"Don was deeply invested in ensuring the success of each and every student. He believed that a Doane education empowered individuals to make a meaningful difference in the world," Sheffield said about Brodie during the naming ceremony.

After the naming ceremony, attendees were treated to refreshments and snacks and the Doane administration and trustees had dinner. All suites and rooms are currently full in Brodie Hall. Students interested in moving into the hall must wait for a potential room opening at the end of the Fall semester.

Travel abroad with the English Dept.

KYLIE HUGHES
Editor-in-Chief

The English Department is actively planning for an upcoming study abroad travel course that students can participate in during May of 2025.

The travel course known as Literature in London will be led by Assistant Professor of Practice in English Melanie Ritzenthaler and will span 10 days from May 20 to May 29, 2025.

This experience will offer students a chance to visit Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, visit the oldest university and see the studio where the "Harry Potter" series was made. Not only will they visit some of these attractions, but students will also learn about London and how it im-

pacts literature and art. "Literature in London will take students through the history of the UK's finest authors, playwrights, and creative contributions," Ritzenthaler said.

Professor of English Brad Johnson said that travel is always enlightening and that this trip in particular will lead to a sense of awe.

"We want students to feel the sense of awe that comes from walking the same neighborhoods as some of the most important figures in history and literature," Johnson said.

Any students in good academic standing who will be currently enrolled in the 2024 to 2025 school year are welcome to attend.

Johnson recommends that students interested have an open mind and

intellectual curiosity. Despite the fact that students will learn a great deal about literature and history, the educational experiences primarily come from eating local food and having conversations with a wide variety of people, according to Ritzenthaler.

To prepare for this trip abroad, students will need to attend some pre-departure meetings in the spring semester. Those interested should also get a jumpstart on getting a passport.

Those who attend this trip will hopefully come away with more than just souvenirs.

"I would love for students to come away with a greater appreciation and understanding of London's literature, art and culture," Ritzenthaler said. "In a more

general sense, I think students can learn a lot about themselves and their place in the world by virtue of a travel abroad experience."

Ritzenthaler also emphasizes that Doane offers a travel scholarship and this trip has extra

costs removed through the travel provider. Therefore, students will get a lot out of this experience for what they are paying.

Any further questions can be directed to Ritzenthaler at melanie.ritzenthaler@doane.edu

or Johnson at brad.johnson@doane.edu.

Students can also find other travel courses or study abroad options by talking with Director of International Programs Tim Burge at timothy.burge@doane.edu.



Photo by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

(Right) Professors Melanie Ritzenthaler and Brad Johnson talk with students about traveling abroad to London at DeStress Fest.

Graduation reminders for the seniors

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Staff Writer

With seniors getting ready to walk across the stage in less than a week, there are a variety of events going on for them. However, it takes a lot of time and preparation to plan such a memorable event.

The team that is responsible for graduation

is the Manager of Event Services, Patty Lavelle and the Event and Conference Coordinator, Brodin Morgan.

"We start coordinating commencement day not just months and weeks in advance," Lavelle said. "Some things, like the 1,800 chairs that are set out for guests, faculty and graduates at not just one, but two ceremonies, must actually be planned for and reserved a full year in

advance."

Lavelle and Morgan are also responsible for planning out the Senior Toast, Honors Convocation, Baccalaureate and the President's Concert. However this year, they had to add two new events: the naming of the New Hall and the President's Residence.

"Throw in a few dozen student graduation parties, end-of-year group celebrations, a mess of

rehearsals and some random meetings and activities, and you can see our heads start to spin around," Lavelle said. "The positive news is that we are constantly reassured by the support, hard work and pride that all of the Doane staff seems to endlessly put forward."

On Thursday, May 16, the graduates will rehearse at 4:30 p.m. to get everything ready for the big day, and following re-

hearsal the graduates will make their way over to President Roger Hughes's new house for their annual Senior Toast at 5:00 p.m.

The Baccalaureate ceremony will be on Friday, May 17 at 4:30 p.m. outside of Robert L. Polk Open Air Theatre, which is on the south side of the New Hall, where Polk will be honored and speak at this event. Following the ceremony, everyone

will make their way over to Heckman Auditorium to watch the Doane Concert Band perform in the President's Concert.

On Saturday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m., the class of 2024 Crete campus will be recognized for their achievements and walk across the stage to receive their diplomas.

Revitalized class at Doane

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
News Editor

Doane's Theatre department is revitalizing a class for next semester. The class is called Scenic Painting and is being taught by Professor Robin McKercher.

The class is offered as a way for students to learn how to paint realistically for set designs or for interior decoration.

"It is mostly geared toward creating scenery and doing Trompe l'oeil work. It's French for 'fool the eye' and it's a technique used for creating wood grains and marble," McKercher said.

The technique is used in film and on Broadway productions so that the production does not have to transfer all the way to a forest. They can paint a realistic forest and have the characters placed in front of it.

"I worked in New York City for ten years[...]

I painted for film and television, and we are talking major motion pictures[...] we had to create things for the film industry that were impossible, even if the camera was inches away from the surface, to tell that it was a painted surface," McKercher said.

Although the class is in the theater department, it is not offered to only theater students.

"It's just a course that's open to the entire school population, and from someone who worked in the industry, someone who knows how to 'fool the eye' and there are definitely techniques that can be used in theater, but there are also techniques that can be used in like painting your cabinets in a cool way," McKercher said.

There were a lot of inspirations for the course.

"I want to take that skillset that I learned in NYC, on shows like 'The Secret Garden,' which

won a Tony Award and then bring them to my students here, in the theater department, but also

in the art department, and anybody who is also just sorta interested in some-

thing that is so unique," McKercher said. The course will be offered in the fall.

Graphic by Laura Ruiz | The Doane Owl

Weather Forecast Wednesday

5/15



High: 71
Low: 54

Thursday

5/16



High: 77
Low: 52

Friday

5/17



High: 84
Low: 58

Saturday

5/18



High: 85
Low: 57

Sunday

5/19



High: 82
Low: 56

Monday

5/20



High: 80
Low: 55

Tuesday

5/21



High: 75
Low: 54

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

Weather data retrieved from weather.com.

Faculty and staff leaving Doane

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
News Editor

There are faculty who are leaving Doane after this semester. This is for a variety of reasons, like an opportunity that they could not pass up, or something of similar nature.

One of these faculty members who is leaving is Professor Nathan Erickson. Erickson is a professor of Sociology

here at Doane and got his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon.

"I am leaving Doane because my wife found a great career opportunity that she couldn't pass up," Erickson said.

There are some different ways that professors will break the news to their students. Some will be forthcoming and just say that they are not coming back and others will soften the blow by

putting breadcrumbs for their students to follow.

"I've been slowly revealing my situation to students since early last fall. I will miss my students very much. They inspired me every single day as intellectuals and as human beings. I am so grateful for my experiences at Doane and for having the opportunity to work with the best sociology colleagues on the planet," Erickson said.

In the case of Erickson, Minnesota is the place where he plans on being.

"We are moving to Pine City, Minnesota, which is a town a little smaller than Crete, about an hour north of Minneapolis. I am very fortunate to find a Visiting Sociology position at Augsburg University in Minneapolis. It's a one-year position with the possibility of renewal depending on Augsburg's

annual budget priorities," Erickson said.

Other faculty members who are leaving the Doane family are Professor Jared List and Assistant Director of Student Recruitment Daniel Maganda.

"Black Mirror" headlines club

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
News Editor

Professor Brad Johnson hosted the first installment of a new series on campus titled "Bookless Book Club." This new club is where members interact with stories in a new way, not through literature but through podcasts, movies and TV Shows.

"Well in the English

Department, we talk a lot about narrative, and how it is not just in books and in plays, but it is all around us. [Professor] Phil [Weitl] talks a lot about the importance of story, so it made sense to us to expand our sense of story beyond the page," Johnson said.

For this first installment, the members of the club watched an ep-

isode from the TV show "Black Mirror," a British Sci-fi Horror series. The episode that the club watched was from the season premiere of season three, titled "Nosedive," the plot is "A woman desperate to boost her social media score hits the jackpot when she's invited to a swanky wedding, but the trip doesn't go as planned," IMDB

said. The episode was picked by Johnson for the social relevance, and also the humor he finds is a good way for people to get involved in the club and want to stay around. In the future, the media that is picked to be watched or listened to by the Bookless Book Club will be voted on by the members.

"Bookless Book Club is just an idea to have the same conversation that we do about books and narrative, just with a larger range of texts," Johnson said, "We talk about stories not in the more traditional sense, but in the Book Club sense, in terms of enjoyment, what we did or did not like, and what we found compelling."

Doane Crime Log

Doane Safety Office reported incidents in their public crime log. Incidents reported up until May 13 include:

- NOTHING TO REPORT SINCE LAST PUBLICATION

Graphic by Laura Ruiz | The Doane Owl

Destress Fest brings relaxation



Photos by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

(Left) Students interact with miniature horses brought to campus as a part of Destress Fest. (Right) Students destress with decorating with Assistant Director of Student Engagement Eden Diehl.

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
News Editor

Doane hosted Destress Fest on May 8. Destress Fest was a way for students to unwind before finals and have a break from their studies.

"Seeing the joy on student's faces when they get the stress out on smash-

ing computers or pet a mini horse, or just forget about school for a second [was my favorite part of Destress Fest]," Assistant Director of Campus Engagement Spencer Munson said.

The event lasted from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and had representatives from almost every department on showcase, handing out things to hopefully

help students relax. The event was hosted by the Student Programming Board (SPB) in conjunction with other organizations on campus.

Some things that were handed out included: mental health reminders, journals, lavender, face masks, yogurt and fruit cups, Krispy Kreme donuts, tiger-paw-shaped ice packs and reusable straws,

amongst other things.

There were also activities for students to partake in as well, including Cornhole, Ax Throwing and a smash space, where students could sign a waiver, pick up a baseball bat and smash a couple of printers, some Mac Desktops, keyboards and a couple of tower desktops.

Students could also

sign up for facials prior to the event as a way to relax.

"Getting all set up in the parking lot and cleaning up about the smash room is kind of a pain but it was worth it right?!" Munson said, "Also everyone on staff is so busy with the Board of Trustees, graduation planning and finals. We are all just spread very thin this time

of year."

The SPB office hopes to make Destress Fest an annual event.

"[We want to make it an annual event] For sure. We have done it twice a year since Covid. It's perfect for pre-finals prep," Munson said.

Seniors wrap up with Senior Week



Photo by Kylie Hughes | The Doane Owl
Students see the ventilation system behind the walls of the Communications Building as part of the Forbidden Tour.

Seniors

honored with donuts, tour, and Canes

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Last week was Senior Week, where seniors were able to participate in a variety of different activities, including the Forbidden Campus Tour, free coffee and donuts and Bar Night which offered free beer, seltzers and Raising Canes.

Senior Payton Detavernier's favorite part of Senior Week was Bar Night, not only because of hanging out with her classmates but also be-

cause of free Raising Canes.

"At Bar Night there was more than just Canes, there were also some raffles, some people won water bottles and [senior] Sydney Bierman won a Polaroid, film and a scrapbook, so it was pretty legit," Detavernier said.

However for senior Dani Avalos, her favorite part was getting free coffee. She explains how she felt many emotions throughout the entire week.

"This was all very bittersweet," Avalos said. "Doane has been a home to me since I got here. I will miss being able to wake up to such a beautiful environment and the community I found here."

After graduation Detavernier is going to re-

turn to Doane to work in admissions and Avalos is going to be an English Teacher's assistant in Mexico.

"I am excited for graduation and knowing that it is only a couple of days away makes me sad but happy at the same time," Detavernier said. "The only thing I am not going to miss is having homework, but that also means I am going to have a lot of free time, which is going to feel weird for a while."

Some final advice from both Detavernier and Avalos is to take advantage of every opportunity you get. But also know that "no" is a great word, set boundaries for yourself, take care of yourself and the community.

TNX officially launched

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
News Editor

The New Xanadu (TNX) hosted a ceremony to unveil the 2024 edition of the magazine. TNX had speakers present their submissions and have faculty members talk about what TNX means to them.

"It feels very odd, having something out there [...] it's a much bigger deal than anything I've ever done, so it is taking some getting used to," junior Jessica Himmelberg said.

Some of the speakers included: Himmelberg, freshman Theo Jones, sophomore Morgan

Craig, Professor Phil Weilt and Professor Brad Johnson. There were around a dozen submissions for TNX this year, and many of the people who submitted to TNX, submitted multiple times.

"[Balancing TNX and Shotgun sports] was surprisingly easy for me, because they are two things that I care about a lot so I always know that I have to make time for both of these," Himmelberg said.

The big worry for Himmelberg and Craig was getting the emotion that the submitters had when writing the stories and giving respect to that commitment to have it published.

"[The inspiration for my editor's note was] just me wanting to show other people how grateful I am for trusting me with their work because I know that the editor's note was very personal [...] and having all of these other people giving me these stories that are so personal and touching and deep, a lot of inspiration came from that honor," Himmelberg said.

TNX's 2024 magazine can be found on their website, mytnx.com/ what and scrolling down to the middle of the page. Another way to access the magazine is by email, as it was emailed to the student body.

Quiet Hours

began Friday, May 3, at 10 pm, and will continue through May 17.

Please be mindful of students studying late at night.

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Post your picture on instagram and tag @doaneline or DM us your picture for a chance to be featured!

Questions? Contact kylie.hughes@doane.edu

Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl

May 14- 19

weekly calendar

Tuesday
No Scheduled Events

Wednesday
No Scheduled Events

Thursday
Graduation Rehearsal-4:30-Presidents New Residence
Senior Toast & Reception-5:00
End of Spring Semester



Friday
Honors Convocation-1:00-Heckman
Baccalaureate Ceremony-4:30-Polk
Open Air Theater
Presidents Concert-7:30- Heckman

Saturday
Commencement-2:00-Cassel

Sunday
No Scheduled Events

Graphic by John Dawes | The Doane Owl

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WE ARE HIRING

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- WRITERS
- PHOTOGRAPHERS
- GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

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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: Kylie Hughes, Cassie Kessler, Elenna Koenig, Johnathan Schmidt and John Dawes.

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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 courtesy of John Dawes

- Editorial -

Good luck class of '24

The end of the year is already here. It has been a rollercoaster of emotions for most, lots of highs and lots of lows as well, and we hope that the highs have been higher than the lows.

To the graduating class of 2024, a full congratulations is in order. The last four years have surely been a struggle, it would not be worth doing if it was not.

But congratulations, in your future careers, shoot for

the stars, do the things that you want to and the things you need to. It's about balance, graduates, as the trickling waters of life that have been coming down drop by drop will finally explode into a flood of responsibility and it's up to you to balance what you want and what you need.

To everything that you want to do in your career, have faith in your own abilities, and you will be fine. You are more extraordinary

than you give yourself credit. So look inward for what goals you want to achieve in life, and you will surely reach them.

Always remember, the hardest parts of your career are going to be the first steps, that first leap of faith, that first job interview. We would also like to hope that all of the relationships that you have built up in your four years at Doane last a lifetime, as friends are the people that remind

you of you.

Along with the friendships that you have built up in your time here, we hope that the professional relationships with your teachers and members of faculty persist past here. Half the reason to go to college is to build relationships that are mutually beneficial and last a lifetime.

Be everything that you want to be in life, and never stop chasing after your goals.

People watching in the Library



JOHN DAWES
Sports Editor

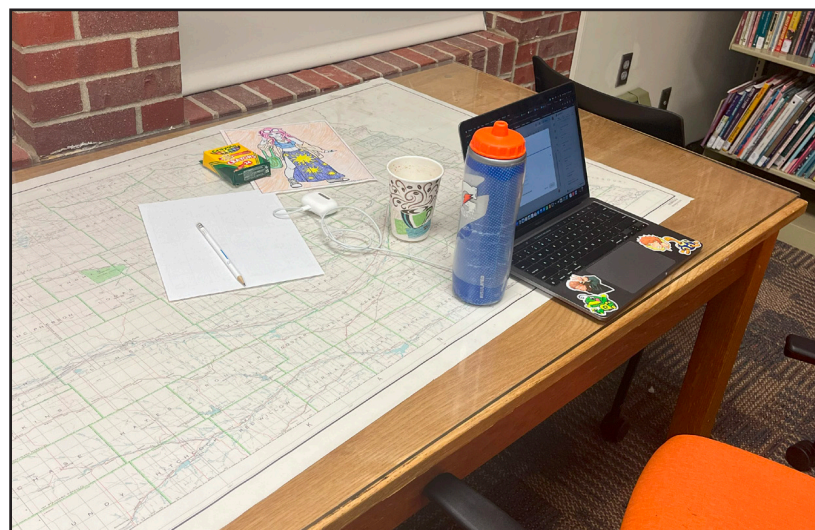


Photo by John Dawes | The Doane Owl

The "Map Table" is where Dawes spends a majority of his time studying and doing homework when his normal studying spot is taken

It's the final week of school and as expected, everyone is cramming assignments, finishing presentations and preparing for tests. With the pressure of finals looming, the library has seen an influx of students, each hoping and praying they pass their classes.

As someone who has logged an insane amount of hours in the library, both this semester and last semester finals week and the weeks leading up to it are some of the most interesting, as the dynamic of the library changes drastically. Here are a couple of things I've been noticing as a self-proclaimed "library merchant." (Merchant is slang for someone who is noted for a stated type of activity or behavior)

The first is the obvious. There are a ton of new people frequenting the 'brary. As with any place, there are the regulars, people who swing by the library at certain

times, have specific spots, study or do homework for a certain amount of time, and then leave. The closer it gets to finals, there's a very gradual influx of people. Oftentimes, you will see a group project anxiously scrambling together their final project, or you will see someone frantically practicing their presentations in the study rooms. The new people at the library often bring an air of tension and panic.

The second thing I noticed was that the new spots people normally take up are thrown for a loop with the influx of new people in the library. Normally, the library regulars all have their spots, a specific table, or a study room that they can call home. Of course, when you introduce dozens of people into the library, someone is bound to take your spot as

they don't know the general seating patterns of people who typically go to the library.

I had a spot over by the backside stairwell that I'd studied at for hours. I might've tallied up enough hours to have several days spent at that table. But during finals week, I can always bet someone takes that spot as it's close to the whiteboards that STEM students use to go ballistic on during finals week. Because of that, I have a backup spot, the hidden "Map Table" tucked away at the end of the library downstairs. This is a spot only a few dedicated students study at and it's often occupied by either one of my teammates or my brother.

The final thing I noticed was how much faster the coffee went out. I am

incredibly reliant on that Fulgers dirt water, and it seems like the coffee is out of order every other minute. Of course, it makes sense why more people at the library are drinking coffee to ride a caffeine buzz.

I know it sounds like I am gatekeeping the library (if you can even gatekeep a building on a college campus), but it's fun seeing new faces at the library. This is my favorite building on campus and I hope more students not only come visit it but become library regulars as well. Make it a habit to come visit the library next semester through-out the entire year. Find your little studying spot, build good study habits to avoid cramming and become reliant on the library coffee.

Correction:

In the May, 7, 2024 issue of the Owl in the story "Student honor heritages" the Owl said "teachers in each respective program vote on who the most deserving students are..." Faculty do not select students for the honor societies. Each national/international honor society sets its specific academic criteria, and the Registrar's Office provides a list of the students who meet the criteria. Also, in that article Nathan Erickson was called a Assistant Professor, he is an Associate Professor and Jared List completed his 11th year at Doane, not his fifth as stated in the article

2024

class of

CONGRATULATIONS!

GRADUATION REMINDERS:

- Rehearsal is Thursday, May 16 at 4:30 p.m.
- Senior Toast is Thursday is Thursday, May 16 at 5:00 p.m.
- Baccalaureate ceremony is Friday, May 17 at 4:30 p.m.
- Commencement is Saturday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m.

A thank you from the Editor in Chief



KYLIE HUGHES
Editor in Chief

I have spent the last four years of my life and countless hours working for the Owl newspaper. There have been so many highs and lows of being part of this staff but I am thankful for the experiences that I have been given.

I started my journey working for the Owl staff at the very beginning of my freshman year. Creating a newspaper every week in the midst of the COVID pandemic added its own challenges on top of being a new staff member and editor. I distinctly remember having some weeks where the whole editorial staff was quarantined and we had

to make the issues from our rooms on a Facetime call with each other.

From there, I worked as the Life and Culture Editor for three years until this year when I became Editor-in-Chief. I have learned how to work with a range of people. I have had to manage unique personalities and learn how to send repeated emails asking for interviews without hopefully being too annoying. I genuinely think that being able to talk about some of these experiences, among others, in recent job interviews helped me to land the job I currently have after graduation.

Despite my ups and downs with this paper, it will always hold a special place in my heart. The staff members when I first joined were my first friends on campus and it gave me something to always look forward to each week.

Through this position, I learned the importance of the truth and reporting that. Although to many, this may be a student-lead newspaper for a small university in Nebraska but it does matter. Some stories may be just about

upcoming student events but others are so much more than that. They give insights into student and faculty lives and concerns. They depict what matters to students. It is always exciting to open the newspaper to see a picture of yourself or your friends at an event.

Everything that I learned being part of this staff was impacted by so many people.

First I would like to thank the previous Editor-in-Chief and staff for helping me grow into the position that I have now and the writer that I am today. In the same vein I would also like to thank the current staff despite the fact that they sometimes drive me crazy, they worked with me through highs and lows, good ideas and bad ideas.

I also want to thank the countless people who responded to my emails, set up interviews, sent me courtesy pictures and responded to my frantic last minute article requests.

Not only are those who responded to my various emails and text messages for the Owl in need of being thanked but also the people who have support-

ed the newspaper for the past four years. Specifically, the people who supported and advocated for the newspaper when the budget and staff members' paychecks were slated to be cut during the prioritization process deserve to be thanked.

Everyone who reads the newspaper week after week also means so much to me and all of the other staff members.

Finally, I would like to thank and give so much credit to the Owl advisor Eric Tucker. Not only has he been a rock of support and insight but he is also one of the most caring people that I have ever met. Not only was the Owl staff lucky to get him back but I was lucky to be able to work with him week after week.

With all of the support that the Owl has from Eric and so many students and faculty at Doane, I have high hopes for the future of this newspaper. I have no doubt in my mind that next year's staff will do an amazing job and John Dawes will be an excellent Editor-in-Chief. I will always be rooting you all on and reading every week.



Photo by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

Hughes holds the Owl's mascot "Ollie Kyler" at her last 'Owl Night' as editor in chief

Hot Takes; Ranking favorite sharks



CASSIE KESSLER
Managing Editor

The end. Fin. The finale. The final chapter. Whatever you want to call it, welcome to the final hot takes (unless someone takes it over next year). I would love for Joey Winton's creation to live on for the next 100 years and it's been a pleasure to take this column over.

For the final one, I couldn't decide whether or not to do something sentimental or do something utterly wacky or maybe just go scorched earth on everyone. Quite frankly, none of these initially stood out to me and I debated on not even doing a hot take, rather saying my goodbyes. But

alas, I couldn't do that to all the dedicated readers who live and die by hot takes.

So I racked my brain for things I'd want to talk about this summer but wouldn't have the chance to and a national holiday popped into mind. Shark Week. And after I thought of that, I couldn't resist.

Now there are approximately 126 different species of sharks, so we're not going to look at all of them. Instead, I will provide you with my top five sharks. Let's dive in. (Get it? Dive? Like water? Where the sharks live? Holy hell that's funny.)

Whale Shark: I abso-

lutely love the "gentle giant" trope in just about anything, wildlife included. (I'm pretty sure that's why I love giraffes so much.) These amazing creatures are miracles in my opinion. They're so giant but so graceful and the fact they're typically spotted makes them even cooler.

Hammerhead: I'm going to look past the whole "one-of-the-deadliest-creatures" thing and just appreciate the Hammerhead as a feat of nature. Why does its head look like that? I'm sure I could Google the answer and get a very easy-to-understand answer, but I think

the mystery of its looks is part of what I find so appealing.

Lemon Shark: Truly a shark after my own nature. These sharks only hang out in tropical waters where it's nice and warm. One of the coolest things about these sharks, in my opinion, is that the mothers do not lay eggs like most sharks. They give birth to a little baby shark in shallow waters and then continue to return to that area to take care of their baby. Adorable, right?

Black Tip Reef Shark: I'm a big fan of this shark for similar reasons I love the whale shark. Primar-

ily, I love their blackfin. Their dorsal fin (or the one on top) has a little black tip you can identify them by and I just think that's so neat. Neat!

Nurse Shark: We've all heard the saying that sharks have to stay moving or they'll die. What I love about this one is that they just don't care and proceed to rest on ocean floors all the livelong day. It's just the juxtaposition of one of the deadliest creatures chilling and napping on the floor that I find so appealing.

How to write an op/ed like Johnathan



JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
Staff Writer

My opinion pieces have been notoriously dense and left field, meaning that it does not follow the typical expectations for what an opinion piece would be for a newspaper. This leaves editors and readers in confusion as to what gets

me down these roads.

Typically, when I write an opinion piece, I have read a book or had an idea presented to me that really strikes a chord with me and I find myself thinking about that idea or that book. That fascination makes me turn on and repeat a new song I have found (For this issue it is "Come to Me" by the Goo Goo Dolls, an amazing song) and I just start writing about my thoughts about the subject.

This process creates unique opinion pieces that comment on things like the human condition or it can be about the books or movies that I like. Either way, it's a grab bag of ideas that do not flow together in any sense of the word, but I

hope that it's at least interesting what I will say any given week.

Since this is the last issue of the year, I was wanting to write about something that speaks to something, but nothing came to me, so I went metatextual and wrote about writing opinion pieces. And my last message for the semester is: I hope you all have enjoyed reading my opinion pieces this year and I hope you all stick around for next year.

Also, I hope you all do well on your finals, and for the graduating class, I hope that you have all the success you want in your life and everything that you want to do. You are capable of anything, no doubt about it.

...Thumbs UP

Sharks	👍👍👍👍👍
Coriander	👍👍👍👍👎
Cheeto Puffs	👍👍👍👍👎

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

Votes are simply impulse responses open to interpretation with no context.

Thumbs DOWN...

Esports to national championship

JOHN DAWES
Sports Editor

Concluding their inaugural season, the Doane eSports Rocket League team finished their postseason run as the national runner-up in the National Esports Collegiate Conference, losing to Ithaca College 2-4 on May 3.

For many teams, their inaugural season is often filled with challenges. There is a new coach, new training and a lack of chemistry or trust be-

tween athletes and competition can be daunting. However, Doane's Rocket League team is not one of those teams as the team found success almost immediately.

Senior Garrett Scheet, junior Braden Lackey and sophomore Winston Sears composed the national qualifying team and were all together on the Doane Men's Soccer team. The three already had chemistry built up from competing on the pitch so translating it to Rocket League wasn't a challenge.

"I think our chemistry is probably the biggest part of our game. We have all known each other and played soccer here for at least two years, so just the friendship aspect made things really fun all the time," Sears said. "In addition to my teammates being really good at Rocket League, I think just having that sixth sense of knowing where we all are on the field at any time just lets us be successful."

Doane's Rocket League team used that established chemistry

and connection to dominate the regular season with a perfect record of 7-0 and a top spot in the Midwest B region. Doane won the region and secured a bid into the national tournament, which they rode all the way to a national championship match and national runner-up. Despite this being their first season, the team knew that they could compete nationally and make a run for the national championship.

"Garrett was asking about playoffs after our

first week of matches, so I think he always knew we were good enough, and that just gave me the confidence and motivation to know that if we didn't make nationals, we would be falling short of our potential," Sears said. "In terms of being a first-year program I felt no pressure from that. There was a lot of talk and surprise because it was our first year and we kind of came out of nowhere, but we all knew that we were the best team. It didn't matter that it was our first sea-

son, we knew we were the better team and that we should win these matchups, which was the case."

The Doane Rocket League team looks to continue the success they had last season and repeat as region champions as well as make another run at the national championship. The schedule for Doane Esports has not been posted yet, but it will be posted at <https://www.doaneathletics.com/sports/esports/2023-24/schedule>.

Baseball falls in championship game

Team looks ahead to NAIA national championships

CASSIE KESSLER
Managing Editor

Last week, the Doane Baseball team was in Seward, Nebraska to play against Concordia University in the Great Plains Athletic Conference Championship game. Unfortunately, being on the road took its toll on the Tigers and they dropped the final

game to the Bulldogs.

Things got off to a slow start for both teams, as neither was able to bring in a run during the first or second inning. Scoring finally started in the third inning thanks to two runs driven in by Concordia to put them up 2-0.

The Bulldogs took the fourth inning off and the Tigers put themselves on the board in the fifth inning with one run, cutting Concordia's lead in half. However, the Bulldogs struck back in the bottom of the fifth inning with two more runs to go up 4-1.

Neither team brought in any runs during the sixth or seventh inning as defense for both teams was impeccable. In the eighth inning, Concordia brought in another run to secure their lead 5-1. Doane fought back but was unable to score anymore, dropping the final game

in the series 5-1.

The Baseball team looks for redemption in the opening round of the NAIA National Championship. The Tigers will host the University of Sciences and Arts of Oklahoma in Lincoln, Nebraska on May 13.

Student athlete sets high standards

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Staff Writer

From a young age, not a lot of people know what they want to do during their lifetimes, especially when it comes to sports. For sophomore Cristelle Rodriguez, she knew she wanted to be a wrestler.

"When I was younger, I used to watch my older brother wrestle, and it fascinated me," Rodriguez said. "I asked my dad several times if I could join in, but he said it was a sport for guys. One day, my brother needed a practice partner, and the coach asked if I could help out as a practice dummy and surprisingly, my dad agreed, and that moment marked the be-

ginning of my journey in wrestling."

Rodriguez also explains how wrestling has taught her resilience and the importance of perseverance, and even when things get tough, to push through and pursue her goals relentlessly.

"Wrestling has been instrumental in helping me overcome various challenges in life,"

Rodriguez said. "It has instilled in me the belief that with dedication and hard work, I can achieve anything I set my mind to."

Rodriguez is a Cadet Silver World medalist, a two-time California State Champion, a two-time National Champion, a two-time World Team member, an NAIA All-American and Scholar All-Ameri-

can and placed fourth in the U.S. Olympic Team Trials. Rodriguez's goal is to represent the United States on an Olympic Team and is also working towards becoming a world champion in September.

"I am grateful for everyone who believed in me during a time when I doubted myself," Rodriguez said. "They know who they are, and their unwavering support has played a significant role in reigniting my passion for wrestling and achieving everything I have accomplished so far. Along with that Doane has also provided me with ample support. They have consistently shown kindness and generosity whenever I've needed assistance with anything."

However, when Rodri-



Photo by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

Pictured during a dual against York College, sophomore Cristelle Rodriguez easily dominates her opponent as one of the best in her age and weight class.

guez is not in the weight room or on the mat she is making time for her studies. Rodriguez is an

Exercise Science major with a minor in Management. Rodriguez wants to become a crane oper-

ator who is involved in constructing skyscrapers and a variety of other projects.

Scoreboard Snapshot

BASEBALL

May 7 @ SEWARD, NEBRASKA

versus CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

BULLDOGS
1-5

ESPORTS

May 3 @ twitch.tv/doaneesports

versus ITHICA COLLEGE

BOMBERS
2-4

Athlete of the Week



Zach Turner
Track & Field

ran a time of 13.89 in the finals to win the the 110m hurdles, beating three NCAA Division II runners.



Graphic by Kendall Meyer | The Doane Owl