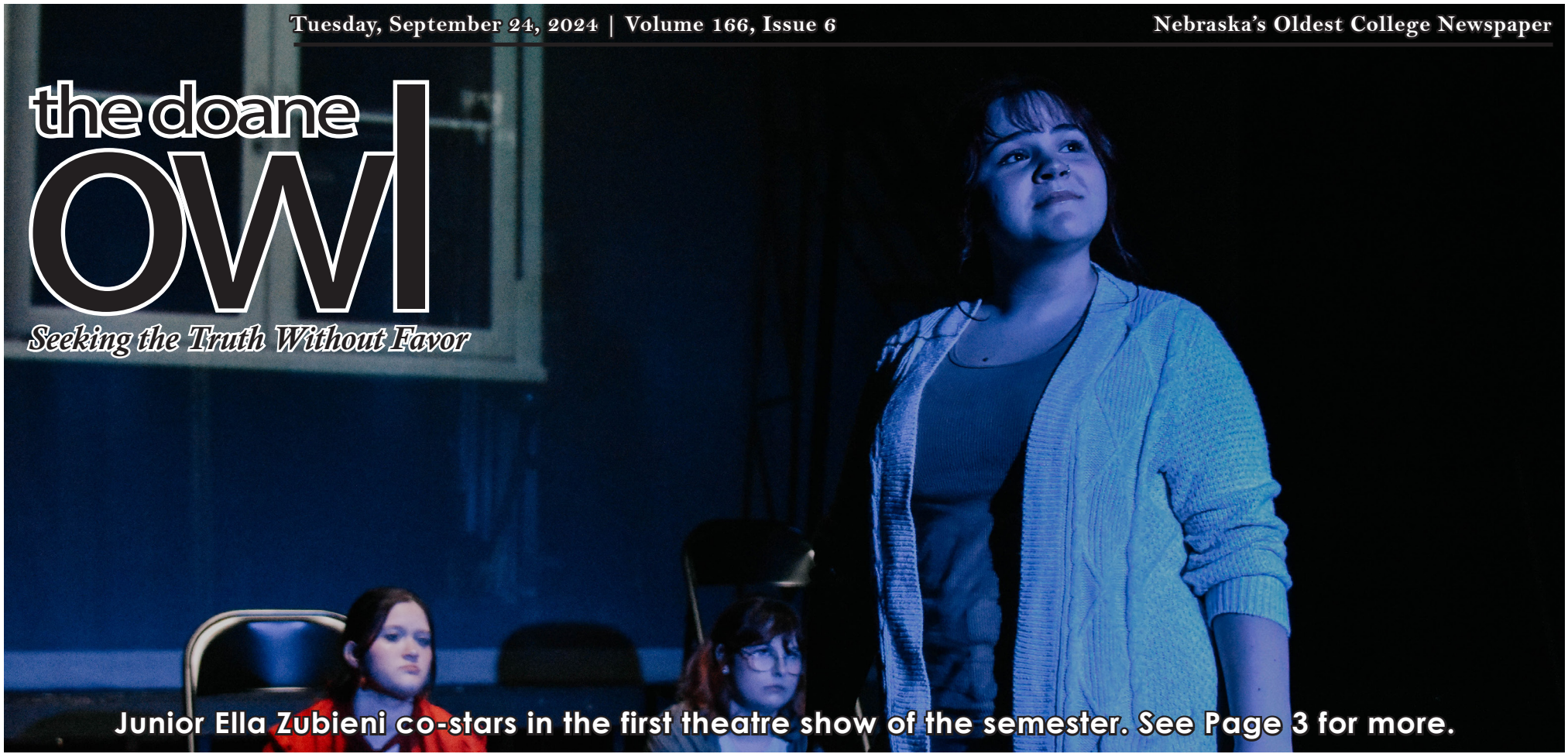


the doane OWL

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Junior Ella Zubieni co-stars in the first theatre show of the semester. See Page 3 for more.

Shootings worry would-be teachers

JOHN DAWES
Editor-In-Chief

There have been at least 50 school shootings in the United States so far this year as of Sept. 19. 37 of those have happened at K-12 schools, according to Gun Violence Archive, Education Week and Everytown for Gun Safety. One of these shootings includes the shooting at Omaha's Northwest High School on Sept. 11.

The threat of violence at schools has weighed on students, teachers

and families' minds for decades, but for the next generation of teachers, it is something that might sway their decision to be a teacher in the first place.

"I have had an experience with school safety being compromised. Last year, I worked with CCLC and we had a "fake" shooting. (a student made a threat of a school shooting after stealing a walkie-talkie) Students were still afraid and wanted to leave school forever.

"The main thing that went through my mind was how to protect these kids and myself with a chair. I was holding a chair, ready to launch it at the door," sophomore

and future second-grade teacher Makenna Armstrong said.

Even the threat of a shooting puts staff and students in fight-or-flight mode especially when school shootings are on the rise. 2021, 2022 and 2023 are some of the deadliest years for school shootings, with record deaths and record shootings since school shootings have been recorded.

"It hasn't swayed my commitment to teaching. This has been an issue since forever and I know the risk I'm getting involved in. It does scare me, though, that I'm going into a profession that shouldn't require me to worry about my safety on

a daily basis," Armstrong said.

More than 60% of teachers say they worry about a mass shooting occurring at their schools, according to a 2018 survey by the National Education Association. These stressors have resulted in teachers quitting at an alarming rate and can steer students away from the profession altogether.

Nebraska has not reported any school shootings since the Omaha Northwest High School shooting on Sept. 11; however, threats of violence against schools are a common occurrence, with many of these threats going unreported.

For More information visit this link: <https://web.doane.edu/offices-services/student-services/student-health/counseling>

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Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl

Hispanic pride is strong at Doane

AILEEN RUEDA
Staff Writer

"At the end of the day, we can endure much more than we think we can," Frida Kahlo said; it is a reminder of power and resilience. Hispanic Heritage Month, celebrated from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, honors the achievements and contributions of the Hispanic community, highlighting figures like Ellen Ochoa, the first Hispanic woman in space, and Cesar Chavez, a pivotal human rights activist.

These are only a few examples of the courageous individuals who have shaped Hispanic heritage. From artists and activists to scientists and leaders, their contributions have enriched our communities and inspired generations. Their stories remind us of the strength, resilience, and creativity within the Hispanic community, celebrating not just their achievements but also the

vibrant culture that continues to thrive today.

At Doane, we have our very own Hispanic leaders. Carlos Palacios is an academic advisor on the academic affairs team, while Luis Sotelo is the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Gwendolyn Lopez handles accommodations at the Academic Success Center (ASC), and Jovanny Chavez also works in the ASC and is involved in the TRIO program. Chavez and Palacios sat down and took time to highlight his heritage and his contribution to Doane. Born and raised in South Omaha, NE, Chavez comes from a prominent Latino community, with both of his parents hailing from Mexico.

"I like referring to myself as Chicano; a Chicano is an American of Mexican origin or descent," Chavez said.

He faced many challenges growing up, with stereotypes being the most significant. Despite this, he remained proud of his identity.

"It has been important for me to embrace my

identity while striving to break down barriers and stereotypes through positive actions and interactions," Chavez said.

Chavez uses his heritage and the obstacles he encountered as motivation in his work at Doane.

"My parents always worked hard and emphasized the importance of education and developing practical skills. Neither of them completed high school, and college was never really discussed at home," Chavez said.

Now, he dedicates himself to helping first-generation students who face similar challenges, providing them with the support he once received.

Chavez is inspired by Sylvia Mendez, who is a civil right activist. He is inspired by her for her activism and determination to fight against segregation in schools.

"Her story is a powerful reminder of the importance of standing up for what is right and working towards a more just and inclusive society," Chavez said.

Chavez had some

advice for Hispanic students pursuing education and their future careers is to stay true to oneself and embrace your cultural identity.

"Seek out mentors and role models who can provide guidance and support, and don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. Stay focused on your goals, work hard, and take advantage of the resources available to you. Remember that your unique perspective and experiences can be valuable assets in your education and career pursuits," Chavez said.

For Chavez, Hispanic Heritage Month plays a crucial role in promoting cultural awareness and understanding. He believes it offers an important opportunity for people from all backgrounds to learn about the contributions and achievements of Hispanic individuals throughout history.

Palacios was born in Guanajuato, Mexico. Palacios immigrated to the U.S. with his family when he was just two years old. Palacios was raised in Lexington, NE.

"My parents did their

best to keep our Mexican heritage and culture alive by celebrating birthdays and holidays and by ensuring we all spoke both languages," Palacios said.

Growing up, Palacios faced many challenges, including experiences of racism and prejudice. He learned from his older siblings to stay true to the character which was instilled to them by his parents.

"It's been an ongoing battle throughout my life, so I wouldn't say I've ever completely overcome the trauma. However, the more I've educated myself and listened to others' experiences, the better I am at managing it," Palacios said.

Despite these struggles, Palacios is proud of who he is and his origins.

"I love being Mexican. I take great pride in where I come from and cherish my Hispanic culture and community," Palacios said.

For him, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the beauty of that culture. Palacios aspires to be a role model for stu-

dents, demonstrating that anything is possible with hard work and dedication to education. Palacios draws inspiration from his parents' commitment to a better future and his colleague Sotelo, who advocates for equity in education. Palacios is also grateful for his mentor, Moises Padilla, who encouraged him to pursue a career in higher education, emphasizing his potential to make a difference in students' lives. Carlos advises others never to be afraid to ask for help, whether academically or emotionally.

"Siempre recuerden la razón por la que están aquí, sigan adelante y siempre recuerden: ¡Si se puede," Palacios said.

To conclude, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates not only those who have made notable public contributions but also the countless individuals whose efforts often go unrecognized. This month is a reminder to honor and appreciate the rich cultural heritage and the everyday contributions that shape our community.

Bettina Love enlightens Crete

ZAINAB AL-ZUBIADI
Student Writer

Author and educator, Dr. Bettina Love, delivered a presentation at Doane University on Saturday.

At Doane's Crete campus, Dr. Love was welcomed at Heckman Auditorium to speak on her new book "Punished for Dreaming" and to talk about her advocacy work, on Sept. 21 from 12:30 to 2 pm. The event was open to Doane students and staff, as well as many teachers from outside districts. The event was free to attend.

Dr. Love delivered a verbal presentation on the importance of her work in the education system. She also provided historical context that explains the covert racism that still remains within it. Her presentation was accompanied with visual aid by the use of various pictures and videos.

A main point of Dr. Love's presentation was the unproductive focus on removing resources and classes from various schools' curricula.

"Schools are too busy banning books," Dr. Love said. She emphasized the importance of literature from diverse perspectives, and that getting rid of

them is not where administrators' focus should be.

The event was open to Doane students and staff, and many others attended the presentation as well. An educator at Lincoln North Star High School, Abby Kutscher was also in attendance.

"I was so engaged with the presentation. Dr. Love is an amazing author and speaker. We are so honored to have the opportunity to be here today," Kutscher said.

To make this event possible, Doane University partnered up with the Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) as well as Doane College of Education.



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl

DEI hosts Bridging the Gap session

AMANI MUISYO
Staff Writer

On Sept. 22, Doane Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) hosted a Bridging the Gap session. Bridging the Gap—Interfaith America is an organization that visits colleges across the country to teach students how to listen and communicate effectively. Assistant

Director of Residence Life, Emily Hand and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Specialist Wendy Huntsmann led the event, which had around 24 students participating.

The four-hour session was structured into four main parts: understanding why you were attending, learning to listen, sharing your story and resolving conflict. Hand explained that the events

are "intended to help safely bridge the gap between the divisions."

Each module had tasks that encouraged students to engage with one another, discussing their identities and life experiences. Many of these conversations required vulnerability and bravery as participants shared personal stories that shaped their lives.

One interesting sta-

tistic shared during the session was that less than 2% of people are taught how to listen. While listening may seem simple, and many people believe they are already skilled at it, the exercises and questions showed participants that listening is an area that often needs improvement.

The goal of the session was not to find common ground, which worked

well, but to provide a space for participants to share their ideas and perspectives.

"We don't all have to agree, but we still need to respect each other," Huntsmann said.

Some of the questions discussed included, "What makes America great?" and "What's something you would change about the world?"

The skills discussed

during the event are valuable for students who want to engage in difficult conversations and learn about different values.

Doane DEI plans to host more Bridging the Gap sessions and mini-curriculums in the spring. Students can also attend Doane Dialogues, which aim to bring conversations on complex topics and share diverse perspectives.

Chaney Nelson discovers her style

GRACE SCHROLLER
Student Writer

Chaney Nelson, a sophomore at Doane University is heavily involved on campus and a student-athlete on the track team, but she also has a passion for fashion and curating outfits.

Nelson started to discover her style during her senior year in high school. She went through different phases and styles but finally decided she wanted people to be able to look at her and know her style. She began adjusting her wardrobe to be targeted towards one specific style.

She describes her current/ personal style as very feminine and girly. She loves to wear a fun patterned sweater with casual jeans or a fun col-

orful pair of bottoms with a plain shirt. For her everyday basis, she'll put together a simple, staple outfit like plain jeans and a plain top to achieve more of a general everyday look for her, and then she'll dress it up with accessories, shoes, and a cool hairstyle.

Chaney's favorite season to dress for is fall. Her favorite piece of clothing to wear during the chilly, brisk season is sweaters. They go with everything and are comfortable for her busy everyday lifestyle. Fall is the perfect time for some layering and she loves to try and add dimension and layers to her outfits.

Nelson doesn't have a favorite fashion trend and tries her best not to follow them and to be herself; however, sometimes, she surrenders and follows the trends. She invests in

staple pieces she knows will be in her closet for years, such as shoes and jeans.

She likes to focus on buying timeless pieces but will use pieces she already has to try out a trend. For example, a recent trend is cutting and modifying crewnecks. She used an older or less-worn crewneck that she already had to make it into something she would likely wear more often as she joined the trend. One of her go-to brands is Shein.

"I'm not ashamed that most of my clothes come from there," Nelson said. "I spend a lot of time reading reviews and comparing similar items to make sure I get the best quality for a good price."

Nelson breaks down the photo on the right. She is excited for the weather feeling slightly

like fall, so she created her outfit around that inspiration. She knew she wanted to wear a sweater and this was one of her new purchases that she had not worn.

Since it was still technically summer when she wore this outfit, she wore one of her lighter sweaters that she wouldn't get too hot in. She originally planned on wearing jeans with it, but she decided she liked her linen pants better.

"I love how it made the outfit more comfy and relaxed looking," Nelson said.

For accessories, she knew that she wanted to throw on a headband because it just "felt right". To accessorize further, she added some bigger jewelry to make it a bit more dressy and make it seem like more of an intentional outfit.



Courtesy photo | Chaney Nelson

Sophomore Chaney Nelson creates an outfit with newly purchased clothing pieces.

Celebrate Crete held at Tuxedo Park

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Tuxedo Park saw an influx of visitors on Sept. 18 as Celebrate Crete kicked off the evening of the 18th. The event, a collaboration between Doane University and the City of Crete, celebrated the town's diverse cultures and people. This was the first year for the event, held in place of the annual Back to School Com-

munity Picnic, which was canceled in early August due to construction at Doane University's Perry Campus Center.

Festivities began at 5 p.m. and featured community tables, inflatable darts, food, music, and entertainment. The City of Crete handed out free t-shirts to the first 500 attendees and provided free bags for all visitors. Community tables showcased local vendors, businesses, and organizations, with items like jewelry, clothing, spices, and trinkets for sale. Public Health

Solutions hosted a teddy bear check-up station, where children could use a stethoscope and other tools to "examine" their bears before taking them home as new friends.

Food options included grilled chicken, tamales, and nachos, all provided free of charge. However, due to the event's popularity, food ran out toward the end, and latecomers were served hot dogs instead. "We underestimated the amount of food," said Stephanie Hemje, Experiential Learning Coordinator at

Doane. The snow cone station was especially popular, with Doane volunteers serving attendees throughout the evening.

Local Crete businesses were joined by the city's police and fire departments. Firefighters parked their truck near the inflatable dartboard, keeping their lights on throughout the event. Doane's mascot, Thomas the Tiger, also made an appearance, even joining attendees on the dance floor.

At 6:30 p.m., dancers from Wilber, Nebras-

ka, performed traditional Czech dances from Czechoslovakia, a highlight of the evening. The dancers, who learned ten traditional routines, typically perform at Wilber's annual Czech festival. Crete Cardinal cheerleaders and the Crete High School band also performed, adding to the local talent showcased.

Although the event was scheduled to run from 5 to 8 p.m., many vendors began packing up early, with Doane volunteers noting that most tables were cleared by 8

p.m. The inflatable dartboard, a crowd favorite, remained up slightly past closing time to allow children a few final turns.

Celebrate Crete was part of the City of Crete's Welcoming Week and a stop on the community passport. Despite the good turnout, it remains unclear whether the event will be hosted again next year. More information about other events and passport activities can be found on the City of Crete's website.

Stuco minutes: new caf & den

LORRAINE CASTAÑEDA
Staff Writer

On Sept. 18, the Student Congress held a meeting in Perry's boardroom to address student concerns, provide campus updates, and continue discussions from the previous week's meeting. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. concluding at 8:18 p.m.

The meeting opened on a note of gratitude, with the Student Congress extending heartfelt thanks to several campus organizations for their

recent contributions to student life. Acknowledgements were given to SPB for their engaging coffee shop series, the Greek Council for organizing a productive study hall, and Active Minds and Health and Wellness for their colorful "Colors for Hope" event. The Congress also recognized ResLife for the successful "Dine O Nine" program and TRIO for fostering connections through their meet and greet event.

The food committee provided several updates promising to revolution-

ize dining options across campus such as the coffee shop now having yogurt Parfaits available to students. As for the Den, they are set on expanding their menu starting Mon., there will be new food options available for students including wraps, Philly cheese steaks, and potentially personal pizzas.

The cafeteria is also preparing exciting changes, these include plans for a daily juice station in order to offer fresh, nutritious beverages, and the introduction of car-

ving stations to elevate the dining experience. The cafeteria will also now allow students to fill their water bottles with water and ice.

And as for mobile ordering, it will be ready anytime soon and Stuco will even be conducting a test run in order to check any issues or bugs that might be present in the service.

Looking ahead, the Congress discussed plans for the upcoming Family Weekend Brunch, scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This event

promises to be a highlight of the weekend, offering an opportunity for students, families, and the university community to come together and strengthen their connections.

In matters of campus maintenance, a brief but significant update confirmed that the showers in Sheldon Hall have been repaired. While seemingly minor, this news highlights the Student Congress's attention to the day-to-day comforts and necessities of student life.

The meeting concluded

at 8:18 p.m. providing updates on various aspects of student life, from dining improvements and campus events to facility repairs. The meeting showcased the Congress's commitment to enhancing both the daily experiences and long-term wellbeing of students. With exciting changes on the horizon, including expanded food options and the upcoming Family Weekend Brunch, the campus community can look forward to a more connected and enriched student

Folk artist performs at Doane

JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
Life & Culture

On Sept. 17, Doane's Student Programming Board, SPB, hosted another installment in its "Coffee Shop Series." This is a series where local musical artists come and perform in Lakeside's coffee shop, there is typically also arts and crafts available to students as well.

In this installment, Doane had artist Swaul Pope, a folk artist who plays both piano and ukulele.

"I'm from Lincoln, NE. but I'm also from wherever my feet are," Pope said.

Pope played a variety

of music, mostly his own original work, but he did have covers of the Paul Simon song, "Call Me Al," and David Bowie's "Space Oddity."

"I would say his genre is Goofball folk or psychedelic folk, I think. You know, when he sings as a bar orchestra, it reminds me of a musician named Beirut... who plays brass instruments but does play folk music... Outside of the term folk, I wouldn't go too far outside of it," Assistant Director of Campus Engagement Spencer Munson said.

The Coffee Shop series at Doane has the magnetic attraction of local artists, usually hailing from Lincoln, and this is due to Munson's own time in

the musical industry.

"He lives in my neighborhood in Lincoln, I've worked on and off in the music scene for years, and Paul [Swaul's real name] has always been kind of a character that's put on really fun shows. What I like about him is that he brings together all sorts of musicians together and does a sort of bar room orchestra, normally...," Munson said.

The Coffee Shop series at Doane happens frequently, and according to Munson, there is a chance for Swaul and the rest of his band to come back to Doane to perform again.



Photo by Johnathan Schmidt | The Doane Owl

Swaul Pope plays his own original music at Lakeside to students and staff.

New to-go option at dining hall

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Doane's Director of Dining Services, Victoria Swanson, has partnered with Fresh Ideas to introduce a new dining option for students, faculty, and staff. As part of Fresh

Ideas "Green-and-Go" program, reusable to-go containers are now available on campus, offering a more sustainable option for those on the move.

The containers can be purchased at the dining hall cashier stand during lunch services for a one-time fee of \$5 each. Multiple containers can be

bought at the same price. However, these containers must be exchanged upon each use. For instance, a container used during a lunch service must be returned for a clean one the next time it's needed.

"Even if an owner has washed their container in between uses, it must be

exchanged due to health code reasons," Swanson said. For those who don't plan to dine in, there's an option to exchange their used container for a token, which can be redeemed for a clean container during their next visit.

While the containers are only sold during

lunch services, they can be used at any dining service without restrictions. Owners can use them for anything from full meals to a side of fries or desserts. The reusable containers became available for purchase on, Sept. 11.

Staff have found the containers convenient for quick lunch breaks

and meetings, while students with tight schedules appreciate the flexibility to eat later or on the go. Student-athletes, in particular, have noted the containers are a more affordable and diverse alternative to the Tiger Den.

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Weekly Horoscopes

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): The things that you thought defined you are the reasons that people resent you.

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): Do the things you need to get done this week, and with some haste.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): Take this week to get back on track with what your goals are.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): Rage forward this week with fierce determination in your heart.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): Take a backseat to let things cool off.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Take some time this week to put things into perspective.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): Nothing lasts forever, not even cold November rain.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): You tried your hardest and things are panning out, keep it up.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): The only thing you should worry about this week is yourself, take stock of what you want to do.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): The only thing that you have to fear, is not being able to achieve your goals.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): People won't change because you insist that they do. Don't stress about how a person is, because you can't control that.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 20): The best thing that you can do for yourself this week is live in the present, while also keeping stock of the future.

Corrections:

We at the Doane Owl work tirelessly to share high quality stories that is accurate, well-informed and truthful.

If we make a mistake that needs to be corrected please email either John Dawes, the editor-in-chief at john.dawes@doane.edu or the Doane Owl at owl@doane.edu



Freshman Kenzie Sanders (Center), sophomore Emily Dominguez (Right) and freshman Frankie McClaren (Left) performing the show "Town Hall"



Photos by Elenna Koeing | The Doane OWL

Freshman Kenzie Sanders (Left) and sophomore Emily Dominguez (Right) performing at Whitman Observatory.

"Town Hall" premieres at Doane

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Staff Writer

"This is not important. This is just a play."

In the dimly lit Whitcomb Lee Conservatory, students junior Ella Zubieni, sophomore Emily Dominguez, freshman Frankie McClaren and freshman Kenzie Sanders stood not on stage, but among the audience, setting the tone for Town Hall, a play performed from Sept. 19 -- 21. The production, starring the four leads, delved into themes of identity, exploring who we are and who we might become

through a blend of dialogues and monologues.

The set was minimal. Part of the theater had been sectioned off, creating an intimate, small-scale seating area with space in the center for the cast, who sat on black foldable chairs. The stage was tiered with scattered props, all of which were used throughout the 90-minute play.

The narrative of Town Hall was nonlinear and abstract, touching on themes such as freedom, sound resonance, faith, sex, memories, loneliness and hope for the future. Simple, everyday topics—bad jokes, cold coffee,

baseball, swimming, cereal, and smiling animals—were also woven into the performance. Characters often begin with a light-hearted story, like receiving a marzipan pig for Christmas, only to transition into reflections on guilt and regret.

Although the audience didn't directly participate in the play, they were referenced throughout and addressed as town council members. The actors frequently engaged with the crowd, making eye contact and gestures and even stepping into the audience during certain moments, creating a sense of familiarity.

The production wasn't flashy. Everything from the staging to the costumes was practical. Where Town Hall excelled, however, was in its use of lighting and the strength of the performances. The chiaroscuro, or stark contrast of lighting, emphasized the cast's features and actions, while subtle shifts in body language added layers of meaning to the dialogue.

At one point, the four actors performed a rendition of "Down to the River to Pray," leading into a discussion on faith and belief. Dominguez reflected on

her enjoyment of singing, and the other characters encouraged her to do it more often as a way to embrace life's little joys. Later in the production, Emily led a chant on war, rhythmically striking a drumstick against a metal ladder to amplify the message.

As the play concluded, each character introduced themselves to one another using their real names, having spent the entirety of the production not knowing each other's names. One by one, they exited the stage, until only Zubieni remained. Bathed in blue light, she was the only character

who had not shared her name.

She recalled a memory she had referenced earlier in the play, saying, "I remember standing at the edge of the pool pretending it was the ocean." After finishing her reflection, she finally introduced herself to the audience.

The performance ended with a standing ovation, marking the close of Town Hall. This is the first of four productions the Doane Theatre Department will stage this year. The next, a musical, is set to premiere in late November.

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Learning to love my natural hair

AMANI MUISYO
Staff Writer

Hair is such an important part of many people's lives, especially Black women's. Over the years, many styles have come in—dreads, perms, wigs and sew-ins. I had a perm in middle school, but I don't think I fully understood what it meant at the time. I just thought it

would make my hair less annoying to deal with in the mornings.

Like many other black women during COVID-19, I decided to do the big chop and start fresh. After cutting my hair, I forgot the annoyance of combing it in the morning and the pain of detangling. So, I started using braids as an alternative. They're easy to take care of and can last

about two months, depending on how well you maintain them.

Now, my two months are up. Here I am in college, without a car, unable to drive to get my hair done. I have no experience with my natural hair and it's time to unraid it and figure out how to maintain it.

I once came across a woman on TikTok who was having a meltdown

because she didn't know how to do her own hair. It's easy to judge and ask, "You're a grown woman, how can you not know how to comb your own hair?" But it's a real challenge, and I can definitely relate. Your arms get tired, it's hard to see the back of your head and no matter how tightly you hold it down, it still comes up on its own. I've spent this entire

week watching YouTube videos of black women with long, thick hair, styling it with ease. I want to learn to love my hair as much as they do. I want my hair to grow, flourish.

Honestly, I'm scared. I've ordered a few products I've never used before—gels, mousse, and sprays—and I'm praying for some divine intervention. I really wish I had learned this sooner, but

I have to remind myself that there's no shame in when or where you start.

I'm learning to love my 4c hair, with all the struggles that come with it. I'm choosing not to see it as a burden, but as a privilege to work with my tight, coiled hair. It defies gravity and shrinks when wet. It shines in the light and gets fluffy in an afro. It's my crown, and I'll wear it proudly on my head.

A preference for Training Dragons



JOHNATHAN SCHMIDT
Life & Culture Editor

In the world of animated movies, there generally stands two pillars: Disney/Pixar and Dreamworks.

Within one of the studios, namely Dreamworks, there exists two movies at the top of the animated movie world, those movies being "Shrek," and the "How to Train Your Dragon" series.

In my opinion, the "How to Train Your

Dragon" movies are far superior to the "Shrek" movies. This is for a myriad of reasons, but the biggest one that I want to bring up first is the tone of the movies.

Both movie franchises are for kids, but what each of the movies bring to the table when it comes to tone is like night and day. In "How to Train Your Dragon," the tone of that movie is refined,

to say that it takes itself seriously, and doesn't break that tone, and the story only benefits from this decision.

"Shrek"'s jokes at being referential to fairy tales does serve to make the audience laugh, and the admittedly witty jokes that you don't get until a decade after watching it makes the writing in that way superb. But these jokes only go so far in the

plot as the characters are compelling, and if I am being honest, Shrek isn't that compelling of a character.

This is probably me being a snob about my movies and my characters, but for me, Shrek is a character who serves as little more than somebody who is just meant to be funny. By contrast, Hiccup in "How to Train Your Dragon," is an in-

credibly compelling character because of the relatable struggles he goes through, of wanting to be someone, be something, and have everything and everybody else in your life is contradictory to that desire.

Tldr; "How to Train Your Dragon" is better than "Shrek."

The ebb-and-flow of momentum



JOHN DAWES
Editor-in-Chief

can't catch a break, or at least you perceive that you can't catch one. I call this "mental momentum."

The term is pretty straightforward: you perceive your current momentum in life as either moving towards something positive or feel like you're slipping, losing control of everything around you. When the momentum is positive, it seems like you can do no wrong; you can take risks, push your luck, you feel like nothing can go wrong. When the momentum is negative, you feel like you're stuck in the mud, with a constant dread that no amount of hard work or luck can pull you out.

What sets the direction of the mental momentum

can be entirely random. A conversation, workout, assignment, or test can set the tone for a day, week, month, or even year. This mental momentum is exacerbated by a society prioritizing instant gratification and wallowing. Companies, products and media are constantly trying to get us either hooked on dopamine or in mental anguish. It's a constant ricochet between extremes and it's mentally taxing.

When everything is good, you try to chain momentum together until you crash and burn. When momentum is negative, you continue to bury yourself in guilt, shame and self-destructive behavior. What we need and what I am try-

ing to practice is something in the middle: acceptance.

When things are bad, I trust karma will swing back towards the middle, so I recognize what happens in the moment and then do what I can to get back on track. Mental momentum can always be redirected. If my momentum is bringing me somewhere negative, rather than let it wash over, I try to redirect it in whatever way I can. Your thoughts are like a river; if you change the direction of the river bed, the water will follow. It means treating myself when I am down on my luck, reaching out when things are out of my control, or just verbalizing my feelings out loud.

The same applies to positive momentum. If something positive happens, rather than just blindly celebrating, I try to lay the groundwork for the performance to repeat, no matter how good or bad my momentum is the next time I do it. If I do well on a workout, then I need to sleep and eat well. If an assignment goes well, I can't cheat my studying and stop trying.

More importantly, I try to avoid overindulging. I am always writing or talking about how I am doing to myself, and I can feel exactly where my momentum is going. Instant gratification makes you addicted to overstimulating yourself, and so you become addicted to

preserving your momentum, good or bad. Sometimes, the best thing you can do is just sit down without distractions and think aloud.

Momentum is tricky to control, especially because it's always moving. But if you let your mental momentum outpace you, you'll just get dragged along for the ride. But momentum is something you can control. You can captain the ship and decide where you're headed. More importantly, you can control when you need to stop, because that's the best thing you can do sometimes. Not every thought needs to be followed to completion.

A comparative look at salaries

LUIS REJANO CANDAU
Staff Writer

One thing is evident when comparing average salaries across the United States and European nations: American workers often make more money. The average salary in the United States is constantly higher than that of other European countries; in Spain, for example, the average salary is approximately €27,000 per year, while in Germany, even wealthier than Spain, the average salary is approximately €45,000. On the other hand, the average salary in the USA is around \$60,000, more than twice that of Spain.

Why then do incomes in America tend to be higher? The free-market economy is one important component. In the United States, those who work in industries with high demand—such as technology, finance, healthcare, and law—are paid well. The nation's sizable economy, which is based on innovation and entrepreneurship, draws businesses prepared to pay top people. Moreover, higher take-home

pay is made possible by the very low tax rates in comparison to many European countries. Additionally, the labor market in the United States is more flexible due to fewer hiring and firing laws, giving businesses more freedom to expand and modify salaries following performance.

Furthermore, the American educational system supports specialized, well-paying professional routes, especially in STEM professions. The development of abilities that the market values highly is prioritized. Additionally, businesses are more likely to support employee growth by providing training courses that raise output and, eventually, pay. Nonetheless, European nations often provide bigger social safety nets and a better work-life balance. Benefits like paid parental leave, public healthcare, and extra vacation time make up for the lower incomes in many European nations. However, this begs the question of how Europe can maintain these social benefits and grow pay simultaneously. Increasing entrepre-

neurship and innovation in Europe is one possible way to solve the problem. More restrictive laws in many European nations might hinder the development of new companies and deter entrepreneurs from taking risks. Lowering some of these obstacles might promote the success of high-growth and startup businesses, which would raise employee compensation. Salary increases may also result from funding STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math education) education and promoting sectors like technology, which have the highest salaries worldwide.

In conclusion, Europe has the chance to close the pay gap by encouraging innovation, emphasizing skill development, and lowering legislative hurdles to growth. In contrast, the United States benefits from higher average salaries because of its market-driven economy and emphasis on high-value businesses. The difficulty will be in balancing the advantages of social protection and competitive pay.

...Thumbs UP

Lemonade 

 Sweatshirts

Dinosaurs 

 Tap Water

Tires 

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...

Football faces tough loss in Iowa

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Sports Editor

On Sept. 21, the Tigers traveled to Sioux City, Iowa to compete against Morningside University, where the Tigers had a

tragic loss 0-70.

Finishing the game, the Mustangs had 440 passing yards and 198 rushing yards, while Doane only had 91 passing yards and 26 rushing

yards.

Going 13-of-28 for the Tigers was freshman Sam Hartman, while senior David Harris only had 15 rushing yards. Having four receptions

for 20 yards was senior Darnell Riley.

Senior Cooper Hancock and freshman Andrew Brown both had eight tackles, but Brown also had two pass break-

ups and 167 yards on nine kickoff returns. Adding seven more tackles was junior Tanner Simdorn and having six tackles apiece was junior Reece Zutavern and sophomore

Keegan Theobald.

On Sept. 28, the Tigers will be back at home to compete against Northwestern College with kickoff set for 1:00 p.m.

Women's Golf ventures up north

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Sports Editor

On Sept. 17, the Tigers traveled to Rapid City, South Dakota to compete in the 36-hole Hardrocker Fall Invite

which was hosted by the South Dakota Schools of Mines & Technology.

Leading the Tigers was freshman Connie Jarm who shot a 160 (78-82) which placed her eighth place. Tying for 19th was freshman Syd-

ney Streeter who had a shot of 169 (85-84). When it comes to pars, which is the number of strokes a golfer makes for a hole or the entire course, Jarm had 21 pars made, which put her in the lead of the tourna-

ment, and Streeter tied for fourth on par three holes.

Tying for 38th was freshman Tia Phaisan who had a shot of 180 (94-86) and sophomore Payton Morgan who also shot a 180 (90-90).

And finishing it up for the Tigers was freshman Laila Saunders who shot a 191 (86-105), which tied her for 47th. With that, the Tigers team score tied them for fifth place with a final score of 681 shots (339-342).

On Sept. 23-24, the Tigers will be competing in the Siouxland Invite where on day one they will be at Sioux Center, Iowa and on day two they will be at Orange City, Iowa.

Cross Country beats NAIA competition

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Sports Editor

On Sept. 21, the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams both competed at the Greeno/Dirksen Invitation in Lincoln.

Starting off with the Men they placed fifth overall in the Gold Division, where they were

also the second-best NAIA team behind the University of Saint Mary.

Leading the men's team was freshman Porter Bickley, where he placed 21st overall and had a time of 25:58.4. Although this is his second race of his college career, he is the first Tiger to run a sub-26 minute race

since Alec Wick in 2019. Placing 27th was senior Thomas Oliver who had a time of 26:07.1. Placing 40th was junior Luke Bonifas with a time of 26:31.1, a couple seconds after Bonifas was junior Nelson Ruto who had a time of 26:36.8 and placed 42nd, and a couple seconds after Ruto

was junior Emmanuel Yego who had a time of 26:40.3 which placed him 46th.

Switching over to the Women they placed ninth overall in the Gold Division as well. Leading the women's team was junior Danie Parriott who placed 51st and had a time of 20:01.9, and just

two seconds later was junior Calla Wittland who placed 52nd with a time of 20:03.0. Finishing in 66th was freshman Mackenzy Lippold, who had a time of 20:27.2, and having a time of 20:33.4 and placing 71st was sophomore Grace Colbert. Finishing up for the women's top five for the Tigers was

sophomore Laura Hase-

mann who had a time of 21:14.6 and placed 96th. On Oct. 12, both Men's and Women's Cross Country teams will be traveling to Sioux Center, Iowa to compete in the Dordt Holiday Inn Classic with women's starting at 10:00 a.m. and men's starting at 10:45 a.m.

Tennis takes on NCAA Division III

LUIS REJANO CANDAU
Staff Writer

On Sept. 17, the Tigers Men's tennis team opened their fall season at home against NCAA Division III Nebraska Wesleyan University. At the start of the match, the Tigers lost the doubles points early into the match. The Tigers could only win the two doubles matches played by senior Andre Hartman and the sophomore Elliot Dassel as the victors. In the end, the Tigers could achieve a big

win 4-3.

After starting doubles on the wrong foot, Doane turned a corner in singles. The singles match started to turn it around and get the victory. Senior Jose Purizaca had a straight-set victory at 1-singles with scores being 6-1 and 6-0. The Tigers continued strong singles play with Hartman winning 6-7 (5-7), 6-0, 1-0 (10-1) at 3-singles and Dassel won 6-2, 1-6, 1-0 (10-8) at 4-singles. With these results, the team score was 3-2,

thanks to a strong rebound in singles matches in the tie-breaks matches.

With a 6-3, 6-4 victory in five singles, sophomore Julio Avila continued Doane's singles win streak and gave the Tigers the victory. Freshman Christian Jensen lost the last set 3-6, 6-2, 0-1 (7-10) in a tie-break that decided the match at 6-singles. Jensen's loss did not lose Doane the series however, as the men's tennis team was able to deliver a victory (4-3) to start the Fall season

at home.

Next up for men's tennis is the ITA Tournament in Salina, Kansas. This tournament will be held on Friday, Sept. 20 and Saturday, Sept. 21. Qualifiers for the tournament were not announced at the time of this release. On Sept. 17, the Tigers Women's Tennis team could not win their second game against NCAA Division III Nebraska Wesleyan University, losing 3-4 in a tightly contested match.

Doane prevailed at

1-doubles in the doubles match, with sophomore Maria Purizaca and freshman Liz Calderon triumphing in a 6-2 win. In the match determining the first team point, NWU prevailed 7-6 (7-5) in a tie-break at 2-doubles.

Purizaca prevailed in straight sets at one-singles, 6-0, 6-1. Calderon also won the two-single match 6-2, 7-5, in straight sets. Doane's last win came at six-singles, when the sophomore Kat Johnson prevailed after her

opponent was forced to retire in the second set because of an injury.

All Doane players showed great effort for the victory, but it could not be achieved. The final result was 3-4 and Doane lost, with their first win escaping them.

The women's tennis team's next match will take place in Salina, Kansas, at the ITA Tournament. The two players that are selected for the ITA tournament are Purizaca and Calderon.

Soccer opens GPAC play at home

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Sports Editor

On Sept. 18, the Tigers opened up their Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) against Briar Cliff University.

Starting off in the first half of the game, just three minutes into the game junior Mackenzy Gibson was going up the sideline with the ball where sophomore Sarah Kennedy-Croft received the ball and managed to sneak the ball into the goal, making the score 1-0.

Going into minute '15, freshman Hayle Brodine had a corner kick where she sent it into the box

where the ball connected with junior McKenna Rathbun which got sent straight for the goal, which made the score 2-0. Also in minute 26' Rathbun sent the ball into the goal again after a penalty kick, which ended the first half 3-0.

Going into the second half of the game, in minute '77 Briar Cliff's Emily Moran scored their first goal of the game, however the game ended 3-1. Sophomore Virginia Johnson had a grand total of six saves in the game.

On Sept. 21 the Tigers traveled to Sioux City, Iowa to compete against Morningside University.

In the first 45 minutes into the game junior Grayce Southern had a grand total of eight saves, however it was a scoreless first half for both the Tigers and the Mustangs.

Going into the second half however in minute '47, Rathbun shot the first goal of the game after receiving a pass from Brodine, which gave them the lead. However, in minute '78, Morningside's Tuva Hammarlund received a goal after being awarded a penalty kick.

Finishing the game, Southern had a grand total of eight saves in the game, along with the Tigers having two shots on-goal.

On Sept. 25, the Tigers will be traveling to Fremont, NE to take on Midland University with kickoff set for 5:00 p.m.

On Sept. 18, the Tigers opened their Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) play at home against Briar Cliff University.

Starting off the game, in minute '26 Briar Cliff's Lucas Monteiro scored the first goal of the game, after receiving a corner kick from Gabriel Hernandez Les, making the score 0-1 in the first half.

Going into the second half, in minute '61 Briar Cliff's Flynn Kopp scored another goal for

the Chargers after Flip Peters attempted a long shot. Which ended the game 0-2.

Having his first start of the season was sophomore Curtis Oberg, who also had eight saves in the game.

On Sept. 21, the Tigers traveled to Sioux City, Iowa to compete against Morningside University.

Starting off in the first half, in minute '19, Morningside's Bennett Wesselkaemper scored the first goal of the game. Scoring the second goal for the Mustangs was Jurre Thielen in minute '27. In minute '31, Yannik Vogel scored the third goal of the

game and one minute later Mathias Constantinou scored another goal for the Mustangs, ending the first half 0-4.

Going into the second half of the game, in minute '60 Morningside's Gustavo Dos Santos scored the final goal of the game, making the final score 0-5. Throughout the game, senior Samuel Montanez had four saves, and the Tigers had six shots, three of them being on the goal.

On Sept. 25, the Tigers will be traveling to Fremont, NE to compete against Midland University with kickoff set for 7:30 p.m.



Photos by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

(Left) Senior Payton Cooley is getting ready to throw the ball back into play. (Middle) Senior Ameer Madden receives ball to kick into the goal. (Right) Junior Gisselle Martinez searches for a teammate to pass the ball to.

Volleyball loses close game at home

ELIYAH LARA-JOHNSON
Sports Editor

On Sept. 18, the Tigers opened their first home game against the College of Saint Mary's where they played a four-set game with scores being: 23-25, 26-28, 25-22, and 10-25.

For the first three sets Doane had 53

kills, nine errors, and a .297 attacking percentage, however for Saint Mary they only had 51 kills, 11 errors, and a .282 attacking percentage. But in the fourth set Saint Mary's had a .318 attacking percentage while the Tigers had a -0.091.

Freshman Natalie Wood led the Tigers

with 21 kills, senior Kayden Schumacher added 11 kills and senior Taylor Sluka added 10 kills. Together, the Tigers had 60 kills. Sophomore Camdyn Carpenter disheveled 49 assists, and the Tigers had 58 assists overall.

Going into the defensive side, Carpenters also had 22 digs and

adding 17 digs was senior Grace Zeier and adding 11 more was senior MacKenzie Painter, which in total the Tigers had 80 digs.

On Sept. 21, the Tigers traveled to Fremont, Nebraska to compete against Midland University, where the Warriors won in a straight set game with scores: 17-25,

19-25, and 20-25.

Sluka had nine kills and Wood had eight more. The Tigers struggled with only 28 kills and a -0.010 attacking percentage.

Carpenter also dished out 22 assists in the game, which ended the Tigers with 26 altogether.

On the defensive side,

sophomore Chloe Rose led the team with 10 digs while Painter, Zeier, and junior Lillian Parolek had six digs each, which made the Tigers end with 42 digs altogether.

On Sept. 25, the Tigers will be competing at Haddix to take on Concordia University with kickoff set for 7:30 p.m.



Photos by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

(Left) Sophomore Camdyn Carpenter and freshman Kate Roseland are trying to block the ball in hopes it lands on opposite side. (Middle) Freshman Natalie Wood spikes the ball to the other side. (Right) Senior Kayden Schumacher hits the ball in hopes of scoring a point.

Next week for Tiger Athletics

MEN'S SOCCER

September 25 @ FREMONT, NE
7:30 versus MIDLAND UNIVERSITY
September 28 @ HOME
7:15 versus WALDORF COLLEGE

MEN'S TENNIS

September 25 @ HOME
Versus DOANE JV INVITE
September 27-28 @ LINCOLN, NE
@ GPAC INDIVIDUAL

MEN'S GOLF

September 23-24 @ SILVIS, IL
Versus NAIA MIDWEST INVITE

FOOTBALL

September 28 @ HOME
1:00 versus NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

VOLLEYBALL

September 25 @ HOME
7:30 versus CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
September 28 @ HOME
5:00 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

WOMEN'S GOLF

September 23-24 @ ORANGE CITY, IA
Versus SIOUXLAND INVITE

WOMEN'S TENNIS

September 25 @ HOME
Versus DOANE JV INVITE
September 27-28 @ LINCOLN, NE
@ GPAC INDIVIDUAL

WOMEN'S SOCCER

September 25 @ FREMONT, NE
5:00 versus MIDLAND UNIVERSITY
September 28 @ HOME
5:00 versus WALDORF COLLEGE



Scoreboard Snapshot

MEN'S SOCCER

September 18 @ HOME

7:15 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

CHARGERS
[0-2]

September 21 @ SIOUX CITY, IA

8:00 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

MUSTANGS
[0-5]

WOMEN'S SOCCER

September 18 @ HOME

5:00 versus BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

TIGERS
[3-1]

September 21 @ SIOUX CITY, IA

5:30 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

TIED
[1-1]

FOOTBALL

September 21 @ SIOUX CITY, IA

1:00 versus MORNINGSIDE UNIVERSITY

MUSTANGS
[0-70]

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

September 21 @ LINCOLN, NE

GREENO/DIRKSEN INVITE

TIGERS
[5th]

MEN'S TENNIS

September 17 @ HOME

Versus NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

TIGERS
[4-3]

VOLLEYBALL

September 18 @ HOME

Versus COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY

SETONE FLAMES [23-25]	SETTWO FLAMES [26-28]	SETTHREE TIGERS [25-22]
SETFOUR FLAMES [10-25]		

September 19 @ LEAVENWORTH, KS

Versus UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY

SETONE SPIROS [14-25]	SETTWO SPIROS [17-20]	SETTHREE SPIROS [16-25]
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September 21 @ FREMONT, NE

Versus MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

SETONE WARRIORS [17-25]	SETTWO WARRIORS [19-25]	SETTHREE WARRIORS [20-25]
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GOLF

September 16-17 @ RAPID CITY, SD

HARDROCKER FALL INVITE

TIGERS
[5th]

WOMEN'S TENNIS

September 17 @ HOME

Versus NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

PRAIREWOLF
[3-4]

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

September 21 @ LINCOLN, NE

GREENO/DIRKSEN INVITE

TIGERS
[9th]