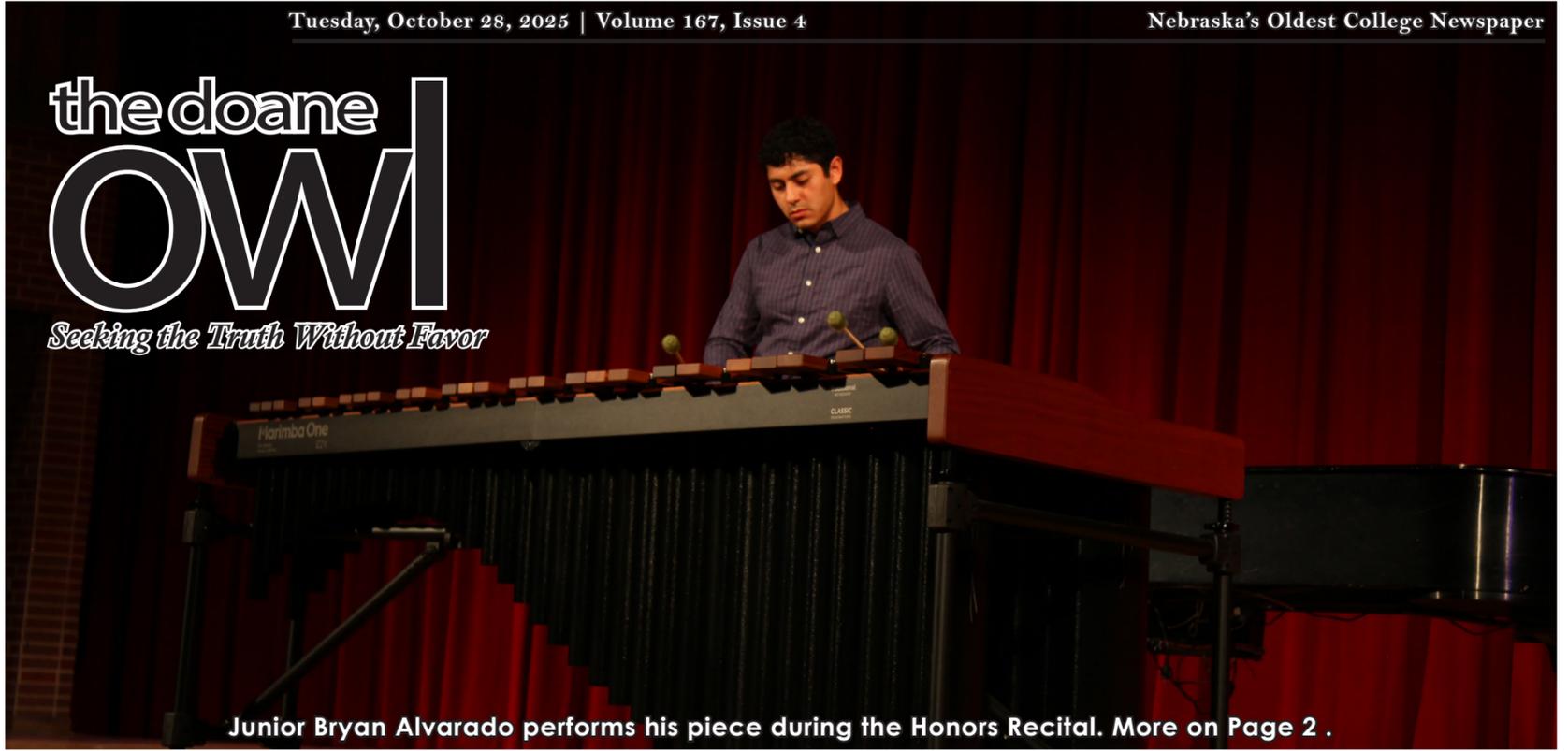


# the doane Owl

*Seeking the Truth Without Favor*



Junior Bryan Alvarado performs his piece during the Honors Recital. More on Page 2.

## Canvas goes down after Amazon shutdown nationwide

LORRAINE CASTANEDA  
Staff Writer

On Monday, Oct. 20, Amazon Web Services (AWS) experienced an outage that affected several services, including Canvas. The outage lasted from 10:00 a.m. to 6 p.m., involving teachers and students.

According to the Associate Director of the Service Center, Krew Tran, the outage was caused by an issue with Amazon's

Domain Name System (DNS). "With large-scale cloud services like AWS, even a small change or error can create ripple effects and lead to widespread outages like the one we experienced," Tran said.

The Service Center detected the issue early that morning after staff members, including student workers, were unable to log into Canvas. "We confirmed the outage within minutes and

noticed that Canvas had already posted a link to AWS's status page, showing they were aware of the issue and working to resolve it," Tran said.

Unfortunately, the Service Center could not resolve the issue due to it being related directly to Amazon; however, they kept track of the updates and informed students and faculty. "We were able to monitor the issue by viewing the Amazon Web Services status page

and sent an email out as soon as we noticed Canvas was down and sent another when Canvas was restored," Tran said.

The outage extended beyond Canvas. Other web services owned by Amazon, including Prime Video, Alexa and Ring Camera system, were also affected, along with major platforms such as Snapchat, Reddit, Slack and several banking and gaming services.

While Faculty mem-

bers were able to quickly adapt to the disruption. Professor Brad Johnson highlighted that while the outage didn't severely affect his class, it showed how the size of major corporations can lead to widespread disruptions like these. "The crash wasn't terribly disruptive to our class because we only had some readings that we were able to find elsewhere online," Johnson said. "I was shocked at how many services

and organizations come under the umbrella of Amazon. When a company's failure can cause catastrophic problems for society, that company is probably too large."

Although the outage lasted a few hours, it caused some confusion across campus. Once Canvas was restored, everything was back to normal, but it was a reminder of how much we rely on technology and how fast things can stop working.

## CRU opens up about mental health

ANDREA PAVLISH  
Staff Writer

**Content Warning:** The following story deals with themes and personal narratives of depression, suicidal ideation, and death. Doane offers free counseling for students. Additionally, the National suicide hotline, 988, can be reached at any time. You are not alone.

On April 2, 2022, Alen Prothman found himself sitting on a bench, wondering if the parking garage before him was tall enough to take his

life.

Less than a year before Prothman found himself sitting at that bench, he had just ended an unhealthy, 4-year relationship. In addition, five months before that, his cousin had committed suicide on their birthday. Along with other factors, he found himself in the pits of depression, with panic attacks that seemed like they would never end. However, with psychiatric help and medication, three and a half years later, Prothman sat before a group of Doane students to share his story.

Hosted on Monday,

Oct. 20, by CRU, a Bible study on campus, the goal of the session was to address the stigma behind Christianity and mental health. One might assume that someone like Prothman, a Cru Staff member, missionary and Christian, might not deal with mental health issues. However, his story says otherwise.

"Going to counseling, therapy, or a psychiatrist for medication was frowned upon," Prothman said, "because the idea was there must be a sin struggle. Otherwise, you should be a 'good enough Christian' to get through it with prayers

and faith alone."

That assumption led Prothman to hide his struggles.

"I was captive to depression and suicidal ideation for so long and I felt so ashamed to talk about it," Prothman said. "I felt really inspired to share more once I came across an article that says if you're a Christian and you've ever thought about taking your life, you're not alone. It was very eye-opening to realize that so many Christians struggle with this."

Prothman shared well-known biblical characters that dealt with these struggles like Moses, Jo-

nah and Elijah.

"Even heroes of the bible—incredible men of faith—have had these desires," Prothman said. "If they've struggled through it and the Lord used them in incredible ways, then how can my story be used in an incredible way?"

Amani Muisyo, a Cru student leader and sophomore, found the talk to be insightful. Muisyo also coordinated the event with Prothman and other Cru staff to make the event possible.

"It was overall really good," Muisyo said. "I think it equipped students in a way to be able to talk about mental health in re-

lation to their faith if they wanted to."

Midnight struck and it was now April 3, 2022, reminding Prothman of Lamentations 3:22-23. It also reminded him of a past conversation with his sister, where she informed him he might be depressed and referred him to a psychiatrist.

A few months later, the medications and psychiatrist had clicked. "I felt the burden I had been carrying for seven years was no more," Prothman said. "I was excited to be alive."

## Political Corner: As temperatures get higher, regulations get lower

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

*The Owl is dedicated to delivering political news coverage in a factual and non-partisan manner. The information provided in this section is derived from official government documents, government websites, and press releases, as well as from trusted national news sources. Should any misinformation or errors arise, we encourage readers to contact The Owl so that we can promptly address and correct the issue.*

The Trump Administration advanced three

major projects in Alaska on Thursday, following through on Trump's promise to "Drill, baby, drill!" Interior Secretary Doug Burgum announced the projects, including opening the coastal plain of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, an area considered sacred by the Indigenous Gwich'in, to potential oil and gas drilling. A bill of tax breaks and spending cuts passed by Trump over the summer, called for at least four lease sales within the refuge over a 10-year period.

This marks another decision by the Trump administration affecting environmental pol-

icy. Earlier this year, in March, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a series of actions to roll back dozens of environmental regulations. AP News reports the drawbacks, consisting of at least 30 major rules, could cause a preventable 30,000 deaths and cost \$275 billion each year.

Recently, a poll by the University of Chicago found that 91% of Americans have experienced extreme weather such as unusually hot or cold days, poor air quality, hurricanes, or floods. Nebraska has experienced some extreme weather in recent

years, including heat, hail, storms, and incredibly high winds. The State Climate report for Nebraska predicts the state will experience increased stress on water resources. Additionally, the reports state that extremely hot days, 90 degrees or more, will multiply two to four times while statewide annual temperatures are expected to rise by five to six degrees by 2050.

The report warns that these factors could "significantly reduce agricultural output if unaddressed." Agriculture is the state's leading industry and a major contributor to the economy and job market.

The Nebraska Examiner spoke to State Climatologist Deb Bathke, one of the authors of the State Climate report, who said, "there is no debate among scientists that climate change is happening." Despite this, EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin said that by eliminating previously standing environmental regulations, he was "driving a dagger through the heart of climate-change religion and ushering in America's Golden Age." However, it's not guaranteed that the rules will be entirely eliminated as they have to go through a federal rule-making process involving public

comment and scientific justification.

Soon after the EPA announcement, University of Pennsylvania climate scientist Michael Mann called the rollbacks, in an interview with AP News, "just the latest form of Republican climate denial. They can no longer deny climate change is happening, so instead they're pretending it's not a threat, despite the overwhelming scientific evidence that it is, perhaps, the greatest threat that we face today."

# Selected students perform in recital

ANDREA PAVLISH  
Staff Writer

Fourteen music students performed their talents for the campus at the Honors Recital on Tuesday, Oct. 21, in Heckman Auditorium. Accompanied by either Lisa Ulmer or

Judy Vrbka, the 10 vocal performances centered on a variety of themes, such as finding home or love.

Senior soprano, Jules Harlow, performed “Don’t Cry for Me, Argentina,” from “Evita,” a song and show she had always admired.

“I really love this

show and this song that Patti Lone originated,” Harlow said. “I’ve always looked up to her—I named my car after her—so it’s just like an honor to be able to sing a song by my music and musical theatre idols.”

The other four performances were instrumental: snare drum, marimba,

trombone, and piano. Ravel S. Gunardi, a freshman from Indonesia, performed a piano composition by his father as the finale of the concert. The composition, titled Nocturne No.1, was a wedding gift to his mother and a piece that reminded him of home.

“I would think that [Knowing that my

family was behind the song] just made the piece more personal,” Gunardi said, “and that way it made it easier to talk through the music.”

As his first performance on the Doane stage, choosing this song was an easy choice.

“I would think that playing a piece by my

father is a good way to start off my time here at Doane,” Gunardi said. “Maybe someday I will play another piece by him.”

The 14 total students auditioned to earn a spot on the program list. Jules Harlow will have her senior recital on April 7 or 8.



Left photo picutreed left to right, Senior Jules Harlow, Senior Marty Foery, Junior Erne Starbuck, Freshman Marley Schroeder, Freshman Naomi Clutter, Freshman Gunner Lip-pold, Junior Ella Ningen, Sophomore Joe Reimer, Junior Bryan Alvarado, Sophomore Alexander Foulk, Junior Ashton Barber, Freshman Ravel S. Gunardi. Not Picutred: Junior Sam Hartman and Sophomore Caleb Panning.



Photos by Andrea Pavlish | Doane Owl

# Protein-packed bake sale a success

ZAINAB AL-ZUBIADI  
Guest Writer

Student organizations on campus represent a broad variety of student life, culture, and hobbies. A new club on the rise, the powerlifting club, was founded by junior, Carson Jackson after finding a passion for powerlifting as a way to better his physical and mental health. One of the club’s values is to surround yourself with a supportive community, and Jackson wanted others in the Doane community

to experience that as well. Powerlifting can seem intimidating to newcomers; Jackson hopes to change that. “This club isn’t just for experienced lifters,” he said. “It’s for anyone who wants to challenge themselves and be part of a positive, encouraging community.”

The club held its first event on Oct. 22 and 23 with a protein-based bake sale at the Information Desk. The event was a major success for their debut. The sale featured healthy versions of desserts such as cookies and banana bread, all made with extra

protein and less sugar to reflect the club’s values of wellness and mindful nutrition.

“This was the first event we organized as a group. I learned that you can have plenty of success by staying true to your values. We had all of our goodies that we sold at the bake sale include protein and overall be a healthier alternative to regular, sugary desserts. It is a much easier and less costly process to make regular brownies or cookies, but we had homemade protein recipes that reflected the commitment of our

members while promoting healthier eating,” Jackson said.

Following the success of the bake sale, the club is planning another sale before the end of the year, bringing back some favorite treats and introducing some new ones.

Beyond the bake sale, the club is planning some other events and activities as well.

“We are also looking into holding some different events as well. One idea is making t-shirts and hosting tutorials on how to make a cut-off that adheres to the weight room

regulations. Another idea includes us being featured at the beige desk, where we have activities or other ways to promote safe lifting and healthy living. There are plenty more ideas to come for the club, and general campus interest influences what direction we take them,” Jackson said.

Currently, the club has 20 active members, with the number expected to grow after the club’s influence and message continue to spread around campus.

Anyone is welcome to join the power lift-

ing club! They host bi-weekly meetings on the third floor of Brodie Hall at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, as well as practices from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Haddix weight room on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of each week. Jackson says, “This club is meant to be very lenient and flexible to engage as many Doane students as possible and help everyone live a healthier life. If there are any questions, anyone can feel free to reach out to me at carson.jackson@doane.edu!”

## Weekly Horoscope



**Aquarius (January 21 - February 19):** While you can’t please everyone, be conscious of how you’re presenting yourself.

**Pisces (February 20 - March 20):** Live your teenage dream - pass notes, skip class, and turn the radio up.

**Aries (March 21 - April 20):** Take a nap. Please.

**Taurus (April 21 - May 21):** Stop waiting for their call. Close the door and open a different one.

**Gemini (May 22 - June 21):** Live your teenage dream - pass notes, skip class, and turn the radio up.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22):** You can communicate nonverbally too. Not everything needs to be said out loud.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22):** Throw yourself a birthday party just for fun.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22):** Stop letting people act like you’re their mom.

**Libra (Septmeber 23 - October 22):** Take pride in your messy handwriting and doodles in the margins.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21):** Time to burn it down.

**Sagittarius (Novemebr 22 - December 21):** Hide under the blankets and let opportunity pass you by. It’s not worth it anyway.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19):** It’s just a matter of time ‘til you see the dagger.

# Gearing up for Relay for Life events

LUIS REJANO CANDAU  
Staff Writer

The upcoming Relay for Life event will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2026, from 6 p.m. to midnight, bringing together student organizations and other groups for an evening of activities and awareness.

Relay for Life was created by the American Cancer Society as a fundraising movement to help communities combat cancer. Through raised funds, volunteer time, and increased awareness, people everywhere unite to fight cancer through this inspiring event. At Doane University, students,

staff and community members come together each year to support this meaningful cause.

As Trenton Johanson, a Doane student and executive co-chair of Doane Relay for Life, explained, “We always have student organizations and other groups tabling at our Relay Night event.”

This annual event plays an essential role in supporting cancer patients and their families. Johanson shared, “All of the funds we raise go towards helping cancer patients with their battle against cancer, whether it be transportation, lodging, treatment, or research.” Johanson also reflected on his

personal motivation to be involved, saying, “I partake in Relay for Life because it is an opportunity to be a part of something bigger than myself, give back to the community, and honor the legacy of family members I have lost to cancer.”

He emphasized the importance of the event within the Doane com-

munity, adding, “I believe that Relay for Life is one of the most important events that happens at Doane every year, and we would love to see everyone there!”

Relay for Life 2026 will once again unite the Doane community in hope, remembrance and the ongoing fight to end cancer.

# The Doane Owl

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# You're probably too busy to read this

ANDREA PAVLISH  
Staff Writer

You're probably just going to skim this. Unless you're my editor, nobody, at least on this campus, has enough time to fully read this whole piece. As college students, we are expected to do a little bit of everything and stay busy.

Focus on your academics, they say, but college is also the best time to make life-long friends. So that means join Greek life and host/attend events to socialize. But also, you need to take on a part-time job to be able to live comfortably, but you also need to focus on your sport because they're also paying you to be there. But also, college is a time for building your resume, so internships and volunteer work are crucial. Make sure you double-check your email inbox, though; you probably missed something important. You should probably apply to be a CA to serve your peers, but you should also tutor other students or be a TA for the class as well. But then again, you should focus on yourself. Get eight hours of

sleep every night and have some "me" time. And you should also still call home and keep in touch with your family and old friends; that's the nice thing to do, of course. But you should still be able to study and practice for your vocal lessons that are tomorrow and the recital that is next week. But to stay healthy, you need to work out often if you aren't an athlete; just don't get injured because that'll waste a lot of your precious time. Also, make sure you eat healthy; that means trips to Walmart and extra cash to buy the newest, most organic, fat-free, dairy-free, gluten-free, super protein-packed snack. If not, you'll probably get sick, and that will extinguish whatever was left of your motivation to get to class and make every day ten times worse. And also keep your room neat & tidy to prevent bugs and gross smells. Did you check your emails yet? Do your laundry even though someone has definitely left an unclaimed load of white tighties in the washer that definitely need another go around. Oh, and please don't forget to take a shower and brush your teeth. That's very important.

It's the best time of your life, and you don't want to waste it. You're only young once. But also do your homework and extra credit readings. Are you still reading this? Or do you have class to get to? I'm amazed you got this far. Am I not cutting into your "me" time? I got stressed out just writing that last paragraph. This isn't a paper hating on staying involved. This is a paper warning busy people of busy culture. I'll hold your hand when I say this: saying "no" to something does not mean you are incapable of doing something. Saying "no" means you prioritize things you have already committed to, things you value more. While everything above is important in some way, it does not mean you need to do them all. It's impossible. Let's be honest, if time travel were invented, people-pleasers like me would use it to get to all of the commitments they couldn't say no to. After leaving my last year of high school feeling drained every night and struggling to make it to the school parking lot by 8 a.m., my otherwise optimistic personality took a dwindle. People became more irri-

tating than usual. Classes became more difficult than usual. Getting up became harder than usual. I was so used to putting 100% into everything that I could barely give 100% to myself each morning. In college, I wanted to change that. Instead of involving myself in every little thing that piqued my interest, I chose three that aligned with my values. Just three. I can still get up in the morning. I haven't missed my 8 a.m. yet. I haven't even been late yet. I actually get up before 9 a.m., even if my class isn't until 11 a.m. Of course, there are mornings when I sleep a little extra, eat a little extra, lose motivation or have a headache. But those phases haven't become a lifestyle. I can dress a little nicer. Put a little more effort into my appearance. Enjoy my lunch break a little more. Of course, I am speaking as a freshman, where many doors are yet to open. However, I still believe that putting 100% into a few things is better than putting 50% into a lot. No one is perfect, so don't expect yourself to be.

# Hot takes; This true crime needs some answers

ELIJAH LARA  
Managing Editor

Hello, devoted readers. I decided to do something a bit different and, instead of a hot take, I'll do a true crime instead. Now this true crime really hits close to home for me, quite literally.

During the Fourth of July weekend, a man by the name of Chance Englebert, his wife Baylee and their son Banks decided to make the four-hour drive from Moorcraft, Wyoming, to Gering, Nebraska, to spend time with Baylee's family.

The weekend seemed to be going well. On the morning of July 6, 2019, Chance was talking to his family, discussing plans for how he was going to stop by his family's ranch in South Dakota to pick up a package before heading back to Wyoming. Later on that afternoon, Chance went golfing with his brother and father-in-law, with plans to go get dinner with Baylee and a couple of

her friends afterward. With that being said, Baylee decides to stop by the golf course with their son to visit Chance, her brother and father. Now, prior to her coming to the golf course, Baylee said that she talked on the phone with Chance and that he was in a great mood. However, when Bailey got there, she saw that Chance's mood had changed drastically because he told Baylee to get back into the car because they were leaving. Chance was so full of anger that he told Baylee that they would be heading back to Wyoming; however, Baylee wanted to stay. Baylee then told Chance that when they got back to her grandparents' house, cause that was where they were staying, she was going to go pack up their belongings and head back home. At around 7:00 p.m., that is when they pulled up to Baylee's grandparents' house, and instead of going inside to help pack, Chance started walking away. Baylee

proceeded to go inside and give Banks to her grandparents, but by the time she got back outside, Chance was already gone. Now, according to what Baylee has said in countless interviews, this was a typical thing for Chance to do. So she then gets back into her car and starts driving around looking for Chance, tries to call him, but he doesn't answer. It was last reported that Baylee had talked to Chance at about 7:45 p.m., where Chance told her that he was walking towards Kimball, which was 42 miles south. This was also the last time that Baylee heard from Chance. At 7:23 p.m., Chance decided to call his friend Matt, asking him to come pick him up, but Chance told Matt that he was walking towards Torrington, Wyoming, which is 36 miles northwest of Gering. Matt then told Chance that he wasn't able to because he had been drinking, but that he would make some calls

to see if someone else could come and pick him up. But since there was a storm rolling in, Baylee told Matt and all of their friends and family that she and her family would go back out and try to look for him. However, when the next morning rolled around, he was still gone and has been gone ever since, or so people think. Back on Oct. 11, 2025, skeletal remains were found at Scottsbluff National Monument that looked like they had been there for years. This leads people to speculate that those remains are indeed Chance Englebert's; however, it is taking officials quite a while to determine whether the remains belong to Chance or not. Now, I want to be clear that I am not trying to be disrespectful towards the family and friends of Chance, who have been wanting nothing but answers for years. But I, as a former resident of Scottsbluff County, also want answers to this story.

The Doane Owl strives to inform, enlighten and entertain students, staff and faculty while maintaining high journalistic standards of accuracy and truthfulness.

Owl is a weekly publication and is available every Tuesday of the academic year on www.doaneline.com or by email from owl@doane.edu and studentaffairs@doane.edu.

The Doane Owl Editorial board consists of: Elenna Koenig, Elijah Lara, Brianna Wright, Mackenzie Pike and Hailey Schweitzer.

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 Andrea Pavlish

- Editorial -

## Happy Halloween from the Owl

As October begins to wind down, we need to remember one thing: everyone is tired. Yesterday feels like it's August with the excitement of seeing old friends and meeting new ones, but now we find ourselves questioning whether we're

going to make it to the end of the week. However, for this week, there is a light at the end of the tunnel because it's officially Halloween. Take a step back from all the stress of homework and writing papers, let your creativity go wild, and

if not, then take this time to enjoy a bit of a break. With that being said, if you are planning on having fun this weekend, make sure you do it responsibly. Make smart decisions, have a fun time and be safe while doing it. If you are driv-

ing, stay sober. If you're going out with friends, stick together and don't leave anyone behind. These small decisions can make a huge difference to make sure everyone, including you, has a fun and safe weekend. Enjoy the week-

end. Make those good memories. And when Monday morning hits, be ready to lock in and finish the semester strong because we are almost done. Happy Halloween!

# Roll for an initiative

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

“Welcome back, intrepid adventurers,” this is how Brendan Lee Mulligan begins each session of “Dimension 20”, a TV show revolving around several different Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) campaigns.

“Dimension 20” is only one example of D&D content that has sprung up and garnered immense popularity in recent years. Similarly, Critical Role began its fourth campaign only a few weeks ago, with two previous campaigns, The Legend of Vox Machina and The Mighty Nein, being adapted into ani-

mated shows by Amazon Prime.

The nature of D&D requires groups of people to gather, often physically, and interact for hours on end. In an increasingly digital age where loneliness has become an epidemic, D&D offers a brief escape. Additionally, campaigns can last anywhere from a few hours to years, and just because a campaign has ended doesn't mean the game has.

Despite typically being labeled a “nerd game” and conjuring up fantasy imagery of elves, dragons and magic, D&D is incredibly versatile. Recently, my favorite thing to tune into each week has been Awesomely Awful's “We Fixed It: Twilight”

campaign.

“We Fixed It” is a D&D re-imagining of Twilight, keeping the essence of the series alive while adding some new plot points and characters. It's also incredibly funny with some committed acting. The whole show pokes good fun at the Twilight series while also putting up a genuine attempt to improve upon the source material.

There are so many different D&D media to choose from- TV shows, podcasts, YouTube series, books, graphic novels, etc. If there's a genre you have in mind, there's probably a D&D campaign for it, and if not, you can create it. There are plenty of free resources for D&D, but the great

thing about it is that you can do whatever you want.

And there's no penalty for playing fast and loose with the rules. Episode 2 of “We Fixed It: Twilight” features a baseball mini-game. Because why not? Once you understand the basics of D&D, you can start to see all the things it's influenced.

Even by watching through a screen, you can join the community surrounding a D&D campaign. Then suddenly, you might find yourself looking forward to Monday nights so you can watch a bunch of grown adults pretend they're solving a murder mystery set in a fantasy world.



Photo by Brianna Wright | The Doane Owl

# Classroom experiences with today's generation of students

ELEENNA KOENIG  
Editor-in-Chief

&

MACKENZIE PIKE  
Sports Editor

Education has definitely changed in the last decade; the students are taught new strategies in math, behavior reinforcement and how to handle behaviors. When it comes to school districts, there are so many different encounters or interactions between students and practicum students or student teachers. Both of us are currently helping out in school districts in Nebraska. Both of our experiences so far have been very similar but also different in their own ways.

Working with elementary students is like a roller coaster, but you don't know when you are going to get off. One minute they are doing their work, then the next minute they are making jokes, making inappropriate actions or repeating phrases their parents say. Elementary students act so innocent when it comes to speaking because they usually don't know what they are saying and what it actually means.

One way they are innocent until they aren't is that, in the younger grades, they might say bad words, and you have to explain that we can't say them. Once you explain it, they will stop saying it, but in the older grades, they say a bad word, and they will try to tell you that their parents

allow them to say it. They won't stop saying it, or they continue to rage-bait you until it doesn't bother you anymore.

Elementary students have started to feed into 6-7 jokes like every other student. During reading time, you tell the students to flip to page 76. They all have to point out that 7-6 backward is 6-7. It starts distracting them from getting to the page they need to be at and takes about 5-10 minutes to get the students to process another task. Once a trend falls into older grades, it takes minutes to trickle down to the younger students. When jokes happen, you have to ignore them because if you engage, the behavior increases.

Meanwhile, middle schoolers will take any and every opportunity/

opening you give them and run with it, whether it's a never-ending tangent about Texas or a joke they take too far. The moment we let a side conversation become a classroom conversation, the room spirals out of control. Luckily, they still feed into the 6-7 trend, so to reel their attention back into the lesson, I just have to count to five and let them fall right into my trap.

They have since started a new 41 trend that is very similar, if not the same, as the 6-7 trend. Of course, they decided to do this right as we were entering our lesson on prime numbers, where 41 is the most common example used in that lesson, apparently. That's been fun.

I have also single-hand-

edly developed a new currency within the middle school, that currency being miniature resin ducks. The kids go berserk for these tiny ducks that cost me less than ten cents each from Amazon. They no longer wish for candy when they win a prize; they want ducks. They also beg me to make trades with them just so they can acquire their desired color of duck. I have since collected pencils, gum and drawings in exchange for ducks. It is also a great thing to pass out to those who volunteer in class or demonstrate critical thinking. Students who were once off task are now zoned in on the content in hopes of receiving a duck for their efforts.

Middle schoolers will also humble you with the

most random topics and situations. For instance, we try to guess one of their classmates based on a baby picture of them. The students love it and want me to add one of my baby pictures as well. They then proceed to tell me that it will be easy to guess which one is mine because the picture will be in black and white. Mind you, I was born in 2003; these kids are only 10 years younger than me.

Another humbling moment was when we were learning about the greatest common factor (GCF), and a kid proceeded to tell me GCF actually stood for “greatest college failure”. So, let this be your indication that education is not for the weak, and if you can't beat them, join them.

# What it means to be an Ironman

LUIS REJANO CANDAU  
Staff Writer

An Ironman is one of the toughest endurance events in the world, a race that tests the limits of human strength and mental determination. It combines a 3.8-kilometer swim, a 180-kilometer bike ride and a full 42.2-kilometer marathon, all of which must be completed consecutively. The Half-Ironman, officially known as Ironman 70.3, cuts those distances in half but not the challenge. The competition takes place all over the world, with events held in cities such as Kona, Barcelona, Nice and Melbourne. Only a small percentage of people worldwide, less than one percent, have

ever completed an Ironman, making it one of the most exclusive endurance achievements on the planet.

As an international student-athlete from Spain, competing in soccer has built discipline, resilience, and a deep respect for preparation. Yet, beyond the soccer field, there is a growing passion for endurance sports and the dream of conquering an Ironman. Reaching that finish line demands more than physical talent; it requires meticulous planning of workouts, a balanced nutrition strategy and an unwavering mindset. Every training session becomes a step toward something greater, a journey of consistency, discipline, effort, sacrifice and belief.

Sharing that experi-

ence with close people would make the challenge even more special. Competing alongside my two brothers, both passionate about sports, will transform the race into a shared story of effort and triumph. Encouraging each other would strengthen not only the body but also the bond that unites a family built on competition and mutual motivation.

Completing an Ironman represents more than crossing a finish line and hanging a medal around the neck; it symbolizes endurance, perseverance and the pursuit of greatness. The dream is clear, the goal is set and one day the word “finisher” will not just describe an athlete but a lifelong ambition turned into reality.

## ...Thumbs UP

Minecraft 

 Fall

Crime 

 Pumpkin

6-7 

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...

# Sports Briefs

## Men's Basketball

On Oct. 24, the Men's basketball team started their season opener at home versus Kansas Christian College. The Men's basketball team was able to pull off a victory with a final score of 92 - 75.

Having a successful start of the season was junior Jack Wilson, who put up 20 points throughout the game, with freshman Trevon Beckman adding on another 17 points.

Men's basketball plays again at home on Oct. 27 against Tabor University at 7:00 pm.

--MACKENZIE PIKE

## Tennis

Last Friday, the Women's Tennis team took on Truman State University at home, where they were defeated with a score of 4-3.

Taking the lead for the Tigers but losing the Doubles match was junior Maria Purizaca and sophomore Liz Calderon, who finished with a score of 4-6. Switching over to the singles matches, Purizaca, Calderon, and senior Grace Schroller won their matches, all walking away with scores of eight.

This concluded the fall tennis season, with their next match being on March 10, 2026, against Bethel University.

-ELIYAH LARA

## Football

Football traveled to sioux city, iowa, on oct. 25 To play against briar cliff university, where they lost 21-28.

Doane was able to score during the first, second and fourth quarters. This led them to be one touchdown short of a win.

Sophomore sam hartman threw 272 yards during the game with three complete touchdowns.

Senior john deriso received two touchdowns with 172 yards completed. The tigers' last home game of the season will be on nov. 1 At 1:00 p.M. Against morningside university.

--MACKENZIE PIKE

## Volleyball

On Oct. 22, Volleyball traveled to Lincoln to play Nebraska Wesleyan University, where they came up short losing 0-3 with set scores being: 14-25, 20-25 and 22-25. Sophomore Brooke Larson had 14 kills, with junior Addison Raebal and sophomore Kate Rose-land having six kills respectively.

Then, on Oct. 25, they traveled to Hastings, Nebraska, to play against Hastings College.

Junior Addison Raebal had 15 kills alongside sophomore Brooke Larson with 11 kills, but unfortunately, it wasn't enough. They lost the match 1-3 sets.

Volleyball plays on Oct. 29 at home against the College of Saint Mary for their senior night. The game starts at 7:30 p.m.

-MACKENZIE PIKE

## Cross Country

On Oct. 25, the men's and women's cross country teams competed in the Blazing Tiger National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Classic at Mahoney State Park in Ashland, Nebraska. During this meet, the women's team finished in 12th, with the men's team finishing third overall.

The top time was senior Maddy Ramey, who placed 60th with a time of 23:37. The next best time was senior Calla Wittland with 23:48, placing her 72nd.

Having a season-best time for the men's team was sophomore Porter Bickley, who had a time of 25:02, which placed him 8th. Following Bickley was sophomore Jayden Wall placed 10th and set his personal best time of the season with 25:06.

Next up, the men's and women's teams will be traveling back to Ashland, Nebraska, to compete in the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) Championships on Nov. 8.

- MACKENZIE PIKE

# Men's soccer recognizes their seniors

ANDREA PAVLISH  
Staff Writer

Men's soccer finished out their regular season home games with a loss against Morningside and a final score of 5-1 on the chilly and cloudy afternoon of Oct. 25.

A GPAC member, the Sioux City school scored twice in the first half, only to be fueled by the other 45 minutes. The score then turned to 4-0 midway through the second half.

Not even a minute later, senior Fernando Moreno scored his second goal of the sea-

son, and also Doane's only goal of the match, with the assist of senior Nicolas Jones and freshman Tomas Garcia Ibanez.

The team ended the game with 10 shots (4 on goal), four saves by the junior goalie, Curtis Oberg, nine fouls, six corner kicks and zero offsides.

The last home game consequently meant it was senior night for 14 of the players. Moreno not only scored the only goal but also led the team with four attempted shots.

Their final regular season game will take place Wednesday, Oct. 29, at Concordia University at 5:30 p.m.



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl

# Women's soccer put up a tough battle

ELIYAH LARA  
Managing Editor

Last Wednesday Oct 22, the Women's Soccer team took on the College of Saint Mary, where they walked away with a 2-0 victory.

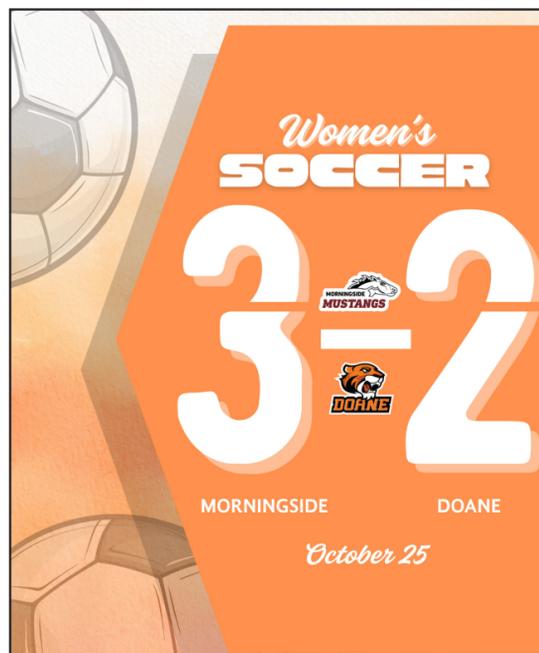
In the second half, senior McKenna Rathbun and sophomore Lexi Adams scored two goals, with junior Virginia Johnson, who was the goalkeeper for this game, having six total saves.

Fast forward to Saturday, Oct. 25, the Tigers played Morningside Univer-

sity for senior night, where they walked away from a hard-fought battle, losing by a score of 2-3.

Rathbun scored both goals in this game, with senior Grayce Southern, who was the goalkeeper for this game, having eight saves during this game.

Next up, the Tigers will be traveling to Seward, Nebraska, to take on Concordia University for their last game of the season.



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl