

the doane Owl

Seeking the Truth Without Favor



Freshman Trevon Beckman tries to find an open teammate to pass the ball to. Read more on page 5.

Everything to know about housing

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Life & Culture Editor

On Friday, Jan. 30, the office of Residential Life and Education sent an email to all Doane students regarding housing for next semester. Some aspects of the housing system, mainly the housing lottery, have changed. Brian Stutz, Director of Housing, said the changes are happening due to student feedback. “I agree with many students’ feedback,” Stutz said. “I do not think it is fair that one person gets to decide where they live; everyone’s credits should be counted.”

Now, students will elect a captain for their roommate group. This person will create the roommate group, invite all members to join, and name the group. The naming aspect is really important as it follows a new format.

Students should name the group, Captain Last Name - Desired Hall - Desired Room Size. For example, Stutz - Hansen - six would be a group captained by Brian Stutz, trying to get into Hansen with a group of six.

Once a group has been created, Doane Housing will look at the group’s combined credits. Students will be shown a spreadsheet with tabs for each hall and space capacity. Groups will then be ranked according to credits. Stutz explains that, for example, there are 6 eight-person suites in Brodie, so a group ranked 7th or below will need to find something else.

March 19 through 25 is the “reorganization period.” During this time, groups can change their selection or size. Then, on March 26, an updated spreadsheet will be re-

leased. The list will be finalized on April 1, and students will email Housing with their specific room selection. For suites, this means which specific rooms students want within the suites.

Suites are always a hot commodity, but not always an option for everyone. Last year, 280 students applied for suites; the capacity of Brodie and Hansen is 278, with seven of those spots going to Community Advisors (CAs). Showrooms are available to one group in Brodie and Hansen, referred to as the “golden ticket,” as those groups can choose their location regardless of credit count. The word “show” must be added to the roommate group name to be considered for this. Stutz explains that showrooms have special contracts, and depending on the number

of groups who apply, interviews may be conducted. “So if you are thinking I will do this and then just ghost the process you may want to read that contract before you agree to be the golden ticket,” Stutz said.

Single rooms are an equally appealing option for students. Medical singles will be upheld, but singles for other reasons will be harder to get. “Right now, we have over 90 students in rooms without a roommate. I want people to know that with an increase in students, singles will be very hard to come by,” Stutz said. The single room waitlist will still exist, but students with medical reasons will be prioritized.

Additionally, optional renters’ insurance is new this year. Part of the reason for this, Stutz explains, is due to a large flood in Smith some

years ago. As such, Housing wanted to offer students an easy option for renters’ insurance. “All students can sign up, whether you are on or off campus,” Stutz said. “It is a great way to protect your belongings in case of any type of emergency. The cost is also pretty low for students.” Students who initially decline may also change their minds over the summer and sign up for it later.

Generally, students are required to live on campus for three years. Exemptions from this require documentation, and those previously approved will need to submit an off-campus application. Students should not sign a lease until approval is received. Off-campus applications are due on April 15, but approvals will be completed on a rolling basis.

Stutz recommends get-

ting things done early and being familiar with different options around campus. He also strongly encourages student feedback. This new system was built on student feedback and tested with students, which is to say it’s designed for students.

Along with contacting Housing, doanehousing@doane.edu, Stutz encourages students to stop and talk with him; he can often be found in the cafeteria during lunch time.

“At the end of the day, we always want Doane to be your home away from home, and I know this can be stressful but we are here to support the community on campus,” Stutz said. “Our on campus experience is vital for our community, and we want to be the community everyone wants to be.”

Political Corner: What to know about Midterms

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.

Trump’s second term has drawn criticism, which might allow Democrats to gain seats in the Republican-controlled House and Senate.

Historically, the party in

power has typically lost seats during midterm elections.

Representative Hakeem Jeffries of New York, in an interview on Feb. 5 with the New York Times, said, “It was our theory of the case very early on that there would be expansion opportunities based on Donald Trump and Republicans going too far.” A stance that Trump’s recent approval rating declines could support.

AP News reports that many Democrats have centered their campaigns around healthcare following cuts to Medicaid and COVID-era subsidies from congressional Republicans last year. Another strategy for the Democratic Party has been to recruit candidates based on their backgrounds

to sway red regions. “In a change versus status quo election, in the overwhelming majority of instances, the absence of formal political experience is not a weakness, it’s a strength,” Jeffries said.

New research from Feb. 6 on voter views has revealed that democrats are seen as weak on crime, policing, and safety issues, which independent voters tend to value, reports The New York Times.

However, the survey also found that a sizeable majority, including Independents, found that “Immigration and Customs Enforcement had gone too far in the deportation crackdown.” No House Democrat currently holds a seat in a district Trump won by 10 percent age points or more.

Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi has endorsed Jack Schlossberg, a grandson of John F. Kennedy, in his run for a House seat in New York City. With so many bodies in the crowded Democratic primary, some contenders may run out of funding or steam before the finish line. Pelosi has longstanding ties to the Kennedy family, with both bearing the names of political dynasties.

Eyes have turned to the midterm elections after President Trump suggested the federal government should nationalize the running of elections. This would go against the Constitution, which leaves the administration of elections to the states. This follows an executive order signed last March by

Trump that would change elections, including requiring documentary proof of citizenship nationwide. The order has been largely knocked down by courts. Then, in August, Trump posted online that he wanted to eliminate mail-in ballots and potentially voting machines.

On Wednesday, Feb. 4, the Supreme Court allowed California to use a voter-approved congressional map that is favorable to Democrats. This follows a decision to allow Texas to use a Republican friendly map despite a lower court ruling that it was racially discriminatory.

So far, sixteen states have considered redistricting, including Nebraska. Six states have approved new maps,

two of which favor democrats and four of which favor republicans. Indiana is the only state of these sixteen to have rejected redistricting thus far.

Under its current map, Nebraska has no democrats and three republicans. No revised districts have been proposed by Gov. Jim Pillen, who has expressed support for redistricting; however, some republican lawmakers are reluctant to undertake mid-decade redistricting. March 1 is the deadline for candidates to file for office in Nebraska. Several seats and state positions are up for election in Nebraska, with the primary election on May 12 and the general election on Nov. 3.

Upcoming events for TRIO students

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Life & Culture Editor

TRIO has a new series of events taking place on Tuesdays this February at the Information desk, which will give students a chance to share their stories, learn about advocacy, and play some trivia. TRIO programs are a federal outreach and student services program. Doane’s TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) are located in the Academic Success Center (ASC).

This Tuesday, Feb. 10, will give students prompts so they can share their experiences with the hope of the responses being compiled into a video for social media.

“Numbers and data are great and back up the advocacy work, but the stories and photos, postcards, news stories, and social media campaigns are what make the programs strong and strong in support,” said Executive Director of Academic Support Services Beth Jacobson.

On Feb. 17, students both in and out of the program can learn about advocacy and write postcards to Nebraska congress members. These will be hand-delivered to Washington, D.C. March 11 or given to staff members of Congressman Flood and Senator Rickett’s offices who will bring them to the National TRIO Day Celebration. Jacobson reports that TRIO

funding was approved for the 2026-2027 academic year, but there is always more work to be done.

“TRIO advocates for funding increases or level funding in the current climate and, with the help of our national professional organization, the Council for Opportunity in Education, we organize and we advocate year after year”, said Jacobson, “because the future of TRIO is the future of educational access for all students.”

Feb. 24th will be TRIO Trivia Takeover, where TRIO SSS students, along with any other students, staff, or faculty, can answer questions about TRIO pro-

grams to win a prize. Jacobson spoke about the TRIO SSS program specifically, which she says has one goal: to help students successfully navigate and graduate from their post-secondary education.

National TRIO Day will be celebrated Feb. 28 at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln (UNL), an event-filled day that students can attend. Doane has collaborated with TRIO programs at UNL, Southeast Community College, and Peru State College, with a committee planning this day for several months. “By gathering to share stories and perform community service, students reinforce their social

networks and prove that background should never limit a person’s potential for success,” said Jacobson. This year, the day will include TRIO alumni stories, community service, and awards given to students, staff, and TRIO supporters.

Jacobson also talked about some of the challenges Doane’s TRIO program currently faces. Time can be a constraint, with staff running out of time to plan all the events the program would like to offer. “Another challenge we have is attendance at events. We aim to have events around practice times or even offer the same event twice, but still have low attendance, so that is why

you may notice we have fewer workshops,” said Jacobson. “Instead, we are trying to work with students individually, which simply takes more time.” She encourages students to email her, beth.jacobson@doane.edu, with suggestions.

Similarly, Jacobson encouraged individuals to get involved. Those in the TRIO SSS program can keep up with communications from the program and meet with their TRIO specialist throughout the semester. Students not in the TRIO program are encouraged to get involved and make sure their peers feel included.

Expunging winter blues with SPB

ANDREA PAVLISH
Staff Writer

SPB, the Student Programming Board, hosted DIY Snowglobes and Lip Sugar Scrubs in Lakeside on Tuesday, Feb. 3, as a

part of their Coffee Shop Series.

Two tables adjacent to the coffee shop were filled with all the supplies needed to make a brown sugar lip scrub with essential oils or a snowglobe with a stu-

dent's choice of glitter and a figurine inside.

"I put a little duck in [the snowglobe], and some teal glitter," senior Kaitlyn Dumler said. "I just like ducks."

The goal of this event was to reach out to the

campus community and foster engagement.

"We just like to give free stuff for students on campus to do. It's fun to engage and get to see people and just teach people new stuff," SPB treasurer and senior So-

fia Heaston said. "This is stuff you can do at home."

SPB's next event will be Pipe Cleaner Bouquets in Lakeside from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10.

"My favorite part of

this event is seeing my friends working it, and going with my friends to do it," junior Payton Morgan said. "It was a fun event and a good break in my day."



Photos by Andrea Pavlish | Doane OWL
Students create lip scrubs and snowglobes.

AIGA club aims to grow presence

JOSEPH SCHUT
Guest Writer

Doane's AIGA Club (American Institute of Graphic Arts) is working to expand its presence at Doane University while giving students hands-on design experience and professional connections. The organization is open to all students, but especially welcomes those pursuing art and design.

Sophomore Hailey Schweitzer, print and social media chair of AIGA, explained that the club's mission is to become a central design resource on campus.

"We want to be the go-to for graphic-designed ads and online templates," Schweitzer said. "We've already redesigned graphics for the Writing Center and the eSports team."

The organization was

recently brought to campus by its advisor, Chelsey Augustine, assistant professor of graphic design, and student leaders. Schweitzer joined the club last year after changing her major.

"I was previously a business administration major with a minor in art," Schweitzer said. "After going to an art show, I found my passion and decided to switch last spring semester."

Although the club is centered on design, membership is open to any student interested in learning. Schweitzer states the group is willing to teach new members and help them build skills.

According to Schweitzer, the main goal of AIGA is to provide networking opportunities and real-world experience. Members

work on projects, practice with industry programs, and sometimes take on campus clients.

"It's a great experience for resumes and portfolios," Schweitzer said. "We mainly use Adobe programs like Illustrator and Photoshop, and every club member gains access to Adobe if they do not already have it."

Schweitzer emphasized creative growth as one of the benefits of joining the club.

"You're able to branch out and experiment, and it helps you figure out who you are as a designer," Schweitzer said.

The club currently holds executive meetings on Fridays and larger group meetings in the evenings. Executive members discuss events, planning, and goals, while full meetings often involve collaborative or independent design

work. Schweitzer described the environment as highly cooperative.

"We do group projects, collect ideas, and get outside advice from one another," she said. "In the space you will get new inspirations, others' perspectives and fix mistakes together."

One of the club's current initiatives is a Valentine's Day card sale at the Lakeside. The sale will take place Feb. 11 from 12 to 3 p.m. and Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. While there, students can purchase a designed card for \$4 or a card with candy for \$6. All proceeds will go toward funding future endeavors of the club and supporting their planned Kansas City group trip to visit design spaces and potentially network with other professionals in their field.

For students who are considering joining, Sch-

weitzer encourages them to reach out.

"Come talk to us," Schweitzer said. "It's a great opportunity with so many viewpoints and a wide variety of skills to learn or enhance. It's

a great learning experience."

Students interested in the club can contact AIGA president William Smith at william.smith2@doane.edu.



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | Doane OWL

Events to celebrate love on campus

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Life & Culture Editor

Dearest Gentle Readers,

'Tis the season of heartfelt declarations, swoonworthy dance moves, and free candy. It's almost valentines day, and campus is getting in the mood with a variety of activities. Ancient Greeks had multiple words to represent the many different kinds of love that exist, which is perfect to represent all the events happening on campus.

First is Xenia, which can roughly be translated to "guest-friendship,"

and is comparable to modern hospitality, especially towards foreigners or travellers. On Feb. 5, the Asian and Pacific Islander Organization (APIO) hosted an event making valentines cards for immigrant families in Lincoln. Freshman Surah Al-Zubiadi, an executive board member for APIO, said, "The point of the valentines is to make them feel welcome, especially in a time with all this hate." She explained that Lincoln is "a very immigrant-centered community," and APIO wanted to do something impactful.

People for the Rights

of Individual Sexual Minorities (PRISM) is hosting a variety of events during the week of Valentine's Day as part of Doane is Love. Philia is the word most commonly associated with platonic love, or the love between friends. It's often translated as "between equals," a love that requires equality.

Agape is with "great affection," however, modern Christian contexts have redefined it as "to will the good of another." As a way to raise money for Relay For Life, the Student Programming Board (SPB) teamed up with Fresh Ideas for a raffle. Three

lucky winners will get a four-course dinner date prepared by Chef Shack. SPB has said the courses will include crostini, pan-seared halibut, grilled beef tenderloin, and chocolate mousse, along with assorted side dishes. It also comes with a complimentary bottle of sparkling cider.

The word Storge is most often interpreted as parental love, something students can experience by bringing home a new stuffed animal wednesday feb. 12. An annual favorite, Build-A-Boo, hosted by PRISM and SPB, allows 200 students to take home their own stuffed

sloth, moose, wolf, tiger, or axolotl. There will be 100 stuffed animals available in Lakeside from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and another 100 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 13, the writing center will be celebrating International Book Giving Day by letting students go on a blind date with a book. Wrapped books will be in the Library all day. Practice some philautia, or self-love, by curling up with a good book this Valentine's weekend.

After the library, students can also swing by the info desk in Perry. Oftentimes, Eros is thought of as sexual or

intimate love. CAPE's "Love Shouldn't Be Scary" resource desk will highlight how to have a relationship that is both safe and fun.

Friday night will see the return of SPB's Boo Bash. This year will be a stoplight dance, with colored wristbands being handed out at the entrance. Red means in a relationship, yellow is complicated, and green is ready to mingle. Stop by Brodie from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. to experience Ludus. This word comes from the Latin word for play or game, which perfectly represents a night of dancing, music, and laughter.

Weekly Horoscope

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19): Move the conversation off of text. It's time for the next step.

Pisces (February 20 - March 20): Prioritize your happiness this week.

Aries (March 21 - April 20): Check in each time you bend yourself into whatever shape life demands.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21): Details matter more than you realize in relationships.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21): You're ready for the unexpected but scared to let go of the known.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): No one can understand what you're trying to tell them.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): Air your grievances.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): You keep fighting battles no one wins. Put down your sword.

Libra (Septmeber 23 - October 22): You're in a period of feeling stuck. Let someone help you.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Start a fire then maintain the flame.

Sagittarius (Novemebr 22 - December 21): Stop dismissing other's feelings, because you can't handle your own.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): Write down one thing you'd like to apologize for, even if it was a long time ago.

The Doane Owl

*Doane University
1014 Boswell Ave.
Crete, Neb. 68333*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

*Elenna Koenig
elenna.koenig@doane.edu*

MANAGING EDITOR

*Elijah Lara
elijah.larajohnson@doane.edu*

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

*Hailey Schweitzer
hailey.schweitzer@doane.edu*

LIFE & CULTURE EDITOR

*Brianna Wright
brianna.wright8355@doane.edu*

SPORTS EDITOR

*Mackenzie Pike
mackenzie.pike@doane.edu*

FACULTY ADVISER

*Eric Tucker
eric.tucker@doane.edu*

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 Elenna Koenig

Whatever you do, mom, do not read this please

ANDREA PAVLISH
Staff Writer

Having a crush sucks. I hate every aspect of it. The awkwardness. The not-knowing. The overthinking. Even the word “crush” makes me feel so juvenile. I feel as though I’m back in elementary school, when even standing by someone too close could start rumors. Even if the rumors were complete lies, I, a self-proclaimed awkward gal, would still get flustered if someone asked. I hate when someone asks if there’s anyone of interest in my life, and I have to tell them no, but make a super awkward face because there is, in fact, someone that comes to mind.

The word alone is so vague that no one knows what we’re talking about anymore. For some, a crush is just this person in their one class that made eye contact with once, whereas for others, it’s their best friend that they’ve been madly in

love with since grade school. And you know how some words just fit perfectly with their meanings, like “bubbles” and “moist”? “Crush” is at the exact opposite end of that spectrum. The only “crush” part of a “crush” relationship is the fact that I want to “crush” my phone in half after having the most dry conversation of a lifetime, yet still considering ringing them up the next day.

Once your crush is public, that’s a whole other ordeal. Requited or not, the presence of a crush in your life becomes everyone’s business, whether you want it to or not. I’m just trying to figure out what other people think and know about him without seeming like a creep. I’m also gaslighting myself into thinking he actually likes me back and is waiting for a better time to profess his undying love for me. In the meantime, my friend is giving me a waggly brow every time his name comes up in conversation, like some bounty hunter that

just got some new intel on their next hit. Good friends will tell you it’s a good idea and to go for it. Best friends will threaten to block you if you ever consider saying his name. Even if I do get over it—like genuinely get over it and nearly forget about it—your friends won’t. Then the cycle repeats. Ugh.

Beyond that, what’s even worse is getting hindsight icks after getting over them. Flip-flops? Seriously? In public? Using the laughing-crying emoji turned on its side? Unironically?? Why didn’t anyone slap some SENSE into me? I must’ve been part of some absolute hypnotic nonsense to look past those details...

Last, but certainly not least, the worst part of having a crush is pretending not to know the things you found on some late-night stalking spree. Be honest. You’ve done it. And you learned something. But there would be no reasonable explanation for you to know that information UNLESS you

had engaged in some totally-not-creepy stalker stuff. (Shout-out to their mom’s Facebook page.)

Maybe I’m just sick of being single, and I’m in denial. Maybe I’m just giving out excuses instead of putting myself out there. Maybe I’ve spent too much time worrying about what someone else might think of me instead of worrying about what I think of myself. Am I worthy of respect? Do I think I’m a kind human being? Have I been a good friend? What more can I do to help others?

The very fact that I’m writing this probably means I’m in over my head. Maybe I should just flee the country. Or at least the state. Or my dorm. I’m going to need eight hours of sleep, some fresh air and to touch some grass after convincing myself that man was worth brain space and a fraction of my lifespan.

Mackenzie and Brianna tackle mundane topics

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Life & Culture Editor
&
MACKENZIE PIKE
Sports Editor

Welcome back to the award-winning show hosted by Kenzie and Bri, where we tackle mundane topics no one else cares to address. Yes, this is an established segment, and yes, we do this every Owl. Obviously. Where have you been?

Today, we’re here with a food segment. The two of us spent this past Friday on an unmatched culinary adventure across southeast Nebraska. Which is to say we went to Christina’s, Chipotle, and Taco Bell all in the same day.

We started with a lovely lunch at Christina’s with some of our fellow Owl workers. The conversation was flowing, the vibe was great, and we didn’t have to pay for any of it. Brianna here, and I’ve just got to

say if you order the stuffed empanadas platter, the s in empanadas is apparently completely a suggestion. Because I did not get a few handheld-sized stuffed empanadas as I had thought. No, I got the single largest empanada I’ve ever seen. It was delicious, and it could have fed a family of four.

Kenzie here, this was my first time at Christina’s, and I thought the food and drinks were good. When I go to a restaurant with Dr. Pepper, I will always order a Dr. Pepper. This was such a good Dr. Pepper that it danced on my taste buds, and I drank it so fast. I would rank this Dr. Pepper 9 out of 10 on the Kenzie scale. For food, Owl staff writer Andrea Pavlish decided to share enchiladas with me, and I was thankful because that was a lot of food. The enchiladas were so good, and the rice was amazing.

It was time for a Friday

night Chipotle run, which meant heading into Lincoln, and somehow, there were at least four other Doane students at the same Chipotle at the same time. Also, there was a dinner rush at the Chipotle. We can’t judge people for making the same culinary decision as us, but seriously, there were too many people at that Chipotle. Brianna here again, and all I’ve got to say about Chipotle is always get rice, even if you’ve got a salad base, because that salsa just drenches your lettuce. Also, I tried the plant-based SoFritas and was very happy with my experience. Kenzie’s back, I got my normal meal, which is build-your-own tacos. In my opinion, Chipotle meals are too big for me to eat, so I get a kids’ meal. The items I get on the side are cheese, chicken, and white rice. Let’s say that these tacos were fire.

Lastly, we topped the

night off with a drive-thru visit to Taco Bell. To say we went to experience the new menu would be a slight lie, as in actuality, we ordered three drinks and one dessert. The Blue Raspberry Freeze, the Dragonfruit Agua Fresca and the Salted Caramel Churros were all tasted. The Blue Raspberry Freeze was so good, my taste buds were having a rave. The overall taste was amazing, but don’t order a regular because it’s the size of a small. Meanwhile, if you’ve had a Starbucks Dragonfruit Refresher, you’ve had the Dragonfruit Agua Fresca. Seriously, they’re almost identical, and they cost about the same, too. The salted caramel churros were great. You really can’t go wrong with churros, and you especially can’t go wrong with salted caramel-flavored things. Those churros are gone but never forgotten.

Hot takes; Superbowl and halftime show

ELIJAH LARA
Managing Editor

With last week being probably the most eventful week for me, I am glad to say that it is over. But one of my favorite things about last week was Super Bowl Sunday!

Now I have watched probably every single Super Bowl since I was a little kid running around, not having a care in the world. It was one of my favorite things to do with my father. However, this year was vastly different. Not only because I didn’t get to watch the Super Bowl

with my father, but also because my team sadly didn’t make it. It was because this was probably the most BORING Super Bowl that I have ever watched.

Not a single touchdown in the whole first half of the game, and quite frankly, the Patriots weren’t really playing the best in my opinion, of course, but neither were the Seahawks. Needless to say, the second that halftime show hit, I was sitting in my seat and didn’t move, didn’t touch my phone, nothing.

Let me just say, af-

ter months of having the gut-wrenching fear that something hypothetically could happen to not just me but to my family as well, I realized that I shouldn’t be afraid of the one thing that means the most to me: my true identity.

During the halftime show, there were so many easter eggs about equality, and the fact that this year was the most-watched halftime show in Super Bowl history made it even better. And if you are still mad about the fact that an artist who predominantly spoke

Spanish performed, who is an American Citizen, the best thing I am going to say is look, you didn’t die, right?

Moral of the story, if you’re going to dislike everything that is not “American,” then you respectfully need to A) grow up and B) look at what the United States of America stands for, because no one is illegal on stolen land. Along with that friendly reminder, “The only thing more powerful than hate is love,” said by none other than Bad Bunny himself.

Pillen and the terrible, no good, very bad past four years

BRIANNA WRIGHT
Life & Culture Editor

I'm pretty sure our governor is committing some sort of insurance fraud. Allegedly. Hypothetically. Supposedly. Please, Mr. Pillen, don't sue/assassinate me. I said "pretty sure," maybe, potentially, possibly.

Firstly, on April 1, 2024, Zach Riggs-Panther, a 17-year-old working at Beaver Valley Pork, one of the nearly 100 farms owned by Pillen Family Farms, was found collapsed on the floor and announced dead not long after. If you want to know what happened to him, so does his mom.

See, investigations were started by the county sheriff, Nebraska state troopers and the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA). But all these agencies faced barriers or failed to turn over every stone in their investigation. Such as the sheriff and state trooper who examined the room where Riggs-Panther died, but nowhere else on the farm. An OSHA agent wasn't allowed to bring air monitoring equipment or a paper and pen into the facility. Then, the only suitable blood sample was accidentally destroyed by the lab after a test was recommended by an OSHA medical officer. However, there has been a recent reversal, which will allow independent lab tests and could offer some closure. When Pillen said he wanted to "keep kids in Nebraska," I at least thought he meant keep them alive.

The New York Times

and the Flatwater Free Press want me to assure you that Gov. Pillen does not oversee the day-to-day operations of the family business, nor was he involved in the investigations. He is, of course, affiliated and has stakes within the business that he founded alongside his father. A business which, according to Pillen, operates on the core beliefs - do what is right, do the best you can, and treat others the way you want to be treated.

Secondly, at the end of last year, on Dec. 29, a Pillen Family Farms hog barn burned down near Humphrey, Nebraska. This is yet another fire in a string of bad luck for Pillen. The third fire in four years, how unlucky! In 2021, a Pillen-owned hog barn caught fire, killing 10,000 pigs and

amounting to an estimated \$1 million loss. I wonder what the insurance payout was on those. It's nothing short of a miracle that every time there's been a fire, no employees have been in the buildings. We wouldn't want OSHA getting involved again, now, would we?

Thankfully, all these accidents haven't impacted Gov. Pillen's political career. No, he's still at it - denying women their rights and attacking trans youth. Recently, he even steered the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to award \$2.5 million in a no-bid emergency contract to a bioeconomy consultant and lobbyist whom Pillen once worked with.

State Auditor Mike Foley alleges that a blank page left on the form required for this contract

means it does not comply with "the legal requirement to specify the nature of the supposed exigency" under the Nebraska State Procurement Act in Nebraska Revised Statutes 73-815. Folly told the Nebraska Examiner that he sees this contract as "a huge red flag," and said, "It smacks of favoritism."

Whew, what a career. Don't worry because Gov. Pillen has already begun his re-election campaign. His re-election campaign announcement patted all Nebraskans on the back for the passage of permitless concealed carry and celebrated his team's commitment to working with President Trump. In a recent tele-town hall, he said he needed more time to work on property taxes, but he assured that online criticism of his office doesn't get to him as

he "doesn't give a damn what these libtards and these people" have to say.

In a statement to KETV, Jane Kleeb, chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party, added to the criticism. "While families worry about rising costs and a growing state deficit, Pillen is awarding no-bid contracts to a female friend and jetting overseas with her," Kleeb said. "Nebraskans deserve serious leadership - not chaos, insults, and cronyism."

Which means it's time for me to remind everyone that there are midterm elections this year for Nebraska Senate and House members, as well as many state offices. Not to mention the Governor.

Are you ready for college?

Help protect your property from theft, fire, smoke, and more* with a **Renters Insurance** plan from GradGuard.

Affordable coverage for your belongings including electronics with features custom-made for college.

gradguard.com/renters

Initiate your claim through your GradGuard account at account.gradguard.com or by calling our claims processing entity, Markel Services Incorporated, at (800) 236-3113.

Copyright © 2025 GradGuard All rights reserved. *This is a general description of coverage. Additional terms, conditions and exclusions apply to all coverages. The GradGuard Renters Insurance Plan is underwritten by the AM Best A++ insurance company based on the insurance policy documents that will be sent to you before the effective date. Terms, conditions, and exclusions apply.

DOANE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

SCARLET

This is your opportunity to perform with an incredible cast & crew!

Male Actor & Singer Needed!
Role: Tingly
Range: Baritone

A role must be filled in this exciting, brand-new musical!

Contact robin.mckercher@doane.edu for audition details!

Graphic by Evelyn Vanek | Doane OWL

THE DOANE OWL
Publish Dates

- 24 FEBRUARY
- 3 MARCH
- 24 MARCH
- 14 APRIL
- 21 APRIL
- 28 APRIL

Graphic by Elenna Koenig | Doane OWL

...Thumbs UP

- Bushes
- Tinker Bell
- Todd
- Lunch Meetings
- Gnat

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

Women's Basketball

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL IS GEARING UP FOR THE GREAT PLAINS ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (GPAC) AS THEY ENTER THE LAST MONTH OF REGULAR-SEASON GAMES.

ON FEB. 4, WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOOK ON CONCORDIA AT HOME. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FAILED TO CATCH UP TO THE BULLDOG'S 59- 84.

EVEN THOUGH THE TIGERS STRUGGLED TO COME AWAY WITH A WIN, FRESHMAN MATTEA KASSEBAUM MADE A SCORING IMPACT OF 14 POINTS.

RIGHT BEHIND HER, SOPHOMORE ELLA JOHNSON AND FRESHMAN KEELEIGH KNOBBE SCORED 10 POINTS TO HELP OUT THE TIGERS.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CONTINUES THE WEEK BY PLAYING ON FEB 8TH AGAINST DAKOTA WESLEYAN AT HADDIX. THE TIGERS WEREN'T ABLE TO COMPLETE THE TASK, LOSING 47-69.

THE PLAYERS WHO MADE AN IMPACT TOWARD TEAM WERE SENIOR MEGAN CHAMBERS WITH 18 POINTS, AND FRESHMAN KEELEIGH KNOBBE WITH 14 POINTS.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYS NEXT ON FEB. 10 AGAINST NEBRASKA WESLEYAN AT 7 PM AT HADDIX.

-MACKENZIE PIKE

Cheer & Dance

The Cheer and Dance teams participated in their third competition on Feb. 6 at the York Crown Classic in York, Nebraska.

First, Dance fought hard to get to the top. They ultimately placed third with a score of 84.50 points.

On the other hand, Cheer fought through their routine, but unfortunately, they would only be able to place fourth with a final score of 78.22 points.

Their next competition is a triangular at Hastings, Nebraska, in the Hastings Triangular on Feb. 11.

-Mackenzie Pike

Men's Basketball

Men's basketball continues their journey to the end of the season by competing against Concordia University and Dakota Wesleyan University.

The Tigers started the week by playing Concordia on Feb. 4. Men's basketball couldn't complete the job as they lost 69-85. The scoring impact players were freshman Justus Gardiner, scoring 18 points, and senior Casen Chaney, scoring 17 points.

The Tigers continued the week by playing on Feb. 8 against Dakota Wesleyan, where they came up short, losing 84-81.

Junior Jack Wilson scored 20 points, with senior Casen Chaney scoring 18 points despite the loss.

Men's basketball will travel to Forest City, Iowa, on Feb.14 to play against Waldorf University at 3:45 p.m.

- MACKENZIE PIKE



Men's Wrestling wins GPAC Duals at home

Brianna Wright
Life & Culture

On Feb. 7, 2026, Doane Men's Wrestling participated in a set of GPAC Duals against Briar Cliff, Northwestern and Morningside University.

Firstly, Doane won 36-9 against Briar Cliff University, winning seven out of ten matches. Sophomore Ray Ray Harris, 125lbs, won the first match by a tech fall, securing Doane five team points.

Doane lost the next three matches but recovered with a 7-3 dual win, going to senior Ben Miller at 157 lbs. This was Miller's 100th career victory.

Senior Edward Ramirez, 165 lbs, won 15-11 in his dual, se-

curing three team points. Junior Jake Prudek, 174 lbs, followed this up by securing six team points in his match.

184 lbs senior Tyson Beauperthuy won 19-4 by a tech fall, securing five team points.

Sophomore Jaren Jackson, 197 lbs, won his match and secured six team points. Junior Eli Criblez won automatically by forfeit, gaining an additional six points for Doane.

Then, Doane went against Northwestern University, winning eight out of ten matches with a final score of 46-8.

Junior Isaac Gibbs, 125 lbs, won 19-3 with a tech fall and got five team points. 133lbs senior Matthew Terrance followed this up by winning with a fall and getting six team points.

The next two matches went to Northwestern, but Doane recovered with six team points going to Miller.

Sophomore Vincent Donatelle, 165 lbs, won by a fall, gaining six more team points. Then, Prudek won by forfeit getting Doane another six points.

Beauperthuy won 18-3 in his match, securing five team points. 197lbs senior Chase Stieb gained six points, winning by a fall. Criblez won by a fall in his second match, gaining an additional six points.

Lastly, Doane won 41-8 against Morningside University with eight match victories.

Harris won his second match by a fall, getting six team points. Followed by Terrance, who also won by fall, getting another six

points.

141lbs senior Tristen Brown won 11-5, gaining three points for the team.

Miller won his third match by fall, securing six more points. Prudek also won his third match by fall, getting six points.

Beauperthuy won 21-6 in his third match, gaining five points for Doane. Jackson won his second match and secured another six points.

Criblez finished strong in his third match, with three more points going to Doane.

Currently, Doane is ranked one in GPAC standings with eight conference wins this season. Men's Wrestling will go to the GPAC championships on Feb. 20 and Feb. 21.



Photos by E:enna Koeing | The Doane Owl

Softball begins season in Kansas this weekend

MACKENZIE PIKE
Sports Editor

Softball started its season in Branson, Kansas, with 4 games, going 3-1 overall.

Softball began the weekend on Feb. 6, playing against the University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy and William Woods University.

The Tigers started the season with a win against UHSP, scoring 4-1.

The top scorers of the game were senior Jaiden Papik, going 2-2 with one run for the Tigers, and sophomore Milannie Gonzalez, who went 3-1 with one run. Continue the scoring streak with junior Natalie Ascencio going 1-3 with one run and Lilly Lewis 0-3 with one run.

On the pitching side, junior Natalie

Ascencio pitched five innings with four strikeouts. To finish out the game, freshman Lauren Dick pitched two innings and had one strikeout.

The Tigers' second game was played against William Woods and took the win 6-3. Sophomore Ciara Hudson went 2-2 with scoring 2 runs for the Tigers. Hudson scored a home run that knocked in 2 runs for the Tigers. Junior Jacqueline Ordonez scored from the homerun from Hudson.

The other three runs were scored by sophomores Milannie Gonzalez, going 2-2 with one run, Lexi Adams Pinch running to score one run and Bri True going 1-0 with one run scored. Senior Faith McDonald pitched five innings with

three strikeouts. To close out the game, sophomore True pitched two innings and had three strikeouts.

To continue the weekend, on Feb 7, the Tigers went one for one against Stephans and Central Methodist. Softball played a tough game against Stephans University and was able to pull out a 10 -7 win.

Senior Faith McDonald started the scoring with a home run to left field. McDonald was able to go 1-3 with two run total for the Tigers. Two other tigers scored two runs, which were sophomore Milannie Gonzalez going 2-1 and junior Katelyn Hays going 2-2.

The players who scored one run were juniors Natalie Ascencio, Jeryn Allen and freshman Ky-

lie Caradori. On the pitching side, freshman Lauren Dick threw four innings with three strikeouts and True threw three innings with two strikeouts.

The last game of the weekend was against Central Methodist and just came up short, 3-6.

Senior Jaiden Papik 0- 2 with one run, with junior Lily Lewis going 2-1 with one run. Junior Jacqueline Ordonez also scored one run while going 1-2 for the game.

Junior Natalie Ascencio and senior Faith McDonald were the pitchers of the game. Collectively, they only struck one person.

Softball's next game will be a doubleheader in Kansas City, Kansas, on Feb 13.

T&F continues breaking records and prepping for the GPAC conference

ELIYAH LARA
Managing Editor

On Feb. 6, the Men's and Women's track teams traveled 30 minutes to Lincoln, Nebraska, to compete in the Frank Sevigne Husker Invite.

In the 60m was Neryah Hekl, who placed second with a time of 7.40, breaking the school record. Placing first in the 5000m was sophomore Alvin Keter, who had a time of 14:56.79.

Fast forward to the next day, both teams competed at home in the Fred Beile Classic, where in the 60m, taking second was senior Connor Bradly, with a time of 6.97.

Taking first in the 200m was junior RaeAnn Thompson, with a time of 25.61, along with freshman Jayden Meyer, who placed third with a time of 26.33. In the 400m, placing first were junior Kiley Hejmanek and senior

Caleb Mulder. Hejmanek had a time of 59.94, and Mulder had a time of 50.62. Finishing second was junior Jonathan Zoubek with a time of 51.49.

Running the 600m and placing first were freshman Jayden Meyer and senior Emmanuel Yego. Meyer had a time of 1:37.74, and Yego had a time of 1:24.55. Placing second was freshman Zaili Benish, who had a time of 1:41.40, and finishing with a time of 1:26.13 was sophomore Lucas Gautier, who placed third.

Running in the 800m were senior Danie Parriott and junior Laura Hasemann. Parriott had a time of 2:20.21, which placed her first, and Hasemann had a time of 2:30.86, which placed third.

In the 1000m was junior Luke Bonifas, who had a time of 2:35.40, which placed him second. Running the mile were senior Maddy Ra-

me and sophomore Cody Smith, who both placed third, but Ramey had a time of 5:21.26, and Smith had a 4:38.68.

In the 3000m were freshman Kristen Billings and sophomore Alvin Keter. Keter placed first with a time of 8:54.01, and Billings placed third with a time of 11:14.17.

Jumping over the hurdles in the 60m was freshman Tommy Smith, who placed second with a time of 8.31, and junior Bladen Garcia, who placed third with a time of 8.60.

Running in the 4x400 was three separate squads. Placing first were seniors Kat Vogt, Tania Gleason, junior Kiley Hejmanek, and Parriott, who had a time of 3:53.96. In the second squad were Benish, freshman Elizabeth Wemhoff, junior Britta Deden, and sophomore Marrissa Miles, who placed second

with a time of 4:14.99. The final squad, which placed third, consisted of junior Emily Lytle, Madison Lytle, and sophomore Allison Ernst, with a time of 4:28.38.

Switching over to the field events, starting with the high jump was junior Andrew Harms, placing first with a mark of 2.04m. Freshman Preston Duryea, who placed second with a mark of 1.99m, was joined by junior Jackson Kessler with a mark of 1.99m. In the women's high jump, sophomore Katelynn Kratz placed third. Kratz had a mark of 1.61m.

In the pole vault was freshman Avery Scott, who placed first with a mark of 3.77m, along with senior Kennedy Stanley, who placed second with a mark of 3.65m. And finishing off the pole vault on the men's side was freshman Roe Patton, who placed third with a mark of 4.40m.

Placing second in

the long jump was Harms, who had a mark of 6.89m, with junior Michael Willey placing third with a mark of 6.75m. Finishing first in the triple jump was junior Brian Cech, with a mark of 14.37m, and sophomore Callan McKinney placed third with a 14.01m mark. For the women, junior Kyla Davis had a mark of 11.43m. Placing second was senior Josie Garrett, with a mark of 11.31m, and finishing in third was freshman Addison Fahrbrunch. Fahrbrunch had a mark of 11.16m.

Going into the throws, starting with the shot put, was sophomore Madison Heusinkvelt on the women's side and senior Andrew Schmitz on the men's side, placing first. Heusinkvelt had a mark of 13.54m, and Schmitz had a mark of 16.02m. Finishing in second was senior Cale Bessler, who had a mark of 16.02m, and junior Delaney Burge,

who had a mark of 13.32m.

In the weight throw placing, first was Schmitz once again, with a mark of 17.90m, with junior Jaden Vellenweider right behind him in second place with a mark of 17.50m. For the women, also placing second was junior Kaylie Lotspeich, with a mark of 17.06m, with sophomore Trinity Becher placing third with a mark of 16.79m.

Finishing off with the Heptathlon, junior Addison Croghan took home first with 4,792 points, and freshman Tysen Fleischman placed second with 4,126 points.

Next up, the Tigers will be traveling to Seward, Nebraska, on Feb. 14 to compete in the Concordia Invitational at Concordia University.

Baseball goes two for two in Texas

ELIYAH LARA
Managing Editor

On Feb. 6, the Doane Baseball team traveled 913 miles to Victoria, Texas, to take on Wayland Baptist University and Texas A&M University - Victoria,

where they walked away 1-1.

In the first game against Wayland, the Tigers took the win of 8-6, with senior Carter Roth having three runs and senior Sam Kwapnioski having two runs. Senior Kaden Crawford, the pitcher,

took the winning pitch, which makes him 1-0.

In the second game against A&M, the Tigers walked away defeated with a final score of 8-7, with junior Grant Sommers and red-shirt junior Max Harris each scoring

two runs.

Fast forward to the next day, the Tigers took on the same teams once again, also walking away 1-1.

In the game against Wayland, the Tigers lost 4-3, with Roth, Harris, and sophomore Kai

Burkey having a run apiece.

In their final game against A&M, the Tigers won the game 8-3, with junior Brayden Jones having the most runs of the game with two. Walking away with the winning pitch was senior Nicolas

Yard with puts him 1-0 as well.

Next up, the Tigers will be traveling to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to take on Oklahoma City University on Feb. 14 and 15.



Schedules, Rosters, Scores, etc.
doaneathletics.com

Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl



Photos by E:enna Koeing | The Doane Owl

