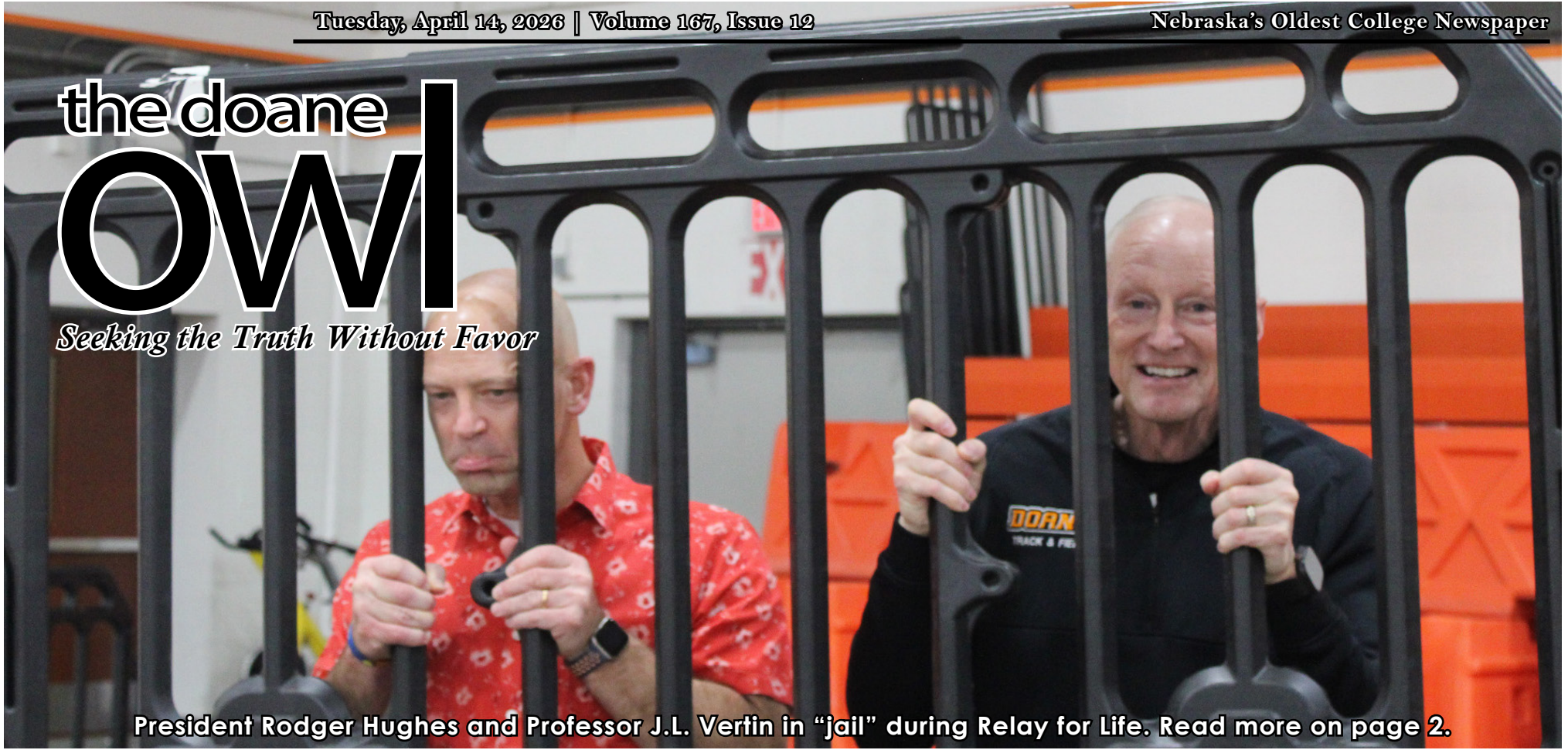


the doane  
**OWL**  
*Seeking the Truth Without Favor*



President Rodger Hughes and Professor J.L. Verfin in "jail" during Relay for Life. Read more on page 2.

# Updates on Doane's finances

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

On April 1, President Roger Hughes and Dr. Judy Kawamoto attended the Student Congress (StuCo) meeting to discuss Doane Forward. This initiative aims to prepare for Doane's future by addressing the university's past and ongoing financial struggles.

As a tax-exempt organization, Doane's tax returns are publicly available through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website. In 2024, the university reported revenue of approximately \$63 million and expenses of around \$75 million, resulting in a loss of approximately \$12 million. Notably, the university also op-

erated at a deficit of about \$7.4 million in 2021. During that time, a process called "prioritization" led to the elimination of several programs and positions on campus, including criminal justice, philosophy and Asian studies.

With investments such as the new Performing Arts Center, the recently opened Brodie Hall and the proposed business building, it can seem like the University is financially stable. However, many of these changes were funded by donors or intended to increase revenue, as indicated in the minutes from the April 1 meeting.

During that same meeting, students shared what they believe makes Doane's culture special, with many mentioning the

positive impact of professors. However, there is a possibility that some faculty positions may be cut. Dr. Kate Marley, Faculty Council chair and professor of biology, stated that she hasn't been provided with a specific number of positions that might be eliminated.

"I believe it depends on too many factors to estimate at this time," Dr. Marley said. "I hope no faculty positions are cut, but I guess we'll see." This sentiment underscores comments made by Vice President of Academic Affairs Sue Larkin in March, who argued that any claims about specific impacts are premature.

While all faculty were given their contracts simultaneously, a mail mix-up with first-year faculty contracts

caused a delay that was later resolved. However, this left some faculty members entering a meeting about potential position cuts without a contract in hand.

Dr. Marley reassured that those involved with Doane Forward are discussing the importance of providing support to ensure a smooth transition for any affected faculty. During a March 30 meeting, Staff Council addressed utilizing the Career and Leadership Services Office as a resource and offering mock interviews for staff.

In the remainder of April, the Leadership Team will review the information they have gathered and begin planning for the future. They will present their findings to President Hughes, who will then

take them to the Board of Trustees, which will meet on May 7 and 8. Implementation of any changes is set to begin on July 1.

Effective communication has been emphasized multiple times since the announcement of this process. In the March 30 Staff Council meeting, the minutes noted that concerns about "the President's car or the leadership team bonuses" highlight areas where communication issues arise. Doane Forward was officially introduced to students on March 31 in an email that outlined several goals and strategies, including bi-weekly updates for students. With just a few weeks remaining, this means that only a few email updates will be be-

fore the initiative is presented to the Board of Trustees in May.

During the April 1 Student Congress meeting, it was noted that the rumor mill should not be relied upon for information. Instead, students are encouraged to use one of several communication methods.

Questions and concerns can be directed to doaneforward@doane.edu. Students can also bring questions to the Doane Forward table in the dining hall between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Additionally, any student is welcome to attend the Student Congress meetings held every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Perry Boardroom.

# Politics: Congressmen resign after sexual misconduct allegations

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

As the war with Iran rages on and midterms creep closer, several smaller stories have been easily overlooked and the Epstein files have all but been swept under the rug.

On April 9, First Lady Melania Trump made a statement about how "the lines linking me with the disgraceful Jeffrey Epstein need to end today." She details the first time she met Epstein and claims she never had a relationship with the man.

Her statement finished with a call to action, urging Congress to act. "Epstein was not alone. Several prominent male executives resigned from their powerful positions after this matter became widely politi-

cized," said Melania. "Of course, this doesn't amount to guilt, but we still must work openly and transparently to uncover the truth."

The next day, President Donald Trump told the New York Times he did not know what topic the statement would be on. A senior white house official told CNN that the president declined to watch her statement in real time. In March, the Department of Justice posted interviews by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with a woman who alleged Trump had sexually assaulted her and introduced her to Jeffrey Epstein as a teenager. Since 2014, Trump has been accused of sexual misconduct by 28 women, according to The Guardian in 2020.

Earlier this year, in March, Texas Representative Tony Gonzales

withdrew from the reelection race. Gonzales had admitted to an affair, sparking an investigation by the Committee on Ethics within the House of Representatives. Gonzales had an affair with his district director, Regina Santos-Aviles, who committed suicide by self-immolation in September of last year, according to Texas Public Radio.

On March 4, the House Ethics Committee released a statement claiming that "sexual harassment and workplace misconduct" have "no place in the halls of Congress." Little over a month later, California Representative Eric Swalwell, who was elected to Congress in 2012, was accused of sexual misconduct on April 10.

A former staff member of Swalwell told The San Francisco

Chronicle that the representative had sexually assaulted her in a New York hotel room while she was intoxicated. On Saturday, April 11, the Manhattan district attorney's office announced they were starting an investigation into the allegation. The House Ethics Committee has also launched an investigation.

Several hours after the first allegation went public, CNN published an article including three other women accusing Swalwell of sexual misconduct, including explicit messages and unsolicited photos. Swalwell denies the allegations, but the accusations have upended the California governor's race in which he was a prominent figure.

Florida Representative Anna Paulina Luna proposed a motion to expel Swalwell.

The New York Times reports this motion may set off a chain reaction in Congress. Along with Swalwell and Gonzales, Florida Representative Cory Mills was investigated by the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police in connection with a report of assault on a woman. Mills' former girlfriend also issued a protective order against him, alleging that he threatened her with revenge porn after their breakup.

Historically, the House has called on alleged offenders to end their reelection campaigns but not called for their resignation. Since 2017, AP News has cataloged 147 state lawmakers across 44 states who have been accused of sexual misconduct or harassment.

"I don't care what the party affiliation is; if they are corrupt and

engaging in illegal activity in Congress, I'm going to vote to expel them," Luna wrote on social media. "It is time Congress had a good house cleaning." Luna has also called for Gonzales' expulsion.

On April 13, Swalwell posted on X declaring that he was resigning from Congress. Swalwell denies the allegations but writes that he "must take responsibility and ownership for the mistakes I did make." Minutes later, Gonzales announced he would formally file for resignation on April 14.

Resigning will put both men outside of the Ethics committee's jurisdiction. It's not clear what information the committee had gathered or if any of it will be made public.

- Correction -

## Guidelines for international students

The article "Guidelines for international students" in the March 24, 2026, issue of the Doane Owl contained incorrect information regarding

deadlines. A corrected and updated version is now available on doaneline.com.

For the most accurate, up-to-date guidelines for interna-

tional students, please refer to communications you have directly received from Doane Designated School Officials (DSOs) Tim Burge, Abi Nel-

son, Halle Weatherly, or from the international@doane.edu email.

We at the Doane Owl would like to apologize

for any inconvenience this caused. The Doane Owl strives to maintain high journalistic standards of accuracy and truthfulness.

# Doane's 31st annual Relay for Life exceeds its goal by \$8,299

ELIZABETH STRATTON  
Staff Writer

"Cancer changes perspectives," Karen Morris of the Crete UCC Church said. Countless individuals on the Doane campus and throughout the world have had their lives touched by cancer in one way or another. Whether it's a friend or family member they've lost or cared for, or maybe even themselves, cancer's destructive impact is far-reaching, and to this day, we still fight for the cure. This

is why we relay. This past Friday, April 10, Doane and Saline County held their 31st annual Relay For Life event. The overall donation goal was \$30,000, so Doane and the Crete community banded together to help raise money with a large event that drew a large share of the campus. Participants in the event went all out, with many on-campus groups and organizations raising money at their individual tables. There was food for re-layers to enjoy, as some

tables cooked food for this event. Chi Delta sorority sold quesadillas, and Alpha Pi Epsilon fraternity sold pancakes. Some tables opted for entertainment rather than sustenance, though. There was bracelet and keychain making, games, and even a dunk tank. Campus got to watch in awe as Quint Geis, Director of Career, Leadership & Service, dropped into the water not once, not twice, but numerous times. When asked why he kept going, all he had to say was "I'm

a sicko." There was dodgeball, tug-of-war and musical chairs that all could participate in as well. Needless to say, there was plenty of food and entertainment that made the six-hour event memorable. Though the atmosphere was fun and lively for much of the evening, some events had a more serious tone. Early in the night, a few cancer survivors and caregivers shared their stories, which were heartfelt and emotional. These hopeful stories reminded the campus what Relay for

Life was all about. Later in the night, the luminaria ceremony was held by senior Jules Harlow, who has been helping Doane's Relay for Life for the past two years but has been attending for four. During this time, students took a slow and quiet lap around the track as they placed their glowsticks in the luminaria bags. This could be ones they have created or any that were empty. By the end, all of the bags were glowing with hope for a world without cancer. The event went from

6 p.m. to 12 a.m and had a very high attendance for the entire six hours. By midnight, there was still just as big a crowd as there was at the beginning. During the closing ceremony, final announcements were made, and the campus watched in anticipation as the donation tally was displayed. Together, Doane's 2026 Relay for Life event exceeded the donation goal by over \$8,299, the most this event has raised in seven years. This marks another successful year for Doane Relay.



Photos by Elenna Koenig & Mackenzie Pike | The Doane Owl

(Top left) Members of Delta Kappa Pi walk the track showcasing their donation goal and a progress bar for the next victim to have their head shaved. (Top right) Junior Nathan Hagedorn shares his caregiver story about his mom. (Bottom left) Junior Ella Ningen shows off her 2nd place prize for musical chairs. (Bottom middle) Freshman Casey Callahan drops a glowstick into a luminaria bag. (Bottom right) APIO members pose for a photo at their booth where they sold boba.

## Weekly Horoscope

**Aquarius (January 21 - February 19):** Helping others will take you farther than self-indulgence can.

**Pisces (February 20 - March 20):** Whether it's fate or chance, now is the time to take advantage of anything that seems too good to be true.

**Aries (March 21 - April 20):** Your shoulders remember every grudge that you haven't let go of.

**Taurus (April 21 - May 21):** Minor annoyances sometimes settle naturally without forced resolution.

**Gemini (May 22 - June 21):** Over-rationalization limits your conversations today. Be honest and direct.

**Cancer (June 22 - July 22):** Excavate and examine the person you really are.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22):** Everyone argues, just stick to the subject and avoid insults.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22):** You've turned disappointments into personal mythology

**Libra (September 23 - October 22):** Don't let yourself feel defeated. Pursue the things you want.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21):** People often feel as if they have to work hard to understand you.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21):** Try to maintain a degree of perspective. Perfection is the enemy of good.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19):** Do it-even if you struggle.

# Unexpected Stop Day brought unforgettable experience for all

ELIZABETH STRATTON  
Staff Writer

One of Doane's most beloved traditions, Stop Day, happened last month. On March 24 the infamous Stop Day email was sent out at 6:17 a.m., followed by a very loud campus-wide wakeup, complete with sirens, hooting and hollering. This announcement

brought some mixed feelings onto campus as traditionally Stop Day has been held in April, and it was not a warm day this time. However, that didn't stop students from lining up outside of Lakeside as early as 7:30 in hopes to get their very own Stop Day shirts.

Main festivities started around 10 a.m. when sand volleyball started up. Along with this were various games

for those not interested in volleyball to partake in.

This flowed into lunch which was a very impressive county fair themed spread of different things you could eat. They really went all out for that.

Next were the canoe races. Around this time of day, it was starting to get really nice outside, which was refreshing for a lot of students. A large group of students

sat around Doane Lake and cheered on their peers as the canoe races happened.

After that were Trivia and Dodgeball, two events that drew an enthusiastic crowd. Dodgeball was competitive and fast-paced while Trivia was a lot more laid-back.

Bingo in Lakeside was the event that followed. Lots of prizes were handed out that day, from little Lego

sets to a TV.

Students then lined up for Chick-fil-A sandwiches and prepared for Doane Idol, the time where students truly get dinner and a show. All of the performances were creative and impressive but a select few ranked above all else. In third place, Gamma Phi Iota sorority put on a fun spelling bee bit that was sure to make the audience feel "enthu-

siasm." Second place was Phi Sigma Tau sorority with a very entertaining and impressive dance performance. In first place, sophomore Kya Caddy blew away campus with her beautiful singing voice.

The festivities ended with a big group picture of all who attended and that marked the end of Doane's Stop Day 2026.



Photos by Elenna Koenig & Mackenzie Pike | The Doane Owl

(Top left & bottom right) Students compete in canoe races by completing tasks across Doane Lake. (Top right) Members of Chi Delta pose for a quick group photo at the sand volleyball courts. (Middle left) Members of Delta Kappa Pi do a kick line within their skit for Doane Idol. (Middle & bottom left) Students compete in the sand volleyball tournament. (Middle right) Members of Phi Sigma Tau celebrate their 2nd place finish in the Doane Idol competition.

# Hopeful future for disc golf at Doane

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

Several changes are coming to campus in the next few months, with the new disc golf course being the most exciting for students.

Back in Jan., the Student Congress (Stu-Co) announced it was

collaborating with the High Stakes club on this project. Spencer Munson, the Assistant Director of Student Engagement, stated that the original course was created in the early 2000s but began to deteriorate about ten years later. "We've actually been trying to redo it for a long time," Munson said. "This has

been a work in progress since I got here."

On Feb. 18, Stu-Co reported that the course was "technically playable," although it required mowing and was waiting on tee boxes and signs.

Sophomore Andrew Englund, a member of the High Stakes Club, is working with Munson on this project.

This initiative reflects a shift for the High Stakes Club, which Munson mentioned is "considering retooling their mission to focus more on low-impact games."

Despite interest from various Greek organizations and campus groups, Munson hopes to establish a dedicated club focused on main-

taining the course. Additionally, he aims to secure community sponsorships for the tee boxes and signage. Meetings with facilities management and potential sponsors are scheduled for this week.

The goal is to set up nine holes around the president's house, with seven already complet-

ed. If the course expands to a back nine, it will be located near the sand volleyball courts.

If everything goes as planned with sponsorships, the first nine holes of the course should be installed over the summer.

# The Doane Owl

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

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

Flag courtesy of Mackenzie Pike

### Editorial

When we first get to Doane, one of the first things they tell you is to keep up with everything. Whether it is calling your parents, your friends back at home, your canvas, or even your email.

One thing many students do not realize is how important email is and how much it can impact their future. Whether it is about an internship you applied for what seems like years ago or just the Doane Bookstore sending another email about a deal they are having, which you'll probably never use.

But honestly, it goes the same for professors. Students are expected to stay on top of their emails and communication, but professors also play a big role in that as well. While we as students understand professors are busy with their own things, sometimes these late responses can leave students waiting for important information.

Now, to be clear, this isn't about blaming professors but instead about improving communication on both sides. At a school like Doane, where connections are valued and precious, communication helps reduce stress while keeping students on track.

# Doane tolerance on AI

ELIZABETH STRATTON  
Staff Writer

AI usage has always been an issue at Doane since I've been here. Granted, this is my first year at Doane, but seriously the amount of pure AI slop I've seen thus far has been absolutely insane. Whether it's people using ChatGPT instead of their brains for assignments, or posters clearly AI generated being approved and put up around campus, I don't think this school being so tolerant of AI usage is a good thing at all. Especially for an institution so into the environment and developing critical thinking skills, which AI in general is quickly diminishing.

So imagine my surprise when I go to the caf, as one does, and there have been

some new posters put up. They're placed right above the dessert station, truly huge eyesores that are clearly generative AI. If you look closely enough, you can see misspellings and errors on the ice cream one. It's very hard to miss the closer you look. Seriously, what are "coppings"? I'm mad. If you have a keen eye for clocking AI stuff immediately like I do, it's very clear with one glance that there is absolutely no thought behind those posters.

The various posters that Doane organizations have put up around campus could have easily been done on Canva rather than slopped together like they were. I don't understand the thought process at all. Especially with knowing the environmental impact of generative AI, you'd think they'd stay away. Is it that they don't

know it hurts the environment? Well, now you know!

This also raises a concern of mine. We have art and graphic design majors/minors. They are actively studying to make posters like that as a career, so why is this school using something that is actively threatening their future jobs? If you love doing their jobs for them, why offer it as a major? I really don't think Doane using generative AI for everything and very clearly being okay with it is a good look at all. To a large portion of campus who are artists, designers or critical thinkers, it looks horrible.

What's the next step? Take down those posters and get on Canva. Put some thought into what you're creating. Better yet, ask campus to design things for you. There are so many artists

and designers looking for opportunities and I'm sure if given the chance, they'd make something better than AI slop. Next, let's stop approving clearly AI-generated posters for clubs/events. Approving these and putting them everywhere shows that Doane thinks this is okay when it isn't! But if Doane doesn't want to change their ways, just stop offering art and graphic design majors/minors altogether. There is clearly no care for them or what they are going to do with their futures.

The longer we allow low effort on the things we put out, the more tolerance we will have for it. Generative AI is killing creativity and the planet. If you are contributing to this issue, it's never too late to change your ways and make your world a better place.

# \$33,000 for a musical?

ANDREA PAVLISH  
Staff Writer

When I hear the words "high school" and "musical" in the same sentence, and they aren't referring to the iconic Troy Bolton biography, I am usually a little skeptical about what is about to unfold. Some high school theater programs, like my own, are infamous for producing low-effort and minimally entertaining shows. The cycle of being low-funded and poorly populated usually results in these catastrophes. However, this past week, a certain drama department blew my mind and all of those stereotypes out of the water.

I love a good musical. Even a basic high school production makes me a jolly woman. But, there's always something. Kids are still in their awkward stage, so there always seems to be a few stragglers in the ensem-

ble. Not every school has the funding to do fly systems and fog machines. But, when all the right pieces (and money) come together, you get the phenomenal performance of "Shrek" at Lincoln Southwest High School (LSW).

I didn't think this column would come to reviewing high school drama productions, but here we are. The costumes, vocals, sound effects, lights, set and overall vibes were too impeccable not to share with this campus newspaper. I am going into this with the understanding that "Shrek" is synonymous with the ABCs in our generation, and henceforth does not need a synopsis of its glory.

I should start by naming some logistics. The Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) district gives the LSW drama department \$2,000 for an entire year of performances. The budget for this show alone was \$35,000. You might be asking, where does the other \$33,000 come

from? It comes from some heavy-duty fundraising and rather generous donations. I thought that was a typo when I saw it in the program. It was not. Holy cannoli, does that money go to good use, though? There was not one aspect of the show that I thought could have used improvement. Let me give you some examples.

Costumes: each costume seemed to be perfectly curated for every actor, even the ensemble. The whimsical dragon actress came with an absolutely ginormous dragon puppeteer to accentuate the monstrosity she is. Paired with fire vocals, I totally understand why Donkey was mesmerized. Pinocchio's nose even grew with each lie he told. Fiona could've worn her dress to prom because it was that perfect. The Goldilocks bears looked so comfortable, yet so bear-like. Shrek looked like a proper ogre. Don't even get me started on Lord Farquaad and his

army's wigs. Top-tier. Truly.

Vocals: not even a voice crack could have been heard because of the flawlessness of the songs. The diction was crisp, and the tone was perfect. Any one of those singers could have gone to auditions on Broadway, and no one would have batted an eye. Complimented by a pit orchestra, their first in about 15 years, the music was just as good, or even better than the movie. Ending the show with a rendition of "Believer," even the grandma sitting behind me couldn't help but boogie along.

Set: a fog machine underneath the bedroom of Princess Fiona as she awaits a prince? Are you kidding me?? Who even thinks of these things? I mean, it was awesome, don't get me wrong.

It's a shame they didn't take a brief tour of Doane's campus. I think Cassel would've made a great stage.

# Twenties are a weird time

ELIJAH LARA  
Managing Editor

Well, hello devoted readers, I hope that your Easter break was fun and magical, making mine enjoyable too. With that being said, over break, I got to thinking about something, and in all reality, it's has been on my mind for quite some time.

And yes, I should be worried about more important things like my Capstone project, my Writing with AI final project and a variety of other things. But the number one thing I am thinking about is, am I wasting my twenties?

Like, for example, over the weekend I got onto Instagram, and I saw five different posts, two of people getting engaged, people running marathons and some announcing they're having kids, which congrats to everyone who has achieved those milestones. But then there's me, where I spend every night working on homework while watching Adventure Time.

Another reason I started asking this question to myself is that I also got asked over the weekend, "When are you gonna get married?" or "Your turn to have kids." Now I should be used to this, considering the fact that ev-

ery time I come home, I get asked these same questions. But what I think really did it for me was the fact that this was my significant other's first time coming to my hometown, which did not make it any better. I think we all get the point.

But funny enough, I am not the only one who is asking these questions. And to be quite honest, I don't think I am wasting my twenties. Instead, I think I am making the most out of it. Now I am not trying to drag people who are thriving in their twenties; that isn't my intent. If anything, I am envying them because I am glad that someone can hit

the milestones that I probably will never make or just haven't made yet.

So if you're like me, questioning whether you're wasting your twenties, consider the fact that there are no deadlines when it comes to how we live our lives. There isn't a rulebook saying that you need to be married at 25, have three kids by 29, own your first house by 32, etc. If you're happy with where you are now, then that's all that matters. If you have goals in life and are working towards them, and you're happy, that's all that matters, and do not lose sight of that.

# Suffering is a gory spectacle

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

In every “Hunger Games” book, there is a scene that reminds us of the humanity of both the characters and ourselves. These poignant moments tug at our heartstrings, making us root for the characters—not against each other, but against the system itself. Examples include Katniss in the hospital, Rue surrounded by flowers, Reaper with the flag, Lucy Gray singing and Haymitch in the field.

These scenes are so effective because we, the audience, succumb to the atmosphere of the games, drawn in by the fanfare and spectacle. We want our favor-

ite characters to survive, even though doing so means that others must die. This concept is not exclusive to the Hunger Games.

A well-known parallel can be found in slasher films, the “final girl” trope. This trope leaves the last surviving female character to confront the killer and to tell the story. Examples of this can be found in films like “Scream”, “Psycho”, “Halloween”, “Alien”, “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre”, “Friday the 13th”, etc. It’s not exactly an indie movie concept.

There’s nothing wrong with enjoying those movies either. It’s not that different from contact sports like hockey or wrestling.

You can cheer for violence because there are rules, because the people fighting volunteered, because there is a line to cross. Suffering becomes a spectacle with a clear “off switch.” It can be taken too far; look at Clint Malarchuk or Darren Drozdov. When it’s characters instead of people, there’s no need for those same rules; the audience can distance themselves from their morality for the sake of entertainment.

In his 2021 novel, “The Final Girl Support Group”, Grady Hendrix poses the question: What happens to the final girl after the credits roll? To answer this, we must ask another question: why do we even desire a final

girl? The existence of a final girl demands that every other character must die.

In slasher films, the structure is less nuanced; there’s a clear villain and a group of victims/protagonists. The final girl’s classmates, such as her chem lab partner, the quarterback, or her best friend, are easier for audiences to relate to and root for. Yet, the genre demands their deaths for the audience’s full emotional investment. Their deaths give her life meaning.

This is the unsettling truth: the girl left standing at the end is only compelling when she is covered in blood. The audience gains nothing from senseless death. Other characters must

perish to show that death serves a purpose and that her life holds meaning.

Real violence is far too cruel to stomach—a child spraying bullets in a school cafeteria, a bomb detonating at a finish line, a man struggling to breathe under the knee of law enforcement, a pickup truck speeding down a crowded street, or a video of a woman being killed in her car.

In contrast, the media offers a simplified resolution. The killer is caught, the system is dismantled and the final girl gets her revenge.

No one has to confront the aftermath as the credits begin to roll.

As Grady Hendrix writes, “the violence in

a slasher film is a comforting blanket drawn up against the chill of the infinite moral void of reality.” Through the pixels on a screen or the pages of a book, death takes on meaning, distracting us from the harsh reality that mass death robs life of its individuality.

In this context, it becomes us versus them, with “us” being the audience and “them” being the characters in the show. This creates a division, unlike the real world, where both groups share the same crowded city streets under the same administration in the same country.

Suffering is only entertaining as long as it’s happening to someone else, somewhere else.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING THIS WEEK: APRIL 13-19

### FCA WORSHIP NIGHT

- APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ LAKESIDE AT 8:00 PM

### CAPE: SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

- APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ LAKESIDE AT 7:30 PM

### RHA PIXIE HOLLOW NIGHT

- APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ LAKESIDE AT 7:00 PM

### STUDENT LEADER LUNCHEON: “LOOKING TO THE FUTURE AND PLANNING AHEAD”

- APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>-17<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ EAST/WEST DINING FROM 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### SPB: 3 ON 3 INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

- APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ SMITH BASKETBALL COURT FROM 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### CAPE, CHI DELTA, GAMMA PHI IOTA: #STEPSS4THEM

- APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 @ CROSS COUNTRY COURSE AT 6:00 PM



Courtesy of Doane Student Affairs

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## THE DOANE OWL *Publish Dates*

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

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Graphic by Elenna Koenig | The Doane Owl

## ...Thumbs UP

Hot

Move

Award

Violation

Countdown

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...

## WRITE FOR THE OWL

The Owl is looking for writers, photographers and content creators

Contact [elenna.koenig@doane.edu](mailto:elenna.koenig@doane.edu) if interested

# Baseball wins four games out of the five games this week

MACKENZIE PIKE  
Sports Editor

Baseball continued the week with five games. Baseball traveled to Liberty, Missouri, to play William Jewell 11-8.

Senior Johnny Vulcano had four hits, with junior Grant Sommers with 2. Some other players who made an impact were junior Max Harris, senior Jordan Bond

and sophomore Caden Driessen, who each had one hit.

On the defense side, the Tigers used seven different pitchers, with sophomore Isaiah Miller as the starting pitcher, who pitched one inning with two strikeouts. Another impact pitcher was sophomore Cade Bridges, who had three strikeouts. The closing pitcher was senior Ethan Merk, who pitched one inning with two strikeouts.

Baseball continued the week by traveling to Yankton, South Dakota, for a two-game series against Mount Marty. In the first game, the Tigers lost 0-5 against Mount Marty.

Despite the loss, senior Carter Roth had three hits, with Bond, Harris and sophomore Jett Grossart with one hit.

On the pitching side, senior Kaden Crawford pitched five innings with one strikeout. The

closing pitcher was Broc Songster, who pitched one inning with no strikeouts.

The Tigers beat Mount Marty in the second game, 2-1. The players who led the Tigers to success were Roth with four hits, junior Tanner Nelson with two hits, senior Sam Kwapnioski and junior Adam Vulcano with one hit.

On the other side, sophomore Riley Plummer pitched nine innings with two strikeouts.

The Tigers

finished the week-end at home playing Midland in a two-game series. In the first game, they won 8-0.

Nelson got three hits with Bond, Sommers and Kwapnioski, and two hits from Roth, Vulcano and junior Brayden Jones.

On the pitching side, Gabe Rodriguez started and pitched six innings with two strikeouts. Carter Baete finished the game and pitched one inning with one strikeout.

In the last game, the Tigers swept Midland with a 4-3 win. Nelson was able to get three hits against Midland. With two hits were Roth, Kwapnioski, and with one hit were Vulcano, Harris and Grossart.

Baseball will play a four-game series with Hastings College on April 18 and 19 in Hastings, Nebraska.

# Women's Golf places second in the Concordia tournament

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

Women's Golf took two teams on the short trip to Lincoln on April 7 and 8 to play in the Concordia Bulldog Spring Invite.

Doane A placed second overall, playing a three-round total of 984 (327-326-331). Sophomore Connie Jarm placed second individually with a 234 total. Team Captain senior Kaitlyn Dumler tied for fourth with

a 240 total. Jarm led the A team through all three rounds, consistently shooting under 80 on a par 72 course. She shot two strokes under par on the 17th hole of Highlands golf course in the first round.

Doane B placed tenth. Freshmen Emmarie Miles and Isabelle Johnson led the B team, tying for 38th with 271 totals.

Jarm said she believed she did well despite the windy and cold weather. "I think the team

will do well and try our best," Jarm said of the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC). "We know we need to work on ourselves and as a team."

Women's Golf's next tournament will be the Doane Invite on April 13

and April 14. They will be playing in Lincoln on the Wilderness Ridge and Pioneers Golf courses and bringing seventeen players to compete.

# Women's Tennis continues to making big wins this week

JERONIMO CORCHO  
Staff Writer

The Doane women's tennis team hit the courts for a demanding stretch this past week, taking on three different conference opponents and walking away with a pair of impressive victories.

The action kicked off on Tuesday, April 7, as the Tigers hosted the College of Saint Mary at the Newburg Held Tennis Complex, edging out a tight 4-3 win. In doubles, Grace Schroller and Kat

Johnson secured a 6-3 victory in the number two slot. The Tigers really found their stride in singles play to clinch the overall win. Maria Purizaca controlled the number one singles match (6-2, 6-0), and Liz Calderon followed suit in the second slot (6-1, 6-2). Isabella Castillero battled back after dropping the first set to win the fifth singles match (1-6, 6-3, 6-3), while Alejandra Prat cruised to a 6-3, 6-1 victory in the sixth singles spot.

Riding that momentum, the team traveled to Orange City, Iowa, on Friday, April 10, where they earned a 6-1 victory over Northwestern. The Tigers secured victories in all three doubles matches to claim the opening point, with the duos of Purizaca/Calderon (6-2), Schroller/Johnson (6-0), and Castillero/Prat (6-4) putting together strong performances. In singles play, Doane took five of the six matchups. Purizaca, Schroller, Castillero, and Prat

all secured straight-set wins, while Calderon showed great resilience to bounce back and win her number two singles match 5-7, 6-0, 6-1.

Capping off the back-to-back road trip on Saturday, April 11, the Tigers faced a formidable Morningside squad in Sioux City, Iowa, ultimately falling 2-5. Despite the overall team loss, the top of the lineup fought hard. Purizaca and Calderon provided a bright spot in doubles, winning their number one matchup 6-4.

Both players also ground out grueling three-set victories in their singles matches. Purizaca outlasted her opponent 7-6, 0-6, 7-5 in the first singles spot, and Calderon battled to a 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 win in the second slot.

After the busy stretch, Calderon shared her thoughts on the team's performance. "Playing three matches in such a short time was definitely a challenge for us physically," Calderon said. "Getting those wins against Saint Mary

and Northwestern was huge for our confidence in the conference. Even though the match against Morningside didn't go our way, I'm proud of how we kept competing until the very last point. We need to rest up now, but we are ready to get back to work and focus on our next goal."

The next match for the Tigers will be against Midland on Tuesday, April 14 in Fremont, Nebraska.

# Men's Golf maintains strong individual performances

BRIANNA WRIGHT  
Life & Culture Editor

On April 6 and 7 Men's Golf traveled to Andover, Kansas, to compete in the Lark Invitational. Doane took eight

players total for the two-day, three-round tournament, with six competing on a team and two as individuals.

Sophomore Heidar Bjarnason led the team in all except the last round,

shooting on par in the second round. Freshman Ben Kottmeyer scored lower than Bjarnason in the second round, only one shot above par.

In total, they scored 895 (298-300-

297), placing fourth.

Freshman Embree Stutsman and Carson Kildow shot below 80 all three rounds, securing them good individual placements.

Bjarnason tied for fourth place individ-

ually with a total of 218. Both Kottmeyer and Stutsman tied for 18th with 225, giving the Tigers three top-twenty finishes. Kildow placed 25th with a total of 227.

Men's Golf will

next play on April 13 and 14 in Lincoln, Nebraska, before the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) on April 20 and 21.

# Track scores big against Nebraska Wesleyan University in annual dual

ELIYAH LARA  
Managing Editor

On Wednesday, April 8, both Men's and Women's Track and Field teams traveled up to Lincoln, Nebraska, to take on Nebraska Wesleyan University in a dual where both teams walked away with wins. The Women's team had a score of 123-61 while the Men's team had a score of 93-86.

There were a ton of athletes who were in the top three in all categories, so starting with first in the Women's 100m was junior Neryah Hekl, who had a time of 12.01. In the 200m junior, RaeAnn Thompson placed second with a time of 25.34. Senior Kat Vogt placed first in the 400m, where she had a time of 53.32.

In the 800m was senior Danie Parriott, who placed first with a time of 2:17.00.

Going into longer distances was senior Maddy Ramey in the 1500m, who placed first with a time of 4:59.62. And finally, in the 5000m was freshman Kristen Billings, with a time of 19:00.82, which placed her first.

Jumping over the hurdles in the 100m was senior Josie Garrett, who placed third with a time of 14.94. In the 400m hurdles was junior Chaney Nelson, who had a time of 1:04.22, which placed her first.

Running in the 4x100 were Thompson, senior Morgan Mahoney, freshman Elizabeth Wemhoff and Hekl, where they placed first with a time of 46.75.

And in the 4x400 was Vogt, freshman Jayden Meyer, junior Kiley Hejtmanek and senior Tania Gleason, where they had a time of 3:49.38, which placed them first.

Switching over to the Men's running events, in the 100m was sophomore Ryland Garretson, who finished in third with a time of 10.94. In the 800m was senior Emmanuel Yego, who placed second with a time of 1:57.24. Placing second in the 1500m was senior Michael Grigsby, who had a time of 3:59.78. Finishing up in the 5000m was sophomore Porter Bickley, who finished in first with a time of 15:17.29.

Placing third in the 400m hurdles was senior Caleb Mulder, who had a

time of 55.08. Running in the 4x400 were Mulder, junior Eli Marez, Yego and senior Jonathan Zoubek, who paced second with a time of 3:19.91.

Going into the field events was junior Jackson Kesler, who placed first in the Men's high jump with a mark of 1.98m. In the Women's high jump was freshman Kayley Thompson, who also placed first with a mark of 1.68m.

Placing first in the Men's pole vault was sophomore Ashton Pulliam, who had a mark of 4.45m. Switching over to the Women's pole vault was freshman Avery Scott, who placed first with a time of 3.68m.

Jumping in the Men's long jump was junior Michael Willey, who had a mark

of 7.01m, which placed him first. Along with jumping in the triple was junior Brian Cech, who also placed first with the 14.30m. Going into the Women's long jump, freshman Addison Fahrbruch placed first with a mark of 5.10m. Finishing up the jumps was senior Kyla Davis in the Women's Triple, who placed first with a mark of 11.20m.

In the Men's Throws was senior Cale Bessler, who placed second in the shot put, where he got a 16.77m. In the discus was senior Christopher Brown, who also placed first, with a mark of 52.68m. Senior Andrew Schmitz placed first in the hammer, with a mark of 59.87m, and junior Mason Crumbliss finished with the

javelin, also placing first with a mark of 58.32m.

And finally, in the Women's throws was sophomore Madison Heusinkvelt, who placed first in shot put, where she had a mark of 13.18m, along with the javelin, where she had a mark of 42.10m. Finishing in second in the discus was freshman Paige Bull, who had a mark of 45.88m, and in the hammer was junior Kaylie Lotspeich, who placed first with a mark of 53.07m.

Next up, both Men's and Women's Track and Field teams will be competing at home in the John Green Combined Events and James Dutcher Memorial on April 16-18.

## Men's Tennis loses 1-6 to the Morningside Mustangs

JEROMINO CORCHO  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 11, the men's tennis team traveled to face off against Morningside.

In the number one doubles match, senior Diego Infante and junior Elliot Dassel lost 2-6. In

the number two doubles match, junior Andre Hartman and freshman Jaime Asiain Banzo lost 2-6. Closing out the doubles side, in the third match, freshmen Mats Vervloet and Miles Mollring lost 3-6.

In the first singles match, Vervloet

battled back to win 1-6, 7-5, 10-5. Competing in the second singles match, Infante lost 2-6, 2-6. Transitioning into the third singles match, Asiain Banzo lost 2-6, 1-6. Taking on the fourth singles match, Dassel lost 1-6, 2-6. In the fifth singles match, Hart-

man lost 0-6, 0-6. Finishing off in the sixth singles match, Mollring lost 0-6, 0-6.

After the game, Asiain Banzo shared his thoughts on the day. "It was a tough afternoon for us out there, and Morningside really made us earn every point,"

Asiain Banzo said. "Even though the results weren't what we hoped for, Mats [Vervloet] showed great resilience pulling out that win in singles. We are going to take what we learned from these matches, get back to practice and bring better energy into

our next one." The next match for the Tigers will be against Midland on Tuesday, April 14 at 1:00 P.M. in Fremont, Nebraska

## Softball struggles to score in mid-season games

MACKENZIE PIKE  
Sports Editor

Softball traveled to Omaha, Nebraska, to play College of Saint Mary on April 6. In the two-game series, softball lost both games.

In the first game, the Tigers lost 3-6.

The most impactful players were junior Katelyn Hay with three hits, junior Jeryn Allen, and junior Evelyn Iniguez, who each had two hits. Along with sophomores Addison Parsons and Bri True, with one hit.

On the pitching

side, junior Natalie Ascencio pitched six innings with three strikeouts.

In the second game against the College of Saint Mary, the Tigers lost 4-5.

The players who helped out the team were sophomore Kayla Meyer with three hits, Parson, Hays, and sophomore Ciara Hudson with two hits. The players who contributed with one hit were Allen, junior Jacqueline Ordonez and sophomore Milannie Gonzalez.

On Apr 11, Softball hosted Dakota Wesleyan in a two-game series. In the first game, the Ti-

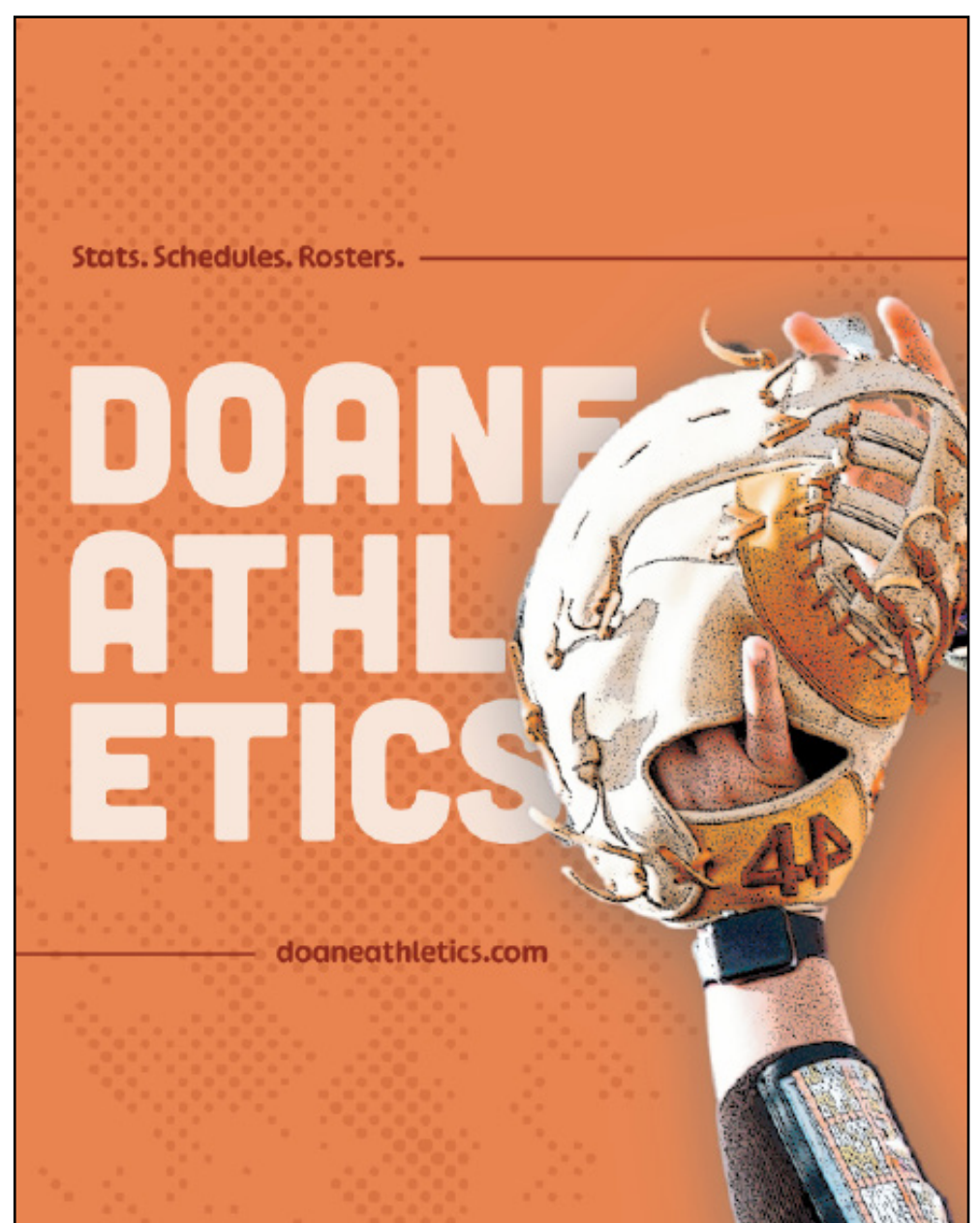
gers lost 1-3 to Dakota Wesleyan.

The players who contributed to the team were Iniguez, who had 2 hits with Allen, and junior Liliy Lewis, who had 1 hit.

Junior Trinity Robinson pitched all seven innings with two strikeouts.

In the second game against Dakota Wesleyan, they lost 0-8. Senior Faith McDonald had two hits with the help of Allen, Meyer and Hays with one hit.

Softball's next games are against Mount Marty at home, at 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm.



Graphic by Hailey Schweitzer | The Doane Owl