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Students have specific
guaranteed rights through
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ART COMPETITION
Students display art
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THE GUIDON

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ADOPT-A-COP

Hays Police Department partners with Hays High

By Michaela Austin
Hays High Guidon

Students may have noticed a police officer being here more frequently. Sometimes they may see one walk through the hallways, and they start asking, “What are they doing here?” The reason why is because of a new program that affects the whole school district. “It’s called Adopt-a-Cop program,” Assistant Principal Fred Winter said. “All buildings in the district have one or two officers. They are building rapport with students and staff. They are not here every day and are not stationed anywhere in the building, like a SRO [School Resource Officer], but they come in and give presentations and just want to get to know students and staff.” The change started this semester in order to build better connections between the police department and the staff and students in the district.

The two police officers who are specifically assigned to Hays High are Dakota Gulley and David Vilaysing. Having police officers assigned to a public school is a somewhat common thing. There are schools that even have a police officer stationed at the school every day throughout the entire day. “The officers and law enforcement have always been welcomed in public schools in any district I’ve been into,” Winter said. “I was in a district in Valley Center where we had an SROs who actually had an office in the building, and they were there just pretty much all throughout the day. They would also go out on calls.” However, the Adopt-a-Cop program is not the same thing as having a School Resource Officer. In the Adopt-a-Cop program, the police officers come when they have time or when a staff member

• See “Police” pg. 2

SCHOOL LIFE

Job Etiquette

DECA group hosts seminar for interested students

By Allison Brooks
Hays High Guidon

Being on time, having a good work ethic and knowing how to think on your feet are all qualities needed to enter the workforce, but many teenagers today feel underprepared to take that next step in their life. “I’m not ready for the future at all,” junior Hope Schumacher said. “I have no idea what I want to do with my life yet.” To help fix this problem, juniors Andrea Lopez, Brooklyn Schaffer and Claire Shippy centered their DECA project around teaching teenagers skills to prepare them for entering their career. To accomplish this goal, they organized a seminar at the Country Club on Jan. 22 with four different pairs of speakers who all talked about different skills necessary for the future, and they ended the

event with a five-course meal and an etiquette lesson. Planning for this event started two months in advance and took a lot of coordination and work. “We had to have contact with the speakers at least twice a week, we had to call the Country Club to get all the meals and set up ready, we had to make posters, we had to get materials such as name tags and candy for the tables, we had to get a sponsor in order to get some of the gift cards,” Schaffer said. The event was open to all juniors and seniors who are members of DECA or Leadership Team. “A lot of us are close to graduating in a year so we thought it would be best to get ahead so that we’re ready for when we graduate,” Schaffer said. The first pair of speakers

• See “DECA” pg. 2



COURTESY PHOTO / The Guidon

Juniors Andrea Lopez, Brooklyn Schaffer and Claire Shippy organize a career advancements seminar.

CELEBRITIES

In Loving Memory

Recent passings of celebrities leaves Hays High students to mourn

By Meg Taggart
Hays High Guidon

The recent death of certain celebrities has affected almost everyone in one way or another, whether it caused an emotional reaction, appeared in conversations between friends or even popped up in social media feeds. Speaking of, you may have heard that basketball icon Kobe Bryant died on Jan. 26, along with his daughter Gianna Bryant and seven others when the helicopter they were in collided with the Santa Monica mountains in California. Gianna Bryant was 13 and planned on playing for the WNBA to

continue her father’s legacy, as she was working on perfecting his signature moves and plays. “I was sad when I heard that Kobe died, and then when I heard that eight other people died,” senior Carson Ackerman said. “But, when it’s a 13-year-old girl, she had so much life left to live and such a potential in the game of basketball and in life as well.” Since Kobe Bryant’s death, there has been discussion that the NBA should change its logo in tribute to him. In fact, there is a petition about it that has racked up 2.5 million signatures and counting. “I don’t know if that’s

actually something that is reasonable, but I do think they need to do something in the NBA to honor Kobe,” Ackerman said. “I heard that some people are trying to get the all-star MVP trophy named after him, but I feel like something does need to happen to contribute to his legacy.” Kobe Bryant will not only live on for his achievements in basketball, but also for his inspirational state of mind. It was labelled the Mamba Mentality, after his nickname, The Mamba. Mamba Mentality was explained by Kobe Bryant as a way to describe the level of intense focus and relentless approach he would



ALEXIS PFANNENSTIEL / The Guidon

take in both preparation and competition. “Kobe was more of a public figure than a

basketball player,” senior Tucker Johnson said. “I’d say for some people, he had that quality that tran-

scended basketball so everybody outside of the

• See “Celebs” pg. 2

YOUR VIEW

Do you think Hays High needs police officers?

“If they think they need to have it for security, let them have it.”
—senior Paige Beamer

“I think it is a good precaution for emergencies.”
—senior Megan Flavin

“I don’t think so. I mean maybe to regulate people with nicotine and stuff like that, but that’s the only reason I can think of.”
—junior Trista Flock

“I think it’s a good idea to have them outside of the parking lot, like where we’re all trying to exit. I think when they see the police officer, it helps them to realize to slow down and take your time.”
— sophomore Sam Vesper

Do you feel prepared for your future?

“No, because I have really bad time management.”
—junior Camry Young

“Yes, because I feel prepared for tomorrow, and it’s okay to take things day by day.”
—senior Zoe Buffington

“Yes, I feel prepared because I am a hard worker.”
—senior Isaac Smith

“I feel as prepared as I can be because I’m ready for school, but not ready to leave my family.”
—junior Sophia Garrison

“Yes, because I know what I am going to do with my life.”
—senior Sierra Bryant

“I do feel prepared because the classes I’m taking now suite the career I plan on going into.”
—junior Skylar Zimmerman

POLICE/Officers stationed on Hays High campus

• FROM PAGE 1

has invited them to present to their students. “For the most part, they’re in the building trying to build a good rapport with students and teachers,” Winter said. “It’s not an everyday thing, but it’s a thing they are just being intentional about. We’ll also invite them to come and eat lunch. It’s not something that’s not happened before; it’s just here recently they’re making a conscious effort to be in the building more. If you see them, if you were in another building like an elementary school or the middle school, you would

also see different officers making connects with the staff and students.” The possibility of having a School Resource Officer in the future is unclear, but the Adopt-a-Cop program is what the district wants to have right now. “I think just right now this is the program where we’re able to have officers come in and just meet with students and have a good relationship,” Winter said. “Law enforcement is here to protect and serve. A lot of it has nothing to do with punishment. Everything to do with being a better citizen and a better person.”
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PAIGE POLIFKA-DENSON / The Guidon

DECA/Professionals speak on how to prepare for future

• FROM PAGE 1

ers was Rhonda Meyerhoff and Mackenzie Neuhauser, who both work at Eagle Communications. They spoke about the importance of knowing your strengths and weaknesses and how those can play into the strengths and weaknesses of the people with whom you work. Between each speaker, there were 15-minute breaks and drawings for a

chance to win a gift card. The second pair of speakers was Niki Dinkel and Karen McCullough, who both work in Career Services at Fort Hays State University. They gave advice for making resumes and provided resources to help prepare for interviews. The third speaker was Dr. Donnette Noble, who is a professor at FHSU. She did a demonstration about body language,

teaching students what to look for and what they can adjust. The last pair of speakers was Jamie and Kelsey Kuehl, who own six McDonalds throughout Kansas. They spoke about what they look for when they hire people and what not to do in job interviews. “We found our speakers through recommendations by Mrs. [Shaina] Prough, and we also called the college and asked for rec-

ommendations as well,” Shippy said. After all the speakers, lunch was served, and businesswoman Gail Kuehl walked everyone through the proper etiquette to eat each course. “I gained a lot from what the speakers had to say,” Schumacher said. “They went more in detail into things like interviews and what employers are looking for. My favorite part was the etiquette class,

though, honestly because of the meal we got.” Lopez said she feels that the event was a success and hopes that everyone gained as much as she did from the experience. “I believe the event was very successful because of how much information was gained, the way the speakers interacted with the group and an overall great response from the group,” Lopez said.
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CELEBS/Passing of recent celebrities saddens community

• FROM PAGE 1

basketball world knew him and the work ethic quality that he possessed. He was just a quality guy.” Kobe Bryant was not the only celebrity to leave his fans in the last few months. Juice WRLD died on Dec. 8, 2019, due to complications with an overdose-induced seizure. He was a 21-year-old rapper/artist who reached the Billboard Top 100 25 times in two years for songs, such as “All Girls Are the Same” and “Lucid Dreams.” “I was sad when he first died, but he was kind of working towards it in the life that he chose, though I did like his music,” Johnson said.

Whether people follow basketball or listened to Juice WRLD, celebrity deaths seem to have an effect over many. You may have felt sympathy for them, for their families or for the fans they left behind. Accidents, such as these two, reminds the public that no one can avoid death. “I think that people were affected by Kobe’s death because they’ve grown up with him,” school psychologist Nikki Lind said. “He’s been a part of the culture for a long time, everyone knows who Kobe Bryant is and they spend a lot of time watching him in his basketball games and in advertisements. He’s just permeated the culture, and with that, they feel a loss.”
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Scholarship Opportunities

The VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) and Auxiliary support these scholarships:

- VOD (Voice of Democracy) – Audio essay contest for grades 9-12
- Patriotic Art – Art contest for grades 9-12
- Continuing Education Scholarship - awarded to Members, as well as the child or grandchild of a VFW Auxiliary Member – 18+ years



vfwauxiliary.org
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DRESS CODE

SUIT UP

Students reprimanded for clothing choice on school property

By Nikka Vuong
Hays High Guidon

Dress code rules are set to promote appearance that refrains from interference with the intended function of school.

According to education.findlaw.com, the first laws regarding school dress code were established in 1969 by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the same article, it said that the Tinker vs. Des Moines Independent School District case involved students wearing black armbands to protest the Vietnam War. From that, the Court decided that schools may limit student expression if it is disruptive to the learning environment or violates the rights of others.

Dress code rules in the Hays High student handbook include that shoes being worn, that no headgear should be worn in the building until the dismissal bell, that items of apparel considered distracting, unsafe, offensive, revealing or suggestive should not be worn and

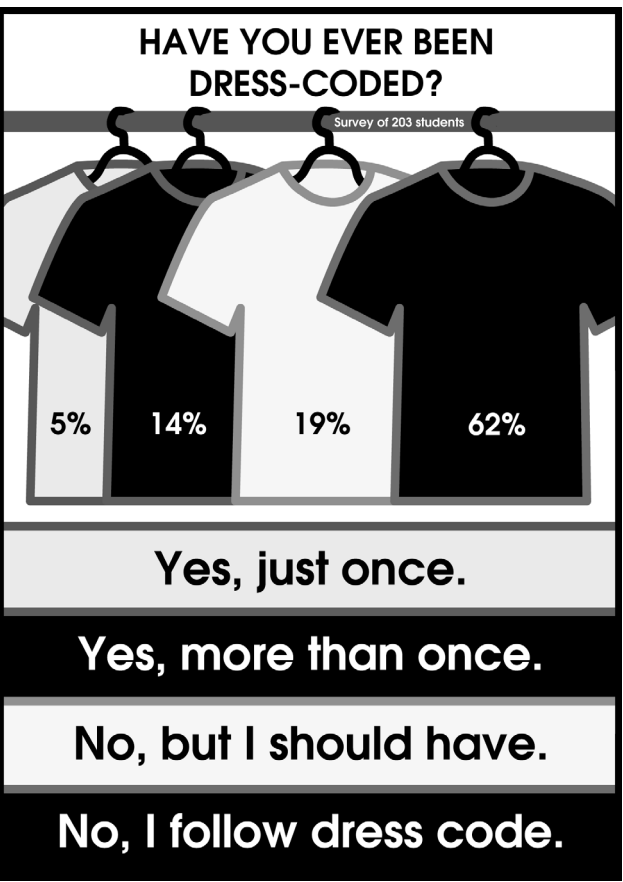
that no bare backs or shirts with exposed stomachs are permitted.

“These rules were set by past administrators and have been changed to fit what is needed through the years,” Assistant Principal Fred Winter said.

Multiple students throughout school have been dress-coded for breaking these rules, including senior Marielyn Castaing and junior Sophie Gross.

“My experience with dress code isn’t great because the administrators told me to ‘keep it under control,’ which I didn’t like very much,” Gross said. “In addition to that, the same day, a couple of boys in my class were wearing really short shorts and cut-offs, and their whole chest was visible, and they didn’t get dress-coded.

“I know the administration saw them because I was walking back from lunch with them when I got stopped. Sexist, yikes. I didn’t have to change my shirt, but they made me put on my jacket and



PAIGE POLIFKA-DENSON / The Guidon

zip it all the way up.”

Winter said that when teachers or administrators notice dress code issues, the students are asked to

change into something different at the nurse’s office, or they are asked to zip up their jackets. For example, boys who wear cut-off

shirts are asked to change.

Students have also been dress-coded due to inappropriate shirts that were not school approved, such as the traditional senior class T-shirts, which are not school sponsored.

“We keep the tradition because it’s always been something that [seniors] have done,” senior Sierra Bryant said. “It’s also kind of cool to see everyone’s designs, and we didn’t make ours that [inappropriate]. I do think some people take our shirts out of proportion, though.”

Appropriateness of dress and appearance are determined by and enforced by the administration on an individual basis.

“I wouldn’t change the dress code rules because there are reasons behind each rule, but I would [like administration] to be more consistent in enforcing them,” Gross said. “I think it is quite unfair of the administrators to dress code the girls for every little thing, but when the boys break it, it is overlooked.”
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YOUR VIEW

If you could change the dress code, how would you change it?

“Oh yeah, workout stuff.”
—junior TayShaun Birch

“If I could change a rule, I would change the shoulders rule.”
—sophomore Ashlynn Flax

“I’m personally not affected by the dress code rules, so I don’t really care.”
—junior Alisara Arial

“I would definitely love to change the dress code. I would like it to allow us to wear hats. Hats would be really great.”
—sophomore Carson Brooksher

“I think students should be allowed to wear hats and hoods.”
—freshman Seth Sumaya

“I think that we should be allowed to wear hats.”
—freshman Caleb Johnson

“I would want to change the hat rule because I want to wear a hat.”
—sophomore Kristen Kuhl

Have you ever purchased somebody’s merch?

“I bought Benny the Jet’s merch.”
—senior Brock Lummus

“I bought Dawson Armstrong’s Benny the Jet merch.”
—senior Luke Fletcher

“I purchased a Demeetrius Harmon hoodie.”
—senior DaVontai Robinson

“Jordan’s.”
—senior Makayla Payne

“I have bought Milk Boy’s stuff.”
—senior Dawson Garrison

“Yes, I have purchased merch. Shout out to Lil Yachty.”
—senior Madelyn Waddell

“Yes, I have purchased someone’s merchandise, and it was Dawson Armstrong’s Benny the Jet.”
—senior Isabell Robben

“I have not bought merch from anyone, but I would if Alicia Feyerherm’s YouTube channel had it.”
—senior Olivia Reed

MERCH

Senior sells merchandise for streaming channel

By Nikka Vuong
Hays High Guidon

Throughout the years at Hays High, a few students have created and sold their own merchandise designs. Student-made merch has often been created to promote a cause or just be a novelty item.

Graduate Scott Perryman made hoodies for students saying, ‘Scout Perryman for President’ last year, senior Paige Polifka-Denson created hoodies of retired instructor Bill Gasper last year and most recently senior Dawson Armstrong has created merch to promote his channel/brand “Benny the Jet.”

Armstrong first created his merch in September and started selling to students in mid-November.

“All the people that support me playing video games online and streaming thought it would be cool if I made merch, so

they could wear it and support me in another way,” Armstrong said. “I could also maybe give back to them later in the future with the money I receive off the merch. I also thought it would be a good idea, so I did it.”

On the back of Armstrong’s merch design is a red and white retro galaga jet design with the words “Benny the Jet.” On the front, the initials “BTJ” are printed on it as well.

“My parents wanted to wear my merch, so I figured older people might buy it,” Armstrong said. “I wanted to do [a design] for all age ranges that would still think it looked cool.”

Normal long-sleeve shirts are \$20, crewnecks are \$25 and the hoodies are \$30.

“I have sold over 250 to 300 items,” Armstrong said. “I would say most of the merch sold is from the Hays area, but

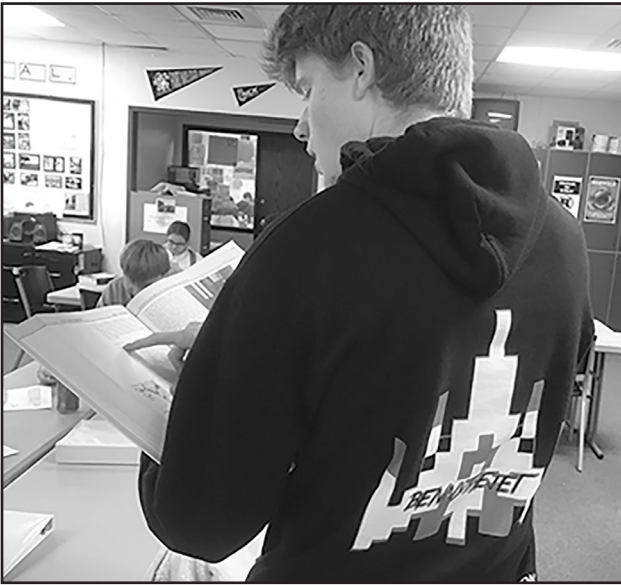
I’ve sold one to Los Angeles, one to New Mexico and a couple to the border states around Kansas. But, most [purchases] are around the Hays and Manhattan area.”

Armstrong is looking to make a website for his merch when the next order releases, but as of right now, interested students can message Armstrong on any social media.

“For [new merch], I want to wait and probably make a different and better design, that way the people that purchased that think it’s cool can buy it again and afford it in the near future,” Armstrong said.

Armstrong currently wants to be a professional streamer and thinks it would be cool to play games professionally for the Fort Hays State University e-sports team that is coming up in the Fall 2020.

“I think merch was a good first step to getting



ALLISON HILLEBRAND / The Guidon

Junior Skylar Zimmerman is one of the students who purchased senior Dawson Armstrong’s merchandise.

out to let people know who I am,” Armstrong said. “I haven’t been going live a lot lately because of school and stuff outside. But, people started asking me what I do now

that they see the merch, or they ask ‘What are your shirts about?’ from the logo on the back of the shirt. That’s how I can plug my own channel.”

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YOUR VIEW

What is an appropriate amount of money to spend on a date?

“I’d spend at most \$50.”
—junior Kelby Rice

“Probably around \$35.”
—sophomore Grant Tesluk

“It depends on what you’ll be doing.”
—freshman Kaden McBride

“It depends on where you are eating, like if the place is nice, \$20 to \$35, or if the place is cheap, \$7 to \$15.”
—freshman Liam Buller

“I think at high school age probably nothing more than the cost of a movie and maybe snacks and drinks.”
—junior Ashley Vilaysing

“I would say anywhere between \$15 and \$30, because most people our age are broke.”
—junior Sydney Walker

“Never been on one, so I wouldn’t know.”
—freshman Jude Tippy

What would your ideal first date be?

“I guess probably a movie.”
—freshman Kaden McBride

“My ideal first date would probably just be going out to dinner together.”
—junior Mataya Quinby

“For my ideal first date, I would like to do go on a picnic somewhere and just chill there, and then after that, we just drive around listening to music, or we would go see a movie. I think it would be so cute and so fun.”
—junior Johnessa Gay

“I don’t know. I don’t really have an ideal first date. Whatever we feel like doing.”
—sophomore Karson Russell

“The ideal first date is one where we both spend time to get to know each other and enjoy each other’s presence, no matter what we are doing. I feel like I would be very content with just hanging out with them and laughing and finding out who they really are.”
—junior Zachary Chance

“My first ideal is really cliché, because I really like going to the movies and dinner.”
—sophomore Grant Tesluk

RELATIONSHIPS

DISASTROUS DATES
Students share unfortunate first date experiences

By McKena McBride
Hays High Guidon

Dating is something that is completely normal to do in high school. However, if one would ask students how their dates have gone in the past, a majority will say they only went on one date with the person or it did not last very long.

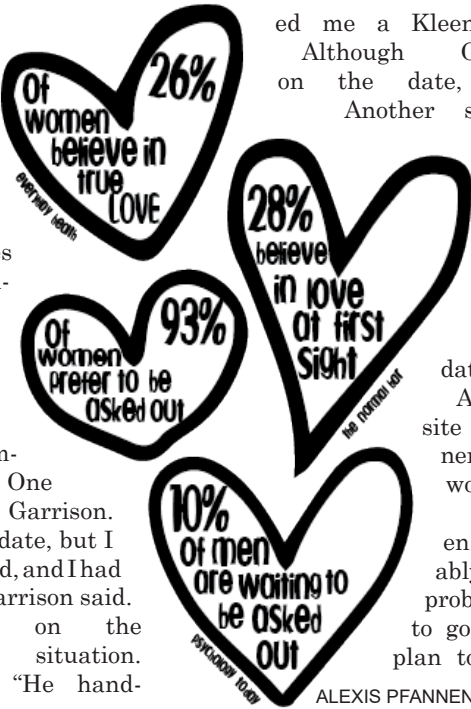
This is not surprising, seeing as only 2 percent of new marriages in the United States are between high school sweethearts, according to HuffPost. This indicates that there is a great chance that the people who you date in your high school life will not be the same people you date or you marry years from now.

Nonetheless, as students date others in high school, they often find themselves in unexpected dating disasters. One of these students is junior Sophia Garrison.

“I had apparently caught the flu before my date, but I didn’t really realize until we were driving around, and I had to ask him to pull over so I could throw up,” Garrison said.

She said the boy she went on the date with reacted well to the situation.

“He was super nice,” Garrison said. “He hand-



ed me a Kleenex so I could wipe the vomit off my mouth.” Although Garrison had an overall good time on the date, she said there was not a second one.

Another student who has been in a surprising dating situation is senior Megan Flavin. “My now-boyfriend tried to put his arm around me at the movies and accidentally elbowed me in the face,” Flavin said. Flavin said he was very embarrassed.

“He turned bright red and apologized profusely,” Flavin said. “We both found it funny and still do *to this day*.” Flavin said they have now been dating for more than two years.

According to messaging data from the online dating site *Zoosk*, women in their 20s and 30s use the word ‘dinner’ most often when describing their ideal date, while women in their 40s, 50s and older list ‘coffee’ most often.

Even though students are not as old as the women in survey, students under those ages would probably agree because it would be in a public place, so it probably would not be as awkward. So, if you are about to go on a first date and do not know what you should plan to do, maybe a dinner or coffee date would suffice.

ALEXIS PFANNENSTIEL / The Guidon

DATES

Couples challenged to go on inexpensive dates

By McKena McBride
Hays High Guidon

When it comes to going out on a date, how far do you think \$10 would take you? Two couples explored this question recently, as they were given \$10 to go on a date.

Sophomores Cooper Shubert and Seren Sumaya have been together for about four years. On their \$10 date, they considered using the money on gas and driving around, but they decided to go a different direction.

“We spent \$4 on McDonald’s and got four burgers,” Sumaya said. “After that, we went to Dollar General and spent the rest on candy and had a movie night at my house.”

Sumaya said the amount of money given to them affected what they decided to do.

“Since we only had \$10, we decided to spend it as carefully as possible, so we went to McDonald’s,” Sumaya said.

Shubert and Sumaya both agreed that their favorite part of the date was eating the candy they bought from Dollar General.

Juniors Brendan Kershner and Levi Weilert agreed that it was difficult to decide what to do with only \$10.



COURTESY PHOTO

Juniors Levi Weilert and Brendan Kershner spent their \$10 date getting snacks, going to Sonic and then watching a movie together.

“We really didn’t know what to do with exactly \$10,” Weilert said. “It’s not like there’s any arcades or really anything interesting to do in Hays. If we lived in a bigger city, we probably would have went to an arcade, though.”

Weilert said he and Kershner decided to buy

snacks and watch a movie.

“Originally, we were going to go to McDonald’s and eat in there, but apparently, someone didn’t want McDonalds,” Weilert said. “So, we got snacks, went to Sonic and watched a movie instead.”

Weilert said they first went to Cervs and each bought some snacks. They

then went to Sonic for lunch.

“We didn’t have enough left over to pay for our meals, so we had to pay with our own money, but we tipped the server in the rest of the \$10,” Weilert said. “Then we drove home and watched the movie ‘Bad Boys.’”

Kershner said his

favorite part of their date was curling up and watching the movie. Weilert said he enjoyed driving around with Kershner the most.

“Even though we didn’t have a lot of money to spend, it didn’t change the way I enjoy our time together,” Weilert said.

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YOUR VIEW

What is your favorite genre of music, and why?

“I like rock because it’s unusual.”
—freshman Niyah Dorris

“I like classical. It’s a lot harder to perform than today’s society’s music.”
—freshman Sydney Potts

“I’m more of an old soul, so if I had to pick between oldies rock and oldies indie, I’d pick rock because it’s more realistic and more fun to listen to.”
—sophomore Alex Johnson

“I like 2000s music. Why not go back to the good old days?”
—junior Kelsiy Burns

“I listen to everything. It really depends on what mood I’m in.”
—freshman Draven John

“I like pop and rap because it’s fun to listen to.”
—junior Alexa Moeckel

What’s your favorite love song?

“I really like ‘Moon-dance’ by Michael Bublé”
—junior Eliana Buller

“I like ‘The Winner Takes It All,’ even though it’s a break-up song.”
—senior Nathan Leiker

“My favorite love song is called ‘In Love’ by Khai Dreams. The words are slow, so you can hear them all and soak them up.”
—junior Camry Young

“I really like ‘Without You’ by Leslie Odom Jr. It’s really sweet.”
—freshman Emry Lundy

“My favorite love song is ‘That Summer’ by Garth Brooks. I like the lyrics.”
—sophomore Aidan DeBey

“‘Ring of Fire’ by Johnny Cash is my favorite because it’s way too relatable.”
—senior Levi Hickert

“I like ‘Love is an Open Door.’ That’s a fun one.”
—junior Gabe McGuire

“‘Ease My Mind’ by Ben Platt is good because it’s about how when you find that one person you’re in love with, they make you really happy and ease your mind.”
—junior Ashley Vilaysing

MUSIC

Chamber Singers take on Baroque opera

By Caitlin Leiker
Hays High Guidon

Last year, the Chamber Singers were the first high schoolers to perform the Pulitzer Prize-winning work “The Little Match Girl Passion” by David Lang. This year, they’re taking on a new challenge: the opera “Dido and Aeneas.”

“Dido and Aeneas” is based on Book IV of the epic poem “Aeneid” by Virgil, a Roman poet. The tragedy is brought to life by Baroque composer Henry Purcell, and told through short recitative sections [the musical expression of dialogue in opera, sung in the rhythm of ordinary speech] interspersed with songs, choruses, and dances.

Dido, the queen of Carthage, falls in love with Trojan prince Aeneas while offering him shelter on his way to found a new Troy in Italy.

An evil Sorceress, who hates Dido, tears the couple apart by creating a storm and sending one of her servants to urge Aeneas to continue his journey and leave Dido behind.

Aeneas wants to stay with Dido, but to keep from angering the gods, he leaves. Dido cannot bear losing him and commits



CAITLIN LEIKER / The Guidon

Junior Alisara Arial rehearses sections of the opera with vocal director Alex Underwood in her vocal lesson.

suicide with his blade.

Juniors Alisara Arial and Gabe McGuire will play the characters of Dido and Aeneas.

“As soon as I found out the role I was playing, I looked forward to working on it more than anything,” Arial said. “The process of learning opera is very exciting to me, and I love to learn new things and improve my abilities by being introduced to a new world of music.”

According to Underwood, the opera fits Chamber Singers

perfectly.

“There’s a lot of choruses, so everyone gets to be involved,” Underwood said. “There are also a lot of roles to go around that are perfectly suited for the people we have in the ensemble who are ready to take a more serious vocal step forward.”

The opera will be performed “in-the-round,” meaning the audience will be seated on all sides of the stage. The students will learn to perform in a multitude of directions so that the entire audience is

included.

The set, being designed by Chamber Singer parent and architect Lisa Brooksher, will be minimalistic. As for costumes, the cast will be dressed in all black, and the principles will sport a specific piece that symbolizes their character.

Among their other projects, the Chamber Singers are preparing for the performance and will use class time to teach the staging, coach soloists, and rehearse group numbers.

“I think one of the most difficult things for [the students] to learn will be the Baroque style,” Underwood said. “The ornaments, trills, and the way the music is performed is very specialized and specific, but it’s also somewhat improvisatory, so it’s pretty difficult.”

Underwood described “Dido and Aeneas” as “a great starter-opera” for audiences, featuring a beautiful story that isn’t a large time commitment.

“I think experiencing different kinds of art often is important to stay in the loop,” McGuire said. “Especially here in Hays, where we don’t get to see many operas.”

Underwood said the opera will showcase “a different type of talent at Hays High” that cannot be found in Musical or the Talent Show.

“It’s a very specialized style of singing, and it’s a chance for Chamber Singers to show that side of them off, and I think that’s really cool,” Underwood said. “High schools don’t perform operas very much. Any time you get to see high school students do something that is amazing for their age group, it’s a really inspiring thing.”

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MUSIC

Spring for Music kicks off with Valentine’s Cabaret

By Caitlin Leiker
Hays High Guidon

To kick off the second annual Spring for Music Festival, the Chamber Singers will perform musical theatre love songs on Feb. 14 and 15 for Valentine’s Day in Fort Hays State University’s Black and Gold Ballroom in the Union.

For only \$25 per couple, members of the community can enjoy a romantic atmosphere with desserts and non-alcoholic drinks. Singular tickets to the event will be sold for \$12.50.

Underwood has been working individually with the students to select and perfect their performance pieces.

“Even within Chamber Singers, there’s a lot of variety in the effects that each student soloist would give an audience,”

Underwood said. “I try to put it in an order that makes sense.”

This year’s Cabaret is Valentine’s Day-themed to lessen the pileup of commitments at the end of the music season. Chamber Singers, for example, had performances almost every day at the end of last year.

“By moving it earlier in the semester, I’m hoping that it will alleviate some of the constant pressure that exists at the end of the year,” Underwood said.

Last year’s Chamber Singers also advocated for two nights of Cabaret as opposed to only one.

“They put a lot of work into this, so it felt very anti-climactic to only do one performance,” Underwood said. “It was a packed house at Hays Community Theatre last

year. The ballroom is not that much bigger, so I’ll be curious to see if this will work out in numbers and give the students another chance to perform.”

Sophomore Samantha Vesper said she is excited to perform in her first Cabaret.

“I saw it last year, and it was really interesting,” Vesper said. “The theme of ‘love’ this year will hopefully create a really good vibe. I’m also excited to perform something by myself because I haven’t done a solo that’s not a classical contest piece.”

Instead of performing something from the musical theatre genre, senior Da’Vontai Robinson has been working on the jazz standard, “Fly Me to the Moon” by Frank Sinatra.

“To me, it’s about getting outside of your comfort zone and wanting



CAITLIN LEIKER / The Guidon

A group of sopranos and altos rehearse the Chamber Singers’ group song for Cabaret.

to go somewhere safe, like two people who are in love who just want to run away,” Robinson said. “I feel like it fits my voice pretty well, and it’s something that people can just kick back and enjoy listening to.”

That is exactly what Underwood said he hopes

the community will take away from the upcoming event.

“It’s a good way to spend your Valentine’s Day date night and get to hear some really great love songs from the musical theatre repertoire,” Underwood said.

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SELF !! EXPRESSION

Student Rights

Students guaranteed rights in public schooling

By Allison Hillebrand
Hays High Guidon

In the 10th Amendment of the Constitution, it states that “the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, not prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

This amendment admits that education is primarily a state and local responsibility.

Often, students and their parents are left unaware of their unalienable rights in the U.S. public school system.

Of course, there is the well-known “students have a right to a free education.”

However, many people are unaware of the other rights provided to them.

Alongside the free education, students receive many other guaranteed rights, such as not being discriminated against, being safe in schools, their First Amendment rights and the right of information and participation.

Hays High School has made several attempts as to setting up a safe and friendly environment for students.

The school has initiated a Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) club, placed police officers through the Adopt-A-Cop program and allowed administration to be open to suggestions to create new

clubs or make changes to the current system.

GSA was recently renamed from the CARE Club and has been around for nearly 10 years.

“This last summer, a student reached out to me about starting a GSA, and when I did a little investigation, I learned about CARE Club and that both [Abby] Gillan and [Erin] Deenihan were interested in moving it towards a proper GSA,” sponsor Alex Underwood said. “We then took the students’ initiative to [principal Martin] Straub for approval.”

Underwood said it is essential to have a GSA in existence at Hays High to provide a support system for LGBTQ+ students, as well as their straight allies.

“Data regarding student mental health shows that the existence of a GSA at their school dramatically reduces rates of depression, anxiety and suicide,” Underwood said. “To me, this is a no-brainer.”

Students, although guaranteed the right to not be discriminated against in the public-school system, will often still experience it through their peers.

“Discrimination in school is no different than discrimination in any other setting,” Underwood said. “It’s when negative bias towards a person or group of people makes their lives more difficult.”

Underwood said he thinks people at Hays High School do a good job at recognizing overt discrimination and the subconscious bias that accompanies it.

“I think Hays High School is generally

a very positive,

welcoming and

discrimination-free

place,” Underwood

said. “However, I know

there are instances of bullying

or negative actions against

certain groups of people.”

Underwood said the best way, he believes,

to combatting this discrimination is to

raise awareness about the issue.

“Whether it’s finding an adult in the

building whom they feel comfortable talking

to or leaning on the support of their

friends or in general gaining allies

who will stand up for them,” Under-

wood said. “We have to remember,

bullying most often comes from

the bullies’ own insecurities and

how those manifest. It is usually

not about the person being bullied,

even though it feels like it.”

GSA is one of these support

systems for students feeling ostracized,

Underwood said.

Underwood also said he believes that

the educators at Hays High are extremely

supportive of the students.

“Profe [Matthew Whitney] loves to say

‘Maslov before Blooms,’ which essentially means

that it is important for the adults to take care of

students’ personal needs before we can even begin

tackling educational goals,” Underwood said.

The well-trained and positive staff at Hays High

are working to accomplish that, although it is a difficult

task, Underwood said.

“I think we can all work together to continue

improving the Hays High School community in

making it a more welcoming and safe place for all

students,” Underwood said. “GSA is merely one

piece of that puzzle.”

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ALLISON HILLEBRAND / The Guidon

Junior Antoni Leiker attends the first Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) meeting of the school year. GSA is a new club this year.



CENSORSHIP

Students practice expressive freedoms

By Allison Hillebrand
Hays High Guidon

To quote a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1969, “It can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their constitutional right to freedom of expression at the schoolhouse gate.”

However, this decision only prevents government officials from suppressing speech on school grounds. Schools still can use censorship where they see fit.

Students are unable to use harmful language, such as swearing or abusive slurs, since these are typically not defended by the First Amendment.

Beginning the fight for student publication rights, the 1988 Supreme Court case Hazelwood vs. Kuhlmeier ruled that high school journalism students’ rights were, in fact, not violated when their articles were censored. Students, as expected, took this ruling as an extreme blow.

Despite this case, the dedication of both high school students and teachers encouraged the creation of the 1992 Kansas Student Publications Act. The act was signed by former Gov. Joan Finney and has been in effect for nearly 27 years.

For the 25th anniversary of the act, the Kansas Scholastic Press Association dedicated a documentary, addressing the censorship of student journalists. The documentary focused on the Salina Central newspaper, “The Pylon,” and the most controversial piece they have featured. Each student experienced doubt and fear in writing the articles but were willing to accept the backlash they may receive from the public, knowing they cannot legally be censored.

Students who take any kind of journalism class at Hays High School have had the Kansas Student Publications Act ingrained in them from early days of the classes.

“I think it is a good thing,” yearbook editor-in-

chief Emma Pfannenstiel said. “Students are not filtered on what they can say, and we can kind of write whatever we want, even if it is a little controversial of a topic.”

Pfannenstiel recognized that the yearbook staff, which focuses mainly on important events throughout the year, may experience less controversy and backlash than “The Guidon,” but still appreciates the act protecting student rights.

“It kind of depends on how big the controversy was,” Pfannenstiel said. “But, if it just passes by and doesn’t put a lot into the year, we won’t publish it.”

“The Guidon” online editor-in-chief Alicia Feyerherm said she has not experienced many controversies in her time as a journalist but was slightly worried about a story she had posted her first year.

“I was a little anxious about my weighted GPA article, because when I interviewed [principal] Mr. [Martin] Straub, he seemed really against the idea,” Feyerherm said. “I still posted it, discussing why I thought it was a decent idea, and that scared me a little bit. But, I knew I was not going to get in trouble for it, so it never affected me.”

Feyerherm said she appreciated the foundation the student publications act provided for her and other journalists.

“I thought the message was really powerful, and it makes me feel empowered as a student journalist,” Feyerherm said. “Knowing that I am able to report on what needs to be reported on, as long as it is not libelous, no one can come in and tell me I can’t do something because they don’t want me to.”

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JESSICA AUGUSTINE / The Guidon

Journalism students participate in the Kansas Scholastic Press Association’s conference at the start of the year.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Belittling student work is unprofessional

Students and teachers should communicate in a respectful manner on both the students' and the teachers' parts.

Members of our school's independent projects, such as our student publications, our graphic design program and even students in our core classes, have experienced the lack of support from several school employees.

Multiple students have addressed "The Guidon" with claims that educators have been talking negatively about the work done by the newspaper staff, including snide comments that were overheard in the hallways.

Although many staff members have expressed support for these independent works, those who are directly insulting the students' projects are acting unprofessionally.

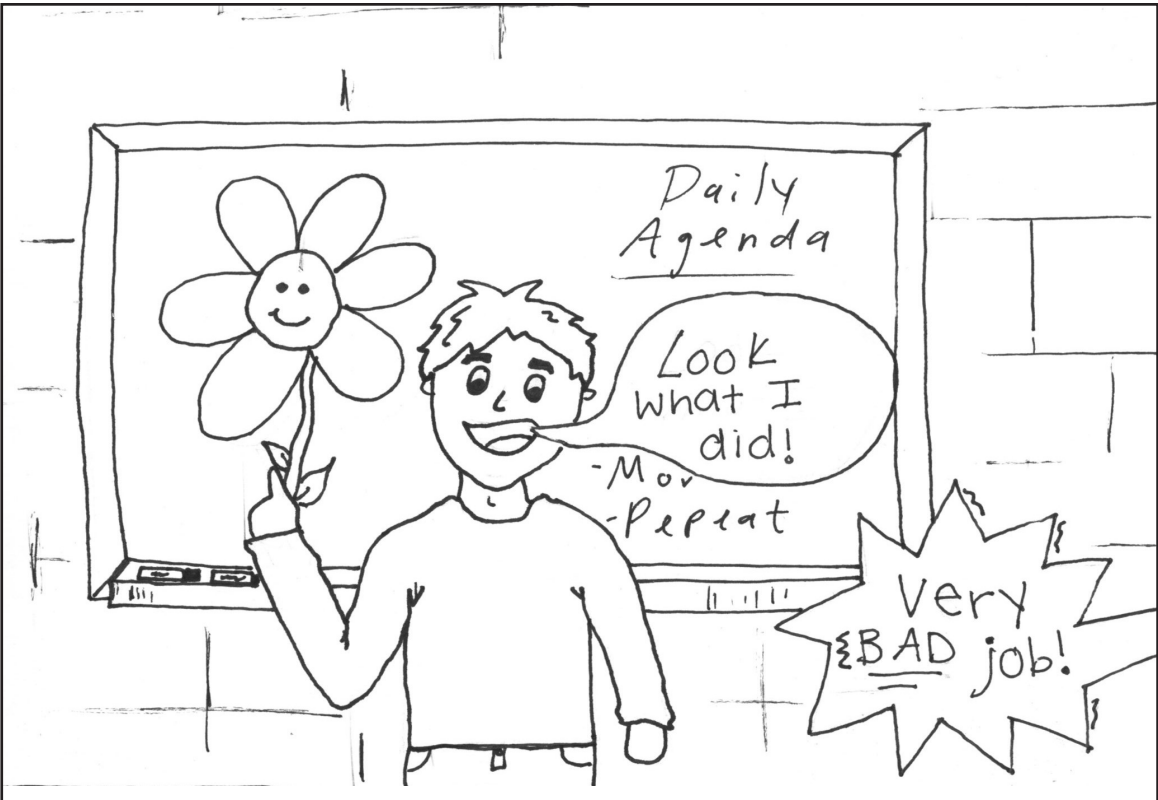
Students should not only be able to have respectable conversations with adults, but they should also be respected for their work and encouraged for their good doings.

No student should feel lesser about the work they put time into because their mentors simply did not enjoy it enough.

This does not mean that teachers should not be able to constructively critique the work of the students or share their opinions. We welcome new opportunities to learn, and we are always striving to improve our publication.

However, there is a difference between critiquing and belittling a project.

Student-run organizations are



PAIGE POLIFKA-DENSON / The Guidon

driven by passion. We base our plans for the future off of what we invest ourselves in during our high school career.

From preschool on up, we have been taught to respect our superiors, and we play our parts in this heirarchy for the rest of our lives.

Some educators' inclination to bad-mouth their students goes against the "Golden Rule" they ingrained into us as children.

While we are young adults, we are still at a malleable age, and such acts of disrespect af-

fects our views on ourselves and our passions for our future.

When mentors degrade the positive activities students are involved in, it only breeds more insecurity and indecision. Isn't it the teachers who constantly pressure students to get involved?

Don't teachers stress preparation for college and our careers?

Why is it so difficult for teachers to treat students with the respect they require us to have?

Imagine if we had the audacity to tell an educator that we did not value any of the hard work

or time they had invested into what they are passionate about.

It would result in a meeting with administration.

Students are raised to submit to their teachers' wishes, and this is the difficult double-standard we are working to overcome.

Educators are meant to strive to build positive and trusting relationships with their students.

No one deserves to feel ashamed or unworthy because a teacher thought it was acceptable to degrade their students' aspirations.

PRAISES & PROTESTS

PRAISES

- Making up words
- Black coffee
- Sea otters
- Small deer
- Snow days
- "Skyrim"
- Rom-Coms
- Disney+
- Snacks in school
- 20/20 vision
- Moccasins

PROTESTS

- New Adobe
- Not having snow days
- Cold weather
- Group projects
- Aging
- Dropping your phone on your face
- Saying "lit"
- Glasses

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

- Feb. 1, 1960 - The Woolworth's sit-in took place in Greensboro, N.C. when African American students sat down and ordered coffee at the lunch counter. Their protest resulted in the eventual arrest of over 1,600 people for participating in sit-ins.
- Feb. 3, 1865 - A four-hour peace conference occurred at Hampton Roads, Va. between President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens. President Lincoln insisted there could be no armistice until the Confederates acknowledged Federal authority. The Confederates refused, and the Civil War continued.
- Feb. 6, 1756 - Aaron Burr was born in Newark, New Jersey. In 1804, Vice President Burr challenged Alexander Hamilton to a duel over Hamilton's negative remarks and mortally wounded him.
- Feb. 8, 1910 - William Boyce founded The Boy Scouts of America in Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 14, 1929 - The St. Valentine's Day massacre occurred in Chicago as seven members of the Bugs Moran gang were gunned down by five of Al Capone's mobsters posing as police.
- Feb. 15, 1820 - Susan B. Anthony was born in Adams, Mass. A pioneer in women's rights, she worked tirelessly for woman's suffrage.

Agree: 12

Opinion of the Guidon staff

Disagree: 0

Negative events of 2020 require societal unity

For many of us so far, 2020 has not been a welcoming year. I am aware that we are only 37 days in, but this year has been a rough one. From the millions of animals killed in the Australian wildfires, to President Donald Trump ordering an air-strike on Qasem Soleimani, it already has been a year for the books.

In the start of the new year, we look for new beginnings to open a new chapter in our lives. Typically, we can be let down, but the level of disappointment from the past 37 days is unreal.

Experts say that, with the increase of global warming, the droughts and extreme temperatures have increased. In December of 2019, Australia broke the record for highest nationwide average temperature -- it was more than 40 degrees Celsius (between 113 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit).



BY ALEXIS PFANNENSTIEL
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Conservatively, almost 30 percent of koalas may have been killed in the New South Wales fire, and a third of their habitat has been destroyed and is still burning, according to Australia's Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley.

Unfortunately, Australia is amid their summer season, meaning temperatures are projected to rise throughout February. There could be

months until relief.

During this chaos, we have also had to worry about the assassination of Iran's Qasem Soleimani and the effects on the United States.

Thought to be one of Iran's most powerful men, Soleimani was the Iranian Major General who primarily controlled military operations. It is believed he is responsible for hundreds of U.S. troops' deaths, and he is known for being a "military genius."

Few in the United States would disagree that he is an ultimate American enemy, but his life was valued greatly in Iran. We may have known Soleimani as a terrorist, but Iranians knew him as a hero. This brings into question: What is going to happen next?

If this stress wasn't enough, we have been presented with the coronavirus. A newly identified virus in January 2019, the

'novel coronavirus' is very deadly. It infects the upper respiratory system, and in severe cases, it can lead to organ failure.

There have been reported 638 cases and 17 deaths, and United States-bound travelers from China will be routed to five airports for different health screenings. Travel restrictions have also been placed on Wuhan, China, in hopes of keeping 25 million people quarantined. However, the virus is already spreading.

Through the trials and triumphs of this year, it is important to focus on what we can do to help rather than what we cannot do. We need to keep each other positive in these tough times, even if the news stations only feature bad news.

Here are some links if you would like to help:

www.savethekoala.com

www.koalahospital.com

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General Information/Policy

The Guidon is published eight times a year by the Digital Media and Design class at Hays High School. The 2019 Guidon Online was voted a Pacemaker Finalist by the National Scholastic Press Association.

It is produced as an educational tool to give students the opportunities to inform, investigate, entertain, interpret and evaluate in an open forum and to provide accurate, fair, objective and truthful coverage. The opinions expressed here are those of The Guidon staff and do not express the opinions of the USD 489 Board of Education, administration, faculty or staff.

The Guidon welcomes letters to the editor, as long as they are not libelous or obscene. Letters must be signed and must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

—First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

STUDENT LIFE

SENIOR YEAR

Last year of high school has long to-do list

By Michaela Austin
Hays High Guidon

The second semester of the school year is often very eventful for students, especially for seniors, considering it is also their last year of high school. The final semester for seniors is one of the most important semesters in order to prepare for graduation, college and life after high school. One of the first things seniors need to do, especially if they have not done it already, is apply to colleges. If there is still that one college that is on their minds and they have not sent an application, then they need to apply soon. Seniors will never know the what opportunities and college options they have unless they apply for them. Another task that seniors need to do is to get accepted to colleges. If they have not heard back from the college they want to attend, they should try to contact them and to ask how to improve their applications. This semester, seniors should continue being on the lookout for scholarships. There are several scholarships that they can

apply for this semester. Some applications are accepted as late as May and June, while other deadlines will reach you before you know it is even there. If seniors are considering living in a dorm, they need to fill out dorm applications, find a roommate and communicate with that roommate. “If they are planning to go to college, make sure that their housing contract is complete,” counselor Amy Miller said. “Seniors should also watch for pre-enrollment signup dates at their college. Seniors will be receiving their financial aid packages for the colleges soon, which will help them make their final decision. Students should also update their resumes and cover letters.” It is crucial that seniors stay on top of their grades and GPA so their cumulative GPA is in good standing for when they apply for colleges and scholarships. Seniors need to keep an eye on their email, so they do not miss any important information about colleges, scholarships and financial aid. “Seniors get busy with school and activities and forget to check their high school and college



PAIGE POLIFKA-DENSON / The Guidon

emails,” Miller said. “If they don’t check their email frequently, they may miss important deadlines or emails regarding financial aid documents. Staying organized and not missing deadlines is very important.” Counselor Suellyn Stenger said she also be-

lieves that it is important to “read emails, as they will continue to receive important information from the counselors, as well as Mr. [Martin] Straub in regards to graduation.” It is important that seniors stay organized, continue focusing on grades and commu-

nicate with teachers in order to graduate. “Don’t stop short of the finish line! Spring semester can be a very busy time for all, so communicate with your teachers,” Stenger said. “Face-to-face communication is much better than email.” This semester can also be an intense semester for juniors, as they are slowly getting ready for their last year of high school and becoming a senior. “The junior year should be spent exploring colleges and majors,” Miller said. “Deadlines come early in the senior year, and students can begin applying to college the summer before their senior year. The more students can narrow their college choices and possible majors, the less stressful their senior year will be.” Juniors should start discussing with counselors on plans and classes for next year. “Pre-enrollment will be here before you know it, so they may want to visit with their counselors and have good attendance, as this is a requirement if they want to be a TA or do a Career Exploration,” Miller said. 20maustin@usd489.com

YOUR VIEW

What do you need to do to prepare for graduation?

“I need to be applying for more scholarships, but instead, I’m just avoiding it and being stressed out for no reason.” —senior Olivia Reed

“So, to be ready for college, I still need to decide what college I am actually going to. At this point, I am waiting on a few more colleges to give me notification of I got accepted.” —senior Hanna Dannar

“I need to send out graduation invites and pass my classes.” —senior Paige Beamer

“Make graduation party invitations, get senior photos printed, apply for scholarships and sign up for student housing.” —senior Megan Flavin

“Pass all of my concurrent classes so I can just focus on my engineering classes when I get to college.” —senior Dylan Warner

“Find my sanity. But, in all seriousness, I just need to pass my classes. But, who is ever really ready for college, anyway?” —senior Nathan Leiker

“This semester, I’m hoping to apply for multiple scholarships to help prepare for college. I have also met with friends who are already attending college to show me around and help me get what I need before this coming spring semester. What I need to do to be ready to graduate is invite people to a graduation party and pass all my classes!” —senior Moriah DeBey

“I need to get my party planned because my parents really want a graduation party. I need to get invitations made and sent out. I need to emotional prepare myself, too.” —senior Cely Hutchinson

“Just try not to cry myself to sleep every night.” —senior Sierra Adkins

“Absolutely nothing.” —sophomore Alex Johnson

“As of now, I’m taking a break to increase my mental health. Senior year, I will take art classes to prepare me for college and get a job. I want to go to FHSU for the graphic design program, so by taking the art classes, I will be able to prepare myself for college.” —junior Antoni Leiker

NEW SCHOOL

Transfer students work to adapt to new environment

By Maysyn Tippy
Hays High Guidon

At Hays High School, there have been 77 transfer students in the past semester and over break. These students range from freshman to seniors, and they come from many different places. Though some may have a harder time than others, the majority of students have settled into Hays High well. “I think that Hays High has the same number of classes as they did at my old school” freshman Draven John, who transferred from Scott City, said.

As a new student, the school environment can seem overwhelming, but these students are finding it welcoming. As they come to school, they are finding ways to make new friends and get involved in the school’s activities. “The school is pretty welcoming, but I think it depends on who you hang out with,” John said. With the wide variety of classes, students can choose those that they enjoy as well as ones that will help with their futures. “The classes can be very challenging at times,” junior Franklin Owens,

who returned from Lawrence Virtual School, said. “It’s not even always because of the work. Sometimes it’s because I miss a class period or two. Sometimes it’s because I was gone for half of the year, and I need to catch up to everyone else because my online school was teaching something different. I also am naturally good at some classes – English, for example. However, some classes, like my math, I have to make sure I stay on track with everyone else.” Adjusting to the way the school works can be hard for some. It can also

be hard for them to find their way around a large school. “Hays High School was not hard to adjust to,” Owens said. “There were a few changes in the semester I was gone, however, since I had already attended Hays High previously, I knew the system and how things were organized. I also already had friends, so I wasn’t by any means left out or lonely. It was pretty simple for me to find my way around. I had already attended Hays High for two years, so I knew how the layout of the school worked and the important locations

in it.” Fortunately, for new students, Hays High has ways to introduce them to the school. “We usually have a member of the Leadership Team take the student around to each of their classes,” counselor Amy Miller said. “We also have the GPS teachers check in with them and see how things are going, and the same with PRIDE Time teachers. As for things to help them succeed, we keep up with their grades, as well as helping them with Canvas or another app they are having trouble with.” 23mtippy@usd489.com

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ATHLETES OF THE MONTH



“I feel like sports are so special and have an important place in my life because they have taught me a lot about myself. I don’t quite think I’m the person I am today without them, and I’ve learned many lessons through the struggles and success. I also count myself extremely lucky to form the relationships I have through sports. My teammates are absolutely top-notch, and I’m so lucky to have them. I just feel like I’m surrounded with the best gals I could ever ask for.”
—Aleyia Ruder



“Growing up, sports made a huge impact on life. Everyone in my family loved sports and expected me to play. I was never the most talented athlete, but being involved helped me cope with different situations and learn to never give up. I feel like being involved in sports made me a better version of myself.”
— senior Da’Vontai Robinson

SPORTS

SHRINE ON

Senior Hayden Brown earns opportunity to play in Shrine Bowl

By Brenna Schwien
Hays High Guidon

The sights and sounds of one final high school football game, but this is more than just a final game. This is one final chance for senior Hayden Brown to leave his mark.

Brown has earned the opportunity to play in the Kansas Shrine Bowl in Topeka on July 18. Brown is the only athlete from Hays High School to have received this honor this year.

“I am very excited to have the opportunity to play in the Shrine Bowl,” Brown said. “It’s been something I’ve dreamed about doing ever since I was a kid.”

The Shrine Bowl is a three-day event with activities such as a golf scramble, a 5k run/walk, a player appreciation banquet, a parade, multiple high school combines and the football game to finish the weekend off.

“He was nominated by myself and was selected by media and coaches of Kansas,” football coach Tony Crough said.

Brown had a memorable senior season, that ended on Nov. 8 after a loss at Maize South, just the week before the Indians beat Goddard Eisenhower to advance to the second round of the playoffs.



COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Hayden Brown plays during the last game of the season. Brown’s accomplishments during the season earned him the opportunity to participate in the 2020 Shrine Bowl in Topeka in July.

“It’s a great opportunity for him to represent Hays High and the community of Hays on the state’s biggest stage,” Crough said. “The Shrine Bowl is an honor for all involved and a great experience.”

The Shriners organization has 21 children’s hospitals in the United States and one in Mexico; some of these hospitals specialize in certain areas of medicine, and others treat all different types of diseases.

Crough said he thinks that this is a good opportunity for

Brown on the field, but he also hopes the impact off the field will stick with him of the rest of his life.

“The on the field activities are great,” Crough said. “Getting to meet and play with new players and coaches will help get him ready for college. But, the opportunity to play for a cause bigger than himself will be something he never forgets. The Shriners organization and the Shrine hospital does great things for kids who need help, and that was the game is all about.”

Brown is going to use this as a reason to work harder and get himself ready for the game, and to prepare for his football career after high school.

“I know a few guys around the WAC I will get to play with and future teammates, and I am very excited,” Brown said.

He plans on continuing his academic and athletic career at Fort Hays State University.

“I feel like putting back on a helmet with the Indian spear one last time will be very special, and it kind of does seem like one last game to complete my career here,” Brown said.

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TALENT

Freshmen step up to challenges of being on varsity

By Brenna Schwien
Hays High Guidon

For anyone new to high school, there are a lot of changes that have to be made, but for the freshmen who find themselves on the varsity team, they have another set of changes.

For freshman Carly Lang, who has played varsity volleyball and basketball this year, she said she feels “blessed” by the opportunities that have been given to her and she feels that it encourages her to work hard.

“This is definitely a new way of seeing the game with the band and the big crowd and hearing your name announced over the speakers,” Lang said. “It has really become a surreal experience.”

Nerves are another issue that some athletes worry about, but Lang said she tries to stay calm in tight positions.

“I feel like I have never had too much to handle because my coaches and teammates always ensure me that I am doing fine and have provided me with the tools I need to succeed,” Lang said.

There are other perspectives on freshmen being on varsity too. For boys soccer coach Silas Hibbs, he said he looks for qualities such as mental toughness, selflessness, maturity and flexibility.

“I think having freshmen with the required level of maturity and grit on varsity can be a great thing,” Hibbs said. “I would never punish or hold down a freshman who is mature and skilled enough to play at the varsity level, simply because of his or her age.”

The decision is easy for Hibbs; if the varsity team is bet-

ter with the freshman, then the athlete should get the opportunity to fill a place on the team.

Hibbs said he also likes to use the “sink or swim” mentality when it comes to deciding if a freshman can handle the pressures varsity level can bring.

“I have found that athletes who are truly ready for the varsity level as freshmen inherently put a lot of pressure on themselves and are truly okay with the pressure and/or associated outcomes,” Hibbs said.

On the other hand, Hibbs said he has also experienced times when the athletes were not ready for the varsity level because of their lack of mental maturity to handle the pressures that comes with it.

“However, sometimes that maturity can be acquired over the course of the season amidst repeat ‘sink or swim’ opportunities,” Hibbs said.

For sophomore Regan Smith, who was a freshman playing varsity softball last year, she said she felt like there was a lot of extra pressure put on her.

“I had my mind set that if I struck out, got out or made an error, I would be taken out of the game,” Smith said.

But, even with the extra added pressures, Smith said she still felt like she was learning and developing her game.

“I feel like it would be better for the player and team in general if the freshman would have at least one year on JV before going against juniors and seniors that are very experienced,” Smith said. “But, I felt honored to be on varsity because it shows me that my coaches believed that I could, but at the same time, I feel like I would be bet-



COURTESY PHOTO

Freshman Carly Lang shoots during the first game of the Hays City Shoot Out. Lang was the only freshman on the varsity team.

ter coming into sophomore year with better experience.”

Experiences can make an athlete better, but getting to learn from the upperclassmen at practice is a way for many athletes to learn new skills.

“I got to see the juniors and seniors in practice and games, and I learned from them,” Smith said.

Freshman Remy Stull played varsity football, as just a few weeks after school started, he was thrown into the routine of a varsity level athlete.

Stull said he also feels like there is a lot of pressure that he has to handle, but he enjoys the fast-paced rhythm of the game.

“Yes, it was getting on a higher level was great, and I got to see things from different views,” Stull said.

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WINTER SPORTS WRAP UP



Boys Basketball



Girls Basketball

Hays vs. Wichita-Life Preparatory Academy
Dec. 5
92-42, W

Hays vs. Colby
Dec. 17
58-41, W

Hays vs. Great Bend
Jan. 14
63-61, W

Hays vs. Olathe West
Dec. 6
57-43, L

Hays vs. Pratt
Jan. 7
74-51, W

Hays vs. Garden City
Jan. 17
50-37, L

Hays vs. Lawrence-Free State
Dec. 7
46-31, L

Hays vs. Liberal
Jan. 10
57-44, W

Hays @ Colby Invitational
Jan. 23-25
2-1, second place

Hays vs. Wichita-Life Preparatory Academy
Dec. 5
55-7, W

Hays vs. Colby
Dec. 17
47-31, L

Hays vs. Great Bend
Jan. 14
37-36, W

Hays vs. Olathe West
Dec. 6
60-38, L

Hays vs. Pratt
Jan. 7
53-50, L

Hays vs. Garden City
Jan. 17
54-40, L

Hays vs. Manhattan
Dec. 7
48-41, L

Hays vs. Liberal
Jan. 10
53-29, L

Hays @ Colby Invitational
Jan. 23-25
2-1, fourth place



Boys Swimming



Wrestling

Great Bend Invitational
Dec. 10
Team: Fourth
200 Medley Relay – Adam King, Matt Goodale, Isaac Smith, Zachary Smith fourth; Carson Ackerman, Chris Goodale, Grayson Walburn, Skylar Zimmerman ninth; Anthony Arial, Ashton Bickle, Liam Buller, Andrew Prine; Evan Dealy, Dustin Rajewski, Seth Sumaya, Fernando Zarate

200 Freestyle – Skylar Zimmerman ninth, Anthony Arial 11th

50 Freestyle – Isaac Smith first, Matt Goodale 10th, Zachary Smith 11th, Grayson Walburn, Aidan Debey, Fernando Zarate, Evan Dealy, Seth Sumaya, Kaden McBride, Jude Tippy, Hector Amaya, Ashton Bickle

100 Butterfly – Zachary Smith eighth, Grayson Walburn 10th, Dustin Rajewski 11th, Andrew Prine (DQ)

100 Freestyle – Matt Goodale sixth, Chris Goodale eighth, Carson Ackerman 10th, Aidan Debey, Seth Sumaya, Kaden McBride

500 Freestyle – Carson Ackerman seventh, Anthony Arial ninth

200 Freestyle Relay –Matt Goodale, Isaac Smith, Zachary Smith, Grayson Walburn third; Aidan Debey, Chris Goodale, Adam King, Skylar Zimmerman fifth; Hector Amaya, Liam Buller, Seth Sumaya, Jude Tippy

100 Backstroke – Adam King seventh

100 Breaststroke – Isaac Smith second, Chris Goodale seventh, Fernando Zarate, Ashton Bickle, Dustin Rajewski, Evan Dealy, Jude Tippy, Skylar Zimmerman (DQ), Andrew Prine (DQ), Hector Amaya (DQ)

400 Freestyle Relay – Carson Ackerman, Anthony Arial, Andrew Prine, Fernando Zarate ninth; Ashton Bickle, Evan Dealy, Seth Sumaya, Jude Tippy 11th

Salina South Invitational
Jan. 9
Team: Fifth
200 Medley Relay – Marshall Perryman, Matt Goodale, Isaac Smith, Zachary Smith fourth; Carson Ackerman, Chris Goodale, Grayson Walburn, Adam King seventh; Fernando Zarate, Andrew Prine, Dustin Rajewski, Aidan Debey

200 Freestyle – Anthony Arial 10th

50 Freestyle – Matt Goodale 10th, Zachary Smith 11th, Grayson Walburn, Aidan Debey, Carson Ackerman, Seth Sumaya, Fernando Zarate, Andrew Prine, Liam Buller, Dustin Rajewski, Kaden McBride, Ashton Bickle, Jude Tippy

100 Butterfly – Isaac Smith first, Anthony Arial 11th

100 Freestyle – Marshall Perryman seventh, Matt Goodale eighth, Isaac Smith 10th, Adam King, Aidan Debey, Chris Goodale, Seth Sumaya, Kaden McBride, Jude Tippy

500 Freestyle – Carson Ackerman fifth, Dustin Rajewski ninth

200 Freestyle Relay –Matt Goodale, Isaac Smith, Zachary Smith, Marshall Perryman fourth; Aidan Debey, Chris Goodale, Fernando Zarate, Grayson Walburn eighth; Anthony Arial, Andrew Prine, Seth Sumaya, Jude Tippy

100 Backstroke – Adam King sixth, Marshall Perryman seventh, Liam Buller

100 Breaststroke – Chris Goodale eighth, Andrew Prine 11th, Fernando Zarate, Ashton Bickle

400 Freestyle Relay – Carson Ackerman, Anthony Arial, Dustin Rajewski, Adam King sixth; Ashton Bickle, Liam Buller, Seth Sumaya, Kaden McBride eighth

Hays Meet
Jan. 21
Team: Fourth
200 Medley Relay – Adam King, Isaac Smith, Grayson Walburn, Matt Goodale second; Marshall Perryman, Chris Goodale, Zachary Smith, Skylar Zimmerman fifth; Fernando Zarate, Ashton Bickle, Dustin Rajewski, Andrew Prine ninth; Evan Dealy, Liam Buller, Seth Sumaya, Jude Tippy (DQ)

200 Freestyle – Anthony Arial seventh

50 Freestyle – Grayson Walburn fifth, Matt Goodale 10th, Carson Ackerman 12th, Skylar Zimmerman fifth; Fernando Zarate, Ashton Bickle, Dustin Rajewski, Andrew Prine ninth; Evan Dealy, Liam Buller, Ashton Bickle, Zachary Smith (DQ), Aidan Debey (DQ)

100 Butterfly – Isaac Smith second, Chris Goodale 10th, Anthony Arial 11th, Dustin Rajewski

100 Freestyle – Adam King seventh, Marshall Perryman eighth, Matt Goodale ninth, Grayson Walburn, Zachary Smith, Aidan Debey, Jude Tippy, Kaden McBride, Ashton Bickle

500 Freestyle – Carson Ackerman sixth, Evan Dealy 10th, Dustin Rajewski 11th

200 Freestyle Relay –Matt Goodale, Isaac Smith, Carson Ackerman, Marshall Perryman fourth; Aidan Debey, Zachary Smith, Skylar Zimmerman, Grayson Walburn sixth; Andrew Prine, Seth Sumaya, Fernando Zarate; Ashton Bickle, Kaden McBride, Liam Buller, Jude Tippy

100 Backstroke – Marshall Perryman fourth, Adam King fifth, Seth Sumaya 11th

100 Breaststroke – Isaac Smith first, Andrew Prine eighth, Skylar Zimmerman, Jude Tippy, Liam Buller

400 Freestyle Relay – Anthony Arial, Evan Dealy, Kaden McBride, Dustin Rajewski eighth; Chris Goodale, Aidan Debey, Carson Ackerman, Adam King (DQ)



JESSICA AUGUSTINE / Indian Call

The 2020 Hays wrestling team has allowed girls to compete in their own league.

- Alan Dolezal Invitational
Dec. 19**

Individuals:

 - 113: Cyrus Vajnar (0-2) second
 - 120: Aaron Weigel (2-3) fourth
 - 120: Braden Hines (4-1) second
 - 126: Adin Flock (3-1) second
 - 132: Dakota Pfeifer (0-5) sixth
 - 138: Jake Taliaferro (2-1) second
 - 145: Trenton Werth (0-5) sixth
 - 152: Landon Summers (2-1) sixth
 - 160: Ethan Flock (4-0) first
 - 170: Dalton Dale (2-1) second
 - 182: Davontai Robinson (4-0) first
- 195: Brandon Yauch (1-6) Unknown

220: Gavin Nutting (3-1) first

285: Colter Conger (0-5) eighth

285: Karson Russell (2-3) fifth
- Bob Kuhn Invitational
Jan. 24-25**

Individuals:

 - 113: Cyrus Vajnar (9-5) Unknown
 - 120: Braden Hines (10-9) sixth
 - 126: Adin Flock (5-5) Unknown
 - 132: Jake Taliaferro (7-8) Unknown
- 138: Lewis Tramel (1-2) Unknown

145: Trenton Werth (1-16) Unknown

152: Landon Summers (10-11) Unknown

160: Ethan Flock (14-7) Unknown

170: Dalton Dale (9-13) Unknown

182: Davontai Robinson (16-4) third

195: Brandon Yauch (1-6) Unknown

220: Gavin Nutting (20-4) 3rd

285: Colter Conger (11-8) Unknown

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ENTERTAINMENT

EXPRESS YOURSELF

Annual talent show displays lots of student talent

By Eythun Wyatt
Hays High Guidon

This year's talent show was filled with a variety of acts. There were comedy acts, a rap act, duets, originals and solos. The show included performances from juniors Tyler Carrasco, Michael McCall and Javon Searight who performed an original piece together as their band "Tyler and the Fleas;" a duet by freshmen Keiarra Gonzales and Seth Tripp, who performed "The Greatest Show" from "The Greatest Showman;" a solo by sophomore Quinton McGuire, who sang "You're Welcome" from "Moana" and a mash-up duet by siblings junior Trey Jones and sophomore Shirley Jones. In addition to those acts, there were appearances from junior Xavier Juenemann, performing an original rap; a comedy duet with senior Derrick Aragon and junior Eythun Wyatt, who sang the "Pokemon Theme" from the show "Pokemon;" senior Katelyn Engel, who performed "Liability" by Lorde and a comedy duet by seniors Ian Olson and Landon Summers, who sang "Country Roads" by John Denver. Finally, a solo performed by senior DaVontai Robinson, who sang "Cycles" by Johnathan Reynolds. There was no shortage of talent, but only three acts placed. In third place were Aragon and Wyatt, in second place were the Jones siblings and in first place was Robinson.

For placing, each person won a cash prize, with third receiving \$50, second receiving \$75 and first receiving \$100. Robinson said he was grateful for winning this year's talent show. This year was his second year performing, but it was his first year performing by himself. "Last year was just a steppingstone," Robinson said. "It was about learning the process and figuring out how to do something like that." Though Robinson has some experience doing the talent show, for others it was their first time. "It was my first year doing the talent show," Aragon said. "I thoroughly enjoyed it." To some people, performing in front of crowds is an easy task, to others it is much more challenging. Trey Jones said he was terrified when he went out to perform. The talent show has been going on at Hays High for several years. Even though the talent show has been ongoing for many years, a lot of students are still terrified to make an attempt. However, some of the performers suggest taking your shot at it anyway. "Even if you don't win, it's a massive boost in confidence," Robinson said. "It makes you a better person to be able to get out there and show the world what you got."

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EMMA PFANNENSTIEL / Indian Call

Senior Derrick Aragon, dressed as Ash Ketchum from Pokémon, performs the "Pokémon Theme Song" with junior Eythun Wyatt.

ART Students display art in Kansas League Art Show

By Maysyn Tippy
Hays High Guidon

On Feb. 28, Hays High School students will be traveling to Garden City High School for the Southwest Kansas League Art Show from 3-5 p.m. Hays will be competing against Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend and Liberal in the Indians'

first year in the competition. The first competition was hosted by Garden City in 2018. According to *westernkansasnews.com* there were originally only eight categories to show artwork. Those categories included the following: ceramics, drawing, graphics, jewelry, mixed-media, painting, print-

making and sculpture. Each category had an award of first, second and third place. There were also awards for Best of Show 2D and 3D, as well as a People's Choice Award. That year, the competition was juried by art professors from Garden City Community College, Michael Knutson and Brian McCallum.

Since then, the art show has been revamped. This competition moves each year to one of the different schools enrolled, the category sizes have grown, and more schools have entered this competition. Each team is now required to bring 20 pieces of art, and each piece will be selected from the 19 categories given to them in advance. The art must be entered by Jan. 31. Art teacher Jennifer Younger will travel to Garden City early on Feb. 26 to set up the art so it can be judged later that day. Students and parents are invited to attend the following day to look at the art displayed. "At this time, we do not have the work selected, but entries are due Jan. 31, so we are currently in the process of selecting the 20 pieces for the competition," Younger said. "We have not appointed any judges to narrow down the body of work down to 20." This will be an exciting experience, not just for Hays High, but for all the teams competing that are looking for new challenges. "I am honored and excited that one of my paintings was chosen to be sent to the contest," senior Olivia Reed said.

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FERNANDO ZARATE / Indian Call

Seniors Olivia Reed and Kaylor Meyers take class time to prepare their artwork. This year, students will be competing in the Southwest Kansas League Art Show at Garden City High School.

lol The Haha's

- Q: What happens when you fall in love with a French chef?
A: You get buttered up.
- Q: What did the farmer give his wife on Valentine's Day?
A: Hogs and kisses!
- Q: What did one pickle say to the other?
A: You mean a great dill to me!
- Q: How did the phone propose?
A: He gave her a ring.
- Q: You know why you never see elephants hiding up in the trees?
A: They are really good at it.
- Q: What do you call the world's smallest Valentine's Day card?
A: A valen-teeny.
- Q: What did one volcano say to the other?
A: I lava you!
- Q: Why do skunks love Valentine's Day?
A: They are scent-imental.
- Q: Henlo there.
A: Ur cute!

Top Picks

1. "Ribbs"
- Lorde
2. "Monsoon"
- Hippo Campus
3. "Circles"
- Mac Miller
4. "Listerine"
- Dayglow
5. "Pink Matter"
- Frank Ocean
6. "THERE HE GO"
- DaBaby
7. "BEST INTEREST"
- Tyler, The Creator
8. "Babysitter"
- DaBaby
9. "Maybe"
- Kid Cudi
10. "Out West"
- JACKBOYS

New Movies

- Feb. 7
"Birds Of Prey"
- Feb. 14
"Sonic The Hedgehog"
"The Photograph"
- Feb. 21
"The Call Of The Wild"
"Brahms: The Boy II"
- Feb. 28
"The Invisible Man"
"Wendy"
- March 6
"Onward"