

Vol. 97  
Issue 6

# The Guidon

April  
2023

Hays High School | 2300 E. 13th St. | Hays, Kan. 67601



## **EARTH DAY**

Citizens can 'invest in Earth'  
by recycling, reducing, reusing  
Pages 6-7



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### ON THE COVER



Cover  
by Eric Lucio;  
photos from  
Unsplash

## ORGANIZATIONS

# DECA places seven events at state contest

By Justin Houchen  
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DECA participated in the Kansas Career Development Conference from March 5 to March 7 in Kansas City, Kan., and the results for the competitions were announced during the closing session on the final day of the event.

Two events from Hays High School qualified for the international DECA competition, which will be held April 21-26 in Orlando, Fla., by placing second overall at the state contest. Those competitors included junior Evyn Cox in the International Business Plan event and seniors Cooper Kisner, Cyrus Vajnar and Peyton Zimmerman in the Business Services Operations Research event. While Cox has opted not to compete at internationals, Kisner, Vajnar and Zimmerman will compete.

"I was definitely surprised that we placed second," Kisner said. "My initial reaction was me thinking, 'This is crazy!' I never thought that we would do that good. We went into the competition, thinking that we weren't going to nationals, then once we had the chance to, we decided that we wanted to go."



Photo courtesy of Shaina Prough

### STATE CONTESTANTS

The group of 12 Hays High School DECA students gather together during the Kansas Career Development Conference in Kansas City, Kan., on March 5-7. Seven events placed at state, with two events qualifying for the international competition.

Others placing at the state contest, but not qualifying for the international Career Development Conference, included senior Tanner Werth, who finished third in Independent Business Plan; juniors Kiley Legleiter and Erika Linn, who were fourth in Business Services Operations Research; juniors Brenlynn Albers and Mika Zimmerman, who placed sixth in Hospitality and Tourism Operations Research; senior Blake Buckles, who ended seventh in Franchise Business Plan; and senior Bradyn Dreher, who was ninth in Integrated Marketing Campaign.

"DECA students did well at state, given that we haven't competed face to face in two years," sponsor Shaina Prough said. "Competing in DECA is not easy!"

While Albers and Mika Zimmerman did not qualify in their event, they will be attending international DECA to participate in the Ignite Leadership Conference, for which they applied.

"This will help our DECA because we will be going to a meeting on how to bring new ideas into our chapter," Albers said. "Our current organization is very small compared to other schools, so I hope that we can use this information to expand for next year."

# Knitting Club completes projects to donate

By Eleanor Bittel  
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The Knitting Club has been hard at work, making a variety of different projects.

Knitting Club started after a previous class, called Home Crafts, in which students learned to knit and sew, was cut from the curriculum. Teachers Kelly Ackerman and Lisa Renz, who both knit as a hobby, decided to start the club after seeing that students missed learning those skills.

To join Knitting Club, students do not need to have any prior knitting experience.

Instead, the sponsors will teach anyone who is interested how to knit. Ackerman and Renz even taught themselves to knit with their left hands so that they could teach left-handed students.

"Knitting Club is really a stress reliever," Renz said. "I also just enjoy making projects for people."

Currently, there are about 20 club members, but they are not required to attend all meetings, which are normally held every other Monday after school in Room 113.

The club accepts donations for supplies, and the students

share the supplies. To start, Ackerman and Renz teach the students how to create a dish cloth, then they are able to select their own projects.

Knitting Club donates some work to area organizations. In the past, they have donated to Special Olympics and National Honor Society's Holiday Help Project.

"For Knitting Club, I have made a baby blanket with a monkey on it," junior Mika Zimmerman said. "I like that it's not pressuring you to make your projects super fast and that everyone is so kind and welcoming."

## OPPORTUNITIES

# HANSEN SCHOLARSHIPS

## Seniors earn beneficial scholarships from Dane G. Hansen Foundation

By Meg Taggart  
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In the heartland of America, the Dane G. Hansen Foundation has been a pillar of support for students in Northwestern Kansas, including those at Hays High School, for more than five decades. The foundation, established in 1965 by entrepreneur Dane Gray Hansen, has been providing opportunities to students who want to pursue their dreams.

Hansen was born in 1883, in Logan, Kan., where the foundation is still based. His father was a Danish immigrant who found entrepreneurial success in America, owning numerous grain mills and a large general store, and his mother was a schoolteacher who also operated a hat shop and a dress shop.

Hansen worked his way into wealth with successful entrepreneurial pursuits, including drilling for oil, owning lumber yards and even selling mules to the U.S. military. Taking after his father's entrepreneurial spirit, he adopted his mother's value of education, using his wealth to start a scholarship program that is still changing lives today.

"Mr. Hansen was an entrepreneur, leader and a great role model for the young people in Northwest Kansas," Courtney States, Scholarships Program Coordinator at the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, said. "I think Mr. Hansen has and will continue to be an inspiration for these students as they set goals and dream about their futures."

The scholarship program is one of the foundation's flagship programs, which provides financial assistance to graduating seniors, college undergraduates and graduate students from 26 counties in Northwestern Kansas.

The foundation has three levels of four-year scholarships, starting with a \$4,000 scholarship that is renewable for one year. The foundation offers 70 of those scholarships, and Hays High students earned 15 of them this year. The winners included seniors Cade Becker, Ashton Bickle, Noah Bruggeman, Rylee Burd, Harlee Dannar, Liam Gatschet, Avery Harmony, Greg Hughes, Claire Humphrey, Quinton McGuire, Ansen Miner, Jordin Myers, Cole Schlautman, Devin Schmidtberger and Peyton Zimmerman.

The second highest scholarship is for \$6,500, renewable for three additional years, with 35 of these scholarships being offered and Hays High students earning 11 of them. Seniors Anthony Arial, Landen Clark, Bradyn Dreher, Evan Dealy, Devlyn Jochum, Danica Scheve, Rilee Schwarz, Chase Summers, Megan Taggart, Eileen Veatch and Grayson Walburn were among the winners.

The foundation's most prestigious scholarship, the Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship, is given to seven recipients and offers \$10,000 that is renewable for three years. Hays High School had two recipients of this scholarship this year, seniors Hannah Eikenberry and Mackenzie Hagerman.

"I was a little disheartened and thought I had been rejected when I didn't receive my letter until a week after everyone else," Hagerman said. "When I opened it, I was speechless. I am extremely grateful that I am now able to afford an education."

In addition to the four-year scholarships, the foundation also offers vocational and technical scholarships, which are for \$4,000 and are renewable for one additional year. No specific number of these scholarships is set, but 13 Hays High students earned these scholarships. Winners of these scholarships were seniors Kastyn Antrim, Katy Antrim, William Cadoret, Logan Chance, Ingrid Coronado, Shelby Craig, Ethan Dreiling, Trinity Gnad, Wyatt Grabbe, Kaden Harding, Carson Spray, Teegan Turnbull and Peyton Unruh.

"I'm so grateful to have won because it's going to help so much with my college," Turnbull said. "I'm going to use it to attend NCK Technical College to study electrical technology."

Additionally, the foundation provides access to internships, mentors and networking, which can help students build skills and explore careers.

"The scholarships are designed to reward students who work hard in the classroom, participate in school and community activities and display good citizenship, leadership and moral integrity," counselor Amy Miller said. "It's an amazing program that has helped countless students from this area."



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## TALENT SHOW

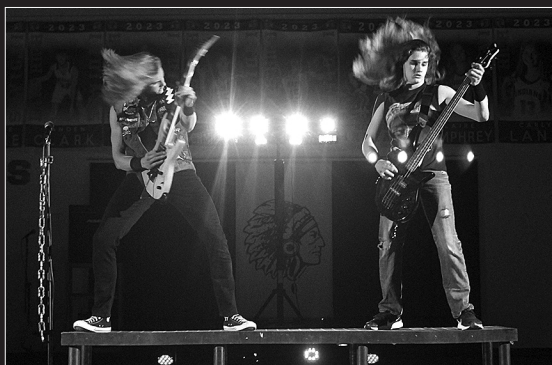


Photo by Maddie Meis

## CHAMPIONS AGAIN

On March 24 during PRIDE Time, senior Carter Muehleisen and sophomore Parker Muehleisen play their original metal song, winning the Student Council Talent Show for the second consecutive year. "My favorite part was the whole thing because everybody is so talented," Carter Muehleisen said. "Sure, taking my shirt off and blowing things up was cool, but showing my love for music is even better."



Photo by Maggi Lindenmeyer

## NEW MOVES

At the Talent Show in the main gym, senior Martin Eduardo Segundo-Garcia does an interpretive dance on March 24. Segundo-Garcia, who also showcased his dance skills at last year's show, placed second this year with a different routine that contained his original choreography again. "It took me 11 hours overall to prepare for my routine," Segundo-Garcia said.



Photo by Maggi Lindenmeyer

## ORIGINAL COMPOSITION

Playing piano and singing along, senior Seth Tripp performs his original song at the Talent Show. Tripp finished third overall. "My favorite part was just showing people my song," Tripp said. "The only reason I had desire to do the show was just so people could hear something I wrote."

Captions by Kale Schwien

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## EDUCATION

## Kansas governor discusses issues in public education with students

By Tavia Wynn-Coffman  
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On March 22, journalism students had the opportunity to participate in an interview by Zoom with Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly.

"Just before Spring Break, I received an email with information on the interview event," journalism adviser Jessica Augustine said. "So, I contacted to the governor's press secretary, Cassie Nichols, to ensure that Hays High was included."

Several other schools also participated in the press conference. Prior to the event, Nichols asked that each school submit questions about education for the governor.

Kelly started by discussing one of the bills in the state legislature about school vouchers, which would allow public school funding to be used for private schools.

"Our founding fathers and mothers made very clear that they did want to happen," Kelly said. "There are well over 60 counties out of the 105 in the state that do not even have private schools, so there would be no opportunity for kids to use those dollars without going to a public school."

Then, the governor responded to the question, "What do you see as your top priority to improve education in the state of Kansas?"

"First and foremost, this year, I have prioritized the funding of special education," Kelly said. "For the last four years, we have fully funded K-12 education, but we have not fully met our statutory requirement for special education."

Kelly said fully funding special education "would make a difference for every kid in our public school system" because, without full funding, school districts have to reallocate funds that should be used for general education to pay for special education, which is legally mandated to be provided.

"So, if we can fund those services to the statutory level, then that will make it even better for everybody because those resources can come back and be directed where they were intended," Kelly said.

Kelly then answered one of the questions that Hays High submitted, which was, "What do you think needs to be done to make being an educator in Kansas a more attractive career option for young people?" to which Kelly said that better pay and working conditions and general respect are essential to recruiting new teachers and retaining veteran teachers.

"It is important that we provide opportunities for teachers to make a living wage reflective of the amount of education and work that we expect from them," Kelly said.

Kelly added that education has also become a "less-than-desirable profession" because of some

of the current view of "those who have an ideological difference with the public school system."

"It's important for us to continue to support our public school system," Kelly said, "but then to even go more granular and get down in our communities and make sure that the support that I believe is there for teachers gets expressed while those who have a different point of view are expressing that."

To end the interview, Kelly responded to the question, "Why was fully funding schools so important to you?" in her first term and now in her second term, too.

"It is not only the education that kids get in our public schools, but it also because our schools are, in many cases, the real heart of the community," Kelly said. "I think it is just very important to Kansas to support that and to ensure that we are giving our teachers and our students all of the resources that they need to succeed."



Photo by Jessica Augustine

### PRESS CONFERENCE

Through Zoom, Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly speaks to participating high school journalism staffs, including students from Hays High School, on March 22.



# SAVE THE EARTH

With the 53rd annual Earth Day approaching on Saturday, April 22, citizens are encouraged to ‘invest in the Earth’

**“Earth Day is super important so we can recognize how we can give back to our planet and encourage everyone to become aware of environmental issues that are constantly harming the world around us.”**  
senior Kenzie Cunningham



**“This year, for Earth Day, I plan to help my mom clean up our garden. I also plan to take some flowers to my grandparents and other special people in my life.”**  
senior Maysyn Tippy



**“Earth Day is very important because Earth is the place that we live so we should honor it and take care of our home. If we don't, then we may not have a place to live in the future.”**  
senior Chason VanDerWege



**“For Earth Day, I am going to buy flowers and give them to the important people in my life. This holiday is super important because it is a day for everyone to celebrate how amazing the Earth is.”**  
junior Abi Banks



**“Earth Day is important because it helps us bring awareness to people about our Earth and what we can do to make it a better place. It also keeps our environment safe for everyone.”**  
junior Carsen Riat



By Madighan Norris  
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Earth Day has been a global holiday since 1970 and is celebrated annually on April 22 to honor the life Earth sustains and raise awareness of current environmental issues.

“I always try and recycle when I can and pick up any stray trash that I see,” senior Environmental Club representative Nia Kaiser said. “I also keep an eye out on where the products I buy are coming from and how they’re being made. I try to buy from clean and sustainable brands.”

Throughout the world, people have been making Earth Day a bigger celebration by doing activities, such as picking up trash, making compost piles and protesting controversial issues, such as deforestation and, more recently, the Willow Project.

The Willow Project is, thus far, the largest oil drilling project that has been proposed to take place on U.S. land – specifically, the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska. On March 13, the Biden administration upheld the previous approval of the project, allowing oil to be drilled 30 miles away from the Arctic Ocean.

“I think the Willow Project has both pros and cons,” Kaiser said. “It’s super controversial for a reason.”

Though, on a smaller scale, in the past, organizations near Hays have celebrated Earth Day in clean, sustainable ways. For example, the Kansas Wetlands Education Center has previously held a “Biosphere Block Party” to advertise sustainable living in ways such as decorating reusable tote bags for groceries, using a solar oven to bake cookies and demonstrating how two-liter plastic bottles can be made into rope.

At Hays High, special education teacher Jamie Wolbert has her students collect materials to be recycled, including aluminum cans, paper products and plastic bottles.

“I feel like the Hays is pretty clean, especially at Hays High,” Kaiser said. “Our janitors are amazing, and most classrooms have recycling bins. However, there will always be outliers.”

In addition, the Environmental Club organizes trash pickups to keep the community litter free. In the past, the club’s members have collected 85 pounds of trash around Big Creek in just one hour.

“Environmental Club spends a lot of time picking up trash,” Kaiser said. “We are always trying to maximize the amount of pickups to keep Hays green.”

This year, for Earth Day, Environmental Club planned another trash pickup after the early release on Wednesday, April 12.

## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DO YOU CURRENTLY DO TO REDUCE POLLUTION?

**REUSE - 29 PERCENT**  
(USE REUSABLE BAGS, STRAWS, ETC.)

**RECYCLE - 29 PERCENT**  
(RECYCLE CANS, GLASS, PLASTIC, ETC.)

**CONSERVE - 18 PERCENT**  
(SAVE ENERGY, GAS, WATER, ETC.)

**VOLUNTEER - 15 PERCENT**  
(PICK UP TRASH, ETC.)

**REDUCE - 9 PERCENT**  
(PRODUCE LESS TRASH, COMPOST, ETC.)

Photos from Unsplash; information from survey results

or use a tote bag instead of all the different grocery bags you get when you go shopping.”

Using social media is another way to call attention to the Earth. Last year, Instagram created a sort of ‘tag’ for Earth Day. People could post photos of their activism or just pretty pictures of the environment to their stories. From there, the posts were added to an Earth Day gallery, along with others’ posts from around the world.

“Social media can be a great tool to bring environmental issues to the forefront, but I think the best way to get things recognized is from word of mouth; people still talk to each other, hopefully, about certain issues,” Dickerson said.

**“I like to celebrate Earth Day by going outside and looking at all the nature around me. It’s a lot of fun with my friends, especially if it’s a nice day out!”**  
junior Andrea Zarate



**“For Earth Day, [junior] Brenlynn Albers and I will be in Florida on our DECA trip, but hopefully, we will get to see a lot of nature. I am really hoping to get to go the beach and enjoy Earth Day laying under the sun!”**  
junior Mika Zimmerman



**“Earth Day is important because it reminds people of how amazing our planet is, and it shows people how to be grateful for everything the Earth offers us.”**  
sophomore Madison Kershner



**“Earth Day is important because it promotes practices of improving our environment and reminds us of the importance of our planet’s health.”**  
sophomore Caleb King



**“Earth Day is an important day because it is a day for us to show appreciation to our world, and it helps more people get involved with different social causes to help the Earth to be a better place.”**  
sophomore Kallyn Meyers





## Praises

- Airpods
- Bitmojis
- Jonah Hill
- Graduation
- FIFA
- Sonic Waters
- Vegetarians
- Thrifted Jewelry/Books
- Old Maroon 5 Songs
- Easter Bunny
- Pink Noise
- Windex

## Protests

- Zoos
- SeaWorld
- 70 MPH Winds
- Hustler's University
- Miscommunication
- Oatmeal Creme Pies
- Lizard People
- Fuzzy Crocs
- Snapchat Streaks
- Black Socks
- TikTok
- Pears

## Staff Playlist

**Eleanor Bittel**  
"Undone - The Sweater Song"  
by Weezer

**Feyden Hileman**  
"Rise and Shine"  
by J. Cole

**Justin Houchen**  
"Hudson"  
by Vampire Weekend

**Eric Lucio**  
"Kevin's Heart"  
by J. Cole

**Maddie Meis**  
"Heroes"  
by David Bowie

**Corey Musil**  
"Buy Dirt"  
by Jordan Davis

**Madighan Norris**  
"Fishtail"  
by Lana Del Rey

**Kale Schwien**  
"Good Life"  
by One Republic

**Meg Taggart**  
"Barbie Dreams"  
by Nicki Minaj

**Jake Went**  
"Solar Power"  
by Lorde

**Tavia Wynn-Coffman**  
"Mastermind"  
by Taylor Swift

**Jessica Augustine**  
"Darkness"  
Eminem



Cartoon by Eleanor Bittel

## Students can help save Earth by being aware, taking action

Climate change is a pressing issue that affects our planet and our future. While we often hear about the impact of driving our cars, leaving on lights and even cows producing methane gas, there is another culprit that is often overlooked and thought of as "out of our control," which is mass manufacturing. Mass manufacturing produces the goods we use every day, from clothing to electronics to household items. However, the production processes involved release massive amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

One of the main contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in mass manufacturing is the burning of fossil fuels, such as coal, to power production processes. This releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which is a primary greenhouse gas. Furthermore, the waste generated by mass manufacturing, including hazardous chemicals and electronic waste, also contributes to environmental degradation and climate change. The improper disposal of these wastes can result in soil and water pollution, which further exacerbates the problems.

While actions such as driving cars and leaving the water running do contribute to climate change, it is important to recognize that changing our daily lives will mean nothing if the main contributors do not change. As high school students, though, we have the power to make a difference. Here are some ideas:

**Raise Awareness:** High schools can educate their students and staff about the environmental impact humans have through activities and presentations.

**Promote Sustainable Practices:** High schools can promote sustainable practices by reducing waste, conserving energy and using eco-friendly products.

**Advocate for Change:** High school students can raise their voices and advocate for policies that promote environmental protection and sustainability.

**Support Ethical Brands:** High schools and students can support environmentally responsible brands by purchasing products that are produced using sustainable and fair-trade practices.

**Engage in Community Projects:** High school organizations and students can initiate or participate in community projects that focus on environmental sustainability and climate action.

In conclusion, it is crucial to recognize that, although the main reasons for the climate problems seem like they cannot be changed by individuals, it is important to try. We should act now to protect our planet and create a more sustainable future for ourselves and generations to come. Together, we can make a difference.

## Opinion of the Guidon Staff

Agree: 9

Disagree: 2

## The Guidon Staff

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## Information/Policies

The *Guidon* print edition is published seven times a year by the Digital Media Design and Production class at Hays High School in Hays, Kan., and it is printed by Northwestern Printers in Hays, Kan.

The *Guidon* is a student-produced newsmagazine published to inform and entertain the Hays High community, to record the history of the school and to serve as an educational tool for journalism students. Under the supervision of a faculty adviser, journalism students have the opportunities to inform, investigate, entertain, interpret and evaluate in an open forum – all accepted functions of the traditional free press – and have the responsibilities to provide accurate, fair, objective and truthful coverage. Should unintentional errors in content be made, they will be retracted in the next issue of the school year.

The views 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. Advertisements must meet content, deadline and size requirements, and acceptance does not constitute an endorsement from the student staff or by the school district.

The staff welcomes letters to the editor, as long as they are not libelous, an invasion of privacy, obscene or copyright protected. Letters must be signed and must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

The *Guidon* print edition earned the Kansas Scholastic Press Association All-Kansas Award in 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022; received the National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker Award in 2009; was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2009 and 2011; and received the NSPA First Class Award in 2012, 2018 and 2021. The *Guidon* online edition earned the KSPA All-Kansas Award in 2017 and 2018 and was an NSPA Pacemaker Finalist in 2019.

Other policy information is available upon request by contacting adviser Jessica Augustine at [jaugustine@usd489.com](mailto:jaugustine@usd489.com).

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# **LISTEN IN WITH ERIC**

## New album from Lana Del Rey continues her previous sound

I was recently able to listen to one of the most-anticipated albums of 2023, “Did You Know That There’s a Tunnel under Ocean Blvd,” by artist Lana Del Rey.

After a two-year hiatus, Del Rey released the project on March 24. This marks her ninth studio album, with 16 tracks and a run time of an hour and 17 minutes, and includes five features from other artists, including Jon Batiste, Bleachers, Tommy Genesis, Father John Misty and SYML.

With much anticipation, this has been Del Rey’s most successful opening week in eight years, selling more than 115,000 units, as well as placing No. 3 on Billboard’s Top 200.

Del Rey starts off the album with a track called, “The Grants, which begins with a small choir singing a serenade, then leads into Del Rey’s vocals. Del Rey sings about memories in her life and of her pastor that told her, “When you leave, all you take [are your] memories.”

In the following track, which is named after the album and is the lead single to the project, Del Rey sings of her anxiety and fear of being forgotten, specifically

referring to her common themes of love and heartbreak. She speaks of a tunnel that has been abandoned and describes the detail of it, such as, “mosaic ceilings” and “painted tiles,” where she later pleads about not wanting to have the same fate as the tunnel, something with such beauty being closed off from the world.

Throughout other tracks on the album, Del Rey explores many different themes of memory, finding her confidence on a hike in “Sweet” and the insecurities and struggles of women in “A&W.” Following these, there is an interlude of a pastor speaking about men cheating and how God encourages them to stay loyal. She continues with her slow and melodic songs about empowerment, loneliness,

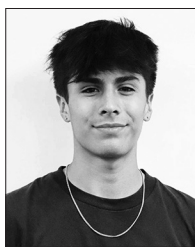
memories and love throughout the album, and she ends with a slight remix of a song in one of her previous albums, essentially stating that she could not care less about what people think; she is who she is, and no one could stop her, even if they tried.

Del Rey continued to show off her hypnotizing voice yet again throughout the project and displayed similar themes

to what she has done in the past. This album almost feels like a continuation of some of her past projects, and if you listen to them in order, you can see how she has changed over the years. She has explored loneliness and depression, as well as female empowerment and confidence. Her lyricism continues to stand out in this project, conveying many messages through metaphors and anecdotes. After listening, my favorite track has to be, “Did You Know That There’s a Tunnel under Ocean Blvd;” the song gives a feeling of relatability and nostalgia, as she reminisces about and connects with past experiences and objects.

While I enjoyed listening to the album, it felt repetitive at times and did not explore much variety from her past projects. She often used very similar synths and piano, making the songs more difficult to differentiate from one another. Although it can be looked at as a negative, she continued to stick to her brand, and it fit directly to her demographic.

As much as I enjoyed the album, I do not believe it quite lived up to its hype. Excluding all anticipation, though, this is a very good album. I would rate it a 6.5/10, and I would recommend it to those who enjoy this type of music.



By Eric Lucio  
24elucio@usd489.com

## Federal government should not have approved Willow Project

On March 13, the Biden administration approved the Willow Project, allowing ConocoPhillips to drill for oil on Alaska’s North Slope in the National Petroleum Reserve, which is owned by the federal government, much to the dismay of activists who fought the project’s approval.

ConocoPhillips first started the project in 1999 in the northeast portion of Alaska. In 2016, it discovered oil in what the company named the Willow area west of Alpine, Alaska, and proposed the project, which would produce nearly 600 million barrels of oil from the 499-acre area. The Trump administration originally approved the project in 2020, allowing ConocoPhillips to construct five drill pads, which the Biden administration later reduced to three drill pads.

While the Biden administration initially planned a reduction in the drilling areas, they were unable to do so when they determined that, because of the prior approval from the Trump

administration, legally, the courts would not have let them reduce or reject the project plans at this point.

While it took months for approval, a surge of protests began, especially online. While protesters are upset about the environmental consequences of project, they also are angry that President Joe Biden broke a campaign promise, in which he stated there would be “no new oil drilling, period” on federal lands. He also promised to reduce emissions in half by 2030 and move the United States to cleaner energy sources.

The Willow Project’s consequences greatly outweigh the benefits, as the project will cause irreversible damage to the environment. The project will produce enough oil to emit 9.2 million metric tons of carbon pollution a year, which is equivalent to

adding two million gas-powered cars to the roads, as stated by CNN.

The project will also demolish habitats for native Alaskan animals and would alter the migration patterns of many species. Certain animals that are climate sensitive will especially be affected and possibly endangered, such as polar bears. These animals have no way to defend themselves, and Biden has made it clear that he will no longer keep his word to protect them or the environment.

Although we cannot undo the damage we have already caused the Earth, we can prevent even more harm. The first step, though, is for the government to start listening to scientists instead of climate change naysayers and to stop approving gas and oil projects like the Willow Project.



By Maddie Meis  
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## COMPETITION

# SPRING SPORTS SEASON

## With practices underway, coaches and players provide their outlooks

By Feyden Hileman  
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Photos by Jersey Johnson, Nia Kaiser, Arely Maldonado, Amadee Randle, Ava Schoenberger, Nikka Vuong and Julia Zadina (Indian Call 2022)

### BOYS TENNIS

interview with  
sophomore Madox Zimmerman

**How is the team looking from an individual perspective?**

"The team is looking pretty good this season, and there is high competition for varsity."

**Are there any really strong players who stand out this year?**

"[Junior] Colin Clark and [junior] Xavier Catura both are competing at high levels and are looking pretty good."

**What outcomes are you expecting throughout this season?**

"The team could possibly go to state this year and maybe see a few good placements."

### TRACK & FIELD

interview with  
head coach Tony Crough

**With the loss of the seniors from last year, are you expecting better or worse results this year?**

"Better, even though we lost some talented seniors, there weren't that many of them. We were very junior heavy last year, so I would say better."

**Have you noticed any potential stars out of the freshman athletes?**

"I don't know about any stars yet, but it is a good class. I would say the girls seems to be a pretty solid all round. It seems like a good batch."

**What is your favorite event to coach?**

"I like the relays. I've coached a little bit of everything, but right now, I just kind of do sprints, relays and help out with hurdles. The relays are really fun to me because it becomes such a team event; you really have to count on multiple people."

### GIRLS SWIMMING

interview with  
head coach Jane Rorstrom

**Have you seen any improvement in the athletes from last year?**

"Some have already broken last year's PRs [personal records]. [Sophomore] Izabel Schmidt improved her 100 fly by seven seconds already. She qualified for state with a time of 103.33. [Senior] Kiki Gonzales improved her 200 free time by over 12 seconds. [Sophomore] Savannah Schmitz improved her 50 free slightly. Izabel also qualified for state in the 50 free at this meet again."

**What are your expectations for this season in girls swimming?**

"We lost some seniors from last year and what would be seniors that were talented. Therefore, we have a smaller team. With a smaller team, we cannot have as many relays. Relays are where the big points are scored, so it will be a challenge to do better when it comes to placing higher."

### SOFTBALL

interview with  
head coach Abby Gillan

**What are your expectations for the season this spring?**

"We have high hopes for the softball program this season. The girls worked hard in the off-season, and we return a strong core of players from last season."

**How have practices been going so far?**

"We have had some great practices to start the season. We are impressed with the work ethic of our team and the growth they have shown so far. Our hope is that we will see the hard work pay off once we hit the field for competition."

### GIRLS SOCCER

interview with  
head coach Tyler Rueschhoff

**With the absence of last year's seniors, do you think the new seniors have stepped up well?**

"We always lose important roles on our team when our seniors leave, but the seniors we have this year are strong leaders on the team and have stepped up to try to make this team better than ever."

**Do you expect to win the conference title again?**

"Taking the WAC title is always the goal. We have a tough league; however, with the talent we have, another one isn't out of the question. Everyone on the team wants to get the 'three-peat.'"

### BOYS GOLF

interview with  
senior Landen Clark

**What results are you expecting from the team this season?**

"I have pretty high expectations for this season since we're returning a lot of guys that have played varsity for a while."

**How do you feel about the team's abilities as a whole?**

"Overall, I think the team has a lot of potential, and there are some young guys that can be really good once they settle in. The program seems to be in good shape for the future."

### BASEBALL

interview with  
head coach Dustin Dreher

**With the team's success last year, how do you expect to do this year?**

"I think we will have another successful year. How successful will depend on how our pitchers step up to replace the innings we graduated last year."

**How are you feeling about the new freshmen?**

"There are some good arms, solid defenders and some guys that look like they can swing it well."

**How have practices gone?**

"Practices have been going well. The weather has cooperated, so we have been able to get outside and get a lot of work in."



ATHLETES  
OF THE MONTH

Softball



senior Morgen Berry

"I think sports are important to me because I am a really competitive person, and I like to win. I also love being with my teammates. I am looking forward to this season because I think we have a really good chance at winning some games this season."

Track &amp; Field



senior Trent Summers

"Sports are important to me because they teach me discipline and how to work hard. I am looking forward to hanging out with my friends at the track meets and hopefully running a couple PR's [personal records] as well."

## COMMITMENTS

## Seniors sign to play for Tiger football program

By Corey Musil  
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The Fort Hays State University football team will be adding some home-grown talent to its team next year, as five Hays High School seniors, including Keamonie Archie, Deondre Broom, Kyreese Groen, Evan Lind and Bryce Salmans, committed to the Tigers for next season.

**Keamonie Archie**

Archie played wide receiver on varsity for the Indians this season. Since he transferred from Brunswick, Ga., as a junior, he was not eligible last year.

This year, though, Archie had one of the biggest plays of the season with a 43-yard touchdown reception against Valley Center in Week 10.

At FHSU, where he will pursue an undecided major, Archie will likely play defensive back for the Tigers.

"Moving to defensive back is going to be tough, but it will get easier, as I practiced defensive back my junior year when I wasn't eligible," Archie said.

**Deondre Broom**

Playing college football was always a goal for Broom, and now, he will get to experience that dream, playing for FHSU.

"I committed to Fort Hays because they gave me an offer I couldn't pass up, and it's my hometown," Broom said.

Broom, who earned All-League Second Team this year for the Indians, said that he tries to model his game after retired National Football League safety Brian Dawkins.

Broom will play defensive back for the Tigers while he pursues a degree in business.

**Kyreese Groen**

For Groen, there were many reasons to commit to FHSU, but the Tiger coaching staff and the closeness to home were the major ones.

"The coaches seem to care a lot about their players, and I wanted to stay in town due to the community and how involved they were in my high school games," Groen said.

One of his best games was against Valley Center, when he had 22 carries for 160 yards and a touchdown.

Groen plans to play slot wide receiver at FHSU while getting his degree.

**Evan Lind**

Lind said he committed to FHSU because it was the best fit for him personally.

"I committed to Fort Hays because I wanted to continue playing football, and it felt like the best fit, academically and athletically," Lind said. "It also just felt like home."

Playing college football was always a goal for Lind, but not always a set one. However, football has provided Lind with

some of his best memories.

"Some of my favorite memories are from the Gambler football days in our younger years and our playoff run this last year," Lind said.

This season, Lind had three defensive touchdowns and 91 tackles, and next season, he will likely play linebacker for the Tigers while he majors in finance.

**Bryce Salmans**

Playing college football has been a dream for Salmans since he was a little kid.

"My favorite memories have been the friendships I have built with my teammates; I would do anything for anyone of them," Salmans said.

Salmans, who will play defensive end for FHSU as he earns a degree, said committing to the Tigers was an easy decision for him.

"I grew up here and know the work ethic and trust the coaches there," Salmans said.

The five join 47 other recruits for the Tigers, who finished the 2022 season with a 3-8 record.

"I think it is really cool for them to have an opportunity to move on to Fort Hays," Indian football head coach Tony Crough said. "I really do think that all five of them have a shot at helping Fort Hays and getting on the roster and getting on the field."

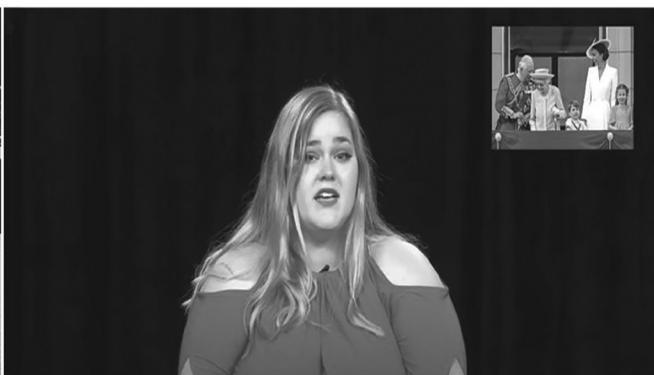
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# Spring Showcases

## Art community prepares many events for spring months

By Eleanor Bittel  
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This spring, Hays residents will have many opportunities to see the work of local artists.

On Wednesday, April 19, Fort Hays State University Department of Art and Design will host the 48th Annual High School Art Exhibition. During this exhibit, area students can enjoy a day filled with their art. As their work is being juried at Gross Memorial Coliseum, the students will be able to enjoy sidewalk chalk art and view the Art and Design Department.

Another event related to FHSU is the Department of Art and Design's annual Student Honors Exhibition, which opened on Friday, March 31 with a reception from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; however, the exhibit will be open through Friday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

This exhibit displays 88 juror-selected pieces from the department's undergraduate students, with every area of the department being represented. The exhibition was also an opportunity for un-

### Spring Schedule

**April 19**  
High School Art Exhibit  
at Fort Hays State University

**Now - April 21**  
Student Honors Exhibits  
at Fort Hays State University

**April 29**  
Spring Art Walk  
in downtown Hays

**April 29 - June 6**  
Smoky Hill Art Exhibition  
at Hays Arts Center

**April 30**  
Creative Writing Awards  
at Fort Hays State University

dergraduate students to win scholarships; there was more than \$7,000 awarded to art students at the opening reception, including three \$1,000 winners and 20 \$200 winners.

As for the FHSU gallery, artists must reserve the space for their exhibitions. As an educational gallery, it normally features FHSU students' Master of Fine Arts thesis exhibitions, along with the Annual Art and Design Faculty Exhibition, Graphic Design Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition and Student Honors Exhibition.

Finally, the Spring Art Walk will take place on Saturday, April 29. The Hays Art Center's Moss-Thorns Gallery of Art will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. that day and will feature artist Tyler Dallis for his MFA thesis exhibition in ceramics, titled "Bloodlines." Dallis's work is based around family and friends and the "bloodlines" that have been created throughout their lifetimes. "Bloodlines" will be available for viewing from April 29 to May 12.

The Spring Art Walk is one of four art walks that the Hays Arts Council and its director, Brenda Meder, organize every year. In addition to Dallis's exhibit, on April 29 in downtown Hays, you will find art on every corner. Hays High School's Art Club will be featuring their work from both in school and out of school at Studio 809.

"The cultural engagement in Hays serves a valuable role in the art community," Meder said. "It provides a sense of connection, and it is important to know that this is meant for everyone, not only the art creators and connoisseurs."



## Student Statistics

What do you do to celebrate Earth Day?  
(in a poll of 60 students)

43% - "I post on social media"  
22% - "I don't celebrate it."  
21% - "I give out flowers."  
19% - "I pick up trash."  
10% - "I garden."



## Future Films

**April 5**

"Air"  
"On A Wing and A Prayer"  
"The Super Mario Bros. Movie"

**April 7**

"Living With Chuckie"  
"Paint"

**April 11**

"Black Bags"  
"Cube"

**April 14**

"Renfield"  
"Sweetwater"  
"The Pope's Exorcist"

**April 21**

"Chevalier"  
"Evil Dead Rise"  
"Guy Ritchie's The Covenant"

**April 28**

"Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret"



## Witty Wisecracks

**Why do omelettes love April Fools' Day?**  
They enjoy practical yolks.

**What did the calendar say after April Fools' Day was declared a holiday?**  
Prank you, prank you very much.

**What kind of pickles do spring flowers like?**  
Daffo-dills.

**What do you call a sunny day that follows two rainy April days?**  
Monday.

**If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?**  
Pilgrims.

**What flower grows between your nose and chin?**  
Two-lips.

## ARTISTS OF THE MONTH



senior  
Devlyn Jochum

**What is your favorite way to perform?**

"I find singing and acting the most exciting because they let me step into the mind of another character for a moment in time."

**Who do you look to for inspiration?**

"When preparing music, I often look for recordings of professionals performing it. I don't necessarily have

a go-to person, so much as I like to see various interpretations of work to inspire my own decisions."

**What is your why?**

"There is something that inherently triggers wide ranges of emotion in us, be it love, loss, joy or conviction. Music is also a constant that I can always turn back to, both to see where I've been and to provide comfort or release in the present."

**What got you into starting in music?**

"There was a point where music started to become my primary emotional outlet; when I started to actually get into music, it was an incredible feeling to express myself through music."

**What has been your favorite performance that you have done?**

"The Talent Show was my favorite performance; the crowd seemed to love it, and the music sounded great."

**What is your why?**

"Performing a piece of music that I'm in love with is a feeling that is hard to explain, but it's beautiful to express something that I feel needs to be expressed for my own sake."



junior  
Connor Rodger