

A HISTORIC FIRST

Eagles react to first American pope in history following Francis' death

Surizaday Alvarado
staff writer

The message of Pope Leo XIV, a Chicago native with dual American and Peruvian citizenship, resonated strongly within the Central's Catholic community, sparking reflection on the global role of the Church and its mission.

Robert Francis Prevost was elected pope when in the fourth ballot of the conclave, the secret meeting where the College of Cardinals gathers to elect a new pope of the Roman Catholic Church. It takes place in the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City and follows strict traditions and rules. The election continues until one candidate receives a two-thirds majority of the votes.

Pope Leo speaks four languages: English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese. He has visited several Latin American countries over the past 10 years as Prior General of the Order of Saint Augustine, the order's top leader, including Honduras, Colombia, and Ecuador.

He first went to Peru in 1985 when he began his priestly career. According to the priests who worked with pope Leo while he was bishop of Chiclayo and the Catholics who knew him, his virtues are his simplicity, his willingness to serve, and his solidarity with those most in need. This aligns with his choice of Papal name, in honor of Pope Leo XIII, a champion of social justice.

Central math teacher Brent Larson said Pope Leo's missionary experience in Peru was valuable. "All the time that he spent down there it's, 'Wow, that's just incredible,' because even though you're an American pope, there's a lot more Catholics out there in the world and you must have that world view. That is cool and necessary," Larson said. "If you only saw one piece of what is out there in world you cannot be an effective leader."

During his stay in Peru, Pope Leo bonded with the community and was awarded the "Santo Toribio de Mogrovejo" gold medal by the Peruvian Episcopate in 2023 for his work there, before departing for the Holy See as prefect of the dicastery for bishops, appointed by Pope Francis. Pope Leo XIV is the 267th occupant of the chair of St. Peter and the first North American pope in the history of the Church.

As news of Pope Leo XIV's historic election spread, students and teachers at Central recognized the significance of the moment.



Pope Leo XIV gestures as he arrives for a general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, September 17, 2025.

REMO CASILLI | REUTERS

"I was sad when Pope Francis died, but I'm glad we have a new pope, he seems like a good person. I am happy and I think it's cool to know he is the first pope from the U.S. I feel more people from our country will follow him in the future thanks to what he preaches," freshman Jagger Hansen said.

"I think it wouldn't have mattered who it was as much because especially other cardinals, they've all done similar things," junior Ava Bohnert said. "It is going to have a significant impact just because the pope is all about how the Church is just so universal. It's going to connect a lot with Americans personally and it will give them a chance to realize that we are universal with churches around everywhere else in the world and he is really going bring that unity."

Pope Leo promised to continue the reforms and vision of his predecessor Francis, highlighting his legacy's openness to the modern world and his commitment to the Second Vatican Council. In his first meeting with all the cardinals, Pope Leo urged a renewed commitment to reforms such as mass in local languages and interfaith dialogue. He also warned of new challenges, such as AI, in the

defense of labor dignity and justice. He also addressed concerns for both conservatives and progressives, focusing on migrant issues by building on the foundation laid by Pope Francis, and continued to raise awareness about environmental challenges.

On Aug. 31, Pope Leo prayed publicly for the victims of the Minnesota Catholic school shooting and called for an end to the "pandemic of arms, large and small." The pope spoke in English as he denounced the attack and the weapons fueling wars around the world.

"It's time that those responsible renounce logic of weapons and take the path of negotiations and peace, with the support of the international community," he said. In one of his recent morning talks, he said, "Let nothing hold you back from the original call to reform, renew, and simplify that Christian life, which still has the power to widen the horizons and deepen the breath of every human existence."

"Does it fit with what we believe and what God wants us to do," Larson said. "I think as with any good leader coming into their position, that's a good thing to say, 'Hey, let's look at what we do and if this is the right thing to

do.' If this is what we are called to do, is this how we need to keep advancing and serve our people. On Sept. 1, Pope Leo met with Father James Martin, a prominent advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion within the Church, affirming his commitment to welcome all people and encouraging Martin to continue his work. The Vatican's public announcement of the meeting suggests Leo's openness and continuity with his predecessor's outreach to the LGBTQ+ community. Some earlier popes avoided or condemned LGBTQ+ topics, but Leo seems more open and welcoming.

"Since some of the Catholic parish and Christian churches do not support that, I think he's trying to bring them together and tell them that God still loves them," Hansen said.

Bohnert part of a more traditional catholic church, "Some people might think it's about modernizing the Church, but the pope just goes to show that love conquers everything and by meeting with him it's not that we need to disagree in everything, but we need to unite," Bohnert said. "We should be respecting others and respecting their dignity though we may not agree with their choices."

Funding cuts strike KIOS, public media looks to new sources

Connie Moennig
staff writer

After \$1.1 billion of federal funding meant for public media was cancelled this past summer, KIOS-FM is facing uncertainty like so many other local stations across the nation.

These cuts are the cause of the impending closure of the Corporation of Public Broadcasting, the entity that provides funds for NPR and PBS stations around the country. KIOS is a local station owned by Omaha Public Schools, and it has made news accessible for its 60,000 weekly listeners and around 1 million people in the Omaha area for over 50

years.

These cuts were made due to the Trump administration's feelings that public media are biased against conservatives, and the claims that it was a waste of taxpayer money.

According to OPS, KIOS has received approximately \$154,000 from the CPB this year, about 14% of its budget. Going forward without these funds will certainly lead to issues and complications, causing them to rely more on donations from listeners, which already make up around 2/3 of their budget, according to the KIOS website. KIOS says that they will continue discussions to evaluate the

impact of the cuts.

OPS declined to make KIOS staff available for interviews.

Central social studies teacher Nicholas Broniecki, is a regular listener of KIOS-FM. Broniecki is not only a longtime listener, but a monthly donor to Nebraska Public Media. When he heard about the cuts, he was unhappy but not surprised.

"I've been paying close attention to how the government has been rolling out their policies," Broniecki said. He drew similarities to the dismantlement of the Department of Education. "It doesn't shock me that they're

looking to centralize power to the executive branch and privatize all the different departments and programs the government has."

After the funding cuts there's been a spike in donations, fundraising and support from listeners to their local stations nationwide.

The President and CEO of NPR, Katherine Maher vowed to carry on with the organization's mission. "We will vigorously defend our right to provide essential news, information and life-saving service to the American public. We will challenge this Executive Order using all means available," Maher said.

News

New teachers p. 2

The Nest welcomed 11 new teachers this summer, mostly in the English and science departments. Read about them and their backgrounds.

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Government affects you p. 6/ pagina 15

With LB140 rocking Nebraska schools, it is an important reminder to pay attention to government, Steven Dickerson argues.

Arts & Culture

Students attend Hinterland p. 8

The St. Charles, Iowa, music festival saw artists like Tyler, The Creator, Lana Del Ray, ROLE MODEL, Clair, and more entertain festival-goers.

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Kickers prove to be powerful crew p. 12

Grant Grace, Adrian Schulte, and Robin Vargas-Pablo have made waves with their success.

New teachers join the Eagle family

Fatima Yawari
arts & culture editor

Aleece Chandler: From Grand Forks, ND. She graduated from the University of North Dakota and teaches English to juniors and seniors. A fun fact about her is that she studied in Florence, Italy, while in college. Chandler’s decision to become a teacher comes from having so many influential teachers who inspired her and her love for working with kids.

Sophia Safranek: From Napa, CA. Teaches Physical Science at Central. She attended Benedictine College. A fun fact about Safranek is that while growing up in California she raised and showed livestock for the county fair. Safranek’s love for science and desire to share her passion with students led her to become a teacher.

Caylee Grande: Born and raised in Omaha. Graduated from the University of Nebraska Omaha. Teaches Geometry and Algebra 1-2. One fun fact about Grande is that she is Afghan and because of that she has a connection to minority students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Math has been a subject Grande has always excelled at and the reason for her going further with her passion by becoming a teacher.

Fiona Wiberg: From Papillon. She teaches English Speech and Debate. Graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, NE. A fun fact about Wiberg is that she absolutely loves spicy food. She chose to teach English

because she loves to read and write. “Learning how to read closely, critically think, form opinions, and writing well about it, builds the foundation of a productive and successful society,” Wiberg said.

Catherine Althoff: From Little Rock, AR. She teaches Algebra 1-2 and Geometry and is an assistant coach for the girls’ basketball team. Althoff graduated from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. A fun fact about her is that she loves bungee jumping and sky diving. Althoff chose to teach math because it was her favorite subject in school and solving problems feels like solving a puzzle.

Meilii Halfmann: Teaches Accounting, Honors Accounting, and International Finance. Also serves as co-adviser for DECA. She attended Northern Arizona University and Pima Community College; this is her 20th year in education. Before teaching, Halfmann worked in the clerical field and collaborated with high school students, which is when she fell in love with working with them. It is her passion to prepare students for life after high school.

Brian Lombard: Teaches Human Geography, Sociology, and African American History. For Lombard, social studies has always been the only subject that he felt passionate about, and living in different parts of the world helped shape his perspective on the subject. A fun fact about Lombard is that he attended middle school in Naples, Italy, and graduated high school in Sasebo, Japan.

Brandon Lombard: First-year teacher, teaches American Government. A fun fact about Lombard is that he is Brian Lombard’s brother. Not only are they brothers, but they also teach in the same departments. Lombard’s decision to teach comes from his passion for education and desire to pass on his excitement to others.

Christa Luokkala: From Ishpeming, Michigan. She teaches Honors Research Methods in the Environmental Pathway, Inland Ecosystems, and Physical Science. Luokkala worked as a research scientist at Michigan Tech for 15 years and decided to try out a new career pathway in education after moving to Omaha and found it enjoyable. She was inspired to teach in public schools after having her daughter.

Anthony Wade: Teaches U.S History as well as Honors U.S History. Graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A fun fact about Wade is that he had a long aspiration to be a storm-chaser/meteorologist. Wade’s seventh grade social studies teacher imbued her lessons with passion, inspiring him to do the same for his students.

Jake Wagner: From Omaha, Nebraska. Teaches Physical Education, and he graduated from UNO. Wagner’s goal is to teach students how to live healthier lives through physical education.



Aleece Chandler



Sophia Safranek



Caylee Grande



Fiona Wiberg



Catherine Althoff



Meilii Halfmann



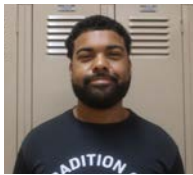
Brian Lombard



Brandon Lombard



Christa Luokkala



Anthony Wade



Jake Wagner

CHRISHYRA MARION
REEGAN MEREDITH | The Register

Nest expands to include new Haven food pantry

Katie Besancon
managing editor

It started in 2015: a student approached school social worker Dawna Hill wanting to create a way to help students and families if they were in need of basic clothing items or shoes.

That is when The Nest was born. It is a resource that would allow students who were going through a hard time, new to the United States, in the foster care system or simply a student and family who are in need of household essentials to contact either their counselor or Hill to receive those products without cost.

Students utilize this resource and have enabled the program to last 10 years. The resource, which is funded by donations from the community, students, families and non-profit organizations has allowed for a fully stocked room in the basement ready to provide students with items they may need access to.

If a student needs to access these goods,

they can contact their counselor or Hill with no questions asked, and she will gather the items needed and send them home with that student. If an individual has stopped by numerous times, she will follow up to make sure that the family and students have what they need outside of school and will help in any way that she can.

The Nest expanded this year to include The Haven, a food pantry. After recent cuts to foodbanks around the Omaha metro, certain populations may not have the same access they did to those food banks. With prices of food and necessities increasing and a larger overall challenge to access and afford food, Hill believed that The Haven would be a successful addition.

The Haven started its stockpile of non-perishable items at the beginning of the school year, hosting a competition where the Eagle Time, to donate the most materials, would win a prize. This enabled The Haven to start building its piles and enabled students who

may be in need to start contacting Hill.

Since August, Hill has been able to connect one parent and three students to the Haven and provide them with food, cleaning supplies and daily goods.

The Haven is at a starting place right now with the shelves being a bit bare but is looking to continue spreading the word and ensuring that students have the access they need to gain necessities.

The goal of both The Haven and The Nest is to “fill the gaps and to give people what they deserve and need, it’s to reduce those barriers and take away those stressors for folks and students,” Hill said.

Each year The Nest serves hundreds of Central students and families, and the organization has enabled families to afford Christmas presents for their kids, has provided newcomers to the country with resources not only for the student but for their entire family so that their needs are met.

“I feel good about it because it

really is a community effort, between various organizations and the donations from Central families and the community, people always answer when we ask for donations and that is always important,” Hill said.

The Nest is always looking for donations, whether new or gently used clothing items. Hill will find a place for those donations and send them out to families who may need them. The only things that need to be new are underwear, bras and socks. Other than those three exceptions, The Nest will accept all new or gently used donations.

There is an emphasis on non-perishable food, cleaning products, toilet paper, clothing and hygiene items. Hill also accepts cash and check donations for those who may have allergies or more of a specialized need for food to ensure that everyone who needs it is taken care of.

To donate, email Hill at Dawna.Hill@ops.org



Dawna Hill stands in front of The Nest. At right are the shelves in The Haven.



JULIUS WAKOLE | The Register



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It is the goal of the Central High Register to represent the student body in issues affecting their lives as young people and students. If you feel that we are not covering an issue that is important to you, we welcome contributing writers who bring fresh ideas to the issues. If you would like to write a story for your student newspaper, please contact Broderick Hilgenkamp at broderick.hilgenkamp@ops.org or come to room 029 to discuss your idea.

YouTube’s new AI age check: what it means for students

Caprice McCoy
opinion Editor

YouTube is rolling out a new artificial intelligence (AI) age verification system, aiming to make sure users under 18 are not watching content flagged as adult or inappropriate. The move comes after mounting pressure from governments around the world to better protect younger audiences online.

The system works by using AI to estimate a user’s age through a quick face scan or by cross-checking official documents. It is designed to be faster and less invasive than traditional ID checks, but it still raises concerns about how much data platforms should be allowed to collect.

So, why now? Regulators in the United Kingdom, Australia and across the European Union have passed or are debating stricter laws that force platforms like YouTube, TikTok and Instagram to keep minors away from harmful content. In the U.S., states like Utah and Tennessee have already pushed laws requiring social media age verification. With

governments setting deadlines and threatening fines, YouTube is under pressure to act. Globally, the approach varies. The U.K.’s Online Safety Act demands strict enforcement, while EU member states are debating new rules that could require every user to verify their age before signing up. In Australia, lawmakers are considering banning kids under 16 from certain platforms altogether. Compared to that, the U.S. has been slower to regulate at the federal level, but individual states are moving quickly. YouTube is not alone in this—other major platforms are also being forced to rethink age checks. Still, the big question remains: will AI verification protect younger users, or just create new privacy risks? Advocacy groups worry about storing biometric data like face scans, while parents and lawmakers argue that stronger barriers are needed. For students, this could mean longer sign-up processes or extra steps just to watch certain videos. It is another sign that the internet many grew up with—free, open, and mostly anonymous—is changing fast.



(Name), (Grade), [Action] [Location].

Freshmen mentors make a comeback, easing transition to high school

Paula Gutiérrez Martínez
news editor

For many freshmen, starting high school can be overwhelming, presenting new challenges like a bigger campus, more homework and shifting social dynamics. This year, they are also navigating a new state-wide phone ban. It is a wave of change during an important phase of personal development.

To help them ease into this transition, Central has reimplemented its mentoring program, which assigns senior mentors to the 24 freshmen Eagle Times, comprising of 587 freshmen total.

The program, organized by Freshman Academy leads, aims to familiarize students with the high school experience by allowing exploration opportunities within the pathways. During their freshman year, students select a pathway, a series of career-based classes, from 16 unique options.

The program started in 2022 but paused for a year when Freshman Academy Lead Martha Omar took over. However, it has now returned again under Omar.

The mentors are easy to spot around Central, as they’re outfitted in distinctive purple T-shirts. They will be expected to wear these shirts during all mentoring activities.

“The reason that it went away was the year that I took it over, I didn’t incorporate the mentors as much in the freshman activities. So, I did additional activities, and it was too much. I had too much on my plate, so I didn’t keep it going the following year. And then this year, I was like, no, this is a really cool, essential community building program. And so I handed out applications,” Omar said.

One of the new changes implemented by Omar was increasing the program’s selectivity: out of the 100 seniors that applied, 56 were accepted.

Omar highlighted the seniors’ diverse involvement at Central, “They’re like athletes, and in clubs, and cheerleaders, and step members, and soccer, and football, and tennis, and student council members, and NHS, and they’re in O-Club, and in HOSA and all the different things,” Omar said.

This year, Omar is integrating seniors directly into existing freshmen activities instead of creating separate mentor-mentee events. The mentors will join freshmen on field trips to Creighton University, the University of Nebraska-Omaha, the Omaha Public Library, the Orpheum Theater, and even the circus.

Senior mentors were also present at the Freshman First Day to give tours. “Our mentors showed us around. They taught us how to get involved. They gave us a few examples of what clubs to get in and stuff. We did a whole lot of walking. Went to the mess. We did the assembly. Overall, it was pretty fun,” freshman Khalid Issa said.

Two to three seniors are assigned to each freshmen Eagle Time, which they visit a few times a month for advice-giving sessions.

For seniors, the program offers them the opportunity to help out the newest generation of Eagles. “Each of them identified within their application that they had a deep desire to be a part of making someone’s freshman experience as good or as better as their own. It’s this intrinsic motivation to just make someone else’s life better,” Omar said.

Senior mentor Jasmin Gutierrez Garcia

joined the program because she wanted to help give students a freshman experience as enjoyable as her own, a common trend Omar identified during the application process. “It’s this intrinsic motivation to just make someone else’s life better,” Omar said.

Many senior mentors identify with freshmen, such as Gaby Antunez, who noted that freshmen are reluctant to approach teachers for help may find it easier to speak to fellow

students with similar experiences.

The program’s field trip to Creighton University will occur at the end of September. The next upcoming mentor event will take place on Oct. 8 during Eagles Take Flight Day. Seniors will learn how to ride the Metro buses and join freshmen in a literacy access activity at different branches of the Omaha Public Library.

Sunny start to senior year

Jazmin Mills
staff writer

Senior Sunrise was on Aug. 13 in Legacy Plaza outside the east entrance.

Seniors arrived around 6 a.m. and left around 7 a.m. In preparation for this event, student officers met at the end of their junior year to figure out what their roles and responsibilities were. They met again in mid-July to finalize the time and date for Senior Sunrise.

Class of 2026 Historian Victoria Cayetano went over what was discussed during the senior officer meeting in July: “We discussed the dates, what we wanted to bring to the event,” Cayetano said. Cayetano provided a Senior Sunrise photo frame that was created by her and class of 2026 secretary Ximena Altuzar for the event. Class of 2026 Event Coordinator Tessa Fershee also provided donuts.

“I felt like Senior Sunrise went amazing this year. It was super fun being able to hang out and watch the sunrise with my friends

and take pictures,” Cayetano said. She looks forward to all the other senior events the student officers are planning for this year.

Senior Laya Dorsey attended the event. Dorsey’s favorite part of the event was being able to watch the sunrise. However, the donuts were a close second, specifically the glazed ones. “I enjoyed Senior Sunrise very much. It was a great way to start off the year by hanging out with my friends and looking at the beautiful view,” Dorsey said.

Senior Dayami Huitron also attended the event and found it pleasant. Huitron felt the event was a fun way to meet other seniors and make new friends. “I thought it was amazing to watch the sunrise on your last first day of school with all your other senior friends,” Huitron said.

Huitron’s favorite part was taking photo with all her friends. “We made so many memories at Senior Sunrise I’ll have for the rest of my life,” Huitron said.

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FDA to ban red dye number 3 for health concerns



Junior Chrishyra Marion holds a sour candy made with dye. REEGAN MEREDITH | The Register

Caprice McCoy
opinion editor

The Food and Drug Administration has banned Red Dye No. 3 as of Jan. 15. due to various health concerns.

According to the FDA, Red No. 3, also known as Red Dye 3 or erythrosine, is a synthetic food dye derived from petroleum that gives certain foods and drinks a bright, cherry red color. Red No. 3 is commonly found in cocktail cherries, candies, cakes, vitamins, cough drops, and even vegetarian meats. It is expected to be phased out of food products by Jan. 15, 2027, and out of ingested drugs by Jan. 18, 2028.

The FDA's decision to revoke its use was a response to a 2020 color additive petition. In the early 1980's, a series of studies funded by the National Toxicity Program found that while they don't occur in humans, high doses of Red No. 3 causes thyroid tumors in male rats, and current studies suggest Red No. 3 may be a trigger for hyperactivity in kids, specifically with ADHD. While there is no direct link between the two, the potential concerns are real.

While the United States is considerably behind when it comes to restrictions on synthetic dyes, the European Union has taken a more aggressive approach, outright banning it with the exception for cocktail cherries.



Robert F Kennedy Jr. testifies in front of the Senate. JOHNATHAN ERNST | REUTERS

Countries such as Norway and Iceland banned it's use altogether, prioritizing consumer safety. In California, Governor Gavin Newsome has already passed legislation banning certain additives, including Red Dye No. 3.

With most color additives off the table, many companies are looking to replace them with more natural additives to maintain the vibrant colors consumers expect. Popular substitutes include pomegranate juice, beetroot juice, paprika extract, turmeric and spirulina. These plant-based additives are already widely used in Europe as synthetic dyes face tighter restrictions.

Some U.S. food manufacturers have begun reformulating recipes to match

international standards, gradually phasing out petroleum-based dyes in favor of natural ones. Major brands like Nestle, General Mills and Kraft have experimented with switching to natural colorants in cereals and candies, though challenges remain—natural dyes often fade faster and can change with heat or light exposure.

As health awareness grows in upcoming generations, experts believe that the U.S. will continue moving towards stricter regulations, as the FDA is already working to ban the rest of the synthetic dyes. For students, this may mean seeing fewer neon-colored snacks in the vending machines and store aisles.



Homecoming royalty court winners Jayda Lee left, and McKenzie Martin. FINN COSTELLO | The O-Book

CHS 2025 Homecoming Court

During the Central home football game versus Buena Vista on Sept. 19, the winners for the 2025 homecoming royal court was announced. Based on a student vote, the court consisted of 6 members, including Nia Weddington, McKenzie Martin, Hellen Jordan Salguero, Javon Spearman, Angel Aguirre, Jayda Lee. The two final winners of this year's homecoming royal court were Hellen Jordan Salguero, and McKenzie Martin.

FINN COSTELLO | The O-Book
Court of seniors from left, Angel Aguirre, Jayda Lee, McKenzie Martin, Javon Spearman and Nia Weddington.





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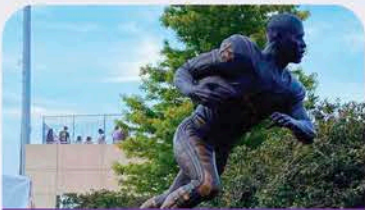
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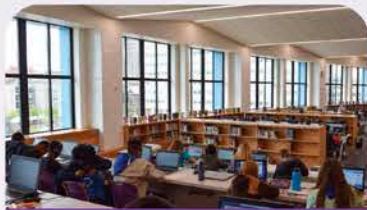
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NEW YEAR, NEW POLICY

Government affects you, so start paying attention

Steven Dickerson
editor-in-chief

If you think government doesn't affect you, look at this bill," government teacher Jordan Boyer told his classes at the start of this year when discussing personal electronic device use during class. Legislative Bill 140 rocked Nebraska schools this August, reminding students that government does in fact affect their daily life.

LB 140, which required school boards to adopt policies prohibiting phones during instructional time, passed at the end of last school year and took effect this fall. While many aspects of the bill are debated, one thing has become apparent: many think this is the first time government has affected them. The reality is that the government affects us every day, and it is time for students to start paying attention.

For many students, LB 140 should serve as a wake-up call. Until now, the government may have felt distant. When students think of government they often think of something reserved for politicians arguing in Washington. But suddenly, a law written and passed by

48 of 49 state lawmakers in Lincoln reached straight into classrooms, affecting how students learn, socialize and go about the school day.

Government decisions determine far more for students than just phone use in school. Many students who are employed pay taxes, at least if they earn enough. Additionally, students feel the effect of government when purchasing items at a grocery store, when discovering what classes are available to take, when jobs schedule shifts for students, when learning how much they may pay for postsecondary education, and whether our school lunch is free. Some policies seem invisible, but every student is already living with the effects of policymaking.

According to the Omaha Public Schools, 65.6% of Central students were eligible for educational benefits in the 2024-25 school year. Title I, which provides funding to schools with a sizable percentage of low-income students, is the reason Central receives free lunch and other opportunities most schools do not receive.

If Title I did not exist, Central's operations would look completely different, which

is why this government program is so important. The talk of ending the Department of Education at the federal level is another point where students should pay attention and get involved. We face the consequences of such monumental decisions.

Paying attention is optional, but doing so is essential. Students today are tomorrow's voters, workers and leaders.

Understanding how government runs and holding it accountable gives young people a voice in shaping the world they want to live in.

Whether you agree or disagree with LB 140, students should use it as a reminder that ignorance only leaves decisions in the hands of others. If the government affects our daily lives regardless, why not pay attention and speak up?



Government teacher Jordan Boyer, right, explains upcoming assignment plans to his students.

BRADLEY SMITH | The Register

New phone policy will create a better school environment

Grace Sunseri
chief copy editor

Even in the wake of LB140, consistent enforcement of the new phone policy is needed to make it truly successful.

While discretion was given to the districts to decide what this meant for them, Omaha Public Schools policy is similar to those in other districts in the Metro area, like Millard Public Schools, Papillion-La Vista Public Schools and Bellevue Public schools. All the schools mentioned have adopted phone policies that require student devices to be out of sight during instructional time but allow

high school students to access them during passing period and lunch.

OPS has defined any student devices as a personal electronic device (or PED), and that includes cell phones, laptops, smart watches or any non-school issued device.

The first time a student is caught using a PED there is expected to be a verbal warning from the teacher. The second time the phone is supposed to be confiscated and held by the teacher until the end of the block. The third time the device is taken to the student's administrator and kept until the end of the school day.

In the article I wrote around this time

last year, "Central should adopt even stricter phone policies," I pointed out the inconsistencies in enforcing the phone rules around the building, and I think that has been mended slightly by the continued "surprise visits" from administration throughout the day. One of my teachers let their class use phones for the last minute of one block, and who else showed up but Assistant Principal and Activities Director Dierks. That teacher is now one of the strictest on the phone policy.

But should it take getting caught by your boss for teachers to care about student's phones?

I know there is always the argument that

it is on the student, and it is their responsibility to care for their own education, but at some point, it gets too far. Teachers should care about the new phone policy and should be enforcing it in their classrooms. I should not feel more disheartened than my teachers when I am still looking around and seeing most of my classmates looking down at their phones while the teacher is lecturing.

As I reported last year, "According to The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in its 2023 Global Education Monitoring Report, there is little valuable data that shows technology has a positive impact on education. The same report even called for a ban on smartphones at school, a claim that is bolstered by data from Spain showing reduced bullying, and data from Norway and Belgium seeing improved academic performance."

PHONES HAVE NO PLACE IN SCHOOLS! We have been given iPads, we have access to countless computers, there are limited situations where a student device is needed during educational time that would not distract from the lesson.

I do not want to sound like I am a perfect student either. I actively wear my Fitbit smartwatch to track my health data and keep time. I have been known to pull my phone out to send a text or Snapchat during class. No one is perfect. This is a new policy, and it takes getting used to. But if students are unable to go at least half a block without seeing, touching, or checking their phone, that is a whole other issue that needs to be addressed separately.

Consistent and broad enforcement is what it will take for this phone policy to be successful, and that is very needed to aid students to be their most productive and learn at their highest capacity.



Students in Deborah Corell's textile construction and design class follow the phone-free zone during class time on Sept. 17. CHRISHYRA MARION | The Register

Hinterland p. 8

What happened at this year's Hinterland festival form a student's perspective.

Fall activities preview p. 10

Hiking trails, haunted houses and apple picking are all great nearby ctivities for students to enjoy this fall.

Is bingeing shows a thing of the past? p. 11

More streaming services are opting to release show episodes over a longer amount of time, which improves the watching experience.

Central Kickers p. 12

How the football team's kickers managed to pull off a last minute win, even though they are new to the sport.

Labubus took over the summer

Brianna Martinez
staff writer

Labubus should just be keychains. I think people are taking the trend too far and miss the point that these are kid toys. Labubus are weirdly cute creatures that have gained a massive amount of popularity this year due to celebrities’ interest, with celebrities like Lisa from Blackpink, Rhianna, Dua Lipa and Kim Kardashian appearing with them. Labubus are cool to have as collectibles, but I do think this micro trend will die down soon. They originated from a 2015 book series called “The Monsters,” with illustrations created by artist Kasing Lung. Lung made a toy series for the characters in the book, but they didn’t catch on until teaming up with Pop Mart, a popular Chinese-based store selling collectables.

Labubus became popular in China during the pandemic and just recently became globally idolized after many celebrities recently were seen putting them on designer handbags. You got to give it to these celebrities: they do look cute on bags.

As someone who has loved collectibles since Shopkins were popular, I do see why they have grown in popularity. But, like every trend there is always a rise and a fall as new trends come to be. I think that for Labubus to be a steady trend they need to make more exclusive characters, maybe even team up with different TV shows or movies.

What I like about the recent Labubu trend is that you can customize them by getting clothes to make them your own, and I think that’s why most people like them so much. It’s almost like a Build-a-Bear or an American Girl Doll. What I don’t like about this trend is the resellers and people just buying so many. Labubus are sold by Pop Mart with the most common prices being between \$28 and \$40, which is a crazy price for a keychain. Often resellers will buy them in bulk, leaving them out of stock. When they are out of stock, the only other way to buy one is from resellers that mark up prices. I can’t blame people for buying fakes, or as the Labubu fandom calls them, “lafufus.” Fake Labubu keychains should be just as socially accepted as fake Sanrio or anime



Chloe Schwartz | The Register

keychains. Even with the prices, some Labubu superfans can’t help but to buy these, even buying multiple, like an addiction. The Labubu fandom struck some controversy recently when a TikToker by the name @lizbullzofficial made a video bragging about

owning the only KSI Labubu in the world that she made. What shocked viewers was that she painted the Labubu black. She is now facing controversy by people accusing her of blackface. She quickly deleted the video and apologized saying she didn’t intend to offend anyone.

Central seniors should be allowed to paint their parking spots

Katie Besancon
managing editor

Central seniors can enter themselves into a lottery at the end of their junior year to see if they are eligible to park in the senior lot for the following school year. If their name is chosen students pay \$50 to claim their spot. Central seniors should be allowed to paint their parking spots. We pay for our spot; the only additional task administrators would have to do is assign students individual spots for the year and make sure that the designs students want to paint are school appropriate. Administration could implement this through the lottery, assigning the first names drawn to the closest spots in the senior lot and progressively moving back in the lot the more names that are drawn. This lottery process could take place before their junior year ends, allowing the implementation of a deadline to ensure that all designs for their senior lot are submitted and approved before the first week in August. Parking spots are something many look forward to, typically painting them the week before their final year of high school starts, allowing them to catch up with friends, see classmates and socialize before school starts

again. For many designing and painting spots is a way for the graduating class to bond and spend time together since the task takes a chunk of time. This allows for administration to determine what is school appropriate, ensuring that everything that is painted follows the Code of Conduct. This is not a new idea, as schools across the country and in Omaha Public schools have adopted this idea to allow seniors to express their personality through painting in their senior lot for the year. One of those schools is Omaha Westview, which, like Central, has a designated lot where seniors park, once they pay and are assigned a spot, they have the freedom to start painting. They use that one spot for the entire year until the following class takes over and can begin painting their new spots. There is also the thought that some students simply do not have the desire to paint a spot. In this instance the spot would stay blank. Since the spot would be assigned to the one student it would be up to the senior to paint or leave their spot blank. This allows for creative freedom and a system of expression if the student desires. The downside to



The senior lot facing the building from 19th and Dodge Streets. Isaac Percival-Aizenberg | The Register

that would be if the student wanted to keep their spot blank, they would have either the previous student’s paint still in their spot or would have to paint it a solid color to mask the previous paint. If this were to be implemented there is the discussion that paint would be left behind, however this would not really be relevant

as most spots would be repainted to fit the upcoming graduating class and their specific interests. While it may not appeal to everyone, painting parking spots could be an exciting start to the school year, act as class bonding and allow creative freedom among students.

AI is taking over the work place, and we should be worried

Sayra Hernandez Garcia
staff writer

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coming graduating class and their specific interests. While it may not appeal to everyone, painting parking spots could be an exciting start to the school year, act as class bonding and allow creative freedom among students.

BAND TOGETHER

Wave to Earth’s 0.03 Tour was one to wave about

Gaby Antunez
digital editor

The South Korean indie band Wave to Earth came to Omaha on Aug. 6. It was the best concert I have attended, fully living up to expectations. I loved the concert because there were so many unforgettable moments throughout the concert and not one second being boring.

The band members include Kim Daniel, who plays guitar; Shin Dong Gyu, who plays the drum; and Cha Shoon-jong, who plays bass guitar. They went to Steelhouse Omaha for their 0.03 Tour, and they performed a total of 15 songs, the first song being “Are you bored?” which is only instrumental.

The 0.03 Tour includes around 30 different stops, and they recently announced that they are planning to bring artist Yung Kai on seven of the stops. They named the tour 0.03 for their album “Play with Earth 0.03”.

Their music is a mixture of indie, rock and sad songs. They have a wide range of music, so there is bound to be a song that people will enjoy. They have sad songs like “homesick” and “seasick” while also having fun upbeat music like “light” and “peach eyes”

They even brought Jeon-min, the session

member who played the saxophone, and they made sure to thank him for helping with the tour.

I attended because I have been listening to Wave to Earth since 2019, so when they announced they were coming to Omaha I knew I had to attend. I bought a pit ticket and attended with my sister, who also loves their music. I have only been to a few concerts, but it is one that I am constantly remembering.

They knew how to bring up the spirits of those who attended by constantly jumping around the stage. Daniel constantly moved around the stage while playing the electric guitar, making sure every side of the venue got a good view of the members. Every member of the band put their all into the concert while thanking the people for coming, staff, and even their company.

One of the unforgettable moments is when confetti shot up in the air while the song “Annie” hit the main chorus. It was a nice golden color, fully lighting up the venue. Everyone’s emotions were high so when the lights went out and they left the stage; everyone went through the bittersweet feeling while chanting the words “one more song.” They ended up coming back out and perform-



Wave to Earth’s performance at the Steelhouse Omaha. Gaby Antunez |The Register

ing three more songs.

There is even a time during one of the songs where people used the flashlight on their phone to wave a light around with the beat of the song. It showed how connected everyone who was there truly loved and supported the artist.

At the end of the concert the drummer Dong Gyu gave out his drumstick to someone

in the crowd, showing how grateful he is to those who attended. By the end of the concert 70% of the merch was sold out and only two prints of shirts, pins, banners, and a coaster were in stock with not many sizes available.

Near the end of the concert, they mentioned that they were planning to come back next year. So, for those who couldn’t attend this past concert I would recommend looking out for the new upcoming tour.

Hinterland takes over summer for Midwestern music fans

Isabella Smith
staff writer

Hinterland, a music festival in St. Charles, Iowa, that happens every summer, has recently become more mainstream than ever, allowing for fans from all over the Midwest to attend.

This year, the festival took place during Aug. 1-3 with headliners being Tyler, The Creator, Kacey Musgraves and Lana Del Rey. Some other notable performers were Clairo, ROLE MODEL and The Marias, who all brought attention to the event.

Fans from places like Nebraska or Iowa

were thrilled seeing big-name artists show up somewhere that wasn’t Los Angeles or New York City for the hundredth time. A music festival this big being so close not only allows for easy accessibility for locals, but it brings in people who maybe would have never thought to visit rural Iowa.

Many Central students were also able to attend Hinterland, one of whom being Lucy Puls, a senior at Central. She went to the first day of the festival with her three best friends, seeing Clairo and Tyler, The Creator. “I’ve literally said it’s the best day of my life for like the last month because it genuinely was,” Puls said.

Despite the positives, Hinterland’s location does have its flaws. During late summertime especially, the Midwest is known for its humidity and heat, making standing outside without water unbearable. Festivals are notorious for having awful water distribution and this one is no different.

“They gave out free water bottles and stuff but like in the crowd [they were just] chucking boxes of water from the side and I just got hit. I wasn’t the only one that got hit around me either,” Puls said.

Other than the stereotypical issues, Hinterland is actually praised on social media. Fans point out how watching an artist like

Lana Del Rey in a cornfield in the Iowa countryside rather than a major city stadium adds to the aesthetic.

While Hinterland may not be as big as Coachella or Lollapalooza, it has potential to work its way up there. Even last year artists like Hozier, Chappell Roan, Noah Kahan, Lizzy McAlpine and Vampire Weekend performed, bringing attention to the small town in Iowa yet again.

“That was my first year, but we’re planning on going like every year and making it a tradition,” Puls said.

Eagles chase the memories of the Violent Vira concert

Gaby Antunez
digital editor

Violent Vira is a female rock vocalist who performed 12 songs at the Waiting Room Lounge on Aug. 14 in Omaha. She performed for her Chasing Ghost North America Tour Part I, which went from July through September, including 28 stops.

She debuted with the single “I Don’t Care,” which was released in 2021. She is known for her alternative rock, metal scene, and indie music style. Her music is very fast paced and hard hitting, hitting the hearts of her supporters.

Senior Eddy Alvarado Cua and junior Keaton Carver were lucky to not only attend the concert but meet her at dinner before the concert. Both fans enjoyed the experience.

Carver found out about the concert through social media and later spread the information about the concert, which lead to Alvarado also finding out about the concert. “I found out about the concert because I was

scrolling through Violent Vira’s Spotify and was like, Oh, what? She’s coming to Omaha, that’s so sick!” Carver said.

Before the concert they were planning to grab food so that during the concert they could fully enjoy it, not knowing who they would meet there. “Funny enough, we went out to eat ramen as a group and coincidentally she was also there, so we got to talk to her before the concert,” Alvarado said.

“We were lucky enough to meet her and ask for a picture, which was one of my highlights of the night,” Carver said.

Carver has been listening to her music since eighth grade. “I would recommend the music if it were the type of music that they enjoy,” Carver said.

Alvarado has listened to her music for a year and a half and also recommended it to people who like, “powerful, raw, and emotionally intense music,” Alvarado said

Alvarado’s favorite song was “I Don’t Care,” while Carver’s favorite song was “God

Complex.”

Both stated that their favorite part was during the mosh pit, as they were both living in that moment and forgetting other things.

Having such a great time that a little accident like that wouldn’t bring him down but added a funny memory to share.

“The mosh pit was really fun; I lost my shoe while I was in it,” Carver said.

Alvarado also had a funny accident in the mosh pit. “Most memorable part was the mosh pit, fun even though I fell,” Alvarado said.

“If she comes back to Omaha I would highly recommend going to one of her concerts as you won’t be disappointed,” Alvarado said.



Photo courtesy of Eddy Alvarado Cua

10 Activities to Try this Fall p. 10

Activities to try this fall to enjoy nature,community and culture of Metro.

“K-pop Demon Hunters” p. 11

“K-pop Demon Hunters” released by Netflix becomes the most watched film on the platform.

Coach Gass’ view on varsity volleyball team p. 12

Head Coach Ariel Gass is making attempts to improve the varsity team’s skills.

El gobierno te afecta, comienza a prestar atención p. 15

Si crees que el gobierno no te afecta todos los días, estas incorrecto y necesitas a prestar atencion.

Grace Sunseri
chief copy editor

Michael Shanks' debut movie, "Together," stretches (literally) the limit of what the human body can do and displays how scary the combination of love and codependency can be, making love the horror story in this gripping body horror.

"Together" follows the story of long-term couple Millie and Tim, played by real-life married couple Dave Franco and Allison Brie. After Millie gets a job in rural New York, Tim chooses to move with her. The couple is already in an awkward phase after a failed proposal and overall stress in the relationship. Shortly after they arrive, an odd experience in a cave leaves them unable to leave each other alone. The attraction goes further than just sexual encounters; it is an inhuman pull towards each other in every way.

Body horror, a sub-genre of the larger horror umbrella, has created some of the best and hardest-to-watch movies the genre has to offer. Also known as biological horror, it revolves around the grotesque transformations the human body can, but probably should not, make.

Body horror was officially "born" in the late 70s- early 80s. Some of the most prolific movies from that time include "The Fly," "Videodrome," and "Rabid." The genre has only continued to grow thanks to the widespread use and development of special and visual effects work. Modern takes on this genre are "The Substance", "The Exorcist", and "Titane".

"Together" is immediately able to establish the characters of Millie and Tim, and the audience gets a sense of who they are pretty

immediately. Millie is the leader and planner. Tim relies on Millie for rides, and she even pops the question to him at one point, giving a sense that she is more committed than he is.

An accident early in the movie, though, contradicts this sense, as they have to work together and get out of a cave they stumble upon. After this event, odd things start happening between their bodies. The pull they feel becomes unavoidable, sticky, bloody, and bone-shattering, and quickly intensifies as each episode happens.

The special effects that went into this movie were awe-inspiring and are what truly make this movie the epic body horror it is. The human body was bent, twisted and stretched in every which unimaginable way. From stuck lips to grotesque humanoids, the work of Alro Markantonatos on SPFX and Genevieve Camilleri on VFX and their teams truly made this movie the striking new age body horror it was.

In May 2025, the movie and its crew was hit with a lawsuit alleging the idea from the movie was stolen from a small 2023 indie body horror "Better Half.". Shanks rebuked this claim in a statement saying, "To have this called into question is not only deeply upsetting but entirely untrue," adding it was based on his own experience of love and loss. As of September 2025, there has been no resolution to this copyright infringement claim.

"Together" is available to rent or buy on platforms like Prime Video and it is expected to be released on Hulu within the next six months, according to Newsweek.

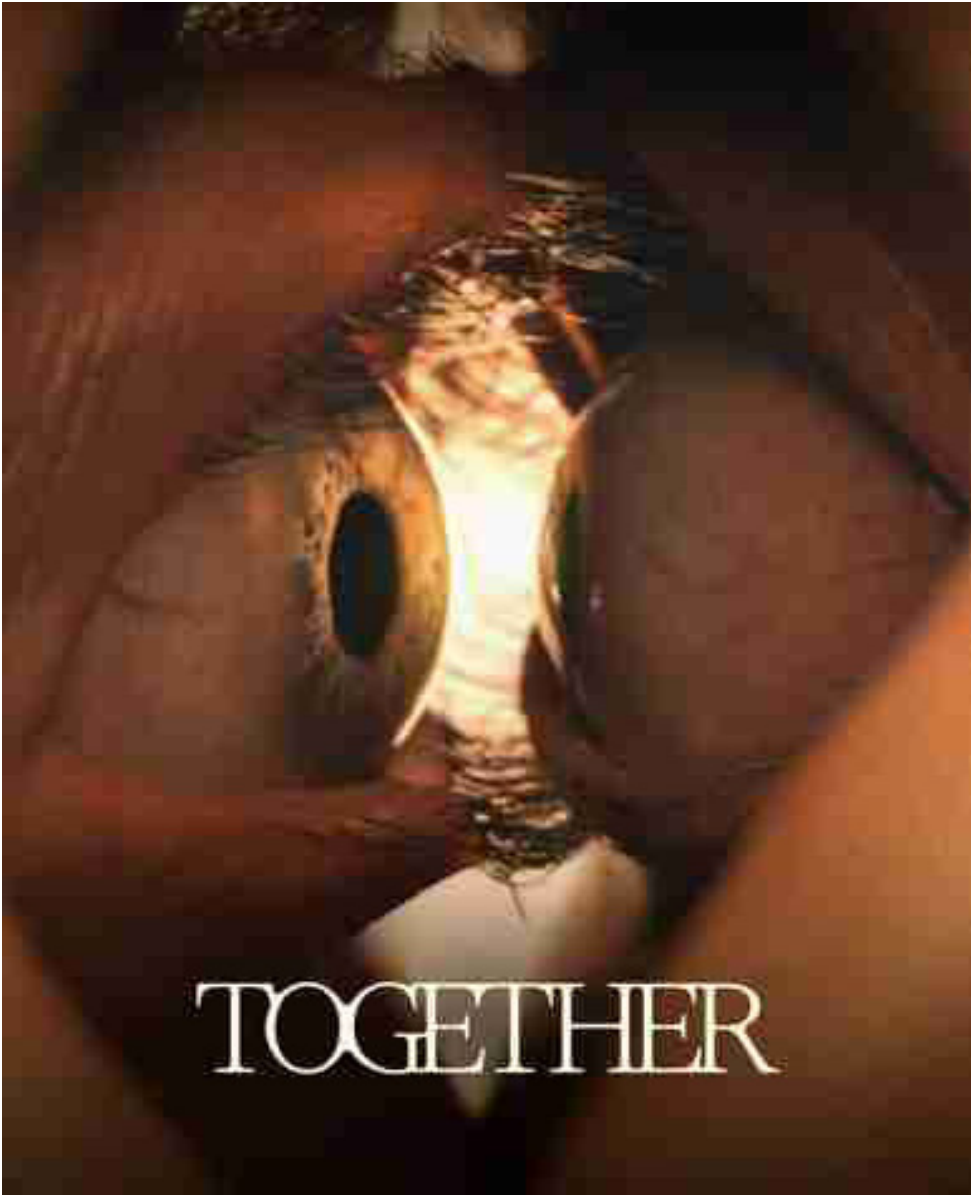


Photo Courtesy of NEON

There's no denying that James Gunn's 'Superman' will define the icon

Suri Alvarado Villegas
staff writer

"Superman" was part of one of the best seasons in the past years for movies featuring culturally important blockbusters. Released July 11 and directed by James Gunn. The movie had a budget of \$225, and as of mid-September 2025, its domestic box office surpassed and grossed over \$353.9 million worldwide.

While it took a minute for me to get on its wavelength, there is no denying that Gunn's "Superman" will define the icon for a new genre. This Clarke Kent/Superman portrayed by David Corenswet is a proudly punk rock rebuttal of the cultural shift towards cynicism and dehumanization that's incredibly on the pulse, raging with authenticity and sincerity.

This film lovingly captures the very soul of "Big Blue Boy Scout," which refers to Superman's unwavering morality and iconic blue suit filtered through the singular lens of Gunn. For better or worse (mostly better), this is one of the most handcrafted and authored superhero films I have seen in the past years. Pulling heavily from "All-Star Superman" series ran from, 2005 through 2008, and the animated series, big screen Superman has never felt more vibrant and alive, relatable and human. I think the way they tackle the world-building in this is simply great, too.

The only negative is it was rushing a little by the end. If they had had a little extra 30 minutes the end would've ended up feeling smoother. Another thing was the color palette they chose. The colors of the movie weren't bad but would've been improved by more of the vibrant primary colors that make Superman, instead of the visual aesthetic looking blue-ish.

I also had a problem with one of the dialogues at the beginning, where an Indian character, Dinesh, was introducing himself. His dialogue sounded as if he was a bot. Other than that, the movie sets up the DC Universe very nicely without it ever feeling too much.

That brings me to the Justice Gang, whose inclusion I was most worried about.

But I was very wrong because they were one of my favorite aspects of the movie, especially Mr. Terrific, played by Edi Gathegi. They contrast Corenswet so well, and speaking of him, THAT'S JUST SUPERMAN. I don't know what else to say, like that is him. He's him.

I felt head over heels for Corenswet and Rachel Brosnahan, who plays Lois Lane. The chemistry they have is just insane, which makes Clarke and Lois look so good together and exactly what I was hoping for. Speaking of Lois, this version was the perfect Lois Lane. Brosnahan's is different from and arguably better than past versions due to her uncompromising journalistic integrity, emotional depth and equal footing with Superman. The Daily Planet crew was good, but I wish they had a little more to do in the third act. Skyler Gisondo playing the ladies' man, Jimmy Olsen, who as one of my favorite characters. His funny interactions with Eve Teschmascher had everyone in my theater laughing.

And, oh my, Nicholas Hoult's Lex Luthor was perfect. He was petty, obsessive, vindictive, and bald as hell, too. You could see his veins popping out of his bald head. One of the best action-comedy scenes in the whole two hours and nine minutes, is when Gunn finally gives Superman and Lex Luthor their long overdue Batman and Joker moments. Here, Superman delivers one of my favorite monologues in cinema.

John Murphy and David Fleming did their part for the soundtrack, and they created one of the most hopeful, pure heart songs ever, "Last Son," It gives me chills every time I listen to it, as it did for the first time back in December when the first "Superman" teaser came out.

This movie just makes me want to be a better person. After the credit scenes were over, I walked out of the IMAX theater feeling consumed by hope and instantly wanting more of this world, their characters, and the DCU at large.

"Superman" now is available to rent or purchase on various digital platforms like Amazon Prime Video, HBO Max, and Apple TV+.



Photo Courtesy of DC STUDIOS

10 activities around Omaha students should try this fall

Connie Moennig
staff writer

Fontenelle Forest is an amazing place to go if you’re into hiking. It’s the perfect time of year to enjoy the beautiful sights it has to offer. The weather isn’t too hot or too cold, and the leaves are beginning to change.

Athletic Events:
Showing up to a school football game, volleyball game or any other fall sporting event can be really fun. It’s cheap and convenient, and you get to show your school spirit. Since sporting events are free for students, you can go with your friends. If you have friends who participate in sports you can also attend to support them.

Lauritzen Gardens:
Lauritzen Gardens is extremely beautiful all year round, and fall is no exception. It offers stunning botanical exhibits and experiences. This is another good option for families.

Vala’s Pumpkin Patch:
While Vala’s is on the pricier side, it’s still a fun experience. I personally find it nostalgic because I used to go there as a kid every year. It’s suitable for all ages and a good place to bring family and friends.

Escape Rooms:
There are a lot of escape rooms in the Omaha area, such as The Escape Omaha, Locked Room Omaha and House of Conundrum. I highly recommend that you visit one if you enjoy thrills and solving puzzles.

Hummel Park:
Another hiking location that isn’t too far out. It’s a very peaceful place to take a nice walk on a crisp fall day. It’s my personal favorite when it comes to hiking.

Hitchcock Nature Center:
Hitchcock Nature Center is a bit further out than Hummel or Fontenelle, but it’s still gorgeous and worth the trip across the river.

Haunted houses:
Another great option for thrill-seekers is going to haunted houses. There are many different haunted houses in Omaha, and fall is the perfect time of year to visit one. Some notable locations are Scary Acres, Hillside House of Hell and Madness Haunted House.

Bellevue Berry Farm:
Bellevue Berry Farm offers berry picking and pumpkin picking as well as hayrides. It also hosts many different festivals year-round, so it’s definitely worth checking out with your friends.

Apple picking:
If you want to get out and do something fun with your friends, I highly recommend apple picking. There are many orchards near Omaha to choose from. It’s a nice outdoor activity and you also get some fresh apples out of it.



Walking trail at Hitchcock Nature Center. Isaac Percival-Aizenberg | The Register



The House of Conundrum is near 26th and Leavenworth Streets. Isaac Percival-Aizenberg The Register

10 anticipated albums; future blockbusters on the way

Noah Sipe
staff writer

There have been many great albums in 2025, with still many more to come. Here is a look at the most anticipated albums coming soon.

On Aug. 12 the internet blew up with a clip released by the “New Heights” podcast hosted by Jason Kelce and newly engaged fiancé of Taylor Swift; Travis Kelce released a clip with Swift where she announced her next

album, “The Life of a Showgirl.” It will be the 12th studio album added to her discography. The full episode of “New Heights,” released the following day, included the track list of the album.

“The Tortured Poets Department” sold 2.6 million copies first week, and the question is can “The Life of a Showgirl” outsell it? Swift is even bigger than what she was in early 2024, so it is possible. It will be released Oct. 3 on Spotify.

Drake comes back with another solo

album, the first since the Kendrick Lamar beef and collab album with Party Next Door. Drake posted a livestream on July 4 titled “Iceman Episode 1” where he debuted the theme of the album, as well as performed “What Did I Miss” to end the stream. After the release, “What Did I Miss” peaked 2nd on The USA Billboard Hot 100. “Iceman” Is expected to release late 2025, and it will be his 9th studio album, and is expected to get big numbers.

Tame Impala’s upcoming 5th studio album “Deadbeat” is a 12-song project in

the works to be released Oct. 17 on Spotify. Led by singles “End of Summer” and “Loser,” listeners can expect “Deadbeat” to incorporate dance music elements to reflect the concept of “future primitive rave.” This will be Tame Impala’s first album since 2020.

Honorable Mentions of artists releasing highly anticipated albums in 2025: Daniel Caesar, Steve Lacy, The Last Dinner Party, Nas, Mos Def, Doja Cat, Cardi B and Young Thug.

Themes of grief and violence make ‘Weapons’ terrifyingly good

Charli Tobin
sports editor

The hit movie “Weapons” directed by Zach Cregger is his second massive hit horror movie after the 2022 movie “Barbarian.” The movie is in theaters now. Through the weekend of Sept 5 this having made over \$144.3 million.

The movie is about a class of 18 third grade children and 17 of them go missing, leaving only Alex (played by Cary Christopher). One night at 2:17 a.m. the 17 kids got out of bed, walked out their respective front doors and ran away into the

night.
“Weapons” stars Julia Garner as Justine Candy, the teacher of the kids who went missing, and she kills it in this role. The grief she portrays feels so real and is devastating to watch. The other star of this movie is Josh Brolin, who plays Archer Graff, the father of one of the kids who went missing. His pain and grief are so heavy it often comes out as anger during the movie, which feels like a parent mourning his kid and doing anything to get them back.

“Weapons” on the surface seems like it is a horror movie about grief, but when you dig deeper you realize what it is actually

about. The movie has plenty of themes about violence against children in schools and abuse of children. Sometimes it’s very subtle and sometimes it’s in your face. I prefer the more subtle moments like when the villain of the movie, Aunt Gladys (played by Amy Madigan) tells Alex, “You can’t tell anyone about me or I’ll hurt you and your parents,” to keep him quiet about her. Subtle moments are all over this movie and the theme of addiction is not the most subtle. That is a good decision because addiction is a topic we can more openly talk about now.

The way the movie uses the “every town” setting is such an excellent choice for the

movie. This is not some big city that is always targeted, or a place in the middle of nowhere. No, this is a suburban town where anyone could live. This makes the movie even scarier because it could happen to anyone.
The sound design is not noticeable at first, but it really is such a good decision to have it be intense or completely silent. The climax of the movie has almost no background sound which makes the scene even more intense.

Overall, the movie is incredible and highly recommended for fans of horror movies.

‘K-pop Demon Hunters’ breaks record on Netflix

Fatima Yawari
arts editor

K-pop Demon Hunters” is an American animation produced by Sony Pictures animations released by Netflix on June 20, 2025. It has since become the most watched film on the platform, breaking the record with 236 million views and estimated to have earned between \$18 million to \$20 million.

The story centers on a K-pop Girl group Hunter/X composed of members Rumi, Mira and Zoey, who are secretly demon hunters. They use their “golden voices” to create a protective barrier, also known as Honmoon, and the group protects and defends their fans and humanity from demons that feed on human souls, all for their ruler, Gwi Ma.

Saja Boys is a five-member K-pop band of demons whose goal is to destroy the Honmoon and allow Gwi Ma and demons to overrun humans. The members include Jinu, Mystery, Abby, Romance and Baby Saja.

The film was directed by Maggie Kang, whose inspiration for the story comes from her Korean heritage along with Korean my-

thology and demonology that has contributed to the story a lot by shaping its supernatural elements and themes.

The film consists of various soundtracks such as “Golden,” “Soda Pop,” “Free,” “Take-down” and many more. These soundtracks reflect the K-pop vibes that Kang wanted to give out.

“K-pop Demon Hunters” attracted a lot of attention from not only K-pop fans but also a large new audience, marking growing interest in Korean culture.

The characters in the film are partially inspired by real life K-pop idols like Black pink, Itzy, BTS, Ateez and Cha eun woo. Concert lighting, musical styles, fandoms, fashions and the songs used are elements of the K-pop world which captures the essence of and portrays K-pop in real life.

“K-pop Demon Hunters” also gained recognition from real-life K-pop idols, with some doing covers such as; Cha eun woo doing a cover of “Free,” Solar (Mamamoo) doing a “Golden” cover. And others like Jungkook from BTS and Wooyoung from Ateez reacting to it while on live. Jungkook even cried in the film’s climax.



Photo Courtesy of SONY PICTURES

Tonight is the night you should watch ‘Dexter: Resurrection’

Charli Tobin
sports editor

Since 2006 Dexter Morgan (Micheal C. Hall) has been taking out killers in the show “Dexter,” and after 10 years lying in wait, the Bay Habor Butcher is back.

“Dexter Resurrection” is a combination spin off show and revival of the original “Dexter” show, which ran from 2006 to 2012. The show’s premise is a Miami forensic blood spatter analyst who is secretly a serial killer himself; however, one with a moral code to “only kill other killers.” He eventually flees Miami and goes to New York, faking his death for 10 years.

“Dexter Resurrection” takes place in New York City after Dexter was shot in the chest by his son Harrison Morgan (Jack Alcott). After recovering from a ten-week coma he reunited with a long-lost friend and colleague Miami PD Sergeant Angel Batista (David Zayas).

This spin-off is written by original “Dexter” showrunner Clyde Phillips. The show feels very much like the best seasons of the

original show, like going back to basics while innovating to adapt to the post pandemic world of TV. While also having a new power in play: Leon Prater (Peter Dinklage), a billionaire obsessed with serial killers to the point where he invites them to his home and gets them to share stories and details about their gruesome kills with him.

The acting is incredible and heart-throbbing with themes of becoming a parent. With beautiful and devastating moments being beautifully acted by Hall. A moment that comes to mind is when Prater shares his tragic backstory with Dexter and then switches to his obsession with killers and how they relate, which kept me glued to the screen.

The “Dexter” series has been notoriously known for its poor endings, but “Dexter Resurrection” breaks that streak and has the best ending in the whole series to date. The final episode has brilliantly crafted moments and is wonderful and gut-wrenching to watch. I highly recommend the show to anyone who loves drama shows or past fans skeptical of the new series. It is available to watch on Prime Video and Paramount+.



Photo Courtesy of PARAMOUNT

Is bingeing culture dead?

Isabella Smith
staff writer

It’s 1 a.m. and a school night. I’m finishing an episode of a brand-new season from my favorite show that just came out earlier today. The bright white “continue watching” button seems to be calling my name—only one episode left until the finale. It wouldn’t hurt that much; it’s only another hour or two of sleep that I’m losing anyway. Might as well see what happens, right? Suddenly, school starts in three hours, and I haven’t slept a second. So, was it worth it?

It turns out bingeing shows like that hasn’t been the case for years, and maybe it’s for the better. With more shows going back to releasing episodes weekly or even in parts spread out across multiple months, the tradition of watching shows all at once could be dead.

Personally, I really enjoy seeing how the internet reacts to each new episode of different shows. It’s thrilling to see so many people enjoying the same episodes at the same time and sharing similar opinions on which characters everyone likes, or dislikes, the most. Episodes coming out weekly or in parts have actually improved my enjoyment, and also my sleep schedule.

“The Summer I Turned Pretty,” is the show that’s taken over this past summer, and it is a

perfect example of this. Amazon Prime Video releases an episode of it every Wednesday, which makes quite an impact, ultimately deciding whether the fans are happy or not for the rest of the week. From the cliffhangers each episode ends with two smaller details only perceivable after watching it five times, the release schedule definitely keeps people talking about the show.

Streaming services, like Prime, are moving towards weekly episode releases for this exact reason. The longer they can keep people talking and posting about it, the more subscriptions they get.

“The Summer I Turned Pretty” isn’t the only show doing this, though. Some notable ones that have come out recently are “Dexter: Resurrection,” “The Rookie” and any new Marvel Cinematic Universe series. While the more obsessive fans might hate waiting every week, these shows are doing better than they would’ve if they had been released all at once.

Netflix is unique in the way they release new seasons of shows; they do it in parts. More popular shows like “Wednesday” or “Stranger Things” are split into two to three sections that will be released at separate times, usually in the span of a few months. It generally has the same effect of weekly episodes; it combines that “binge feel” with the anticipation that keeps fans talking for longer periods of time.



DADO RUVIC | Reuters

PUTTING THE FOOT IN FOOTBALL

Central kickers prove to be powerful crew



Left: Junior Robin Vargas-Pablo kicks a field goal versus Omaha South on Sept. 5. Right: Junior Grant Grace swings his foot back to kick a field goal versus Omaha North Sept. 12. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register

Steven Dickerson
editor-in-chief

Under the lights at Bellevue West High School on Aug. 29, a perfect storm was brewing as the Thunderbirds led the Eagles 28-26 late in the fourth quarter. With just nine seconds left, only one option remained for Central's offense, who had just regained possession: a field goal kicked by a kid who had never played football before. "You're going to have to win this game," kicker and receiver coach Nick Webster told Robin Vargas-Pablo. The junior drilled a 39-

yard field goal to win the game for the Eagles, 29-28. "I was confident I was going to make it," Vargas-Pablo said. "But I really had to take in all that was going on around me and hype myself up." Vargas-Pablo's game winner wasn't a fluke. Central's kickers had been putting in intense work since early summer. Vargas-Pablo and fellow juniors Grant Grace and Adrian Schulte, all soccer players experiencing their first year of playing football, were recruited to join special teams by Webster, who is also the head boys soccer coach.

"They're some of the best kickers I've seen in years," Webster said. All three are filling the vacancy left by Hendrick Shrader, who graduated last year. Over the summer, they impressed the coaching staff immensely, and it has been shown on the field. Vargas-Pablo's game winner made him a known name for Central's special teams. Schulte has drilled extra points, and in the Eagles' 63-0 win against Omaha South on Sept. 5, Grace didn't miss a single kick. Beyond individual success, the cohesiveness of this year's kickers has drastically improved Eagle special teams. All three have

known each other through soccer for years and can often be found next to each other on the sideline, helping in high pressure moments where each has to trust each other. "Trust we're going to get the job done," Grace said. "Expect points to come out when we're on the field," Schulte said. Vargas-Pablo, Schulte, and Grace are all hoping they play a crucial role for the team this year. For now, the trio is focused on winning. "[We] just do our job," Vargas-Pablo said.

Volleyball grows with young players

Eduardo Torreblanca-Hernandez
staff writer

This year's varsity volleyball team is having to grow up quick this volleyball season and Head Coach Ariel Gass is making attempts to improve the varsity team's skills. The team lost 10 seniors last year including Tyra Jenkins, Noelle Tcheuhchoua and Savanna Philips, and only one senior is returning, along with new varsity players. "Target right now is to just get our really young girls, our juniors and our sophomores, the experience that they need to feel and be successful on the varsity level," Gass said. The returning senior, Ilana Briggs, had 22 blocks, 101 kills and six aces last year and feels she is handling these changes well. "I've adjusted; we've adjusted very well by this point. I feel like my leadership has increased because I kind of have to be that

leader," Briggs said. So far, the varsity team is 7-12 this year. "This year is going to be rough because we are young," Gass said. Other varsity players include libero Presley Vasek who had six digs last season, setter Scout Grummons who had one ace and two digs. New-to-varsity setter Eliza Stockmann has 10 aces and 128 digs and outside hitter Ja'Niyah Holland-Cherry has 47 kills and three blocks, both as of September 19. Gass is putting in efforts on improving the team's performance and she is also working on strengthening the team's relationship with each other. "If we can put all of those together and continue to be a positive environment for each one of them, then we should sit pretty good in the future of Central volleyball," Gass said. "We like to call it 'growing pains' for this year," Briggs said.



Senior Ilana Briggs reaches to spike at a volleyball game versus Bellevue East on Sept. 9. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register

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Best sports photos of football, volleyball and softball.

UEFA prediction p. 15
Inter Milan will win the UEFA Champions League. Here's why.

Los celulares no tiene lugar en esta escuela p. 15
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10 actividades para probar este otono.

Softball seniors lead fiery offense

Charli Tobin
sports editor

With an average of nine runs a game, the softball team's offense is proving itself as a powerhouse.

Whether it's getting on base or running bases, senior Ada Jantzen has proved to be the biggest offensive weapon.

"I think that my biggest success this year has been using my speed to get extra bases on my

hits while beating out routine ground balls for a single," Jantzen said. Not only is she able to use her speed at the plate, her speed also is a great asset when stealing bases as they are tied for second for the team on stolen bases with 11 only behind senior Nichole Palfini with 13.

Senior Katelyn McClure leads RBI's with 25. Senior Nichole Palfini leads team in runs with 32. Senior Ada Jantzen leads bat average with a .509. The team sits at a 13-9 record.

Players also spoke highly of their coach Tash Coffiel, with Jantzen saying, "The work ethic Coach Tash instilled into the program is really great for leadership development and getting to work physically and mentally."

Coffiel talked about their work ethic saying "We value hard work and accountability in athletics as well as in the classroom."

This year's team is made up most of underclassmen. Titus said the upperclassmen on

the team are striving to break the stereotype of demeaning younger teammates. When asked about being a leader, Jantzen said. "I want to make our underclassmen better athletes and better students, so it's been great to work with each of them."

Both Jantzen and Titus say they, as seniors, have been very supportive of underclassmen. "My expectations for the seniors as leaders for the young players is to set the tone," Coffiel said.



Left: Senior Edie Titus swings and hits the ball. Right: Sophomore Macy Andrews rounds third base on her way to home plate during a game against Lincoln Northeast.

BRADLEY SMITH | The Register

Champions League round of 16 prediction

Whit Rutledge
staff photographer

The Register will be trying to predict the Champions League Round of 16 and knockout rounds, first going over who the big teams are and what teams they will be playing against in the playoffs.

The most popular team and the team with the most champions league trophies, Real Madrid, will face off against Manchester City F.C. (Home) first then Liverpool F.C.(Away), Juventus FC(Home), S.L. Benfica (Away), Marseille (Home), Olympiacos F.C.(Away), AS Monaco (Home) and FC Kairat (Away). I think Real Madrid will make it to the round of 16 with a record of 7-1-0.

Next up Real Madrid's rivals and one of the favorites of the year is FC Barcelona. Barcelona first plays against PSG (Home), the defending champions, and that's going to be a great game to watch. Next Barca goes against Chelsea F.C.(Away), Eintracht Frankfurt (Home), Club Brugge KV(Away), Olympiacos F.C.(Home), SK Slavia Prague (Away), F.C. Copenhagen (Home) and Newcastle United F.C.(Away). Barca will go through this draw with one loss or none.

Next up is Liverpool F.C. because of their recent success in this year's transfer window, signing striker Alexander Isak, a center attacking midfielder Florian Wirtz; a right back; Jeremie Frimpong and Milos Kerkez, a left back. They've spent a total 446 million euros (\$523 million) in this year's transfer window. Liverpool faces off against Real Madrid CF (Home), Inter Milan (Away), Atletico de Madrid (Home), Frankfurt (Away), PSV (Home), Marseille (Away), Qarabag FK (Home) and Galatasaray S.K. (Away). I think Liverpool will most likely win all these games and maybe tie once.

Next, Inter Milans. First they go against Liverpool F.C.(Home), Borussia Dortmund (Away), Arsenal F.C. (Home), Atletico da

Madrid (Away), SK Slavia Prague (Home), AFC Ajax (Away), FC Kairat (Home), Union SG (away). I think Inter will lose twice to Liverpool and Arsenal, but ultimately make the round of 16.

The last team I will be covering will be PSG. First they play of against FC Bayern Munich (Home), FC Barcelona (Away), Atalanta BC (Home), Bayer 04 Leverkusen (Away), Tottenham Hotspur F.C. (Home), Sporting CP (Away), Newcastle United F.C. (Home), Athletic Club (Away). I know that PSG was last year's winners, but think this year they will not do as well because of them selling their

starting goalie and selling some key players over the transfer window. PSG will lose one game against FC Barcelona in their pot but make round of 16. In this year's round of 16 I predict Liverpool, Real Madrid, Barcelona, Bayern Munich, PSG, Inter Milan, Newcastle United, Arsenal, Tottenham, Galatasaray,



Eintracht Frankfurt's Ansgar Knauff scores their fifth goal on Sept. 18.

Kai Pfaffenbach | REUTERS

Beginning of the Year Sports Photos

Bradley Smith
Photo Editor



Senior Ada Jantzen throws to 1st base against Omaha South BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Senior Edie Titus throws a pitch against Omaha South BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Senior Ada Jantzen swings at the ball against Omaha South. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Junior Kylonn Haynie catches a toss against Omaha South. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Senior B.J. Newsome throws a pass against Omaha North. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Sophomore Yasir Grixby returns a ball against Omaha North. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Sophomore Eliza Stockmann sets a ball against Bellevue East. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register



Sophomore Presley Vacek hits a ball against Bellevue East. BRADLEY SMITH | The Register

NUEVO AÑO, NUEVAS POLÍTICAS

La nueva política telefónica creará un mejor ambiente escolar

Grace Sunseri
writer and copy editor

Incluso en la estela de LB140, aplicación consistente de la nueva política de teléfonos es necesario para hacerlo verdadero exitoso.

Mientras discreción fue dado a los distritos para decidir qué significaba para ellos, la política de las Escuelas Públicas de Omaha es similar a eso en otros distritos en el área metropolitana – las Escuelas Públicas de Millard, las Escuelas Públicas de Papillion-La Vista, y las Escuelas Públicas de Bellevue. Todas las escuelas mencionadas han adoptaron políticas de teléfonos que requieren los dispositivos estudiantiles que estén fuera de la vista durante el tiempo instruccional, pero permitir los estudiantes de preparatoria a tener acceso a ellos durante período de paso y el almuerzo.

OPS ha definido cualquier dispositivo estudiantil como un Dispositivo Electrónico Personal (o PED), y eso incluye teléfonos, computadoras, relojes inteligentes, o cualquier dispositivo que no proporcionado por la escuela.

La primera vez un estudiante es atrapado usando un PED se espera que haya una advertencia verbal del maestro (a). La segunda vez se supone que el teléfono debe ser confiscado por el maestro o la maestra hasta el fin de la clase. La tercera vez el dispositivo se va al administrador del estudiante y se guarda hasta el final del día escolar.

En él artículo que escribí alrededor este tiempo el año anterior, “Central debería adoptar políticas de teléfonos más estrictas,” señalé las inconsistencias en esforzando las reglas de teléfonos alrededor del edificio, y

creo que eso ha reparado un poco por los continuados “visitas de sorpresa” de la administración durante el día. Unos de mis maestros dejaron su clase usar teléfonos para el último minuto de una clase y quien más se presentó, pero Asistente de directora y directora de actividades Dierks. Esa maestra es uno de los más estrictos en la política de teléfonos.

Pero ¿Debería ser necesario que su jefe te atrape para que los maestros o maestras se preocupen por los teléfonos de los estudiantes?

Yo sé que hay siempre la discusión que es en el estudiante, y es la responsabilidad del estudiante para preocuparse por su propia educación, pero en algún punto momento, llega demasiado lejos. Los maestros y maestras deberían preocuparse de la nueva política de teléfonos y deberían esforzarlo en sus salones de clases. No debería sentir más descorazonada que mis maestros o maestras cuando todavía estoy mirando alrededor y viendo muchos de mis compañeros mirando abajo a sus celulares cuando el maestro o la maestra esta ensenando.

Como reporte en mi artículo el año anterior, “Según a las Naciones Unidas Educativa, Científica, y Organización Cultural (UNESCO), en su Reporte de Monitoreo del Educación Global en 2023, hay pocos datos de valor que muestra que la tecnología tiene un impacto positivo en la educación. El mismo reporte incluso pidió una prohibición de los celulares en la escuela, una afirmación que se ve reforzada por datos de España mostrando acoso escolar reducido, y datos de Noruega



y Bélgica que ven un mejor rendimiento académico.”

¡LOS CELULARES NO TIENEN LUGAR EN LOS ESCUELAS! Nos han dado iPads, tenemos acceso a incontables computadoras, hay situaciones limitadas donde un dispositivo estudiantil es necesario durante el tiempo educacional que no distrajera de la lección.

No quiero a sonar como soy un estudiante perfecto tampoco. Uso activamente mi Fitbit reloj inteligente para realizar mis datos de salud y mantener el tiempo. Soy conocida a sacar mi teléfono para enviar un mensaje de texto o Snapchat durante la clase. Nadie

es perfecto. Este es una nueva política, y va a tomar tiempo para acostumbrarse. Pero si los estudiantes no pueden pasar al menos media cuadra sin ver, tocar, o revisar su teléfono, eso es otro problema que debe abordarse por separado.

Una aplicación consistente y amplia es lo que se necesitará para que esta política telefónica tenga éxito, y eso es muy necesario para ayudar a los estudiantes a ser más productivos y aprender a la capacidad más alto.

Traducido por: Eduardo Torreblanca-Hernandez

Labubus se han hecho carga

Brianna Martinez
staff writer

Labubus deberían ser solo llaveros. Yo pienso que la gente están llevando la tendencia demasiado lejos

Labubus son criaturas extrañamente lindas que han ganado una cantidad masiva de popularidad este año debido a los intereses de celebridades como Lisa de Blackpink, Rhianna, Dua Lipa, y Kim Kardashian.

Labubus son objetos de colección geniales, pero pienso que es una microtendencia que se calmará pronto

Originalmente en una serie de libros llamado “The Monsters” con ilustraciones creados por una artista Kasing Lung en 2015. Lung hicie una serie de juguetes para los personajes en los libros pero no agarraron mucho interés de la gente hasta que colaboraron

con Pop Mart.

Labubus se hicieron popular en china durante la pandemia y recientemente se hicieron popular mundial idolizadas después de varias celebridades recientemente se han visto poniendo los Labubus en sus Bolsas de diseñador. Le tienes que dar crédito a estas celebridades, se ve lindo en las bolsas.

Como alguien que le han encantado coleccionables desde que los Shopkins fueron populares si veo porque han ganado mucha popularidad. Pero como todas las tendencias siempre hay una subida y caída.

Los accesorios son clave para agregar mas personalidad a la ropa, bolsas, y mochilas. Me gusta que le puedes poner ropa a los labubus para hacerlos mas personal a ti yo pienso que por eso a la gente les gusta mucho.

Pienso que para los labubus para que sean una

tendencia constante tienes que hacer figuras exclusivas, tal vez podrán colaborar con películas ó programas de televisión.

Lo que a mi no me gusta de este trend es los revendedores y la gente comprando de mas.

Labubus se venden en el sitio de Pop Mart con los precios comunes de \$28 a \$40 lo cual es un precio loco para un llavero.

Muchas veces los revendedores compran muchos a la vez dejándolos fuera de stock. Cuando estan fuera de stock la única manera de comprarlos es de un revendedor que aumenta los precios debido a la demanda.

Con los labubus solamente solo siendo llaveros no puedo culpar a la gente por agarrar labubus falsos o como dice el fandom “lafufus”. Labubus falsos deberían ser igualmente socialmente aceptables como los llaveros de Sanrio o de anime.

Incluso con los precios locos algunos labubu fanáticos no pueden evitar comprarlos incluso compran muchísimos, es como una adicción.

El dándome de labubus a generado cierta controversia cuando recientemente una TikToker del nombre “@lizbullzofficial” hizo un video presumiendo de ser la única persona en el mundo con un KSI labubu que ella hizo, lo que sorprendió a la gente es que ella pintó el labubu de negro.

Ahora se enfrenta con una controversia con la gente acusándola de “Blackface”. Ella borró el video y se disculpó diciendo que no quería ofender a nadie.

Traducido por: Brianna Martinez

El gobierno te afecta, comienza a prestar atención

Steven Dickerson
Editor and chief

Si crees que el gobierno no te afecta, mira este proyecto de ley”, dijo el maestro de gobierno Jordan Boyer a sus clases a principios de este año al hablar sobre el uso de dispositivos electrónicos personales durante la clase. El Proyecto de Ley Legislativo 140 sacudió las escuelas de Nebraska en agosto, recordando a los estudiantes que el gobierno de hecho afecta su vida diaria.

LB 140, que requería que las juntas escolares adoptaran políticas que prohibieran los teléfonos durante el tiempo de instrucción, se aprobó al final del año escolar pasado y entro en vigor este año escolar. Si bien se debaten muchos aspectos del proyecto de ley, una cosa sigue siendo cierta: el proyecto de ley, para muchos, es la primera instancia en la que el gobierno los ha afectado. La realidad es que el gobierno nos afecta todos los días, y es hora de que los estudiantes comiencen a prestar atención.

Para muchos estudiantes, LB 140 debería servir como una llamada de atención. Hasta ahora, el gobierno puede haberse sentido distante. Cuando los estudiantes piensan en el gobierno, a menudo piensan en algo reservado para los políticos que discuten en Washington. Pero de repente, una ley escrita y aprobado por 48 de los 49 legisladores estatales en Lincoln llegó directamente a las aulas, afectando la forma en

que los estudiantes aprenden, socializan y realizan el día escolar.

Las decisiones del gobierno determinan mucho más que el uso del teléfono en la escuela. Muchos estudiantes que están empleados pagan impuestos, al menos si ganan lo suficiente. Adicionalmente, los estudiantes sienten el efecto del gobierno cuando compran artículos en una tienda de comestibles, cuando descubren qué clases están disponibles para tomar, cuando los trabajos programan turnos para los estudiantes, cuando aprenden cuánto pueden pagar por la educación postsecundaria y si nuestro almuerzo escolar es gratis. Algunas políticas parecen invisibles, pero todos los estudiantes ya viven con los efectos de la formulación de políticas.

Según el libro de datos de las Escuelas Públicas de Omaha, el 65.6% de los estudiantes de Central fueron elegibles para beneficios educativos en el año escolar 2024-25. El Título Uno, que proporciona fondos a escuelas con un porcentaje considerable de estudiantes de bajos ingresos, es la razón por la que Central recibe almuerzo gratis y otras oportunidades que la mayoría de las escuelas no reciben.

Si en Título Uno no existiera, las operaciones de Central se verían completamente diferentes, por lo que este programa gubernamental es tan importante. La charla sobre el fin del Departamento de Educación a nivel federal es otro punto en el que los estudiantes



deben prestar atención e involucrase. Nos enfrentamos a las consecuencias de decisiones tan monumentales.

Prestar atención es opcional, pero hacerlo es esencial. Los estudiantes de hoy son los votantes, trabajadores y líderes del mañana. Comprender cómo funciona el gobierno y responsabilizarse les da a los jóvenes una voz en la configuración del mundo en el

que quieren vivir. Ya sea que estés de acuerdo o en desacuerdo con LB 140, los estudiantes deben usarlo como un recordatorio de que la ignorancia solo deja las decisiones en manos de otros. Si el gobierno afecta nuestra vida diaria independientemente, ¿por qué no prestar atención y hablar?

Trraducido por Jasmin Gutierrez Garcia

Las águilas reaccionan al primer papa estadounidense de la historia

Suri Alvarado Villegas
staff writer

El mensaje de León XIV, originario de Chicago con doble ciudadanía americana y peruana, resonó fuertemente dentro de la comunidad católica de Central, provocando una reflexión sobre el papel global de la iglesia y su misión.

Robert Francis Prevost fue elegido papa en la cuarta votación del cónclave, la reunión secreta donde el Colegio Cardenalicio se reúne para elegir un nuevo papa de la Iglesia Católica Romana. Esto tiene lugar en la Capilla Sixtina del Vaticano y sigue estrictas tradiciones y reglas. La elección continúa hasta que un candidato reciba una mayoría de dos tercios de los votos.

El Papa León habla cuatro idiomas: inglés, español, francés, y portugués. Ha visitado varios países latinoamericanos durante los últimos diez años como Prior General de la Orden de San Agustín, el máximo líder de la orden, incluyendo Honduras, Colombia, y Ecuador.

Fue por primera vez a Perú en 1985 cuando comenzó su carrera sacerdotal. Según los curas que trabajaron con el papa León mientras era obispo de Chiclayo y los católicos que le conocían, sus virtudes son su simplicidad, su disposición al servicio, y su solidaridad con los más necesitados. Esto concuerda con su elección del nombre papal, en honor del Papa León XIII, un campeón de la justicia social.

Brent Larson, profesor de matemáticas en Central, dijo que la experiencia misionaria del Papa León en Perú fue valiosa: “Todo el tiempo que pasó allí es como ‘Guau, eso es

realmente increíble’ porque, aunque seas un papa americano, hay muchos más católicos ahí afuera en el mundo y debes tener esa visión del mundo. Eso es genial y necesario,” dijo Larson, “Si solo vieras una pieza de lo que hay en el mundo, no puedes ser un líder efectivo.”

Durante su estancia en Perú, el Papa León estableció vínculos con la comunidad y fue premiado la Medalla de Oro “Santo Toribio de Mogrovejo” por el Episcopado peruano, antes de partir hacia la Santa Sede como prefecto del dicasterio para los obispos, nombrado por el Papa Francisco. El Papa León XIV es el ocupante número 267 del trono de San Pedro y el primer papa norteamericano en la historia de la Iglesia.

Mientras se difundían las noticias de la elección histórica, los estudiantes y profesores de Central reconocieron la importancia del momento.

“Estaba triste cuando se murió el Papa Francisco, pero estoy contenta de que tenemos a un papa nuevo, parece a una persona buena. Estoy feliz y creo que es genial saber que es el primer papa de los Estados Unidos. Siento que más personas de nuestro país lo seguirán en el futuro gracias a lo que predica,” dijo el estudiante de noveno año Jagger Hansen.

“Creo que no hubiera importado tanto quien fuera, porque, especialmente otros cardenales han hecho cosas similares,” dijo la estudiante de undécimo año Ava Bohnert. “Esto va a tener un impacto significativo solo porque el Papa se trata de cómo es la Iglesia... tan universal. Va a conectar mucho con los estadounidenses personalmente y les dará la

oportunidad de darse cuenta de que somos universales con las iglesias... en cualquier otro lugar del mundo y realmente va a traer esa unidad.”

El Papa León prometió continuar las reformas y la visión de su predecesor Francisco, recalcando la amplitud de miras hacia el mundo moderno de su legado y su compromiso con el Concilio Vaticano II. En su primera reunión con todos los cardenales, León urgió a un compromiso renovado hacia reformas como la misa en idiomas locales y diálogo interconfesional. También advirtió sobre desafíos nuevos, como la inteligencia artificial, en la defensa de la dignidad laboral y la justicia. Abordando las preocupaciones tanto de conservadores como progresistas, enfocándose en los asuntos migratorios basándose en la fundación establecida por el Papa Francisco, y continuó creando conciencia sobre los desafíos ambientales.

El 31 de agosto, el Papa Leo rezó públicamente por las víctimas del tiroteo escolar en una escuela católica de Minnesota e hizo un llamamiento al fin de la “pandemia de armas, grandes y pequeñas.” El papa habló en inglés mientras denunciaba el ataque y las armas alimentan las guerras alrededor del mundo

“Es hora de que esos responsables renuncien a la lógica de las armas y tomen un camino de negociaciones y paz, con el apoyo de la comunidad internacional,” dijo el papa. En uno de sus discursos matutinos dijo, “Que nada los impida seguir el llamado original a reformar, renovar y simplificar esa vida cristiana, que aún tiene el poder de ampliar

los horizontes y profundizar el aliento de cada existencia humana.”

“¿Encaja con nuestras creencias y con lo que Dios quiere que hagamos?” pregunto Larson. “Creo que, como con cualquier buen líder que asuma su cargo, es una cosa buena decir ‘Oye, vamos a echar un vistazo a lo que hacemos y si es lo correcto.’ Si esto es lo que estamos llamados a hacer, ¿es así como debemos seguir avanzando y sirviendo a nuestra gente?” dijo Larson.

El 1 de septiembre, el Papa León se reunió con el sacerdote James Martin, un defensor prominente de la inclusión LGBTQ+ dentro de la Iglesia, afirmando su compromiso a darle la bienvenida a todos y animándole a Martin a continuar su labor. El anuncio público del Vaticano sugiere la amplitud de miras y continuidad de León con respecto al acercamiento de su predecesor a la comunidad LGBTQ+. Algunos papas anteriores evitaron o condenaron los temas LGBTQ+, pero León parece más abierto y acogedor.

“Como algunas de las parroquias católicas e iglesias cristianas no lo apoyan, creo que está intentando unirles y decirles que Dios aún los ama,” dijo Hansen.

Bohnert es parte de una iglesia católica más tradicional, “Algunas personas pueden pensar que se trata de modernizar la Iglesia, pero el papa demuestra que el amor puede conquistar todo y que, con reunirse con él, no es que necesitamos estar en desacuerdo en todo, sino que debemos unirnos,” dijo Bohnert, “Deberíamos respetar a otros y respetar su dignidad, aunque quizás no estemos de acuerdo con sus decisiones.”

-traducido por Paula Gutierrez Martinez

The Nest se extiende para incluir la nueva despensa de alimentos

Katie Besancon
managing editor

Todo comenzó en 2015: un estudiante se acercó a la trabajadora social, Dawna Hill, queriendo crear una manera de dar a los estudiantes necesitados de cosas básicas como artículos de ropa o zapatos en la preparatoria Central un espacio.

Fue entonces cuando nació The Nest. Es un recurso que permitiría a los estudiantes que están pasando por momento difícil, nuevos a los Estados Unidos, en el sistema de cuidado de crianza o simplemente un estudiante y una familia que necesitan artículos esenciales para el hogar comunicarse con su consejero (a) o con Hill para recibir cualquier de esos productos sin costo.

Los estudiantes utilizan este recurso y han permitido que el programa dure 10 años. El recurso, que se financia con donaciones de la comunidad, estudiantes, familiares, y otras organizaciones sin fines de lucro, ha permitido una habitación completamente equipada en el sótano lista para proporcionar a los estudiantes los artículos a los que pueden necesitar acceso.

Si un estudiante necesita acceder a estos bienes, pueden comunicarse con su consejero (a) o con Hill sin hacer preguntas,

y ella reunirá los artículos necesarios y los enviará con ese estudiante. Si algún individuo ha pasado por allí varias veces, hará un seguimiento para de que la familia y los estudiantes tengan lo que necesiten fuera de la escuela y ayudará en todo lo que pueda.

The Nest se expando este ano para incluir The Haven, una despensa de alimentos. Después de los recientes recortes a los bancos alimenticios alrededor del área metropolitana de Omaha, es posible que ciertas poblaciones no tengan el mismo acceso que tenían a esos bancos de alimentos. Con el aumento de los precios de los alimentos y las necesidades y un mayor desafío general para acceder y pagar los alimentos, Hill creía que The Haven sería una adición exitosa.

The Haven comenzó sus reservas de artículos no perecederos al comienzo del año escolar, organizando una competencia en Eagle time donde el Eagle time que donara más materiales ganaría un premio. Esto permitió que The Haven comenzara a construir sus pilas y permitiú que los estudiantes que pudieran necesitar comenzaran a comunicarse con Hill. Desde agosto, Hill ha podido contactar a un padre y tres estudiantes con The Haven y proporcionarles alimentos, artículos de limpieza y artículos diarios. The Haven se

encuentra en un punto de partida en este momento con los estantes viéndose un poco vacíos, pero busca continuar corriendo la voz y asegurándose que los estudiantes tengan el acceso que necesiten para satisfacer sus necesidades.

El objetivo de The Haven y The Nest es “llenar los vacíos y dar a las personas los que merecen y necesitan, es para reducir esas barreras y eliminar esos factores estresantes para las personas y los estudiantes” dijo Hill.

Cada año, The Nest atiende a cientos de estudiantes y familias de Central, y la organización ha permitido a las familias pagar los regalos de Navidad para sus hijos e hijas, ha brindado a los recién llegados al país recursos no solo para el estudiante sino para toda su familia para que se satisfagan sus necesidades.

“Me siento bien porque realmente es un esfuerzo comunitario, entre varias organizaciones y las donaciones de las familias de Central y la comunidad, la gente siempre responde cuando pedimos donaciones y eso siempre es importante,” dijo Hill.

The Nest siempre está buscando por donaciones, ya sean prendas de vestir nuevas o usadas en buen estado. Hill encontrará un lugar para esas donaciones y las enviará a las familias que pueden necesitarlas. Lo



Dawna Hill enfrente de Haven.

Julius Wakole | The Register

único que debe ser nuevo es la ropa interior, los sostenes y los calcetines. Aparte de esas tres excepciones, The Nest aceptará todo las donaciones nuevas o usadas en buen estado.

Actualmente hay énfasis en los alimentos no perecederos, los productos de limpieza, el papel higiénico, la ropa, y productos higiénicos. Hill también acepta donaciones en efectivo y cheques para aquellos que pueden tener alergias o una necesidad más especializada de alimentos para asegurándose que todos los que necesitan sean atendidos.

Para donar, envíe un correo electrónico a Dawna.Hill@ops.org.

-Traducido por: Suri Alvarado Villegas

10 actividades para probar este otoño

Connie Moennig
staff writer

A medida que el verano se desvanece en Otoño y entramos la última etapa del año, es fácil olvidar que hay más en la vida que la escuela y el trabajo. El otoño es uno de los mejores momentos para disfrutar de la naturaleza, la comunidad y la cultura del área metropolitana y más allá. Aquí hay algunas formas excelentes de aprovechar al máximo tu tiempo libre este otoño.

1. Fontenelle Forest

Fontenelle Forest es un lugar increíble para ir si te gusta el senderismo. Es la época perfecta del año para disfrutar de las hermosas vistas que tiene para ofrecer. El clima no es demasiado caluroso ni demasiado frío, y las hojas están comenzando a cambiar de color.

2. Eventos deportivos

Presentarse a un partido de fútbol

escolar, un partido de voleibol o cualquier otro evento deportivo de otoño puede ser muy divertido. Es barato y conveniente, y puedes mostrar tu espíritu escolar. Dado que los eventos deportivos son gratis para los estudiantes, puedes ir con tus amigos. Si tienes amigos que practican deportes, también puedes asistir para apoyarlos.

3. Lauritzen Gardens

Lauritzen Gardens es extremadamente hermoso durante todo el año, y el otoño no es una excepción. Ofrece impresionantes exhibiciones y experiencias botánicas. Esta es otra buena opción para las familias.

4. Vala’s Pumpkin Patch

Si bien Vala’s es más caro, sigue siendo una experiencia divertida. Personalmente, lo encuentro nostálgico solía ir allí cuando era niño todos los años. Es adecuado para todas las edades y un buen lugar para traer a familiares y amigos.

5. Salas de Escape

Hay muchas salas de escapes en el área de Omaha, como The Escape Omaha, Locked Room Omaha y House of Conundrum. Te recomiendo encarecidamente que visites uno si te gustan las emociones y resolver acertijos.

6. Hummel Park

Otro lugar de senderismo que no está muy lejos. Es un lugar muy tranquilo para dar un agradable paseo en un fresco día de otoño. Es mi favorito personalmente cuando se trata de senderismo.

7. Hitchcock Nature Center

El Centro Natural Hitchcock está un poco más lejos que Hummel o Fontenelle, pero sigue siendo hermoso y vale la pena el viaje al otro lado del río.

8. Casas Embrujadas

Otra gran opción para los amantes de la emoción es ir a casas embrujadas. Hay muchas casas embrujadas

diferentes en Omaha, y el otoño es la época perfecta del año para visitar una. Algunos lugares notables son Scary Acres, Hillside House of Hell y Madness Haunted House.

9. Bellevue Berry Farm

Bellevue Berry Farm ofrece recolección de bayas y calabazas, así como paseos en carruaje. También alberga muchos festivales durante todo el año, por lo que definitivamente vale la pena echarle un vistazo con tus amigos.

10. Recoger Manzanas

Si quieres salir y hacer algo divertido con tus amigos, te recomiendo encarecidamente que recojas manzanas. Hay muchos huertos cerca de Omaha para elegir. Es una buena actividad al aire libre y también obtienes algunas manzanas frescas.

- Traducido por: Jazmin Mills