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# The Brand

February 19, 2014 • Lowry High School • Winnemucca, NV



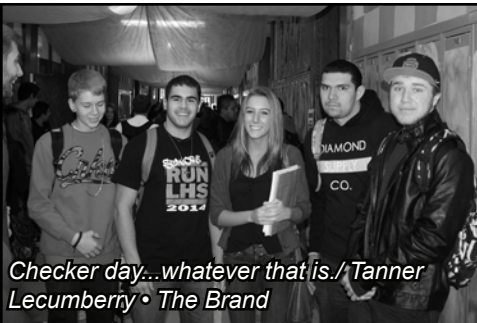
Winterfest 2014

Mountain Berry  
yogurt café

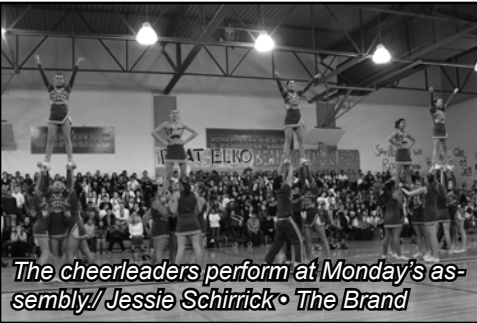
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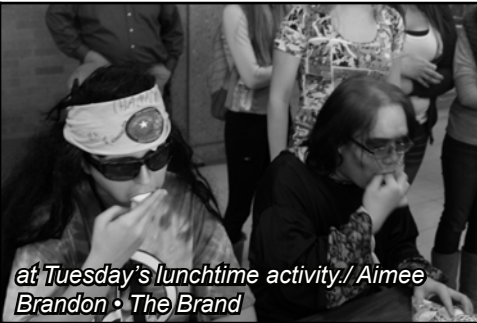




Checker day...whatever that is./Tanner Lecumberry • The Brand



The cheerleaders perform at Monday's assembly./Jessie Schirrick • The Brand



at Tuesday's lunchtime activity./Aimee Brandon • The Brand



Students portray different stereotypes./Karen Esparza • The Brand



# Winterfest rekindles some old traditions and starts some new

BY JUSTIN ALBRIGHT & STAFF

Winterfest week officially began with the pep assembly, which was kicked off with an outstanding performance by the cheerleaders. The routine included fast paced dance moves and amazing stunts. Then leadership presented one of Savannah Montero's famous spirit week videos themed "Pass the Flag." Ms. Topholm then showed off her speed-painting ability with a little help from some of her art students. She is competing in



Students try their stereotypical outfits./Karen Esparza • The Brand

a competition sponsored by the National Council of Art. Her masterpieces portrayed her school spirit. The candidates (Wyatt Lester, Carly Bell, Tanner Lecumberry, Chloe Yates, Savannah Montero, and Brandon Okuma) were introduced and asked to play a three-legged-balloon-popping-game, Lester and Bell prevailed. Mr. Corak introduced the Varsity Wrestling team who will hopefully take another state championship home this year. Lastly, Mrs. Grady announced the Winterfest Honorary Buckaroo who was Nicole Maher. Maher has applied her past journalism experience to many projects in the Winnemucca community.

On Monday, students dressed in Black and White, to create a checker theme for during the assembly, and in the halls as well. Most students participated, and in the morning assembly, the gym looked great. The halls were also strange, with black and white everywhere, and school pride at every turn. TTL At lunch students competed in a game of twister to earn class points. No juniors showed their faces so they

were automatically disqualified. Sophomores represented by Ashley Carter were out first. Freshman Tanner Ames then fell out of the competition due to a knee injury leaving the win to the senior class representative, Jancy Ulch. For the night event, Keyclub put on an event where a select few of unlucky teachers got Super-Soaked with paint by a select few of very lucky students. Marie Dawson, Julia Topholm, Courtney Rorex, Shelley Wells, and Lynn Ludlow were just a few of the teachers and staff members who were volunteered to be splattered with paint. Students such as Aimee Brandon, Jaris Dunyon, and Julia Aitken were the kids who did the painting. They used Super-Soakers, squirt guns, and cups of paint to attack their victims.

Tuesday's lunch time activity was chubby bunny, a game where you and your competitors try to stuff as many jumbo marshmallows into your mouth saying "chubby bunny" after each marshmallow is put in your mouth. There were two rounds, juniors were again automatically disqualified be-

cause no one stepped up to play, freshman got 7 marshmallows, sophomores 8, seniors 8. In the second round freshman got 6, sophomores 9 and seniors 9. Juniors in last, freshman in second and sophomores and seniors tying for first.

On Wednesday February 13, Lowry High hosted its first bonfire in 10 years. These bonfires used to be a common sight and used to celebrate Homecoming week, but they were extinguished due to safety concerns. The crowd was gathered around the fire and enjoying the music provided the school's very own pep band.



The dance team added male partners for its performance./Dani Ricker • The Brand

SEE WINTERFEST PAGE 19



# Don't wait, start preparing for college now

BY KAREN ESPARZA & TANNER LECUMBERRY

College is important in today's fast paced world. When most employers are looking for a college degree, it can be hard to be successful without one. That said, college isn't for everyone. Most people, however, are looking forward to the excitement of college, and we're here to help you plan.

With the senior class wrapped up in decisions that will determine the next few years of their lives, they realize that a bit more preparation could have eased their stress. Getting ready for college should probably begin as early as sophomore year, a student needs to start developing an idea about where and what she/he wants to study. Then, when junior year hits, scholarship hunting and ACT/SAT prep should commence because, trust us, senior year arrives faster than you think.

Being seniors, ourselves, we look back and recognize everything we could have done better. So please heed this advice and try not to make the same mistakes we did. Study for the SAT and ACT. Don't assume you'll be able to achieve an incredible score without even familiarizing yourself with these tests. Buy a prep book and study at least 15 minutes a day, it will amaze you how much of a difference it'll make. You can take these tests more than once, but remember that each time can have a huge impact on your future plans. Cramming the day before will only tire your mind out and add to your anxiety. These tests are no walk-in-the-park; they're long, mind-grueling, and exhausting; so use the time you waste on social media to study, you'll thank yourself someday.

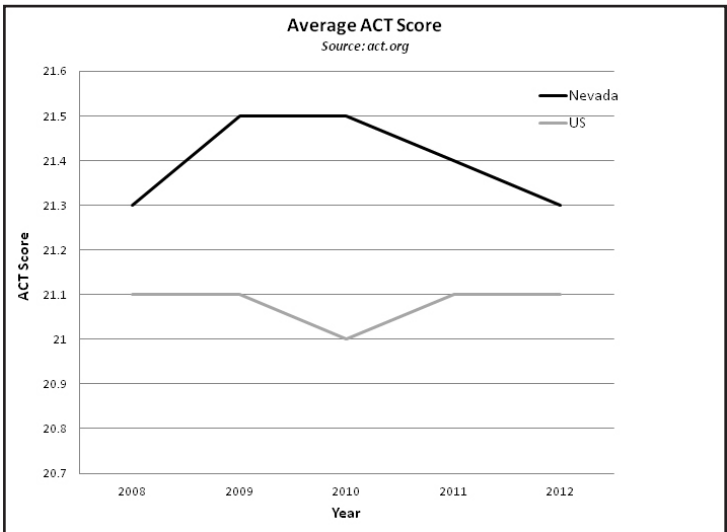
Now, we're pretty sure we're not all rich enough

to pay for college out of our own pockets, so start applying for scholarships early. Believe it or not, there are scholarships you can apply for as a junior. We're fortunate at Lowry to have a great Career Center with plenty of resources for scholarships and other opportunities, so take advantage of it and take the time to apply for scholarships because, unfortunately college is ridiculously expensive. Once senior year hits fill out scholarships like a mad man, sure it'll be a pain, but it's free money.

Choosing a university is a hassle. Do you want a large or small student body? Do you want the campus to be in an urban or rural setting? In-state or out-of-state? We know a lot of people struggle with this, so first think about your career. Pick a college in a region where you think there'd be more opportunity for you. You don't have to be 100 percent on what you want to do, but have an idea and multiple plans for success. Don't worry about all the things that could hinder you, and have a positive outlook on your future possibilities for success. Mind over matter is more important than many give it credit for.

Overall, college is an experience that will change your life. Prepare yourself, and you can start building your future before you ever graduate. Don't let yourself

get stressed, take each part of the process step by step, but keep your goals in mind. From here on out, most every decision will have an impact on your future, so remember that. Don't be surprised by college, and stay positive. Things will work out fine.



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## NHS holds unique 'Date Night' fundraiser

By JOLYN GARCIA

One of the major Winterfest events this year was an auction held by National Honor Society. The items that were auctioned off were dates with various Lowry juniors and seniors. These students willingly volunteered to be sold to whoever bought them for a one hour date. The auditorium was nearly filled by students and their family members who helped fund purchases and also wanted to enjoy the Winterfest activity.



Allison Barron./ Jolyn Garcia • The Brand

There were a total of 30 people that had been auctioned off, the last being auctioneer Joseba Criswell, who was unwillingly sold after Tanner Lecum-

berry stole the microphone and started the bidding.

"I liked when Tanner was the auctioneer. I could not stop laughing," said Nani Ramirez who attended the event but did not place any bids.

Everyone was pleased with their purchases, except for Kevin Blanco who accidentally placed a bid on Tytin Johnson, buying him a date with his fellow wrestling State champion. The following are the names of a few volunteers and the person who purchased them:

Brycen Prokasky bought by Khyra Cooley, Tanner Lecumberry bought by Karen Esparza, Chalene Quinn bought by Dusty Bryan, Brandon Okuma pur-



Tanner Lecumberry./ Jolyn Garcia • The Brand

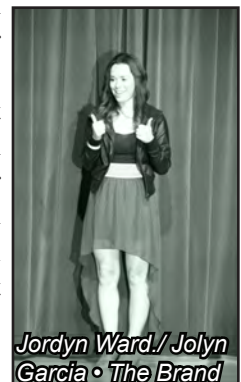
chased by Eric Brooks, Justin Albright bought by Karen Esparza, Calvin Connors purchased by Nate Eldodt, Troy Hardy bought by Travis Hardy, and James Perkinson purchased by Savannah Montero.

"Being on the stage was exhilarating, but I was still nervous," commented senior James Perkinson who was one of the first people to be auctioned off.

The National Honor Society members and advisors were surprised by the bidder turnout and by the high amounts the bids reached. The least amount paid for a date was \$10 and the highest bid, which purchased a date with Jor-

dyn Ward, was \$70. Jordyn was purchased by her boyfriend Jacob Welty, but was almost sold to Ian Maher who had started bidding early.

Because they had the highest bid, Welty and Ward are able to enjoy a dinner for two at the Martin. The second highest bid was also \$70, placed by Lexie Coleman which bought her a date with Eric Brooks and gift cards to Mountain Berry. All other volunteers and their buyers will enjoy a night at Spare Time Bowl.



Jordyn Ward./ Jolyn Garcia • The Brand



## Academic Challenge prepares for playoffs

ALYSSA CAMPBELL

For those of you who don't know, Academic Challenge is a tournament where multiple students are asked a number of different questions in several different subjects. The students in Academic Challenge at Lowry have overall had a successful season so far this year. Their team has had a total of 14 wins with only 2 losses and those two losses were against their toughest and only competition, Spring Creek.

Josh Dunnington said, "I think that we have overall done very well in our season."

The team is looking to improve and are even further trying to prepare and improve for next years season and competitions.

Junior, Hayden Jeppsen said, "I think personally that I could improve by being there for the team next year as a senior to lead the team when Dain [Ma-

her] leaves because he was our leading scorer for the season. I will have to step up because I was the second leading scorer."

Coming up are the two biggest events of their season which are Regionals and State.

"We are expecting to get at least second at Regional's, but getting first would be the best thing that we could do," Hayden Jeppsen also added.

Lowry is expected to do very well in Regional's and State; the team is sure to give it their best.



The Academic Challenge team in action (L-R) Dain Maher, Chris Barta, Ryan Rasmussen, Trenton Smith, and Hayden Jeppsen./ Lisa Scott • Winnada



## DAIN INVESTIGATES: NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

By DAIN MAHER

Many of us know what Honor Society is, but how many of us actually understand what it is about and what the end goal of it all is? We all know somebody who is in it or has been in it. My guess is that you never had the thought to ask somebody what it was all about if you had never been in it. If I'm wrong, my guess is you probably only understand the basics. That is my goal today is to describe in the most clear and concise terms possible what Honor Society is all about.

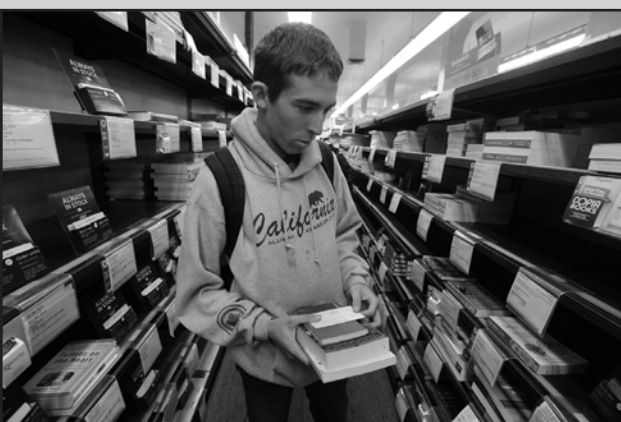
Honor Society is a club that is a national organization that promotes academic excellence, personal success, and community leadership. The National Honor Society has chapters in all 50 states including Puerto Rico. NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921.

Those four characteristics are the

cornerstones of the National Honor Society and every member is required to participate in activities that promote these four values. Each individual chapter is governed by two sets of documents: the NHS national constitution and the local chapter bylaws. These are in place in every chapter to make sure that the integrity of each chapter is in accordance with that of the National Honor Society to ensure consistency. All chapters must adopt and abide by the provisions of the national constitution, per their chartering agreement with the national organization.

To be in the local chapter of Honor Society at Lowry High School, students must maintain a minimum overall 3.5 GPA and exemplify the standards required by Honor Society members. Rene Hill and Matt Felshaw are the advisors for the high school. Honor Society strives everyday to exemplify the standards set forth in the provisions and bylaws and to be examples to the rest of the school.

## News Images



Despite new technologies and a 2012 California law promising college students relief from soaring textbook costs, students' bookstore spending is higher than ever — now about \$1,200 for books and supplies. UC Berkeley junior and integrated biology major Steven Ilko shops for textbooks at the student store in Berkeley, Calif., Jan. 27, 2014./Kristopher Skinner • Bay Area News Group/MCT



Missouri Tigers defensive lineman Michael Sam, center, on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014, became the most prominent, and apparently the first, active male athlete on the major U.S. sports scene to publicly disclose that he's gay. Sam is seen during a college football game against Vanderbilt in this file photo./David Eulitt • Kansas City Star/MCT



Standing Friday afternoon on cracked, parched earth where melons would usually grow, President Obama brought a message of aid and an ominous warning to drought-stricken California as he outlined more than \$160 million in federal assistance. President Obama speaks to the media in Los Banos, Calif., addressing California's drought situation./Wally Skali • Los Angeles Times/MCT



\*The stories on this page are purely satirical and are not meant to be taken seriously.



## HCSD adopts Washoe County's "Intersession"

By DANI RICKER

Humboldt County School District has officially proposed to follow in Washoe County's lead and cancel school breaks. The breaks won't be cancelled for everyone, however.

If students are failing a class, or need extra help, teachers will be available during school breaks. Students who are failing classes will be required to come to school during breaks. All other students have the option to come, if needed.

"The District hopes this will improve not only

test scores, but also graduation rates," said one school board member.

The school board members are not the only ones who believe this is a good idea. Many parents in the community have begun to back up this school board decision.

"I think this will be very beneficial in the long run. The kids won't enjoy it, but this is exactly what some students need. Some kids just need that extra motivation. Not having a break from school is

the perfect motivation," said Stephanie Jefferson, a parent who attended the meeting where this idea was proposed.

Although students who are passing all classes and are not credit deficient will not be required to attend normal classes during school breaks, all students will be required to attend ISE and Advisory classes regardless of their grades.

For the 2014-15 school year the breaks will be Oct. 32-Nov. 6; Dec. 20-Jan. 7; and Mar. 18-30.



## Student kicked out of pep assembly for being too peppy

By MELANIE RYNEARSON

During the last pep assembly, Calvin Connors was kicked out of the pep assembly for having "too much pep" said Vice Principal Doc Welter.

"He was yelling and jumping and just being way too disrespectful for my taste, so I kicked him out and told him he was not allowed at pep assemblies anymore," said Welter. "At first I asked him to quiet down, but he just kept yelling and jumping so finally I got sick of it."

The code of conduct for pep assemblies says that students aren't allowed to boo people;

they need to be respectful when other students/teachers are speaking, and no standing on the gym floor.

According to Welter, Connors was booing other people, and talking and yelling while people were speaking.

Connors defends himself by saying, "I was just trying to have fun and support the senior class, and get us more class points, but Doc Welter wanted no part of my peppiness."

Hopefully students have learned how to act at pep assemblies with this incident.



Calvin Connors./ Courtesy • Winnada



Doc Welter./ Courtesy • Winnada



## Future flower deliveries banned

By MAYTE CASTELLANOS

Valentine's Day always brings an outpouring of love and affections at the high school. This also results in an inundation of flowers, balloons, candy and stuffed animal deliveries to the office. Next year, however, plan on delivering your flowers somewhere else because deliveries during school for your special someone will not be permitted.

"I don't really mind the new change; I never got any flowers anyway," stated a lonely student.

Because of the large volume of the intercom usage and disruption it causes during class, When a student brings back their flowers they receive it disrupts the rest of their classmates. If flowers are delivered next year during Valentine's day you will get

office, secretaries got overwhelmed so they decided to cancel all of the deliveries they just to give themselves a break.

"This is work time not time to get flowers in a school," said one secretary.

Due to the offices decision many students were disappointed that they weren't going to be able to surprise there loved one with flowers during class.

On the other hand some students were quite furious with the office's decision.

"I can't believe that my man won't be getting flowers on Valentine's Day," said an angry girlfriend.

If you had any plans on delivering flowers to your loved ones at school next year, it looks like you and your loved ones might be disappointed.



The 15 Sweetheart Tulip bouquet from ProFlowers./ ProFlowers/MCT



Vosges Haut-Chocolat's Valentine-themed Crush Collection./Bill Hogan • Chicago Tribune/MCT



## Student sues for school related injuries

By TANNER AMES

Lowry Senior, Jacob Avery, sued Lowry High School for injuries involving too much homework. Hospital bills include physical therapy for a weakened back, from heavy backpack, and tendonitis in the wrist, from working with pens and pencils too much. The student had sued the school for the cost of the hospital bills, in addition to the pain and suffering, totaling a little more than \$50,000.

Avery said "The bills for the injuries added up to about \$45,000, and my new job doesn't pay well enough to cover the bills, so I decided that the school could help pay for it. Because of the discomfort, and all of the physical therapy that took so much time out of my day, I decided I could use some comfort funds. Besides, since I'm a senior, I won't

have to deal with the consequences."

According to the school, this lawsuit will decrease the budget for new books and other supplies. Better cafeteria food and new text books won't be approved, due to this lack of budget.

School district members confronted Jacob on many occasions to talk him out of the "ridiculous" decision to sue the school. However, they were unsuccessful.

The court date was February 3, 2014.

After going to court against the school, Avery decided that he would drop the \$5,000 of "comfort funds" (the money wanted for suffering through pain) and \$15,000 more, if the school promised to require less homework. Humboldt County School District decided this would be best to avoid any future lawsuits concerning this topic.



Jacob Avery./ Courtesy • Winnada



## Underclassmen to be allowed at Prom

By ALYSSA CAMPBELL

Freshmen and sophomores, you better start finding your dresses, tuxedos, and dates now because everyone is finally allowed to go to prom.

"I honestly don't really like the fact that freshmen and sophomores are coming to our prom this year," said senior Bertha Solis.

Prom has always been for upperclassmen only. However each year more and more freshmen and sophomores have been feeling excluded when it comes to this activity. Excluding people has been hurting many of their feelings. What better way to do boost everyone's self-esteem other than letting both freshmen and sophomores go to prom too?

"It makes me really happy that we all get to go to prom this year and I'm very excited to go," said freshman Savanna Cox.

All of the prom officials agreed that as a school we should have underclassmen feel more inclusive and help them feel better about themselves.

Mrs. Mattson who is a prom advisor this year said, "I thought this was a great idea to help all kids at the school get more involved and feel better about themselves."

Having everyone in high school going to prom would be very enjoyable and no one will ever feel left out again. People around our school have been starting to think that this is the right choice.



Teens dance in the ballroom at 2012 Prom./Richard W. Rodriguez • Fort Worth Star-Telegram/MCT





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## The Fight over Minimum Wage

Minimum wage has been a constant source of contention since its inception in 1938. It started at .25 cents an hour and has since risen to a federal minimum of \$7.25 an hour. Anybody who has worked a minimum wage job knows it's not fun but somebody has to do it. Many times the students who work these jobs, are not the hardest or most effective; so the question that arises with a lot of employers is, "are these people really worth \$7.25 an hour?"



BY DAIN MAHER

To set the record straight, the companies and corporations are not the ones setting the minimum wage rather it's the federal government who decides what it should be based on inflation, the current economic situation, and interest rates.

Minimum wage at its core is the lowest hourly, daily or monthly remuneration that employers may legally pay to workers. Many proponents of minimum wage feel as though it increases the standard of living, reduces poverty, reduces inequality, boosts morale and forces businesses to be more efficient while opponents say it increases poverty, increases unemployment (particularly among low productivity workers) and is damaging to businesses.

While both may have truths and falsehoods, the only truth that minimum wage provides is more money an hour for productive and unproductive workers alike. While an increase in the minimum wage may seem like a good thing, we must take into account that most of us, the students, have no expenses. Those with expenses most likely have to pay for food, rent, car, gas, etc. When minimum wage goes up, the prices of these goods and services most likely does too. The minimum wage is a beneficial income until the expenses of goods and services required for daily existence surpasses the income provided by minimum wage. A suggestion would be to start at minimum wage and work hard to get raises and work up the chain of command. You will find that the harder you work, the more doors open up.

## Softball is just as difficult as baseball

Most baseball players will argue that baseball is a harder sport than softball. I'll give credit where it is due, but softball is just as difficult. Baseball players will use the excuse that they have to run farther because their field is bigger. It is indeed bigger than a softball field, but let's take a look at the circumstances.

Baseball pitchers release the ball above their head, making the ball go in a downward motion. As the hitter makes contact with the ball, it is at a better angle to hit a homerun. Baseball players may need better hand-eye coordination because the ball is smaller.

Softball pitchers release the ball at their hip making the ball go in an upward motion. This upward motion, proven by physics, makes it harder to hit the ball

out of the park. A softball may be easier to see, but it's heavier and that's more weight and power we have to put into our swing. Softball pitchers usually pitch an entire game, whereas in baseball you can see at least three different pitchers. We are working our body the and tiring out. We have the same urge and adrenaline to play. Boys want to be taken out to program, and girls give it their all.



BY KAITY SAMPLE

A baseball field extends 325 feet with each base 90 feet apart. Softball fields are 200 feet and each base is 65 feet apart. Although distances in baseball are greater, let's not forget the fact that softball players have to be quicker

because of the smaller infield. Baseball players have to have stronger arms to throw the ball farther distances as well, but that doesn't mean, necessarily, that baseball is harder.

The fact that softball originated from baseball, quite frankly, doesn't matter and has nothing to do with the difficulty of each sport. Baseball is a hard sport, but that doesn't mean softball isn't. Softball players need recognition of their skill, speed, and strength just like baseball players. Also, softball players use bigger balls, and they leave bigger bruises, while working twice as hard running poles and practice diving time after time because some things don't come naturally to us, unlike the guys where you don't even have to lift weights to look buff.

## Why baseball is better than softball

There are certain rivalries between sports; basketball and wrestling, football and soccer, which will more than likely rage for all eternity. There is one, however, which I believe can be qualmed. The battle between softball and baseball will die, today, in this article.

First, let's remove all shades of sexism from the equation, for that is not the aim of this article. I intend to compare the sports, and nothing more. Baseball houses tradition, and is certainly the birthplace of softball. Without baseball, there is no softball, just as without a Catholic, there can be no

Protestant. It can be said, then, that baseball is the father of softball, and in the natural order of the world, fathers are dominant over their offspring.

Despite natural softball, themselves different realize. Baseball fields are much faster, and the general speed of play is quickened by a much smaller field in softball. Arguments have been made that the



BY TANNER LECUMBERRY

difficulty of hitting is higher in softball than in baseball. However, with a larger ball and lighter bats, combined with lower pitching speeds and shorter fences, the difference in pitching angle doesn't present enough of a difference to make hitting a softball harder. As far as fielding, increased area per player makes throws much further, and defense overall much more difficult.

All in all, baseball has every right to be claimed the greatest sport not only in the spring, but the greatest sport in the history of mankind. To the baseball players out there, march on brothers.

## Grinds my Gears

Everybody in this world has certain pet peeves that just makes them go crazy, and I have quite a lot of those. These are just certain things that make my skin crawl.

The first thing that grinds my gears is people that chew with their mouth open. I don't want to hear or see your food while you're eating. It's not that hard to keep your mouth closed while you're chewing. This is especially true for gum, if we are in class, I should not be able to hear you chomp on your gum like you're a cow. Keep it closed, and keep it classy.

You know what really grinds my gears? The people that post every little detail about their life on social media, and then they go and complain about the NSA spying on them. Nobody is spying on you; you're just letting everyone know about your life.

Conspiracy theories drive me absolutely crazy. Our government does do some weird stuff, but they don't kill people. You can find anything on the internet, that doesn't mean it's true. It just means that you're gullible.

To everyone that claims they know everything, you don't. Spare me.

To everybody that claims that they have "haters", people just don't like you, you don't have haters. Get over yourself. Guys; it's lose, not loose. You're not your; learn your grammar.

Also, since this issue is close to Valentines Day, to all you couples out there, stop eating each others faces in the hallways. It's disgusting, and nobody wants to see it. You can be a happy couple, but don't stand in the hallways displaying your affection towards one another for everyone to see.

Another topic that closely relates to Valentines Day, if you and your girlfriend/boyfriend break up, don't go on a social media site and make a fool of yourself. You're just embarrassing yourself and making yourself sound stupid. It's not the end of the world if you guys break up, don't overreact. One door closes and another one opens.

Pet Peeves are a part of human nature, we all have them, but a solid philosophy is to just treat people with respect. We are all humans trying to make a name for ourselves, work together. Team work makes the dream work.



BY JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

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## The heat is on

Since “An Inconvenient Truth” was written by Al Gore in 2006, an international hubbub has been raised about the warming of the Earth. The fact that the Earth has been increasing in average temperature is a fact, and is as easily measured as the temperature outside your home. NASA’s (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) official website shows both a rise in carbon dioxide levels and temperature. There is a difference, however, between the two distinct ideas of Climate Change and Global Warming.

According to their definitions, the difference between the two is that Global Warming is more specific, and refers only to the rise in global temperatures due to greenhouse gas emissions. Climate Change refers to the change in all weather patterns, including precipitation and ocean currents.

The earth is warming, and the facts support it. Both the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and NASA show a clear rise in temperature over the last few decades, and show that the ten hottest years were after 2000, with the exception of 1998, which ranked third. 2013 ranked number four on the list, while 2010 is the hottest on record, according to the NOAA. 2010 was slightly over one degree hotter than the mid twentieth century average, which makes a large difference to the earth. Though a one degree difference doesn’t sound significant, it can wreak havoc in very important factors within the most delicate ecosystems.

The argument lies in how the Earth’s tem-

perature is changing, since the fact that it is cannot be refuted. Some say humanity is to blame, and some claim the Earth’s natural cycles are the culprit. Either way, the Earth is changing, and a solution must be found.

The Earth is tailored to human life, to a point where anything humanity needs to sustain its own life grows naturally around it. To live on a planet that caters to a species so much should not be taken for granted, and humanity has contributed somewhat to global warming. The Earth’s average temperature has fluctuated greatly many times in its history, however, and humanity cannot be wholly responsible for the Earth’s changing temperatures. Still, humanity has an obligation to protect the earth, which has sheltered it so generously for so long.



By **TANNER LECUMBERRY**



## Go Paleo

Ever heard of the Paleo? Sounds like a new dance craze, right? It’s actually a diet, and it could be the secret formula to a healthier life.

The Paleo Diet (often referred to as the Caveman Diet) is based on the food that prehistoric humans must have eaten. So why would you ever want to eat what our Neanderthal ancestors ate? After all their life expectancy was only 25 years. Well don’t write them off just yet. I’m sure if they had the medical knowledge of today they could go much further.

The basis of the Paleo’s appeal is that it means only eating what your body was made for, un-processed food; so no grains and no dairy, because cave-men were alive before the agricultural revolution. What’s left includes grass-fed meat, fowl, wild fish, Omega- 3 enriched eggs, vegetables (not deep fried, obviously), natural oils (olive, coconut, and avocado), fruits, nuts, and tuber (sweet potatoes and yams.)

I’m aware this goes against everything we’ve been told since we were little kids, “Drink your milk if you want grow big and strong.” Okay so maybe milk helps us grow BIG, but strong? Not necessarily. Cavemen didn’t drink milk past the breast-feeding stage of their life. So how’d they get their calcium? Spinach, kale, and almonds are all calcium-rich sources. In fact one cup of almonds has 378 mg. of calcium while one cup of milk only has 299 mg. of calcium.



By **JESSIE SCHIRRICK**

Grains (bread, pasta, and cereal) are the tastiest treats available to humans. Also some of the unhealthiest as a lot of grains contain gluten. I’m not criminalizing all gluten, it is rich with protein and has nutritional value, but it can also cause intestinal and digestive issues.

The paleo diet was ranked last of 31

diets reviewed by judges at US News. The different diets were judged on how easy they would be to follow, safety, how effective they were for weight loss, and how well they fight against diabetes and heart disease. The paleo was ranked so poorly largely due to the fact that it would indeed be very hard to follow, but if you’re serious about getting healthy then you should prepared to go that extra mile. The panelists also argued that cutting out dairy and grains could lead to nutrient deficiency, but they can easily be replaced with a multivitamin.

Not only does this omit grains and dairy from your diet, but also all other processed foods left on the table like bacon and this diet leaves no room for liquid calories (water only.)

This may seem like a lot to ask, and you don’t have to (and shouldn’t) cut all of these foods out of your diet at once, but rather take small steps in order to make an easier transition to a healthy life. Your body will thank you.

## Open your eyes: Vocabulary

Just as society is changing through time, so is vocabulary. Incorrect vocabulary is being used so often it has turned into acceptable vocabulary. It’s pathetic that so many individuals are too incompetent or too lazy to speak properly. It has become an everyday habit to use improper, made-up words. Some of these words have even been added to the dictionary due to the fact that it’s nearly impossible to eliminate the use of them.

According to the site Mental Floss, unbelievable words have been recently

added to some dictionaries such as the following five: Crunk, Po-po, Grrrl, Mankini, and Bromance. If you are aware of these terms, and use them regularly; you should reexamine your vocabulary. Proper language is not only impressive, but also professional. I applaud those who expand their vocabulary and make use of sophisticated words.

Texting is a large part of the reason why the public is so unprofessional with its word choice in this

generation. In order to learn and retain vocabulary, especially more advanced language, individuals must use the words in their own speech and writing. Instead of using advanced vocabulary regularly; text terms are being used much more frequently thus retaining bad vocabulary rather than a higher standard of words.

Rather than expressing laughter by simply stating “That was hilarious”; a person often replies with “LOL”



By **TAYLOR LATRAY**

## Do's & Don'ts

To read this whole newspaper; there are some pretty awesome things in it.

Don’t think that we won’t know if you read it, we know all.

Do have a life full of hilarity, as Granny says, laughter is the best medicine.

Don’t be down on life. Be happy for what you have.

Do live life to the fullest.

Don’t think that that means say YOLO after every sentence.

Do fabulous things in your life.

Don’t think that lying around watching TV and playing video games is fabulous. Well it is, but not all the time. Anyway, don’t do it too much.

Do read a book once in a while. Those things have some pretty useful information in them.

Don’t stop believing. Hold on to that feeling.

Do sing that out loud, and when people look, just confirm that you’re reading the newspaper.

Do try to have at least one random outburst of laughter per week.

Don’t have that outburst during a test. You just might get in trouble.

Do as Spock said, “Live long and prosper”.

Don’t do stupid things. It could jeopardize things others really enjoy.

Do express yourself, sometimes the coolest person you can be is yourself.

Do be careful when on the internet, there are some pretty scary things out there.

Do like the many holidays there are. Sure most might not make any sense, but just think of all the breaks you get.

Don’t forget your elementary school years. You learn a lot, like it’s OK to take a nap in class.

Do enjoy this newspaper. We work really hard to make these articles.

Don’t let me tell you what to do.

Do have a nice day, and a nice week, why not a nice month? You know what? Have a nice year.



By **TANNER AMES**





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## JV boys wrap up up successful season

By TAYLOR LATRAY

The 2014 boys junior varsity basketball team has proved itself a team to be reckoned with. The JV team, coached by Jeff Rinas and Don Walton has a record of 20-6.

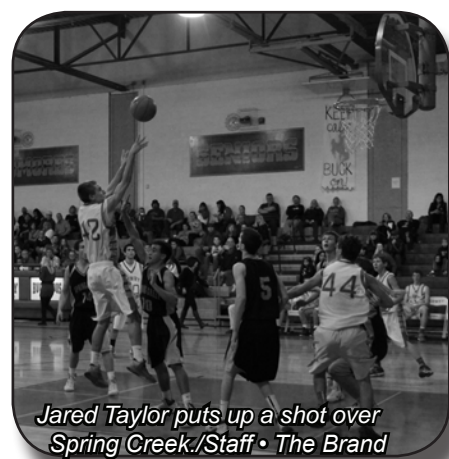
With the season coming to an end Chris Tyree believes his team is strong even after enduring several injuries.

"Our season's going well. We have had a few losses, but we get better and learn from each one. My teammates are all cool guys and we have over-

come the loss of players through many games to various injuries, luckily none too serious," said Chris Tyree. "As a team we can improve in everything; therefore, we work hard at practice each day to do so. Our main goal is always the win against Elko."

The team was seeking revenge this Winterfest in their battle against Elko on Saturday. Friday night the team played Spring Creek and came out on top. However, the following day the team was unsuccessful in their game against Elko; although, the boys came incredibly close.

"The season went good, we just



Jared Taylor puts up a shot over Spring Creek./Staff • The Brand

wish things ended up differently in our game against Elko," said Jacob Von Aspern

The team finished their final games this weekend with 56-30 against Spring Creek and lost to Elko 39-28 in the game against Elko.



Brian Shettler looks for help from a teammate./Staff • The Brand



Jacob Von Aspern looks for a way around the defense./Staff • The Brand



## Year of the Freshmen in NCAA mens basketball

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

Coming into the year, the hot topic of the NCAA was all of the incoming freshmen that were sure to take the nation by storm. Certainly enough, the freshmen have lived up to the hype. Duke's Jabari Parker, Kansas's Andrew Wiggins, and Kentucky's Julius Randle are three of the top freshmen in the nation, and they have led their respected teams to a remarkable season thus far.

Parker came into the year with high expectations, and he has lived up to the hype thus far. He broke Duke's freshman record for 20 point games, and he has led Duke to a great year as they have a shot at the national championship.

Andrew Wiggins had the highest expectations of all the incoming freshmen, as he was touted as the next LeBron James. Wiggins has had a solid year as he is averaging 16.5 points per game and 6 rebounds per game. Wiggins has led Kansas to a 16-4 record, as they also have a shot at the national championship.

In this day and age of college basketball, it's rare for any athlete to stay throughout their college career, Ohio State's Aaron Craft has been the lone exception to this as he has stayed all four years in college, and

is now one of the best defensive players in the nation, as he has also led Ohio State on a remarkable four year run.

The defending champions Louisville Cardinals have had a tough year; as they were forced to dismiss their starting power forward Chane Behanan for repeatedly breaking team rules. Despite dismissing their starting forward, they've still managed to maintain a solid record, as they look to make another run to defend their championship.

Another top story going into the year was all of the conference changes. The complete abolishment of the Big East, one of the most powerful conferences in all of basketball, was the major headline going into the year. Syracuse, Notre Dame, and Pittsburgh all made the transition to the ACC to battle powerhouses like Duke and North Carolina.

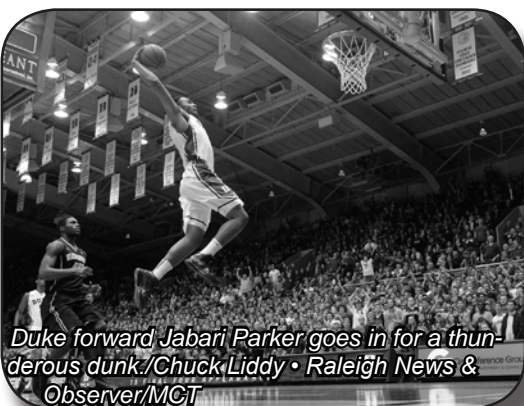
A shocker from this season is the Wichita State Shockers, who have a strong chance to run the table and go into the NCAA tournament unde-

feated. Shocking everyone last year in the NCAA tournament last year, where they made it all the way to the Final Four, where they lost to the eventual champion Louisville Cardinals.

Make sure to stay tuned as the year progresses to see what teams come together, and make a run at a championship, and to see what mid-major school pulls off another run and upsets all of the higher seeds in the NCAA tournament.



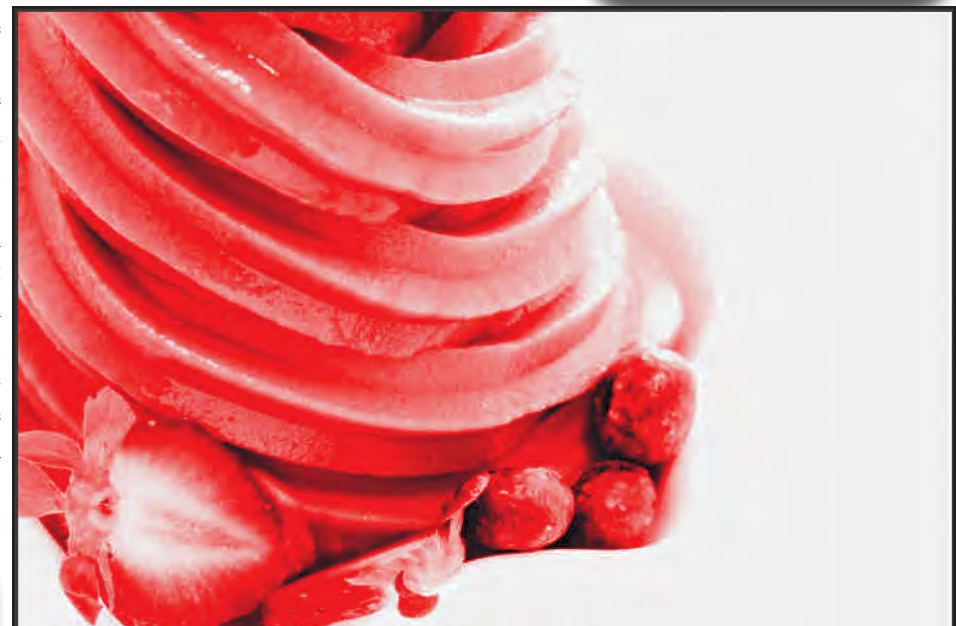
Ohio State's Aaron Craft tries to get around Penn State's Tim Frazier./Eric Albrecht • Columbus Dispatch/MCT



Duke forward Jabari Parker goes in for a thunderous dunk./Chuck Liddy • Raleigh News & Observer/MCT



Kansas' Andrew Wiggins elevates over Iowa State's Georges Niang for a shot./Rich Sugg • Kansas City Star/MCT



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Athlete of the Issue: Beau Billingsley

By Tanner Lecumberry

As a junior, Beau Billingsley is already a decorated athlete. With three years of experience in football, two in track, and two incredibly successful seasons in wrestling, he's leaving his mark on Lowry. Off the field, Beau is a straight-A student with an awkward sense of humor and steady work ethic, which he credits to his family.

Beau's favorite sport is wrestling, and he's enjoyed much success there. As a two-time individual and team state champion in wrestling, he is looking forward to two more great seasons, as his junior season draws to a close. Billingsley said, "The hard work and things that are expected of wrestlers is just crazy. The fact that it's just you against another guy makes it a lot more personal. Wrestling is hard, but I love the sport."

"The fact that my dad, brother, and

cousin were some of the most successful athletes in Lowry history definitely keeps me motivated. I want to be just as successful as they were," said Billingsley.

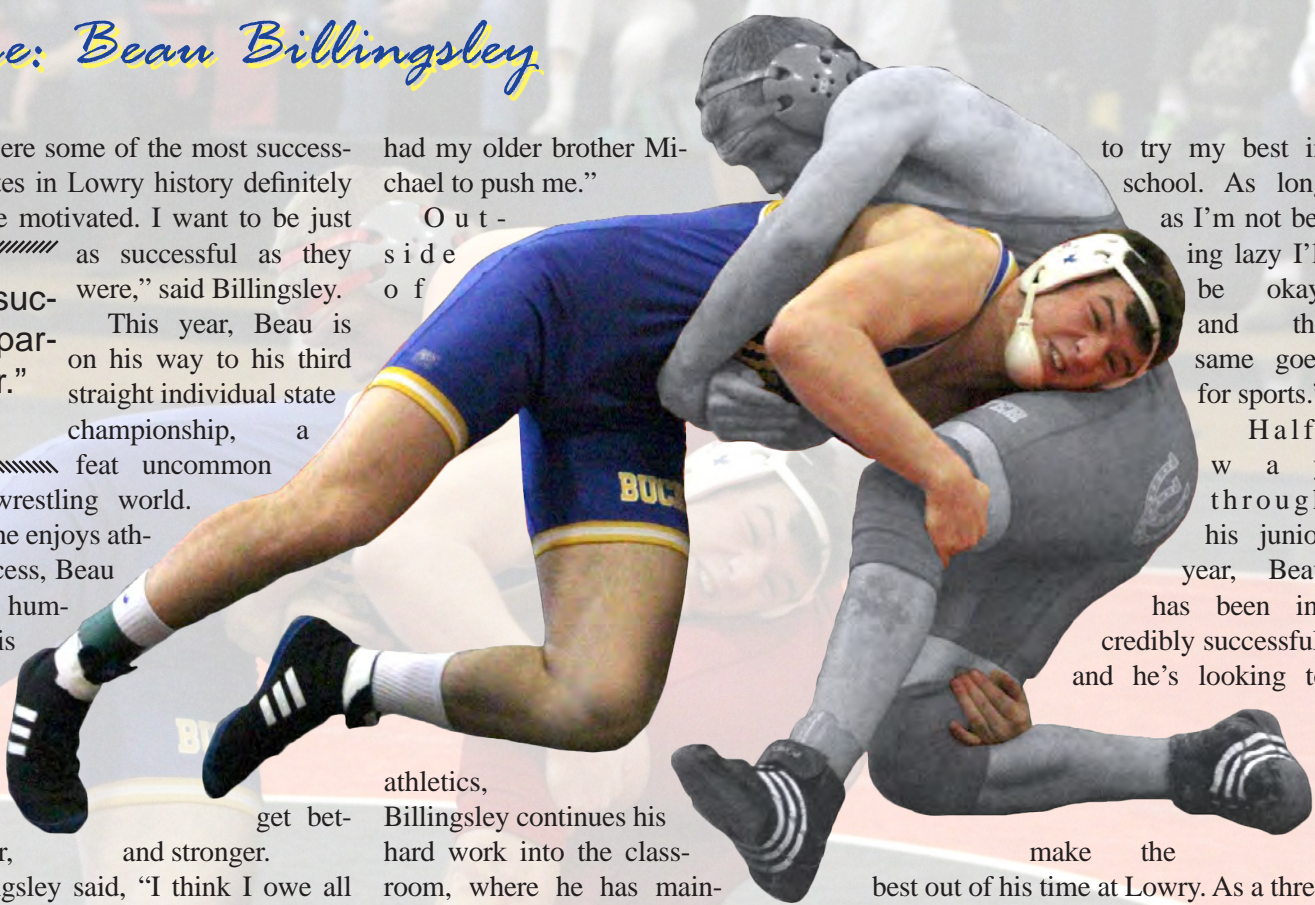
This year, Beau is on his way to his third straight individual state championship, a feat uncommon

in the wrestling world. Though he enjoys athletic success, Beau remains humble, and is always willing to put in more work to get faster, and stronger.

Billingsley said, "I think I owe all my success in sports to my parents and older brother. My parents were the ones who started me young and my dad had always been my coach. And I've always

had my older brother Michael to push me."

Outside of



athletics, Billingsley continues his hard work into the classroom, where he has maintained a high grade point average, and said, "Getting good grades and working hard in sports go hand-in-hand. My parents have always encouraged me

to try my best in school. As long as I'm not being lazy I'll be okay, and the same goes for sports."

Halfway through his junior year, Beau has been incredibly successful, and he's looking to

make the best out of his time at Lowry. As a three sport athlete, with academic success, his hard work is showing. Every day, Beau looks to better himself, and his success can only continue from here.



Varsity boys win the rematch and the league

By Weston Irons

It was a weekend to remember for Lowry Basketball and the Buckaroo fans, as Lowry defeated Spring Creek 64-51 and then went on to defeat rival Elko 46-41 in quite possibly the most electric game of the season. With these important wins, Lowry took the Division 1-A North title out of the hands of Elko and clinched number one seed for the zone tournament.



Dusty Bryan dribbles by an Elko player/Staff • The Brand

With a team that consists of nine seniors, senior night took place right before the Spring Creek game, and emotions were high as the seniors knew their playing career at Lowry was slowly coming to an end. The Bucks came out strong, and the Spartans of Spring Creek put up quite the fight, but there was no way that the Bucks were going to lose this game.

"The Spring Creek game was a good game for us. We knew it wasn't going to be easy and we were going to have to play good. We used a big third quarter to get us a comfortable lead in the fourth," said Josh Shaver.

In the most important game of the year, and one of the most hyped up games in recent memory, the Elko Indians came to town. Lowry hadn't beaten the Indians since the State Championship game in 2012. The Bucks knew that it was their time though, and there was no way that

the seniors were going to let the Indians win on the Bucks home court.

"It's a huge rivalry game and we knew what we had to do to win the game and the regular season league championship. It's hard to describe our emotions that game," said Shaver.

The crowd was out in full force for the game, and the Bucks came out strong in front of their home crowd, and their defense was too much for Elko to handle in the first quarter, as the score was 6-4 at the end of the first quarter. It was a back and forth game the rest of the way, as no team could get an advantage on the other.

"We have the best crowd in Nevada hands down. We have great support from our school and community," said Shaver.

Despite trailing by five midway through the fourth quarter, Tytus Millikan and Josh Shaver had two back-to-back three point baskets to give Lowry the lead, and with clutch free throw shooting down the stretch, and some stellar defensive play by Delane Black, the Bucks pulled out the win, and the fans immediately rushed the court. The atmosphere of the game was truly indescribable, and the two best teams in Northern Nevada put on a show for everyone that came to the game.

"They were hard fought emotional games. There was something on the line and we came through. The satisfaction



Calvin Connors looks for a teammate while Spring Creek looks for a call/Staff • The Brand



Part of the standing-room only crowd/Staff • The Brand

of winning my last Lowry home game by beating our rivals and storming was amazing, but our goals aren't complete yet. We are confident about our chances making it to, and going through, the state playoffs but we try to take it one game at a time," said Millikan.

Lowry has had an incredible season as they have compiled a 24-2 overall record, and a 15-1 league record. With the win against Elko, the Bucks have clinched the number one seed in the zone tournament, and will square off against the Fallon Greenwave in the opening round of the zone tournament.

With a chance to claim their second state championship in three years, the Bucks are riding high, and their confidence level is at an all-time high as they have finally topped their arch rival Elko. The Bucks square off against Fallon at 8:00 pm Friday night in Elko.

"We have a senior loaded team and it'll be nice for us seniors to go out on top with a state championship," said Shaver.



Josh Shaver with a pull up jumper/Staff • The Brand

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## Athlete of the Issue: Rachel Sigurdson

By KAITY SAMPLE

Senior Rachel Sigurdson is not only an exceptional student, but also a superior athlete. Sigurdson plays three sports: volleyball, basketball, and runs track in the spring, all at the varsity level.

"I love playing sports because they are fun, competitive, and they keep me busy," said Sigurdson.

Sigurdson has played two years on varsity volleyball as an outside hitter. She has been named All-League Honorable mention for volleyball both years at the varsity level. She has been on varsity basketball for two years and has been running varsity track for three years.

She has qualified for state in pole vaulting in 2012 and 1013.

"This is my last year in high school track," said Sigurdson, "I've improved a lot since when I first started. I hope my improvements are enough for me to place in state this year." Sigurdson won the NIAA 3A regional pole vault championship in 2012.

**"My favorite part is the bonds you get to make with the team."**

~ Rachel Sigurdson

"My parents are my role models. They keep me going throughout my three seasons every year. I know

they love to come and watch me and without them I wouldn't be the athlete I am today," said Sigurdson.

Sigurdson has been playing sports

most of her childhood. She's played with her friends and teammates for an extensive amount of time as she has continued her career of sports through out high school. She started playing competitively when she made the Jr. High basketball and volleyball team.

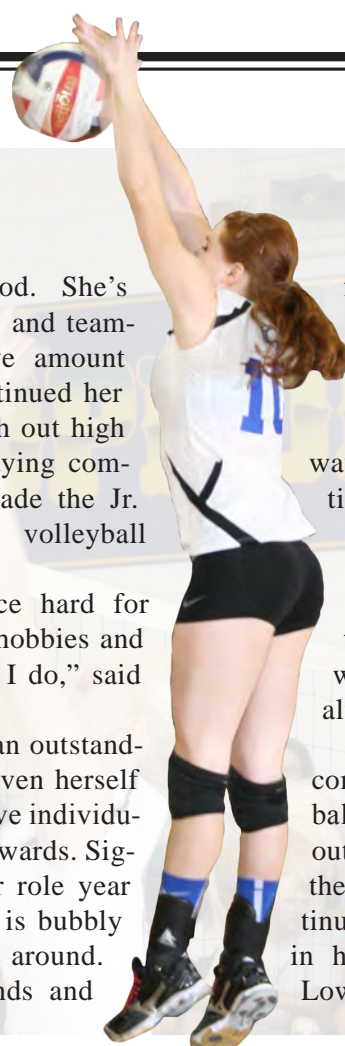
"I play and practice hard for myself. Sports are my hobbies and I like to excel in what I do," said Sigurdson.

Not only is Rachel an outstanding athlete, but has proven herself in the classroom with five individual All-State Academic awards. Sigurdson is on the honor role year round. Her personality is bubbly and is welcoming to be around. Sigurdson's close friends and

family members all speak very highly of her, and especially of her athleticism. Sigurdson is kind-hearted, and is always improving and practicing her skills.

Sigurdson said, "My favorite part is the bonds you get to make with a team. It teaches you to work with others and we always have a good time."

Sigurdson has already completed her last volleyball season, and is finishing out her basketball career. In the spring, Rachel will continue to work for her goals in her last track season at Lowry.



## Lady Bucks earn number 1 seed in playoffs

By ALYSSA CAMPBELL

After the rough start to the season, the Lady Bucks had a chance to win the league as they hosted Spring Creek and Elko, the top 2 seeds in the league, in the last two games of the season.

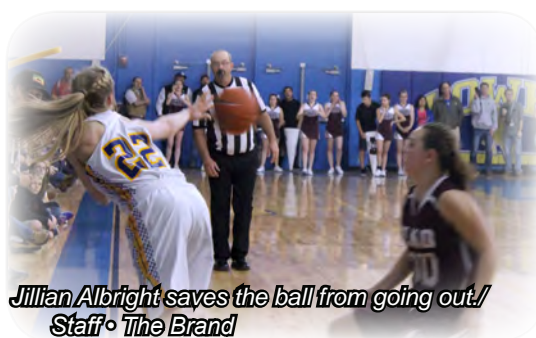
Their Spring Creek game ended up in a win for Lowry 55-46. They all stepped it up during this game and it paid off immensely with a win, giving Lowry a chance to win the league if they took care of business against Elko.

*Jasmine Marchand grabs a rebound late in the game./Staff • The Brand*



Sophomore, Payton Naveran said, "We went into the season with a goal to be first in the league. We knew how important it was to beat Spring Creek. We played hard and never gave up. I love my team."

In the game against rival Elko, the stands were packed as there was standing room only in the gym, and the Bucks put on a show in the last game of the regular season. The Bucks started out strong, and kept up a consistent effort throughout the game as they pulled out a 56-48 victory to win the league, and to give them the top seed in the upcoming zone tournament.



*Jillian Albright saves the ball from going out./Staff • The Brand*

"I think we played awesome. There were plenty of times we could have given up but we hung in there throughout it all," said junior, Alyssa Jones.

The Lady Bucks have had a tremendous year, as they exceeded expectations, and accomplished their goals as they finished with a 13-3 league record and a 17-9 overall record.

Coming up next for the varsity girls' is the zone tournament in Elko, and all they need to do is beat the Fallon Greenwave on Friday night, a team they have already beat this season, to claim a spot in the State tournament.



*The Lady Bucks celebrate their win over Elko./Staff • The Brand*



*Payton Naveran contests a shot./Staff • The Brand*

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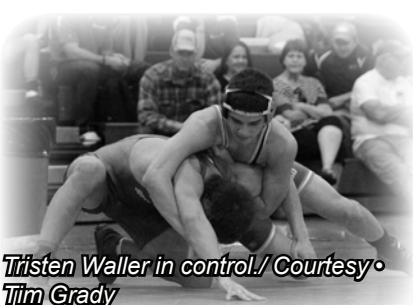


## Wrestling wins sixth straight zone title

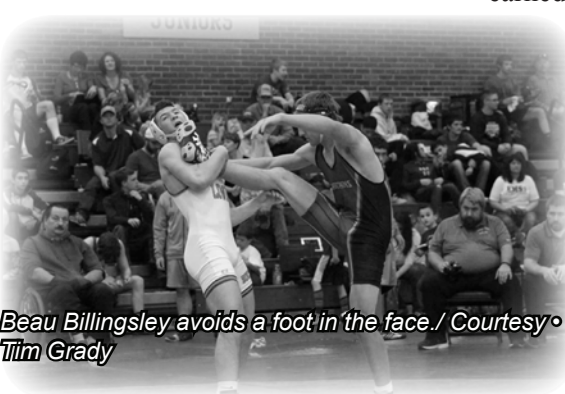
BY AIMEE BRANDON

Lowry's wrestling team has won Zone and State for five consecutive years and in Sparks on February 15, they earned their sixth consecutive division championship.

Lowry was first in almost every weight class. At 106 Lowry's Trase Bell placed first defeating Fernley's Riley Twitchell by decision, 4-2. At 113 Lowry's Ignacio Medina received



Tristen Waller in control./ Courtesy • Tim Grady



Beau Billingsley avoids a foot in the face./ Courtesy • Tim Grady

second after being defeated by Elko's Aram Villegas with a fall in 1:04. At 120 Kevin Blanco from Lowry won over Fernley's Dillon Maguin by decision, 3-2. First was stolen from Lowry's Nate Nelson by Fallon's Anthony Sabatino in a 6:48 fall. Lowry's Eric Brooks at 132 won first over Spring Creek's Zachary Rockwell by decision, 5-3. At 138 Lowry's Gabe Molina received third, Fallon in first and Spring Creek in second. 145 wasn't Lowry's best weight class, Lane Mentaberry got fifth. Brandon Okuma at 152 wrestled Tymon Dozier, Okuma winning by decision, 8-5. At 160 Lowry's Shaun Mentaberry received fourth.

Getting into the larger weights, one of Lowry's favorite's Beau Billingsley earned first over Jacob Boulette by a fall in 0:59. At 182 Jed Johnson of Lowry received third, competing for third against Brennan Reese by decision, 7-4. Lowry's Tytin Johnson won first over Dakota Schelling by a fall in 3:22. At 220 Antioony Hummel received third place. In the largest competing weight class 285 Lowry's Luis Cardenas earned first over Da-

vid Valentine.

Lowry wrestling has been dominating their competitors for a while now with help from their coaches.

Current head coach John Brooks is proud of the guys in their success at zone but knows they haven't yet fully fulfilled their goal, they still need to conquer at State.

I think we have established ourselves as the team to beat, but we haven't accomplished our goal yet. We need to keep our eye on the prize," said Brooks.

Lowry wrestling is definitely the team to beat, and we will have to wait and see who will step up to the plate at State.

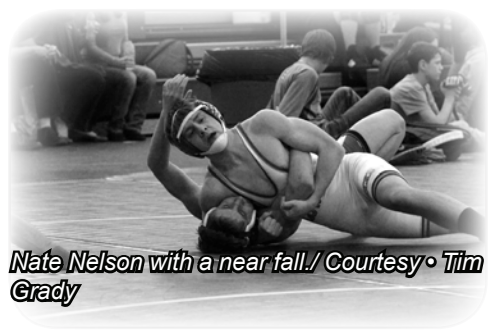
### Team Scores

1. Lowry 277.5
2. Churchill County 183.0



The team after winning its 6th consecutive title./ Courtesy • Tim Grady

3. Spring Creek 181.0
4. Elko 140.0
5. Fernley 136.0
6. South Tahoe 78.0
7. Sparks 61.0
8. Dayton 47.5
9. Truckee 0.0



Nate Nelson with a near fall./ Courtesy • Tim Grady



## Freshman girls dominate all season, finish 18-1

BY AIMEE BRANDON

Lowry's freshman girls basketball team was undefeated in league this season and is 18-1 overall.

All the girls are proud of how far they have come as a team and personally.

"I'm so proud if my team, all of us have gotten so much better," said Amaya Herrera.

Throughout the season the entire team grew in skill and played at a higher level.

"Every time we replayed a team we had improved greatly and beat them by more than the first time," said Kenadee Jeppsen.

The team's last game was against Lowry's rival Elko. The first time the girls played the Indians the score was a little close at 43-26 but in their last game against Elko they won 51-29 an outstanding improvement on Lowry's part.

The freshman lady Buck's greatest game was against Fallon on Lowry's home court the final score was 42-14.

"Our best game was our home game against Fallon we played as a team and we worked hard. Not once did they beat us down the court. We hustled and were ready for anything and everything," said Hannah Hillyer.



Hannah Hillyer puts up a shot./ Courtesy • Winnada



Aurdrey Snow drives by a defender./ Courtesy • Winnada

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## JV girls end year 18-3

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

Coming into the year, the Lowry Jv girls team didn't know what to expect from themselves, with all types of new talent coming together. Any doubt they had coming into the year was quickly erased as the girls worked hard together since the first day of practice as they finished the year with an 18-3 record.

They all had goals to work hard every single day so they could all become better individual players, and then combine their skills on the court to work well as a team. Their record can prove that they accomplished those goals with ease.

"We all became better players, we had an awesome coach who got us there, and we all fed off each other and worked together," said sophomore Hayley Hall,

who was also a starter on the team.

The Bucks brushed through their season, conquering all obstacles that came their way, and having fun while doing it.

Despite the success of their season, the Bucks couldn't get past the Elko Indians in the last game of the year, as they ended a great year on a sour note.

Even though the season didn't end the way they wanted it to, the Bucks still had fun and all became a close knit group.

"We all got along, and we spent a lot of time together, it's going to be depressing next week realizing I don't get to see my girls everyday," said Hall.



Emily Brown gets a rebound over two defenders./Courtesy • Winnada



Hailey Hall goes for a shot./Courtesy • Winnada



## Freshman finish with win over Elko

By KAITY SAMPLE

The freshman boys basketball team had their last two games of the season on the 14 and 15.

On Valentine's day the boys traveled to Spring Creek beating the spark out of the Spartans. It was a close game the first three quarters, but Lowry pulled away in the fourth.

Freshman guard, Travis Hardy said, "It was a good game to get us ready to play Elko the next day. We knew what we had to fix and we did just that."

At home on the 15, the boys played a thriller against Elko only winning by four points.

They ended the season with a 15-14 league season. They improved from their first.

"Our season was like a roller coaster. We had our ups and downs but worked through it. We worked hard everyday at practice. It wasn't quite the season we were expecting the team managed to push through it. I hope to see some returning players on next

years JV and Varsity team," said Coach Grant Beatty.

The team improved dramatically from their first practice and ended their season with a positive note.



Darrin Nelson looks for a teammate./Kaity Sample • The Brand



Jacob Hernandez fights for a rebound./Kaity Sample • The Brand



## NFL Combine, AKA the Johnny Manziel Show

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

As the NFL draft slowly approaches, the most important event for any athlete looking to fulfill their NFL dreams is the combine, where every athlete planning to be drafted goes through various drills to impress NFL scouts. The big names in this year's class to watch for are Johnny Manziel, Jadeveon Clowney, Teddy Bridgewater, Derek Carr, Joel

Bitonio and Sammy Watkins.

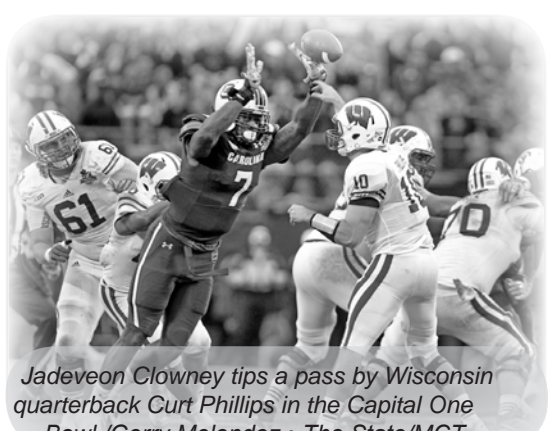
Johnny Manziel, the polarizing quarterback from Texas A&M, is set to take the NFL by storm as he had two of the most successful seasons in NCAA history. The quarterback is a threat in the pocket, and outside of the pocket with his insane scrambling abilities. Due to these abilities, Manziel is set to be drafted by the Houston Texans as the number one overall pick.

Jadeveon Clowney, a defensive end from South Carolina, has been a nightmare for SEC quarterbacks over the past two years, as he's been projected as the best NFL talent since his senior year in high school. Standing at 6'6" and weighing 250 lbs, Clowney is set

to take over the NFL and have an immediate impact on the team that drafts him. However, due to the Texans need to select a quarterback, it's highly unlikely that he will be selected as the number one overall pick. Despite his sometime lackadaisical play on the field this year, you can still expect him to be drafted in the top five.

Teddy Bridgewater, the quarterback from Louisville, also has the potential to be a stellar quarterback and have a successful NFL career. Bridgewater took the lowly Louisville Cardinals and turned them into a team to be reckoned with. Bridgewater is predicted to have a better career than Manziel, but due to the fact that he never had to face as stiff of competition as Manziel, making some scouts hesitant about how good Bridgewater actually is, making Manziel the better prospect.

Derek Carr is a somewhat local prospect as he went to Fresno State, and put up incredible numbers. Carr threw for over 5,000 yards and 50 touchdowns in his senior year. Carr is projected as a for sure first round pick due to his incredible arm strength and the accuracy of his throws. Carr made a great impres-



Jadeveon Clowney tips a pass by Wisconsin quarterback Curt Phillips in the Capital One Bowl./Gerry Melendez • The State/MCT

sion on NFL scouts at the Senior Bowl, as according to ESPN he played the best out of anybody that went.

Joel Bitonio from UNR is the highest projected draft pick from this year's UNR team. Bitonio is a 6'4" 307 pound offensive lineman who had a great career playing for the Wolf Pack, According to ESPN; you can expect to see Bitonio drafted in the second or third round of the draft.

Sammy Watkins, a receiver out of Clemson, is said to be the best prospect from the receiver position in this year's draft. Watkins has an NFL body, standing at 6'1" and weighing 205 lbs, Watkins is a threat to score a touchdown every time he touches the ball. Whether he has to outrun people or simply break through tackles, Watkins is a force to be reckoned with, which makes him a top ten pick.

The best part of the NFL draft is that nothing is set in stone. Look at Aaron Rodgers, he was expected to be a top five pick and ended up being drafted in the late twenties, and look at the career he's had. Even Super Bowl champion quarterback Russell Wilson, who was drafted in the third round. Stay tuned to see where these top prospects are drafted.



Johnny Manziel stiff-arms Jeremy Cash as he scores./Chuck Liddy • Raleigh News & Observer/MCT



Louisville QB Teddy Bridgewater celebrates defeating Miami./Joshua C. Cruey • Orlando Sentinel/MCT

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# What's In a Nickname?

By *TANNER LECUMBERRY*

A nickname is not easy to come by these days, and with all these celebrity labels it's hard to appreciate a well-drafted nickname. You may be asking yourself, what makes a good nickname? How can I create my own? Never fear, fellow students, I'm here to aid you in your pursuit of the best nickname.



Blake Duncan./Courtesy • Winnada

First, let's clarify what a real nickname is. A-Rod is not a nickname. That would be just like saying

Chris is a nickname for Christopher, it's only an abbreviation. That goes for last names as well. If people call you by your last name, that just means your last name is more convenient and/or cooler than your first. Also, for those that have seen the infamous substitute teacher skit on "Key & Peele" I think it's about time to lay A-A-Ron to rest. I know Aaron Nelson is over it at least.

The best nicknames aren't intentionally given. Don't ask your friends to give you a nickname, it just won't work. The best nicknames in these halls, Blake "Corndog" Duncan, Jaecee "Juice" Munger, and Tytin "House" Johnson, weren't simply thought up,

they just stuck. Blake Duncan refused to give up the ambiguous nature of the origin of "Corndog", but Tytin Johnson's "House" was given by Mr. Corak. Jaecee has been called "Juice" for as long as she can remember, because of her young love for juice. That's the point though, that none of these people asked for a nickname, or actively searched for one. If you've ever sat down and taken time to brainstorm a nickname for yourself, stop. You're wrong.

Most people haven't been blessed with a nickname so early in life. Don't stress, most get their life-long nicknames in college. At that point, though, you'll probably be ashamed of your

wild college life and hope no one ever says your nickname in public. Just remember, you asked for it.

For those out there with great nicknames, kudos to you. For those without, however, there is still hope. Nicknames are like a good woman, hard to come by, but worth the wait, and if you can brave the storm of a mediocre name for long enough, you will more than likely stumble across something great.



Jaecee Munger./Courtesy • Winnada



## Tanner Talks

By *TANNER LECUMBERRY AND TANNER AMES*

\* If you've read this before, you would know this, but if not... For the purpose of differentia, Tanner Ames will be known as Derek.

Derek: Wow, February is already here. Where has the time gone?

Tanner: You're telling me. I can't wait to graduate!

Derek: February has a lot of holidays, Valentine's Day, Groundhog day, how do you like these holidays?

Tanner: I think they're all pretty superficial. No one cares about a groundhog; it's just a way to keep up public morale.

Derek: Since Valentine's Day has passed, I might as well ask, how was yours?

Tanner: It was great! There's nothing better than scoffing at love with a whole bag of Ghirardelli chocolates.

Derek: Let's talk about groundhogs; do you have anything on them?

Tanner: Honestly, I'm not sure what those even are.

Derek: There are many crazy facts about animals. Did you know that lobsters are biologically immortal? Besides humans killing them, they never age.

Tanner: I always thought it would be awesome to be a blue lobster. You're super rare, so no one wants to eat you, and you're kind of like a white buffalo.

Derek: Speaking of lobsters, they are delectable, and I need to eat some soon, because now I am craving them.

Tanner: I'm really not a big seafood guy.

Derek: Alright, now I think I'm going to have to go get some lobster or crab, so unless you have something else to say, I think we're done here.

Tanner: I don't have much, except that mermaids are real, and they probably use dolphins like we use horses. It all makes perfect sense.

Derek: Umm...

Tanner: Right, goodbye everyone!

## Lowry Then and Now



The 2013 Dance Team./Courtesy • Winnada



The 1988 Drill Team./Courtesy • Winnada

Top Row: Cindy Routh, Kari Hale, Michele Shaffer, Carey Avery, Sarah Reno, Tami Crawford, Hallie Crenshaw, and Christen Wolicki. Bottom Row: Jamie Clark, Sherry Shaw, Cindy Burson, Veronica Carlson, Jody Oliver, Carleen Howard, Deida Dayton, Kathi Abrego, and Bobbi Anderson.







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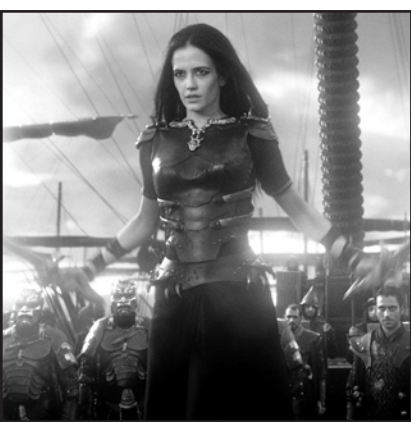


## Movies to look out For in 2014

By KAREN ESPARZA

The New Year is always accompanied by an entirely new montage of films that you can spend a small fortune to go see. With genres ranging from Sci-fi to historical, all these films are predicted to make a significant splash in 2014. Please note that all dates mentioned in this article do not apply to the local movie theater, you will probably have to wait three to four weeks until your desired film arrives in town for your viewing pleasure.

1) Muscles flex (in slow motion) in the sequel to the 2007 film "300". "300: Rise of an Empire" is scheduled to be released March 7 of this year. The movie will follow the brave Spartan warriors into another fierce battle, but this time instead of seeing half-naked men fight on land, we get to see them fight by sea. It's the perfect date movie, blood and gore



Eva Green as Artemisia./Courtesy • 300themovie.com

for all the gentlemen and plenty of eye candy for all the ladies out there.

2) "X-men: Days of Future Past", will premiere May 23 and includes the original trilogy cast, plus the 2011 "First Class" cast. With a time-bending plot that sends Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) back to past in order to stop events that will lead to a catastrophic future, this could be the best X-men movie yet.

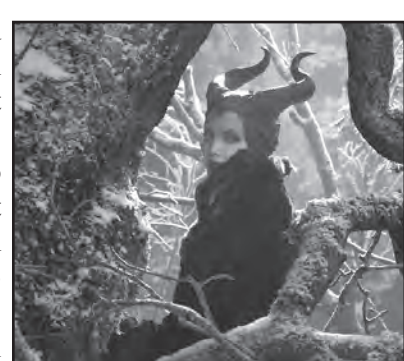
3) We will have a chance to witness a darker side of Disney with Angelina Jolie as the self-proclaimed "Mistress of All Evil", starting May 30. The untold story of Disney's most iconic villain from Sleeping Beauty, "Maleficent" will give the evil enchantress the opportunity to tell her side of the fairytale. Though I'm not entirely



Henry McCoy shows Magneto what it means to be a Beast./Courtesy • facebook.com/xmenmovies

sure it's little kid friendly, this film is definitely not classic Disney.

4) Sure to be a Young Adult hit, "The Fault in Our Stars" premieres June 6. Based on John Green's best-selling novel, the film will follow



Angelina Jolie as Maleficent./Courtesy • facebook.com/DisneyMaleficent

the story of Hazel Grace, a 16 year-old terminal cancer patient who falls in love with the charming Augustus Waters at a support group. Make sure to bring a box of tissues to this one folks because you would have to be heartless animal to not shed a tear.

There are many other pictures not mentioned in this article, but these are the movies I'm excited most about seeing in the next couple months. Surely 2014 will be jammed packed with blockbusters and box offices flops, so keep an eye and do your research before you spend all your hard earned money on a lame movie.



## Heard in the Halls

By DANI RICKER

"We should have a cosmic party! The Universe could dance for us."

Welcome, ladies and gents, to the halls of Lowry High School, where imaginations run wild. Where the things you hear are so random and so confusing, they just have to be shared with all.

"I'm Tanner than all of you." -Tanner Lecumberry. So punny.

As much as I dislike that girls wear leggings as pants, some of you have some really cute leggings. And I'm not the only one who notices, "you know the black ones she has with that one dude on them. I want those so bad, they're so cool." This is only funny because it was a guy longing for these black leggings with that one dude on them. Yikes.

Silly boy, leggings are for girls. "He's with her now!? Oh my goodness, my life is over!"

Can you please just not. Like, shhh.

"My mom isn't texting me back, I'm going to punch her in the face."

That escalated quickly. Well, you're in the middle of class anyway, so put the phone away and pay attention.

"This table just ruined my tights! Oh nooooo. Kill me! Is it noticeable? That's so ratchet, I can't even handle it."

I can't even handle you. "Alright. Hey, I'll see you after

class, later. Oh, wait. We're walking the same way. Oh, wait! We have the same class!"

That must have been an awkward moment.



"Cheesecake shouldn't be called cheesecake if it's not made of cheese. Besides, the word cheesecake just sounds incredibly unappetizing."

I couldn't agree more. But cheesecake is delicious, so yeah.

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, today is January 14. That's two weeks into the new year. How are your resolutions going? You're probably still all fat."

"Well, I went to the gym for three whole days."

Atta kid! Hey, that's three more days than me. Own it man, own it.

Yes, I am aware that quote is from a month ago. But the rough draft of this story was due a month ago so get over it.

It's February, so among all this there was also a whole lot of love. But, I'd rather my story make you want to laugh, not throw up. So let's keep it short and simple and say I heard a whole lot of the "L-word" this month.



## Quick fashion tips for Spring

By MAYTE CASTELLANOS

That time of year when the weather is warming up is almost here. What should you be wearing to school during the spring time? If you are asking yourself that, then I have some suggestions for what will be trending during this time of year.

You might ask if jeans are in or out. For spring girls should be wearing dresses and cute skirts.

Try wearing tribal print tights with bright colored shirts. The colors that are in are orange, pink, and green. Tights are also in with long shirts and boots.

The spring time is a time to make your dresses and skirts really stand out.

For boys, a button up is always nice. But since its spring and its warming up, short sleeves should be sported during the season. For bottoms try wearing shorts or khakis.

For shoes, Vans are in as well, try rocking those.

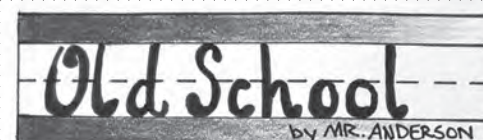
American Eagle shirts are definitely an option for spring because their shirts are bright and have many options of short sleeves. For the girls



A pleated Chiffon dress from TJMaxx.com). Flowing, feminine clothes are back in style./MCT

you can also try wearing jean jackets and loose tank tops under. Scarves can also be in too with a loose shirt under.

Spring time is when you can mix winter and summer clothes together and still make it look good. Try out new things and you can get a trend going around you and everyone will appreciate your style and try it out and you can be a trendsetter.







## Jessie's Journal

By JESSIE SCHIRRICK

Have you ever noticed that boys are automatically 50% funnier than girls? If a girl throws a pie in someone's face it's considered more rude and weird than funny, but if a guy throws a pie in someone's face it's still pretty rude, but more funny than weird.

Important Life-Saving Survival Tip: A poncho is protective clothing and a blanket.

Pastrami smells good, but it is not good to smell like pastrami. There is food that will melt in your mouth; almonds are not that kind of food.

Singing makes the day go by faster. Just sing a song whenever you feel the need. Make songs out of everyday situations. For example one of my per-

sonal favorites is "Walking to school." Even if you don't have a good singing voice just let yourself sing and I'm sure it'll help you feel happier throughout the day.

What do people from other countries envision when hear about America? Like when I hear England I just imagine old black and white photos or when I hear of Mexico I just picture a jubilant party scene.

Where in the world do those crazy techno sounding bleeps they put in pop songs come these days. How can you create a sound that has never been heard before? It seems like it could be the same sound of a zipper being zipped just sped and slowed

down according to whatever sound should be produced.

Katy Perry has never done anything good for anybody. Her fan base is one of the seven great wonders of the world.

I don't know exactly how a microwave works, but I feel like I should, because I use it all the time. I use a lot of things that I don't know how they work. Television, cellphones, computers. I'm sure I'm not the only either. How is it possible that you can use something all the time but have no idea exactly how it works? What if scientists keep building technology on top of other technology and then they forget how the basic technology worked in the first place.



## And the Oscar goes to...

By KAREN ESPARZA

With all the amazing films that graced 2014, the people at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will have a difficult time determining the winners of the 86th Annual Academy Awards. Chris Hemsworth and Cheryl Boone Isaacs announced on Thursday, January 16, which actresses, directors, screen writers, and more will be honored at this year's ceremony. But, before the bevy of stars glide across the red carpet, let's take a crack at predicting this year's winners.

For Best Picture, I am going to give the Oscar to "American Hustle". It's Batman, Katniss, Giselle, and every-



Sandra Bullock and George Clooney are stranded and trying to survive in "Gravity." /Courtesy • Warner Bros. Pictures/MCT

one's favorite guy from "The Hangover"? What more could one ask for? Superb directing, along with a great screenplay, and fantastic performances from the entire cast wrapped into one will no doubt grant "American Hustle" the win this year.

Best Actress has to be America's sweetheart, Sandra Bullock. Probably traumatizing millions of little children from NASA space program, "Gravity" was blockbuster hit. Bullock gave a stellar performance as Dr. Ryan Stone alongside George Clooney, who portrayed veteran astronaut, Matt Kowalski. The two actors took audiences on a ride in this thriller, set in the black emptiness of space.

Best Actor definitely goes to Leon-



Irving Rosenfeld (Christian Bale, from left), Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams) and Richie Dimaso (Bradley Cooper) in "American Hustle." /MCT

ardo DiCaprio, because he deserves it. Did you see "The Wolf of Wall Street" or "The Great Gatsby" for that matter? There is no question that the man is a dang good actor.

The award for Best Supporting Actress is destined for the most down-to-earth performer in Hollywood,

Miss Jennifer Lawrence. Her performance in "American Hustle" as Rosalyn Rosenfeld, the unpredictable wife of Irving Rosenfeld (Christian Bale), will be the source of her second Oscar win after receiving an Academy Award for her performance in "Silver Linings Playbook".

For Best Actor in A Supporting Role, I have to give it to the underdog, Jonah Hill. By portraying Donnie Azoff, the partner of a stockbroker engaged in a far-reaching securities

fraud, Hill has won his second Academy Award nomination.

The winners will be officially announced on Sunday, March 2, 2014. The ceremony hosted by comedian Ellen DeGeneres will be held in at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. This will be DeGeneres' second time hosting the show and the laughs will not be in short supply with her in charge. Make sure to tune in, as the Oscars broadcast live on the ABC starting at 8:30 p.m. EST.



Left to right: Jonah Hill plays Danny and Leonardo DiCaprio plays Jordan Belfort in Martin Scorsese's "The Wolf of Wall Street." /Courtesy • Mary Cybulski/MCT



## Tips For Teachers

By TANNER AMES

For those of you teachers who are new, or maybe just want to try to improve, I took it upon myself to try and help out, with what I think are some pretty good tips.

Tip 1: Always have extra credit assignments available, for those who need, or just want to try to get their grade up a bit. There is nothing worse than getting a 79% or an 89% when there are no more assignments for the rest of the quarter.

Tip 2: Have control over your classroom and have fair rules. There is always room for fun, but when there's work to be done, get it done.

Tip 3: Reward your students who do well. Most kids think there is no reward in school, so a candy bar or a party now and then is always a good thing.

Tip 4: Have homework, but not too much. It's hard for students to get so many assignments done per night, plus that just gives teachers more to do. However, a little bit of homework is good for practice and it can be a good resource to come back to later.

Tip 5: Another topic on homework: Our work shouldn't be revolved around a computer or a smart phone, for those students who don't have these necessities.

Tip 6: Know exactly what you're doing when you

give assignments. If you don't know how to do it, then we most likely won't, so what's the use of that?

Tip 7: Partnership is also a good skill. Let us work in groups if we want. We work well together, and if someone needs help, a group member could help, and get us off your back. Two heads are better than one.

Tip 8: Make sure we can get help before and/or after school. A little help now and then is nice.

Tip 9: If we get done early with a test or assignment and we forget to bring something to do, instead of getting mad at us, why not help us out? Maybe get us a crossword or another assignment.

Tip 10: Be a good teacher, be strict, but be nice. A little fear is a good thing, but don't be mean.

Now that the teachers have some guidelines, here are some tips for students, given from teachers.

Tip 1: Don't back talk to us, we try our hardest to understand your problems and help.

Tip 2: Ask us about things you don't know, it's good if we can help you. Try

not to get a bad grade.

Tip 3: Don't try to text in class, it's incredibly obvious and don't think that we don't see those lights.

Tip 4: We know that you don't necessarily like going to school, but try your hardest. It will only benefit you in the future.

Tip 5: Respect us, and we will respect you.

## Picture of the Issue

By Taylor LaTray

The staff of "The Brand" has put their heads together to decide on a photo of the issue. The photo is one found on a site such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

Winning this issue is Rhys Neary. Rhys has a great eye for photography and his pictures often resemble his love for skating. Rhys is a dedicated skater with immense talent.







## VIEWPOINT OF A NERD

By JOLYN GARCIA AND KAREN ESPARZA

Geek, dork, nerd, dweeb, bookworm; all these words have been used to describe a group of people. A group of people that tend to be a part of fandoms, read more than sleep, and dream of one day attending Comic-Con. Now, we nerds get made fun of because of the way we carry ourselves and the subjects we care about, but honestly we would rather be nerds than just another boring, ordinary person.

Band nerd, choir geek and future Aerospace Engineer, Chris Barta, believes being a geek is something more people should be proud of.

“I don’t think it is a bad thing to be a nerd at all. Everybody is a geek or a nerd in their own way. Some people are just really in to everything. Everybody has it, just use it. Don’t be afraid to show it,” stated Barta.

We don’t judge you for obsessing over what NFL team won the Super Bowl. So, don’t judge nerds when they freak out that Matt Smith is leaving “Doctor Who”. If you can own your favorite player’s jersey, why is it weird for someone to have their own Harry Potter wand? Also, what’s the differ-

ence in playing poker or playing Magic? They’re both card games, the only difference is you don’t lose money in one.

Brainiacs and geeks can excel not only in the classroom, but also in the realm of athletics. While being able to maintain a high grade-point average, some nerds are able to be Varsity athletes. On every sports team you can find members who are referred to by their teammates as “nerds.” There is even one team that is completely dominated by nerds, the Academic Challenge team. The Academic Challenge team has won two State Championships and been runner-up for three years.

One of the reasons we enjoy being nerds is because, as John Green states, “Nerds



Tanner Ames and Aimee Brandon embrace their inner-nerds./Jolyn Garcia • The Brand

are allowed to love stuff, like jump-up-and-down-in-the-chair-can’t-control-yourself love it.”

We get excited when we hear that our new favorite comics will soon be released, count down the days until the new seasons of our favorite shows air and feel superior when we ace the test that everyone else failed.

“My favorite thing about being geeky is that you figure things out and you feel really good about it and it is really impressive,” added Barta.

Author John Green sums up how nerds feel about embracing who they are in a video blog.

“Saying ‘I notice you’re a nerd’ is like saying, ‘Hey, I notice that you’d rather be intelligent than be stupid, that you’d rather be thoughtful than be vapid, that you believe that there are things that matter more than the arrest record of Lindsay Lohan. Why is that?’ In fact, it seems to me that most contemporary insults are pretty lame. Even ‘lame’ is kind of lame. Saying ‘You’re lame’ is like saying ‘You walk with a limp.’ Yeah, whatever so does 50 Cent, and he’s done all right for himself.”



## LOWRY CODE

By DANI RICKER, KAREN ESPARZA, RYLEE MATHIS

Gather ‘round children and get ready for more controversial opinions, ‘cause it’s Lowry Code. First we discuss Valentine’s Day: either you were a single, hot mess or floating on cloud nine with your significant other. Second, it’s the kids that are “too cool for school” and everything else, we talk hipsters. And lastly we give our views on the number one reason for break-ups, our good

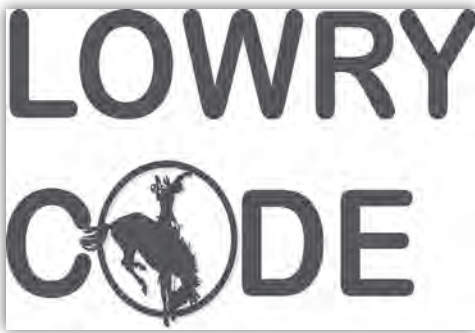
old friends, home wreckers. Topic one: Valentine’s Day

Karen: I’ve got nothing against Valentine’s Day, itself, but the way people behave on that day makes me want to barf. I’m not interested in what your “other half” gave you, so don’t bring that stupid teddy bear to every class. If you are single, embrace it and hang with other single friends. Trust me, it’s not the end of the world to be alone on Valentine’s Day, also it’s a pretty good excuse to eat obscene amounts of chocolate.

Dani: I hate Valentine’s Day. It’s a stupid, pointless holiday made up by card and chocolate companies. I don’t care how much you love your boyfriend. If you really did love him you wouldn’t wait until February to show it. There’s another 364 days in a year to prove your ‘love’. So stop.

Rylee: Valentine’s Day can either be really exciting, or really depressing depending on your relationship status. If you’ve got a significant other this year, flaunt it. If the single ladies can’t handle the V-Day blues with unreasonable amounts of chocolate and a solo movie night, they deserve to be

sad. Topic two: Hipsters Karen: Hipsters are a paradox, they undo themselves. A hipster is a person who hates and rejects anything mainstream, but being a hipster is mainstream, so they unravel their own existence. A “true” hipster denies that he’s a hipster because he believes he can’t be categorized because he’s just that complex, but it’s simple, he is a hipster. For any further clarification on what a hipster is, please address all your questions towards Brycen Prokasky, the epitome of a hipster.



Dani: Rylee and Karen have two different definitions of the word “hipster”. Every time they bring up this topic I get really angry and want to say mean things. I think I’ll just sit this round out.

Rylee: The definition of “hipster” (according to Google) is a person who fol-

lows the latest fashion trends. Think about that next time you put on those fake eye glasses and that multi-colored clip-on fox tail to go to the Verizon store to buy your 14th iPhone. You’re welcome.

Topic three: Home wreckers

Karen: Stop, just stop. Why do you want to steal other people’s boyfriends/girlfriends, it’s such bad karma, and we are all aware of what kind of person karma is. Respect other people’s relationships because it’s a courtesy you would want extended to you. Also, if a person cheats on their girlfriend/boyfriend with you, then you know they won’t have any second thoughts about cheating on you.

Dani: Is there even such thing as a ‘Home wrecker’ in high school?

Rylee: Ah, home wreckers. The bane of insecure women’s love lives. Seriously though, we’re in high school and chances are when that grungy guy you think you’re in love with cheats on you or is “stolen” from you, it’s really not going to matter in the long run.

## LOWRY VOICES

By WESTON IRONS



“I hate spring, because it is not summer.”  
Brittany ParTEE, Sophomore



“I hate it, it’s too wet.”  
Marcos Duran-Salcedo, Sophomore



“I like the spring-time food, because more food grows.”  
Camryn Maher, Sophomore



“Spring’s dope, because baseball’s back.”  
Kyle Schultz, Sophomore



“I’m excited for spring because of track season, and I love to run.”  
Haley Weber, Junior







## Don't overlook some of best people you will ever meet

BY RYLEE MATHIS

There are some wonderful personalities being overlooked at Lowry because they aren't in a sport or a club. Sure, the jocks, the cheerleaders, and the otherwise "popular" kids are pretty cool, but not as cool as the kids who play Magic in the cafeteria every morning or the ones who are incredibly smart and artistic.

The following people have the kind of perseverant attitudes, positive personalities, and unending kindness that will last their whole lives. These kids have every

quality anyone looks for in a friend, so basically, if you don't know these people; you're missing out.

First up is an incredibly special kind of person; Armando Vaca. If you know Armando you know that he's probably the nicest person you'll ever meet. You also know that he never has to try to be nice, it just comes naturally. Not only is he kind, but he's also funny, phenomenally artistic, and incredibly smart. Armando is in Advanced Art, he has a part-time job, and wide array of hobbies. He is skilled in the art of video games (mostly first-person shooters) and clever retorts.

The next unknown, but incredibly awesome, person is John Slaton. He is also one of the nicest people at this

school. He has a quirky sense of humor which can make for some very interesting conversations. Like Armando, John is also funny and smart. He's a quality guy who respects every person around him. He's very laid back but he knows when to get serious. He loves writing poetry and reading.

Last but not least is Cheyenne Gamble. If you're friends with Cheyenne, you know you've hit the bestie jackpot. This girl is nice to everyone; I don't think she has a mean bone in her body. She enjoys reading, mostly teen dramas like "The Mortal Instruments", her favorite show is MTV's "Awkward." and she loves to make others laugh. Cheyenne is kind of shy, but makes up for that when you finally

get to know her.

These are just three of the amazing people at Lowry who go unnoticed because they're not in a club or a sport. In the issues to come there will be recognition of more of these wonderful people. In the meantime, if you see these students feel free to congratulate them on simply being awesome.

If you happen to have suggestions for a candidate for the next issue, find me.



Armando Vaca./ Courtesy • Winnada

## Winterfest Continued from Page 2



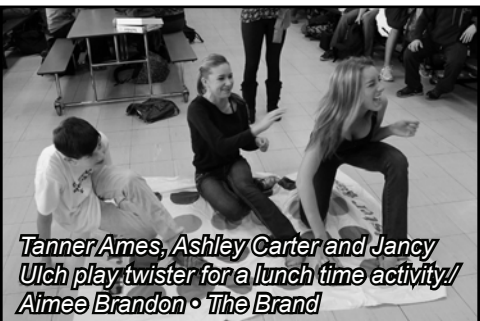
Ms. Julia Topholm (R) speed paints./ Jessie Schirrick • The Brand



Someone seems to have figured out Checkers day./ Karen Esparza • The Brand



Carly Bell and Wyatt Lester before the big announcement./ Dani Ricker • The Brand



Tanner Ames, Ashley Carter and Jancy Ulch play twister for a lunch time activity./ Aimee Brandon • The Brand

At lunch on Thursday the lunch time activity was held in the gym. The activity was to get across the gym and back with your hands and feet tied up. The first person to the finish line was the winner. The sophomores came in first, then the seniors, then the freshman, and juniors took last.

Thursday night's date auction hosted by National Honor Society was a huge success. There was a variety of juniors and seniors being auctioned off with many of their peers willing to bid on them to win a date. The highest bid was \$70 made by Jacob Welty, who purchased a dinner for two at The Martin with Jordyn Ward. Welty almost lost to Ian Maher, who had starting bidding early, but gave up when

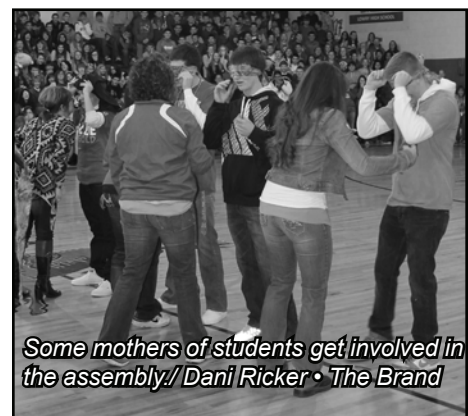
the price went out of his budget. The second prize of frozen yogurt gift cards from Mountain Berry went to Lexie Coleman who also paid \$70 for a date. All other volunteers and winning bidders won bowling passes to enjoy a fun filled date at Spare Time Bowl. Many members and the Honor Society advisors were surprised by the turnout and by how much people were bidding to buy a date. Students and others in attendance enjoyed an entertaining night that included great prizes.

Friday's assembly filled the old gym with not only plenty of blue and gold but plenty of school spirit. Seniors Wyatt Lester and Carly Bell were crowned Winterfest royalty. Seniors Erik Francis, Nate Eldodt, Aaron Nelson, and

Freshman Nate Chapman were found face-to-face with their mothers, after blindfolded looking at girls they wouldn't mind being face-to-face to. The Jones, Naveran, Stepper, and Logan siblings tried to race to be the first to finish their game, all while not breaking their water balloon on themselves. Unfortunately for sophomore Payton Naveran the balloon broke all over her forcing her to go to first period all wet. The varsity teams were introduced and all of the student body was encouraged to pack the gym for the Spring Creek/Elko games. The cheerleaders pumped up the crowd along with Chad Peters, who announced the teams' upcoming Winterfest games. All the students enjoyed this activity that boosted up their

spirit and prepared them for the games.

After both Varsity boys and girls teams won their games, the next thing up was the winterfest dance, where senior Ivan Castellanos got the honor to be DJ. Ivan, also known as DJ OSO put on quite the show for all students.



Some mothers of students get involved in the assembly./ Dani Ricker • The Brand



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Round Up : Couples

By Taylor LaTray

**Maddy McBride and Katlyn Barnes**

*Who's the boss in this relationship?*  
Maddy: Katlyn.  
Katlyn: Me haha.

*How did you guys meet?*  
Maddy: Through P.E. and our friends.  
Katlyn: I tripped in P.E. and he caught me.

*Do you plan on getting married?*  
Maddy: I'm not sure, I hope so.  
Katlyn: I'm not sure, maybe.

*What annoys you most about your partner?*  
Maddy: Her laugh and her smile.  
Katlyn: He's a smart aleck, and it makes me laugh.

*Do you share any common interests?*  
Maddy: We both like to adventure.  
Katlyn: We both want to travel many places.

*What's your favorite characteristic about each other?*  
Maddy: Her laugh and her smile.  
Katlyn: He's a smart aleck, and it makes me laugh.



**Sergio Castenada and Cindy Bravo**

*Do you plan on getting married?*  
Sergio: Yes, tomorrow.  
Cindy: After college, but I would marry him this weekend if I could.

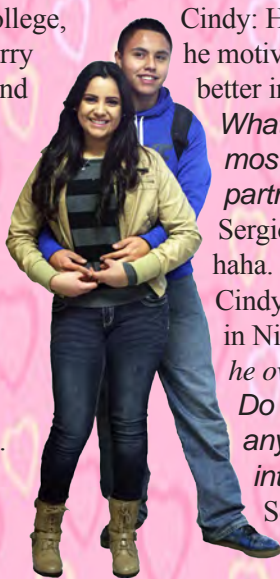
*Has your partner ever done you wrong?*  
Sergio: No she hasn't.  
Cindy: Yes, he ate all my sour gummy worms.

*How did you guys meet?*  
Sergio: With our eyes.  
Cindy: New York, he was waiting for his sister outside Victoria's Secret.

*What's your favorite characteristic about each other?*  
Sergio: I love her eyes.  
Cindy: He's very smart, he motivates me to do better in school.

*What annoys you most about your partner?*  
Sergio: She's bossy, haha.  
Cindy: His interest in Nike, everything he owns is Nike.

*Do you share any common interests?*  
Sergio: Soccer and sour worms (The red and blue ones).  
Cindy: We enjoy playing soccer and we love our sour gummy worms.



**Matt Ourada and Makayla Lopez**

*Who's the boss in this relationship?*  
Makayla: Me.  
Matt: Definitely Kim (Makayla's pet name).

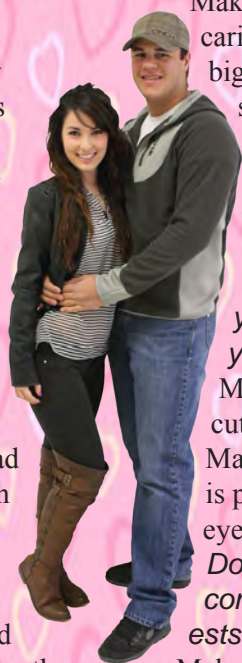
*Has your partner ever done you wrong?*  
Matt: No, she is a true sweetheart.

*How did you guys meet?*  
Makayla: We had our eyes on each other forever.  
Matt: We didn't really meet we just had our eyes on each other for a long time.

*What's your favorite characteristic about each other?*  
Makayla: He is very caring, oh and the biggest hottie in the school.  
Matt: Her 1000 watt smile and those beautiful brown eyes.

*What annoys you most about your partner?*  
Makayla: He's too cute.  
Matt: Nothing, she is perfect in my eyes.

*Do you share any common interests?*  
Makayla: Yeah, each other.  
Matt: Many, like we both quote "Mean Girls".



Higbee beats all odds at Bingo

By Taylor LaTray

Leadership prepared a great set up Tuesday, February 11 thanks to the support of several businesses in Winnemucca. Various businesses donated items varying from bowling passes, to hair care products, to even \$200. Announcing Bingo night was both Makayla Lopez and Carly Bell. Bell proved herself a great announcer both running bingo night as well as entertaining the crowd.

Ere Higbee seemed to have a lucky card winning three of the most popular prizes. One prize, based around hair care, included: a straightener, a hair cut, hair care products and several other random items. She also left with a new camping kit included with a George Strait set, several bowling passes, ice cream passes etc. Overall, Higbee left with over two-hundred dollars in food tickets and even more bowling passes.



Abbey Delamora almost wins./Taylor LaTray• The Brand



Seniors pose at Bingo./Staff • The Brand  
nights most wanted prizes tends to be the free prom tickets. Last year, freshman Madison Mayo won these tickets. However, this year she was unable to do so and Junior Darrell Carden and his prom date got lucky with a free ride right into the annual event.

The final black-out prize was very simple and also popular. To win this prize each card was a dollar with students and others hoping to cover their whole card. With multiple students having only one space left on the card every one was jittery waiting for their space to be called. The winner, was none other than The Brand's very own Karen Esparza putting us all to shame as always.

Silly Love Songs

By The Brand Staff

To Shaelynn Hammagren, From Kaydie Tervort: "Madness" by Muse  
To Everybody, From Kinzi Millholland: "Don't You Forget About Me"  
To Jake From State Farm, From Ale Cruz: "State Farm Jingle"



Wade Rose./Courtesy•Winnada

To Colton Lacy, From Wade Rose: "It's Rainin' Men"  
To Katlin Brown, From Ryan Godinez: "Main Chick"  
To Alma Rosas, From Diana Gomez: "Perfect Two"

To Calvin Connors, From Sydney Connors: "This Girl is on Fire"

To Carissa Lininger, From Tytin Johnson: "Barbie Girl"

To Alec Mayo, From Brandon Okuma: "We are the World"

To Rylee Mathis, From Lizzie Sims: "White Walls" by Macklemore  
To Heidi Sanchez, From Alex Tomey: "Forever and Always"



Heidi Sanchez./Courtesy•Winnada

To Jesse Diaz, From Victor Diaz: "God Gave Me You"

To Tanner and Justin, From Karen: "Mean" by Taylor Swift

To Kim Kardashian, From Clay Erquiaga: "Misty Mountains"

To Justin Albright, From Savannah Montero: "Bleeding Love"

To Taylor Jimenez, From Vickey Mendoza: "Do What You Want"

To Chloe Yates, From Jeremiah Teichert: "Tim McGraw"

To Mikey Prejean, From Shantell Pearrow: "Vanilla Sky"

To Kennedy Maga, From Shelby McKinnon: "Bubble Dome"

To Nate Chapman, From Chloe Yates: "Let Me Love You"

To Mrs. Cristina Aguinaga Veloz-Espinola, From Mr. Ron Espinola: "Can't Help Falling in Love"

To Annaleise Gabica, From Kyle Tarr: "Mr. Brightside"

To Michael Venzor, From Jacy Urian: "Bonfire Heart"

To Beau Billingsley, From Calvin Connors: "Somewhere With You"

To Leticia Gomez, From Jessie Thomas: "The one that got Away"

To Varsity Girls Basketball, From Jones and Shelby: "Don't go Chasing Waterfalls"

To Clayton Schumacher, From Emalee Brown: "Give in to Me"

To Kyle Tarr, From Annaleise Gabica: "Love is Foolish"

To Kimberly K., From Devan LaTray: "Don't you Forget About Me"

To Emma Kracaw, From Brycen Prokasky: "Uptown Girl"

To Beau Billingsley, From Aaron Carter: "I Want Candy"

To Paige and all of my friends, From Tanner Ames: "Best Friend"

To Justin Albright, From Tanner Lecumberry: "My Heart Will go On"

To Dylan Hollister and friends, From Odessa Pearrow: "1,2,3,4"



Michael Prejean./Courtesy•Winnada



Dylan Hollister./Courtesy•Winnada

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