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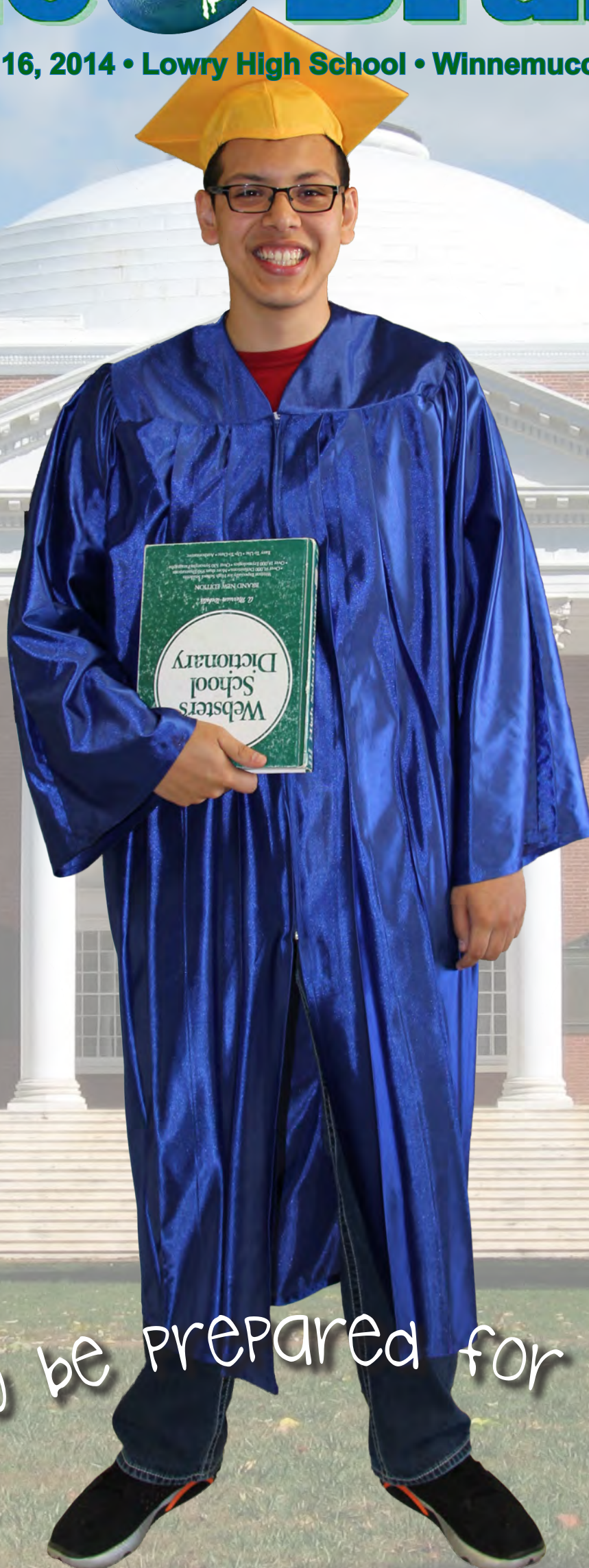
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The Downfall of Public Education

By JESSIE SCHIRRIK & DAIN MAHER

How many of us could answer the following question: “Through which waters would a vessel pass in going from England through the Suez Canal to Manila?” Honestly, not very many of us. We would first have to know where England is located and what bodies of water it sits on. Then, we would have to know which two seas the Suez Canal borders: the Mediterranean and Red seas. After figuring that out, we would have to know which ocean the Red Sea empties into. To top it all off, we would have to know where Manila is located and which ocean is home to the Philippines. The correct answer to the question is Atlantic, Mediterranean, Red, Indian, and Pacific.

What has happened to our students? Has America lost its gusto? It appears the world is slowly and steadily surpassing America, as other countries make educational rigor their greatest priority, while America continues to nurse a broken educational system that offers no return on investment.

According to CBS News, the United States is ninth among industrial nations in terms of education. Some of the top performers include Finland, Korea, the Netherlands, Japan, Canada and Belgium. Maybe America should take a lesson from its neighbors because they obviously have some educational strategies that we need.



Alex Schirrick attends UNR/Courtesy Winnada

In an interview with CBS News, Barry McGraw, director of education for the Paris-based Organization for Cooperation and Development said, “Given what the United States spends on education, its relatively low student achievement through high school shows

its school system is clearly inefficient.”

For centuries, America has provided aid to struggling countries across the globe. It’s time for the world’s most powerful nation to now acknowledge that it is in need of aid—or rather tutoring—on how to fix a broken system.

We interviewed graduates from Lowry and other high schools who are now college students. They were asked about their high school experience and the education they received. Alex Schirrick, a freshman at the University of Nevada Reno, graduated with a 3.8 cumulative GPA at LHS and currently has a 3.6 GPA at UNR.

“It was a really tough transition from Lowry to UNR,” she said, “considering that during my senior year I only had one class I did homework for (Anatomy) and all my other classes weren’t very challenging.”

Schirrick continued, “The standards at Lowry seem to be a bit bendy. Instead of growing intellectually, I was plateaued; I didn’t really gain anything.”

Schirrick noted that in her courses at UNR, she has to stay on top of the deadlines included in her syllabus because her professors don’t remind her when she has assignments due.

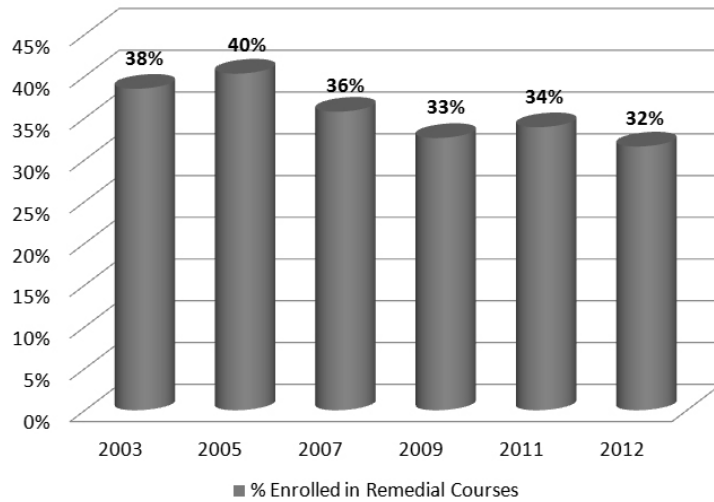
“They don’t suggest when you should start your projects,” she said. “They give you a deadline and tell you what point you should be at in your project. You have to learn how to manage your time.”

Schirrick added, “I spend much more time on homework in college than in high school.”

Another UNR student attended a private Catholic prep school in California where 100 percent of the graduating class was college-bound. Freshman Siera Flemmer graduated from Presentation High School in San Jose, California with a 2.9 cumulative GPA; she

Remediation Rates by Millennium Status

Source: Summer and Fall 2012
Remedial &
Developmental Report
Office of Academic & Student Affairs



currently has a 3.5 GPA at UNR.

“My work load in high school was a lot bigger than in college,” said Flemmer. “I felt like I had a lot less time in high school and I was always cramming with a bunch more homework; it’s way easier for me to balance out my time in college.”

In fact, Flemmer said she feels her high school actually over-prepared her for college. “I always feel very confident when it comes to giving presentations and doing papers,” she said. “I have good study habits and I know to study in advance for tests.”

She continued, “In high school there was a lot more homework, projects, and tests. In college, my assignments are less time consuming and I always feel like I have more than enough time to do my projects and papers. I spent four to six hours a day on homework in high school; at UNR it can be anywhere from two

SEE SCHOOL PAGE 19



OPERATION EASTER TO HOLD HUNT APRIL 19

By JOLYN GARCIA

Kathi Wolfsteller can remember a time when Winnemucca held an annual Easter egg hunt for families and children, free of charge. Two years ago Wolfsteller met with Mayor DiAnn Putnam to discuss why the event disappeared and what exactly is involved in this event. With the permission of the Mayor, and support from various people and businesses in the community, Kathi Wolfsteller has rekindled the tradition of this great event.

“I stepped up and decided to do it on my own. I am not with any group. It is just myself, my family and my friends,” stated Wolfsteller.

The eggs used in this Easter egg hunt are not the average hard-boiled and painted eggs. The eggs that children will collect at the event are plas-

tic and contain candy, toys, and even tickets for large prizes. Last year’s big prizes included: children’s haircuts, stuffed animals, Easter baskets, money and various gift cards for local businesses.

For weeks now, many community members, friends and family of Kathi, and high school students have donated their time to fill the plastic eggs with candy and prizes for the event. Last year, there were about 10,000 eggs scattered on the fields and this year Wolfsteller hopes to have at least 20,000. This year, in addition to the scattered eggs, children will be able to pick up toys and stuffed animals from the field.

Every prize that children will receive has been donated from a local source. All of the necessary funding, eggs, candy, and prizes were donated, which makes this event a 100% community supported event.

“Everything has been donated. Nothing has been out of anybody’s ‘personal pocket.’ Businesses have donated, mines have donated, and families have, so everything that we put in the eggs or at the event has been donated by some community member somehow.” Wolfsteller continued, “That’s what I’m proud of, is that

everybody is getting behind it and actually donating to it.”

Once again, there will be a special guest, The Easter Bunny, at the Easter egg hunt. Last year the Easter Bunny had a grand entrance complete with sirens and lights provided by the Humboldt General Hospital EMS personnel. The EMS crew that went to the event also handed out chapstick and coloring books to children.

Children will be able to spend time with this holiday celebrity and will have the opportunity to have their photographs taken with the Easter Bunny. The event is open to any and all newborns to 11 year old children. There are four different fields where different age groups will hunt with other children their age.

The Easter egg hunt will be held on Saturday, April 19 at the Winnemucca Sports Complex. All parents and children participating in the event should be at the complex by 11 a.m. The event is free of charge, but children will need to bring a basket in order to carry the eggs they’ve collected.



Group of caring individuals who helped out the great cause.// Jolyn Garcia The Brand

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COMMUNITY—BOYS GIRLS CLUB

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

Winnemucca has the reputation of always being a town that has nothing exciting, or just an all around boring town. That may change soon as a Boys & Girls Club and a Recreation center are coming to town, and with it, are multiple athletic facilities.

Ray Parks, a Chairman of the Winnemucca Community Approval Group and the Athletic Director of Lowry High School, is part of this project along with 12 other board members. The members include: Ray Parks, Terry Boyle, Mike Montero, Massey Mayo, Vince Mendiola, Chad Peters, Mayor Di-Ann Willis, Mike Bell, Dr. Dave Jensen, Dr. Leonard Perkinson, Jerod Eastman, Austin Mayo, and DeAnna Eastman.

The construction of these two facilities are all depending on the funding, as it still needs to be approved by three separate groups before they can start building.

“We’re trying to get support from the city of Winnemucca, Humboldt County, so things like the county commissioners and then the Winnemucca Convention Visitors Authority, so those three entities will come together and help fund it. When they come together and help fund it then we go out, the Winnemucca Community Approval Group, and we ask for money from the mining foundations and different foundations,” said Ray Parks.

The ultimate goal of the Boys & Girls Club nationwide is “to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.”

Having a Boys & Girls Club would surely help out the community, and provide the youth of Humboldt County a place to enhance not only their physical skills, but also their mental skills

The facilities that are included with this Boys & Girls Club are four basketball courts, an indoor track facility, a regulation size swimming pool, soccer fields, and a state of the art weight room.

“After we did a community wide assessment, we sent out surveys and stuff to see what everyone wanted and now we have a focus and on the first stage of this we would have a recreation center which would have a huge weight room, gyms, cafeterias, locker rooms an tied to it would be the Boys & Girls Club,” said Parks.

The benefits that will come from these two facilities are plentiful for not only Winnemucca, but for all

could go and use it,” Parks said.

The Boys & Girls Club would have such a tremendous impact on the youth of Humboldt County. The Boys & Girls club would provide a friendly environment for the children, and give them extra opportunities to expand their education.

“The Boys & Girls Club benefits would be tremendous. In Elko County the kids that go through the Boys and Girls Club started them in Elementary School, 93% of them that went through the boys and girls club in Elko County when on and graduated from high school. That’s a huge one there,” said Parks.

The Boys and Girls Club would be available for all ages, kindergarten through high school, and every kid would have an opportunity to succeed.

“The Boys and Girls Club it’s intended so they get out of school and so from the time they get out of school until about 6 o’ clock at night, they would go the Boys and Girls Club, and it has a million different things and activities. There would be art classes, computer classes, and as you get older there would be test prep classes, so as you go through high school they would ACT prep, SAT prep. It’s a whole bunch of different programs where they cater to needs.

If you have a Title 1 school, like the Grammar School, they would provide lunches and dinners to kids. And generally for \$15-20 a year, the kid is tied in to that,” Parks said.

The support for these projects has been tremendous throughout the community, and we can all expect the construction to be started in the next couple years.

“There was tremendous support from the community when we did the surveys. By far the number one thing the community wanted was the boys and girls club and then the second one was the Recreation center. The main obstacle like everything else would be funding,” said Parks.



Plans for the rec center/ Justin Albright • The Brand

of the other towns in Humboldt County, as well as the miners. The mines would promote the Recreation Center to their employees, and they would be able to use it whenever they please.

“The Recreation center theoretically, we would move every little league sport through this rec center. So Pop Warner football, AYSO, baseball would all be run through the rec center. We would have one foundation that runs everything instead of how we do it now where each individual has a board. It would also be membership so you could go down there, like 24 hour fitness, and you could use it. And the mines have talked about promoting it to where there employees

FFA competes at state

By STAFF

Lowry FFA recently had 40 members compete at state. Many earned top honors. Those winning their competitions will travel to Louisville for Nationals in the fall.

The Livestock Judging team (Shauna Smith, Makenzie Gordon, Brittany Partee, and Hayley Hall) took first place. Smith also placed as 1st high individual overall.

Ag Marketing 2nd Place- Patrice Stewart, Katelyn Rose and Shaelyn Forney

Environmental Natural Resources 2nd Place- Cristal Venzor, Brittany Partee, Michael Venzor and Kylie Lewis

ENR High Individuals- 4th Brittany Partee, 5th Cristal Venzor, 6th Kylie Lewis

Meats Evaluation 3rd- Blake Duncan, Trase Bell, Cristal Venzor, Hayley Hall
Prepared Speaking 3rd- Bridgette Gilboy

Vet Science Proficiency Silver- Cristal Venzor

Beef Production Proficiency Silver- Sarah Smith

Swine Production Proficiency Bronze- Ashley Bresse

Ag Sales 6th- Abby DeLamora, Megan Villareal,



Shauna Smith/ Courtesy Winnada

Chance Crutcher, Cody Lewis

Vet Med 6th- Ashley Bresse, Kylie Lewis, Peyton Bryant, Kassidy Kirby, Chance Crutcher

Ag Mech 8th- Shaun Mentaberry, Jessica Toland, Sarah Smith, Nate Nelson

Floriculture 7th- McKenzie Michaels, Hannah Lynch, Ashley Bresse, Bridgette Gilboy

Horse Judging 9th- Patrice Stewart,

Katelyn Rose, Makenzie Gordon, Maclyn Crkovich

Milk Quality 11th- Shaelyn Forney, Carolyn Hatler, Kalie Morgan, Mikayla Wilke



FBLA HEADS TO STATE

By DANI RICKER

This year FBLA has 13 members competing in state which will be in Reno, April 27-29 this year.

“We have a great group of students going, we’re looking forward to some quality presentations and many award winners,” said advisor Lisa Scott.

The members competing this year are:

Allison Barron,

Suhani Bhakta, Maeve Donovan, Sabrina Jensen, Emma Kracaw, Chalene Quinn, Elizabeth Sims, Tiana Herrera, Brycen Prokasky, Amaya Herrera, Edith Rosas, Elise Rose, Kelsey Dalley.

Students will compete in both individual and team events. The events they will be competing in range from Business and Financial Plan to Digital Design Promotion.

Students who place in top 2-3 in an event will have the opportunity to compete in Nationals in Nashville.



Edith Rosas/ Courtesy Winnada



Skills USA results

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

Lowry High School, one of the most successful schools in Northern Nevada has continued to have success as the Skills USA students had a tremendous outing in Las Vegas.

This year was one of the best Skills USA outings LHS has ever had, the results are as follows:

Jake Schmidt - Gold Medal Welding Sculpture

Brad Schmidt - Bronze Medal Welding Sculpture

Michael Venzor - Silver Medal Welding Individual
Philip Kienholz - Silver Medal Power Equipment Technology

Luis Brown - Silver Medal Carpentry

Braxton Paulson Bronze Medal Carpentry

Ben Tyree - Silver Medal Electrical Construction Wiring

Jake Schmidt and Philip Kienholz will be represent Nevada at the National Conference in Kansas City, MO.



Philip Kienholz/ Courtesy Winnada

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



Lunch time to be reduced drastically for the remainder of the year

By TANNER AMES

Lunch time is meant to be enjoyed by all; whether going off campus, playing games, or of course, just simply eating. However, on April 21, time for lunch will stop being provided due to trash left in the cafeteria and around the campus, as well as students extreme “messaging around”.

Ms. Norah Stephens has worked at the school for 25 years as a lunch lady.

“Throughout my whole time here, I’ve been treated worse than I could’ve ever expected. There have been times when students have



Mrs. Debbie Watts/Courtesy Winnada

gotten angry because they didn’t get what they want, and they threw their lunch in my face. I have wanted to quit for years, but this is the only job I could get.”

It turns out that the lunch ladies aren’t the only ones tired of students.

Mr. Robert Jacobson, a custodian said, “These students are some of the messiest, laziest kids I’ve ever had to deal with. We put the trash cans close to the tables for a reason. None of them have the strength or time to get up and walk three feet. Also, it seems as though they don’t even eat their food. They might as well just chew it up and spit it on the tables. I don’t want to have to clean that up.”

This decision has been a tough one for the school board, because it doesn’t only affect the students.

Mrs. Watts said, “Many of the hard working women in the lunch room will be out of jobs. This also puts an impact on those who have lunch time detention. They wouldn’t have the job of picking up trash, so we would have to skip a step in offenses from a verbal talk with the teacher straight to talking with Mr. Welter and then suspension.” She continued, “Another difficulty with this loss of time is the time for class meetings and club meetings. They wouldn’t be given this period of time to get together

and converse. So they need to reschedule their meetings for after school.”

Parents have complained that their children will be hungry and weak throughout the rest of the school day. The school board then contradicted them stating that most students don’t eat at this time anyway and that it would keep them out of trouble.

Watts added, “The time for lunch is strictly meant for eating food, and nourishing our bodies so that we are ready to learn. Because of this, and the fact that we cannot completely eliminate lunch, this time will be shortened to ten minutes. This will also eliminate most of the “extra curricular” activities on the softball field, in the concession stands, as well as everywhere else.”

School will be shortened by seventy minutes because of the elimination of



An uneaten lunch sits on the ground as students wait in line to pick up free lunch, March 7, 2014/Gina Ferazzi/Los Angeles Times/MCT

this period of time. The times for our “Nutrition break” will be in the usual spots. On the Monday-Tuesday-Friday schedule, it will be between fourth and fifth periods; on Wednesday’s schedule, between third and fifth; and on Thursday’s schedule, between ISE and fourth.

Lunch time will again be permitted after students mature and respect the school and its workers.



Bald and Beautiful comes to lowry

By JESSIE SCHIRRICK

Open your ears, students and staff because you’re about to hear a whole new sound. That’s right, Lowry’s elite group of bald (or balding), male teachers has come together to form “Bald & Beautiful” the rock band. The band consists of Brant Corak (lead vocals), Jeff Setzer (drums), Ron Espinola (triangle and synthesizer), and Ron Beck (bass/guitar.)

The band was formed in late August after Espinola watched Miley Cyrus’ infamous VMA performance on TV and became passionately inspired.

“Ever since seeing that performance I have this uncontrollable desire to emulate Miley’s artistic style, plus playing music is a great stress reliever so it helps prevent me from railing on my students quite as hard as I normally would,” said Espinola.

This isn’t your typical rock band; the quartet has managed to incorporate their own funky tunes and mixes so their songs are more contemporary. The four claim to draw inspiration from their respective trades.

“What helps me get pumped up for a performance is just sitting down with a text book and solving random calculus problems. Sometimes at work I get a little carried away and start singing into a calculator like it’s a microphone,” said Corak.



AJ McLean (Right) of the Backstreet Boys gives advice to Bald and Beautiful/Courtesy commons.wikimedia.org

Some of the band’s classics include “Rogaine Rage”, “Shine Bright Like My Noggin”, and “Bad Hair Days No More”.

The Brand was unable to get a quote from Setzer as those drummer types are notoriously elusive and mysterious but other band members say that he reads long, elaborate poems and studies their rhythm in order to figure out just the right beat.

The band is expected to be the source of entertainment at Lowry’s annual prom in early May so lace up your dancing shoes.

“We’ve been practicing a lot so that everything is just perfect. This gig will be one for the history books,” said Beck.



Ron Beck the bassist for Bald and Beautiful/Courtesy Winnada



Bad art sells big

By ALYSSA CAMPBELL

Recently, a local Winnemucca family has bought a piece of artwork for five thousand dollars from artist Matthew Bell, a fifth grader at French Ford.

“I never thought that my art would end up selling for so much money, but now I think that I’m going to be an artist when I grow up,” said Bell.

This local family added the piece of art to their collection in their four hundred thousand dollar home. The family thinks that buying this piece was the best piece of art that they have purchased so far and have high hopes for selling it in the near future.

The buyers wished to remain anonymous.

“We do not care what others think about our purchase,” says the Winnemucca family, “Our family knows that based on the changes of artwork from the last decade that we will make a profit when we sell it in the near future.”

Critics think that this piece of artwork is not going to sell anytime soon when compared to the artwork of these times. However this family thinks that they are going to have a huge profit when they plan to sell it sometime in the next ten years.



The \$5,000 drawing/Courtesy Matthew Bell



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Sharing Passwords

Sharing passwords is similar to sharing secrets. Only those individuals you trust with your password or secret will you tell. However, when do you draw the line between what passwords you should and shouldn't share?

Passwords can be added to nearly every aspect to human life. Cars, phones, houses, bank accounts, e-mails, lockers, they all have passwords. Most individuals also develop passwords with a particular word or number that has stuck with them for numerous years, such as their birthdate. Not only do they use a password with such a long history, but they also tend to use the same password for various accounts, or the codes are very similar.

So if an individual was to casually ask you to type in the password to their twitter account, there is a higher risk of having other accounts being able to be accessed by that same individual. So which is worse sharing a secret or a password? The answer is a password. Passwords are not vital or tempting to share, yet we share them so often. Before we casually ask another person to log us onto something and share our private information we need to be sure we can fully trust them and consider all negative consequences.

When a secret is shared it usually affects the emotional status or reputation of an individual. Although, that can have a very negative impact, a pass code can drain you and everything you possess, you can lose your car, your personal belongings, your private information, and possibly even your job if other individuals have your log in codes.

Passwords are the ultimate secrets. They deserve to remain secret. If you're smart you'll change your passwords and keep them to yourself before it's too late.



BY TAYLOR
LATRAY

AP vs. ELECTIVES

Many students find themselves at a crossroads when choosing classes for the next school year. A variety of classes are offered to cater to every student's interests and intellectual abilities. As students make their selections, they must weigh which classes will help them graduate, which will keep them interested, and which will help them prepare for college.

Advanced placement courses are not required, but they certainly can help students better prepare for college. They look good on college and scholarship applications, and because they are so time intensive, they can help students manage their time more wisely. Those are all pros.

But there are plenty of cons that need to be considered as well. For instance, advanced placement classes can tank a student's grade point average, they can take time away from other classes and extracurricular activities, and they can cause such severe burnout that some students might even consider not going to college after what they've been through in high school.

So, is it better to go the advanced placement route, or play it safe with electives?

Electives cover many topics ranging from shop and Spanish to child development, sewing and art classes. They are meant to teach students skills apart from math, science, or English. Electives can provide additional enrichment for a student's education; in some cas-

es they can also provide an easy "A." Either way, at some point, student must choose whether to focus their education on electives or advanced placement courses.

For the serious, college-bound student, there really is no decision. Advanced placement courses offer more difficult material, which in turn necessitates a higher degree of effort. Lowry High School's AP course material will certainly be valuable for college-bound students. More importantly, though, AP students will adopt important study habits, personal expectations and goal setting skills which will prove invaluable in college.

For those students who aren't going to college, elective courses will provide a vocational foundation that will prove invaluable in their post-secondary education. For example, a welding class would much more valuable to a future welder than an AP composition course. In much the same way, a future outdoor guide will find much greater benefit in additional fitness courses.

There are no rights or wrongs when it comes to education. Both advanced placement and elective courses help students grow and develop important skills, talents and potential. In order to formulate the best class schedules, though, students need to look at what lies ahead. The future will help students see clearly now, whether they should follow an advanced placement path, or whether they should stick to their electives.



BY DAIN
MAHER

Getting down and dirty

High school is that time between your childhood and your adult life where you are faced with the reality that your parents will not take care of everything for you. One remedy that can soothe the pain is getting a job.

Getting a job while your still living at home is important because it teaches you how to communicate with adults in professional positions, it teaches you to develop a good work ethic and hopefully some organization. It also teaches you that hard work pays off. Granted most high school jobs pay only minimum wage, but that's how you learn to manage your money, have a bank account, or how to pay taxes. One of the most important lessons you

should learn before adulthood is the value of a dollar.

Let's face it, high school jobs are usually pretty unfavorable and include disgusting and mundane tasks like mopping floors and cleaning restrooms, but that doesn't exactly change after high school. You might as well accept that your first job is going to include some dirty work no matter how old you are, but if you start while you're in high school you can gain experience and qualifications so you can get that raise or that promotion earlier.



BY JESSIE
SCHIRRICK

Some may argue that they don't have time between school, sports, and their social life for such a time consuming venture as a job, but most employers know when they hire you that you won't be available around the clock. That's why most high school jobs are part-time, which means just a couple times a week. If you do have other responsibilities you just need to let your boss know in a timely manner and they will probably be willing to work with your schedule.

Under all the filth and grime, high school jobs aren't all that bad. You don't have to dread going to work every day. If you start your day with a positive attitude, you'll get a positive experience in return.

Do's and Dont's

Do continue reading this article. It will get better.

Don't forget to go to the movies. The Captain America sequel is out, and Rio 2 is coming.

Do enjoy the excess hard boiled eggs and candy you are about to receive.

Don't diss Easter.

Don't forget that Easter is more than bunnies, eggs, and peeps. There is also a religious factor and it also allows you to spend time with your family.

Do wear something nice on Easter. It's real nice to feel nice, so you have to look nice.

Don't think a short sleeve button up shirt is the nicest you've got.

Do wear a full suit. As Wyatt Lester once said "Do wear a full suit at least once in your life, you feel powerful."

Don't think you can only wear a suit once in your life though.

Do something nice.

Don't do drugs, they aren't nice.

Do look back through-out the years. You might remember something important.

Do look through your parents yearbooks. You can see how funny they use to look (sorry mom).

Don't make fun of your parents. They brought you into this world, and they can take you out.

Do respect your parents, they may have had a funny hairstyle, but that was long ago.

Don't eat peeps. Just don't. They're nasty.

Do try putting roasting them on a fire. That sounds like a good idea.

Don't eat all of the hard boiled eggs you get on the first day. Too many eggs man.

Do something special with them. Put them in a salad, or make egg salad (those are two different things, just to clarify).



BY TANNER
AMES

The Brand

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Social Advantages

Lowry is known for being fair and just to all its students. The school always has the students' best interests at heart when they impose a new rule, such as our beautiful and effective gates. It is truly preposterous to suggest that any type of favoritism takes place in our hallowed hallways. This even playing field is true for the rest of the world as well; you will never witness or experience any type of discrimination in your lifetime. The world is a place of equal opportunity and its countries are free of any and all corruption.

Many naïve people believe that certain individuals are given privileges over others solely due to their beauty. This is not factual at all, when you see a pretty girl breaking the dress code, she is bound to get in the same amount of trouble as anyone else. Women

have never played their looks to their advantage especially when it comes to traffic transgressions. All those tall tales of college students canoodling with professors to obtain a better grade are nothing but poppycock.

So just remember in this world you will more often than not have everything handed to you just for being you. It doesn't matter who your family is, where your connections lie, or how close your face is to the golden ratio. The opportunities you are given will be entirely based on your range of abilities and experience. So don't get down on yourself if someone else gets the job of your dreams, that individual wearing those 8-inch heels, a low-cut shirt, and a face plastered in makeup from Sephora is no doubt more qualified than you for that job.



By KAREN
ESPARZA

IF YOU AINT FIRST, YOU'RE LAST

In this day and age, it's common for people to receive rewards for just showing up. Whatever happened to the competition? If there's a 100 percent chance that you'll get a reward for just showing up, why bother competing?

As the great Ricky Bobby said, "If you ain't first, you're last." This quote can apply to anything and everything in life. You should always strive to be first in anything, don't be satisfied with mediocrity. Handing out awards and medals to people that don't give maximum effort to their craft is wrong.

Giving awards to people that don't try teaches them that a lackadaisical work ethic is satisfactory, and this is completely wrong. Handing out medals for losing is tough. Why would somebody want a constant reminder of how they lost?

Trophies are the ultimate sign of success. Receiving a trophy is the perfect award for all the hard work that you put in, so giving trophies to someone who doesn't put in the work tells the youth that it's fine to slack off.

What kind of life lesson is that? Life is all about putting in work to achieve success. It's virtually impossible to be successful if you're expecting to have everything handed to you.

Second place is just the first place loser; nobody should be satisfied with being second and if you are, you're going to be okay with being mediocre. Don't settle for mediocrity, strive for greatness.

Nothing worth having in life comes easy and if you carry that mindset throughout life, you will have some amount of success.



By JUSTIN
ALBRIGHT

TIME TO GET YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE

Throughout most kids' preteen years, getting a driver's license was something that they all look forward to when they finally turned sixteen. It symbolized that you were growing up. Nowadays, a lot more people have not been getting a driver's license or limiting the amount they drive. Ever since the middle of the last decade, it has been proven that American youth has led the country's decline in driving. Getting a driver's license is a very important part of your life and is not something that you should miss out on.

The freedom gained when you get a driver's license should be something that you would be excited in achieving and not something you should want to avoid. It would mean that you would not have to rely on anyone else for a ride and you could go or do what you want without having to wait. You won't even

have to walk or ride a bus to and from school anymore. It's even worse if you have to ride with one of your parents and they have to take you out everywhere. That's just embarrassing especially if you are sixteen years old and just can't drive. You can finally go home or go out to lunch everyday now.

Though I understand that paying for gas, insurance, and maybe even a car might be a pain, but it is something that you will have to do for the rest of your life so you might as well start now. It is understandable that it is hard to pay for a car, but you should not just choose to not get a driver's license entirely. Even if you are just scared to have to drive by



By ALYSSA
CAMPBELL

HOW VIDEO GAMES AFFECT OUR LIVES

Video games, if you don't already realize, are just about everywhere in the world today. They are on your phone, on tablets, computers, and of course the original platform they were made for. Video game companies create games to fit the interests of young people's minds, and they can become quite a distraction.

First of all, to know the full effect of video games, we must first realize why we play video games. When asked why you play, many would say "because it's fun"; but why do we find them so appealing? I was watching the Game Theorists on YouTube, and I stumbled upon an interesting concept. C.A.R.. No, not the "vroom vroom" car, but more along the lines of a video game concept. CAR is an acronym C, Competence; A, Autonomy; R, Relatedness. These three factors are generally what grabs the interest of gamers.

Competence is the feeling of growing in idea, or mastering the game. This is found in games like the Mario Bros. where you are able to complete a level, thus earning the high score. Autonomy is being able to control your own actions, to control the world around you, found in such games as "Skyrim". Knowing that any action that you control, comes from your own mind. Most of the time, based on the game, it doesn't matter what you do, it doesn't change the plot, but you did it. The last is Relatedness, relatedness is having the feeling that you matter in a game. Without you, that damsel in distress would've been eaten by a zombie, or the land of Hyrule would've fallen into despair.

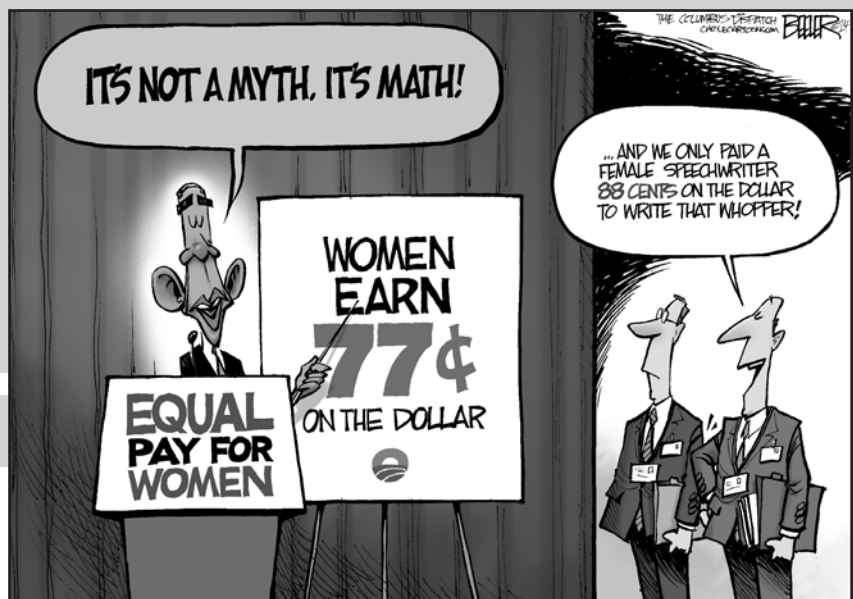
Our brains are probably some of the greatest technology we have. It is a malleable material that changes with every stimulus provided. So when you are playing "Grand Theft Auto", you can differ, in ideas, from another player. Someone could take the examples provided in the game, and interpret it in a positive way. Saying this is not the way to go in life. Others, however, could do just the opposite; they could see the references in the game, and try and pull some off the stunts, thinking that life is just as easy as the video games, you play over and over again. In real life, you can die.

Video games can make some people go insane. Even the most simple games, such as "Flappy Bird", for mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets, have led to people actually destroy their devices by throwing them, or just smashing them against the ground. There were also people who sold their phone pre-downloaded with "Flappy Bird" on eBay for a large sum of money; due to this game being taken off of the app markets.

Many people say that violent video games such as "GTA5" create needs in young children to kill and steal. Though there are actually cases in which young people do commit various crimes from the plot of these



By TANNER
AMES



games. But, do you think some people have actually stopped doing crimes because the satisfaction of doing it was brought upon them by these games? You shouldn't go buy your five year old these games, they are incredibly vulgar; however, you shouldn't blame the actions of an individual on the influences of these games. A person should act responsibly.

Some video game companies such as Nintendo, Xbox, and recently Play Station, have created systems, or add-ons to systems to help lose weight, or just to keep us active. These devices include the Nintendo Wii and the Wii Fit, the Play Station Move, and the Xbox Kinect.

If you have read this far, just know there are more games than just "shoot 'em ups", and realize that games can have great effects on people. Scientists have been studying these effects, but they haven't come up with a conclusive answer yet, so my theory is the only thing we really have. You won't become a "lazy couch potato" as many believe. Video games can be good for you. Contrary to what parents believe, they don't rot your brains, they can actually teach you valuable life skills, such as bravery and heroism. Some of the best games, in my opinion are the Legend of Zelda series. They provide just about every need. Every game has there ups and downs so choose the right ones.



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Things heat up as the Champions League draws to an end

By Weston Irons

Only four teams are left of the 32 that began the competition back in September. Those teams are Real Madrid, Atlético Madrid, Chelsea, and Bayern München, all European powerhouses. Now that the League draws to an end for yet another season, who will be on top of Europe and the true Champions.

In the first matchup Atlético Madrid will take on the mighty Chelsea. Atlético Madrid has had an incredible year and currently sit on the top of their

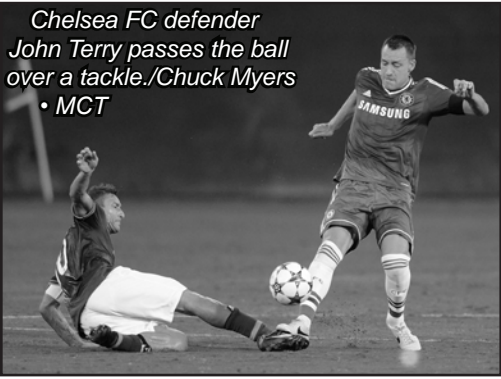
league and could further add to their list of accomplishments by winning this competition. This is also the first time this club has made it to this stage in the last 40 years. They upset Barcelona with a score of 1-0 in the second match to win on a 2-1 aggregate in the quarterfinals. The squad is led by their star striker, Brazilian Diego Costa, who has scored 25 goals in the Liga BBVA alone. Despite having a minor injury recently, Costa will most likely play the matches in the semifinals. Chelsea managed a comeback win over French team PSG in the second leg of the quarterfinals to secure themselves a spot. Chelsea currently sit at second their respective league, but were on top for most of the season. They are a team of many exceptional players including goalkeeper Petr Cech, midfielder Eden Hazard, and defender John Terry just to name a few. They certainly have the potential to win, but not before going

through a couple tough teams. This is a tough decision, but for these games I'm picking Atlético Madrid to advance.

The next semifinal matchup is a big one and features two of the most decorated teams in the world. Real Madrid will take on a German powerhouse, as well as last year's Champions League victors, Bayern München in one of the best matchups of the year. Both teams have incredible players in all positions on the field and these matches will be very close and hard to call. First my insight on Real Madrid. The second team from Madrid this year in the Champions League semifinals, Real Madrid have an outstanding squad as they do every year. Their first team includes this year's Ballon d'Or winner Cristiano Ronaldo who leads his league in goals, their new signing this season, the Welsh Winger Gareth Bale, as well as a very experienced defense that will be tough for even Bayern München to break down. Like the

other teams in the semifinals this team is just as likely as any to win it all and will be looking for their tenth Champions League title. Aside from that though I'm picking Bayern München for this one. Bayern, is just too strong of a team for even a team like Real Madrid to handle. They won their league with ease this year and broke the record for winning the league in the fastest time, and really have not been challenged at all this season. Like Real Madrid they don't have many flaws in any position. Players to look out for in the semifinals are goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, midfielders Franck Ribery and Bastian Schweinsteiger, and their top scoring striker Mario Mandzukic.

Even if you are not much of a soccer fan I recommend you tune into these games as their very exciting to watch and history in the making. I can guarantee you won't be left disappointed with this year's semifinals.



Chelsea FC defender John Terry passes the ball over a tackle./Chuck Myers • MCT



Who will your team take; NFL draft preview

By Tanner Lecumberry

Another year of college football has come and gone, and next Wednesday, it will finally be time for the best college athletes to realize their dreams. The NFL draft is a big day in sports, and never passes without some sort of controversy.

One of the most talked about prospects, Johnny "football" Manziel, out of Texas A&M, looks to go early in the draft, but not number one. That honor will most likely go to Jadeveon Clowney, an incredibly athletic and explosive defensive end, who as also shown the ability to play outside linebacker, an ability that makes him much more desirable. CBS sports shows the first quarterback to go as Blake Bortles

from UCF, with Manziel close behind. This year's class is defensively inclined, but still with explosive offensive players.

The draft is complicated, as each team is looking for something to fit into their scheme, and what they need in their specific systems. Though some picks come to be expected, nothing is certain on draft day. Projected picks are by no means set in stone, and as teams look to the future, picks become incredibly important. It's also important to remember that late picks can also turn into great players, like Tom Brady for example.

As draft day comes, football fans hope for a superstar. The draft isn't

all about the big names, however, and smart picks turn into great teams down the road.

Look for your team's picks, and enjoy the draft as the NFL kicks off another season.



South Carolina Gamecocks defensive end Jadeveon Clowney hits Mississippi State QB Dak Prescott./Gerry Melendez/• The State/MCT



Central Florida QB Blake Bortles drops back to pass, UCF defeated Rutgers, 41-17./Joshua C. Cruey • Orlando Sentinel/MCT

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Athlete of the Issue: Tanner Lecumberry

By Karen Esparza

As a senior, Tanner Lecumberry is the epitome of a model student athlete. Though he's had four years of experience in football, basketball, and baseball during his time here, his love for sports began at a much younger age participating in Winnemucca's youth programs.

Off the field, Tanner is a dedicated student "Academics are very important to me. Sports have been a huge part of my life, but as of now I have no plans to play college sports, and I've begun to look to academics as my future" said Lecumberry.

He is also known for making people laugh with his crazy antics, many would call him a bit of a class clown.

Tanner's favorite sport is baseball because he finds it to be a very mental game. For him baseball is the most rewarding game and he looks forward to the coming season.

"I won't ever forget all the friendships I made in sports. It really is a brotherhood."

~ Tanner Lecumberry

He truly enjoys the experience of being on a team.

"The best part of being a member of any team is the experience you get from working as hard as you can next to someone else. I won't ever forget all the friendships I made in sports. It really is a brotherhood," said Lecumberry.

"It's a team game, but there are a lot of one-on-one matchups, and nothing is the same on two given plays in a baseball game," said Lecumberry.

Since he does not plan to pursue sports further than high school, Lecumberry is truly enjoying his last few months as a Lowry athlete, but looks forward to what his future holds.

"My future plans are to go to school, and study business. I'll probably ending up changing my major a lot, but isn't that what college is for? While sports have been a huge influence on who I am today, I don't think I will pursue them after high school," said Lecumberry.

Lecumberry credits his motivation to those around him. "Every time I see someone else go the extra mile, it makes me want to work that much harder," said Lecumberry.

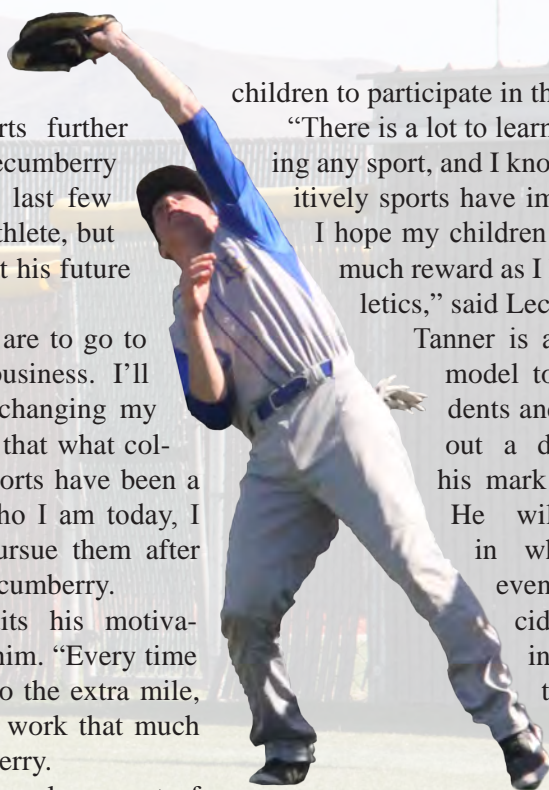
He says sports are a large part of what made him the person he is today and in the future he will encourage his

children to participate in them too.

"There is a lot to learn from playing any sport, and I know how positively sports have impacted me.

I hope my children can find as much reward as I have in athletics," said Lecumberry.

Tanner is a great role model to other students and will without a doubt leave his mark on Lowry. He will succeed in whatever he eventually decides to major in, putting that same passion and dedication he now possesses for sports into his future profession.



Varsity baseball takes last game of series against Vikings

By Kaity Sample

What began as a promising weekend for the Bucks ended with only one win.

Although Lowry held leads in all three games they could only grab the series finale at South Tahoe

"It was good to see us pull together in the last game and get the win. We let the first two slip away and we

didn't let it happen the last time," said junior catcher Donovan Brumm.

In Friday's game a good outing from senior Aaron Nelson was spoiled. Nelson pitched into the sixth inning with a 6-3 lead. However, the Vikings scored six unearned runs in the inning on three hits and three Lowry errors.

"I thought we played well against a good team. We made some mistakes but that's part of the game. I thought we could have won two or even all of the games, but we came out with one which we had to fight for," Brandon Okuma.

The second game repeated the first in that Lowry held a lead but late miscues lead to a 13-8 win for Tahoe.

"We knew going into the series that we were playing the one seed, but we also knew that we could compete with them. Each game we had the lead, but couldn't hold it. We didn't leave the series with what we wanted, but we did leave believing that we were a team to be taken seriously and we will come to play every game," Aaron Nelson.

The final was a nail biter throughout. Starting pitcher Tanner Lecumberry pitched into the sixth inning when he was relieved by senior Calvin Connors who would end up with the win.

"I think we played a great five innings in the first two games but that isn't going to win games. We need to execute and finish what we start. We're a great team with high potential, we just need to string it all together," said Tytin Johnson.

Lowry's five runs in the fourth held until the seventh inning. Con-



Colin Doyle tries to make a diving catch./Ron Espinola • The Brand



Calvin Connors is thrown out trying to steal second base./Ron Espinola • The Brand

ners was able to pitch out of a bases loaded jam with the winning run at third. Although the Vikings did pick up two runs to tie the game at five; Connors got the third out on a pop up to Okuma to send the game to extra innings.

Lowry then scored four runs in the eighth to seal the victory with hits from Connors, Tanner Lecumberry and Mickey Donovan. The sophomore had seven hits on the weekend.

"We knew the South Tahoe series weekend would be important. We played well all weekend even though we only won one of the three. This series was about finding a way to win and we're looking to take the momentum from our win into the rest of the season," Tanner Lecumberry.

Lowry dropped to 6-6 in league and will face one of the top teams in Churchill County this weekend. The Greenwave is coming off three straight losses to Elko.



Kyle Schultz throws a pitch in the second game./Troy Hardy • Lowry baseball

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Athlete of the Issue: Jaecee Munger

By JESSIE SCHIRRIK

Jaecee Munger, otherwise known as "Juice", is a jewel in the crown that is the Lowry athletics program. Munger has been involved in sports since she was just a tyke, and she has a lot to show for it. She's a former varsity basketball player and current varsity softball player, but it doesn't stop there; Munger also has experience in football and wrestling. She raises the bar for female athletes.

Munger takes a huge interest in softball as her main sport.

"I've always liked softball more, it's just better and I'm good at it. I've always been able to meet new people, travel to different places and it keeps me in shape," said Munger.

Munger plays third base in soft-

ball and she has a lot of fun doing it.

"Making the varsity softball team was one of the best things that have ever happened to me. I like it because the competition gets pretty intense sometimes and I like spending time with my team," said Munger.

Munger has played with her teammates since they were all very young.

"We're legit, they're pretty fun. It's nice because we've played to-

gether since we were really little so our chemistry's there like one big happy family," said Munger.

She doesn't just play high school softball though she's also a member of the All-Stars club softball team, and it has given her many opportuni-

ties. "One of my best softball memories is travelling to Washington for All-Stars," said Munger.

It hasn't always been smooth sailing for Munger, she no longer plays basketball because of some serious injuries.

"I don't have a lot of good memories in basketball; I had some of my worst experiences in there because I always got hurt. I even stretched out my ACL once, and almost broke my ankle," said Munger.

Not only has Munger overcome several injuries but her abilities have improved miraculously.

"I've come a long way since my freshman year and I've learned a lot

of the fundamentals of playing," said Munger.

As for her future, Munger plans to play softball at the College of Idaho.

"I plan to graduate high school, go to college, play college softball, study criminal justice, graduate college, become a crime scene investigator, and just live a life of happiness," said Munger.

Munger isn't only a star athlete but a 3.2 GPA student and an active FFA member.

She's even been honored at Lowry's academic assembly.

"School is major priority for me right now. I have to focus on keeping my grades up and graduating," said Munger.



Lowry softball lights up scoreboard in South Tahoe

JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

On Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12, the Lady Bucks took the long drive up to South Tahoe in hopes of adding three more wins onto their record.

The Bucks struggled during Fridays game, only winning by a score of 10-8, but didn't mess around on the double header Saturday as they swept the field with the Vikings winning by scores of 16-1 and 14-2.

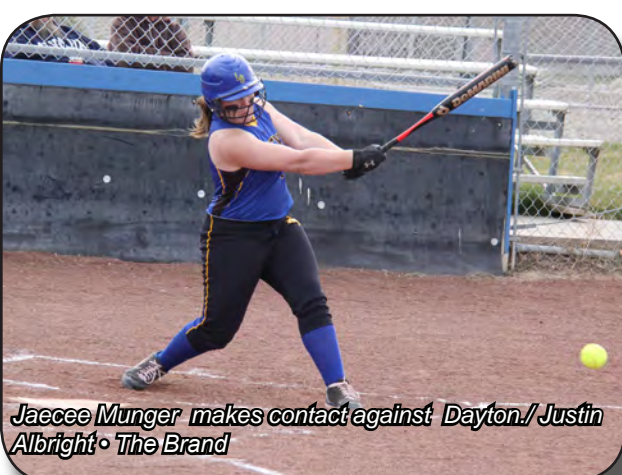
"We came from behind on Saturday, we were losing and scored 9 runs in one inning. Then when we got to the field on Saturday we finished what we started on Friday, we came ready to play," said senior Ereanna Higbee.

The Lady Bucks have had a tremendous season thus far, compiling a record of 11-1 in league play, trailing only the Fallon Greenwave, who have a perfect record of 12-0.

The Bucks have an important matchup against the Greenwave, as they hope to overtake Fallon and claim first place in league.

"Defense is what will keep us in games, but we also have to string hits together at the right time," said Higbee.

Look for the Lady Bucks to continue their success as the season progresses on.



Jaecee Munger makes contact against Dayton/ Justin Albright • The Brand



Shelby McKinnon lays down a bunt against Dayton/ Justin Albright • The Brand



Taylor Schwartz throws a pitch against Dayton/ Justin Albright • The Brand

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Boys golf dominates early

By TANNER LECUMBERRY

With a convincing 50 point win in Sparks last Thursday, the Lowry boys golf team has earned three first place finishes in as many tournaments this year. A team of experienced seniors and promising underclassmen defend two consecutive state titles, and look to a third with confidence.

Still, the team works hard to ensure their success.

"We practice well together to make each other better. We've all been golfing together since we were little. Hopefully we take it one tournament at a time a continue to hit the ball well," said senior Joseba Criswell.



Chris Mendoza works on his short game./Justin Albright • The Brand



Liam Sparks practices putting./Justin Albright • The Brand

Though the team has won convincingly at all three tournaments this year, they still look to clean up their game, especially mentally.

"As the season comes to a close, we have to fix the mental errors. We can't afford to make mental mistakes at state," said Josh Shaver.

Lowry boys golf has been dominating for years, and the future is still looking up. This year's seniors look to go out with a bang, while the underclassmen continue to get better and fill in crucial roles. As the team looks to a third consecutive title, things will only get better.



JV softball kidnaps win over South Tahoe

By KAITY SAMPLE

The JV softball team stayed at home to get three solid wins over South Tahoe.

"We played as whole and stayed up and focused the entire game," said first basemen Alanna Miller.

On Friday the team sealed a win 24-1. Scoring 11 runs in the first inning with solid hits right in the gaps.

Saturday's first game was an "on the edge of your seat thriller" with each team alternating scores for the

lead. In the last inning, after losing Hannah Hillyer to an injury, they came with a boom and won 17-7.

"I don't think we were awake for the first game," added Miller.

The second game on Saturday was a blowout 25-3. Early in the game they came out and gave what they had to offer.

Thus far the team is undefeated in league. Their next home game will be on Saturday at 11:00 a.m.



Lowry pitching dominated the Vikings./Justin Albright • The Brand



Lowry gets another hit./Justin Albright • The Brand



Track team continues to improve in Elko

By WESTON IRONS

On Saturday, April 12th, the Lowry Track and Field team traveled to Elko for the Elko Invitational. This year's team features a variety of athletes from new coming freshmen to experienced seniors, and have many strong athletes in all events. The team improves week in and week out, under good coaching and support from their fellow teammates.

"I think the track team is coming together

as a whole. Each meet we are getting better and better. Our coaches are a great part of the team and do a lot to help us get better each week and are some of our biggest supporters" said sophomore sprinter, Dylan Riddle.

The track team continues their season Saturday, April 19th, here at Lowry High School. They are having a great season and it is definitely worth going to see this good group of athletes.



Blake Hillyer works on the long jump./Justin Albright • The Brand



Jeremiah Teichert practices the pole vault./Justin Albright • The Brand



New proposal would make the DI-A even bigger

By WESTON IRONS

Once again, more teams have been moved down from Division 1 to Division 1-A for not performing in their respectable league. This is the second time in two years that the league has been realigned. For the 2014-2015 season the new Division 1-A teams will be Spring Valley, Sierra Vista, Rancho, and Del Sol, all Las Vegas area schools.

So why is it that these teams that move down? The

NIAA uses a point system to determine which teams move up, move down, or stay the same. The school earns points by going to the playoffs, winning important games such as the semifinals and state championships, etc. In this case, those teams listed above did not earn enough points to stay in their league over the course of two years therefore they will be in Division 1-A beginning next year.

when state playoffs begin that this will start to mean something because then we will come up against these teams.

Although those teams who moved down will be able to perform better, which is good and all, it won't be so good for other teams. It is no secret that more populated schools tend to win against schools with less athletes simply because those schools have more a variety of athletes to utilize. Those four schools moving down are already bigger than a majority of the northern schools giving them an advantage.

Although we will have to face better competition next year, there is not a doubt in my mind that Lowry athletes will perform well just as we do every year. We have some of the best athletes in the state and continue to produce those incredible athletes. So despite the realignment of Division 1-A, I believe Lowry will once again have an exceptional year.

Now what does this mean for other schools? Well for schools in the North (like Lowry) this doesn't mean much at least during the regular season, Northern schools play other Northern schools during league play and all these teams are Southern. It is

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JV baseball sweeps South Tahoe convincingly

By AIMEE BRANDON

Lowry's boys JV baseball team was off to a rocky start this season at 6-4 in league.

On April 8, Lowry traveled to and

played Wells losing 20-8.

They had a little more luck at home on Friday, April 11, against South Tahoe winning 8-1. The next day the team played South Tahoe again in a double header win-

ning both games 12-6 and 16-6.

Coach Clay Sagers was proud of how his team played.

"They played really well and believed in themselves," said Sagers.

Player Brady Lange shares Coach Sagers opinion that the team had the confidence to win.

"Our team came out with the mind set that we would try our hardest to win," said Lange.

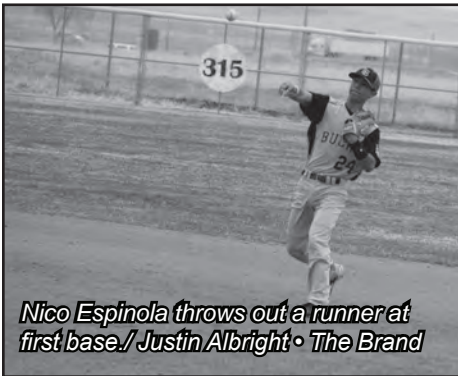
Sagers expects his team will finish the season strong and confident



Roberto Rodriguez takes a swing./ Justin Albright • The Brand



Jacob Hernandez saves an errant throw./ Justin Albright • The Brand



Nico Espinola throws out a runner at first base./ Justin Albright • The Brand

thanks to their games against South Tahoe.

"I think the rest of the season will go a lot better now that we know we have the ability to win," said Sagers.



Lowry baseball to take a break to volunteer

By JOLYN GARCIA

Head baseball coach, Mr. Ron Espinola, made a recent decision to cancel one day of practice for the entire baseball program, to volunteer their time in the community. Espinola believes that after players leave the baseball programs they should not only be better players, but also better men.

"My philosophy has always been that, being an athlete is more than just being in a sport. You have to give back to your community as well as your program," commented Espinola.

The service activity will take place at Lowry and will benefit the high school as well as the community. The baseball team will be cleaning the campus around the track as well as trim trees, clear weeds, and do any other maintenance and beautification they believe is necessary. This will be done before Lowry hosts the Northern Nevada Track Regionals on May 16 and 17.

Espinola decided to enhance that area's appeal because he believes it will have the greatest impact.

"When you have that many athletes here, that many parents, you want to give a good impression," said Espinola.

This project is just one of the many services the baseball program will do for Lowry. In the future, the baseball program will lay sod on the JV baseball field, which will also have a great

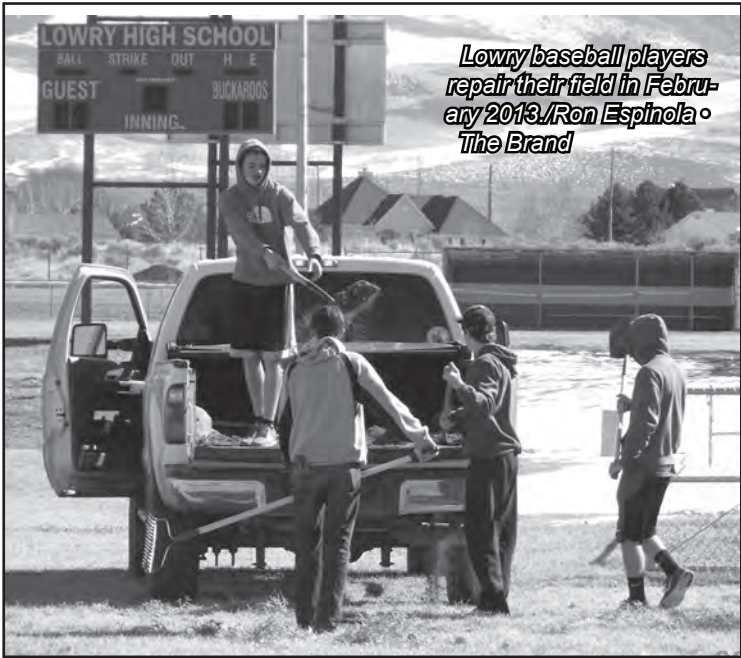
impact on the soccer program and other programs that utilize the field. There will be more practice area opened up and the leftover sod will be used to replace the dead spots on the football field. The sod will be purchased as a donation by the Century Club.

This project will also help to lighten the burden of the one grounds worker who is in charge of keeping the entire campus clean. With almost 40 people in the baseball program donating two and a half hours, it will total nearly 100 man hours spent on cleaning up the campus.

"I think that when you put work into something, you take pride in it. You pick up garbage and find the trash can the next time you need to throw something away. It's that sense of ownership. I hope it starts something," stated Espinola.

By sacrificing one day of practice, the baseball teams hope to help the school and potentially the community. This may be the spark that changes the way students, visitors, and the community views Lowry High.

The campus beautification is schedule to take place on May 5.



Lowry baseball players repair their field in February 2013./ Ron Espinola • The Brand

Upcoming Sports Schedule

www.nnvd1a.org

Activity	Date	Time	Location
Boys Golf	04/17/2014	10:00 am	Elko High School
Boys Golf	04/18/2014	TBD	Spring Creek High
JV Baseball	04/18/2014	11:00 am	Lowry High School
JV Softball	04/18/2014	11:00 am	Lowry High School
Varsity Softball	04/18/2014	3:00 pm	Churchill County High
Varsity Baseball	04/18/2014	3:00 pm	Churchill County High
Track	04/19/2014	9:00 am	Lowry High School
Varsity Softball	04/19/2014	11:00 am	Churchill County High
Varsity Baseball	04/19/2014	11:00 am	Churchill County High
JV Softball	04/21/2014	4:00 pm	Lowry High School
JV Baseball	04/21/2014	4:00 pm	Lowry High School
JV Baseball	04/22/2014	2:00 pm	Lowry High School
JV Softball	04/22/2014	3:00 pm	Lowry High School
Varsity Baseball	04/24/2014	3:00 pm	Lowry High School
Varsity Softball	04/24/2014	3:00 pm	Lowry High School
Varsity Softball	04/25/2014	1:00 pm	Lowry High School
Varsity Baseball	04/25/2014	1:00 pm	Lowry High School
Track: Varsity	04/26/2014	8:30 am	Carson High School
JV Softball	04/26/2014	11:00 am	Truckee High School
JV Baseball	04/26/2014	11:00 am	Truckee High School
Swimming	04/26/2014	12:00 pm	Idlewild Pool

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Divergent: Another Love Story

By AIMEE BRANDON

Teen fiction with action, love, and a sexy male hero, started as a book published in 2012 “Divergent” has been raved about and recently became a movie.

The basic plot of the first book in the trilogy, “Divergent”, takes place in a dystopian future. The city is divided into five factions Amnity, Candor, Dauntless, Abnegation, and Erudite. People live in the faction they were born into until the age of 16 when they chose whether to stay in their families’ faction or live in a different faction for life. Once they chose a new faction it is their family, “faction before blood.” Initiation begins after choosing and differs based on the



Shailene Woodley stars in “Divergent.” (Jaap Buitendijk/MCT)

faction, you have to last through initiation to stay, if you don’t you become factionless, equal to today’s homeless.

“Divergent” follows Beatrice Prior who grows up in Abnegation and becomes Tris after choosing to become Dauntless when finding out the deadly truth about herself.

The book is mainly filled with Tris struggling to survive Dauntless initiation involving many life risking activities. As the end of the book draws near, we find Tris trying to uncover the truth about the world outside the fence and starts to discover a mutual love for her instructor Four.

On March 21 the movie “Divergent” came out in theaters. From the point of view of someone who read the book previous to watching the movie, the movie was a fantastic adaptation from the book. There were a few mistakes that will affect future movies, but it had all the fundamentals and the important parts. Most important to the teenage girls they captured the chemistry between Tris, played by Shailene Woodley, and Four, played by Theo James. In casting the

movie Theo is the perfect Four, the book strongly defines his attractiveness and strength which the movie captures. Readers didn’t have high expectations of Shailene,



Shailene Woodley (left) and Theo James star in “Divergent.” (Jaap Buitendijk/MCT)

though most were surprised to find she did great in portraying Tris. Other critical characters such as Jeanine Matthews, Peter, Caleb and Christina, were also well cast.

Critics say that “Divergent” was too stereotypical in its young romance and dystopia, they think it is a simple play off of “The Hunger Games”. Though lovers of it would disagree that it’s a great story all on it’s own.



Heard in the Halls

By DANI RICKER

So picture this, it’s 7:45 Monday morning and you’re walking through those double doors leading into the glass hallway.

You take a right and start heading towards the office and pass a girl saying “do you ever have the urge to yell ‘Nobody cares about your opinion’ at the top of your lungs?” You decide to hold back any and all of your smart aleck remarks and just continue to your locker.

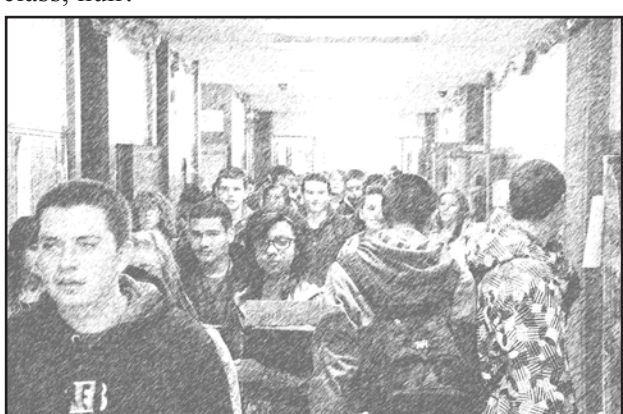
As you’re collecting all the books you need for your morning classes you overhear some guy talking about how he hasn’t brushed his teeth in two days. Fun fact: if you don’t brush your teeth at least twice a day we cannot be friends.

So now you have two choices, you can either stand at your locker or go for a walk. You look across the hallway and see a couple making out and choose the walk.

So you walk down to the freshman hallway,

quickly realize that was a bad idea and head back towards the H hallway.

As you walk through the hallway you here a girl yell “Since when is New jersey a state?” Actually, New Jersey became a state on December 18, 1787. You think to yourself, “How about that history class, huh?”



You pass a few friends say “hi” and then you see those girls that see each other everyday yet still chose to yell each others names super excitedly when they see each other and run towards each other very morning. Just stop.

Then you walk past a couple girls yelling at each other. “Girl, I will slice!”

Slice what? Turkey? Ham? A turkey sandwich sounds pretty good right now. I wonder if she works at Port of Subs or Subway. Make me a sammich, por favor.

Although it was a long day, you did manage to make it through a whole day. I mean, you may have fallen asleep in third hour, but who doesn’t?

The hall is a weird place. Some days you hear things like the stuff I put in this story. Other days you hear things that can make you stop and think.

Either way, if you take the time to stop and listen you won’t be sorry. So keep talking, Lowry.





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Performer of the Issue: Mackenzie Manley

By AIMEE BRANDON

A girl of passion and talent, chosen as “The Brand’s” first performer of the issue, is artist Mackenzie Manley. Manley is in Mr. Anderson’s Art two class this year, and was suggested to us by Mr. Anderson himself.



One of Manley’s drawings that illustrates the blend of her personality in her artwork./ Aimee Brandon • The Brand

Anderson considers Manley a great artist because of her eye-catching work which is heavily influenced from her personality. “She’s an artist who is not afraid to put her personality and style into the things she creates. She is bold

and confident and that shows in her work,” said Anderson. Manley’s personality and style are linked, her thoughts and feeling of anything and everything.

“I usually use the way I feel and the way I react to things and the way I like to see the world in my work,” said Manley.

She has been interested in art from a young age and her love for art has only grown stronger since then.

“Ever since I was little I drew a lot, for a little while I didn’t have much of an interest in it, but eventually I picked back up on it and ever since a couple years ago I’ve just been really into it,” shared Manley.

All of her past teachers were role models for Manley but art teachers such as Mr. Braulick and Mr. Anderson are two of the most prominent influences on her.

“My role models are my art teachers that have taught me throughout the years. In my old I school I had a great art teacher named Mr. Braulick but now I really look up to Mr. Anderson,” said Manley.



Mackenzie Manley./ Aimee Brandon • The Brand

She is participating in multiple art classes to increase her knowledge of media and enjoys dabbling in all of them. “Right now I’m exploring different media, I’m taking different classes like ceramics and drawing,” said Manley.

Since Manley is a sophomore her work and abilities are sure to grow and become better, and as she tries new things the look of her artwork will evolve.



Lowry Crossword

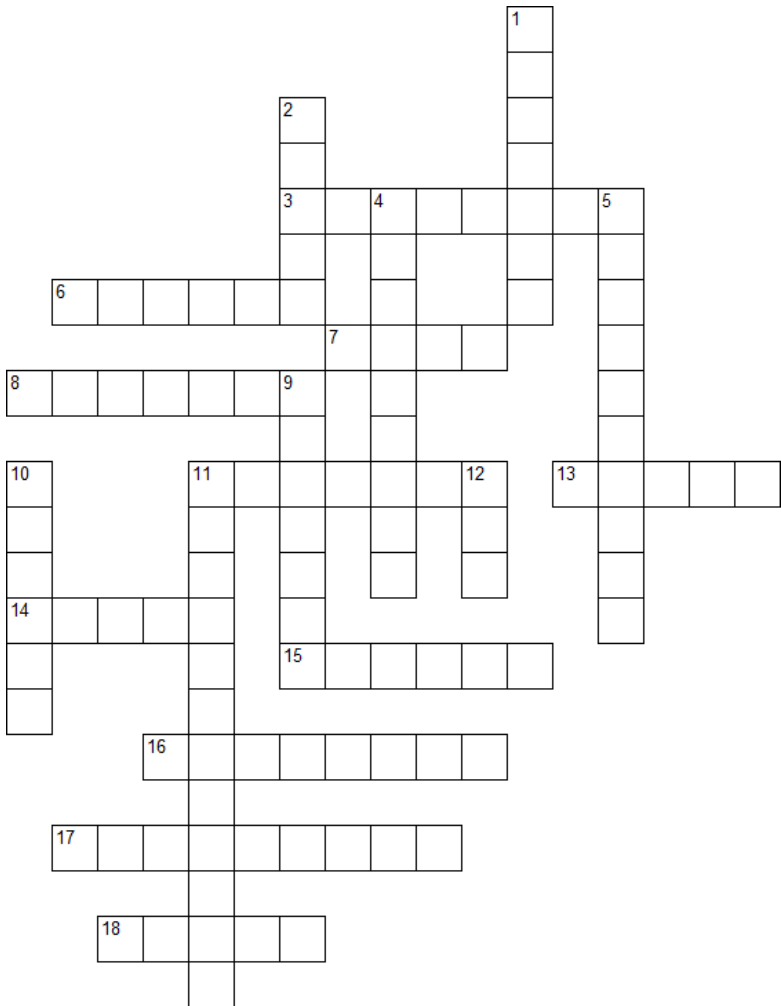
By DANI RICKER

Across

- 3. Lowry’s newspaper name. (Two words)
- 6. Lowry’s athletic director. (One word)
- 7. Amount of spring sports offered at Lowry.
- 8. Class that’s been in fourth place for 3 years.
- 11. Junior class mascot.
- 13. Lowry’s vice principal. (One word)
- 14. Varsity softball coach. (One word)
- 15. English teacher at Lowry (Teaches AP Comp.).
- 16. One of the male PE teachers. (One word)
- 17. Sophomore class mascot.
- 18. Leadership teacher. (One word)

Down

- 1. Lowry’s yearbook.
- 2. Lowry’s principal. (One word)
- 4. Espy’s instagram name.
- 5. Senior class mascot.
- 9. Class that’s been in first place according to class points for 3 years.
- 10. Lowry female counselor. (One word)
- 11. Freshman class mascot.
- 12. Number of consecutive wrestling state championships.



Lowry Then and Now

By Kaity Sample



Two cheerleaders wear their outfits to school during homecoming week in 1995./ Courtesy • Winnada



This year’s powder puff squad looks onto their coach as they perform a pyramid. (Left to right, top to bottom) Ariel Gonzalez, Nick Maddox, Ariano Aguilar, Jordan Diaz, Joe Marley, Shaun Mentaberry, Gabe Molina, Bryan Ramos, Blake Duncan, Jed Johnson, and Marcus Molina./ Justin Albright • The Brand



Jessie's Journal

By JESSIE SCHIRRICK

I can't wait to move to a new town so I can rename myself and completely change up my persona. In college I'll be a contemporary dancer who goes by the name of Harvey and has a mysterious past that suggests I was a once a world-class jewel thief.

I can't stand having a clean room, because I usually don't. A clean room just really isn't my thing so when I have a clean room I feel like I'm living a lie. Your room should reflect who you are and I'm just not a tidy gal.

I've never used a boy's bathroom; it's just never appealed to me. Though I've heard it's a jungle in there. Maybe someday I'll be brave enough to take that step but for now I'm content with using my gender-intended restroom.

It's a leap of faith to plug in your music for a car full of people, that is really putting yourself out there. You are trusting the passengers with a very personal part of yourself. What if they laugh at you? What if your music kills their vibe? Do you really want

to be known as the vibe killer because nobody else can relate to your unique taste in music? If it's your car then you have the right to play whatever music you want and everybody else must groove to your vibe or not groove at all. Same goes for the air conditioning, unless you're paying for my gas, don't put your grimy fingers on that temperature knob.

It's not a coincidence that the word 'food' is only one letter off from the word 'good'.

Trendy clothing is such a rarity

in this area, I once saw a man who donned corduroy pants and a felt overcoat and I was convinced he had time travelled here from the early 80's.

When I see Brody has returned I simply have to do a happy dance.

I feel like as you get older your sense of humor dries up like a raisin. That's why the elderly make me nervous, as do small children. We just don't have anything in common and we can never find anything to talk about.



Artist to Watch-Volcano Choir

By KAREN ESPARZA

With an abundance of struggling artists, all longing to be the next best thing, it's truly a challenge for artists to make a name for themselves. But there are artists who are bound to blow up because their music deserves to be heard. Take Lorde for example, most of us had no idea who she was before 2013 and now everyone's heard "Royals" at least a hundred times.



Volcano Choir./ Courtesy • uncut.co.uk

Volcano Choir is an indie rock band originating from Wisconsin, it was born from a collaboration of Bon Iver's Justin Vernon and members from

The Collections of Colonies of Bees. The band captured my interest because I'd never heard anything like it, cliché, I know but it's the truth. Lyrics are scarce in the band's tracks but the few words are enough when paired with the beautiful cacophony of instruments; some great examples of this are "Byegone", "Dance-pack", or "Still". It sounds like real music, not something barfed out of a computer.

This organic sound makes listeners drift to a place of harmony, it's not meant to be blasted at parties, but instead one that should be savored while laying out on the grass and just basking in the sun. Not all music should want to make you get up and dance, that's the beauty of music, there are certain kinds suited for different situations. Volcano Choir isn't new to the music scene, but they tend to fly under the radar.

I'd like to thank Mr. Setzer for having great taste in music and introducing me to this incredible band. Just give a listen to Volcano Choir's "Repave" or "Un-map" both albums are worth the listen, what's there to lose besides the chance to discover a new sound.



Volcano Choir./ Courtesy • speakersincode.com



Justin Vernon/ Courtesy • speakersincode.com

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. If one thinks this photo is worthy they may submit it or one may simply be chosen.

This issue the winner of the photo of the issue goes to Kassidy Hudson. Kassidy has her own photography page on Instagram you can follow: kassidyannpaige_photography. This particular picture is the first on her page displaying a vivid image of her dog.



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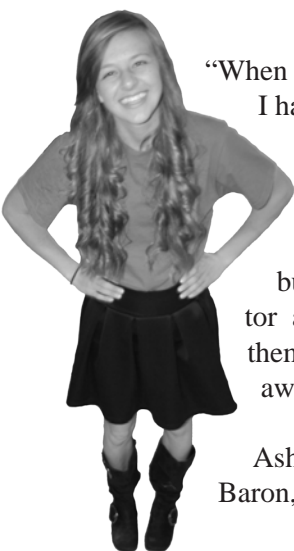
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Lowry Voices

By BRODY GOUCHER

What is something no one knows about you?



“When I was born I had a hip disorder called hip dysplasia, but the doctor aligned them right away.”

Ashlee Baron, 10



“I’ve been afraid of the dark since I was little because it is really scary”

Devan LaTray, 10



“When I retire I want to move to Mexico to be closer to my uncles and cousins”

Steven Cholico, 11



“I like to read long novels; one of my favorites is ‘Harry Potter’.”

Jed Teichert, 9



Lowry’s plans remodel for entrance and Career Center

By MELANIE RYNEARSON

Some of you may have heard that Lowry is going to undergo a few changes over the summer. Well I am here to tell you just what they plan to do. There is going to be a new entrance, so there won’t be a Glass Hallway anymore, you will have to enter through the attendance office.

“Everywhere will be locked so people can’t get in but students will be able to get out.” said Mrs. Watts.



Mrs. Debbie Watts/Courtesy Winnada

To break it down, all of the new gates and fences will be locked but all of the doors will remain unlocked for passing from class to class. The career center will be relocated to where the in school suspension class room now resides. There will also be a new parking lot above the softball field. The purpose of the new parking lot is to try to cut down on traffic on Kluncy Canyon and provide a place for students to park when they are going on sports trips so they don’t congest the solar panel parking lot.



The location of the remodel / Melanie Rynearson • The Brand

CLS classroom out and about

By DELITA TOM

Mrs. Woods CLS class goes on a community outing every Wednesday afternoon.



On one of our outings my class and I went to the Sheriff’s office to meet with Sheriff Kilgore. We learned that in the past this building was shared by the Sherriff and Winnemucca Police Department. The Winnemucca Police have since moved to a new building. The Sheriff took us on a tour of the building. We learned that the jail was in this building at one time. We got to see where the jail was located and looked into the old cells. They are

now used for offices and storage. It was a fun day.

Our class also uses these outings to take trips to Walmart to shop for the vending machine supplies. Our class fills the snack machine every day during 6th period. We need to buy supplies often if we want to keep the machine full so that all the students can buy snacks. Other places that we have gone include: Humboldt General Hospital, The Tortilla Factory, Humboldt County Museum, and The Humboldt County Library. Sometimes we get to go somewhere and eat lunch or have a snack; like Chihuahuas and Pogonip.

We will continue to go on these outing until the end of the year. We have learned a lot and the trips are fun.



Members of the CLS class. / Courtesy



THE BRIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE

By DANI RICKER

It happens every day, you get busy, you have stuff to do and you’re just constantly in a hurry. You’re in so much of a hurry that you don’t have the time to stop and smell the roses.

You’re so caught up in the morning that you don’t take the time to appreciate your toothbrush or your hairbrush. I mean, who wants smelly breath or tangled hair?

But seriously, so many small things are over looked, but if they were to magically disappear over night; everyone would notice.

One person told me they were grateful for water. I know it sounds cliché and all, but how awesome is it to be able to take a hot shower when ever you feel like?

Something else that was brought to mind is your favorite food. Whether it’s steak, eggs, mac ‘n cheese, mashed potatoes, apples or grapes it’s available to you whenever.

Another person told me pillows. I agree, pillows are a beautiful thing. And you would definitely notice if your pillow was no longer on your bed.

I asked a group of students to name one thing that they are grateful for. The responses were “nail polish,” my car,” snow,” and “my favorite pen.”

I mean, nail polish is alright I guess. Some appreciate it more than others.

I agree with the car, it’s nice not to have to walk everywhere. Snow is awesome. And I also have a favorite pen. I would be very sad if I lost that pen.

Another thing all people should be grateful for are aglets. I bet a lot of people don’t even know what those are. But trust me, they’re handy. Or should I say footy? Ha. Ha. No? Kay.

These are all small things but they mean a lot to some people. It’s kind of sad to think about all the small things in life that don’t get any appreciation.

We take so much for granted. However, if you were to stop and think about all the things you use on a daily basis there is a lot that you would miss if it were to magically disappear.

Let’s all just take a minute to smell the roses and think about all the small things in life.

Be grateful for what you have, because when you’re content with what you have life is a lot better.

SCHOOL from Page 2

six hours.”

Another key component of education is teaching. Without teaching, there is no learning, and if there is no learning, students will not be prepared for institutions of higher learning or for career advancement opportunities.

Michelle Pasquale, a biology and zoology teacher at Lowry High School, shared her thoughts on higher education and the preparation offered to students through high school.

“All teachers at Lowry High School have been asked to increase their rigor and tolerance of work so that the quality of work is better,” said Mrs. Pasquale. “Students in high school have an expected level of learning; bridging the gap between challenging students and helping



Michelle Doyle./ Courtesy • Winnada

the challenged students isn’t easy.”

Mrs. Pasquale said advanced students must take some initiative and set themselves up for success based on the classes

they take. Lowry High School science teacher Michelle Doyle agreed.

“Students in need of a challenge have those resources available to them here at Lowry,” said Mrs. Doyle. “There are AP English, math and science classes which require them to work harder than the average student;

they only need to take advantage of them.”

Shirrick said she didn’t feel the majority of her teachers prepared her well for the transition to higher education.

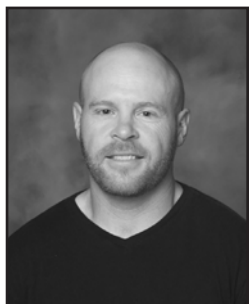
“[Lowry’s teachers] don’t even make you try or anything. I just wasn’t prepared,” she said. “I’ve had friends here at UNR say their classes here are of the same caliber, if not easier, than their high school courses.

Shirrick singled out Lowry teachers Brant Corak and Michelle Doyle for their post-secondary preparations. “They helped prepare me,” she said. “Doyle has her students follow a syllabus in order to know what their assignments are.”

Still, Shirrick said that from a

teenager’s perspective, high school was not difficult—although she now believes it should have been. “It was nice because school was never very hard, but I look back on it as time I should’ve spent actually learning.”

“In high school I felt like I was able to glide through things without actually understanding them. I did have some classes I had to study for, but for the most part doing my homework was enough.”



Brant Corak./ Courtesy • Winnada



Snippets of Wisdom

By JUSTIN ALBRIGHT

The Brand has been receiving constant requests for an advice column from all the underclassmen, so for all of you that are struggling to get by, and under the stress of high school, take a deep breath and relax. In my four years here, it’s safe to say that I’ve experienced it all, so here’s a guide to pass high school.

First of all, the most important thing you can do is to just show up on time to class on a daily basis and pay attention. If you pay attention, you will succeed at Lowry. Your grade might not be an A, but you’ll still pass. There are times when you can mess around in class, but save that for when the teacher isn’t talking. When the teacher is talking, pay attention.

If you want an A, do your homework. Teachers assign homework for a reason, it may be annoying and take up ridiculous amounts of time, but your grade will flourish if you get your homework done. High school is designed for you to pass; all you have to do is take advantage of the opportunity.

Lay out a plan for your school work. A lot of you are athletes, so you may not

have a lot of time to do your homework. It’s important to always make time for homework, but also making time to get a decent amount of sleep. Procrastination kills in school, we all do it, but it’s important to limit your procrastination and strive for that good grade.

If you have a question; ask. High school may be easy, but at times the homework can be a handful and you may not get it done on time. If that’s the case, ask questions in class. There are some great teachers here that will help you at all costs. There’s no point in sitting at your desk confused, if the teacher doesn’t help you, there’s also a beautiful invention called Google. Google solves all problems.

A social life, good grades, or a lot of sleep. Most people say that you’ll only be able to choose two of those three options but if you play your cards right, it is possible to achieve all three of those.

Lowry high school isn’t that hard to pass, if you put in a solid effort and do these few things, you will graduate from Lowry with a solid GPA.



GREG HARDING: A HELPING HAND

By KAITY SAMPLE

Walking down the halls of Lowry, you might recognize the faces of people who are always talked about. What about the kids you don’t recognize? We are going to get to know one of the students you probably don’t know a whole lot about.

Greg Harding. A name you’ve probably heard, but let’s get to know the amazing person behind it.

Harding is a junior at Lowry and partakes in leadership. He drives a yellow slug bug so wave to him when you get the chance. Greg volunteered at the Old Folks home for ten years but has retired his position and moved a step up in life. He now volunteers his time at the EMT station.

“I love helping our community. It warms the heart. We have a small community and it’s important that we all chip in,” said Harding.

Harding volunteers for anything and everything he possibly can. He helps with the cancer walks and anything the EMT’s do for the community, Greg is there. Harding received the “Real Heroes” award from the Red Cross Association. The “Real Heroes” award is given to someone in the community every year who volunteers their time to an important cause.

This kid is very creative and has new ideas to bring to Lowry. He is very helpful to those in need. So if you see Greg in the halls, make sure to say hi.



Greg Harding./ Courtesy • Winnada



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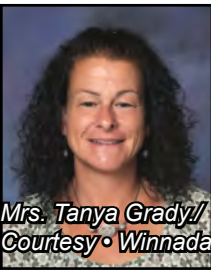
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A HERO HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

By TAYLOR LATRAY

This staff member has been teaching at Lowry for going on 18 years and she has been involved in endless organizations and activities with overwhelming responsibilities. She is linked to all activities at Lowry whether it's sports, spirit week activities, fundraising, or decorating. Not only does this individual have endless responsibilities for this school but also with outside organizations who request assistance. She has so much on her plate and you would never know it. This hero is Mrs. Tanya Grady.



Mrs. Tanya Grady/
Courtesy • Winnada

"Mrs. Grady has been like a second mother to me. She has picked me up when I was down, pushed me further

when I was unknowingly capable, and is one of the best women I know. Mrs. Grady helped shape who I am today and I will forever be grateful for having her in my life," said former student Brandi Brooks.

Grady takes on possibly the most demanding duties connecting Lowry to the community. Not to mention she handles everything she does with so much ease and patience. In addition to having a family and being a teacher, Grady chose to run Leadership. Due to her dependability, Tanya is involved in various community organizations who come to her for help or management of an event.

"I never get overwhelmed because I am a very organized person and I try to manage my time wisely. However, I occasionally get stressed," said Mrs.

Grady. Although her daughter Madeline disagreed, "My mom is a hard working caring person who will do anything you ask her to, personally, I do think she gets overwhelmed and although it appears like she bites off more than she can chew, she always gets everything done with the exact outcome she wanted. She is my hero, and I look up to her in so many ways," said Madeline Grady.

When an organization in our community needs help in any sort of way they approach Tanya Grady who often organizes the situation and disperses the work load among her students, usually leaving herself the majority.

"Mrs. Grady is the most wonderful, outstanding amazing big hearted person she is the type of person that would drop anything to help anyone, she deserves a raise," said athletic secretary Sylvia Covarrubias.

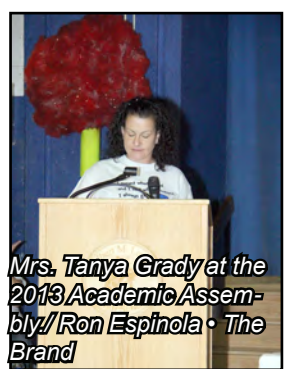
Tanya Grady is amazing. That is the most commonly used word to describe her by numerous individuals along with the following: kind, caring, amazing, creative, and patient. Grady is a go-to person for advice, or help with any subject. She is a very understanding individual open to help with anything. Mrs. Grady is a hero and people can only dream to be as wise and kind as her.

She has endless individuals to complete any task in an organized manner and that patience is truly a virtue.

"She does anything for this school and not to mention for her family and friends. When the community needs any kind of help they get a hold of Mrs. Grady. She has to be super organized and she is. She remains so calm and just does an amazing job," said Heather Corak.

Leadership is a lot of responsibility for each student let alone for an advisor who is required to take on the majority of the responsibility. What Mrs. Grady does for this school and the impact she has left on so many students is phenomenal and all the while she remains humble.

"She is one of the most loving friends and she would give you the shirt off the back if you needed, I don't know what I would do with out her as a friend and I don't know one person Mrs. Grady hasn't impacted," said Kristie Bell.



Mrs. Tanya Grady at the 2013 Academic Assembly/
Ron Espinola • The Brand

Buckaroo Round Up

By KAITY SAMPLE

What grade are you in?

Jacob Aitken: I'm a senior.

Makenzie Schomer: I'm in the tenth grade.

Larry Littrell: Sadly, I'm a freshman.

Do you play any sports? If so, what?

JA: no, I hurt my knee during freshman football and to this day I am still having troubles with it.

MS: I used to play softball.

LL: No, they aren't for me.

What do you like the most about Lowry?

JA: I'd have to say the amount of school spirit everyone has.

MS: My favorite thing is the bell because that means I can go home.

LL: I like the people and the environment. It's a welcoming place. The worst?

JA: The new schedule is definitely a drag. Last year's was so much better.

MS: I don't like all the dramatic people.

LL: The teachers. They shouldn't be called that if they don't actually teach us.

Do you partake in any clubs?

JA: I'm not really into clubs.

MS: No, I'm too cool for clubs.

LL: No, but I'm in choir and I like it a lot.

Do you have plans for after high school?

JA: My goal is to become a licensed paramedic, and when I turn of a g e join the D.E.A.

MS: I'll go to college and major in something super awesome.

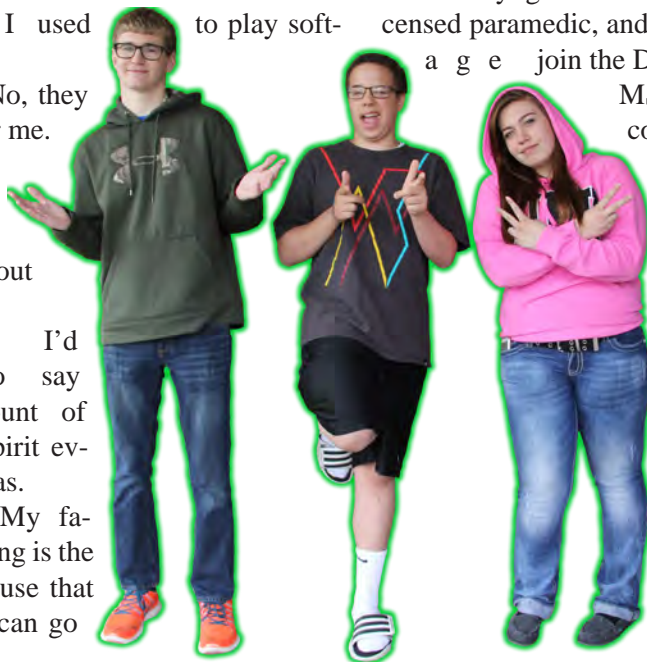
LL: Yeah, I want to go to Great Basin for a few years then transfer to a bigger college.

If you were a candy what type of candy would you be? Why?

JA: Sour Patch Kids. They fit my personality. Sour then sweet.

MS: Whatchamacallit because there's no other words to describe me.

LL: Starburst because they are juicy and delicious.

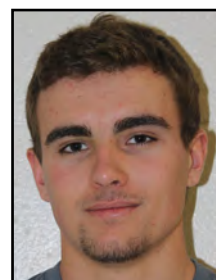


LOWRY LOOK-A-LIKES

By JOLYN GARCIA



Liam Gallups./
Courtesy • Winnada



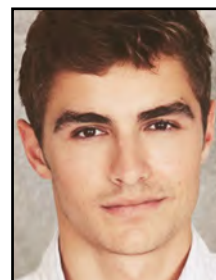
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