



10th **ST.** **TIMES**

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Northwest High School

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A LETTER FROM THE EDITORS...

Congrats on making it through the first term! As the print editors for the Tenth Street Times, we are thrilled to bring you another edition with captivating stories, inspiring articles and creative content.

Our team has been working hard to create a magazine that reflects our student body's diverse interests and talents.

At the beginning of this school year, we introduced 23 new reporters to the class. Over the first few months, we have watched all reporters learn and grow their journalistic skills and interests. We are so proud of the work that has been accomplished this early in

the year, and we are looking forward to seeing future growth among our staff.

Additionally, we welcomed a new editor, Avery Herman, to our print team. We are excited to work together to create this year's Tenth Street Times.

We want this year's magazine to reflect the topics and interests of Northwest. If you have any stories you would like to see covered, feel free to reach out.

Thank you for your continued support. We are so excited to see what can be accomplished this school year. Go Wolves!

- Anna Hansen, Avery Herman and Naomi Pittman



For more stories and consistent updates, scan the QR code to visit our website!

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RECIPE: ICED PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE

Story by *Ethan Seydel*

Cold mornings, orange leaves, flannels, and most importantly, cozy food; what is not to love about fall? A good pumpkin spice latte can be served hot or iced, being a good pick-me-up for those chilly mornings along with warm early drives to wherever you need to go. Coffee these days is overpriced, and this is a cheap and objectively tastier alternative.

Pumpkin puree - Pumpkin puree sounds like a scary ingredient but it is actually really easy to make, just blend canned pumpkin in a blender or food processor.

Pumpkin pie spice mix - You can find a pre-made mix at the store or make your own with cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, allspice and cloves.

Coffee - I recommend 2 shots of espresso but if you want to make it easier, a half cup of dark roast coffee is a good option.

Milk - About one cup of any type of milk: almond, coconut, whole, soy or oat. It just comes down to personal preference.

Vanilla extract - Adds depth to the overall flavor, but use in moderation. (1 teaspoon at most.)

Sugar or sweetener - Honey, sugar, syrup or artificial sweetener. Use whatever floats your boat.

Blend ingredients together and top with whipped cream, cold foam or cinnamon. Enjoy!



IOWA



During speed networking students interact with professionals working across media industries.



Students get to know peers and faculty members at School events throughout the year.



Students meet with SJMC alumni and professionals in our Student Center and classes.



SJMC students create audio stories in our podcast studio.

School of Journalism and Mass Communication

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication prepares students for careers across a range of communication and media professions.

We are the only unit at Iowa that specializes in teaching reporting, strategic communication, and multimedia storytelling. At the UI-SJMC, we prepare students to take the first steps in their communication and media careers. This preparation includes robust academic advising, opportunities to participate in student groups including the award-winning *Daily Iowan* and *Daily Iowan TV*, and an extensive internship and career advising program.

The SJMC also connects students with a network of alumni who work at most every major media outlet in the country. Through generous donations from alumni and supporters, the SJMC provides its students with over \$200,000 in scholarships annually.

Graduates go on to careers that span communication and media professions. Recent graduates work as reporters, digital content producers, news producers, communication specialists, marketing directors and digital and social media storytellers for companies like:

Tampa Bay Times
PBS Newshour
Voice of San Diego
ESPN
Nike
The NFL
The Big Ten Network
Walt Disney Company

August Jackson
USA Today
The Washington Post
The New York Times
The Associated Press
Iowa Public Radio
Google
Fox Sports

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DES MOINES FARMERS' MARKET

Every Saturday until October 28, citizens of Iowa can visit the vibrant Des Moines Farmers' Market to support local farmers and businesses.

The Des Moines Farmers' Market has been a tradition since 1976 that gives handmade businesses an opportunity to spread the word about their products and services and sell to 20-30,000 people each week. It is a vibrant gathering of local handmade and handcrafted businesses.

The farmers' market allows Iowans to discover fresh produce, homemade goodies and unique crafts. It is a lively gathering space to support local businesses and enjoy the festivities of the market.

The vendors, or booths, secure their spot at the farmers' market in January during the application process.

Megan Renkel, the Downtown Farmers' Market Manager, said, "One booth space is \$65 per Saturday. So we have vendors who will take one Saturday and take one booth space, [and] we have some vendors who will take up to four booth spaces. It really depends on what they're selling."

Vendors are given the opportunity to sell their handmade handcrafted products.

"We don't have any full sale/resale, which is different to some markets, so all the vendors here are actually selling the products they make themselves," Renkel said.

"The market has been beneficial for our business. It has



helped us financially and also allowed us to reach new customers," Jenny Quiner, Owner of Dogpatch Urban Gardens, stated.

Mike Bandstra, cheesemaker and owner of Frisian Farms Cheese said, "The farmers' market is a fun and efficient way to sell our product. People can walk right up, sample our various goudas that we offer, and make a purchase. This has been a very successful retail outlet for us."

The Des Moines Farmers' Market will be open downtown every Saturday from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. through October 28, 2023.

Story by Lily Bailiff

THE FALL PLAY PROCESS

From August 29, 2023, to November 11, 2023, Northwest students will bring the show *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* from words on a page to a full main-stage production in Northwest's auditorium.

Mrs. Payton, the director of Northwest's fall production, picked *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, written by Tom Stoppard.

"I picked the show because I wanted to do a comedy, we did a serious show last year and we try to switch off every year. And also, we try to do a Shakespeare [play] every so often, because it's important that every student in theatre gets that experience," said Payton.

The point of the play is that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, characters in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, are in a world in which everything has lost its order and values. Through this, Stoppard highlights a new perspective from Shakespeare's play and focuses on the element of humor in his version instead of the conflicts between madness and sanity in the original.

The play features four main roles; Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, Player 1 and Player 2. In the play, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern venture throughout the story of *Hamlet* with a major twist, which is hidden ironically in the title. The Players are woven in as characters in this play because they are seen as the only voice of clarity throughout the absurdity of this work.

The crew of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* has been hard at work to bring this show to stage. Throughout the past month, Mr. Van Alstyne, the technical director for Northwest's production, has led students in various crews to success in different workshops after school, teaching them to operate saws, drills, wrenches and more to create props and set pieces for the play.

"If you're interested in crew in particular, you're welcome to stop by the scene shop, which is by the auditorium and woodshop room. Any day Monday, Wednesday or Friday. It's an open door policy, there is no sign-up, you can just walk in and

we'll find something for you to help with," said Van Alstyne.

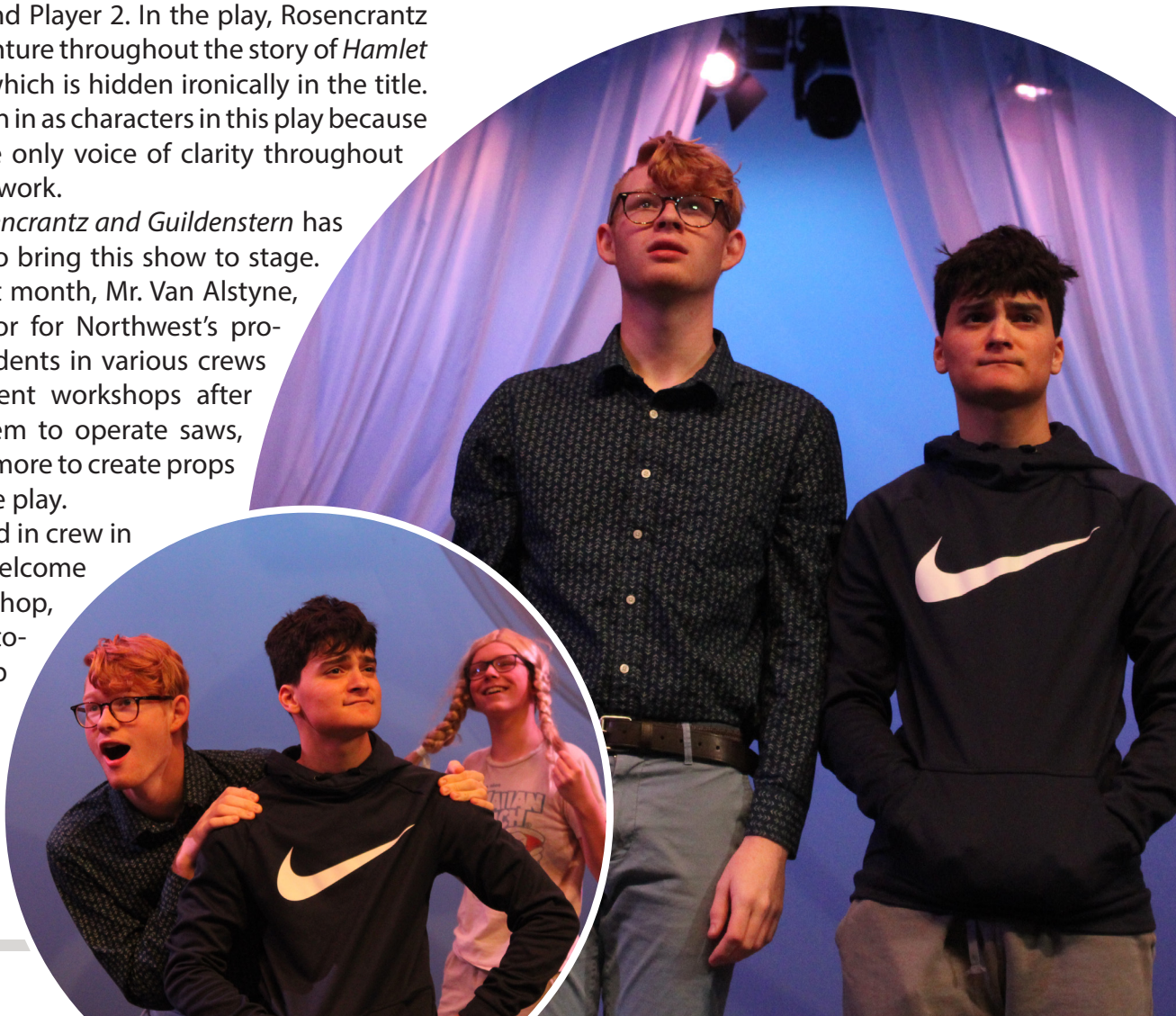
Not only is the crew responsible for the set of the play, but they are also responsible for the publicity of the play, costume and prop pieces, makeup, lighting and sound. Without the crew at Northwest, actors could not be nearly as successful at their performances.

To get involved with future productions and thespian events, the Theatre Arts department of Northwest as well as the Thespian Troupe has a social media page to connect with. Visit bit.ly/nwtheatrearts for more information.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead will take place in the Northwest Auditorium from November 3 to November 5. Tickets are available to purchase at bit.ly/nwhs-rgad or through the link in the @nwhstheatrearts Instagram.

Story by Frank Morris

Photos by Naomi Pittman



PUMPKIN SPICE FOOD REVIEW

Every September, food companies around the country begin producing infamous pumpkin spice-flavored fall treats to celebrate the season.

While these special-edition snacks stock shelves, many skip the purchase because they do not know the answer to one question; do these foods actually taste good? From cookies to crackers and everything in between, here is a fall review of pumpkin spice edition snacks.



Pumpkin Spice Cheerios

Cheerios are a popular breakfast cereal that, surprisingly, are gluten-free. Though they taste great, the pumpkin-spice edition tasted very similar to regular Honey Nut Cheerios. Consequently, I think this edition is good but could be eaten at any time of the year.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 4/10

Overall Rating: 7.5/10

Sweet Loren's Pumpkin Spice Cookie Dough

This vegan cookie is a great gluten, dairy and allergen-free option - and it still tastes great. While it brings pumpkin flavor in full force, the grainy texture could be a deterrent. "It just tastes like pumpkin spice. Like a lot of pumpkin spice," observed junior Avery Winter.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 7.5/10

Overall Rating: 5/10



Little Debbie Pumpkin Spice Donuts

Though miniature, these donuts pack in pumpkin flavor. Heavy on spice, they are great for any cinnamon-sugar lovers. However, the extreme powderiness of the donut lost it a few points, and deemed it the messiest snack we reviewed.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 9/10

Overall Rating: 6.5/10





Little Debbie Pumpkin Spice Rolls

This autumn version of a Twinkie was little more than vanilla frosting. “I can’t taste the pumpkin spice,” said sophomore Anisha Choudhary. Because of the overly sweet taste and lack of pumpkin flavor, we would be fine skipping this snack next year.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 3/10

Overall Rating: 5/10



Oreo Pumpkin Spice Cookies

This snack was an overwhelming favorite when reviewed. The orange frosting contained strong fall flavors but was diluted by the cookie. “The cookie kind of dulls [the pumpkin spice] down,” observed sophomore Reese Roettger. If the wafer contained more flavors than just vanilla, this snack would have gone from great to outstanding.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 5/10

Overall Rating: 9/10



Dunkin’ Pumpkin Spice Goldfish

Powdery and chalky, the seasoning’s taste poorly complimented the flavor of the cracker. With only a cinnamon taste, this snack was a disappointment. “It kind of tasted like the graham cracker goldfish,” remarked Roettger. We recommend this snack stays off your shopping lists this fall.

Pumpkin Spice Rating: 4/10

Overall Rating: 3/10



Story by Bailey Mahoney



TAKING CARE OF SPACESHIP EARTH

The life and times of Dr. Peggy Whitson

World-renowned Iowan astronaut Dr. Peggy Whitson held a fireside chat at the Drake Observatory on September 22 to reflect on her record-breaking career.

Dr. Whitson has spent more time in space than any other American or woman, with a total of 665 days. She became the first female commander of the International Space Station and the first female and first non-military chief of the Astronaut Office of NASA. She holds degrees in Biology and Chemistry from Iowa Wesleyan University and a doctorate in Biochemistry from Rice University. Currently, Dr. Whitson works with Axiom Space, where she was recently commander of Axiom 2 mission. To say that her achievements have made Iowa proud would be an understatement.

But her ceiling-shattering career had a humble start. Whitson always had an interest in biology, as she grew up on a farm in rural Iowa. Her desire to become an astronaut began when she watched the moon landing in 1969. At the time, women were not chosen to be astronauts, so Whitson saw her dream as something unreachable. But the year she graduated high school, NASA began selecting its first female astronauts.

After earning her PhD, Dr. Whitson spent 10 years applying to be an astronaut. She was rejected four times over the course of that decade. At the time, she worked at NASA on a joint science program in Russia during the construction of the International Space Station.

"That 10 years of rejection turned out to be extremely beneficial for me because I learned a lot of things that made me more prepared for my future adventures... every minute was worth it," Dr. Whitson reflected.

Once she was finally selected for her first space flight and had completed three years of mission-specific training, Dr. Whitson set off into space for nearly 185 days.

After three long-duration space flights, Dr. Whitson reached her current record of 665 days in space.

She also holds the record for the woman with the most spacewalks, totaling 60 hours.

"On my very first spacewalk, I felt this exhilaration, this sense of clarity," Whitson described. Seeing space from such an angle was impressive.

Many astronauts refer to this as the "overview effect," where seeing Earth as a whole

changes a person's perspective on humanity. Whitson feels that it has changed her relationship with the planet as well.

In her off-time on the ISS, Dr. Whitson's favorite thing to do was simply look out the window at Earth. "It is so incredibly beautiful. It gives you such a sense of perspective on who we are and how special this place is that we live. I like to think of it as Spaceship Earth. And we have to take care of it because we are all one here," she described.

Much of Dr. Whitson's work with NASA and Axiom is dedicated to this purpose. Growing stem cells and cancer cells is much more effective in space, which can be used to develop better treatments and therapies on Earth. Axiom is also discovering ways to recycle materials, which not only helps with future space travel but also water crises on Earth. Their systems can currently recycle 97 to 98% of water, which gives hope to communities that struggle to obtain clean water.

After years of success at NASA, Dr. Whitson now works with Axiom Space. Axiom plans to make the first commercial space station. It is set to be finished and separated from the ISS by 2030. This will allow groups that were not a part of the ISS agreement to explore space. Recently, Dr. Whitson went on a mission with three private Axiom astronauts, one of them being the first Arab woman to orbit in space.

Dr. Whitson serves as a role model for American youth and young women today, even though she never expected to become one. Her first encounter with this idea came when someone sent her a cartoon about a young girl wanting to become a space commander after seeing Whitson in the news.

"I never really thought of myself particularly as a role model. [After that,] I thought, I need to step up and own this role model thing. It felt like a lot of responsibility from that perspective," Whitson described. But she has broken records and limits and paved the way for more women and people around the globe to reach success in space.

It is easy to forget that a person with such incredible accomplishments came from such humble beginnings. As a child, Dr. Whitson had fewer opportunities than most children in Iowa and still managed to reach the stars. She urges young people who have similarly big dreams to keep working to find the best versions of themselves.

Dr. Whitson advised, "Live outside your comfort zone, because you are capable of more than you think. Outside your comfort zone is where you discover who you are."

Story by Naomi Pittman
Images courtesy of NASA

OPINIONS

“THAT’S NOT A SPORT!”

Many student-athletes at Northwest High School have had the experience of being told their sport is not actually a sport.

For students who participate in dance, cheer, gymnastics, swimming, golf or bowling, hearing they are not sports is very common. This can be frustrating for athletes who spend upwards of eight hours a week practicing, and attend numerous competitions or meets. This begs the question, what defines a sport?

Mr. Phaydavong, head strength and conditioning coach at Northwest High School, said, “In a sporting event you need to compete against another team or other aspects of a team, doing it just to do it that’s more leisure.”

This definition would include most of these activities, so why do so many activities get mislabeled if they fit the definition of a sport?

Addison Sell, a junior on the Northwest Varsity Dance Team, said, “It’s not as easy as people think just because that’s literally the point. The point of dancing is to make it look easy.”

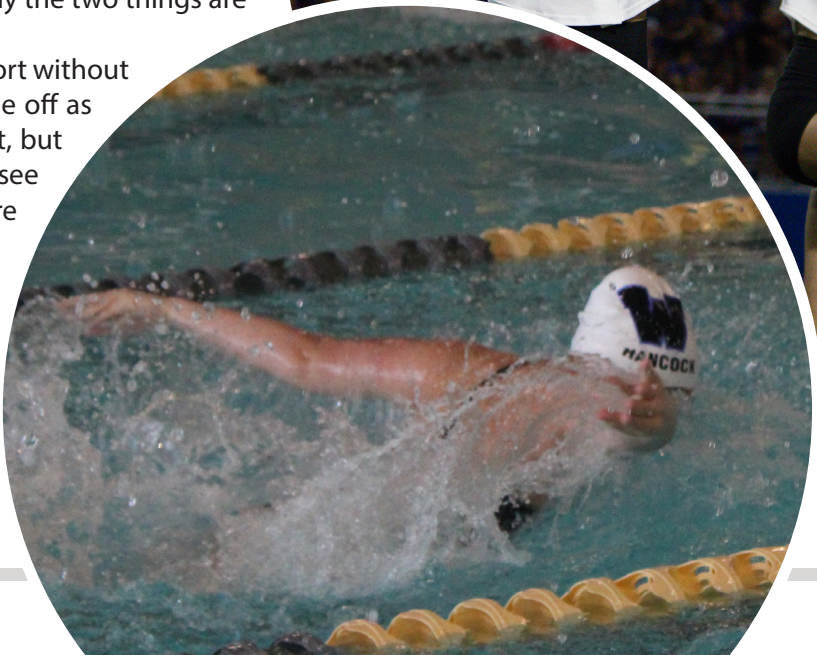
This could explain why sports like cheer, dance and gymnastics get mislabeled. These sports practice to make their routines look “easy” and pretty for those to watch, while in reality, it takes hours of practice and physical exertion to perform them. Another reason is that many people may make assumptions about a sport without knowing more.

“Don’t judge it till you try it because I guarantee it’s harder than you think,” said Amelia Habgood, NWHs varsity swimmer.

For swimming, there is a big difference between recreational and competitive swimming. People who swim around the pool for fun may assume competitive swimming is easy when really the two things are not comparable.

Personally, I believe that it is hard to judge a sport without actually being a part of it. Most sports may come off as “easy” or “a hobby” to those outside of the sport, but when someone is actually a part of it, they can see the physical effort and perseverance it takes. There probably will never be a clear answer to what is a sport and what is not, but hopefully, we can all become more open-minded when it comes to these questions.

Opinion Story by Cali Kuhl
Photos by Jack Andersen
and Ava Flores





BOOK BANS, REVISITED

On May 26, 2023, Governor Reynolds signed into law Senate File 496, which has disproportionately impacted LGBTQ+ representation in libraries, as well as restricted the intellectual freedom and choices of students.

SF 496 has not only affected LGBTQ+ teens in schools by requiring parental consent for name or pronoun changes, but it has also been disastrous for equal representation in literature at school. Many believe this law was designed to be vague so it could be unfairly enforced in order to silence and limit LGBTQ+ representation in books.

Emma Mitchell, a junior at the University of Northern Iowa and the cofounder and executive director of the Iowa Queer Student Alliance, stated, "Their overall goal is to remove the language and knowledge of certain parts of our lives from kids... The books that we're seeing banned for sexually explicit materials are inherently more queer books than not."

SF 496 describes "appropriate" books as ones with topics, messages, and teaching methods suitable for particular ages, based on the developing mindset typical for that age group.

Books must be removed if just one sentence out of a 500-page book could be considered inappropriate, which has placed a disproportionate burden on librarians and staff. Librarians now have to make difficult decisions about the removal of books as they want to comply with the law, but also do not want to restrict students' intellectual freedom.

Ms. Rechkemmer, the Northwest librarian, commented, "Since there is no guidance coming from the Department of Education, [our district] went through as a librarian team and hopefully found what we knew would be in violation. We also have forms parents and staff can fill out if they know of a book that is in violation, and after that, that book is going to be reviewed by a committee with guidance from our lawyers in terms of this vague terminology of what constitutes a sexual act, and what is 'age-appropriate.'"

It could be concluded the law was specifically written with blurred lines between "appropriate" and "inappropriate" so the Iowa government could choose how often and to what degree they enforce it. This would allow decisions regarding the direction of the law that disproportionately affect minority communities. This has been shown by the amount of books la-

beled "inappropriate" because they discuss topics like racism, sexuality or gender expression. The WCSD has an initial list of books being reviewed. Some titles may be officially removed or be returned to Waukee school libraries. This process will be completed by the January 1st deadline given by SF 496. Some titles on this list are *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou, *Milk and Honey* by Ruhi Kaur, *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson (list subject to change).

It should be noted that a number of these books mention the author's personal struggles or a fictional character's struggles as a victim of rape, incest or sexual assault. Removing stories like these creates an environment that allows victims of rape and sexual assault to be silenced so rape culture and stigma can continue to grow. These stories can be not only helpful but life-changing for students who may be experiencing similar trauma by giving them the language they need to report or recognize actions of sexual assault.

Northwest sophomore Ella Cahill observed, "I feel like they're limiting what people can learn about. I definitely think queer books or books with queer characters are more likely to be banned, which affects the representation that we then see in the library. We as a society need to have books from a bunch of different perspectives because that's what literature is and how we learn about history and people around us."

Students have also felt the impact of book bans. They no longer have full choice about what they want to read in the library. The Iowa government has taken away students' rights about what topics they want to learn about. Some Iowa legislators seem to have concocted the idea that reading a book about a queer person will inevitably make a student queer. These discriminatory and illogical ideas have no place in Iowa schools. Students deserve to see themselves and their lives represented in books. Students who are denied representation can feel alienated and detached from their peers who are allowed to be represented in books. Denying students equal representation in media presented at school will only work to reduce equity and equal opportunities everywhere.

Opinion Story by Sarah Wigton



CONCERT ETIQUETTE

The trend of fans throwing objects at artists during concerts and performances has caused controversy throughout social media.

From Harry Styles to Bad Bunny, concerts have been extremely popular over the summer of 2023. So far, Taylor Swift's Eras Tour has been by far the most popular and highest-grossing tour as it has made such a large impact on social media. The sales of concerts and live performances have increased greatly since returning to normal from the COVID-19 pandemic, but it seems over the three years of lockdown and quarantine, people have forgotten the proper etiquette for these live performances.

Senior Grace Fisher stated, "I think if you do something like throwing something at

an artist it gets attention. I remember seeing BeBe Rexha get a phone thrown at her eye and it went viral over Twitter and TikTok."

Social media has made these situations more well known as many find the trend to be amusing, and others, not so much. Comparing the fans at concerts now versus before the pandemic shows a very obvious behavioral change. Many social media users have spoken on their experiences with some stating people have been pushing through crowds or causing fights, while others claim to have seen people distracted on their phones the whole concert.

"I think when an artist is ignoring a situation, it's not discouraging it because they are not spreading awareness

on the problem and sharing thoughts of it. This makes them unintentionally encouraging it," sophomore Bella Bardwell explained.

"I think some artists haven't handled these situations appropriately, like Cardi B when she threw a microphone at a fan for throwing water on her."

Although artists have not shared their thoughts on this behavior in the past, recently artists including Adele, Billie Eilish and Drake have plead-

ed for fans to stop the disrespectful behavior. While most artists have only spoken out on social media, others have taken a different approach to these situations.

"I think some artists haven't handled these situations appropriately, like Cardi B when she threw a microphone at a fan for throwing water on her," sophomore Ruthvi Senthilkumar stated.

Now that artists are showing their disapproval of this behavior, many social media users and concert attendees question if the respectful pre-COVID concert etiquette will make a return to future performances.

**Story by CeCe Nguyen
Photo courtesy of Bella Bardwell**

19 ?s at NW

19 at Northwest is a segment where a Northwest High School student is asked to answer 19 rapid-fire questions. This time we spoke with Chase Hamilton, a Northwest senior.

Q: What's a fashion trend you hate?

A: I really hate perms, perms are really weird. I hate them, they look horrible.

Q: What's your favorite school lunch?

A: Chicken sandwich, regular, by far.

Q: What's your phone wallpaper?

A: My girlfriend.

Q: What is the weirdest contact image you have for someone on your phone?

A: The emo emoji.

Q: What's something you have on your bucket list?

A: I want to go to Italy.

Q: Do you remember your dreams? If so, what is the most memorable?

A: I don't remember my dreams actually... like I've remembered them, but I don't remember any specific one.

Q: What song/artist have you been listening to most lately?

A: Probably Laufey.

Q: If you could live in one fictional universe, which one would you choose and why?

A: Percy Jackson, because there's cool stuff. I want the cool pen sword.

Q: What's something you've dreamed of doing since you were a kid?

A: Traveling the world.

Q: What do you want to be known for?

A: Just how I'm amazing at everything, and everyone knows I'm amazing at everything.

Q: What's the most memorable thing someone's said to you?

A: Liam Hanson, not too long ago, said, "You and Jacob are like the brothers I've never had."

Q: Who's your favorite character of all time and why?

A: This one's a thinker... The dude from *Bladerunner*, the main character. Ryan Gosling, just any role Ryan Gosling plays.

Q: Are you named after anyone?

A: Actually yeah, I'm named after my dad, and his dad. It's been passed in my family for a long time.

Q: What's your favorite Pop-Tart flavor?

A: I've got a lot of opinions on this, alright? This might take a while, so there's cherry right... that one is horrible, the worst flavor on earth. The other one, the cinnamon brown sugar... That one is horrible. I don't care what anybody says, that one is also awful. I think the only

good Pop-Tart flavor is strawberry and like maybe some other random one. The s'mores one is okay.

Q: What's something most people don't know about you?

A: My entire life I've been in the shadow of Jack Imohel.

Q: If you could have anything in the world right now, what would it be and why?

A: I don't know, I've already got everything. [Maybe] a private mansion... I want two private mansions and two bat caves.

Q: What's something you can't do, but wish you could?

A: I can't wear small shoes, I wish I could, because then I could

get cool shoes. Most shoes aren't made in size 15.

Q: Which grade in school did you think was the most difficult? What year was your favorite?

A: Sophomore year was probably the most difficult for me. My favorite year was probably Junior year.

Q: Question from the previous participant: If there was one big decision you could go back in your life and change, what would it be?

A: I probably would've joined choir, choir looks fun, a lot of cool people there.

Story by Cassie Heit



PARKING PROBLEMS

At the start of the 2023-24 school year, Northwest High School changed its parking restrictions to allow all students to park in either lot, regardless of grade.

In previous years, students had a designated parking lot which was determined by grade. The south lot was designated as the “senior lot.” This lot was used mainly by seniors, along with APEX students and in-season athletes, with the first row left open for staff/visitors. The lot located to the west was then left for sophomores and juniors, with the northeast corner designated for the remaining staff.

At the beginning of the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years, if students wished to drive to school, they were required to purchase a \$20 parking pass through the NWHS office. They would then be given a parking pass corresponding to their designated lot. In order to keep students from parking in alternate lots, tickets would be issued periodically to cars without a parking pass, or in the incorrect lot.

With the start of the 2023-24 school year, Iowa Code section 279.8A was updated, forcing administrators to change parking restrictions.

An Iowa Department of Education FAQ reads, “When the bill to establish [Iowa Code section 279.8A] was introduced, the Legislature specifically removed from the bill a 13 provision that would have allowed districts to charge a parking fee.”

This means that Iowa public schools are no longer allowed to charge any parking fees. Tickets or fees charged in previous years include purchasing a parking pass, tickets for parking in the incorrect lot, tickets for parking at NWHS

without a pass, tickets for parking in reserved spots, etc. At the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, to obtain a parking pass, students were required to fill out a Google form with general information about their vehicle but did not pay to receive a parking pass.

After this Iowa Code was updated, administrators explored other options to continue to enforce which lot students could park in. One idea was to issue detentions for students parked in the incorrect lot. After further consideration, they ultimately decided giving detentions would be an inefficient use of time, due to the series of obstacles faced to find the vehicle owners.

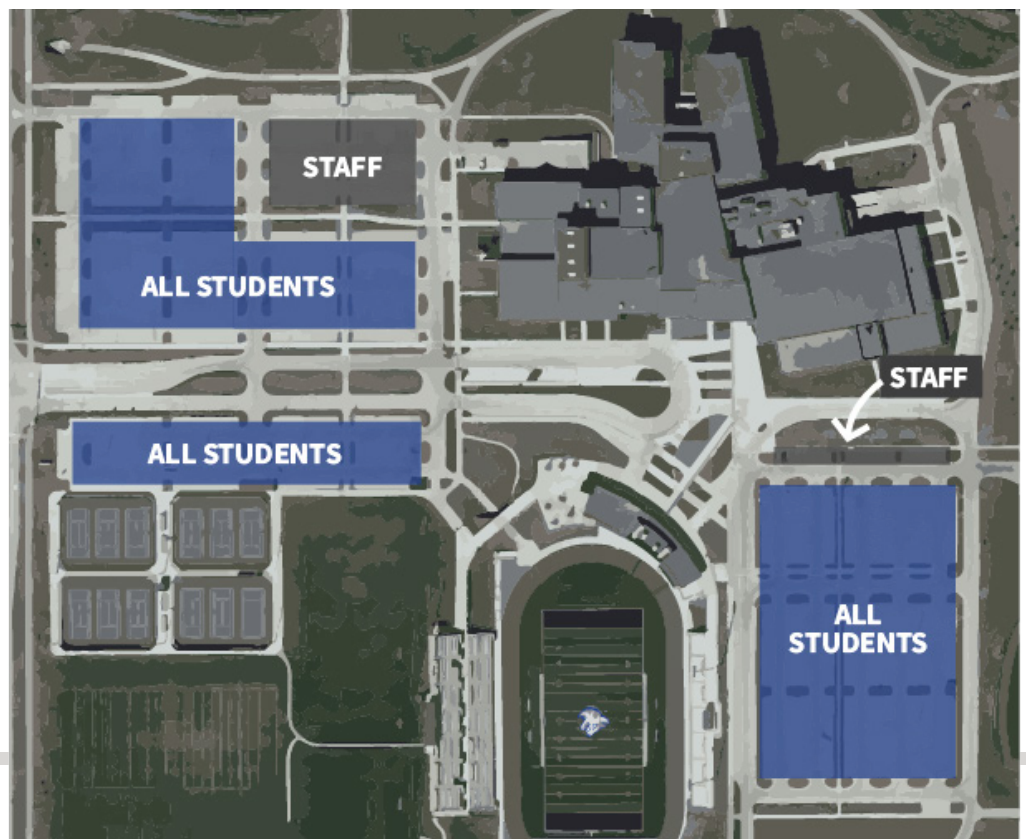
NWHS Principal Mr. Ross stated, “I apologize to the seniors for making their lives more inconvenient, and we wouldn’t have [changed the parking restrictions] if we didn’t feel like we had to.”

Many senior students had negative opinions about the parking situation.

Senior Abby Merschbrock said, “I think changing [the parking restrictions] was completely unfair. We had to wait two years to get close parking, and then they changed it our senior year.”

Although the new Iowa Code does not allow schools to charge or ticket for parking, handicap and other reserved parking is still enforced. Officer Jackson, NWHS School Resource Officer, is able to issue tickets for parking in handicapped spots without a pass. Additionally, NWHS Campus Monitor, Mr. Cameron Hansen, periodically looks at cars parked in designated staff/visitor parking to determine if students are parking there. He then issues warnings or detentions for students.

Story by Anna Hansen



STUDENT SECTION THEMES

One of the most beloved high school traditions is dressing up as a pre-decided theme to show school support during football, volleyball and basketball games. Waukee Northwest's students are no exception -- from beach-out to whiteout, there are lots of themes to be caught up on, but what are all of them, and which ones are the best?

A form was sent out asking students to rate the various student section themes. The five listed below were the most popular according to the results...

5. HOLIDAY OUT

Holiday Out is a seasonal theme that is not seen much outside of winter sports like basketball, making it a bit more obscure compared to the other themes, especially the color-based ones. Since it is not limited by color, there's much more room for creative liberty, but most students stick to holiday-themed apparel like Santa hats and sweaters.

4. BEACH OUT

Beach Out is another season-dependent theme since it is not as utilized after the warmer, early few weeks of school. Beach Out is also a theme made for students to have fun with, with lots of seaside, summery costumes and accessories populating the stands. From beach balls and sunglasses to leis and tubes, this theme is a favorite among students.

"[Beach Out is my] favorite theme, I love seeing everyone's outfits," junior Gigi Garcia stated. "This is also great for beginning [the] football season, especially this year since it was so hot the [game against Johnston]."

3. BLUE OUT

Blue Out is a popular theme for its color-coordinated unity. Not only is it easy to dress for -- all students have to do is dress in blue -- but it also celebrates one of Waukee Northwest's two main school

colors, making for a uniform, school-spirit-filled student section.

"[Blue Out is a] super cool representation of our school colors. People usually have merchandise from the school too for blue outs," senior Sophie Berger stated.

2. BLACKOUT

Blackout, like Blue Out, involves the student section all dressing up as one singular color, with the consistency of how the students dress showing Northwest's camaraderie compared to other schools. Blackout is also popular for easy access to either lighter or warmer clothing depending on the temperature and also the effect the colors have during a dark Friday night.

"Blackout is my favorite because it's so simple to do! Which means it's easy and inclusive for everyone attending," junior Lauren Dunn described.

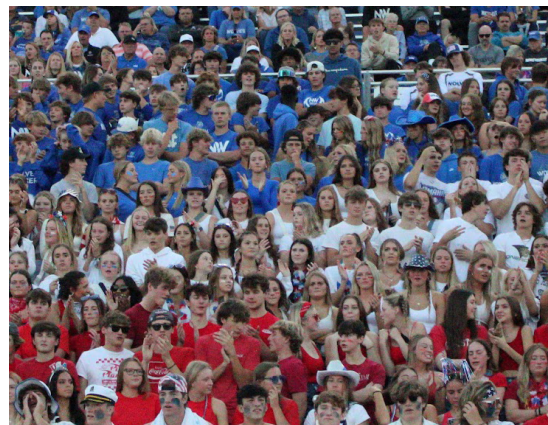
1. USA OUT

And the most popular student section theme is USA Out! USA Out extends past just celebrating Northwest, but also to celebrating the country. Each student section has its own color that helps to visualize all three of the American flag's colors. Seniors wear red, juniors wear white, and sophomores wear blue. USA Out is also popular for keeping the student section organized since each grade has to stay together in order to maintain the visual.

"I think [it] looks so cool. Especially with every grade being a different [color,] the student section looks very put together," Garcia commented. To Garcia and many other NW students, that is why USA Out is considered one of, if not the best student section themes at Northwest.

Story by Nolan Craig

Photos by Jack Andersen and Ava Flores





Spaces are included.

Across

- 1. Question kids ask on Halloween.
- 4. Jack-O-_____.
- 6. Another word for fall.
- 8. October holiday.
- 10. Says "Boo!"
- 11. Pumpkin patch activity.
- 16. Gathers leaves.
- 19. PSL.
- 20. Haunted house: Sleepy _____.
- 22. Hot fruity fall beverage.

24. Scare_____.

- 25. Can be found in fields during harvest season.
- 26. Comes after 18 down.
- 28. The itsy bitsy _____.

Down

- 2. Popular Halloween candy.
- 3. Northwest publication.
- 4. They fall.
- 5. Popular sport in the fall.
- 7. First sport pictured on page 10.

9. Rides a broom.

- 12. How XC athletes compete.
- 13. _____ weather.
- 14. First word in the title of the fall play.
- 15. Halloween gourd.
- 17. Second ranked theme on page 15.
- 18. Tenth month.
- 19. Apple, pumpkin, cherry, and chocolate are all flavors of _____.
- 21. Where one picks apples.
- 23. Iowa crop.
- 27. _____ for apples.