

APRILLA INTHIS ISSUE

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Happy April! The Publications staff has been working hard these past few months to produce engaging articles and broadcast segments. Kee Scroll's Maddox Zanders photographed the front and back cover, as well as the photo on this page. "I took this photo at the botanical garden," Zanders said. "I was using my new camera for one of the first times, and I was testing out the different modes. There were a lot of amazing flowers that look incredible on camera, especially after being edited."

for more...

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thearrowhead.waukeeschools.org

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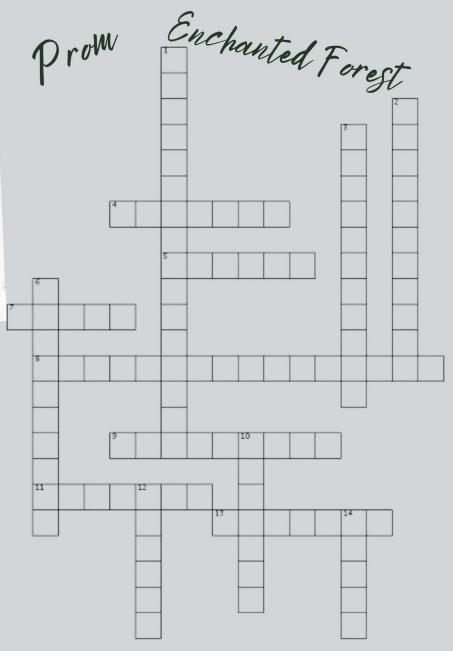




Lydia Smith. Avery Bergman. Sena Lunde. and Kiya Barlow at prom







Spring Crossword

ACROSS

- 4. April showers bring May ___
- 5. cover photographer's first name
- 7. prom month
- 8. prom venue
- 9. last name of page 7's author
- 10. small red insect with black spots
- 13. appears after it rains

DOWN

- 1. Title of Pitbull's "Hotel Motel" etc.
- 2. Tom Vilsack, Secretary of __
- 3. April holiday mascot
- 6. first day of April (holiday)
- 10. month of reflection and fasting
- 12. headline of page 10 article
- 14. McDonald's All-American at WHS

HOW TO STAY MOTIVATED

The end of the year might seem like you don't have to try as hard, but that is not the case. As the end of the school year approaches, it might be hard to stay motivated throughout the last term. Some of the everyday distractions become more present, as you drift away from your school work because you're in the mindset of summer. Junior Kimberly Sanchez said, "The hardest part of staying motivated is getting distracted, especially with my phone." Using your phone in class can distract you from getting things done, which then leads to homework, if you let homework pile up it can be hard to do it all and keep your grades up.

Having something to keep you motivated through the last few weeks is important so you can power through. When the weather starts to change, you can picture the freedom and fun of summer. Sophomore Ella Bryant said, "When it gets closer to summer it's very easy for me to get motivated at school because it's just something to look forward to and I get really excited and want to get done with school and not stress about things anymore."

Teachers also can tell when students feel the stress of school or the lack of effort towards the end of the year. On the flip side, they see some people pick up their pace and work harder because there is limited time to get their grades up . Counselor Mr.

Grandgenett said, "Well definitely everyone cares in the final weeks of each term. Term 4 is no different, but I think there is a bigger sense of urgency because there is no "incomplete and make up the next term," he said. "I think the students who are participating in something (track, golf, tennis, soccer, baseball and softball) really keep our students focused in April and May. It makes life hectic, but focused because students have something they are working for."

You must stay focused and keep up with homework and grades especially if you are in a sport because if those grades drop you could lose eligibility. Sports also give you something to look forward to day to day so you can be motivated to do something you love. Even if you don't do a sport, it's important to focus on something you know will help you specifically. Senior Ella Soliday said, "I try my best to stay up to date, I have to know my grades and GPA matter and that's my motivation." Focusing and pushing through the last few months is important in making sure you are still doing well in school and can soon be done.

Avery Jones



There's no doubt -- social media's presence is as prevalent as it's ever been, carrying massive influence. Social media can be good, depending on the user. We are no strangers to social media being used with malicious intent. Social media can be used to communicate, spread personal work, share things about life, and stay in touch with family and friends. But on the contrary social media has been used to harass people, send threats, spread hate misinformation, sell illicit products, and dox (doxxing is when someone posts private information publicly like address, social security numbers, etc with harmful intent).

Brad Podray, known as @thescumbagdad on TikTok, is a comedian from the Des Moines metro who makes skits and other comedic satire. As of Jan. 23, he has amassed 4.9 million followers on TikTok alone. In a email interview with Kee Scroll, Podray commented on the current state of videos and social media. "The new age of short-form content allows anyone to build an audience from anywhere, no matter what type of business or art they wish to create," Podray said. "By contrast, the tools available can be utilized relentlessly to spread misinformation, profit off of the underserved, and spread unmitigated hate."

Another major issue is the regulation of social media. There are around 4.75 billion registered accounts, and with more being made on a daily basis, it's almost impossible to monitor every account. Some things put in place are "bots" or automated social media accounts being banned right away in most cases. Some social media also use trigger words to take down social media posts that might violate platforms' rules.

On the other hand, social media does allow people to connect over the internet, For example, a user in the United States could contact someone in Germany with one click. Social media also has been used to help people. Support groups, Change.org, and GoFundMe have enlisted activists and supporters in ways that traditional media never could.

At Waukee High School, social media is very prevalent; almost every student has some sort of social media from Snapchat and Instagram to Discord. Social media has definitely changed the high school atmosphere dramatically in the 21st century.

Austin Bossenberger

SPRING BREAK: STUDENTS' TRAVELS

Where did you go for spring break? Many students at our school take this week to travel while we have school off. Senior Gabe Carter stated, "I'm going to Cancun, Mexico, and I'm going with a few friends and our families. I've never been out of the country before, so I'm just excited to be in a different country!"

Carter added that the lack of a holiday allows for more flexibility: "It gives everyone a true break rather than having to plan a huge family thing."

Spring break is the last big break before the end of the year, and there is this thing called a "senior trip" where seniors who are graduating soon plan a trip either with friends or family. Senior Alesandria Lo said she was looking forward to Atlantis Paradise Island in the Bahamas with her family. "We're also bringing my best friend, Brynn Herren, with us!" Lo said. "I'm most excited to enjoy some warm weather and the long awaited break!"



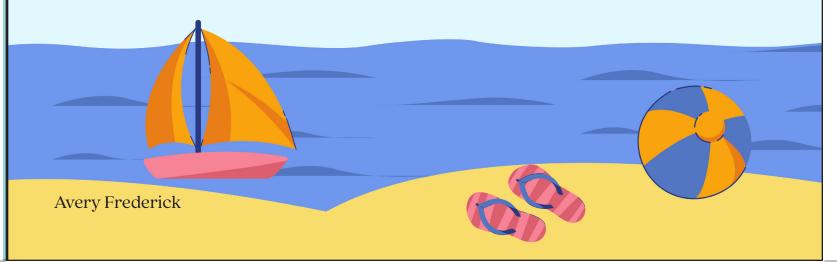
Alesandria Lo and Brynn Herren



Molly Hansen and Gabe Carter

Lo pointed out that the abundance of warm-weather destinations make spring break a welcome change from Midwest weather. "I think we all could use the week away from Iowa! And it brings us closer to the end of the school year!" Lo said.

This also is a nice break because otherwise the last half of the school year goes by really slowly, because all the other longer breaks are both before the second semester starts. So this is a really good time for students to travel, spend time with family and friends, catch up on school work, or just to relax. Someone even took two trips. Sophomore Alayna Jackson planned to visit Minnesota to see her sister and then Arizona. "I'm really excited for the warm weather, shopping, and going to the pool!" Jackson said. Overall students here at the high school seem to enjoy spring break a lot and love to enjoy the break away from school.



FROM FARM LA

Young Iowans today see our state as "flyover" country compared to destinations like California or New York. Sometimes it seems like the opportunities are in the big cities and on the coasts. But U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack believes the opposite. "Any young person who feels that way is shortchanging Iowa," Vilsack said in an interview with Kee Scroll.

Secretary Vilsack should know, after all. He entered politics as the mayor of a small Iowa city, then served as governor before being appointed twice to the United States cabinet.

"I would strongly suggest to any young person that they fully engage in a community activity with a focus of giving back," he said. "Here you can make profound life changes for yourself and others." Beginning his career as a young, rural Iowa lawyer, Vilsack has pushed through adversity and found his way into the presidential cabinet. His life is proof that success can be found anywhere, not just in the big cities.

Secretary Vilsack hasn't always been able to call himself an Iowan. He grew up in Pittsburgh and attended college in New York state. But after marrying Iowan Christie Bell and graduating law school. Vilsack received a compelling letter from his father-in-law.

"He wrote a wonderful letter to both of us extolling the virtues of living and working in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa," Vilsack remembered. The duo took the opportunity and relocated to Mt. Pleasant, where the newcomer Vilsack began looking for ways to integrate himself in the community.

He became active in local organizations Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and U assassination led to a vacancy in the mayor by the deceased mayor's father to run," said leadership skills to move the city forward." Mt. Pleasant and state senator for District 4

In 1998, four-term incumbent Republic decided against running for a fifth term in a second term as a state senator, saw an opposite had been held by Republicans for thirty year

"I was not expected to win, but I worked and I knew why I wanted the job," stated Vil opponent by six percentage points, and in o his goals. "As a result of my service in the le legislators were coming from," he said. "I ha bit easier to get my agenda passed."

The next few years brought a short-live then time spent supporting Democratic hop race. When Barack Obama was elected in 2 his Secretary of Agriculture. His new office previous offices he'd held, putting him in a responsibilities. "It's like being governor of Vilsack said. "It is exhilarating but also high

This is an abridged version of Will Bower's interview with Secretary Vilsack. For the full interview, scan here.





Secretary of State Tom Vilsack All photos: U.S. Department of Agriculture



AND

as such as the booster club. United Way. A tragic r's office in 1986. "I was asked id Vilsack. "[He] felt I had the "Vilsack served as mayor of 49.

ican governor Terry Branstad office. Vilsack, serving his portunity to flip a position that ears.

ed harder than my opponent ilsack. He defeated his office he found ways to meet U.S. Cabinet Member Tom Vilsack Proves that Iowans Can Flourish Anywhere





men's NCAA basketball tournament kicked off with a bang this year. Brackets around the country we

The men's NCAA basketball tournament kicked off with a bang this year. Brackets around the country were blown to bits by the likes of FDU, Princeton, and Arkansas. No top-seeded teams broke into the Elite Eight, and 4th seeded UConn took home the trophy. These are our most thrilling upsets from the first two rounds.

Furman (13 seed) upset Virginia (4 seed)

68-67

While this may have broken some brackets, mine included, this upset was bound to happen. Virginia had previously failed to break even 50 points in the ACC championship, exposing them as potential frauds in March.

Princeton (15) upset Arizona (2)

59-5

The unsuspected Ivy League school shocked the nation by beating a prominent Pac-12 opponent. Princeton was down for much of the game, but late in the second half, the Wildcats stalled and the Tigers gathered momentum.

Michigan State (7) upset Marquette (2)

69-60

Tom Izzo's Spartans returned to the Sweet 16 after defeating one of last year's 7 seeds, the Marquette Golden Eagles. The game was largely dominated by the Spartans. Marquette did take the lead in the early second half, but that lead wouldn't last.

Creighton (6) upset Baylor (3)

85-76

The Bluejays had a notable advantage throughout the whole game and seemed to score with ease, particularly sophomore Ryan Nembhard, who put up 30 points on the Bears. While Bears junior LG Cryer tried to drag his team through the mud to victory by also scoring 30 points, this wasn't enough for the Bears.

Fairleigh Dickinson (16) upset Purdue (1)

63-58

FDU's shocking victory over number I Purdue marked only the second time in tournament history that a I seed lost to a I6 seed, the only other time being UMBC's rout of Virginia in 2018. Purdue had a strong season in the BIG 10, and many fans wondered if Zach Edey could lead the Boilermakers to victory in their first I seed selection. The answer turned out to be no.

Pittsburgh (11) upset Iowa State (6)

59-41

The question with the Cyclones has always been, what team are you gonna see? Iowa State defeated a 1 seed this March in Kansas, yet fell to the Baylor Bears in the Big 12 semi-finals. The Cyclones circulated in and out of the top 25, being ranked 11 at one point. Overall, an embarrassing loss for the Cyclones.

Arkansas (8) upset Kansas (1)

72-71

The reigning champs led for much of the game, but halfway through the second half, it all fell apart. Arkansas' Ricky Council IV and Davonte Davis hit clutch free throws to put the Razorbacks ahead 72-69 with 7 seconds left. Kansas star Jalen Wilson drained two more free throws, putting the Jayhawks down by one. As those 3 seconds wound down, many people's brackets shouted in unison as they became... BUSTED!

WARRIOR SPOTLIGHT

OMAHA BILIEW

Q. Why did you choose to re-enroll in Waukee?

A. It's home for me, and I wanted to spend my last year around my family and community.

Q. What is your favorite part about attending WHS?

A. Just being in school with my friends and around great staff members.

Q. What has been your favorite part of this year so far?

A. Playing against Northwest with the whole community watching us.

Q. What motivates you and why?

A. My mother, and just to be great, to be an inspiration to kids who look up to what I'm doing with a basketball and who I am as a person.

Q. What is some advice you would give to younger athletes?

A. Be curious; dream then dream bigger. Enjoy your life and friends, and don't worry about going through tough times, because it sows great benefits!

Q. Who inspires you?

A. My mother was my hero; she put the cape on every single day to provide for me and my big family.

As a basketball player, I look to Kobe and what he has done for this game of basketball.





Q. How do athletics make you a better student?

A. It makes you disciplined, and encourages time management and hard work to get things done.

Q. How do you cope with all the pressure before a big game?

A. I meditate, take myself away from the game and be present with myself.

Q. What is your greatest achievement so far?

A. Becoming a McDonald's All American.

Q. Do you ever use your "celebrity" status?

A. I use my platform to get across to the people that want to see me post and also engage with them.

