



AACT journalism class writes history

New class at AACT seeks to bring news through newspaper



Photo: Kyle Fibelstad

In it's first year at AACT, the journalism class will be delivering the news through digital newspaper editions.

BY NATHANAEL PARKER
& PRESTON KERNODLE
DESIGN EDITOR & REPORTER

What is Journalism? Ever since the creation of writing, the transmission of news has been an important aspect to human society. Communication evolved from writing on walls to stone tablets, then onto papyrus and parchment. Typewriters revolutionized the written word, and now we have information available to us at the tips of our fingers. Even the Constitution gave us the right to information and the freedom to spread it.

Here at the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology, the journalism program is just beginning to kick off into gear. The question we had to consider throughout the first semester of the class, where we learned the syntax and semantics of journalistic writing, was "What is journalism?"

Many people have different ideas on what they believe

journalism is. For some students, it is a way for information to be communicated to the rest of the school and with vital information concerning everything from the local community to the world. For others, it is a fun way to increase school spirit and participation, getting students excited about the events at school, such as spirit weeks and dances. Robert Zorn is a teacher of the Communication Arts academy who instructs the Video Production classes here at AACT, which runs in a similar structure to our journalism class.

"Journalism is a communication medium that allows [citizens] to gather information and to participate in a public forum," Zorn says, "[It] is not a soapbox for reporters to rant from, but an objective platform that provides people with the data they need to make informed decisions about themselves, the world around them, and the society in which they live."

Students usually have the same idea of what journalism is. Although some think that it is a convenient method for communication, many more, such as senior Jaysen Nolte, believe it is something as simple as, "Journalism is writing stories about the news."

Junior Keegan Shepherd answered the question by saying his opinion that, "Journalism is black and white, your either going to hear the truth or a lie, everyone's opinion is different, so therefore, how is anything in Journalism accurate?"

Jonathan Parker a senior student at McQueen high, a school that runs its own journalism program, shows disappointment in the paper, "I think that they have crappy editing, that the stories put into the paper are irrelevant and shallow. Journalism is news and news reports, it is writing about what is happening in the world around us. My school newspaper doesn't post news that is current, and

they leave a whole lot up to speculation."

From this interview with Parker, it is very clear that what he wants done in journalism is something that appeals to its readers, rather than degrading itself down to trashy tabloids and gossip magazines.

Although these students may not have a good idea of what journalism might be, they do have interests and expectations of what a good newspaper should look like. If they were allowed to include a story that was relevant to them, many students claimed that they wished to see a report of the things that interest them personally.

"One story I would really like to see is one about the benefits of joining the armed forces. Information could include the GI bill [which is a government-funded armed forces leadership program], and jobs that can improve leadership skills [which are] useful in the civilian world," said Parker.

"I would include an article about the plant sale in the Natural Resource academy," senior Jaycob Nolte, who is one of the many students who help participate in the Natural Resources and Agriculture's yearly plant sale, answers.

Many of the expectations that the students, teachers, and administration at our school have about our paper include the enforcing of using valid facts and statements, as well as to include intriguing stories that discuss all the different kinds of news.

"I expect intriguing stories about local, national, and international news, as well as new about the school," senior Jaysen Nolte writes. Jaycob Nolte responded with a similar answer.

"I want the cold hard facts."

So what is really the importance of journalism? Thus far,

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MCI Capstone Project

BY TIFFANY PEREZ
REPORTER

Senior year is the most important time for the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology's future graduates; It may be the breaking point for some seniors. It's the best time of their high school years, however, you can't graduate without your capstone project.

On February 7, the Medical Academy had a mass casualty incident (MCI) drill, which is a simulation of multiple injury situations. The seniors worked on patients who were wounded in a disaster. There were nine Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) in practice, and twenty patients. They had to assess the severity of the patients' injuries.

There were different codes according to the level of their injuries:

a green code meant the patient was fine, yellow meant not at the moment, red meant that they needed care at that moment, and black meant they were pronounced dead.

Seniors Kyndra Wilson and Gabrielle Duncan were incident commanders who shouldered the responsibility of telling the EMTs what to do.

Freshman, Medical Academy student James Franckum said "It was a great experience and I liked the way everything turned out."

Photos: Kyle Fibelstad
RIGHT: Senior Gabrielle Duncan assesses the situation during the MCI drill on February 7.

BELOW: Student volunteers act as critical injury patients during the MCI drill on February 7.



AACT / Class gives AACT students a voice

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it may seem that it would be to keep your audience intrigued as well as to be a reliable source of news for the school population. When I observed other school's papers, it was clearly relevant that this concept was a goal which they tried to stay completely true to. Without reliable and pertinent news, it would no longer be news anymore. You might as well call it olds because it would no longer be new.

Along with this, our paper would no longer become a trusted news source by the

school, which reflects badly on both our district and our administration. Modern newspapers have created the standard for news reporting, and it is one that adults and students alike will hold our paper accountable for.

"Accountable and reliable news is very important so people can trust the news that is given to them," one student stated.

It is also vital to give a voice to the people who may not have one somewhere else; to allow a judgment-free space in order for both the journalists and any guest writers

to include what they believe is important for the masses to know. This basic right was given to us by the Founders of this country in the first amendment, preventing any sort of censorship towards the freedom of speech.

"Journalism is the bedrock of our democracy. It is the means by which a modern and free society engages their citizenry and governs 'by the people.' Freedom of the Press is an absolutely necessary component of a fair and comprehensive government." Zorn concludes.

AACT experiences enrollment ups and downs

BY TIANNA WHITE
REPORTER

One issue every school encounters is student enrollment and departure. Here at the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology, it is no different. This year, alone, AACT has lost more students than any other year. AACT has lost five seniors (over the summer), two juniors, one sophomore and seventeen freshmen.

Assistant principal Mary Frey is concerned with the number of freshmen who have left this year. "Whenever a student leaves, Mr. Sullivan and I take it very personally because we like the school." She adds that they are very proud of the school and want students to like it as well. Though, Mrs. Frey also realizes that it's not always possible to keep every student for various reasons.

Students leave for different reasons. The main reason is transportation, which is out of the school's hands. Other reasons are that they get home too late to do personal activities, and they miss their friends at their zoned school. For freshmen, a major reason is it is a hard transition for them to have eight classes.

Counselor Stacy Erickson responded that she and the school would do anything they can to keep students at AACT, "Students that usually leave are the ones who miss their friends and want a normal high school



Photo: Rebecca Caraway

AACT has lost a total of 25 student over the course of the 2013-2014 school year. In order to counteract this issue, the school is accepting a higher number of students for the 2014-2015 school year.

experience."

Erickson also mentions they would love feedback to why students are looking elsewhere. AACT will start to require students who leave to fill out an exit survey explaining exactly why they are leaving.

"If you make the commitment to be here, you should stay," Erickson said. She said that you earned the spot to be at this school, if you leave you have just taken someone else's opportunity to stay the whole four years. Though, Mrs. Erickson recognizes that there are some reasons students have to leave.

To prevent kids from leav-

ing, AACT plans to start doing more after school activities for students so they can make new friends. It is also possible that the school will create a freshmen orientation for new students to learn study skills and be able to juggle the eight classes in their schedule.

With a lot of students leaving, what is AACT going to do to create a balance in the schools population? Next year, the school is accepting 170 freshmen; 20 more students than last year. Depending on space, sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be accepted as well.

"Our goal is that 95% of the kids that start off as freshmen

finish or graduate. This year we are close to that goal," Frey said.

All students will go through the same process of being interviewed in order to be accepted into the school. This is regulated by the district so it is fair and all students who apply have a chance to get into the school.

Even though students have left, what about those that stay? "Most students do stay for the whole four years," Erickson said. With a small school, 25 students seems like a large amount, but comparing to the rest of the students still attending the school is still doing very well with keeping kids at the school.

Prospective students continue interview tradition

BY JADACIE DURST
REPORTER

We've all been there. We sat in front of the people that would become our teachers. We answered their questions to the best of our abilities, hoping that our answers were good enough to get us into the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology. Now, eighth graders applying to the academy have gone through the interviews.

These interviews, which took place February 10th-22nd, are the second step of the process to get into AACT. As you remember, first you fill out an application, then you go through the interviews and lastly, you wait for what will hopefully be an acceptance letter. Teachers

interviewing students went into the process looking for certain qualities in the future AACT students.

"I would like to see a student who is personable, confident, responsible, reliable, and someone who is not afraid of using their brain," early childhood education teacher Marilynn Howard said. She added that for her academy, she wanted someone with the same qualities and someone who enjoys helping out young children.

"I would like students that show that they want to be here, that they possess self-confidence and enthusiasm," Spanish teacher Corinne Carlstrom said. She also mentioned that she liked someone who uses their voice.

"I would like to see students with dedication, hard work and a sense of community," science teacher Jacqueline Raker said.

"I would look for somebody who is interested in learning different skills, that aren't available at other schools that wants to reach out and try something new. Also, someone who has commitment and is committed to coming to our school, and trying something new and fun," P.E. teacher Anna Kanarowski said. She said that after all of the interviews are done, there are many different components they use as they go through the process of applications.

A few current freshman explained how their interviews went last year.

One student said that they

were very nervous and was shaking throughout the interview. She said that she even got stuck on a question and she wasn't able to form any words. She also explained that she couldn't think of an answer to some of the questions.

"My interview was okay, it was harder than I expected," freshman Morgan Cordano explained. "I was really nervous, that's why it was hard. I couldn't really explain anything."

The first round of school applications were due on January 21st and online applications were reopened on February 1st for any academy with available openings. There will be an eighth grade night on March 17 for the students who have been accepted to the school.

ECEE holds date night fundraiser

BY KAMRYNN DEWEES
REPORTER

What did you do this Valentine's Day? The Early Childhood Education Elementary Academy put on their annual Date Night, where parents paid to leave their child/children at the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology with early childhood education teacher Marilyn Howard and, AACT ECEE student volunteers while they went out for a romantic date.

There were a total of 13 teen teachers running the event along with Howard. Parents were able to drop off their children from 4:45pm – 9pm at the AACT preschool. The cost was \$12 per child.

This is the second year the ECEE academy hosted their date night fundraiser, and this year was even more successful. They raised a record amount of money at the event.

A number of AACT teachers utilized the opportunity for the evening.

"I love date night," said English teacher Erin Mahr. "More importantly, my kids love date night."

The children started the night off by playing outside in the preschool playground. They then ate dinner. The volunteers prepared and served spaghetti and meatballs with salad, garlic bread, and fruit punch. For a Valentine's Day treat, they enjoyed some delicious valentine cookies.

Then later they played board games, played in centers, played hide and seek, and watched

the Disney movie *Brave*. For more hands-on fun, some children also enjoyed making lollipop butterflies.

The groups were separated by age so that they would have age appropriate games and movies. The younger kids stayed in the AACT preschool and the older kids went out into Howard's classroom.

"It is a great way for parents to get a night off, and time to relax," said a student volunteer.

"It is an inexpensive, fun night for my kids," added Mahr, "where I don't have to worry about the caregiver; they are well taken care of there."

The early childhood elementary education puts on their date night to raise money for their academy. The money will go to help pay for students participating in skills USA as well as for a fun academy get together, such as a bowling night or make your own t-shirt day.

Another volunteer added, "The early childhood elementary education academy's date night is a great way for parents to have some time to their self, it also gives us students some practice working and being around children. I am looking forward to helping raise money for my school."

There were 16 children that attended. The ECEE academy raised \$192. The money will also go toward the ECEE scholarship fund.

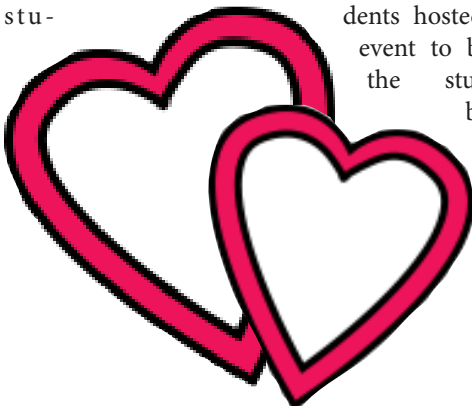
"I believe anytime we can be of service to our children and families so that parents came strength their relationships it makes for a success," said Mrs. Howard.



Comm Arts hosts movie night

BY PRESTON KERNODLE
REPORTER

Every year on February (Valentine's Day), people find someone special and give their "valentine" cards, candy, gifts or flowers. Valentine's Day is named from a Christian idealist and this day dates back to the 15th century, but its origin is in the Roman holiday Lupercalia. Saint Valentine's Day also known as Valentine's Day is celebrated throughout the world, but it is still a working day. In the spirit of the holiday, students hosted an event to bring the student body



together.

On February 14, The Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology's own Communication Arts and Media academy hosted its first ever movie night.

"Basically we want to be able to provide something fun to do after school on Valentine's Day," said president of the Communication Arts and Media Academy, senior Brittany Kent.

"Our school is so unique; we try to come up with events to get kids together and do something outside of academics," added communications arts teacher Marren Oates.

When students arrived, a vote was taken regarding which movie was to be shown; *The Princess Bride*, *Grease*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Big*, or *Forrest Gump*. Despite having this list of movies the Comm Arts academy actually showed Disney's recent release, *Frozen*.

The time of the event was on February 14th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. after school in the commons.

"They brought down all the chairs and couches. It felt very homey," said sophomore Maya Lemus.

The Blazing News

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Juniors participate in mock interview program

BY ALEJ GARCIA-MENDOZA
REPORTER

If one were to step into the mind of an Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology junior, one would encounter the stress and anxiety left from Service Learning projects, PSATs, HSPEs, juggling Honors classes, and awaiting the Advanced Placement test; to top it off the junior interviews.

Any junior knows that in the long run, it's well worth it. After all, how many high school students have the chance to say they have such opportunity? To attend a school where one is given the resources and privi-

leges to gain insight and experience for the real world? Junior interviews were made possible thanks to the administrators of AACT as well as the interviewers that volunteered.

Junior interviews at AACT, for those that are not familiar with the matter, are when adults from a certain profession meet with juniors and ask them a series of questions that also relate to an actual job interview. Interviewers and interviewees are able to connect communicatively on a different level. Students also receive advice for future job interviews, learn key fundamentals on how to prepare for an interview, and expand their knowledge of communication and social skills.

"This helps them learn what to expect," said President of the Parent Booster Club, Edes R. Hill.

A junior interview is also an opportunity to showcase the school and it is also an invitation for hard-working, experienced adults who can give guidance to young adults about the working world

to enter the world of AACT.

"These interviews help prepare students for the future; they're going to be interviewed several times throughout their lives," stated vice principal, Mary Frey.

When told about the interviews, a combination of mixed reactions spread throughout all juniors. Some were excited for the venture, others were not as eager. The suspense grew even more when the date arrived and students were presented to the interviewers. As students got to communicate with their evaluators, a bond began to develop. The anxiety had transformed into willingness, the chaos was no longer present and neither was the detachment.

"We get to see a different side of students; what their interests are and what they want to do in the future," said Frey.

Many interviewers were v e r y pleased w i t h the outcome.

"It gives me hope that young people are so prepared and willing to learn. It reinforces just how fantastic this school is," said vice president of the Parent Booster Club, Leanne Boner-Welch.

One important aspect of any interview is, of course, the resume. A good resume consists of organization, detail, and information presented.

"The objective should be important and the resume should be brief and highlighted," said Frey.

Another element of interviewing is communication.

"One should practice before the interview and be focused during the interview. Students should be confident and specific when they answer questions," recommended Hill.

How students present themselves is how they will be remembered; this also influences how the interviewers will review them. Students are recommended to dress professionally and be ready for anything that comes their way. For juniors who have been interviewed, they're one step closer to succeeding in the adult world.

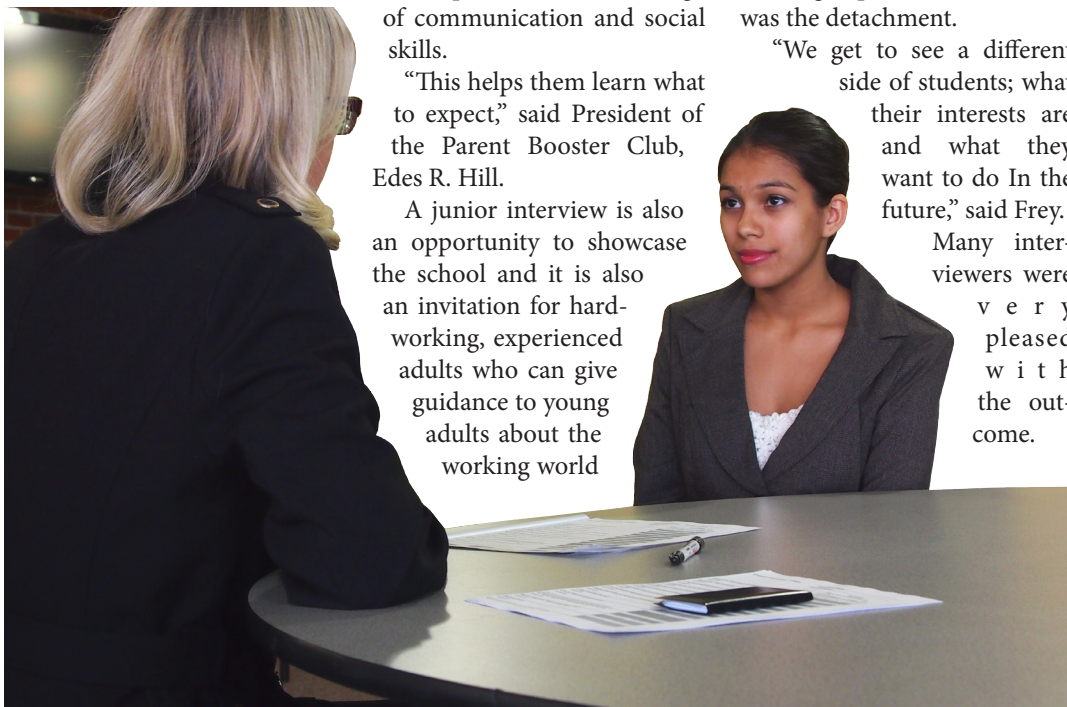


Photo: Kyle Fibelstad
Junior Evelyn Hernandez interviews with a community member during the junior interviews.

AACT restaurant offers the taste of success

BY JAMES FRANCKUM
REPORTER

On January 30, the culinary students opened up the restaurant again after it closed for the three week winter break. The days it will be open are February 13, February 27, March 13, March 27, April 17, and May 1. If changes are made, they can be viewed on the school website. The restaurant will be open from 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m., but the times can vary. They do private parties too, and it is open to the public as well as the students. They have a changing theme so they won't have the same menu twice. On the 30th of January, the theme was Latin America.

It takes approximately an hour from being seated to meal completion, and reservations

can be made by phone at 775-327-3932 or through email at culinary@washoeschools.net.

On the opening day in January, there was a fuel leak on one of the small burners that was used to keep food warm that resulted in a small fire. It broke out during guest seating. First, a student chef tried to cover the fire with a small towel. They had to get a fire extinguisher to completely put the fire out, but by then the fire fighters had to come to ensure the room was safe for lunch to continue. Once cleared, lunch continued seamlessly.

All the food is prepared and served by the students. Science teacher Laurie McKinnon visited the restaurant and said, "Yes it was very cool and I try to go when I can. I was impressed that the students make the food

and that some of it is made right in front of you. The food tastes great and the chefs don't make it - the students do."

Jack Wayman also said, "The restaurant is bright and cheerful, serving items that one would normally find on a very fancy menu. The food is prepared exquisitely and presented with flair." He has been able to attend two times so far.

The theme for the menu on January 30 was based on the idea that in Latin America, instead of being visited by Santa Claus, they are visited by the three wise men, or the three magic kings who visited baby Jesus. The appetizer was stuffed jalapenos filled with meat and cheese, followed by napale salad or lentil soup with apple-wood bacon bits and winter vegetables. The entrée was chicken

with garlic and sautéed caramelized onions with fresh tortillas and poblano potato salad, or mixiotes lamb with tortillas, guacamole and pico de gallo salsa.

On February 13, the menu included beet merengue as the appetizer, potato soup arugula salad as the sides, beef cheeks lamb as the main meal and the dessert was a deconstructed caramel apple.

The February 27 menu featured poached pear salad, blackened chutney halibut, two types of intermezzo, chicken bruschetta, hanger steak and chocolate bowl with raspberry mousse.

So come to the AACT restaurant and enjoy sophisticated food that is prepared by your classmates in an extremely professional atmosphere.

Broadcasting team provides visual news outlet

BY EVAN SU
COPY EDITOR

The Communication Arts Academy is creating a news show. The news show will broadcast general news around school. The schedule for the first broadcast is every second

week and the news team has been already assembled.

Senior Nathanael Parker is the host of the show. Seniors Delana Pennington and Rachel Dutton are the writers. Senior Kyle Fibelstad is the floor director and junior Jonah Lack is the technical director. Junior

Nick Olsen, sophomore Dusty Smithson, juniors Evelynne Opplinger, Jorge Silva, and Jasmine Ponce are the reporters and producers.

“The style of this news show is similar to Conan,” said Fibelstad. “The main purpose of the broadcast is to train students

for future careers.”

One of the main feature of the Communication Arts Academy is the video production process. Many of the student receive hands on experience to help ready themselves for their careers.

According to communication arts teacher Robert Zorn, “The idea is to provide a news outlet for the school with interesting stories not just about the school but about things that matter to teens and that will help them through their high school careers. In lieu of a live production we will be uploading shows to the Communication Arts website, trailblazer-media.org.”

The show’s layout consists of a single host directing the show with fellow reporters delivering news stories. It will be pre-recorded instead of broadcasted live, which many returning students are used to.



Photo: Kyle Fibelstad

Senior Nathanael Parker, and juniors Jonah Lack, John McDonald, and Rachel Dutton prepare for a practice run of a recent broadcast.

F.F.A. week combines education, entertainment

BY REBECCA CARAWAY
REPORTER

What exactly is F.F.A.? Most of you have heard of it but do you truly know what it is?

F.F.A. for starters stands for Future Farmers of America. F.F.A. started in the early 1920s when it was called Future Farmer Clubs and was founded in Virginia. The club was exclusively for boys. Henry Groseclose, an agriculture teacher from Blacksburg, had started Future Farmers of Virginia. Later on he then became known as the “Father of F.F.A.” F.F.A. was officially founded in 1928.

The F.F.A. colors were established in 1929 at the second convention, and are national blue and corn gold. In 1934 all states but Rhode Island had joined FFA and had F.F.A. chapters. In 1969 female students were allowed to join F.F.A.

The uniforms for females are a black skirt, white collared blouse, the official FFA blue ascot, black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe, black nylon hosiery and the official FFA jacket zipped to the top. For males the uniform is black slacks, white collared shirt, the official FFA tie, black dress shoes, black socks, and the official FFA jacket zipped to the

top.

Agriculture teacher Michelle Burrows stated, “F.F.A. means an opportunity for students to learn about agriculture and natural resources while learning leadership and team work.”

“F.F.A. means having fun with friends and learning more about agriculture,” sophomore Sydney Kaplan had explained.

Sophomore Emily Guardado added, “It means to educate people about agriculture.”

F.F.A. is part of the Academy of Arts, Careers and Technology (AACT) community. Every month, when they have their meeting they wear the official F.F.A. uniform. The agriculture class here teaches about F.F.A., from the F.F.A. creed to the emblem and what it symbolizes.

The annual F.F.A. Week took place February 17-21. F.F.A. Week was established in 1947 to go on during the week of George Washington birthday. F.F.A. members are given the opportunity to advocate about agriculture education and of course F.F.A.

The 18th was Career Dress up Day. The lunch room activities were booths that the academy had made, they passed out slips of paper with the F.F.A. emblem for the people running the booths to sign cards, who-

ever had the most signatures received a five dollar gift card to the bakery here at AACT. The 19th was Farmer Dress Up Day. During lunch they had a spitting contest and whoever got the farthest distance won. The 20th was Camouflage Day. During lunch they had a cookie face contest, where a person put a cookie on the competitor’s face, and the competitors used facial muscles to get it into their mouth the quickest. On Friday the 21st it was Blue and Gold Day. During lunch the Natural Resources and Animal Science (NRAS) academy gave out ice cream.

“I think it did go as plan, but we’re always looking for ways to improve it. For example we would like to get more participation in the lunch time activities,” Burrows explained.

Guardado commented that her favorite part was the lunch time activities.

Kaplan said, “Staying for midnight madness and decorating the school.”

Burrows said, “The decorations were my favorite part of F.F.A. week because the students worked really hard coming up with the themes and ideas, making them, and putting them up around the school, to help all the students learn about

F.F.A., natural resources, and agriculture.”

F.F.A. week has now come and gone, and won’t be back until next year. Who knows what the N.R.A.S. week has in store for next year.



Photo: Evan Su

English teacher Greg Burge speaks at the assembly during F.F.A. week.

U.S. finds success at controversial Olympics

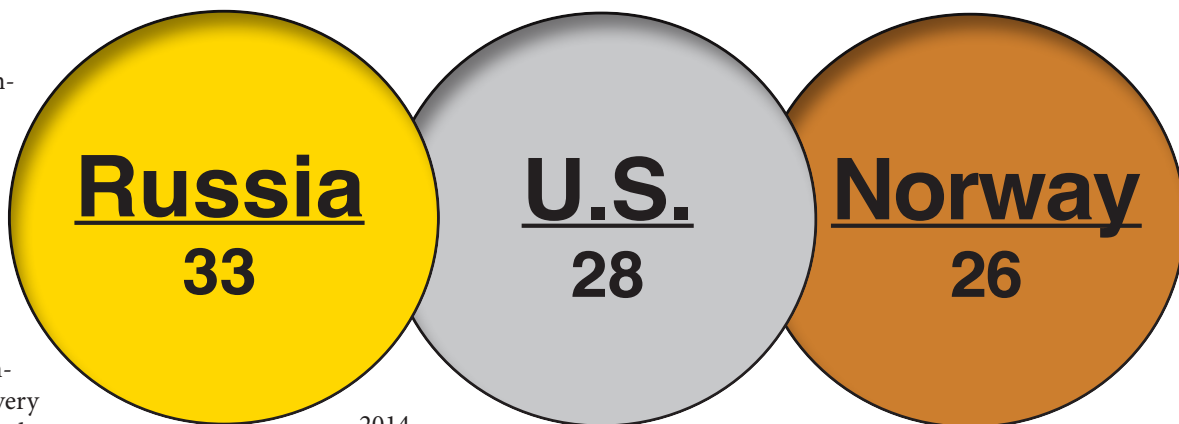
BY CORY STARKS
REPORTER

The Winter Olympics is a time for cold-weather athletes to show the world their expertise in various sporting events. Almost 2,900 competitors from over 88 nations, who have put in countless hours of intense training, meet every four years to compete and represent their country in the hopes of winning a gold, silver, or bronze medal.

This year's Winter Olympics ended with Russia taking home the largest number of medals with 33, the United States followed with 28, and Norway took the third spot with 26.

The 2014 Winter Olympics consists of 98 events in 15 winter sport disciplines which include bobsled, ice hockey, figure skating, freestyle skiing, snowboarding, and cross country skiing. Snowboarding, in the winter Olympics, seems to be the most popular in Reno because many people from Reno and the Tahoe area are snowboarders.

Russia hosted the 2014 Winter Olympics in the balmy seaside city of Sochi, and with more than \$50 billion spent on them, they were the most expensive Olympics ever. The opening ceremony of the 2014 Winter Olympics took place at the Fisht Olympic Stadium in Sochi, Russia, on February 7th,



2014.

To some, it seems ironic that \$50 billion was spent on the Winter Olympics because most freshmen find joy in one dollar.

Considering the Olympics costs so much money, you must ask yourself, is it really worth it?

Freshman Jacob Friedman said, "I don't really find joy in the winter Olympics so I think it isn't really worth it."

In addition to the cost of this year's Olympics, there are other interesting facts behind the Olympics.

One interesting fact is that the top 10 all-time Winter Olympic medal winners includes both the Soviet Union and East Germany. The USSR collected 194 winter medals, making it third all time, between 1952 and 1991. Meanwhile, East Germany's participation only lasted from 1968 to 1988, but managed to win 110 total winter medals during that time, placing them 10th

overall.

Another fact is that Sochi is about as far as you can get from the sprawling snow-covered steppes of popular imagination. A 37-hour train ride from Moscow, it's located in Russia's deep south on the Black Sea, and boasts palm trees, pebble beaches, and sulfur hot springs that were once frequented by "Soviet leaders, acclaimed cosmonauts, actors and other members of the Soviet jet set," according to the Sochi Project. There is no snow in the city of Sochi.

That doesn't present problems for indoor events like figure skating or curling, but for alpine sports like skiing, athletes will have to travel to Krasnaya Polyana in the Caucasus Mountains, a few dozen kilometers away. Organizers are also depending on loads of snow that were taken from the mountains last winter and kept in storage.

Super Bowl XLVIII ends in lopsided 43-8 score

BY DALLAS CHACON
REPORTER

Let's get straight to the facts, the Seattle Seahawks dominated the Denver Broncos throughout the entirety of the game and were declared Super Bowl XLVIII Champions with a final score of 43-8.

Before the game had even started, the Broncos were confidently picturing the Lombardi Trophy in their hands for the third time in 20 years. But within the first twelve seconds they had already tensed up when Bronco's quarterback, Peyton Manning, was snapped a high ball that flew out of his hands and into their end zone, causing a safety, worth two points, on the board in favor of Seattle.

Even from the beginning of the game some students at the Academy of Arts, Careers, and Technology were not expecting such an early mistake from the Broncos.

"I expected the Broncos to

do better because Peyton Manning was doing so well until then," said freshman James Harney.

From there, the Broncos' chances of winning went downhill. After the safety, the Broncos took the ball again and went for another chance at scoring. Unfortunately, they ended with a three and out and were forced to punt the ball away. Towards the end of the first quarter the score was already 8 - 0 due to the first of many interceptions thrown by Peyton Manning.

After the horrible first quarter the Broncos knew they had to step it up; they had already thrown one interception, fumbled one ball (recovered by Denver), and caused a two point safety in their own end zone.

Things were not looking good for the #1 offense in the NFL coming into the game. When the Broncos got the ball back in the second quarter they were starting to get back into

rhythm. They were gradually going down the field and it looked like they might be able to come up with some points.

That was until Manning threw his second interception, this time for a big return. Malcolm Smith, a player on the Seahawks who picked off the pass thrown by Manning ran the ball all the way to the end zone racking up a whopping 69 yard touchdown. That pick and multiple other mistakes added up to a 22 - 0 shutout in favor of Seattle that helped shut down Denver's spirits and determine the outcome of the game.

After the disappointing second quarter the Broncos hoped for some good luck after the Bruno Mars Half Time Show. Sadly, their hopes were crushed twelve seconds into the 3rd quarter. The Broncos kicked the ball off to the Seahawks and were forced to witness an 87 yard return by Percy Harvin which was highly coincidental considering the first

score of the first quarter was 12 seconds into the game. The only thing that looked good in the 3rd quarter for Denver was a 14 yard touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas and a successful two-point conversion to Wes Welker.

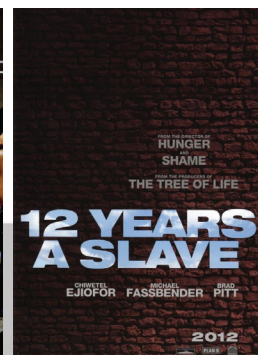
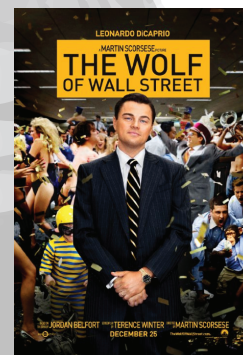
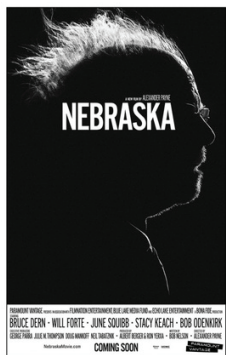
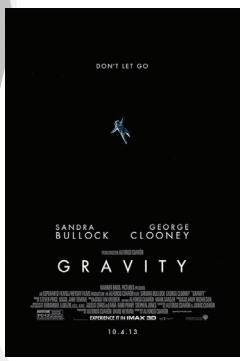
The game never got better for the Broncos from that point on. They attempted an onside kick to start the fourth quarter but were unable to recover. Russell Wilson promptly dispelled any idea of a comeback when he found Doug Baldwin for a 10-yard touchdown. That placed the final nail in the Broncos' coffin.

To add insult to injury, Manning fumbled the ball with four minutes left in the game, which resulted in Super Bowl XLVIII ending with a 43 - 8 score. The outcome of the game was surprising to those supporting both teams.

"I was expecting the Broncos to lose but not that badly," said freshman Ali Hernandez.

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS

- Best Picture----- American Hustle, Captain Philips, Dallas Buyers Club, Gravity, Her, Nebraska, Philomena, The Wolf of Wall Street, 12 Years a Slave
- Best Actor----- Christian Bale (American Hustle), Bruce Dern (Nebraska), Leonardo DiCaprio (The Wolf of Wall Street), Chiwetel Ejofor (12 Years a Slave), Matthew McConaughey (Dallas Buyers Club)
- Best Actress----- Amy Adams (American Hustle), Cate Blanchett (Blue Jasmine), Sandra Bullock (Gravity), Judi Dench (Philomena), Meryl Streep (August: Osage County)
- Best Supporting Actor ---- Barkhad Abdi (Captain Phillips), Bradley Cooper (American Hustle), Michael Fassbender (12 Years a Slave), Jonah Hill (The Wolf of Wall Street), Jared Leto (Dallas Buyers Club)
- Best Supporting Actress --- Sally Hawkins (Blue Jasmine), Jennifer Lawrence (American Hustle), Lupita Nyong'o (12 Years a Slave), Julia Roberts (August: Osage County), June Squibb (Nebraska)
- Best Director ----- Alfonso Cuaron (Gravity), Steve McQueen (12 Years a Slave), Alexander Payne (Nebraska), David O. Russell (American Hustle), Martin Scorsese (The Wolf of Wall Street)
- Best Animated Film ----- The Croods, Despicable Me 2, Ernest & Celestine, Frozen, The Wind Rises
- Best Foreign Film ----- The Broken Circle Breakdown (Belgium), The Great Beauty (Italy), The Hunt (Denmark), The Missing Picture (Cambodia), Omar (Palestine)
- Best Original Screenplay - Eric Singer and David O. Singer (American Hustle), Woody Allen (Blue Jasmine), Craig Borten and Melisa Wallack (Dallas Buyers Club), Spike Jonze (Her), Bob Nelson (Nebraska)
- Best Adapted Screenplay - Richard Linklater, Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke (Before Midnight), Billy Ray (Captain Phillips), Steve Coogan and Jeff Pope (Philomena), John Ridley (12 Years a Slave), Terence Winter (The Wolf of Wall Street)
- Best Original Score ----- John Williams (The Book Thief), Steven Price (Gravity), William Butler and Owen Pallett (Her), Alexandre Desplat (Philomena), Thomas Newman (Saving Mr. Banks)
- Best Original Song ----- Alone Yet Not Alone (Alone Yet Not Alone), Happy (Despicable Me 2), Let It Go (Frozen), The Moon Song (Her), Ordinary Love (Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom)
- Best Cinematography ----- The Grandmaster, Gravity, Inside Llewellyn Davis, Nebraska, Prisoners
- Best Costume Design ----- American Hustle, The Grandmaster, The Great Gatsby, The Invisible Woman, 12 Years a Slave
- Best Documentary ----- The Act of Killing, Cutie and the Boxer, Dirty Wars, The Square, 20 Feet from Stardom
- Best Short Documentary -- Cave Digger, Facing Fear, Karma Has No Walls, The Lady Number 6: Music Saved my Life, Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall
- Best Film Editing ----- American Hustle, Captain Phillips, Dallas Buyers Club, Gravity, 12 Years a Slave
- Best Makeup and Hair ----- Dallas Buyers Club, Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa, The Lone Ranger
- Best Production Design --- American Hustle, Gravity, The Great Gatsby, Her, 12 Years a Slave
- Best Animated Short ----- Feral, Get A Horse!, Mr. Hublot, Possessions, Room on the Broom
- Best Live-Action Short ---- Aquel No Era Yo (That Wasn't Me), Avent Que De Tout Perdre (Juset Before Losing Everything), Helium, Pitaako Mun Kaikki Hoitaa? (Do I Have to Take Care of Everything?), The Voorman Project
- Best Sound Editing ----- All Is Lost, Captain Phillips, Gravity, The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, Lone Survivor
- Best Sound Mixing ----- Captain Phillips, Gravity, The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, Inside Llewellyn Davis, Lone Survivor
- Best Visual Effects ----- Gravity, The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, Iron Man 3, The Lone Ranger, Star Trek: Into Darkness



Gone

BY ROCHELLE FAULKNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was 2020.

My friend, Shae, and I were in a space station. We were wandering around because it was so big and nobody was there. We ran into this really cute scientist. He had boy-long, caramel brown hair. His hair tips brushed the collar of his long white lab coat. His sea blue eyes that are faded in some parts could catch anybody's attention. He had a regretful look in his eyes.

He then said hi. He took us to this room that looked like the sea and the mountains mixed together. It was so beautiful. He said this was his room and we need to stay here because it is dangerous in the station. We agreed and he left.

A while later we heard a knock on the door. We gave each other a confused look. I walked over to the peephole to see a very big guy who looks angry. I stepped away from the door and sat down on the bed next to Shae.

The door flew off the hinges and the guy was standing there looking at us. His surprised face turned to anger. He grabbed our arms and dragged us out of the room. He guided us into another, bigger room, full of people in white coats, and threw us into a transparent room. We couldn't hear anything but we could see everything.

When our cute scientist walked in and saw us, he dropped his test tubes and the condiments spilled everywhere. He walked over the guy that brought us here. He talked and then our scientist came over to our room, put in a code and the door opened. He came in and the door closed.

He asked, "How did you guys get here? I thought I told you to stay in my room."

"We did, but the guy you talked to came and got us." I explained

"How?" He asked

"He just knocked down the door, saw us, got angry and dragged us here." I told him

"Damn him! He can never stay out of my room"

"So what is going to happen to us now?" Shae asked

"Well he is probably going to kill you guys. That's why I tried to hide you guys in my room"

"You mean we are going to die?" I asked

"Probably" His face expressed so much sadness.

We were all quiet for a moment. We didn't want to die and our scientist, Eric, didn't want us to either.

"What is your name?" I asked

"Eric" He said

"Can you do something? Anything?" I prompted

"I'll try but I can't promise you anything"

"Thank you."

He nodded and then left but before he did, he turned around and asked, "What are your names?"

"I'm Cleo," I said

"Shae" She said

"Hum, nice. Well hopefully you guys can stay

alive. I'll see you soon." Eric said and left. I sat down against the wall.

"What do we do now? We can't die." Shae asked

"I know but what can we do?" I replied

He sat quietly then a young, female scientist opened the door.

"Hello, my name is Dr. White, but you can call me Rayna" Rayna said

"Hi, I am Cleo and this is Shae" I told her.

"Nice to meet you two. So how did you guys get to our station?" She asked

"We don't know" Shae said

"Hum. Well the commander gave his order and said you both have to die by..." She swallowed. "By disintegration"

"What is that?" I asked

"It's where they turn you to ash" Rayna responded

I gulped.

"When is it going to happen?" Shae asked breaking the awkward silence.

"In 30 minutes."

"So soon?" I asked

"Yes. We still have stuff to do."

We were all quiet.

"Well, I'm going to come back when it is time. You will see the commander first and he will assign you to a glass room and start it." Rayna informed us.

We couldn't say anything; we were too shocked. She left. Thirty minutes went by so slow yet so fast. She came back, got us and took us to the commander. He stared at us for the longest time and then got off of his seat. He grabbed both of our arms and took us to another set of glass rooms. He put me in the farthest one away from the lab and Shae in the closest one; he separated us. Everyone had shocked faces on. Then Rayna came running to us. She got in the box with Shae.

"Cleo, don't worry, you are going to live. Shae and I aren't. That's why the commander separated you." Rayna exclaimed

"No! You cant!" I screamed but the commander already started it. Everybody started to sing; all in unison. A couple of people were in the same box as Shae and Rayna that I hadn't noticed before. They were also singing. It wasn't anything I've heard before or even understand. I closed my eyes. I couldn't handle it anymore. Everything stopped. It was quiet aside from my crying. I slowly opened my eyes and there was so much ash in that glass box. I knew Shae and Rayna were in that ash. I looked around and saw a door opened behind me. I ran out, not wanting to see anymore. I ran and ran until I bumped into something. It was Eric; I ran into Eric. I was still crying and he wrapped his arms around me.

"Come with me."

I didn't argue mostly because I couldn't. He led me to his room. We sat on his bed and cried more. I couldn't believe I was being this weak in front of Eric. My best friend just died in front of me. I should be allowed to be weak. I was half awake when he laid me down on his bed and laid with me. It felt comfortable. He comforted me until I fell asleep.

Oculus Rift aims for virtual reality milestone

BY EVAN SU
COPY EDITOR

Technology is one step closer to achieving virtual reality. Instead of playing games with the monitor, the user can be playing in the game. The Oculus Rift is a device that allows the user to see in a first person perspective.

"Oculus Rift, the world's first consumer grade virtual reality headset," said Jonatihan Leack.

The Oculus creates a sense of reality by moving the screen when the user's head moves. It has three sensors that determines the direction of the device. The information is then sent to the computer, similar to how the mouse sends information to the device. It also receives video information from the computer. The video info is transferred to the bilens of the Oculus.

The benefit of its' operation is that it gives the sense of visual reality. Video game developers can use this new technology in their game to improve its interactive quality. In combination with stereo sound, games can achieve more realistic gameplay.

"It almost goes without saying that first-person gameplay is pretty much a necessity," said Merrt Hussein. "The Oculus Rift was extremely responsive, far more than I imagined." "Valve's Steam Box and the Oculus Rift virtual reality headset will define next-generation gaming, not the Xbox One or PlayStation 4," said Eddie Makuch.

Currently the headset is being sold for \$300. It is past beta production and is readily available to the public to buy. The Oculus Rift is a revolutionary accessory that can improve the gameplay experience.

Want to see your original work in *The Blazing News*?

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In the Next Issue...



Photos: Kyle Fibelstad

The Culinary Academy held a ceremony on February 27, to celebrate and recognize their recent achievement. The academy was recently certified by the Secondary Committee of the American Culinary Federations Education Foundation Accrediting Commission. This is a top honor for the academy. Check back for the full story on...

March 28, 2014.

T NEWS

2/21

5° **Wyatt Daane** had the first triple play ever here at AACT. He caught the ball in the out-field for the first out and touched the second out. He then ran down the player going back to first for the third out. How about that!

6° **Zach Brown** was all over the field playing ultimate Frisbee. He was an animal on defense. Zach was knocking everything down in the air. He was an extreme help on offense too. **Stephanie Cole** was a beast on scoring. She racked up four points with her team feeding the Frisbee. She made some great catches. **Luis Escalona** played iron man for both teams.

7° **Gregory Symonds** had on his black whole gloves. He stopped all the shots but three and helped his team win the game. **Madie Newcombe** was literally tearing up the *asphalt* while she was working with **Victor Ventimilla** to score. **Gregory Woosley** kept clearing out the ball for his team.

ACADEMY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Gloria Sanchez

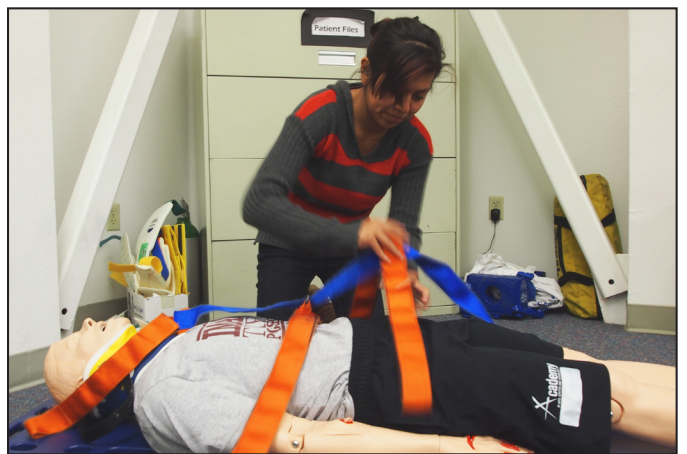


BY WHITNEY RICHARD
REPORTER

Gloria Sanchez, senior culinary student, made a great contribution to the Academy Restaurant with her chicken menu. Including all of her hard work, her menu was just another addition to the amazement of the academy.

"She's a super hard worker." Culinary teacher Lee Wilhelm claimed. Sanchez's menu took twelve hours out of her day to be made and was picked on January 30th for the menu at the current time. She has established high standards for the other culinary students' menus as well as inspired her peers to succeed.

Abigail Fernando-Salas



BY WHITNEY RICHARD
REPORTER

HOSA competitions are always a lot of work and can be stressful, but that doesn't bother Abigail Fernando Salas.

"She's always at every meeting [for the medical academy officers] and puts a ton of time into registering us for HOSA," physical education teacher Joe Trischetti explains. "She has a good attitude towards things and puts input. If we didn't have her, then we would lose a great piece of the puzzle." Fernando Salas not only helps register students for HOSA, but constantly works for the medical academy, leaving a great impression on the academy itself.