

# The LEOPARD PROWL

Student Newspaper of Lincoln Junior/Senior High School  
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## Learning about the real world



Junior Brianna Wilson decides which house will make the best fit for her life and budget. Students rotated through three different stations at the second county-wide career day at Sylvan-Lucas High School on November 9: financing, health and job interviews and resumés. (photo courtesy of the Live Lincoln County Facebook page)

**DYLAN BABCOCK**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In November 2015, the Lincoln County Economic Development Foundation (LCEDF) and Lincoln County "Home" Team hosted the first county-wide career day for the local public high schools: Lincoln, Sylvan-Lucas and Tescott. They had the goal of letting students know that "Whatever you want to do, you can do it here." After the event, volunteers who helped plan this first career day began thinking about what to do next. With three to four months of strategic planning, the Lincoln County "Home" Team was able to design a day that focused more on preparing students for life outside of their career.

On November 9, 2016, LHS students travelled to Sylvan-Lucas High School for the second career day that was put on with the help of nearly 30 volunteers. At the event, students were divided up into three different groups and rotated through three different stations: financing, health and job interviews and resumés.

For the finance activity, students were given a salary that was comparable to one they would see in the career that they wanted to go into, a marital status and the amount of kids they had. They then went to the different booths, where they could purchase a car, house, insurance, utilities, entertainment, invest money, roll a dice for the chance of making or losing money, and much more. At the health activity, students broke up into groups and created monthly budgets for someone who suffered from a common health issue or disease.



Lincoln High School students Colin Obermueller (left) and Dylan Babcock (right), both juniors, choose how to pay off their college loans and determine how much money to save in the bank. With the help of nearly 30 community volunteers, students were able to learn about how the decisions they make can have a major affect on their lives. (photo courtesy of the Live Lincoln County Facebook page)

The job interview and resumé activity taught students how to make a professional resumé and tips for having a good job interview. Students also learned how their posts on social media can have a major affect on their lives and how they can affect your ability to get a job.

"We wanted to give students a 'reality check' on how decisions they make in life, whether it's financial decisions, health choices, or social media activities, can have a direct impact on their future careers," Kelly Larson, director of the LCEDF, said. "I thought it went really well. It seems both the students and the volunteers were having fun, especially in the finance session. I really enjoyed listening to the conversations between the students and volunteers as the students were making financial decisions based on their wants versus needs. Some students were able to get creative or realized they had to make sacrifices to stretch their dollars and make ends meet."

Overall, the day was enjoyed by LHS students that attended. In a survey, 24 out of 38 students gave the event a seven out of ten rating or better based on if they had fun and learned something. As for the favorite activity of the day, 20 out of 30 students chose the financing activity.

Sophomore Mikayla Breneman said, "I liked the financing activity because it was interactive, interesting, and taught me about adult life."

As for any changes for future career days, Larson said, "Looking back I would have tried informing the students and teachers better about the goal and format of this year's Career Day so everyone had a little better idea beforehand."

## Kindergarten building arrives



Crews work to place the three sections of the new kindergarten building on its foundation. (photo courtesy of the USD 298 Facebook page)



A truck backs up one of the sections with the help of the crane. USD 298 received the building from Fort Riley. (photo courtesy of the USD 298 Facebook page)

## Board approves bond election

**DYLAN BABCOCK**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

*This is the first part of a series of articles that will be written on the topic of the bond election.*

On Monday, December 5, 2016 at the USD 298 Board of Education (BOE) regular meeting, BOE members voted unanimously 7-0 to hold a bond election in the spring of 2017, attempting to raise \$4.9 million. If passed, the money would be used to make repairs and replacement to the roofs at both Lincoln Elementary School (LES) and Lincoln Jr/Sr High School (LJSHS), install new rooftop HVAC units at LJSHS, install a new HVAC system at LES, and build FEMA storm shelters at both schools.

At the meeting, BOE members were able to view a timeline provided by Jacob and Joseph Hurla of 360 Energy Engineers that explained the schedule details of the campaign. The following dates were included in the timeline:

December 12, 2016 - Send application for state aid to state board of education;

January 2, 2017 - Make general information public through varying sources and educate staff on challenges & the bond process;

January 9, 2017 - Call district patrons to discuss bond intent, provide general information and explain the need for the bond election;

January 17, 2017 - Work with the Lincoln County Clerk and Election Officer;

January 25, 2017 - Present preliminary analysis to the community in a public forum and tour;

February 1, 2017 - Mail home marketing info to the students;

February 9, 2017 - State BOE considers application; decision expected soon;

March 1, 2017 - Second community presentation and walkthrough led by 360 representatives;

March 29, 2017 - Reach out to all voters for potential last minute questions;

April 1, 2017 - Mail home final reminders to the students & staff and mail out ballots to district patrons;

April 11, 2017 - Ballots received and bond outcome determined.

The BOE members were also provided a handout about financing scenarios if the bond election were to fail. They would have to consider these alternative funding sources in order to complete the repairs and renovations.

## Christmas concert a success

**MICHELE STEINBORN**

STAFF WRITER

The band and choir students worked hard to learn new songs for the Winter Program on Tuesday, December 20, 2016.

"As soon as the Fall Concert was over, we began rehearsing music for the NPL Clinic and Concert that was on Monday, November 21, at Pike Valley in Scandia," Vocal Teacher Marylyn Bell said. "It wasn't until Monday, November 28 that we actually began working on music for the Winter Program. The hardest part of any program and also the most time-consuming on my part is finding music the groups both like and, in the end, can perform decently."

The students worked on many different songs before finally choosing and learning the songs for the program.

"When selecting music for a program, I look for pieces that have not been played for awhile, and are the right playing level for the students, but also something that they would enjoy playing and that the audience would enjoy also," Band Teacher Quenana Liggett said. "The length of time it takes for the band to learn a song is determined by the difficulty of the song, the work ethic of the students, how many times the class is disrupted due to student absences, and what other music students are working on that is not relative to the concert. This year's band, I feel plays with more heart, and because of it every player in the band is continuing to improve upon their musical playing abilities. It is exciting as a teacher to see."

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# FEATURES

## The Leopard Prowl

member KSPA, JEA

The Leopard Prowl is published by Lincoln High journalism students approximately six times during the school year.

The Leopard Prowl is primarily an educational tool, with its first goal being the training of staff members in newspaper production. Its second obligation is to its readers, the students of Lincoln Junior Senior High School. Efforts are made to meet the needs of community members.

School and local events will be covered as possible by staff members. Due to the limits of staff time and the fact that The Leopard Prowl is produced by students, some events may not be covered as thoroughly as mature readers would like.

National and international news will be part of the publication as related to LJSHS students.

The Leopard Prowl is an open forum for student expression. Opinions printed in The Leopard Prowl do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the student body as a whole, nor of the staff, faculty or administration.

Editorial topics will be chosen by the staff members.

Letters to the editor should not exceed 250 words.

Unsigned letters to the editor will not be accepted by the staff. The editorial staff withholds the right to publish letters and to edit letters as needed to prepare them for publication. The staff will not publish materials which are obscene, libelous or invasive of privacy of others.

Community service projects will be sought and undertaken by the newspaper when possible.

Staff members are journalism students. Students are encouraged to learn responsibility, cooperation, self-reliance and dependability in a supervised school situation.

Letters to the editor can be sent to: journalism@usd298.com

### QUESTION OF THE

### ISSUE FOR THE STAFF

What are your New Year's Resolutions or if you don't make any, why?



**Dylan Babcock - Editor-in-Chief**  
"My New Year's Resolutions are to listen to more music, receive a good score on my ACT, be more organized, and to live healthier."

**Amanda Wollesen - Managing Editor**

"I don't make New Year's Resolutions because I think if you're really going to do something, you shouldn't have to wait for a new year, just go do it when you decide that it's important enough to you."



**Hunter Meier - News Editor**

"I don't have any because what's the point. No one follows them anyway."



**Cassandra Aleshire - Opinion Editor**

"I don't make any because no one ever follows them."



**Tyler Keathley - Features Editor**

"I don't make any because I know that I'm going to be the same horrible person this year that I was last year."



**Allison Crist - Sports Editor**

"I don't really have New Year's Resolutions because I just have never done them."



**Joseph Foulke - Photo Editor**

"I don't have a New Year's resolution because I feel like people don't follow through with them anyways."



**Brittney Heald - Social Media Director**

"My New Year's Resolution is to be a healthier person."



**Tanner O'Bannon - Extras Editor**

"I don't make New Year's Resolutions because they're usually just something that you tell people to make yourself feel better. If I want to make a change in my life, I'm not going to wait until the new year. I'll do it when it feels right."



**Jason Curtis - Adviser**

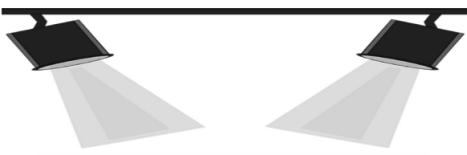
"My Resolution is to not let Amanda's hurtful words cause me any new wounds."



#### Staff Writers:

Katlin Brummer, Abrielle Campbell, Emma Corpstein, Payton Emmert, Tia Hayworth, Preston Howard, Bristol McBride, Zach Obermueller, Michele Steinborn, Carson Walter, Macy Winters, Marissa Winters, and Kaile Young

## THE TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



CHRISTI WALTER

What she teaches: 8th Grade Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II, College Algebra, Trigonometry and Calculus

WRITTEN BY PRESTON HOWARD - STAFF WRITER

She's more than a math teacher. Christi Walter is an aunt, wife, friend, and mother. Throughout Walter's life, many things have helped shape her into the woman she is today. One of those being her family. She grew up in a very religious family with five siblings, Walter being the youngest.

"My family taught me tolerance, patience, and faith," Walter said. "I grew up in a big catholic family and I had to learn to get along."

One of the other big factors in Walter's life that made her who she is, is her husband.

"I never really knew what hard work was until I met him," Walter said. "He never gives up and will work to get the job done."

Having a job and a family is sometimes difficult to manage, but that's why Walter chose teaching as her career; she believed that teaching was a way that she could do both something she loved and also support an active family.

Even at a young age Walter showed an interest in math.

"Many of my friends in high school would ask for my help and I enjoyed it," Walter said.

Walter attended three different colleges to get her undergraduate degree, K-State, Wichita State, and Bethany. She finished and received her degree at Bethany. After receiving her undergraduate degree, Walter taught at Sacred Heart located in Salina.

After teaching at Salina for a few years, Walter came to Lincoln.

"I have always been proud of teaching at Lincoln," Walter said. "I feel like we have a lot of really great teachers and students in our school who continually amaze me."

Many of the students and staff at Lincoln think the same way about Walter.

"I think she is a great person and a wonderful teacher," Sophomore Libby Huskey said. "She cares about her students, just as she cares about her friends."

## NEWS BRIEF AROUND THE WORLD

**North America** - Esteban Santiago, 26, opened fire at the Fort Lauderdale airport, killing five people and injuring six others. Santiago is an Iraq war veteran.

**South America** - A drug gang killed 31 inmates in a northern Brazil prison. Of the bodies found, 30 of them were decapitated.

**Australia** - A tiger snake, one of the world's most venomous reptiles, bit an Australian man and his 11-year-old son inside of their home.

**Africa** - Nana Akufo-Addo, a 72-year-old former human rights lawyer, was sworn in as the new president of Ghana.

**Middle East** - Iran's former President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, died of a heart attack at the age of 82.

**Europe** - British Prime Minister Theresa May said that the UK can't expect to keep some of the parts from their European Union membership.

**Asia** - A new environmental police team in Beijing are trying to reduce the hazardous levels of toxic smog in the city.

## Catching up with the Clubs

Club:	President and Vice President:	What we're doing:	What we're planning to do:
Student Council	President-Tanner O'Bannon Vice President-August Walter	Hosting a pizza party for the winners of the hallway competition	A pancake feed in January to raise money for fun projects
KAY Club	President-Brittany White Vice President-Faith Panzer	Hosting a pizza and ice cream party for the winners of the sock drive	An Easter egg hunt at the grade school
Teen Advisory Board - Library	President-Dylan Babcock Vice President-Allison Crist	Planing a teen activity for the spring or summer	Planning activities for the summer reading program
National Honor Society	President-Faith Panzer Vice President-Bjorn Jonsson	Hosting a blood drive	Selling Krispy Kremes in the spring

# FEATURES

## Forensics team looking to defend league title

ZACH OBERMUELLER

STAFF WRITER

Think, right now, what sport or activity has won the most KSHSAA trophies in the last 10 years. You might be surprised to hear that the answer is forensics. In the last 17 years, Coach Pam Curtis and the forensics team have won three state trophies and multiple top 10 team finishes. All other KSHSAA sponsored sports or activities have combined to win zero trophies.

“Lincoln’s forensics program is strong, it has been strong for a long time,” Curtis said. “I take pride in that. It is strong because we have students who are not only talented, but are willing to put in the extra time and effort to make themselves better.”

One could argue that Lincoln High School forensics program is the most successful at LJSHS. That may be true or not, but you can’t argue with their results. The forensics team routinely competes against larger schools than LJSHS and beats them and this year looks to be no different.

You might be asking yourself, what exactly is forensics. Well, a forensics meet is made up of either 2 or 3 rounds, and one final round. There are 9 events that students can participate in: extemporaneous speaking, informative speaking, and oration, prose, poetry, humorous

solo acting, serious solo acting, duet acting, and improvised duet acting.

“Some people think forensics is ‘silly’... and couldn’t be farther from the truth,” Curtis said. “One just needs to go to a tournament and see the students from all sizes of high schools who compete - the level of competition is fierce.”

A forensics meet is scored in two different ways; it is like a track meet. Each individual gets a score for each round they perform. That decides who makes it to finals and qualifies for the state meet. Also, besides the individual, each team is also rewarded points based on how well each individual performed.

Curtis said, “There are so many reasons to participate in forensics. Forensics makes students step out of their ‘comfort zone’ and do something that isn’t necessarily natural for them.”

Some who participate in forensics agree with Curtis’ statement, that by participating in an activity like forensics, it can help them overcome a fear of public speaking. Forensics teachers students these public speaking skills that they will use the rest of their lives.

“I do forensics because I was always nervous to perform or talk in front of people, but by doing it, it helped me become comfortable talking in front of people,” Senior Tanner O’Bannon said.

## LEOPARD YEARBOOKS FOR SALE!

**SPECIAL OFFER BUY A YEARBOOK BY FEBRUARY FIRST YOU CAN MAKE FOUR MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF TEN DOLLARS. DON NOT MISS OUT ON THIS AMAZING BOOK THAT DOCUMENTS THIS YEAR’S MEMORIES.**

## Too many fundraisers? Inside of the kitchen

HUNTER MEIER

NEWS EDITOR

In March, the School Board approved a policy that states that each school club or organization can hold only one fundraiser per school year. New amendments have been recently added to this policy defining it even more. But even with this new policy, 64% of students polled believe that there are too many fundrais-

ers at once.

“I believe that the clubs have their fundraisers around the same time because they want money for their clubs to use throughout the year.” KAY Club Sponsor Ashley Wolting said. “You can only go and hit up friends and family so many times to buy things. If they could be more spread out, it would be more ideal.”

This new policy applies to all the clubs at LJSHS in-

cluding KAY Club, Student Council, Journalism, and many more. The purpose of this policy is to proactively address and effectively guide school fundraising efforts, while ensuring student safety and well being. While this policy is meant to help people from having to buy too many things, many clubs are questioning whether or not they will lose money.



Vicki Lebien shows off her amazing croutons. Lebien, Shannon Pittman, and Jeff Metzler are responsible for feeding all of the LJSHS students everyday. (photo by Joseph Foulke)

MACY WINTERS AND  
MARISSA WINTERS

STAFF WRITERS

The cooks that work in the kitchen everyday work to make sure that everyone is fed. They make breakfast and they even have a Mexican day on Wednesday each week. There are three cooks: Vicki Lebien, Shannon Pittman, and Jeff Metzler. They brainstorm different themes for holidays to make it more festive. This Halloween they had a Toy Story theme. The food items on the menu match the theme. “Halloween themes are a little complicated sometimes because we have to have costumes that don’t interfere with our hand washing and cooking,” Cook Vicki Lebien said. “And nothing flammable, obviously.”

They serve around 30-50 kids for breakfast and around 120-140 kids for lunch. Many think that this would be difficult to do for all of the kids. “It’s not hard to cook for all the students because we have a well-equipped kitchen,” Lebien said. “All of us in the kitchen have had a lot of practice so that makes it easier.”

For breakfast, they either cook pre-cooked food the morning of or they make the food the night before because of the time they have in the morning to get things done.

“Breakfast is easier because we don’t have a whole lot of time to do the cooking,” Lebien said.

A lot of students have their favorite lunch from chicken and noodles to having breakfast for lunch. There are many different lunch combinations. Some students don’t have one favorite meal; they may have many that they enjoy. “Breakfast for lunch is my favorite lunch” said Sophomore Sarah Cagle. “My favorite food that the cooks serve are long johns.”

The cooks enjoy seeing all of the kids coming in every day. They interact with students and also get to learn the students’ names and even find out what their likes and dislikes are. “We have a job because of the kids and we want to do our best to please them,” Lebien said.

Most of the food that the cooks prepare are homemade including their breads, desserts, and most of their main dishes. “People think that we do everything pre-cooked every day,” Lebien said.

Sometimes the cooks need to prepare pre-cooked food because of the time limit they have to get everything done. Lebien said, “Our job in the kitchen is the best job in the school. We get to see all of the students everyday.”

### ATTENTION:

USD 298 employee Roberta “Bobbi” Turner had a house fire on the morning of Friday, December 9, 2016.

Donations can be dropped off or mailed to Citizens State Bank & Trust Co (Lincoln location)

### Student Spotlight

#### Band Edition



Angelina Vazquez



Sidney Hendrickson

Favorite thing about winter?

Mostly Christmas

Snow when schools cancelled

Favorite holiday?

Christmas

Valentine’s Day

Sledding or building a snowman?

Building a snowman

Building a snowman

## Classroom Corner

Class: Personal Finance Teacher: Nikki Flinn

What’s Going on Here: The students of the Personal Finance Class do a brand taste test to see if they can tell the difference between name brand products and generic products.

“It was cool to find the differences of the name brand and generic products.” -Derrick Perez

“I learned that there really isn’t a difference between the name brand and generic products unless you’re really looking for it.”  
-Nathan Feldkamp

“I thought that it was interesting to find that a lot of the generic brands tasted and looked better than the name brands.” -Brianna Wilson



# OPINIONS

## Do you get enough sleep?

JOSEPH FOULKE

PHOTO EDITOR

I don't know about you but I absolutely despise mornings. I often hardly feel like I ever get enough sleep and I'm not the only one. As it turns out, 59 percent of the student body agrees with me.

Out of 100 students surveyed, 88 said that they get eight hours of sleep or less and 10 said that they get four hours or less on school nights. Out of the combined 100 surveyed students 58 said that they don't get enough sleep at night. 70 percent of the surveyed students say this lack of sleep is due to overwhelming amounts of school work.

Schoolwork can sometimes be stressful, especially for student that participate in extra-curricular activities.

"I contribute my sleep loss to all the homework we always have added on top of all the activities and extra responsibilities we are expected to have," junior Maruby McQueen said.

According to the Nationwide Children's Hospital, adolescence should get between nine

and nine and a half hours of sleep a night. This shows that three quarters of the students at LJSHS are getting far less amounts of sleep than they should.

A lack of sleep can lead to a loss of attention in while driving and performing other tasks that demand alertness. Not getting enough sleep also affects how students do on their school work.

"I feel like I'm not focused in school and don't give 100 percent on school work," junior Jackie Garay said.

From the survey, 76 percent of students said that they should be getting eight to 12 hours of sleep a night.

The National Sleep Foundation says that when kids reach the teenage stage on the biological clock, their sleep patterns change--shifting when they go to sleep and wake to later times. This naturally causes most teens to not be able to fall asleep until after 11 p.m. Going to sleep before then or waking up early in the morning can cause their sleep patterns to be thrown off. This can cause teens to have sleep disorders such as insomnia, and narcolepsy. All of which are very serious conditions that can be harmful.

## Worry about yourself

AMANDA WOLLESEN

MANAGING EDITOR

Why do people feel the need to share their opinions even when not asked for or warranted? I feel that the situation changes when it's a positive comment, but when it's negative or just plain rude, why say it? This is something I have been feeling stronger and stronger about especially in this past year.

Even on menial things such as a certain haircut someone has, how they dress, how they do their makeup, I don't understand why some people just have to comment on it. I get it if that person makes a huge change but that still doesn't give you a reason to insult them, why can't you just leave it alone

and worry about your own choices in your own life? As long as their choices don't hinder your life, what is the benefit of putting them down, nothing will happen other than them feeling bad or getting mad at you, while it could be avoided by not saying anything at all. If you don't like something, keep it to yourself, otherwise it's just going to start problems.

The beratement of celebrities is also another unnecessary thing that happens in our society. People waste their breath on degrading people that will never hear their comments. Why do we do this? What is the purpose, because even if they did hear you, what would that change? A lot of times they have millions of followers that will support

them in every way and disagreeing with their choices doesn't help your life at all. If we would just stop filling our time and thoughts with negative comments that will seldom affect us, we might be able to get a little more done in a day.

I firmly believe in the phrase "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all". When I was younger I used to think this was a really dumb saying but I don't think I truly understood it. To me, this means that you shouldn't waste your time and energy critiquing someone else's life when your's, and no one else's, is perfect. So stop hating on things that won't affect you one way or another!

### STUDENTS OF LINCOLN JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL



**EILLEEN BECKMEYER**

Eilleen Beckmeyer is a sophomore at Lincoln High School. She has one sister, Mary Beckmeyer, who is 19 years old. She has one dog, a miniature schnauzer, named Pepper. After school Beckmeyer likes to read books, watch tv shows or draw. She likes to go places on the weekends. She likes sweet food more than spicy foods. Beckmeyer's favorite ice cream flavor is Cookie Dough. Beckmeyer likes snowy days more than rainy days. Her favorite holiday is Christmas. "My favorite holiday is Christmas because of the decorations and how it brings people together," Beckmeyer said. When bored, she listens to music. "There isn't a specific type of music that I listen to," Beckmeyer said.



**ASHLEY KING**

Ashley King is a freshman at Lincoln High School. She has two siblings, Tyler and Preston. She has two cats, named Boots and George. On the weekends King likes to spend time with her family. She likes rainy days more than snowy days. "On rainy days I like to play on my Xbox," King said. King's favorite holiday is thanksgiving because she likes to be with her family. Her favorite Christmas food is ham. Her favorite ice cream flavor is chocolate. She is usually right on time to events. She likes sweet food more than spicy food. When King is bored she plays on her phone. "I like to listen to pop music," King said.

WRITTEN BY ABRIALLE CAMPBELL AND BRISTOL MCBRIDE - STAFF WRITERS

### SAVE THE DATE: 10 EVENTS YOU SHOULDN'T MISS

**1**

Jan. 12

Hoisington Wrestling Duels

3 p.m.

**2**

Jan. 13

NPL Basketball Tournament Begins @ Lincoln

Times: TBA

**3**

Jan. 16

No School

**4**

Jan. 20-22

K-State Band Clinic

**5**

Jan. 20-21

Beloit Wrestling Invitational

**6**

Jan. 23

Junior High PTL Basketball Tournament Begins

**7**

Jan. 25

NPL Scholars Bowl @ St. John's Beloit

1:30 p.m.

**8**

Jan. 26

Forensics Tournament @ Sylvan Grove

**9**

Jan. 27

Basketball: Natoma @ Lincoln

4 p.m.

**10**

Jan. 31

1 Hour Late Start

## Leopard Prowl Pick'em Game Competition

- The class (or faculty) with the best record after the last newspaper issue will win a pizza party -

	Sadie Small	Cody Behrens	Mikayla Breneman	Zach Obermueller	Mr. Feldkamp
	Senior	Junior	Sophomore	Freshman	Faculty
Men's College Basketball - ESPU January 14 - 3:30 p.m. Baylor @ Kansas State	Kansas State	Baylor	Kansas State	Baylor	Baylor
Men's College Basketball - ESP2 January 14 - 1 p.m. Oklahoma State @ Kansas	Oklahoma State	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas
NFL - Divisional Round - NBC January 15 - 12:05 p.m. Pittsburgh Steelers @ Kansas City Chiefs	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City
HS Girls Basketball - January 10 6 p.m. Tescott @ Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln
HS Boys Basketball - January 10 7:30 p.m. Tescott @ Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln	Lincoln
CFB National Championship ESPN - January 9 - 7 p.m. Alabama vs. Clemson	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Clemson	Alabama
<b>Record</b>	<b>6-6</b>	<b>11-1</b>	<b>9-3</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>7-5</b>

Connor O'Hare - Tied with Allison Crist for the best picking record - "I watch ESPN 24/7 and hate KU. But love Chevy trucks"

# OPINIONS

## TANNER'S TRENDS

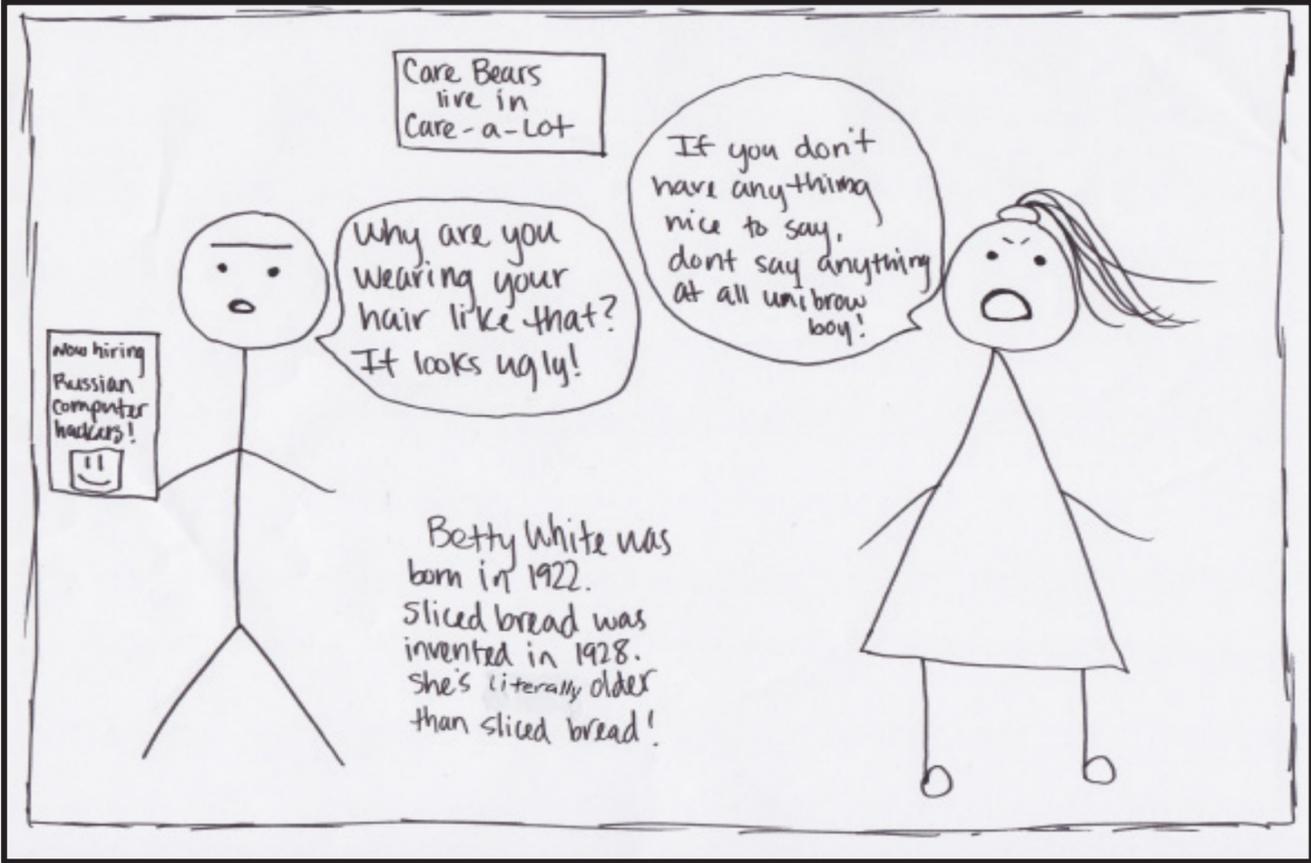
I expected 2016 to be one of the best years and, in some ways, it was. A lot of people, though, are ready for the new year and what it's going to bring, me included. The whirlwind of emotions felt throughout the year were felt by everyone. The only thing that got better as 2016 went on were the memes.

The new year brings only one thing shared by everyone, the slogan, 'New Year, New Me!' Everyone makes New Year's Resolutions when they're going into the new year and I can honestly say I do it to. Everyone says the coming year is going to have a lot of change in it, and this coming year is no exception. 2017 is going to bring a lot of new change in my life.

During 2017, I will start college (which is a huge change that's really scary to think about) and my goal is to move out of my comfort zone a little bit and make some friends. Usually, I like to stick to what's comfortable and not talk to people I don't know but I'm hoping to change that.

I think it's unhealthy to dwell on what you should change throughout your life, though. In 2017, I am going to focus on being thankful for the things in my life. If 2016 taught me anything, it's life is too short and you never know what is going to happen.

## Tales from the Inside



## Dylan's Deliberations

Why is it that people have to take their eyes off the road just because they can't wait to text someone back? Or look at Twitter? Or take a picture? It's sad that people in today's society literally can't wait to respond to a text, especially when they already know the possible consequences of taking their eyes off the road.

If it is so important that you must reply to a text message, you can easily pull over or off the road to do so. You will be doing yourself a huge favor by completing that simple action.

Studies show that individuals who drive while sending or reading text messages are 23 percent more likely to be involved in a car crash than other drivers. A crash typically happens within an average of three seconds after a driver is distracted. According to the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, texting while driving is six times more likely to cause an auto crash than driving when intoxicated.

Every day, 11 teenagers die because they were texting while driving. This adds up to over 4,000 teenage deaths in a year. Do you really want to be one of those victims? Do you want to be the one that causes so much pain for your friends and family? No parent wants to be informed that their child died in a car crash.

Often times people who text while driving have one or more passengers in their vehicle. As the driver of the vehicle, if you are texting while driving, you are not only putting yourself in danger but also those who are in the vehicle with you.

In a study, ninety percent of teen drivers said that they would stop texting while driving if a friend asked them to. Seventy-eight percent said that they would most likely not text and drive if they were told that it was wrong by a friend. So, if you catch a friend texting while driving, let them know how you feel about it and ask them to stop. You could very well be saving your life by doing so.

If we want to tackle the problem of texting while driving, everyone has to make a difference by starting with themselves.

## Hoorays



You know when it snows in town and then the street lights shine on it and then it sparkles....I just think it's one of the prettiest things ever and this is the season for it!

I will not be making any New Year's Resolutions but I am excited for the New Year.....maybe I'll actually get a boyfriend (probably not).

Childish Gambino, J.Cole, and Kid Cudi have all released new music....I'm awaiting Drake's album patiently while I jam to everyone else's new stuff <3 <3.

I am still thinking about how amazing our school Christmas dinner was and it was last month. Please, please, please, can we make these meals a monthly thing. Pretty please, with turkey on top, .....mashed potatoes.....gravy..... stuffing..... AND CHEESECAKE!

Seniors are in their last semester of hard work, passion, and dedication! But first go ahead and take a nap or two....or five, whatever....I'M SAD ABOUT YOU GUYS LEAVING ALREADY :''(

So I was in Dillon's this weekend and I saw Reese's Easter Eggs are already out and I was like thank you Jesus!

What a great buzzer beater by Trent Hachmeister against Chase. Great job to both the girls and boys basketball teams on getting their first wins. #LeopardProud

## Boo-hoos



The first snow of the winter was on Dec. 3.....I waited all day to build a snowman and got nothing :(

Christmas break was six days shorter than it was last year, so hooray for more school. #MakeChristmasBreak-LongAgain

There's only five weeks until Valentine's Day. I just can't wait to get that call from the office to come and get my flowers that my boyfriend sent me because he loves me. Oh wait, that'll never happen.

Hey, KU fans and anyone else that has eyes.... THAT WAS A TRAVEL...just btw.

So um.....this is hard for me to say but..... on Dec. 3..... Jackie and Evelyn's goat, Billy, died..... and I'm still really torn up about it, so I've started a GoFundMe account to pay for the funeral expenses.

I really need to start spending some more time on the yearbook, but that probably won't happen til at least February #sorrynotsorry Mr. Curtis.

Dear Mother Nature, thanks for the two inches of snow...it's not like we need anymore to cancel school...OH WAIT WE DO. #NOTthanks

## Hall Talk

What is your favorite Christmas present that you've ever received?	Combat Boots	iPhone 6	Eno Hammock	Galaxy S7	Cabbage Patch Doll
What is your favorite soup to eat?	Potato	Chicken Noodle	Gumbo	Chicken Noodle	Stew or Vegetable
What is your least favorite soup to eat?	Tomato	Chili	Tomato	Broccoli	Pea
What is your favorite winter activity?	Wrestling	Playing in the snow	Skiing	Wrestling	Watching college basketball and snuggling Hudson
What is your least favorite winter activity?	Basketball	Listening to Christmas music	Getting cold	Basketball	Scraping ice off the car, shoveling snow, and avoiding walking on ice
	Faith Panzer	Jonathan Ahring	Sarah Cagle	Chantz Vath	Mrs. Curtis

# SPORTS

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

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Top Left: Trent Hachmeister attempts a jump shot against Osborne. Osborne got off to a hot start and never looked back, beating Lincoln 62-32. Bottom Left: Brianna Wilson looks to pass it inside. The Lady Leopards lost to Osborne, 44-31. Top Right: Colin Obermueller drives to the basket and attempts a lay-up. (photos by Joseph Foulke)



## Concussions sideline Wiebke

EMMA CORPSTEIN

STAFF WRITER

Dylan Wiebke should have been excited for his junior year of high school football. He should have been nervous, fired up for the first game against Tescott. He shouldn't have been standing on the sideline watching the game in jeans and wearing his jersey over a t-shirt with no shoulder pads. He should have been on the field, leading his team to a win and not on the sideline wishing he was anywhere but there.

Wiebke's football career, well whole athletic career, changed forever his sophomore year. With only seconds left in a game versus Osborne, Wiebke was blindsided and received his fourth concussion. He has yet to participate in any sport since.

Wiebke's first concussion was in seventh grade, playing football. His second concussion happened during a baseball game the summer before his freshman year.

Wiebke got his third concussion working on a fence. He dropped the post pen on his head. Wiebke passed out. He couldn't feel his hands. His little brother held a glove over his head to stop the bleeding. His dad got him in the truck and took him to the ER. He can not remember the ride to the hospital. After this concussion Wiebke started having trouble remembering, lights bothered him and he started to get depressed.

CDC estimates that 1.6 million to 3.8 million concussions occur each year. Five to 10 percent of athletes will experience a concussion in any given sport.

Not being able to play sports and getting

## Coaching on the mat

TIA HAYWORTH

STAFF WRITER

Coach John Gardner has been working with students at Lincoln for many years. He's formed a very close bond with all of his wrestlers and many other students and teachers here. But many of you probably don't know a whole lot about Gardner.

Coach Gardner used to live in Manhattan and got into wrestling there in the early 60's. He became an inspector on a flood related project for Lincoln, Ottawa, and Mitchell counties, mostly doing surveys and testing concrete and soil.

"It was a lot of math and science," Gardner said. "I loved it all but I hated it in school."

He met his wife by pure chance when she was working in a small cafe and he happened to go there for lunch one day. After they got married, they moved to Lincoln in 1979. Gardner really became involved in wrestling when his sons started wrestling in the 90's. His sons and one of his nephews were all in wrestling and both of his sons were three-time state placers.

"I decided to be a coach because I love being around young adults and being part of

the concussions had a major impact on Wiebke and his life. He became depressed when he found out he could no longer play a game he was so passionate about. He began to shut himself off from his family, started to sleep more and seemed to get a lot more headaches. Wiebke says he struggles with remembering where he puts things and he used to struggle in weights because of the lights. He had trouble with the TV and the light from his phone. That is better now though.

Cora Wiebke, Wiebke's step-mother, said, "Dylan is very compassionate and strong willed when he wants to do something and he will do whatever it takes to succeed. The day that Dr. Harvey said that he wouldn't release Dylan to play football or any other contact sport, our whole family instantly felt Dylan's pain and disappointment because we knew what this meant to him. We knew no matter then and now that this decision was going to affect him in ways nobody could understand. But no matter what we would be there to support him."

Several teachers and coaches have made him feel like he was a part of everything. They had given him and other students hope. The coaches had made them feel that whether they are a player on the field or a teammate on the sideline that they do matter. Cora Wiebke said, "I thank Coach Rathbun, Coach Curtis, Mr. Crist, and Coach Lowry for everything and making our kids know and believe that they are important no matter what part of the team they are on."

their lives," said Gardner.

Gardner decided to be an assistant coach under former head coach Nate Naasz years ago, and then retired after the season of 2013. He said that his time working with Naasz was like a dream come true and he had an amazing time. When he heard that Naasz was leaving and they asked him to fill in for him, Gardner knew it would only be a matter of time because of his desire to improve and grow as a person. The following year, Mr. Tommy Knapp became his assistant coach and the tides had turned.

Gardner said, "Coach Knapp is a very passionate, qualified coach. I have been blessed to coach him through kids federation and high school. He is a top notch coach and will do well in the future."

Gardner's proudest moments in coaching are watching the progress of his athletes, the efforts and improvements and them becoming respectful. He believes that the glass is always half full and that wins and losses are just a byproduct of what we want to accomplish. He expects effort and respect, nothing more, nothing less.

"I love being around all the young adults in our school. I love you all," Gardner said.

## Why have there been so many coaches?

CARSON WALTER

STAFF WRITER

For some of Lincoln Junior/Senior High School's sports, behind the number of dwindling players is a long string of coaches. Whether they were offered another job or wanted something new, over the years, not many coaches have stayed for long. The current football coach, Don Long, is the eighth football coach for the program in 20 years. The reasons for leaving this school are all different. Some wanted change, others wanted a new challenge, and others were offered another job someplace else.

"I was approached by my hometown school, Beloit Jr/Sr High School, whose principal I went to school with, about an opening they had. I wasn't ever planning on leaving Lincoln, but I was really intrigued by the chance to teach at my own high school and tackle some new challenges in my career." Former wrestling coach, Nate Naasz, said.

For coaches that have left, some stayed for a while and some have not. The way players are coached depends on the way the coach responds to kids and their passion for the sport. A long term coach leads the team differently than a coach who is only a couple years into it.

"I feel there are good qualities to both a seasoned veteran and a young coach. A young coach is usually more excited and the players can feel that excitement. A veteran has had more experiences and can help to lead his players by what he has learned over time." Former football coach, Mitch Gebhardt, said.

Long-time high school girls' basketball and cross country coach Steve Crist, agrees. One of the hardest things about coaching is the beginning-getting to know the athletes and their abilities as a player. Each year a coach coaches the same team, they not only know what to expect from their players, but the players know what to expect from them.

"I think you always want stability in a program. That does not mean that you are always going to win the state title, or the league title, or even have a winning record. I think it means the kids know what to expect from the coaches, the parents know what to expect from the coaches, and because of that the team improves and approaches their full potential." Current basketball coach, Steve Crist, says.

To stay in one place for many years takes dedication. Sometimes there are things worth staying for other than the money and the job. Sometimes it's family, other times it's the area they live in, other times it's just a deep rooting into the school. For a

coach that is with the same team for more than a few years can make a team strong by building a foundation of themselves.

"I believe consistency, longevity, and connections build solid programs. Even when there is very little talent, when athletes know what to expect and know you care they will play hard and give you all they have. When the athletes feel that the coach will not work hard for them or will leave in a few years, their dedication is limited." Former junior high basketball coach of 12 years, Christi Walter, said.

Starting from scratch in a sport is not only hard for the coach, but also hard for the players. After coaching Lincoln high school football for four years, Gary Lowry decided to coach and teach at Beloit. Long took his place as both coach and teacher, making the sophomores, juniors, and seniors learn another coach's way of running things.

"Lowry and Long have a lot of similarities, so I transitioned pretty well," Senior August Walter said. "They both like to run the ball, but I think Lowry liked to throw it a bit more. At first it was hard getting to know Long, but as a team, we did."

In a coach, certain traits are wanted from the parents, the board when hiring them, and the players. The people look for a trustworthy being who can lead a group of high school students. Of a great coach with all the traits you are looking for, there is a negative side. Our little school may hire an amazing coach, but bigger schools with bigger teams persuade them to leave.

"I left Lincoln for two reasons: I believed it provided me with an opportunity to work toward my coaching goal of being a head coach of 5A or 6A school, and it was also personal as we were able to move closer to step-son's father in Lawrence," Former football coach, Mike Strack, said.

Building a foundation is very important in coaching; however, after coaching a team for a long time, sometimes it's good to let someone else take over. Maybe someone younger, who understands the kids better or has more energy. Maybe someone with experience who has a plan to improve the program. For any coach, long or short term, it is difficult letting go of the team you have been teaching and getting to know.

"It was difficult to not be able to coach for the school especially high school volleyball as that is my favorite sport to play. I put a lot of time and energy into the program and the players developing skills." Former volleyball coach, Kae Hayworth, said, "I coached volleyball for 20 years at LHS so that was difficult to let go of since 17 of those were as head coach."

## Biggs returns to the court

HUNTER MEIER

NEWS EDITOR

This year has opened up many interesting positions at LJSHS from coaching positions to staff. This is what brought Lincoln alumni, Joe Biggs, to be working where he grew up. Biggs has taken on the role of head basketball coach to replace science teacher, Dalen Rathbun.

Biggs has been assistant coach for college, JH and high school but this is his first year being Head coach for high school. While coaching basketball has been his dream, he has also coached football, volleyball, track and baseball for the past 9 years. Even after coaching college basketball, it has always been his goal to return and coach high school basketball.

"Being from the area, I always had the idea of moving back and coaching. There is something about investing time and hard

work to the place that you came from," Biggs said. "Basketball is something that I have always been around. Ever since I was real little, I have enjoyed the sport and it continues today. I love everything about the game."

Biggs's basketball career started here in Lincoln, where he played basketball. After high school he went on to play at McPherson College. When he was finished with college he decided he wanted to coach. He has been coaching different sports for the past 10 years. Recently Biggs decided to move back to Lincoln with his wife Krista, son Weston and yet to be born child.

Biggs said, "The main thing I want these kids to achieve is having fun while they play. In order to do that they have to put in a lot of work and be able work together. When they come with good attitudes and wanting to get better, nothing beats it."