

SPRING 2024

LINCOLN EAST HIGH SCHOOL

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# EAST HIGH THROUGH THE YEARS

East has gone through many changes from its opening in 1967 to today

Avari Wischhof | Staff Writer



The front entrance of East in 1981. At this point in time, the commons were still outside. Archive photo courtesy of Lincoln East Yearbook.



The present day entrance of East. The commons are no longer outside, as pictured in the photo to the left. Photo courtesy of Lincoln Public Schools.



Lincoln East High School's sign when the school first opened in 1967. Archive photo courtesy of Lincoln East Oracle.

incoln East High School first opened its doors in 1967, with a total capacity of 1,600 students. With a student population of approximately 2,250 as of 2024, East has undergone many changes throughout the years. The first major renovation to East's physical building took place at the beginning of '75 and consisted of an extension to the North Gym, which included two locker rooms, a coach's office, a fitness room, and two classrooms now used for health classes. In the actual gym, the renovation included a full size basketball court with six basketball hoops, and seating for four hundred people. Two more locker rooms, another coach's office, an equipment storage room, training room, and connecting hallway to the South Gym were also included.

today. The commons used to be completely outside until it was enclosed, along with an expansion of the media center which included four new 30-student classrooms, a cafeteria extension, and a new lecture hall. There are still two areas of the commons that are outside, which can give students a sense of what the commons used to be like.

One of the most recent renovations occurred in 2012, when the front office was moved from just off of the commons to its current location. East also got a brand new auditorium and a renovated industrial tech wing and science wing.

"When I first got here, the office was where the 'Fishbowl' [computer lab] and the back classroom are, off of the commons, and where the social worker and psychologists offices are," Lincoln East teacher, Mr. Bill Dimon, said. "They also rebuilt the front entrance of the school. The classrooms that are across from the social work[ers] space were two college style lecture halls. The cafeteria was about half as large, and there were two small classrooms east of the cafeteria."

East didn't just change as far as looks go, the community changed as well.

"East was smaller - as a building and

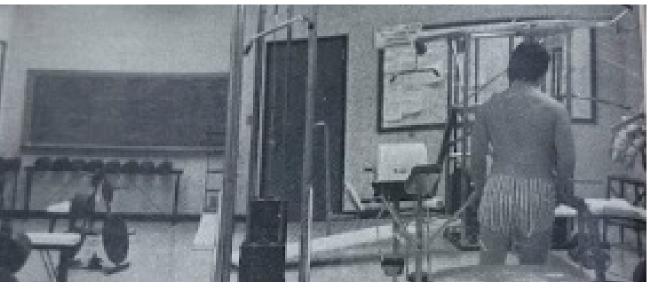
administrator, Ms. Julie Harder, said. "It was easier to get to know students as well as other staff members. There was no technology in classrooms. We took attendance on paper every class period; TAs for the office walked around and collected those. We wrote our mid quarter reports and semester grades by hand on triplicate paper forms. We had more pep rallies and dances during the school year."

Up until 1996, Lincoln East actually held grades 7-12, which only changed once Lux Middle School opened for 6-8 graders. The 7-8 graders at East had classes that were primarily in the basement, where the notorious "gummer hall" could be found.

"I just remember it being like a dungeon down there," former East student, Sarah Wischhof, said. "It felt darker than the rest of the school. There was gum everywhere. It was scary to go upstairs because there were highschoolers and we were tiny."

East High School's building and community has changed a lot since it opened in 1967, but East's commitment to its students has remained the same.

Being one of the students' top places to hang out and study at East, the commons are a significant part in East's culture. However, up until 1996, the commons was not what current students know it as population - when I came in 1996," East



The old weight room before new equipment was purchased and the renovation complete. Archive photo courtesy of Lincoln East Oracle.

# <sup>2</sup>**NEWS**

### WHO THOUGHT TO BRING THIS BACK?

Old fashion trends reemerge into present day

Ava Chapin | Staff Writer and Editor



2020s fashion differs greatly from that of the 1980s. Old and recent trends defined their respective eras. Graphic by Ava Chapin.

When looking back on popular clothes from the 1980s, neon colors and spandex were all the rage. In today's 2020s, neutral colors and oversized hoodies have taken over. Even so, there is still some middle ground between both time periods, with the likes of platform shoes and scrunchies. Fashion trends have been and always will be cyclical, and although older generations gasp at the things that find their way back to the present, this routine is simply the way that the fashion world rotates.

No matter the time period, everyday people typically draw fashion inspiration from other people. Sometimes it's from friends and peers similar in age, and other times it's from celebrities. When someone with a high social status wears something that looks cool on them, even if it's something hideous from the 80s, everyone follows their lead. Then, fashion producers try to keep up with it as much as possible, thus creating a trend. Lincoln East senior, Nora Herbert, views reemerging fashion as a positive concept

"I love all of the fashion trends that have been coming back recently," Herbert said.

"Specifically, loose jeans, graphic t-shirts, and hair clips have been my favorite."

Lincoln East junior, Helina Cooper, is also one for vintage fashion and even has a special connection to thrifting.

"I think that vintage fashion reemerging is an amazing and positive thing," Cooper said. "In fact, my mom owns a vintage store called Hindsight Vintage, and it has really helped me to dress differently than other people. It's so fun to be different and unique."

Whether one views the reemergence of old fashion trends as a way to fit in or stand out, it's undeniable that fashion will continue its cyclical nature no matter how much something should have stayed in its respective era.



## THE EVOLUTION OF PROM

High school prom continues its significance to students

Kendra Riekenberg | Staff Writer and Editor

Prom is a pinnacle event in the lives of many teenagers. It's a long standing tradition for high school juniors and seniors that has seen quite the evolution throughout the years. While changes in trends continue, the original theme has stayed the same. The roots of prom stem from debutante balls in the 18th and 19th century, but it wasn't until the 1920s that prom became a high school event, often being held in sweaty gyms with themes related to the school's mascot and colors.

The 1940s and 1950s could be considered "the golden age" of prom, with high popularity amongst teenagers. Prom moved to hotels and ballrooms, full length gowns and formal attire emerged, along with pop culture themes. The 1960s and 70s saw a surge of more casual themes and attire, but it ramped up again in the 1980s.

"My favorite part about prom is seeing everyone's fun dresses," senior Avery Juedes said. "It's a super fun way to see everyone's unique "It was as much of a spectacle back then as it is now," 1986 East grad Jeff Riekenberg said. "The only difference was we didn't have iPhones to take millions of pictures."

Lincoln East prom has seen a variety of venues, beginning in the East cafeteria in 1968. The Student Union at UNL saw several East proms, same with the Cornhusker Hotel and Pla Mor Ballroom. In recent years, East's venue has moved to the Scottish Rite Ballroom in downtown Lincoln.

Nowadays, prom is often marked by friend groups, bouquets of flowers and corsages, limo services or fancy cars, and week-long preparations in nails, hair, makeup, and tanning. Although the dresses of today are much simpler than their 80s counterparts, many elements of the traditional prom experience are here to stay. Prom is meant to be a classic event, and its changes over the decades reflect the impact it has had on teens



1994 East students begin a conga line at Prom. Archive photo courtesy of East High Oracle.



style."

Prom in the 1980s is remembered for its excess, involving bigger, brighter dresses, elaborate hair, and upbeat music. The dangers of prom night parties hosted by students involving underage drinking and interactions with the police were finally resolved in the 80s with the installation of a school sponsored post prom.



East prom court of 1969 shows off their attire during the dance. Archive photo courtesy of East High Oracle.

for generations.

"Prom is always such a fun and energetic night full of dancing," Juedes said. "I love to have a good time, and prom gives me an excuse to do just that."



Prom court nominees Julia Radu, Lauren Coniglio, and Stella Tidball show off their sash during Prom. Photo Courtesy of Julia Radu.

Students Ellie Brodecky, Clara Wolfe, Ella Matoush and Cami Mollhoff pose for a photo during the 2024 dance. Photo courtesy of Cami Mollhoff.



The 1994 East prom king and queen post for a photo. Archive photo courtesy of East High Oracle.

## **ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES**

### **7:58, DON'T BE LATE!**

Lincoln East Young Life continues to influence high school students for 82 years strong

#### Peyton Svehla | Staff Writer and Co-Editor-In-Chief

 $\mathbf{V}$ oung Life, a program designed to help adolescents grow in their faith, was created in 1941 by seminary student Jim Rayburn. The program was designed to befriend teenagers while simultaneously evangelizing Christianity in an engaging way.

"Christ is the strongest, grandest, most attractive personality ever to grace the earth," Rayburn said. "It is a crime to bore anyone with the Gospel."

Currently, Lincoln clubs meet at 7:58 p.m. where students play games, listen to club talks, and show up wearing themed outfits coordinating to the night's agenda. Some recent themes have included neon club, "old life" club (senior citizen), cereal club, denim club, and trivia club.

"[Young Life] has helped me by feeling loved by a community of people from everywhere around town," junior Bryn Sharpe said. "You feel like you belong, because you do, and you feel like you have a purpose!"

Young Life gatherings have been consistent over the years as members work to spread positivity about the gospel through a handson approach rather than lecturing to adolescents.

"If you would go to a Young Life meeting, you would see the Young Life leaders are college students or young adults," an East High Young Life member said in the 1970 Oracle print edition. "Teenagers will find friendships with older people, the leaders help make Young Life meaningful to me."

The program is designed to be led by young adults who simultaneously work to teach younger adults. This concept has proven to be extremely successful through Young Life's growth. In 1970, Young Life existed in 300 cities in the US and eight countries. Now, it exists in over 100 countries around the world.

"I believe it is successful because of all the support systems that are weaved through the program," Sharpe said. "Each and everyone of the leaders for Young Life and WyldLife [the middle school equivalent to Young Life] including me want nothing more than to see the kids grow a relationship with Jesus and to thrive in life!"

Not only are high school students able to be involved in Young Life, but college students, middle schoolers, and donors are able to join in on the fun as well. Programs like Younglives help support pregnant and parenting teens. WyldLife middle school is dedicated towards tweens who express interest in the community and are looking for adventure and purpose. Catholic Relations targets the specific Catholic denomination as it introduces adolescents to a narrower branch of Christianity.

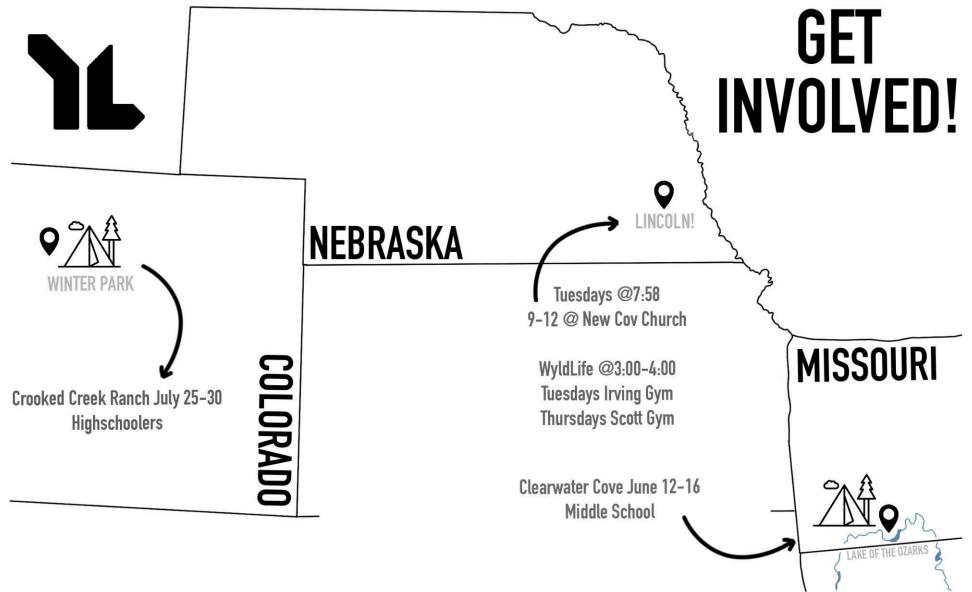
East High students who are looking to get involved in the Young Life community should follow the Young Life Instagram @lincolneastyl or join fellow students at New Covenant Community Church at 7:58 on Tuesdays.



Young Life founder Jim Rayburn instructing the first ever Young Life club. Photo courtesy of Young Life Origin.



(L-R) Makynlie Cade, Bryn Sharpe, Karlee Waegli, Kennedy Johnson, Sydney Haywood at sophomore camp. Photo courtesy of Bryn Sharpe.



### The Oracle | Spring 2024 | lehsoracle.com **ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES**

## A CULTURE OF SUCCESS

Lincoln East Boys Varsity Soccer turns their 0-4 start to a 5-0 winning streak, maintaining a decades long streak of positive team culture

Claire Weibye | Staff Writer and Layout Editor

The Lincoln East Varsity Boys Soccer Team **L** had a rough start to their 2024 season, but they didn't let that bring them down. With spirits high, they entered their game against Millard North High School, and won. The victory over the Mustangs jump-started a 5-0 winning streak for the Spartans. Underneath their success on the scoreboard is a team culture that keeps them going when games get tough and helps them to succeed each season. Team culture has always been a top priority for the Boys Varsity Soccer Team and a main focus for the players each year.

One man who knows all about the importance of team culture is Lincoln East alumni, John Stallings. Stallings, the father of current varsity forward Tripp Stallings, played for the team 30 years ago. Stallings attended East from 1992-1995 where he was a 4 year varsity starter as a defender. He then went on to play college soccer at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Stallings encourages the boys on today's team to build friendships with each other, not only to improve their team chemistry, but also to have fun while playing the sport they love.

#### **2024 SEASON RESULTS**

3/14	L	1-2 (OT)	Southeast
3/18	L	0-2	Fremont
3/23	$\mathbf{L}$	0-2	Westside
3/28	L	1-3	Southwest
3/30	W	2-1	Millard North
4/02	W	2-0	Pius X
4/04	W	4-3 (SO)	Kearney
4/06	W	7-0	Norfolk
4/08	W	2-0	Lincoln High
4/12	L	1-2 (OT)	North Star
HAC TOURNAMENT			
4/15	W	2-0	Columbus
4/17	L	3-4 (SO)	Kearney
4/20	$\mathbf{L}$	2-4	Gretna
4/23	L	7-8 (SO)	Columbus
DISTRICTS			
4/30	L	0-1	Grand Island



The 1994 Lincoln East Boys Varsity Soccer Team poses for a team picture. John Stallings, 4th from the left in the back row, remembers just how amazing his experience was playing soccer for Lincoln East. Photo courtesy of the 1994 Epic.

"The soccer culture at East has always been strong," Stallings said. "During my time at East we worked hard to continue to strengthen the culture every season. The friendships and memories made while playing at East have lasted a lifetime. Watching my kids go through the East soccer program brings me pride and joy knowing that they are getting the same opportunity that I did 30 years ago."

The Spartans like to keep the game lighthearted, and not take their losses too seriously. After a loss, they look at what they could do better to win future matches. Their early season losses to Southeast, Fremont, Southwest, and Westside taught this team how to improve, and gave them time to build chemistry within the team.

"We're all friends and we've gotten closer as the year has gone on," junior defender Luke Duden said. "When we built those connections with the new teammates, it showed on the field.



The 2024 Lincoln East Boys Varsity Soccer Team huddles before their game against Lincoln High School on April 8, 2024. The boys won their game 2-0, adding to their 5 game winning streak. Photo courtesy of Shortridge Photography.

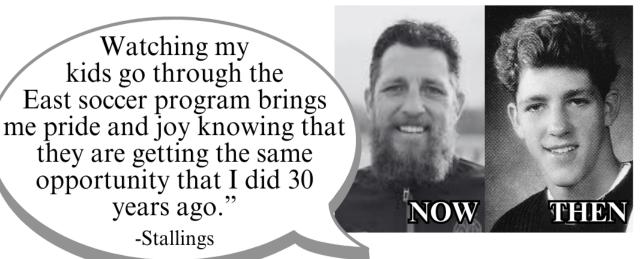
That's definitely one of the things that helped us improve during this season."

Many players from last year's team graduated, creating a very young team for the 2024 season. Six of the 21 varsity team members are underclassmen, and only 8 are seniors. A young team makes for a difficult season, but the Spartans are handling it quite well.

"Our team is very young, with two freshmen starting," Duden said. "Early on, we kind of struggled, but once we found our form and the younger players got used to the pressures of varsity, we were able to turn our season around."

The Spartans won 6 out of their 15 games. They also placed second in their HAC tournament. Despite their disappointing loss in the first round of districts, the boys enjoy playing a sport they love, and the friendships they have made along the way will last for years to come.

#### JOHN STALLINGS



### **2ND SEMESTER FINALS SCHEDULE**

-Stallings

<u>Tuesday May 21st</u>

Student Support: 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Period 1: 9:10 am - 10:30 am

Period 2: 10:40 am - 12:00 pm

Lunch: 12:10 pm - 12:50 pm

Period 5: 1:00 pm - 2:20 pm

<u>Wednesday May 22nd</u>

Student Support: 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Period 8: 9:10 am - 10:30 am

Period 7: 10:40 am - 12:00 pm

Lunch: 12:10 pm - 12:50 pm

Period 6: 1:00 pm - 2:20 pm

Thursday May 23rd Student Support: 8:00 am - 9:00 am Period 3: 9:10 am - 10:30 am Period 4: 10:40 am - 12:00 pm

Lunch: optional

## SPORTS OF THE PAST

NSAA provides sport opportunities for all Nebraska high schoolers

Ella Herzberg | Staff Writer and Editor

A thletics have always been the counterpart to education in a student's high school career. Since 1911, the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) has been striving to encourage students to compete in athletics that will cultivate high ideas of citizenship, fair competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork, which will complement the member schools' curriculum programs. With 13 sports, the NSAA has been able to provide an opportunity that will appeal to each and every athlete.

In 1911, boys basketball was first introduced to the NSAA. For almost 20 years, boys basketball was the only sport to exist in the NSAA until, in 1928, boys wrestling was established. Girls were not allowed to participate in sports until 1974, when golf and swimming were introduced. The NSAA rarely removed sports, with the exception of boys gymnastics, brought to the NSAA in 1940, and eliminated in 1991.

Despite the short lived life of gymnastics, the Lincoln East men had great success. In the two seasons of 1988 and 1989, the team's talent earned them city, conference, district, and state championships. Their scores were good enough to earn them the title of the No. 1 boys high school gymnastics team in the nation for the '88 and '89 seasons, as well as wipe out all previous school records. The team was named a team of distinction, as well as inducted into the Lincoln East hall of fame in 2023.

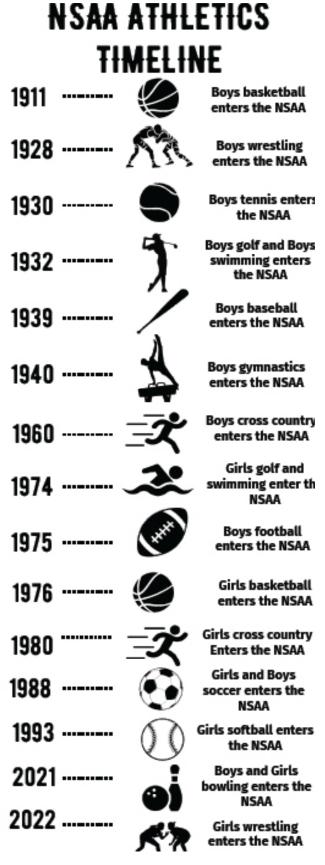
In order to be admitted into the NSAA Hall of Fame, sports must go through a rigorous process.

"We go through a process in which teams did something that was either a "first" in our school, or something extraordinary. For the 2023-24 school year, we inducted two teams: 1988-89 Boys Gymnastics, as well as 1987-88 Boys Swim and Dive," assistant athletic director Joe Schlegelmilch said. "Future and present athletes can look up to this team by seeing that if they can achieve something incredible, or a "first" they will have a chance to be on a team of distinction as well! We always want our athletes to strive for their highest achievement, and this might be one form of motivation."

Another school sponsored event held at Lincoln East was synchronized swimming. The "Doll-Fins" practiced from 7th period to 5:30pm. The team consisted of 20 girls, each performing a variety of swimming strokes and stunts, including a barracuda, belly kip, ballet leg, along with learning a short routine. With the emphasis on synchronized swimming in the Olympics in the year of 1984, classes were being held at local YMCAs, and many schools were implementing this sport into their clubs. Unfortunately, the synchronized swimming team is no longer a part of East, but its memory will always stay with the dolphin painted on the wall of the East swimming pool.

"When the Doll-fins began, it provided something new, that incorporated swimming and dance," former coach and club sponsor Pamela Hovorka said. "I believe that the Doll-fins were a pretty tight group of swimmers, they practiced together a lot, and of course had to be synchronized and in great shape in order to perform the routines and moves."

Even with the absence of these two sports, current NSAA athletes are pleased with the 13 sports that are offered. The NSAA continues to expand, as bowling entered the NSAA in 2021, and girls wrestling in 2022, providing many opportunities to all athletes.







The Linconln East men's gymnastic teams of 1988-1989 became not only the state champions, but also the #1 team in the nation. The team was led by head coaches Dave Eppert and Mike Schneider. Photo courtsey of Lincoln East Hall of Fame.



Lincoln East's men's gymnastic team for 1988-1989 recieves the "team of distinction" award. The team was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2023. Photo courtsey of Lincoln East Hall of Fame.



Lincoln East synchronized swimmers, Julia Forkener and Tracey Smith, dive underneath the water to perform their next move. Many skills are synched to music while swimmers demonstrate their moves. Photo courtsey of Lincon East 1984-85 Epic. Lincoln East's Doll-Fins perform at Lincoln East High school's swimming pool during the school year of 1984-85. The theme for the performance was "girls just wanna have fun." Photo courtsey of Lincoln East 1984-85 Epic.

### THE ORIGIN OF THE ORACLE

Since it's inception in 1968, The Oracle continues to pave the path for its members and their future careers

Hope Shortridge | Staff writer and Co-Editor-In-Chief



Collage of archived articles above feature the journalism of Andrew Loudon and Joe Schlegelmilch in 1990, and Bill Buntain in 1968.

I n the 1990s at East High School, there were several ways students could receive media at school: the student newspaper, The Oracle, the humorous and news digital magazine, The Muse, the Yearbook, and TV Journalism.

The Muse and TV Journalism were started by Dr. Jim Shaffer, who was the advisor of all of the above during his time at East, before moving on to teach English and Journalism at Nebraska Wesleyan.

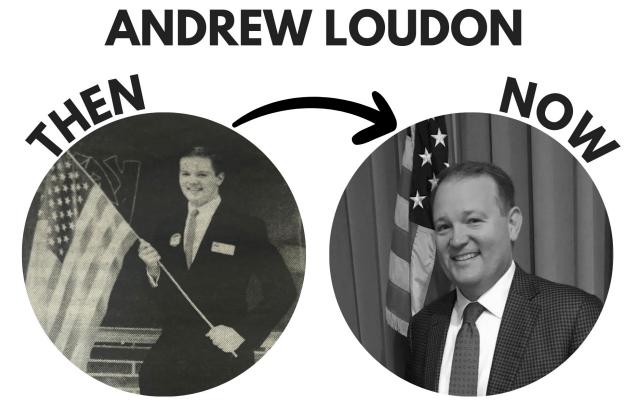
Although advisors like Jane Holt and Emily Geldmeier have carried on the respected tradition of quality journalism in The Oracle, it was actually first printed in 1968, under advisor Jennifer Johnson and student teacher Bonnie Bonneau. Twenty nine students were on the first staff and underwent training for sixteen weeks.

"The paper will be printed in a photographic method called offset," according to an article from the very first edition published on January 5, 1968 titled, "New School 'Voice' Resounds When Staff Creates 'Oracle.'"

"Generally to be four pages in length, the newspaper will usually be issued on Wednesdays. The edition will be sold before school and during study centers, and cost ten cents."

The Oracle has changed and adapted over time, but the foundation is primarily the same. Former Oracle Sports Editor, Joe Schlegelmilch, and East's current Associate Athletics/Activities Director, was on staff from 1990-1991. Schlegelmilch said his favorite part was the interaction with other staff members, and promoting East Athletics.

"It helped me become a better leader," Schlegelmilch said. "I had to be ok asking other students and friends to get their work done, and to make sure it was done well, which gave me confidence that I have taken into other roles such as this one, where I have to make decisions and ask people who have been





Joe Schlegelmilch is East's current Associate Director of Athletics and Activities. Schlegelmilch was on the Oracle Staff as the Sports Editor from 1990-1991, and spoke of his time on the Oracle highly. Photo courtesy of Joe Schlegelmilch.

my peers, or even my former coaches, to do things."

Andrew Loudon was also on The Oracle staff for all four years of high school, from 1988-1991, holding the role of Editor, his junior year. Loudon is currently an attorney of 26 years, at Ball Loudon Ebert & Brostrom LLC.

"Law school is all about reading and writing, and persuasive writing," Loudon said. "Journalism was a great preparation for a legal career."

Andrew Loudon is an attorney at Ball Loudon Ebert & Brostrom LLC. Loudon was on the Oracle staff from 1988-1991, which he said helped shape his future career. Photo on the left is an archive photo courtesy of Lincoln East Oracle in 1990; the photo on the right is courtesy of Andrew Loudon.

Loudon recalls the process of beginning each class as a group talking about what everyone was working on. Afterwards, they would break into different sections (news, sports, feature, editorial) and occasionally going on reporting assignments.

"All of my friends that I made [on The Oracle], we were all really close," Loudon said. "I'm still good friends with most of the people I was on The Oracle with."

When Loudon looks back on his time in high school and on The Oracle, he feels pride. "The Oracle played a big part in my life," Loudon said. "[And] I love East High, it's the best high school in America!"

### FROM HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL STAR TO MLB UMPIRE

47 year-old Jen Pawol is soon to become the first women regular season MLB umpire

#### Kaitlyn Peitzmeier | Staff Writer

Women are taking the professional sports world by storm- even on the officiating side. No woman has ever been assigned to umpire a regular season major league baseball game. That can change this spring season with 47 yearold umpire Jen Pawol.

Pawol graduated from West Milford High School, in New Jersey, in 1995. She was a dedicated athlete who participated in varsity softball and soccer. During her high school softball career, she was a two-time, All-State firstteam catcher, racked up a 0.538 batting average, had 153 runs batted in, and 118 runs scored. In soccer, she had 30 recorded shutouts as a goalie.



Jen Pawol in her class of 1995 yearbook with classmate Ben Nacarra. They both won the superlative for most athletic. Photo from West Milford yearbook, 1995.



Jen Pawol giving a game-face stare during a game she is umpiring. As a woman she had to constantly prove she is

Once high school was over, Pawol went to play softball at Hofstra University, a division I private college in Long Island. College was where Pawol started umpiring fast-pitch games to earn extra money. She also displayed her talents for the USA Baseball Women's National Team, and the Connecticut Brakettes, a team in the National Pro Fastpitch League.

After taking a decade off of playing to achieve her masters in fine arts and working a full-time job in teaching, Pawol started umpiring softball and baseball games around New York.

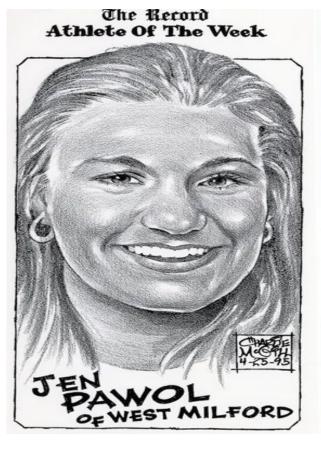
"I was looking for something and didn't want to go into coaching, because you're not in the game; you're not on the field," Pawol told The Record in 2018. "It's just not the same."

Umpiring opportunities started to increase for Pawol, and it quickly became a passion of hers. After four years of umpiring on the side, Pawol quit her teaching job to umpire full-time. In January 2015, she attended Southern Umpires Camp in Georgia to perfect her umpiring skills. At this camp, she caught the attention of Ted Barret, a veteran MLB umpire. He invited her to a free one-day MLB umpiring camp where Pawol got her break, leaving the camp with a scholarship to the league's prestigious umpire academy.

"Jen worked extremely hard during the Umpire Training Academy and proved herself during a very competitive Advanced Course to earn this assignment," Minor League Baseball director of umpire development Dusty Dellinger said in a press release. "We are pleased to have someone of her talent joining the professional umpiring ranks and I'm confident she'll do a great job."

June 2016 was when Pawol made her minor league umpiring debut in Dunedin, Florida for the Gulf Coast League. She was the first woman to umpire a minor league baseball game in almost a decade, and the seventh woman to ever do it. Pawol stayed with it and worked hard for years until February 24th, 2024 when she reached her long-time goal of umpiring a professional game. It was a spring training game between the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals.

Those umpires are added to the MLB's call list in case of an MLB umpire being injured or unavailable. This means Pawol is one call away from making history this regular MLB season. Pawol is breaking the mold for sports officiators, and showing that women can call a game just as well as men.



Pawol won Athlete of The Week for her highschool West Milford High. A sketch by Charlie McGill for The Record, 1995.



Pawol in action umpiring a New York Mets training game.

an umpire worth hiring. Photo from the Richmond Times- Dispatch. Today Pawol is chief of the Triple-A She made sure to stay laser-focused on every play. Photo Crew, the main umpires for triple A baseball. from LivenowFox.com.

#### Women to umpire pro baseball before Jen Pawol:



Bernice Gera, (1972) Photo courtesy of Gulf News.

Christine Wren, (1975-1977) Photo courtesy of The Seattle Times.

Pam Postema, (1977-1989) Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas Review.

Ria Cortesio, (1999-2007) Photo courtesy of Chron.com.

## **RETURNING TO LINCOLN EAST AFTER 56 YEARS**

East High School has 2024 distinguished alumni celebration

Cyan Seymour | *Staff Writer* 

fter graduation, seniors set out into the Aworld to become the people they have been developing to be for their whole education. Beginning in middle school, high school is a dream that most kids can't wait to reach. In high school, it seems like time is moving slowly as students countdown the days until graduation. And once out of high school, time moves like a flash, high school forgotten in the mix of life. But for many people, high school shaped who they are today and what they have accomplished.

On April 18, 2024, six alumni who graduated from Lincoln East High school returned back to the school for a celebration, recognizing them as the distinguished class of 2024. They were welcomed with donuts, coffee, and cake. Each alumni got to elaborate on their time at East to current students and staff, chatting about what it was like when they attended the school years ago.

This astonishing list of alumni include Tim Clare, Class of 1981 is an attorney and an NU Regent. Brian Dunnigan, Class of 1977 is a civil engineer. Mark Hammer, Class of 1975 is a water engineer. Robert Downey, Class of 1968 was the CEO and President of the Capital Humane Society. Keenan Cain, Class of 1973 is the Executive Chef at the Legacy Retirement Community. Martha Stoddard, Class of 1975 is a journalist and news reporter. Ted Genoways, who was unfortunately unable to attend, was Class of 1990, and is a poet, journalist, and an editor.

Each alumna had different experiences at Lincoln East High School. They all participated in different activities and clubs. They all talked about complications throughout their high school career, each with different problems, such as a loss in the family, or lack of motivation. Clare discusses his struggles with the death of his grandfather and the discipline he faced during his time on the varsity football team.

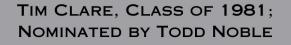
"You've got to talk to others about what you're struggling about," Clare said. "And the odds are that other people are struggling just like you are, so you're not alone."

High school can be challenging, but finding what you're passionate about and becoming the best at these activities can lead to a successful life in the future.



(L-R) East High Alumni Tim Clare, Robert Downey, Martha Stoddard, Keenan Cain, Brian Dunnigan, and Mark Hammer pose for a photo in front of the Distinguished Alumni wall in Lincoln East on April 18. The group was celebrated by students and staff. Photo by Cyan Seymour.





BRIAN DUNNIGAN, CLASS OF 1977; NOMINATED BY JOAN DUNNIGAN



MARK HAMMER, CLASS OF 1975;

BANCROFT





ROBERT DOWNEY, CLASS OF 1968; NOMINATED BY COLLEEN OGDEN





MARTHA STODDARD, CLASS

"Work hard to be the best in that particular area," Clare said. "If you are, other things are going to happen."

Studying in high school, a goal that doesn't have much significance is becoming a successful alumni. It's about the life after it and what was built up to that moment, walking across the stage and receiving a diploma. Everyone starts out somewhere different, and grows into someone by experiencing trauma and life. High school is one of the many factors, and having a great high school career can be the pathway to much larger success down the road.

"Fear is a motivator," Martha Stoddard said. "And just wanting to do things right. I want to feel okay about the job I've done, that it's not just halfway."

TED GENOWAYS, CLASS OF 1990; NOMINATED BY LIZ HOPKINS



**1975; NOMINATED BY JANET** BANCROFT



KEENAN CAIN, CLASS OF 1973; NOMINATED BY PEGGY BLUMER CAIN

## **ADVERTISING: THEN AND NOW**

Advertising evolved alongside the media that carried it and has had extensive influence on the culture of the modern ad

Kylie Brown | Staff Writer and Editor

1972







Ads are something that, quite literally, everyone is familiar with. From newspapers, to television, to simple word-ofmouth, the practice of advertising a product has existed for as long as businesses have had products to sell. But how has advertising as we know it, in all its bright, pervasive nature, changed from its early roots in business marketing?

When comparing advertising "then" to advertising "now," practically every detail of what makes an advertisement has majorly evolved in the last century, in ways never previously seen before.

Early ads from well over a century ago were simple announcements to the public about new goods available, but businesses took a significant leap when they began actively attempting to persuade people to buy those goods. Advertisements that promoted the superior traits of a product, that played off consumer's insecurities, or that used logical and emotional appeals to convince buyers became the new format of advertising.

Advertising has always evolved alongside its businesses, from local merchants and small mom-and-pop shops, to fast food chains and global corporations mass-producing Walmart supercenters. But even more significant in the evolution of advertisements is the advancement of the media - from newspaper to television to global internet - that carries them.

So how has media allowed for evolution from a 2-inch printed ad, to a giant multicolored banner advertising the newest McDonald's menu item?

"Advertisers will go wherever the attention is," the Marketing Director of Talkroute, wrote in their article "Evolution of Advertising: Past to Present." "They're going to find every spot where people are looking

and put their ads as close to their sight line as they can possibly get."

From newspaper print, to TikTok and Snapchat, the evolution of media has had unimaginable impacts on the history of advertising by constantly providing new ways to address the masses.

Originally newspapers, much like East's very own, were the limit on where companies could promote what they had to offer. Then the early 1900s saw the use of radio, providing a revolutionary new way to broadcast to an infinitely wider audience efficiently and effectively.

Television came next, and with it the evolution of advertisements into a new visual and animated format. As television became normalized, so too did the idea of unskippable visual ads interspersed throughout consumer media in the form of TV commercials, formatted more as an interruption than an addition.

Finally, as the Internet exploded into the everyday scene a few decades later, advertising entered its final digital form and began to optimize like never before. The effort, psychology, and money that went into advertising rose to compete with the hundreds of thousands of new businesses sprouting up each year. Psychological profiling, consumer data gathering, and targeted ad manufacturing has become the new normal of modern advertisements.

"They went from sponsoring websites, to banner ads, to a lot more banner ads, to mobile apps, to ads that follow you everywhere you go on the web," the Marketing Director at Talkroute, wrote.

It's unknown how advertising will progress from here, but the evolution it's experienced has been revolutionary for every aspect of businesses, and the future is unlimited.

#### 1990



YOUR PROM TUXEDO

If you want to LOOK YOUR BEST AT PROM this year and STAND OUT IN A CROWD, we're your Tuxedo Store! Prom tuxedos starting at \$49.95 for coat, pant, shirt, vest and tie.\* Or choose from designer labels at \$69.95\*. Hurry in for best selection and price! "See store for details.



4848 Normal Blvd. • 483-4373 & 2901 Pine Lake Rd. • 420-6311

2000

#### STUDENTS ARE SPECIAL!

That's why we want you to take advantage

of the Student Special at

#### **Phoenix Hair Artists**

483-4726 With your student ID you can get a 15% discount on a fashion cut 20% discount on a perm 20% discount on a color service 10% discount on any of our fine hair products



2006 At SCC... (Sieles) Beatrice Campus OPEDOUSE OPEDOUSE Detoher 15, 2006 | 10:30 am-3,30 pm Boo-233-5027 or 402-228-3468

An example of the progression of advertising can be found in Lincoln East's very own Oracle. As the years have passed, ads have changed in format, wording, style, and frequency, as technology advanced and media evolved to more lucrative outlets. Photos courtesy of Lincoln East Oracle.

## **HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

Taylor Swift continues breaking her own records with "The Tortured Poets Department" and shows no signs of slowing down Ava Heminger | *Staff Writer* 

There's no doubt that Taylor Swift has already made a lasting impact in the music industry with her talents and impeccable lyricism, but she shows zero signs of stopping now. Her eleventh album was released to Swifties everywhere on April 19, 2024 in two separate sets, "The Tortured Poets Department" and "The Anthology." "The Tortured Poets Department" is fated to continue Swift's record-breaking streak in musical history and carry on her legacy as a distinguished artist.

With the release of Swift's second album, "Fearless" known for hit songs "Love Story" and "You Belong With Me", the world knew that Swift wasn't just temporary. She was able to take home four Grammys for her sophomore album at only 18 years old, including one for Album of the Year and another for Best Country Album. Most fans have been loyal to Swift since "Fearless" was realeased, inlcuding the Joyce family here in Lincoln. Since then, they have gone to several concerts including "Red", "1989" and "Reputation".

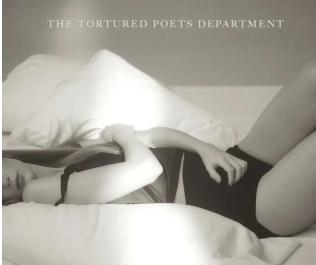
At the 2024 Grammys, Swift became the first person to win four Grammys for album of the year, passing Frank Sinatra, Paul Simon, and Stevie Wonder. Swift announced her newest album while accepting her award. On the day of its release, "The Tortured Poets Department" became the most streamed album in Spotify and Apple Music history and Spotify announced that the song "Fortnight" featuring Post Malone became the single most streamed song in a day. Time and again Swift shows that she knows and will continue to be a topic of discussion for decades to come.

"I think she is definitely creating a legacy for herself," Mrs. Lauren Funk, an English teacher at East and a certified Swiftie, said. "She's picked a good strategic team to shuffle her through her rise to fame. Everything is clearly intentional in a way that I don't think we've seen before as a fan base."

With a total of 31 songs, this new album is filled with poetic songs that contain heart breaking lyrics about Swift's experiences and memories that she's been holding onto. In addition to selling more than 1.4 million copies of "The Tortured Poets Department" on the album release day, she's also set to break her own records that she made with "Midnights" and "1989." Current Swifties know Taylor for her songwriting prowess, versatile musicality, and her ability to inspire countless young listeners. People in the future will come to know Swift for her unflinching grasp on the music industry and how she was able to shift the way society viewed young women who are on a similar path with their career.



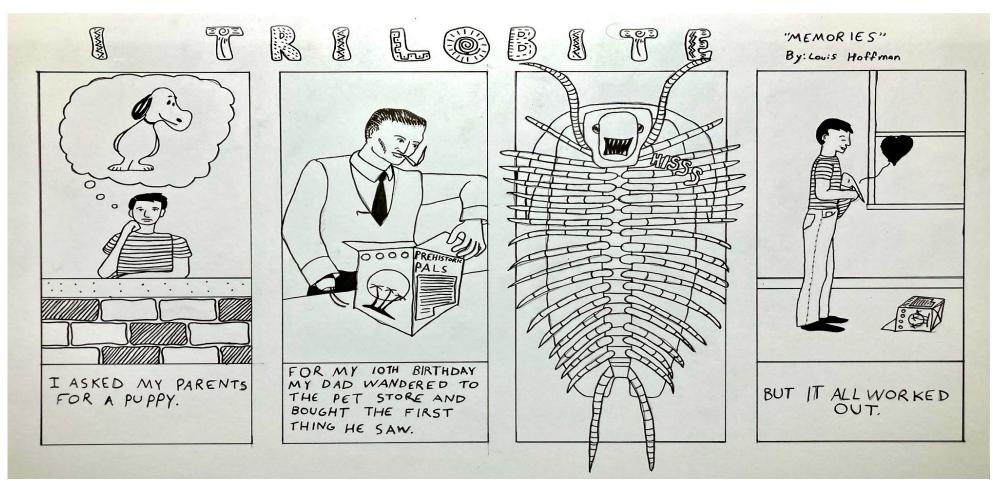
The Joyce family, pictured above, attends Taylor Swift concerts consistently, including the 2018 Reputation tour. Since then, they have also attended the 2023 Eras tour in Kansas City.



#### Spartan Swiftie Mrs. Funk's Swiftie opinions:

"I'll be honest, I was not always a fan of hers. I was not a huge country fan and that was where she started. But "Red" came out and my all time favorite song "All Too Well" is on that album, I kind of started to think 'hey, maybe she's onto something'. "1989" is probably my second favorite album of hers (we are both 1989 babies). When "folklore" came out, it rocked my world. I think I listened to it non stop, and I wasn't even willing to consider "evermore" because it wouldn't be as good as "folklore". After "folklore" there was no need to convince me at all that she's an amazing lyricist. Her lyrics are sheer poetry and that is what drew me to her, and what keeps me coming back. We grew up together in real time. Taylor was 22 when I was 22, so it was like we were going through whatever it was together. Her library is now extensive enough that a younger person has variety and can select their own "era" based on what they are feeling. Few people (aside from Beyonce) have done what she is doing tactically. And it's serving her well, clearly!"

### COMIC



### **PREDICTIONS FOR 2025**

The truth behind 2007 Oracle predictions revealed

Louis Hoffman | Staff Writer and Cartoonist

In a 2007 edition of Lincoln East's newspaper, The Oracle, a former staff reporter, Navina Delight, wrote a comedic article humorously predicting events that would occur in 2008. While the intent of the article was purely to entertain, some of the predictions came true or at least had some truth to them. The Oracle has since fallen away from articles that are purely for entertainment to promote more fact based news articles (as the Oracle is a newspaper after all), but the genre of entertainment article is making a comeback for this "throwback" edition of the Oracle, so here are Nevina Delight's most accurate predictions, as well as my own predictions for 2025.

#### **Predictions from 2008 that came true**

"Huge earthquake in California over 4.3"

The Chino Hills in southern California experienced an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.4, July 29th, 2008.

"Zune? iPods will continue to dominate in 2008"

iPods sales peaked in 2008 at 54.83 million sales.

"Angelina Jolie adds another kid to the Jolie-Pitt pack"

Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt had twins, Knox Leon and Vivenne Marcheline in 2008.

#### **Predictions from 2008 that almost came true**

"Lindsay Lohan plays it low-key and moves to <u>Europe"</u>

Lindsay Lohan moved to Dubai in 2014 for privacy.

<u>"Bin Laden will be caught"</u>

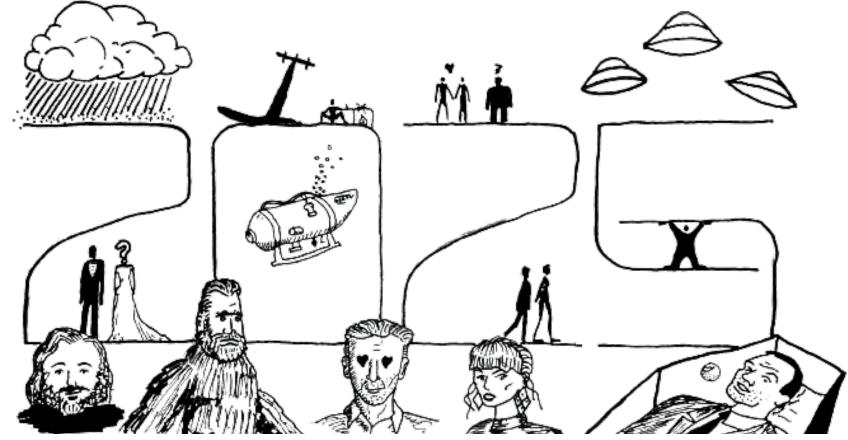
Bin Laden was killed in 2011 by Seal Team Six.

"Another "High School Musical! Yay!" Ashlee Simpson comes to play Ashley Tisdale's sister"

"High School musical 3: Senior Year" was released in 2008 though Ashlee Simpson was not involved.

#### "Jennifer Aniston gets married"

Jennifer Aniston didn't marry anyone in 2008, though she was married to Justin Theroux from 2015 to 2017.



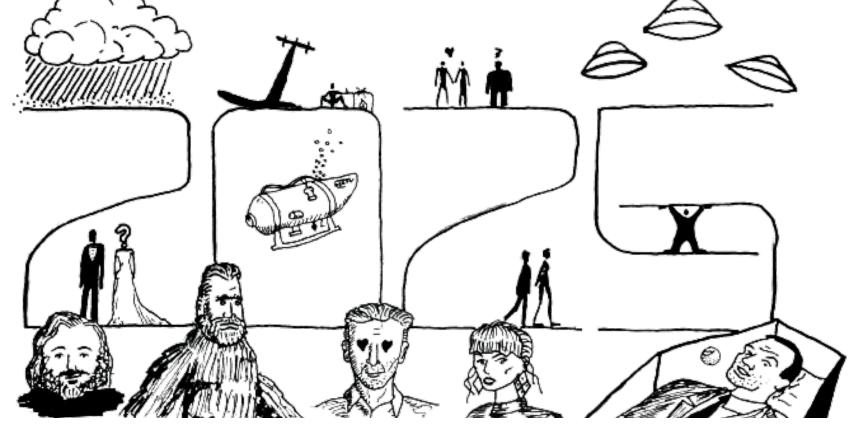
#### Predictions for 2008

#### NAVINA DELIGHT Staff Reporter

- Britney Spears, blinded by a camera flash, will run over one of the paparazzi, who will have to be taken to hospital, and she will be charged with Hit and Run and be convicted. She will permanently lose custody of the kids. Continue rise in her album sales.
- Paris Hilton will get engaged again but will not go through with the marriage.
- Huge earthquake in California over 4.3
- Zune? iPods will continue to dominate in 2008
- Being 'green' becomes even more popular
- As the ice melts, Greenland becomes green.
- New York from "I Love New York" gets married
- Lindsay Lohan plays it low-key and moves to Europe
- Wonderful things happen for Navina!
- Bin Laden will be caught
- There will be several snow days
- Angelina Jolie adds another kid to the Jolie-Pitt pack
- Amy Winehouse will be found on the street corner trying to sell lollipops for money
- Nicole Richie's child starts to smoke at 2 months rivaling the musical screams astounding fans from Christina Aguilera's child
- Another "High School Musical"! Yay! Ashlee Simpson comes to play Ashley Tisdale's sister.
- Lincoln finally gets a P.F. Chang's or **Cheesecake Factory**
- YouTube Celebrity appears in a Hollywood movie
- James Brown comes back from the dead
- . Tom Cruises' next big projects flop
- Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban split
- Jennifer Aniston gets married

#### **Predictions for 2025**

- James Cameron will write and direct a romantic disaster film about the Titan Submersible Implosion
- OJ Simpson will come back from the dead "If the casket doesn't fit he ain't gettin' in it!"
- JoJo Siwa's rebrand will get too wild and she will get arrested
- The results of the 2024 election will be skewed by extraterrestrial interference
- Johnny Depp will remarry
- The Sasquatch will be apprehended
- Gerry from "The Golden Bachelor" will try to serial date his former co-stars
- Stranger Things 5 will come out
- Vladimir Putin will try to date Kim Jong ٠ Un's sister
- The South Pole will melt and the penguins will migrate to northern Minnesota and Canada
- Timothée Chalamet will get buff and star in • the next Marvel movie
- Amelia Earhart discovered living on a remote island living off of coconut crabs
- AI art will become so advanced it will rival the masters
- The abandoned Sears at Gateway Mall will be torn down and turned into a car wash
- GTA 6 will come out ٠
- Constantinople will rise again •
- After the "Quiet on Set" documentary, the Nickelodeon company falls apart
- There will be several acid rain days ٠
- Jack Black will star in an animated movie
- Taylor Swift becomes pregnant with Travis • Kelce's child, breaks up with him, has the child, raises the child on her own, writes songs about single motherhood, and then teaches her child music and they will form a family music duo and perform the previously mentioned single motherhood songs.



### **OUT THE DOOR IN '24**

**Adams Madison** Adrian KaeLynn **Agarwal Shrey Aguilar Sofia** Alasady Ali Aldana Isaac **Aldridge Justice** Alesio Josie Aljabiry Mohamed Al-Kenani Ahmed Alqayyim Ammar Altahir Khalid Al-Tameemi Noori **Alvaro Ariannah** Andersen Eric Andersen Hayden **Anderson Brady** Anderson Brock Andersson Tabi **Armstrong Cooper** Auchtung Julian Bahntge Hailey **Bailey** Hadley Ballentine Ashlyn Barnard Regan Barnes Kooper Barrett Lucy Barton Eli Bartunek Will Bauman Dash **Bayne Hailey Bearking Nathaniel** Beeman Alex **Beier Daimien Bell Aubrey Bell Cassidy** Bell Delanev Berge Carter Bernadt Toby Berstler Reese Birnie Bryton Bishop Harrison Bivens Caiden Bliven Evelyn Blomstedt McKenna **Bodner Koby** Bondegard Landon Borrell Hannah **Bos Carter Bowles** Jackson Brandle Amelia **Breton Analise** Brodecky Ellie Broeker Tyson Brown Kylie Brown Peyton **Brown Vicente** Bruhn Caleb **Bundy Aysionna** Bunisky Ruby Burchfield Brooklyn **Burdette Robyn** Burhoop Noah Burkey Kai Cacek Braden Camacena Cuevas Gerardo Campbell Vanessa Campbell Zoe Cappos Amelia Carlson Jayden Carroll Owen **Castor Mia** Cetak Caden **Chambers** Jayden **Chandler Mason Chaney Connor** Chapin Ava Chapman Gibsen Charroin Colby Chartraw Legacy Chesser Alex **Clarence Dave Cobian Lorena Cole Kymora Coniglio Lauren** Creglow Sean Crist Logan **Crom** Tanner Cullan Campbell Cullan Kalen Cunningham Whitley Dak Jang Daringer Cooper Davenport Samuel Davis Halle **Davis Reece Davis Zyshonne Davy Hudson** Del Rello Arizai **Del Rello Magaly** Dickey Zach Dieter Aubrey Dinuzzo Jake **Dodge Jacob Dodson Nate Donahoo Sawyer Dorsey Madelyn Douglas Jacquelyn** 

**Dreibelbis Callie Duke Evie** Duval Jaggar Eberhardt Carson **Eberhardt Georgia** Eberhardt Leiah **Edgington Ariel** Eilers Lauren Elder Chevelle Engelman Emma Ens Adin Erickson Dylan Erstad Jorďan Esau Kail **Esquivel Alexander** Evasco AJ Faalii Shandy Falkinburg Hunter Fangman Taelynn Fanus Lara Fields Lexie **Finney Cooper** Fisher Gillian Fitzgerald Liam Foote Adelaide Fornander Adeline Forsberg Lillian Fowler Luckadya Fox Quentin Fraley Thomas Franklin Johnathan Franks Jordyn Freeman Rebecca Frey Henry Froistad Emily Frommie Georgia Gabir Musab Gaines Mason Garcia Mason Gasseling Harlee Gatlin Zachery Geiger Emma Genetti Jacob **Gessford Miles Gibbons Mason Glover Andrew Goeller Joseph** Goldberg Leo Gonzales Gavin Grant Elliot **Green Jackson** Gregg Memphis Gregis Allison Grow Brandon Gubbels Dexter Guilford Lydia **Guilliatt Isaiah** Hammad Noor Hanigan Kavanaugh Hanna Nixon Hansen Mia Hanson Noah Hanus Taelyn Hanway Ethan Harley Addison Harrington Haylee Harris Jayda Hartsell Connor Heller Robbie **Heminger** Ava Hendren Angeleah Hennecke Tyler Herbert Nora Hertzel Harrison Hertzel Kamryn Higgins Cameron Hill Chayse Hoesing Brodie Hoffart Jayden Hoffman Logan Hoffman Skylar Hogg Tyler Hohenstein Espen Holmes Duncan Holte Zaden **Honnens** Elly Hoover Benjamin **Horalek** Jess Howard Ethan Huang Andrew Hudec Austin Huenink Brayden Huynh Trung Hyberger Jared Ibrahim Roshan Islamov Yakub **Ivanov Max** Jackson Jo Jackson Messiah James Austin Jehorek Addison Jenkins Eve Jensen Jenna Johanns Olivia Johnson Connor Johnson Jazmyn Johnson Kolton Johnson Ryan

**Johnston Mitchell** Jones Carly Juedes Avery Jung Logan Kalkwarf Cleo Kampfe Parker Kang Michael Karr Emmett Kasik Ashlynn Kauk Darian **Kellas** Casper Kephart Tayah Keyzer Simon Kheder Nazar Khudada Deleer Kiburz Barrett Kim Juwon **Kite Braeden** Klein Skylie **Klingler** Tyson Klutz Joey Knaak Keith **Knezevic** Daria Knuth Samantha Kodad Jacob Koehlmoos Kristian Kohlenberg Isaac Kotik Libby Kramer Beau Kramer Colby **Krason June Krause** Asher **Kray Carter** Kreikemeier Quinten Krikac Calum Krueger Erin **Krueger** Peyton Kruse Londyn Kudron Ty Kundoor Subbu Kuta Colton La Pointe Rio Labrum Jay Laessig Foster Laessig Owen Laird Marek Lambert Maddox Langford Jack Larson Emma Lassen Kyra Lassen Kyra Leach Braden LeFevre-Scott Walker Lefler Elise Lian Nang Lieneman Reagan Lilleholm Alyssa Lindgren Alex Lindgren Alex Lindquist Luke Longoski Kempf Raissa Loos Greyson Lopes Dos Santos Leonardo Loya Daniel Luetchens Josie Luhring-Scott Garrett Ly Kenny Lyman Axel Lyon Noah Mackrill Olivia Magaraci Johnny Magnussen Logan Mahlman Tyler **Mahoney** Lauren Mairs Aden Mancinas Flores AB Mang Zen Marfisi Isabella Marriner Ada Martin Charlie Mashayekhi Tina **Masters Blake** Mathis Kenyon Matoush Ella Mazumdar Aishani McClain Alexander **McConnell William McCormick** Lilly McDermott Kadin McDermott Keilani **McDonald Morgan McEntarffer Jack McGrew** Luke **Meints Grace** Melessa Brooklyn Mellick Madalyn Mendez-Mesa Joel Mendez-Rodriguez Duley Mettscher Mandy Metzger Jordan Meyer Mallorie Meyer Tory Mick Carter **Mickells** Cole **Miller Jamison** Millo Gracie Mitchell Faith Mitchell Rowen Moller Lawson Mollhoff Cami

**Moody Hyrum Moore Liam** Morgan Cooper Moussoli Jeremy Mowry Brianna Muayad Ranya Mueller Sterling Muller Dasha **Muller Henson Murray Collin** Murray Mia Murray Shyla Musiel Keatyn Muthu Siva Sankar Sree Nabb Ash Nash Luke **Neale Brice** Negrete Shayla Nelson Chase **Nelson Taylor** Nguyen Ethan **Nicholls Preston Nielsen Berkley** Nielson Annalise Notaro Davaya Novak Ella **Oakland Li** Ockander Korben **Odenthal Bryce** Okelberry Annabelle Ondrak Jacob Orozco Lopez Maritza Ortega Lilliana Orwig Kass Otte Isaiah **Palmer Brady** Parsons Zach Patel Yashvi Pedersen Noah Peters Leyton Peterson Calvin Pinto Prada Camila Piso Suaad **Postert Gavin Preister Natalie Prenosil Amera Priest Delaney Puoch Lual** Putnam Levi **Quiring Beth** Radu Julia Rakes Braedyn Rasmussen Brookelyn Rawlinson Merric Razdan Isabella Rearick Ethan **Reece Thomas Reeves** Owen **Reichel Bobby Reichert** Jackson **Reiter Halle Renard David** Rennerfeldt Jax Reuter Erin Reuter Kelsey Richardson Amelia Rida Reeyad Riekenberg Kendra **Riley** Jack **Roberts Ryan Roberts Rylee** Roberts Tobey Rockenbach Felicity **Rodriguez** Oscar Rolfes Jackson Rom Abbey Romero Kaci Ross Cali Ruff Connor Ruff Molly Ruhl Mallory Runyan Ella Ryan Dilyn Safaa Bahaa Safaa Fidaa Salih Wid Sanks Calissa Santillan Thomas Sarazua Diego Sarroub-Le Sueur Sofia Sairoub-Le Sueur Sayre Calvin Schell Zoey Schinstock Regina Schmer Ryan Schmidt Collin Schmit Ava Schmit Leighton Schmitz Taylor Schnell Walt Schnick Connor Schoemaker Juliet Schubert Annabeth **Schumacher Nick** Schupbach Harper Shaffer Morgan Shanahan Keagan Shaner Joshua **Sharif Sofia** 

Shelton Evynn Shihab Hamza Shortridge Hope Shortridge Paul Silverberg Taylor Sindelar Jade Singleton DJ Skeels Cameron Smail Laila Smith Avery Smith Hayden Smith Zoe Solorio Mia Soni Arnav Sonthana-Barak Adilynn Spivey Avery Sprieck Ethan Springer Garrett Spurling Preslie Squires Moses Srisa-An Eiden **Stallings Piper** Stanley Benjamin Stanton Maguire Starkel Kellen Steele Grace Stephens Jasmine Stephens Kru Strahan Gavin Stratton Alexa Stricker-Slaughter Tristan Strote Christopher Stuhmer Damon Suh Elaine **Svehla Peyton** Swiggart Žack Swyers Casen Tang Hannah Teko Kanye Thiel Connor Thomas Cheyenne Tibaa Sidra Tidball Stella Tishkov Alik Toomey Brady Topolski Brynne Tran Calvin Tran Zayne Trejo Alejandro Tucker Mackenzie Tullis Colton Ulrich Chance Underwood Skylar Unrau Taytum Uribe Donis Alberto Valdez Rose Valenta Spencer Van Cleaf Lucas Van Winkle Evan Vanlaningham Joseph Vanourney Trenton VanWey Micah Veil Hailey Venhaus Mikyah Vinton Elyse Vogel Jada Volkmer Evan Volzke Bailee Von Kaenel Alexandria Wagner Aubrey Wal Mal Walter Jazzmin Walz Sydney Wasson Marla Waters Megan Watkins Nolan Waugh KayCee Weatherholt Quin Weichel Lauren Weiss Jack Weiss Luke Wells Jack Wess Angeles Wessel Ethan Wessel Izzy West Easton Whitcomb Emma White Blake White Joseph Whitmore Caleb Wieland Anna Wiggins Barron Williams Abbie Williams Anthony Wilson Josh Wilson Wesley Wissing Jordyn Wolfe Člara Wood Kaitlyn Woodruff Noah Worick Christien Wulf Austin Xu Christina Yerra Anika Zabloudil Quinn Zavala Carter Zimmerman Kelbv Zuban Ema