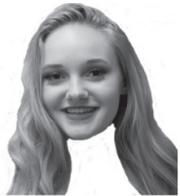


The Flu: Fatigue, fever cause many fretful students



Ryanne Meyer
Sports Page Editor

During the cold months of each year, sickness begins to increase. There are three main types of influenza: influenza A, B and C. However, it doesn't stop there. According to Sino Biological.com, there are 144 strains, or subtypes, of influenza A alone. Influenza B doesn't branch out into multiple strains; and influenza C doesn't have very severe symptoms; therefore, it is less studied. Influenza is most common in the months of December through February.

The differences between the types of influenza are often unknown. Influenza A is the most common, and it affects humans, animals and birds. Influenza B is less common, and it usually only affects humans. Although influenza A and B have the same symptoms, influenza B is generally less severe than A.

According to Kansas.com, Kansas is currently the "sickest state in the nation." Five percent of the national population has influenza or influenza like symptoms, while 6.6 percent of Kansans are experiencing the flu. This calculates to approximately 191,000 sick Kansans. Last year, only 5.3 percent of Kansas was ill.

Colby High School has been lucky enough to only have about a half-dozen

influenza-stricken people. Jenna Reinert, fr., was flu positive in January.

"My worst symptoms were the dizziness and the headaches because I was so dehydrated. I had to get three bags of fluid while I was sick," Reinert said.

The worst part about the whole thing for Reinert was that she was sick during the Orange and Black Classic, a home basketball tournament. She is on the dance team and worried about performances.

"[Getting back to school] was pretty hard because I was out for a week, and it was hard to get stuff turned in on time. [But the teachers] worked with me to make sure that I got all of my work done. I worked a lot during seminar to get caught up," Reinert said.

Kellyn Wahlmeier, jr., was also affected by the flu. Her worst symptom was her achy, sore muscles.

"At first, I was really worried about missing school, but I had to. I just figured that there's always Tuesday Night School, and I can make it up that way. It really helped having that snow day on Tuesday because I only had three days to make up instead of four," Wahlmeier said.

In the beginning, Wahlmeier was concerned about her schoolwork. However, she knew her teachers would be willing to help.

"All of the teachers were really understanding. They worked with me in seminar and let me stay after school. They were all just glad that I made it back to school," Wahlmeier said.

The high school principal,

who also came down with influenza, is thankful that CHS has been so lucky.

"Our custodial staff does a great job. So, I think that helps [keep the flu away]," Dr. Stephanie McNemar said.

She advises the students to wash their hands diligently, to not share drinks, chapsticks, or even clothes (such as jackets). She also encourages that if a student isn't feeling well, he/she

should stay home and rest.

The school handbook states that students shouldn't return to school until they've been 24 hours without a fever.

"My advice to other students [with the flu] worried about getting back to school is to just make sure you communicate with your teachers because they're willing to work with you as long as you talk to them," Reinert said.



Flu Prevention

(According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC))

- When coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Disinfect surfaces and objects that may have been contaminated.
- Get yearly flu vaccines.

If you are sick:

- You should stay home for at least 24 hours.
- Limit time spent with others, so they don't catch it.
- See a doctor, so they can give you prescribed medication.

Symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Stuffy or runny nose
- Sore throat
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea



Laurel Myers

IPS Kansas schools begin switch towards more career-based pathways



Wendy Chavez
Feature Editor

Finding the right career and the right college to pursue that occupation is a difficult decision. Locating the right college can be stressful because choosing the one that will benefit your future the most is another decision to make.

School counselor, Karen Sullivan, is the person most students will go to for this kind of help. She configures students' class schedules and college courses that will help students in their future careers. Sullivan attempts

to find the right scholarships that students may find an interest in as well. Soon, Sullivan will have some help in that department and still mentor many students when they need it.

Beginning next school year, the high school, as well as the rest of USD 315, will be incorporating a new system that will be focusing on life after high school. The Commissioner of Education, Randy Watson, has a vision for Kansas education, and it outlines what a successful Kansas graduate would have. He asked schools in Kansas to participate in this new project that will improve the definition of a successful Kansas high school graduate.

"The state department would like Kansas to lead the world in success of students,

What is an Individual Plan of Study?

1. A graduated series of strength finders & career interest inventories to help students identify preference toward career clusters
2. 8th – 12th Course builder function with course selections based on career interests
3. A general post-secondary plan (workforce, military, certification program, 2-yr. college, 4-yr. college)
4. Portable electronic portfolio

-Kansas Department of Education, July 2016

and they feel as though having an individualized plan of study [IPS] is one way that we can ensure that students are ready for college and/or a career when they leave high school," Shelly Myers, IPS committee member, said.

The program involves an "Individual Plan of Study", which will track the progress of each student from K-12.

This plan will help students set postsecondary and career goals. IPS is a portfolio that will be continually updated throughout the years until the student graduates.

"The purpose [of IPS] is to help students explore different careers or interests they may have. In doing so, the students will also be utilizing career cruising

[a software program]," Dr. Stephanie McNemar, principal, said.

One part of career cruising provides internet surveys for students. These surveys narrow the students' interests to occupations that the student may take an interest in. If the student is not happy with the results, he/she can take it as many times as they

want or try to pursue one of the given options. These inventories also provide the necessary information for what certifications are needed to qualify for the occupation. "This benefits our students by helping to look at different options for after high school," McNemar said.

"Jump"



to page 7
"IPS"



PEOPLE

The newspaper staff features a different person from each class on this page. For the Peeps, the staff asks various students or staff to relate a funny thing that happened to them.

“When I was in kindergarten, I decided to kiss a boy on the cheek in front of the whole class.”



Valeria Aguirre, Jr.



Nataly Oliver
Feature Editor

A student who works on a farm is not uncommon in Colby. Lots of kids, including Braden Thummel, fr., grow up with their parents being their farming mentor. He enjoys farming and has been a part of it for a long time.

“I work for my dad and have been working for him since I was 10,” Thummel said.

Farming comes with big responsibilities and deals with a lot of hard work.

“I ride a tractor and I disk fields for the most part for my dad, and I think it’s pretty fun,” Thummel said.

While he enjoys the work he does on the farm, there aren’t always perks when working in a business run by the family.

“It’s not bad working for my dad, and I like it, but I feel I don’t get paid as much,” Thummel said.

Not getting paid enough is just a small issue. On the other hand, there are many activities to do while being free on the open land. One of them is being able to ride a four wheeler.

“I really like to drive four wheelers and I have been riding them since I was about

Braden Thummel, Fr.



Nataly Oliver

Braden Thummel, fr., prepares to do a trick on his dirt bike. Thummel works on his family farm and has lots of open space to practice on the dirt bike or four wheeler.

five years old,” Thummel said.

Being out in the open area of the farm, Thummel enjoys trying out new tricks with his four wheeler and dirt

bike.

“Most of the time I like to pop wheelies with my four wheeler, and I’m able to go pretty fast,” Thummel said.

Not only does he enjoy

different things on farming at home, but he enjoys learning about it in school as well. Thummel is a part of FFA and, as a freshman, this is his first year. He learns something new every day and learns new skills as well.

“I think it’s really fun, I like the fact that I can miss some school days for it,” Thummel said.

Teamwork within the club is important to Thummel. He enjoys interacting with older people and getting different opinions on things. He hopes to continue doing FFA throughout his high school career.

Mandy Summers, So.



Bailey Britton
Editor-in-Chief

With a swing of a racket or swish of some poms, Mandy Summers, so., keeps herself busy throughout the school year. Summers is an active athlete who plays tennis and softball, as well as dances as a part of the CHS dance team.

Dance and tennis are both things that Summers recently began. She has danced for one year and played tennis for two.



Wendy Chavez

Mandy Summers, so., chats with Liliana Levya, so., and Sarahi Moreno, jr., at a basketball game last week. Summers, along with the CHS dance team, performed at the game.

“I started doing dance because I thought it would be fun and would get me out of my comfort zone. Also, a lot of my friends did it so I thought it would be fun to

join them,” Summers said.

She doesn’t have a favorite type of dance, but she does enjoy the new dance the team is learning.

“It’s a hip hop dance and

I like it a lot; it’s upbeat. We do a lot of pom dances, and I like those, too,” Summers said.

Another aspect of dance she likes is the help and support the captains give. She believes that they are very helpful.

“If there is something I need to work on, they will help me with it,” Summers said.

Dance takes place during the fall and winter seasons. In addition to dance in the fall, Summers plays tennis. She hadn’t played before her grandmother bought her a racket and sent her to the summer tennis camp that Wendy Weishaar, coach, hosts each summer.

“I had a \$7 racket and hadn’t ever played before. By the end of the week, I had improved a lot and also won a brand new racket that was expensive. I thought, ‘Hey maybe I like tennis,’ and that’s that,” Summers said.

“Jump”



to “Summers”
page 7

“I was playing peek-a-boo with a dog, and it bit me in the butt.”



Brandon Brier, So.

“When I was five, I got lost in Walmart and went up to a random stranger and asked if they were my mom.”



Shane Wescott, Jr.



Bailey Britton
Editor-in-Chief

One may wonder what different hobbies are done by CHS students. There are several clubs that one can join or classes one can be a part of. Nicole Griffin, jr, does many activities throughout the school day.

“She likes to write stories and make cards for people. She gives her friends cards and gifts,” Alex Williams, teacher,

said. Griffin is an avid reader and writer. It is one of many ways for her to communicate with others. She often writes small stories and draws pictures to go along with them. Reading helps her with writing.

“I like to read Dora books,” Griffin said.

Her favorite class is reading with Williams. Together, they work on writing and reading. She also reads at home with her younger brother, Zack. Zack plays sports, which Griffin enjoys watching. They play hide and seek together as well.

Nicole Griffin, Jr.



Sandy Kroeker

On the right, Nicole Griffin, jr., sculpts during her clay class. Griffin enjoys participating in her clay class; she also likes to write stories and make her friends cards and gifts.

“I like to play with him,” Griffin said.

Griffin takes a clay class with Trish Starbuck, art

teacher, as well. Her friend, Natalie Odell, sr., is in the class with her.

Odell and Griffin also pin the daily announcements up around the school. Griffin enjoys being involved in group activities and taking care of her friends.

“Nicole is very caring,” Williams said.

Kaegan Atkins, Sr.



Emma Dixon
Opinion Page Editor

With only 65.8 miles between the two cities of Hill City and Colby and about one hour to stare out at the exciting flat lands of Kansas, Kaegan Atkins, sr., had some time to think about video games. Atkins moved to Colby from Hill City during the first semester.

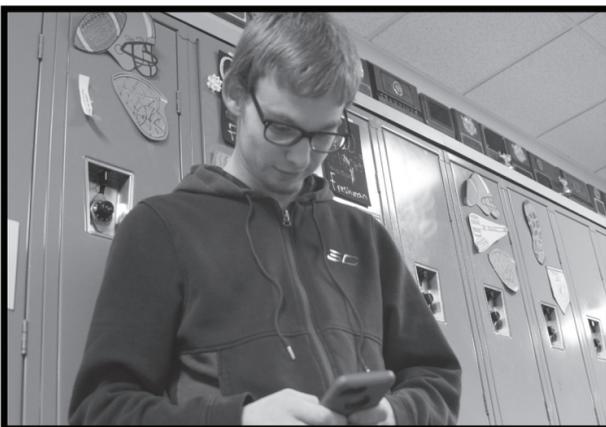
Everyone can agree to

disagree what their favorite system and favorite game is when it comes to their beloved video games. For Atkins, the Xbox One is the way to go.

For some people, sports isn’t what they have to do after school. Atkins, has his video games to always give him a warm welcome from coming home after a day at school. Sitting down at his Xbox One, he usually plays NBA 2K18.

“The NBA games are the ones that I would recommend to people who are looking for games to play,” Atkins said.

Sports are his favorite games to play although he



Wendy Chavez

Kaegan Atkins, sr., checks his phone for video game updates. Atkins recommends the Xbox One as the console that he prefers to play on.

plays Fortnite as well. It’s one of his other favorite

games to play. As well as playing on the Xbox One,

Atkins has also played on the PlayStation 4, both having their differences, but exceeding at what they do best.

“I have played the PlayStation 4, but I still recommend the Xbox One as a console to play on. The only thing I would change with the console is probably to have a better graphics card with it,” Atkins said.

Everyone has their picks and everyone has hobbies. For Atkins, video games are the best way to pass time.

“After a bad snow storm, my car ran out of gas and got stuck in the snow on Range after school. Everyone from school drove by, and no one stopped to help.”



Chloe Imhof, Sr.

OPINION



EAGLE TALON STAFF 2017-18

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Editorial Policy

The Eagle Talon is a newspaper of the students, by the students, and for the students, published to inform and entertain the school community of Colby High School, and to serve as an educational tool for journalism students.

The staff recognizes its responsibility to provide a forum for diverse views, to serve the interests and needs of the school community, and to report the news fairly, objectively and honestly.

Published stories should not be deemed an expression of school policy or the view of Colby Public School employees or board of education.

Letters to the editor are always encouraged. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the Talon. Letters that deal with school-related issues or public issues are given the highest priority.

All letters should be kept under 150 words and must be signed. Submit all letters to room 502.

Women's rights should remain on center stage



Emma Dixon
Opinion Page Editor

In 2018, women's rights have evolved into something greater and more powerful than anyone could ever imagine. With March being Women's Rights Month, the Talon staff took a look at how the recent empowerment has affected society both near and far.

Recently, there have been many incidents that have moved society forward in an effort to be more inclusive for both genders.

In 2006, Tarana Burke founded the #MeToo movement to help survivors of sexual violence begin to heal. Last fall, #MeToo moved center stage as women began to tell their stories of being sexually assaulted by celebrities in the entertainment industry and the political arena. The movement gave women an opportunity to witness female empowerment.

"It [#MeToo] definitely is giving more strength to everyone to speak out," Maia Cape, jr., said.

With the discussion of #MeToo really peaking in 2017 and trailing into 2018, we realize that all kinds of people can be victims, even males.

Along with it being a difficult topic, it's also important to be educated so one can clearly see signs of abuse and act quickly. Not only are more people learning about what is happening, people are also learning to identify right from wrong.

"I think men and women are now becoming more aware of what they did or what might have happened to them," Ryanne Meyer, jr., said.

According to RAINN, every 98 seconds, an American is assaulted, while only 6 of 1000 perpetrators will end up in prison. With that heartbreaking statistic, everyone must work together to try to stop the abuse. Education may need to begin at a younger age than previously thought.

"I think we need to stop with the 'Oh he is just picking on you because he likes you' situation. It sets a bad example that will build more problems later in life," Bailey Britton, sr., said.

It's important to continue to take this open discussion to all levels so women can feel they are treated fairly at all times.



TALON REVIEWS
Bailey Britton
Editor in Chief

An existential crisis in 2.5 hours

★★★★★

The 60's was a time of fast cars, hippies, and rock and roll. It also was a time of movie magic. One of the most influential and groundbreaking movies was "2001: A Space Odyssey". "2001" was made in 1968 in England by Stanley Kubrick. Not only does the movie have groundbreaking visual effects, but a script that gives you goosebumps and will make you rethink all you know.

When I watched 2001, I was creeped, out to say the least. The mixture of classical music, space travel, and historical recreations blended together in a weird but amazingly seamless way. The movie begins before mankind: we visit a group of monkeys who are fighting over a watering hole. Soon, a black obelisk shows itself to one group of monkeys. Those monkeys then learn how to use tools and weapons and ultimately win the fight over the watering hole. Fast forward several thousand years to a near future, where we again see the obelisk make an appearance to mankind. Scientists soon create a trip to the planet Jupiter where they believe a another obelisk is located. On board the spaceship are five crew members, three of which are in suspended animation, and a super computer called HAL. Only HAL knows the real intention of the trip. The trip soon goes awry, but I will let you see what happens.

2001: A Space Odyssey is a great movie that will make you think and contemplate life. It is an existential classic that was way ahead of its time and deserves five stars.

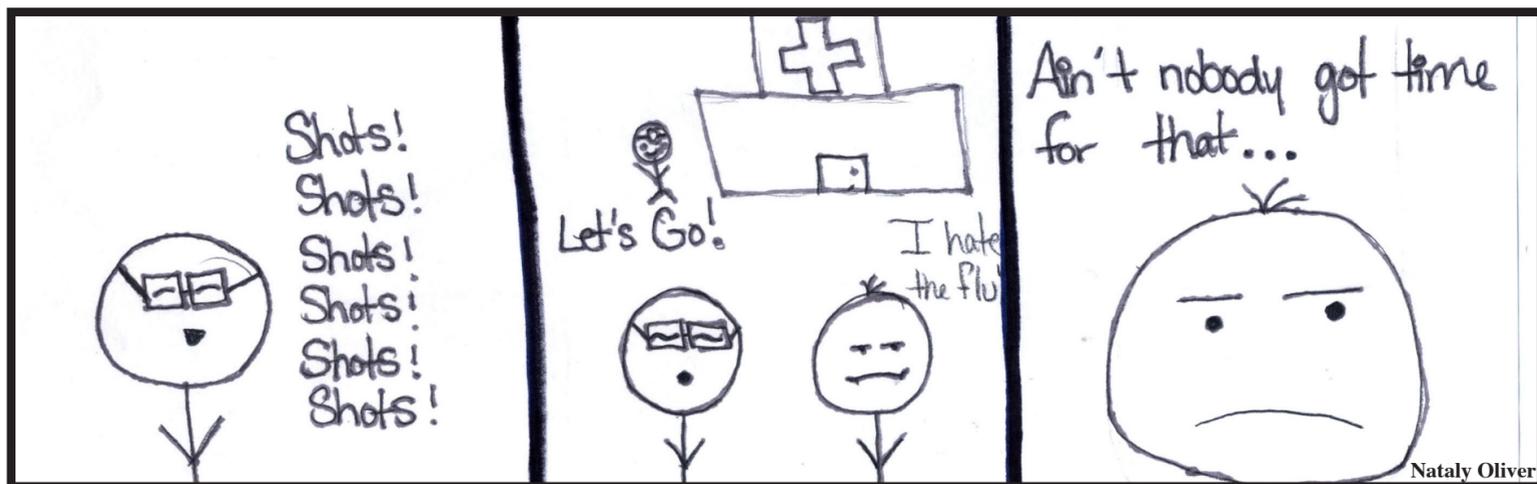
Emo band grows up

★★★★★

Fall Out Boy's albums are always spectacular. The emo punk band has been around since the early 2000s and has made numerous hits, all of which I enjoy. This January, their latest album made its debut. MANIA is Fall Out Boy's seventh studio album and is filled with the basic drums and guitars that always make an appearance, along with lots of techno beats. The cover of the album is ultraviolet which is appealing to me as well because I love purple, so it is pleasing for the eyes as well as the ears.

The songs are very diverse. There are some songs that remind me of the old Fall Out Boy: great drum beats and lyrics that mean something, like in "Wilson (Expensive Mistakes)". Fall Out Boy also branched out with some songs such as "Young and Menace" which is full of synthesizers. However, my favorite song on the album has to be "Heaven's Gate". It starts out with Patrick Stump's beautiful voice singing out his love for a lady's looks and how it makes him want to jump Heaven's gate.

The album is very diverse and has something for everyone. Fall Out Boy will be touring throughout the year and I actual love this album so much, I will be attending their concert that takes place at the Sprint Center in Kansas City. I give it 5 out of 5 stars.



STUDENT SQUAWK: STUDENTS VOICE OPINIONS

What are your thoughts on eligibility?



"I feel like it's justified. You probably need to be doing your work instead of sports if your grade is failing."
-Kai Kahn, fr.



"It's good because you need to be a student before you're an athlete."
-Cade Lanning, so.



"Yes it's a good thing because if we could just play sports even with bad grades, then no one would try. [They would] just rely on sports for scholarships instead of grades."
-Alyssa Kraft, jr.



"I think it [ineligibility] is pointless. People should just have good enough grades so they aren't ineligible. They should get their stuff done: it's not hard to do your schoolwork."
-Trista Boehme, sr.



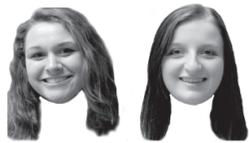
"I think eligibility is important. It helps hold students that are capable of keeping their grades up accountable in order to participate in activities."
-Ed Schmitt, P.E./ Health Teacher



FEATURE

Expertise in interests lead to foreseeable

Senior experiences future job from new found interest



Rayanna Schmidt
People Page Editor
Abbie Kummer
Guest Writer

Sandy Kroeker, sr., spends three days a week exploring her career interest at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. Kroeker makes time for this on the job training experience during her seminar period. Even though seniors had the option of dropping seminar during the second semester, Kroeker opted to keep hers so she could continue to attend her OJT.

Kroeker originally discovered this interest when she visited a museum in Denver last year with the school's art club, Cosmic

Crayon.

"When Cosmic Crayon went to the Denver Art Museum, I found that I was extremely interested in museums, especially art museums," Kroeker said.

For this reason, Kroeker decided to do an OJT at the museum in town to learn the basics of the day-to-day operations that a museum curator is involved in. Kroeker's OJT follows an unusual path unlike the other OJTs that students around Colby High School partake in, such as the medical field or agriculture. At most OJTs students only observe the work that is being done. However, at Kroeker's OJT she gets to engage in hands on work.

"At my OJT, I do research and sit in on meetings. I also helped to catalog china plates and brainstorm new ideas for different events that will be taking place," Kroeker said.

Kroeker plans on basing her future schooling around her love for the arts, also.

"I plan to attend the University of Kansas Liberal Arts College to learn more about the wide variety of careers in art," Kroeker said.

Kroeker is confident and excited to possibly develop this interest into a career.

"My goal is to work in a large art museum and be an art curator because I am more interested in art than history," Kroeker said.

“

I found that I was extremely interested in museums.

”



Natalie Oren
Sandy Kroeker, sr., carefully mounts an art piece to the wall for an attraction of visitors. Kroeker discovered her interest of working in museums while visiting one out of town.

Job experiences lead to final decision in career pathway



Courtesy Photo

Dru Keen, sr., works diligently to repair a sink as efficiently as possible to meet the satisfactions of a family. Keen has been a part of this OJT since August.



Rayanna Schmidt
People Page Editor
Abbie Kummer
Guest Writer

Dru Keen, sr., has had a busy year with a full schedule of classes as well as other activities. A large part of that schedule is Keen's on the job training that he has been participating in since the beginning of the school year.

Keen spends a majority of his school day working on his OJT at Griffin Plumbing. Out of his normal seven

high school class hours, he spends two hours at Griffin Plumbing. He also continues to stay there after the end of the school day for a total of four hours.

"I go there at the start of 6th hour and usually stay until around 5 p.m.," Keen said.

Keen was hired at Griffin Plumbing in August and uses the time he has there during his OJT to learn more about plumbing. Unlike other OJT's that students participate in, Keen is paid for the work that he does. It is typically up to the employer if he will pay the student.

A typical day for Keen while attending his OJT involves fixing various

appliances in houses. There are also times when more intense labor such as digging trenches is required.

"We go to a bunch of people's houses and fix their sink, or we dig giant trenches for lines," Keen said.

Keen doesn't mind the work and delights in the laid back environment that is present there. Though Keen enjoys working and gaining experience at Griffin Plumbing, he doesn't believe it is something that he would plan to do for the rest of his life.

"It's definitely something I'll continue to do after high school, but will I make it a career? Probably not," Keen said.

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FEATURE

futures in attempting OJT's

MAGIC! Student learns more about Photoshop in signmaking



Katie Brighton
Editor in Chief

Working magic on Photoshop is Cadyn Dixon's, sr., specialty. To refine his skills, Dixon completes On-the-Job Training with Commercial Sign, a local graphic design company. Dixon first became interested in graphic design from a class he took freshman year.

"I took Mrs. Lamoreaux Fulwider's class which is where I learned a lot about graphic design," Dixon said.

Dixon goes to his OJT each school day during seventh hour. While at his OJT, Dixon job shadows, weeds vinyl [a process to create signs] and assembles signs that are made.

"When I weed the vinyl, I take the design from the computer and send it to the vinyl cutter. It [the cutter] cuts out the design, and then I take an Exacto knife and cut out all the other pieces I don't want and put it all together," Dixon said.

Through his OJT, Dixon has been gaining advice about his desired profession.

"It has given me an insight on what I could be doing. It has also given me connections, and I could also come back and work there [Commercial Sign]," Dixon said.

Dixon enjoys working with the people at his OJT and getting a taste of his future profession.

"I like the people there and I like doing everything they do," Dixon said.

Dixon plans to further his education in graphic design at Fort Hays State University.



Cadyn Dixon, sr., weeds vinyl at his OJT at Commercial Sign. Dixon has had an interest in graphic design since his freshman year. He plans to pursue this as a profession.



Tall people have rough time too!

Luke Hamilton
Copy Editor

Yes, I should play basketball. Yes, high cabinets and shelves are no match for me. And yes, for the almighty last time, I do know I'm tall.

Don't think me spoiled, but it's not all cheers and giggles at the Tall People's Club. And as an informal representative of our righteous society, I find it only appropriate to extend a brief educational reminder.

First, imagine a sedan, and then picture a man-child lumbering into it. That is me. That is my car. Ultimately, no matter how high I position my steering wheel, and how far back my seat goes, it never gets comfortable. If one has a decent size SUV or truck, good for you.

Otherwise, there is a slim chance that the Tall People's Club will find a roomy seat.

Architects, too, have it out for us - especially the old ones. Just try walking at 6-4 into a house older than the '60s, and you'll see. If a doorway is too low, one ducks, or, if too slow, gets their noggin knocked. If there is a basement, you're forced to hunch. Maybe if the basement's fixtures were too low, and the piping and venting jutted from the ceiling, you can expect a headache. Personally, my basement is an absolute menace. No wonder I hunch so much.

Reporting, writing into future career



Katie Brighton
Editor in Chief

Upon entering the Colby Free Press, one can find journalists busily tapping on keyboards and preparing daily papers for the community. Bailey Britton, sr., interns at the Colby Free Press to gain experience in her future profession. Britton does everything from writing stories, taking photos and interviewing people.

"I take a lot of photographs for events around town. I do a lot of feature stories and I like those," Britton said.

Britton became interested in doing On-the-Job Training course at Colby Free Press

because of her plans to study journalism in college. She is currently a co Editor-in-Chief for the Eagle Talon.

"It [the OJT] gives me a good idea of what to expect from a daily newspaper. I've also improved my writing skills and learned the basics of working at a small daily," Britton said.

Britton attends her OJT each school day during seventh hour and seminar. During that time, Britton will interview, write, or take photographs for stories. Britton has had the experience of meeting many new people in the process.

"I've taken pictures of the lieutenant governor when he was here at the college. I've met a lot by people doing all these things and learned about different organizations around town that I didn't know are here. I like doing

stories that will get me out into the community to meet people," Britton said.

Managing deadlines for the Free Press is not a problem for Britton.

"They [Free Press] mostly give me stories that are pretty flexible with the deadlines. It is usually a week or two away," Britton said.

Britton's OJT helps her prepare for a career in journalism by giving her a taste of what daily life is like.

"I have a lot of freedom when I'm there. They treat me like an adult," Britton said.

Britton plans to further her education at K-State to study journalism and mass communications.

"I haven't completely decided if I'm going to do the digital media route

or print. It's still up in the air, but something with journalism, mass communications and writing," Britton said.

Britton hopes to possibly work for a magazine

company in the future.

"I kind of want to work at a magazine later in life. This OJT will give me a good start to know what it's all about," Britton said.



Bailey Britton, sr., works on a story for the Colby Free Press. Britton, an Editor-in-Chief of the Eagle Talon is pursuing a journalism career after college.

"Jump"

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"TPC"

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SPORTS

ELIGIBILITY

Grades risk dropping, spring sports begin



Maia Cape
Highlights Page Editor

differently depending on the school and state. There is a Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHAA) policy of ineligibility, and a USD 315 policy of ineligibility.

“The [KSHAA] policy is that, if any student, at the end of any semester, is not passing at least five classes, that student is ineligible for all extracurricular activities that following semester. Then, at the end of that semester, the student’s grades will be reevaluated to see if the student is eligible again for the semester they have been ineligible for,” Krannawitter said.

The USD 315 policy for ineligibility is a more strict policy when compared to the KSHAA policy; all schools in the GWAC league follow these guidelines as well. Students also have to comply

It is never an easy task for students to do extracurricular activities and school at the same time. The stress of going to a game or a meet while having to catch up on all the school work is immense. When school work gets behind and grades start to drop, ineligibility kicks into effect.

“Ineligibility is when a student does not meet the minimum requirements to be in any extracurricular activities,” Lance Krannawitter, activities director, said.

Ineligibility is determined

State placers laud with pride



Jessi Weis

Sean Rall, sr., 152 lbs., celebrates placing third at State Wrestling in Hays on February 24. Also placing this year were Kory Finley, jr., 170 lbs., who placed fourth and Rathe Aschenbrenner, so., 106 lbs, who placed third. Colby placed 7th overall.

with a weekly policy.

“The policy is you have to be passing at least six classes with a 60 percent or above,” Krannawitter said.

USD 315 ineligibility is a weekly list which is compiled from students’ grades each Monday morning. However, if it is a student’s first time being on the list, he/she is not ineligible just yet.

“If it is the first time that a student has been in the position of not passing six classes, they are on academic probation for that week,” Krannawitter said.

Academic probation

means that students can still participate in activities, but they have to get their grades up by the following Monday to determine eligibility.

“If the student still hasn’t raised their grades to where they are passing six classes by the second Monday, they are now ineligible for that week and subsequent weeks until the grade is up,” Krannawitter said.

Around the beginning of the first and third quarters, there aren’t many students who are ineligible, but when students get to the end of those quarters, Krannawitter

estimated that about 5 to 10 students, on average, become ineligible. As daunting as ineligibility is, Krannawitter believes it is important for students’ education.

“As students choose to go out for these sports, the priority is still on the education part of it. You are mandated to come to school and mandated to take required classes to graduate. You are not mandated to play football or be in forensics. If you want to be able to play, you have to be able to get it done in the classroom first,” Krannawitter said.

My failures as an athlete



Katie Brighton
Editor in Chief

Sports have never been my strongest ability. In fact, many people who know me can agree that I am clumsy and have no hand-eye coordination. It is quite embarrassing now that I think about it. Though I try, I continue to fail epically at every sport I have ever tried. From soccer to running, I end up looking like a fool who doesn’t have a clue.

Let’s start all the way back to the beginning of my journey. I was so young and hopeful at the prospect of being on a T-ball team. I would go to practice and soak up the joys of learning the game and the sun. However, when it came to game time, I was not as excellent as I thought. It was my turn to try my luck at batting a ball off a stick. I took my first swing and I missed, but it didn’t faze me too much because I had

two more chances. I took another swing at the ball, and I missed again. Now I was starting to get worried about my reputation with the town even though I was only five. I took my third and final swing and you guessed it, I missed. I struck out in T-ball, how does that even happen? Nonetheless, I still continued to pursue my athletic career despite my lack of talent.

Flash forward to eighth grade; I had developed a liking for basketball. I was excellent at defense and knocking other girls to the floor and fighting for jump balls. I even had a teammate’s parent tell me I was a shark on the court. However, I was not so excellent at offense, so shooting baskets was a weak point for me, specifically free

Spring into preseason training: athletics coming soon



Rayanna Schmidt
Photo Editor

added into everyone’s busy schedules.

In an effort to make the transition into those spring sports easier for students who were not involved in winter sports, Track Coaches Lesley Wagoner and Gordon Rasmussen have been conducting hour long spring training sessions for any student participating in a spring sport who was not in a winter sport.

“We have been doing these training sessions for the past

three years,” Wagoner said.

“We hope that this will give kids who are not out for a winter sport a chance to get in shape and get some of their athleticism working again before spring sport begins,” Rasmussen said.

The sessions took place on Mondays and Wednesdays after school dismissed for the day and lasted until 4:45. The sessions ran from February 5-21. This year about 10 student students participated in the sessions this year.

“This isn’t just for track athletes; it is for any athlete competing in a spring sport,” Wagoner said.

While participating in these sessions, athletes built coordination and learned how to correctly perform agilitys and stretches. Knowing how to do these things correctly allows the athletes to sustain less injuries and achieve better mobility in the spring sports.

“We start with a dynamic

warmup and end with a type of cool down. There is always some type of core workout in there and different types of motion, coordination, flexibility and balance activities,” Rasmussen said.

Athletes competing in any sport are able to benefit from these training sessions. With the help of improving coordination and balance, athletes will be able to better handle the training that they

will receive once in comes time for their actual spring sports practices to begin.

This hour-long time frame also allowed athletes to have more one-on-one time with coaches. Another added benefit way that, since there was a smaller number of people, coaches were able to help correct bad habits that may start to be present when it comes to stretching and other activities that deal with body motion.



Rayanna Schmidt

Brooke Alexander, jr., and Rachel Van Eaton, sr., exercise while doing “partner handshake planks”. They both attended the training two times a week.

“Jump”



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“Athlete”

What’s Happening?

- 3/12 Fourth Quarter Begins
- 3/15 & 16 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 3/19- 3/25 Spring Break
- 3/26 Dance Team Tryouts

Boys’ Basketball



Wendy Chavez
The boys’ basketball team defeated Ulysses, 75-72.

Cheerleading



Wendy Chavez
Maia Cape, jr., has been a cheerleader for one year.

Dance Team



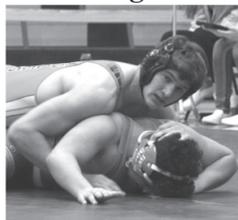
Stacia Oren
The dance team and their male partners entertain the crowd.

Girls’ Basketball



Luke Hamilton
The Lady Eagles lost to Scott City, 44-37.

Wrestling



Bailey Britton
Colby lost to Dodge City in the wrestling duel, 39-33.

From left to right: Calvin Stapp, so., leaps into a layup.

Maia Cape, jr., cheers for the boys’ basketball team to beat Ulysses.

Patyn Pfiefer, sr., and Tucker Branum, jr., dance together hand in hand at the boy/girl dance.

Hallie Vaughn, so., shoots a free throw during the Scott City game.

Kory Finley, jr., holds down his opponent from Dodge City.

Athlete of the Month



Katie Brighton

Brianna Barnett, fr., dribbles the ball away from her opponent. The Lady Eagles were conquered by Hugoton, 40-31.

This month’s athlete is from the CHS girls’ basketball team.

“Brianna Barnett was our point guard on JV and in C games, and was an excellent leader on the floor,” Tom Stephens, head coach said. Barnett does a good job at keeping everyone organized.



HIGHLIGHTS

Look out for this month's Featured Eagle! The Featured Eagle is a spot for students to submit their own work. Enter a photograph to Mrs. Henry for a chance to be The Featured Eagle.

Clubs



Caitlin Tinkham

Cade Lanning, so., patiently stands in front of the crowd as he is auctioned off at the FFA Labor Auction during FFA Week. This auction is an annual event that the club uses as a fund raiser. They typically earmark the funds for national convention or fun activities/meals during the year.

Take a BIRD'S EYE VIEW into the busy lives of CHS students

Beyond School



Jayln Mettlen

The student section cheers on the girls' team at a basketball game against Oakley. The theme for the game, selected by The Flock, was Frat Night. The Flock is a Twitter account administered by Kaiser Lopez, sr., that strives to increase students' school spirit at events.

Featured Eagle



Isabel Dixon, so.

Courtesy Photo

Isabel Dixon, so., poses with her artwork titled "Sea Dragon Sequence" [bottom right] that was displayed at the Scholastic Art Show in Montezuma. Dixon's artwork was awarded a silver key at the show.

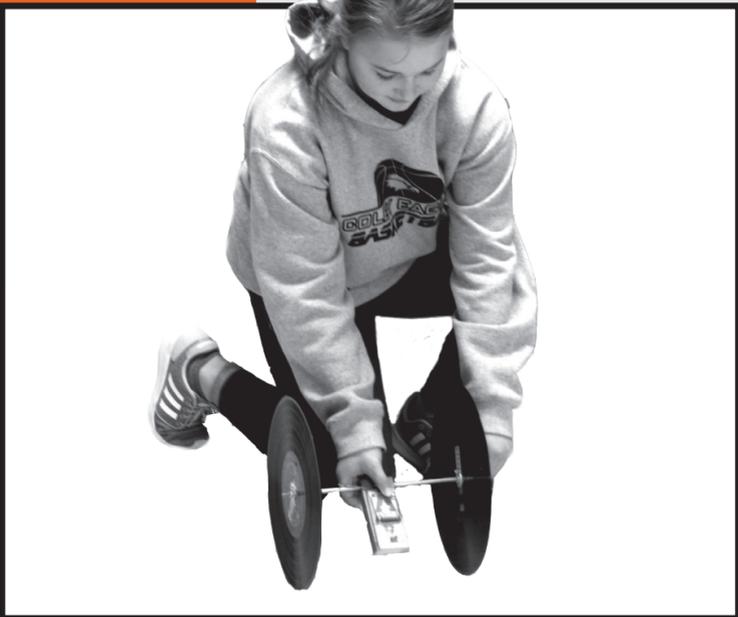
Sports



Jessi Weis

Gage Winger, jr., focuses intently on his opponent while playing defense during a home game against Hugoton. The boys' basketball team lost their first match in substate against the Lakin Broncs, 63-44.

Academics



Nataly Oliver

Kourtney Finley, fr., sets her mouse trap car and gets ready to show off her hard work. General physical science, a freshman class taught by Gordon Rasmussen, does this project every year to learn about the laws of motion.

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