The youngest varsity hoopster at Humboldt - Page 2

Kevin makes grim predictions for future - Page 4

How do films make us cry - Page 5

Archers aiming for higher goals

Helena Squires Mosher  
**Staff Writer**

Open World Learning’s archers are nocking their arrows and checking their stances as they prepare for this year’s season. With last year’s state champion, and many other promising archers, the team is excited to be back in the shooting range.

For the last few years, the OWL archery team has consistently placed around 10th in the state. They have many talented archers, such as senior Emily Yang, defending state champion, and 11th grader Jacob Rhode, who won second at state two years back. Both high schoolers accomplished these feats with scores just under 300 points.

During the first competition of the season, which took place in Faribault last weekend, the team placed 5th. Emily won the overall title, and Henry Smith and Zoe Cam pon, both 10th graders, and Pang Yang, a senior, had scores placing them in the top 20 of their divisions.

Besides having many of their experienced archers back, the team has gained many new members this year, including 11 new 6th graders. They’re now 50 students strong. Emily has stepped into a teaching role for some of these incoming archers. “It’s a great feeling to know that many of the younger archers look up to me as a leader and mentor,” she says. She’s particularly excited to see what Grace Moua and Charlie Acosta can do. They’re fast learners, and have already ranked high within their grade levels.

While placing higher at competitions is always a goal, Tom Totushek, one of the two archery coaches, acknowledges that scores aren’t everything. Archery has very precise scoring, which makes it very competitive. Depending on the target distance and the level of archery, scoring can range anywhere from a high of 300 points to as low as a high of 10 points.

Seniors Emily Yang, Pang Yang, Junior Jacob Rhode, and 6th grader Charlie Acosta at the tournament on January 12th.

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OWL team heads into the 2019 season with new recruits and defending state champion in tow

Hazel Carroll  
**Staff Writer**

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The first thing students thought of when they heard about the annual college march was surely where they were going to eat. After the event started, the seniors went back inside the auditorium and lined up on Humboldt Avenue. They marched down the sidewalk past the students and the colorful signs.

At the end of the march, the seniors walked into the auditorium and sat down, looking at speakers from district members, parents, and students. Crews made posters for their seniors and cheered them on loudly. Once the speakers were finished, each senior got up and said which colleges they had applied to or been accepted to. Following this, all of the crews left the auditorium and lined up on Humboldt Avenue all the way down to the library.

On Friday, December 14th, Open World Learning’s senior class participated in the annual college march. The event started at 9AM in the auditorium, with speeches from district members, parents and students. Crews made posters for their seniors and cheered them on loudly. Once the speakers were finished, each member of the class of 2019 came up to say which colleges they had applied to or been accepted to. Following this, all of the crews left the auditorium and lined up on Humboldt Avenue all the way down to the library. The seniors marched down the sidewalk past the cheering students and all the colorful signs and then passed by Riverview Elementary, to see the younger kids there. After that, the seniors went to the post office, where they mailed their letters, before having a potluck lunch with their families.

OWL actors seek roles beyond school plays

Hazel Carroll  
**Staff Writer**

Are you an actor searching for your next opportunity? Does the spring play not catch your interest? Well do not worry, my dear friend, for there are many opportunities for theatre outside of school. Whether you’re an actor or a designer, there’s a job for all.

Auditions for the spring play, She Kills Monsters, have just wrapped up. Maybe you didn’t get in, or maybe the show didn’t interest you. No matter what the circumstance, I’m here to tell you this isn’t the end. There are many places to look for theatre opportunities just around you. For the first time students should think about when wanting to do theatre outside of OWL is where to look for auditions or jobs. Tenth grader Helena Squires Mosher, who played Charlie in American Varsity hoopster at Humboldt - Page 2

Kevin makes grim predictions for future - Page 4

How do films make us cry - Page 5

Seniors Emily Yang, Pang Yang, Junior Jacob Rhode, and 6th grader Charlie Acosta at the tournament on January 12th.

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Brenda serves meals with a smile

Georgia Lanik  
**Staff Writer**

When kids think of a lunch lady, they think of a mean woman with a scowl on her face who slaps slop on your tray and calls it food. She might send a grunt on your way as you go off to eat meat that probably didn’t come from a cow.

Brenda Hatch, OWL’s favorite lunch lady, definitely does not fit that stereotype. She loves her job, is generally friendly, and says she enjoys the “the kids who brighten up her smile.”

Brenda’s very positive. She always says good morning, and she loves serving the kids while always having a smile on her face,” said senior Emily Yang.

It takes a lot to get Brenda mad. She says there’s no room for negativity in her day.

Brenda has been working as the school lunch Nutrition service ad lady for the past four years being only at Open World Learning. Brenda gets to school at 6:15 and leaves at 3:30. Each day she helps set up breakfast, cleans up, gets ready for lunch, cleans up, repeat. If asked Brenda, if she wasn’t a lunch lady what would she be doing right now? “I would like to act.”

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Jolene Yang

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Building on a full season of experience

Hazel Carroll
Archeology, 1
day, the hour, or the minute: an archer’s score could be 294 or even 300. It could make that difference between first and second place. “Nothing is as important to me as developing great student athletes,” says Tom. “If I could only improve in one area, it would be character development.”

Similarly, Nora Leith, 10th grader and team equipment manager, wants to see their attitudes about their own scores change. “I see a lot of people on the team being really mean to themselves when they don’t do as they think they should. I wish they were nicer to themselves,” she says. “They’re very talented people.”

The archery team has 9 more scheduled tournaments, with the state championship capping off the season at the end of March. Until then, OWL archers will be practicing for two hours every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. This Saturday, in Foley, they’ll be waiting for the whistle to blow so they can shoot their arrows, at their second competition this year.

Ninth grader Lili Hobday goes up for a shot in a game against Washington last week.

OWL, ninth grader already well into her second year on varsity

Paloma Leon-Le-Getten
Staff Writer

Ninth grader Lili Hobday is still in the early stages of her basketball career, but she has some ambitious long term goals.

“I averaged eight points last year. If I average above eight for the rest of my high school career, I’ll hit 1,000 points!” said Lili.

This is Lili’s second year on varsity. As an 8th grader, she started most games. She is a forward, coming off of a year where she scored 22 points against Central, her personal high, and received honorable mention all-conference.

“I love playing on this team. Although I’m younger than everyone, they are really welcoming and don’t try to make me different than they think they should. I wish they were nicer to themselves,” she says. “They’re very talented people.”

The archery team has 9 more scheduled tournaments, with the state championship capping off the season at the end of March. Until then, OWL archers will be practicing for two hours every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. This Saturday, in Foley, they’ll be waiting for the whistle to blow so they can shoot their arrows, at their second competition this year.

Kristen works with students in her crew.

Enjoying her new role

Kristen’s winning path leads her to the art department at OWL

Ella Pratt
Staff Writer

For new art teacher Kristen Moeller, the joys of teaching art are seeing a struggle overcome and the challenges of teaching art are people who don’t try or care. For Kristen it was a long windy road to her becoming an art teacher. Coming from a science oriented family, they encouraged Kristen to go into a science based field and get a well paying job. That’s why Kristen originally was a pre-med student and ultimately decided to be a hydrogeologist for 10 years. After 10 years she finally said it was a “mams job, and I didn’t play golf (as many of the men did) or feel fulfilled.”

She then went back to college for 2 years to get her floral design certificate and helped raise her 2 kids before someone one recommended being a Teacher’s Assistant. After being a teacher’s assistant for 10 years, she realized she wanted to help struggling students that were from science orient-
ed families, similar to herself when younger.

If you are a head coach, watch your head being for hanging art pieces while walking into the art room. Kristen wanted the art space to be student decorat-
ed, besides the organizational posters. That’s why there are bigger pieces of art near the staircase and smaller and colorful art in the cafeteria and different types of art throughout the art room.

When asking Kristen how she decides which art goes up she said “Everybody’s (art) goes up, unless it’s totally not done!”

Kristen said that she has been pleased with the level of work students at OWL have been able to produce. “Any- thing I succeed if they have a cool idea!”

Now that Kristen has two kids that are both now out of the house she likes to garden, read, and bike around the nearby lakes when she isn’t painting or grading students artwork.

FRAQUETBALL RANKINGS:

1st Lunch: Sponsor Us
Tom Hobday and Jodi Casas

2nd Lunch: Lots
Lars Neske and Otis King

3rd Lunch: Everything Nice
Sawyer Neske and Malachi Raymond

GAMES HAPPEN ON 8 DAYS IN THE FRAQUETBALL HALLWAY DURING LUNCH
Dark times for dairy
An investigation into OWLs milk problem

Jacob Steiner (Sophomore) or Max Schulb (Freshman), who per- form together the slideshow, Tuesday: By Tuesday we try to start finishing up the slideshow, we try to make this the deciding factor for people who want to get things into the community meeting, since last minute requests can com- plicate things and stress every- one. (Please do not ask Da- mun for advice on community meetings!) By this point, trying to cram everything in is a major headache. At this point the schedule gets finalized, and we have a good idea of how the com- munity meeting will look. Wednesday: On Wednesday we make any final additions that we need to to the slideshow, slides, videos, photos, etc. It’s really crucial that at this point to try and make sure this community meeting goes smoothly: practicing the community meeting is probably the most important thing we can do to make sure something doesn’t go wrong, the whole crew, the host, and anyone else who might be speaking, I mean to say the re- hearsal is really important for my job, which is audio, playing every- thing and figuring out what is needed to adjust, and what level everything needs to be at, five and ten feet away. The re- hearsal is important for our job, and everyone can see what- ever is being projected and everyone’s ears get blown out, its causes the audio differ- ences between mp3 files and video recorded on ipod is su- per extreme, sometimes that’s why I do the rough draft of the song and rewrite it. The backup band is also rehearsed (ugh). Friday: On Friday since its the day of the community meeting, everything is done (hopefully) and we just need to deliver the community meeting. Lets hope ever last community meeting Damon’s computer crashed the night before and I had to scramble and come up with a lot of stuff last minute, in turn that community meeting sucked. For the most part the community meeting goes well, we try our best to make it en- tertaining. This community meeting is something very unique to OWL, we try to make it both informative and entertaining, often we make mistakes when carrying out the community meeting and often there are variables out of our control. We do our best to keep you guys entertained and keep di- sasters from happening. This last community meeting went fairly well, not having a lip- sync battle made things easier, and in general there wasn’t a lot going on, when communi- ty meetings are more content heavy there is more oppor- tunity for something to go wrong. We’ll start planning for the February community meeting in a week or two.

Preparing for the big Friday event
How does Damon’s crew prep for the community meeting?

Alpine skiing: making winter fun

The alpine skiing team after a recent practice.
Lily Deutsch
Staff Writer
Can’t bear winter? There’s a sport that will either distract you from it, or make you hate it even more. Skiing.

After traveling by bus to Athan Alps, Alpine skiers meet the rest of their team, which includes Ramsay, Highland, Central, Como, and Capitol Hill to encounter a variety of steep snowy hills. Edric Lyons, head coach for Alpine Skiers tells us, “For practices and races we ski down steep hills and turn around gates which are large poles sticking out of the snow. Athletes travel to a time down the hill and are timed for how fast they com- pete against other teams.”

Now its time to talk competi- tion. Competing for Alpine skiing is downhill therefore it is an individual timed race. Once a week skiers will be placed behind their gates ready to compete and race. 10th Grader Frankie Buettner, who skis Alpine, explained "The competition environment is intense. When I put my helmet on I mean business." The score is determined by totaling the points of the top four finishers and the team with the highest number of points in the end is the winner.

Hill to encounter a variety of steep snowy hills. Edric Lysne, Alpine skiing coach for three years now, has enjoyed skiing for many more. He tells us "The skiing environment is very busy." He needs to com- municate with all the different schools and make arrange- ments with the ski areas en- suring everyone will be there for Tuesday and Thursday practices.

For Alpine skiing the sea- son will hold about five meets a year, preparing for sections which begin the week of February 4th, followed by state on February 15th. At sections, everyone contrib- utes and skiers will be at the slopes from about 7am to 4pm. They can expect to meet their team around a fire with food, warmth, gear and encourage- ment. Besides collecting the most points, the team strives for togetherness and a safe environment where everyone feels welcomed.
**Senior Spotlight**

**Theo Leifheit**

How many years have you been at OWL? Since sixth grade.

What are your plans for next year? I am most likely going to Northland College.

What’s been your favorite class in high school? Hmm, I really liked film studies with Kevin.

What extracurriculars are you involved in? I do Outdoor Bound and I work a lot.

Favorite field work trip and why? Probably DuNord because the cabins were so nice.

If you had a walk up song, what would it be? Mr. Blue Sky.

**That One Little Kid**

Lillyian Yang

How tall are you? Four foot one

What’s your favorite book? Uh, it’d have to be... Alice in Wonderland

What’s your favorite elementary school? Emily Yang, she’s in my crew.

Where do you think you’re going to college? Emily Yang, she’s in my crew.

What’s your favorite class? Battle Creek Elementary

What’s your favorite school lunch? The nachos?

What’s the weirdest thing about OWL? They’re gonna change all my classes next semester, they change them up all the time.

What’s your favorite school lunch? The nachos?

What elementary school did you come from? Battle Creek Elementary

What’s your favorite class? Theatre Arts.

**OWL in pictures**

December 14th: College March

**“We’re all gonna die”: An interview with Kevin**

OWL’s English teacher talks about his love of storytelling, being bullied as a kid, and his interest in the paranormal.

Nik Logue

Staff Writer

A few other teachers talked about how they had a knack for teaching at a young age, was that something you experienced?

I liked to talk to my teachers. I enjoyed having conversations with them, and I liked them more than a lot of my peers. So I wouldn’t necessarily say I had a knack for teaching other kids my age because I didn’t have a ton of patience with them. But I had a knack for the ideas that we were talking about, and I had a knack for the language of school, which I picked up pretty quickly. But I never really volunteered for peer tutoring or anything like that.

And just before this interview you talked about how you were bullied in school. Do you think that had ripple effects on your teaching career?

I think that, yeah, it did have an impact on—it made me more reluctant to admit to myself that I wanted to be a teacher. Just because, despite the fact that I liked talking with teachers and liked the process of school and learning, I couldn’t imagine wanting to spend my life and career back inside of a high school, because it was such an awful, traumatic place for me. But I do think that had ripple effects on when I started, but in the long run, I think it has made me a better teacher. I think the trick to depression and anxiety is that the flip side of it is actually kind of a superpower. Because, through self-criticism and worrying about all the things that can happen, you are able, in your brain, to run through many different scenarios and analytical skills of ‘oh, if I say this and this, then this could happen.’ So I think it does wire your brain to be more empathetic and relate to people in a better way.

Did you have any prior teaching experiences before starting at OWL?

No, not really, not like teaching teaching. I was a manager at my job, and would train people when I was taking time off from school. I enjoyed doing that, and people told me I was good at explaining things to people. But I purposefully decided not to be a guest teacher because I didn’t want that to be my first experience and convince me not to become a teacher. I think that’s the hardest job, being a substitute, and I didn’t want to be turned off from it.

So you weren’t required to throw out any traditional education methods...? Yeah, this is the only school I’ve taught at. I got this job right after grad school. And I think that has made it easier for me than it would have been had I come from a more traditional high school. My grad school program was really progressive, the idea was that you’re never going to be able to work at a school that will fully allow you to teach this way, but this is the best way for you to teach. And then I was lucky enough to get a job at a school where I can pretty quickly. But I never really wanted to replicate for the new generation anyway, so it wasn’t hard to give that up.

Through your classes of film studies and pop culture, you’ve demonstrated your passion for things like literature, cinema and music. Do you think we, as people, should be aware of the arts? Yeah, I think that, even bigger than that, I’m obsessed with story. And I think what all of those things have in common is that they are iterations of story. Stories are a chance for us to play out different scenarios and get to know human nature a little bit better. And if nothing else, it helps to have a wide language of art, film, and music, because 90% of the conversations I have with my friends are related to culture and content. But I couldn’t imagine my life without having a movie I could watch or an album I could lose myself in. That’s important to have an escape from reality.

Was there a story, whether book or film, that really changed your life? Yeah, I would say that, book wise, one was This Stranger by Albert Camus, which I read in my AP Lit class. And then I had an English teacher who recommended that I read Kurt Vonnegut. I read Cat’s Cradle as a ninth or tenth grader, and that was a big point for me in changing the way I looked at things and thought. I always love movies, and I think... Transcendental America. The beauty were the two movies that really got me into mov... I watch them now and I

**Kevin**
“Misery loves company”  
Neal Shusterman creates a heart-wrenching story with Brui...
Kevin teaching his 4th grade ELA class.

Kevin, 4

When I was in high school—I guess today it’s the plot to The Truman Show—I would imagine doing something, and everything would drop down and reveal I was on a game show, and everyone would say you won! You did the thing! But the thing is, I always had a incentive for getting away from this because you’ve read or seen a lot of different acts. It’s fun to read spooky stuff!

And do you believe there is a greater power at work than this? There’s gotta be! Yeah. I like whatever is sort of there because just there’s too much things that make sense when you look at them, but when you look down, things do make less and less sense. So that’s my reasoning, I think there’s a lot of interesting stuff we can talk about ourselves and human life through those different things that we see. But I always had a feeling that there was something else hiding behind everything, and it lets me tap into that. I remember saying to myself, ‘Out there is so much more than we can imagine. It’s actually write the script with

And where you have it, boss is giving me the... The game show that’s been picked over since August and all the icee flavors are in stock. They also have ‘Amish’ everything, and for whatever reason, I just feel like a little bit of money for something and it’s really great to see something out of me. It feels like I’m giving my little hat about being a nurse. The One For Truckers

Gas stations, 5

spelling of Stephanie, 0/3,000 non-white names.

and that there can be nothing is probably in Oklahoma. It’s probably in Oklahoma. This gas station is probably in Oklahoma.

You Should Get A pink camo rhinestone trucker hat about being a nurse.

The One For Truckers

Just to go down through the midwest, this gas station is probably in Oklahoma. It’s probably a dozen icee flavors. And for whatever reason, I just feel like a little bit of money for something and it’s really great to see something out of me. It feels like I’m giving my little hat about being a nurse.

and that there can be nothing is probably in Oklahoma. It’s probably in Oklahoma. This gas station is probably in Oklahoma.

You Should Get A pink camo rhinestone trucker hat about being a nurse.

The One For Truckers