

THE LINE O' TYPE



November 22, 2024

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Volume 108, Issue 2

The Moline Monarchs, MHS's newly formed inclusive cheerleading squad, pose for a photo before their first performance at Wharton Field House. Photo courtesy of Julia McCowen

Where is America heading next as the sea turns red?

What Happened?

- Donald Trump is now the 45th and 47th president.
- He won with over 300 electoral votes.
- Vice President Kamala Harris received 226 votes.
- Trump claimed victory in every swing state.

Local Highlights

- Eric Sorenson won District 17th Congressman.
- Greg Johnson is now the State Congressional Rep.

The House and Senate?

- The House majority now belongs to Republicans; they hold 218 of the seats.
- The senate majority is now republican with 52 of the seats.
- The Senate Majority leader is John Thune.
- The House Majority leader has not been determined yet.
- Trump will have a unified government under his party as he holds Congress, too, and the Supreme Court is Conservative leaning.

What's Next?

- President Biden meets with the President Elect.
- State electors cast thier electoral votes.
- The new congress gets sworn in.
- Congress will count and verify votes on January 6, 2025.
- Inuaguration Day for Trump is on January 20.

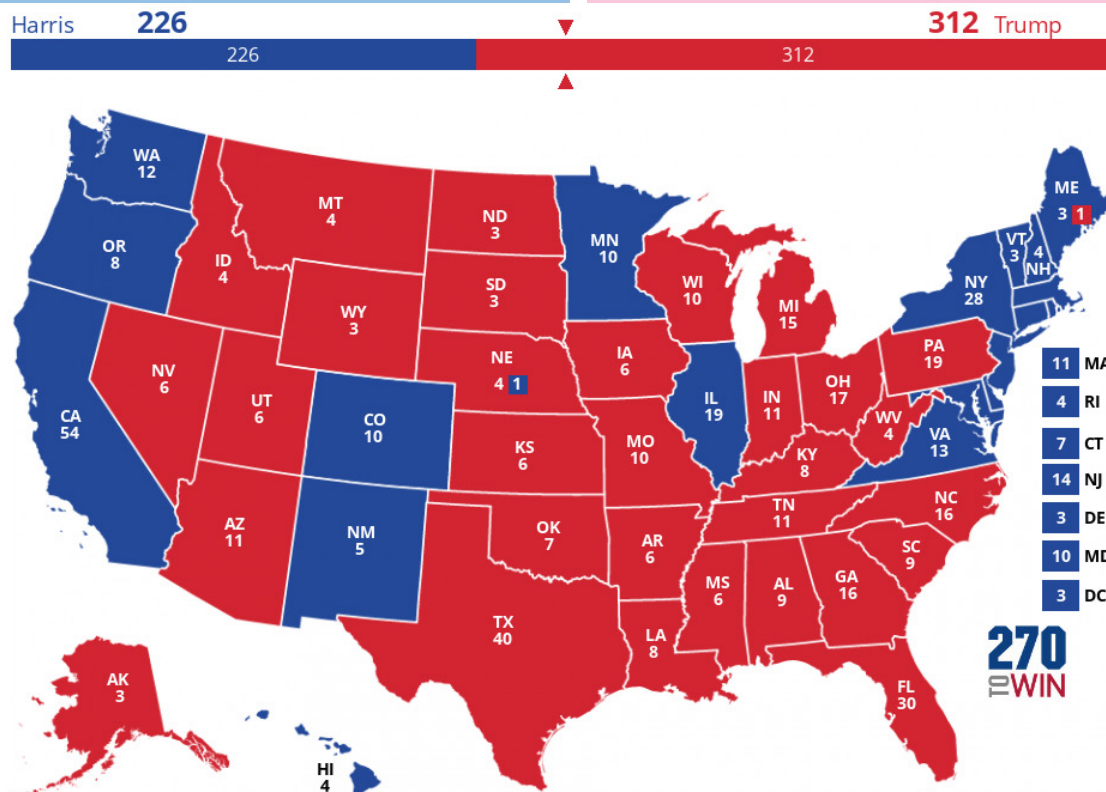


Trump's Future

- Trump is making history as the first convicted felon to become president.
- America is waiting for his sentencing from his 34 counts in the New York Hush Money Trial.

Questions that stand

- What will happen if he is sentenced to prison?
- Can Trump pardon himself?
- Does he have presidential immunity from criminal convictions?



2024 Electoral map results
Courtesy of 270towin.com

Elon Musk makes the move to the political stage

By: Lucky Damade

LO'T News Editor

Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, has recently been appointed as the head of the newly created Department of Government Efficiency alongside Vivek Ramaswamy. According to Trump, in a statement from Reuters, the new department is aiming to "pave the way for his Administration to dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies." However, many question how one of Trump's critics made his way in the President-elect's administration.

In July of 2022, Trump stated at one of his rallies that Elon Musk was a "bullshit artist" for never voting Republican up until a special election around that time. Musk responded via Twitter (now X), saying, "I don't hate the man, but it's time for Trump to hang up his hat & sail into the sunset," CNN reported. In addition to that comment, Musk doubled down before the 2016 election exclaiming, "Not the man!" and for his intentions of pulling out of the Paris Climate Agreement.

It was only the months before the 2024 election when Musk began to reveal a shift toward Trump.

Musk's support in Trump's massive deportation plan and other promises such as a nationwide ban on abortion access for women led to Musk creating a PAC, which began funding the Trump campaign, reaching around 200 million dollars for the campaign.

The week following the election, Musk has been seen at Trump's Mar-a-Lago assisting him with picking the candidates for Trump's cabinet such as Fox News host Pete Hegseth as the defense secretary, John Ratcliffe as the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as the Department of Health and Human Services.

Alongside Vivek Ramaswamy, Musk leads the Department of Government Efficiency (abbreviated as D.O.G.E., a viral meme sensation around 2020 with a digital currency named after it) to cut down on "unnecessary" things that may be slowing down the efficiency of the U.S. Federal Government and promising that "all actions of the Department of Government Efficiency will be posted online for maximum transparency" said Musk on his platform X.

Musk's influence in the White House marks a new era of the White House where a private citizen like Musk is able to sit with the President-elect and make decisions

that affect the Executive Branch of the United States.

However, while these cabinet picks have been announced, the country waits to see if the senate will confirm them in January.



Elon Musk attempts to create an "X" at the stage of the America PAC town hall.

Photo courtesy of Fortune



Donald Trump greets Elon Musk with a warm embrace at one of his rallies, demonstrating a shift in what had once been an adversarial relationship.

Photo courtesy of CNN

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New age campaigning: podcasts, swearing, and video games

By: Simon Zimmerman
LO'T Copy Editor

The 2024 election was a pivotal election for every branch of government. It saw the Senate flip from blue to red, the House saw a strengthening of its red seats, and for the second time in history, a President will serve a non-consecutive term. Yet, it was a pivotal moment for the media too: their landscape morphed into new, uncharted terrains consisting of new means to reach youth.

It's no surprise that young voters have started feeling disconnected from their politicians, considering the many officeholders are decades older than them. While TV ads were still seen everywhere, politicians began chasing the young voters in other ways. Those who used to roll up their flannel sleeves now waltzed into recording studios with influencers. They swore notably more than ever before. They created Twitch channels to livestream Madden games.

Most notably, politicians found themselves on couches with microphones. Once banished to something only your grandparents would listen to, politicians used podcasts to reach young voters in droves. Rather than continue their reach into media spheres that they controlled, candidates focused on reaching into the places they didn't. Former and future President Donald Trump appeared on the popular Joe Rogan Experience podcast just 2 weeks before

the election. The Youtube video alone amassed over 50 million views. On the flipside, Kamala Harris opted into podcasting with Alex Cooper on "Call Her Daddy." She found less success than her counterpart, collecting under 1 million views. Countless other politicians used smaller platforms and podcasts to boost their election results.

In these podcasts, candidates were able to show more of their true colors. For many, those colors came in the form of vulgarities. For instance, Vice Presidential Candidate Tim Walz was notably more vulgar at his Democratic



Tim Walz holding his controller before going live with Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

Photo courtesy of Tim Walz on X.com

National Convention speech than any nominee in years past, calling both Trump and Vance, "just weird as hell." Trump has built his campaign on his crude language to describe his opposition. Ben Dergen, a cognitive science professor, notes in an article from "The Hill" that poli-

ticians swearing connects them with their constituents more often than it drives them away. This is because over 60% of people swear on a daily basis. As a result, more politicians have loosened their tongues when speaking in the hopes of reaching new voters.

The last strategy has been driven forward nearly in full by Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. The New York congresswoman, known for being the youngest woman to be elected to Congress, has pushed young voters to the booths via video games. In 2020, she teamed up with fellow representative Ilhan Omar to play the award-winning game "Among Us" with huge online personalities on the live streaming website Twitch.tv. In 2024, she appeared again on the platform to play "NFL Madden 25" with Tim Walz. Despite ending their match at halftime with a score of 0-0, Ocasio-Cortez successfully leveraged her online presence to win New York's 14th District for a 4th straight term.

Altogether, the media landscape saw a complete shift in 2024's election cycle. According to "CIRCLE", the countrywide youth turnout was down from 53% to 43%. But, youth in swing states voted at roughly 50%, which is comparable to 2020. While traditional ads were used to target older audiences, candidates sought out younger voters through nontraditional means like podcasts and swearing, a trend likely to continue through 2026 and beyond.

Murphy the therapy dog hopes to help calm MHS students

By: Chinmay Patil
LO'T Feature Editor

As the year progresses, more and more stress has been piles upon students all over Moline. What better way to combat this than with a dog?

Therapy dogs have popped up all throughout schools, allowing students to cope with their stress in healthy ways. The Moline Coal Valley School District is embracing this movement as it has just introduced Murphy, our second therapy dog in the district, to Moline High School. Back in 2021, Cooper, a Golden Doodle, was introduced to Wilson Middle School. And for the past three years, students have been able to walk into the counseling center and spend as much time as they need with Cooper.

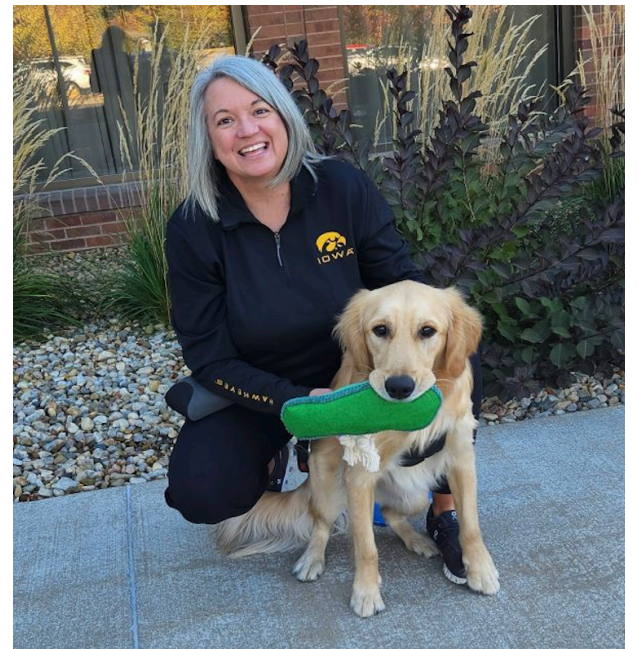
Now, Moline High School is adding a therapy dog to the faculty. At the start of second semester, Murphy, a one-and-a-half-year-old Golden Retriever, will be trotting Moline High School's hallways. Together, Cooper and Murphy will be able to bring smiles to countless students throughout the Moline Coal Valley School District.

These dogs, other than just serving as furry friends, offer countless benefits, including helping with stress, anxiety,

and trust. According to therapydogs.com, numerous large businesses, such as Google and Amazon, have employed therapy dogs at their headquarters to provide these benefits for their workers. Here, they work to mitigate the stress of the job while also serving as a welcome break for the workers. If it could work for these massive billion-dollar companies, imagine the effect it can have in high schools.

According to wibehavioralhealth.com, one of the greatest benefits is a dog's ability to offer a distraction. With all the activities that students are up to nowadays, an opportunity to unwind with a pet is invaluable emotional support. Many high schoolers bottle up their feelings, which often leads to anxiety. Therapy dogs offer these students a way to share their problems without fear of judgment. This support allows students who don't feel safe or don't trust others at school to express their feelings more openly.

With the implementation of Cooper already being a resounding success, students at Moline are excited for Murphy to join our community. As the date of his arrival soon approaches, hopefully, anyone who needs a furry friend can get access to the amazing services that service dogs like Cooper and Murphy provide. We are looking forward to seeing both of them support students around the high school!



Murphy and assistant principal Heather Cousins are excited after passing their therapy certification test. Photo courtesy of Heather Cousins

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\$0 - \$2,500	2.96%	3.00%
Non-qualifying	0.05%	0.05%

Quantum computing and AI: Will we spiral out of control?

By: Andrew Grau
LO'T Co-Editor-in-Chief

Supercomputers that could calculate the velocity required to reach the nearest star. AI chatbots that could write the next *A Tale of Two Cities*. These aren't the unrealistic dreams of engineers and English teachers. But could there be a supercomputer capable of calculating the artillery required to destroy a nation or an AI chatbot capable of forging declarations of war? As Voltaire, or more commonly, Uncle Ben from Spider-Man, once warned, "With great power comes great responsibility," and these new technologies are a prime example.

Almost one year ago IBM released its groundbreaking IBM Q System Two, a quantum computer that took the tech world by storm. According to the IBM Newsroom, this revolutionary computer was the company's "first modular quantum computer," which is capable of "[delivering] IBM's highest performance metrics and lowest error rates of any IBM Quantum processor to date." And just two years ago on November 30, 2022, OpenAI launched its earth-shattering AI chatbot ChatGPT, a pre-programmed "AI" that uses heavy machine learning and user input to generate accurate, human-like responses in seconds. What's even more amazing is what these cutting-edge technologies are forecasted to do in the next decade or so.

For instance, IBM predicts that by 2033 it will be able to "[unlock] the full power of quantum computing," and AIContentfy also stated that "ChatGPT has the potential to revolutionize various industries, including customer service, education, mental health treatment, personal productivity, and content creation."

But the question burning in everybody's minds isn't the potential benefits these technologies will have; it's the potential *risks*. Countless skeptics have pondered potential dangers. Are people going to lose jobs to these systems? Will our dependency on machines spiral out of control? Will we, as humans, lose our creativity and self-efficacy? The answer to all of these questions is undeniably, *yes... if we want it to*.

I mean if we wanted to succumb to our own inventions and become subordinate to the machines we built, we certainly *could*. The real question is *will we let that happen?*

I believe we most definitely should *not* let humanity fall in the face of programs. But in order to do so, we need to have regulations and common sense in place to counteract the strength and power of these programs. And while the everyday individual has no real idea of how quantum computers and AI chatbots work, it's that ignorance that makes this technology truly dangerous if unchecked.

But humor me for a moment by learning how these supercomputers and chatbots *do* work to better understand their potential impact. Quantum computers, in incredibly simple terms, operate by taking semiconductors, a vital component of any computer that, in this case, could enable the operation of "quantum computers in room temperature conditions," according to AZO Materials, and transistors and using them to control "qubits," which are quantum particles (single electrons, photons, atoms, trapped ions, and quasiparticles) that serve as the main arbi-

ters of information, which are then used to represent the binary information (0's and 1's) that make up the basis of computing. And I know what you're thinking— Have I lost you yet?

Let's talk about a system people are more familiar with: OpenAI's ChatGPT employs software, algorithms, machine learning, and data-processing that is truly breathtaking. OpenAI's chatbot works, again in simple terms, by taking input prompts from the user, which are then analyzed and compared with its vast library of data and information just before it employs its complex algorithms and machine-learning powers to formulate a response that seems human and ingenious, all in a matter of seconds. The ultra-powerful chatbot

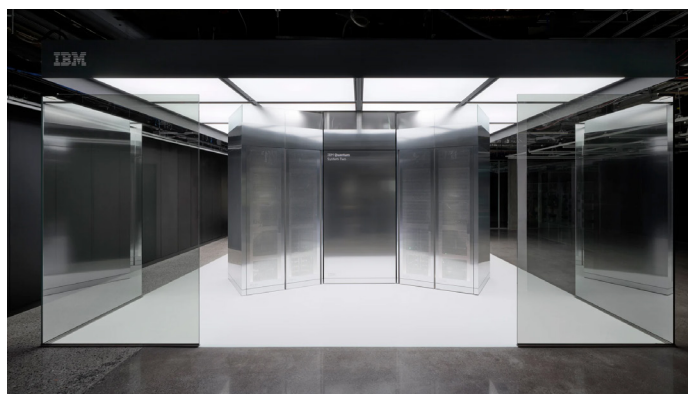


Image depicting the groundbreaking IBM Quantum System Two
Photo courtesy of Christopher Tirrell

is also capable of writing code and working on professional systems, with the IEEE Spectrum citing ChatGPT as being able to "generate code with smaller runtime and memory overheads than at least 50 percent of human solutions to the same... problems." This introduces the question of inferiority and how we rank in comparison to these machines.

I mean, a quantum computer powering a chatbot capable of completing an English student's *A Tale of Two Cities* essay doesn't *sound* bad, and it would certainly be able to do so easier than a human, but that same chatbot calculating the trajectory and magnitude of a nuclear strike most definitely does. And while that was a dramatized hypothetical, what happened at NASA's quantum computer in February of this year most certainly was not. According to reports from TechGig the space agency's quantum computer was shut down due to it "[demonstrating] unprecedented computational power, solving a previously intractable problem." This situation absolutely prompts worry as it means that NASA's quantum computer is solving questions with methods and approaches that surpass our own current understanding of mathematics. In simpler terms, the computer *we* built overcame our own current mathematical prowess and capabilities. So if computers can do it better than humans, why should we stop them? Wouldn't our lives be easier? Wouldn't we have more time to do all the fun things we like to do? And while pawning our responsibilities on machines *sounds* good, we must make an effort to stay in control. We must ensure that our creativity and inherit human intuition is

maintained and utilized because we absolutely do not want to fall beneath the machines we craft in terms of overall control.

So the truth is, we *do* need to hit the panic button before it is too late. For as I said how dangerous and complex these machines become is entirely up to us. If we wanted to ensure that these technologies are kept at bay and never get in the hands of the wrong people and used for the wrong reasons, we could. So now the question becomes to what extent do we limit and control this technology and how would we do so?

Ultimately, the extent to which we control ultra-powerful computers and wicked-fast chatbots should be *almost* comparable to the limits we place on certain weapons. I only mean this in the sense that perhaps to access the most powerful and capable OpenAI program or quantum supercomputing, you have to be an experienced and qualified individual. After all, we wouldn't want an elementary school kid going on the ChatGPT website and accidentally hacking government software or stealing someone's credit card information. Of course, an important aspect of a regulation such as this one would also be ensuring that *certain* forms of the technologies are easily accessible to everyday civilians so that we may maintain and exercise the many *benefits* these technologies also have to offer.

In fact, efforts to control and regulate these technologies have already been put in motion. A CIO article even reported that the U.S. Department of Commerce "released an interim final rule," that, according to Alan Estevez the under-secretary for the Bureau of Industry and Security, works to "[align] our controls on quantum and other advanced technologies [making] it significantly more difficult for our adversaries to develop and deploy these technologies in ways that threaten our collective security." Furthermore, White & Case released an article speculating on future government AI regulations, concluding that "possible legislation could include requiring licensing and creating a new federal regulatory agency. Additionally, US lawmakers held closed-door listening sessions with AI developers, technology leaders and civil society groups on September 13, 2023 in a continued push to understand and address AI." Without such governmental rules, the field of quantum computers, AI chatbots, and the entirety of future computing technologies will be uncontrollable, vulnerable to corruption and infiltration, and a threat to the common good. However, even regulations must be approached with caution as we would be letting the people who profit off these systems and programs dictate our understanding of how NOT dangerous they are. This is a clear conflict of interest and would need to be fully addressed before these technologies develop any further.

We must ensure that we don't fall behind these machines and that we actually understand how to control them. We *must* have people smart enough to understand these futuristic technologies and those who do, owe it to humanity to protect us from the risks and dangers of quantum computers and AI. And when those individuals fail us, the government and higher authorities *must* act before it is too late and humanity succumbs to its own invention.

November 22, 2024

Trump's deportation plan prompts serious concern

By: Akhil Kumar

When Donald Trump was LO'T Co-Editor-In-Chief first elected in 2016, he made one thing clear: unauthorized immigrants would face challenges. Running for re-election in 2024, he promoted the same notion, claiming that his administration would mass deport all undocumented immigrants working and living on U.S. soil. While his commitment on this issue was successful enough to win him the 2024 Presidential Election against Democratic candidate Kamala Harris, many are criticizing Trump's plan.

Specifically, immigration advocates argue the plan is highly impractical, emphasizing its potential consequences on the U.S. economy. Yet, millions of Americans see the proposal as a crucial step in safeguarding jobs, restoring law, and most importantly, protecting national borders.

I see Trump's plan to mass deport all undocumented immigrants from the country as an unrealistic plan that is almost impossible to execute. While I recognize the immediate negative effects of Trump's proposal, such as its potential to separate millions of families, the scope of this examination will be on the feasibility of Trump's mass deportation plan, ultimately looking at its impact on the U.S. economy. But before we dive into the feasibility of Trump's deportation plan, it is essential to break down and understand what it entails and how the deportation process works.

According to CNN, the former President plans to invoke a 226-year-old law, the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, to carry out his mass deportation plan, which allows the president to detain or deport the natives and citizens of an enemy nation. Trump's administration would use this law to position undocumented immigrants as a potential threat to national security, helping the Trump administration to mass deport individuals more swiftly.

According to Forbes, the deportation process begins with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) identifying individuals who are deportable and tracking down those who lack a valid immigration status or non-citizens in the country who have committed serious crimes. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and local law enforcement facilitate the process, pinning down people who have illegally crossed the border and arresting those who are removable for previously committed crimes. This information is then turned to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which decides what individuals are deported.

The Guardian states that Trump's administration "would declare a national emergency and use the US military to carry out mass deportations of undocumented immigrants." Trump plans to limit forces to only the National Guard instead of active military personnel, utilizing the National Guard to conduct these raids and enforce immigration.

The logistics of the plan seem to stop here and things begin to get a little sketchy. Is his proposal just another

"concept of a plan," (his statement when asked about ACA healthcare plans during the debate)? The logistics of the plan isn't the only problem with Trump's deportation plan; the numbers just don't seem realistic.

Trump plans to deport 11 million undocumented immigrants currently residing in the U.S., claiming he has "no choice but to pursue mass deportation," according to a CNBC interview with the former President. But according to MSNBC, removing 11 million undocumented immigrants during Trump's four-year term "would be more than three times the average number of removals per year as during the Obama administration, which deported 3 million people over two terms, the most ever in U.S. history." Trump, who aims to deport more than four times the amount of people that the Obama administration deported in half the time, I feel, makes it seem almost impossible.

Yet, the plan does pose its own benefits. Northeast-

lion" to build one center. Additional expenses would be required to house immigrants too, which could cost anywhere "between \$70 and \$130" per immigrant person according to the National Immigration Forum. When you combine all these costs, it becomes clear just how expensive this plan would be and showcases the financial strain the U.S. government would face.

Although removing immigrants is especially costly, its long term effects on the U.S. economy are even worse. In a press release done by the Center for American Progress, it was reported that "about 1.4 million undocumented immigrants work in construction, making up 13% of the entire workforce in that industry. Additionally, they represent approximately 25% of workers in farming."

Farmers, for instance, are a great example of people who rely heavily on undocumented immigrants to maintain their labor force. If we were to deport the undocumented immigrants working these jobs, we would face a major labor workforce shortage. Consequently, this would lead to reduced crop yields and unharvested crops left to rot in fields. Moreover, it would affect millions of Americans personally - the skyrocketing cost of groceries.

The same is true for the construction sector. With undocumented immigrants making up a significant portion of the workforce, this would lead to slower construction of homes, stalled infrastructure projects, and a decrease in renovations occurring across the country.

It does not help either since these jobs are low-wage and labor-intensive, making it unclear as to who will step up and take them as many Americans desire jobs with more stable hours and higher pay.

This begs the question: are Trump's plans doable? In my opinion, I don't think so. Deporting almost four times the amount of immigrants in half the time just doesn't seem reasonable. Mass deporting undocumented immigrants could cost our country up to \$300 billion. We would have to allocate more resources to invest in technologies that will initiate deportation, build detention centers to house detainees, and employ additional groups of legal staff, burdening an already overwhelmed immigration system.

The plan would take a big toll on the U.S. economy. Getting rid of undocumented immigrants means removing a workforce vital in maintaining agriculture and construction markets, some of the biggest industries in America. As a result, Americans would face a substantial increase in grocery prices and construction projects would come to a halt. In my eyes, the logistics just don't seem to add up.

So we should ultimately question that when looking at the repercussions, is this plan really the solution to our immigration challenges? Or will it foster more harm than good, leaving us to face long-term challenges that we haven't taken into account yet?



Supporters at the Republican National Convention.

Courtesy of Brian Snyder

ern Global News reports that "mass deportation can result in an increase in employment for the very lowest educated workers that might be competing for jobs with undocumented immigrants." If successful, the plan would prevent heavy militarization on borders such as our border with Mexico. However, even if the deportation plan could be implemented, it isn't worth the gamble.

According to The American Immigration Council, an immigration advocacy group based out of Washington D.C., Trump's new plan will "cost taxpayers more than \$300 billion." The U.S. government would have to hire thousands of legal personnel, including lawyers, judges, and administrative staff to deal with the influx of immigration cases. We would need to invest in new technology before the deportations begin, and the U.S. government would be required to construct new detention centers to house the detainees before deportation.

According to the American Immigration Council, it is "estimated to cost between \$40 million to \$100 mil-

A unified and uplifting world

By: Morrison Fry
LO'T Focus Editor

World Kindness Day was introduced by the World Kindness Movement, a global coalition of kindness organizations, in 1998. Now, every November 13th, the World comes together to celebrate this day, which serves as a global reminder that small acts of kindness can make a ripple effect that makes the world a more unified place.

We live in a world that often feels divided, where people tend to blame one another instead of collaborating for the greater good. When tensions rise or opinions differ, many in society resort to verbal attacks or assert their superiority over others. World Kindness Day aims to change these norms by encouraging people to come together rather than put each other down. This day promotes awareness of kindness, urging individuals to console, uplift, and inspire one another. World Kindness Day is not just meant to be celebrated on one day, but rather to inspire acts of kindness that continue

every day, reminding us that it feels good to receive kindness, just as it feels good to extend kindness to others.

If you're wondering how to be kind, there are numerous ways to spread kindness. According to The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, individuals can contribute positively by sharing uplifting and encouraging messages on social media to inspire others or by complimenting a stranger to brighten their day. Additionally, offering your time by volunteering for a local charity or non-profit organization is another meaningful way to spread kindness. The possibilities are endless, and they can help bring people together to form a supportive community.

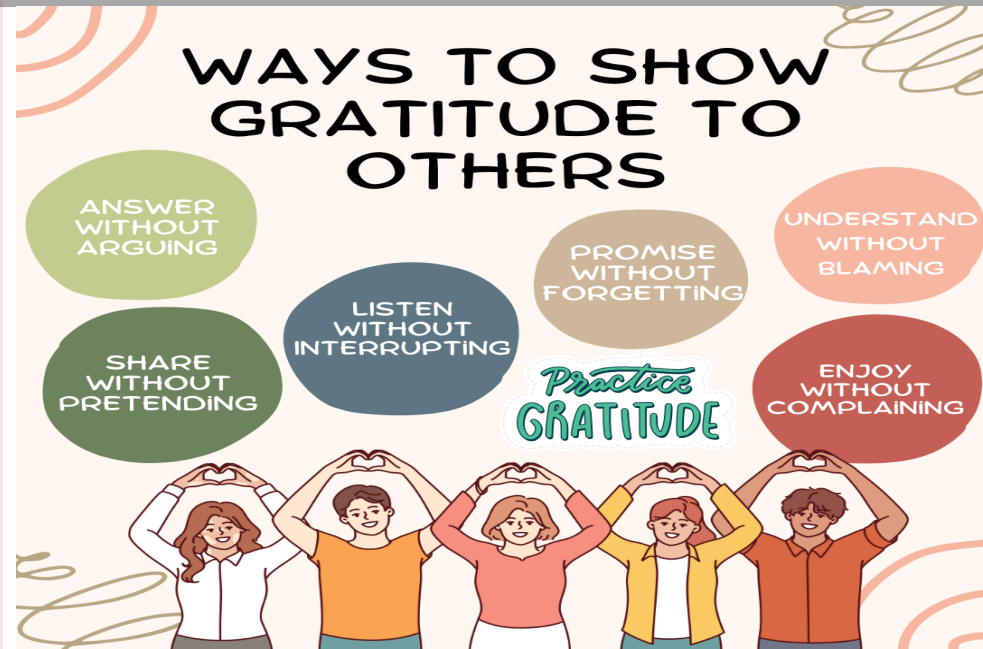
In all, World Kindness Day is much more than a day. It enriches individuals' lives by promoting goodness and unity. It inspires individuals to not turn on one another but to lean on each other. As Nobel Peace Prize winner, Albert Schweitzer once said, "Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate."



World Kindness Day

Encourage acts of kindness each and every day.

Line O Type



Expressing gratitude this month

By: Logan Altman
LO'T Focus Editor

Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for all of the precious things and wonderful people in your life. It's very easy to think how grateful you are for everything, but how exactly do you show your gratitude to others? Here are five ways to show your gratitude during Thanksgiving and the rest of the year as well.

One of the most personal ways for showing gratitude to someone, is by writing a personal letter to them. Writing something thoughtful can make people feel like they are appreciated and that their good deeds do not go unnoticed. It doesn't have to be a full letter, a small note can mean a lot to someone.

A slightly more expensive way to show appreciation, is to give someone a gift or present. Of course, it doesn't have to be expensive, a meaningful gift has much more value than just some random expensive item. People love getting gifts, and gifting one that has a personal connection to them or symbolizes a relationship is a great way to show gratitude.

Spending quality time with someone is also a great way to show gratitude. This can be accomplished by participating in a hobby that the other person enjoys, offering to help them with a problem they are having, or just finding something to do that both parties enjoy. By spending time with someone, it shows them that they are valuable and worth your time.

Sometimes making someone feel like they are recognized can be accomplished just by saying a few words to them. Saying "thank you", "I appreciate it", and even "I love you", can let someone know that they mean a lot to you and that you respect them.

"Actions speak louder than words", is a very common phrase that many of you have probably heard before. Small acts of kindness are a great way to show gratitude to the ones you love. Holding the door open, doing chores, and listening to people when they are talking, are all great ways to show to people that they are acknowledged and valued.

With all these strategies listed, I hope that we all attempt at least one during the month of November and beyond into the new year.

Line O Type

Turkey, thanks, and togetherness

By: Cassandra Rosas
LO'T Reporter

The 28th of November is the day to give thanks! Thanksgiving is a holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. According to History.com, Thanksgiving dates back to 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts. About 102 passengers traveled from England on the Mayflower to the "New World" in Plymouth, Massachusetts. These passengers wanted to freely practice their faith, wealth, and land ownership promises.

A feast between the colonists from England and the Native American Wampanoag people was recognized as the first celebration of Thanksgiving. The American colonies and states celebrated days of Thanksgiving separately for more than 200 years, and in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday that would be celebrated every November.

However, in more recent years, Thanksgiving has come to embody more than just turkey or pumpkin pie. It is about getting together with family and friends.

The Library of Congress identifies November 27, 1924, as the launch of the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, which quickly became a beloved annual tradition. As many as 3 million people gather in New York City to watch the performances, including marching bands, floats, celebrities, and cartoon character balloons.

Families gather to prepare their Thanksgiving feast, which can take hours to make the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie. In the meantime, however, you can spend the day watching the Macy's Day parade, watching the Thanksgiving NFL games, or preparing for Black Friday shopping.

Volunteering is also a great way to spend your Thanksgiving. Other people may not be as privileged to cook a full feast and can always benefit from the kindness of other peoples' hearts. Local soup kitchens and food banks are great places to go and help out during the holiday season.

There is a reason why Thanksgiving is one of the most beloved holidays, it involves two things that everyone loves -- food and entertainment. But Thanksgiving is not just a great holiday because of the giant inflatable balloons and large amounts of turkey, but because it is a day to spend with family and appreciate everything in our lives.



Uniting after a divisive election

By: Morrison Fry
LO'T Focus Editor

After a hard-fought election between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris, a nation of divided people has struggles coming together as one. In the days after the polls, people expressed joy, fear, and anger as the ballot results came in. These feelings are normal and there are various methods to cope with those who are upset. CBS suggests that people should know they are not alone, use healthy distractions, take a break from the news, and seek help if needed. Even with these suggestions from CBS people feel hopeless, which is understandable.

In a time like this it's important to know how to manage the storm of emotions you may be struggling with. The first step recommended by various experts is to simply give yourself time to process the results and your feelings. According to Lynn Bufka, deputy chief of professional practice at the American Psychological Association, "If your candidate loses, it's expected to feel disappointment, and even anger, hurt, and sadness . . . so recognize these feelings instead of rushing past them." One of the simplest ways to achieve this is by unplugging from the constant news cycle and not allowing yourself to spiral into a rabbit hole of competing feelings.

Another way to help move past the election if your candidate has lost is to avoid getting lost in the "what ifs?" It's extremely easy to get overwhelmed by the "what if?" possibilities often focusing on the worst-case scenarios of what will happen to your life and the country as a result of the election. It's important to stay focused on the present. Mindfulness techniques and meditation can be useful to ground your thoughts and help you focus on the present rather than on the unpredictable future.

If the results aren't what you had hoped for, then finding ways to take action to support your views can also be productive. Find ways to volunteer for causes you believe in or attend city-council meetings and become more knowledgeable about your local leadership and political system. You can't change the results of the election, but each person can have an impact.

In all, people feel differently about the results of the election, however, as a nation we must move forward and not turn against each other. We all know people who think and feel different than us. Keep in mind that the future is dependent on us, and if we keep a hostile society we will not build upon our nation. So when talking about the election, keep your comments brief, respectful, and focused, as advised by Dorie Clark, who teaches at Columbia University School of Business.

November 22, 2024

Thanksgiving week festivities in the Quad Cities

By: Lidda Morris

LO'T Reporter

Thanksgiving is the second largest holiday in the United States, and it is a time to celebrate with family and friends. Our community provides a variety of fun activities for this season, but they aren't always advertised to younger audiences. Here are a few of the many events during this Thanksgiving season.

On November 23, the Festival of Trees annual holiday parade takes place, including marching bands, dance groups, vintage cars, character balloons, and much more. Some of the character balloons featured are Santa, Garfield, and Kung Fu Panda. The parade is in downtown Davenport, Iowa, and begins at 10am. The path of the parade



Photo Courtesy of BettyCrocker.com

starts at Pershing Ave, and ends on Iowa Ave. This event is completely free to the public and is the largest parade in the Quad Cities. This event is something you can't miss.

The Quad City Botanical Center hosts an annual "Winter Nights Winter Lights," showcasing more than 225,000 lights, throughout the whole holiday season. It begins on November 17th and continues until January 1st. This event is open from 5-9 PM on Wednesday through Sunday until December 13th, and it is open seven days a week from December 13th to January 1st. Ticket prices are \$11 for adults and \$7 for kids 15 and under.

On top of the typical light show, there are a handful of other events going on. One of these events is Krampus night on December 1st and 2nd. On these nights, the German Heritage Museum will be present to give a history lesson on Krampus (The European christmas devil) and show how to make your own Krampus mask. Krampus himself will be there for photos as well. This is an excellent night for those looking to keep young children occupied or for a fun group activity. Keep in mind, Krampus can only attend from 6-8 PM on those nights, so you'll have to get there quickly if you don't want to miss him.

Two nonprofits in Davenport and Rock Island are dedicating their Thanksgiving to giving back to their community and feeding as many people as possible. These organizations are the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center (Rock Island) and the

Lincoln Center (Davenport). They are looking to give away a Thanksgiving meal to anyone who comes, completely free of charge. As stated by WQAD News 8, "Meals include turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, corn, a roll, cranberry sauce, and dessert." They will be serving these meals from Nov. 22 until Nov. 24 at the MLK Center from 11AM-5PM on Nov 22-23, and 12AM-4PM on Nov 24th.

Mr. Thanksgiving will continue to host the 53-year tradition of giving a free meal to those in need. Although, it will have the same goal, the location will be different this year. Instead of the SouthPark Mall, it will be held at Mercado on 5th, in downtown Moline. This Thanksgiving Day, from 4-7PM, Mr. Thanksgiving will be giving out free meals to anyone who attends. Don't miss out on a chance to get a free meal and meet some great people.

With Black Friday coming up, don't forget to get shopping. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is one of the biggest shopping days in America with great deals on almost everything you can think of. Stores will be opening early to invite in shoppers eager to take advantage of the outrageous deals. Many stores will be hosting black Friday deals such as Walmart, Target, Best Buy, Dick's, and Kohl's. So, if you're up to it, get up nice and early post-Thanksgiving morning and tap into some great deals.

Whether it's the holiday parade, lights show, or Thanksgiving meals, you can make celebrating Thanksgiving more fun this year right here in the QC.

Mr. Thanksgiving meal moves to Mercado on Fifth

By: Anika Kumar

LO'T Feature Editor

For 52 years, Bob Vogelbaugh, known as Mr. Thanksgiving, has been feeding thousands in the Quad Cities. In 1970, Vogelbaugh began having public Thanksgiving dinners for people from all around the world. The no cost Mr. Thanksgiving dinners have typically been held at SouthPark Mall; however, this year, the dinner was called off. In October, Vogelbaugh announced the event had been cancelled. He tells KWQC that "[he] got a notice from South Park Mall... and they don't want to do any... Thanksgiving din-

ners out there anymore... They had set up a meeting, and [he] forgot to write it on [his] calendar." This disappointed planners and the thousands of attendees who would miss the unity the dinner brought.

Local communities such as the Lincoln Center in Davenport and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Rock Island stepped up to help the community. The Lincoln Center has decided to hand out meals for 100 families, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Rock Island is scheduled to hand out 5-6 thousand meals on their 35th annual Thanksgiving dinner. These meals

will include turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, rolls, and more.

However, it has been recently announced in early November that Mercado on Fifth would be hosting this year's Mr. Thanksgiving dinner. Mercado Executive Director was "thrilled to be a part of such an impactful community event." With the help of RIA Federal Credit Union paying for the food and providing donations, the dinner is rescheduled for this Thanksgiving day from 4-7 PM.

Head on over to Mercado this Thanksgiving to take part in this time-honored tradition of giving.



Photo of Mr. Thanksgiving, Bob Vogelbaugh. Courtesy of QuadCities.com

November 22, 2024

'Tis the season for Moline Share Joys festivities

By: Simon Zimmerman
L'OT Feature Co-Editor

With Moline High School's 75th Anniversary Share Joys Fundraiser just around the corner, "The Line O' Type" would like to highlight some of the festivities that students should look forward to in just a few weeks!

Before diving into the festivities, MHS has already started to collect money through fundraisers at Chick-fil-A, Culvers, and Panera Bread.

To kick off Share Joys, the annual Donut Eating contest will be held in the East Gym on December 5th at 7:30 A.M. with over

10 teams, consisting of students, faculty, and Moline's Police Department competing for a cause. To compete, each team must collect over \$500 for Sharejoys. Come and watch the teams stuff their faces with Donut Delite's famous glazed donuts, and compete for the "Top Banana" trophy.

Starting Monday, December 9th, National Honor Society Elves will be roaming our campus! Be on the lookout for red and green-dressed students selling sweet treats starting at just a few tickets. Oreo balls, puppy chow, and chocolate-covered pretzels are always popular, so buy them quickly! Elves

will also be carrying around raffle tickets for purchase. These tickets can be turned into the main office for a chance to win a variety of prizes for local businesses. Visit the front office for a list of all the prizes soon!

On Wednesday, December 11, Whitey's Ice Cream will be served during each lunch period while supplies last.

The Thursday, December 12. If your class can raise enough tickets, you can expect classes to be filled with movies and games rather than lessons. "The Line O' Type" staff will be selling Olde Town Bakery Cookies, Happy Joe's Pizza, and soda during all 7 periods on the

second floor of wings J and B. East Moline Coffee Company will be offering coffee in the mornings. Student Congress will be cooking burgers and hot dogs during all lunches. Other goodies will be sold around the school, such as D-Wing's popcorn and E3's nachos.

We are looking forward to yet another year of Share Joys around Moline High School. All tickets can be purchased at the Moline Activities Centers (MAC), formerly known as the bookstore for 50¢ each. Let us continue spreading Christmas cheer and supporting local families in need this holiday season!



Share Joys 2024 logo created by Moline's National Honor Society

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November 22, 2024

Clean cars, clear trend: Why is Davenport overflowing with car washes?

By: Aaron Howard
LO'T Copy Editor

If you've driven around Davenport recently, you've probably noticed something unusual: car washes on almost every corner. It might seem like there's some big plan behind it, and you might wonder: What's going on here? Is there some kind of conspiracy going on here with all the car washes? Nope, it's just good business. The main reason for the boom in car washes is the rise of subscription services. People pay a flat monthly fee for unlimited washes, like a gym membership, but for your car. This works great in places like Davenport, where winters bring snow, road salt, and mud. Keeping cars clean is

a real challenge, so offering unlimited washes at a fixed price makes a lot of sense. The subscription model makes it easier for people to clean their cars whenever they want, without worrying about paying each time.

Before this trend, Davenport didn't have a lot of car washes. There were a few, but not many. As the population has grown and the demand for car washes has increased, new businesses have filled the gap. Investors have noticed that people are looking for clean cars year-round, and with the weather here, they've jumped in with new locations. Many of these car washes offer faster service, eco-friendly options, and even self-service bays. And with more people



Photo of one of Silver Star's Locations in the Quad Cities
Photo Courtesy of Silver Star Car Wash

moving into the Quad Cities area, there's still room for more car washes to open. Car washes might not create a ton of jobs, but they do help the local economy. They pay property taxes, generate sales tax revenue, and hire workers to maintain the businesses. They also buy equipment and supplies from local vendors, giving a boost to other businesses in the area.

So, the next time you drive by another new car wash, do not worry—it is not part of some big conspiracy. It's just smart business responding to a real need. The need for clean cars. As long as people need clean cars, we can expect to see more of these fancy car washes all around the Quad Cities area.

Gladiator II and Wicked: Can Hollywood recapture the magic of Barbenheimer?

By: Harry VanVooren
LO'T Feature Editor

Barbenheimer, the weekend where Barbie and Oppenheimer premiered. Barbenheimer weekend resulted in a worldwide box office revenue of 1.18 billion U.S. dollars, a major success to say the least.

The contrast of the pinky world that Barbie resides in compared to the dark reality of nuclear war in Oppenheimer created a contest between the two to see which will hold more success.

Although Barbie earned five hundred million dollars more than Oppenheimer, both surpassed ticket sale expectations.

Gladiator II and Wicked are premiering this weekend and from the looks of it they are attempting to earn similar numbers and buzz to Barbenheimer. The contrast of Gladiator II and Wicked is very similar to Barbenheimer as Gladiator II



Fan art of Gladiator II and Wicked
Photo Courtesy of website Screen Rant

is most likely going to be filled with violence and the grim reality of the world we live in while Wicked will feature more of a fairy tale vibe with bright colors, similar to Barbie.

Although Wicked is similar to Barbie in the realm of

bright colors and appealing to women, people are starting to question if the success will be measurable to Barbie as Wicked is going to be split into two different movies. The first movie premiering on November 22, 2024 and part two of Wicked premiering on November 21, 2025, nearly a one year gap in between the parts.

Gladiator II will be premiered all in one movie, making some, including me, wonder if that will have an affect on the profit gap between the two.

With all that was said prior, it is undeniable that Barbenheimer is one of the biggest successes in cinema history but can this type of success be replicated?

It will surely be exciting to see how Gladiator II and Wicked plays out and if it is going to receive a name similar to Barbenheimer.

So later this year do not miss out on the newest Hollywood films in your local theaters.

November 22, 2024

Dave's Hot Chicken opens in Dav.

By: Micah Thieme
LoT Feature Editor

The food in the Quad Cities expanded, this November 7 when a brand new Dave's Hot Chicken opened in Davenport off of 53rd Street. Dave's Hot Chicken is an American fast-food chain that specializes in Nashville-style hot chicken. It originated in Hollywood and specializes in all sorts of chicken, including sandwiches and tenders.

Dave's is very well known for its well-seasoned chicken and different heat levels. It's perfect for any chicken lover, with spice levels ranging from no spice and mild to the reaper. If you plan on visiting any other big cities in Iowa, Dave's plans on expanding across the state, starting next in Des Moines.

This new restaurant received a warm welcome to the Quad Cities. According to senior Zach Wynn, "I drove by days after it opened and the line was out of the door." Many customers noticed these long lines but still reported that they got their food in a decent



Photo courtesy of Khak.com

time despite the crowd.

Dave's has been a hit for many people, including quite a few MHS students. We interviewed multiple students who shared diverse opinions on Dave's. The most popular items students ordered were the #2 (2 sliders and fries), #3 (tender and slider with fries), and the strawberry lemonade.

Senior Quentin Nickerson said, "The food was alright (7/10); the sides were better than the chicken." Senior Isaiah Riley added that he got the #2 and thought "the chicken wasn't that seasoned," and "the straw-

berry lemonade was watered down." Senior Danae Ivey disagreed about the strawberry lemonade, arguing "it was fire." Senior Andrew Christensen felt, "The sandwiches were good and the fries were mid."

And while the students didn't necessarily give the food great reviews, all of them said they'd go back to Dave's to give it another try, and they did compliment the friendly service and low wait times.

Want to see for yourself what the hype's all about? Head to Dave's over break and give them a try.



Photo courtesy of restaurants.daveshotchicken.com

MHS

NO FARES FOR K-12 STUDENTS

to and from school for the 2024-2025 school year. High school students must show their school ID to ride.



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November 22, 2024

Line O' Type

Moline Monarchs spread their wings at Fall Classic

By: Julia McCowan
LO'T Reporter

With this support, Moline was boosted to victory.



Lucas Johnson goes up for a layup at the Special Olympics Fall Classic.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Norcross

Moline High School's new, all-inclusive cheerleading squad provided spirit and motivation to MHS's very own Special Olympics basketball team on Saturday, November 2 at Wharton Field House.

Maroon and Jr. Maroon Bake Sale where cookies, rice krispie treats, and other sweet treats were sold, item raffles, and a 50/50 raffle were also held. Basketball raffles involved spiritwear

and gift cards to places like Buffalo Wild Wings and Starbucks. "The Fall Classic was a blast," says Holly Vanherzeele, Head Coach for the Special Olympics Basketball team. The team was proud to raise \$1,400 thanks to raffle sales.

The basketball tournament consisted of 3 games: first, an alumni game that was followed by the current Moline team playing United Township, United Township vs. Rock Island, and Moline vs. Rock Island. Moline was victorious win against United Township with an outstanding half-court, buzzer-beater shot made Lukas Johnson, but the Maroons lost a close, nail-biting game against the Rock Island Rocks.

The Monarchs performed at halftime of the Moline vs. United Township game, showcasing many cheers like, "Yell it MHS" and "Y-E-L-L Everybody Yell." The Monarchs also showed



The Moline Monarchs team poses after their first practice of the season.

Photo courtesy of Julia McCowan

off some of their show-stopping jumps during the halftime performance. The squad was met with positive feedback from others, while also bringing a heartwarming performance bringing joy to spectators watching.

When asked about what the addition of Moline Monarchs to Special Olympics means to her, Vanherzeele comments that "the mission of Special Olympics is to spread inclusion, and this was another step in the right direction here at Moline." She adds, "Watching Monarchs brings heartwarming feelings for anyone watching, and for some, a few tears of contentment. There is a sense of belonging among the Monarchs."

Led by Moline Varsity cheer coaches Megan Ramirez and Emily Vershaw, the team started this year with a bang; performing at football, volleyball, and basketball games. Talking with sophomore

Varsity cheerleader, and Monarchs captain; Leah Egger gushes about her favorite part about being a part of the Moline Monarchs: "I absolutely love being a part of Monarchs. I love being able to give back to my community and giving everyone the chance to experience cheerleading." Egger is involved in the Monarchs by being a mentor and captain of the team. Egger also mentions that "the resilience of the girls on the team is truly remarkable as many of them have never performed in front of a crowd."

Varsity head coach Megan Ramirez talks about her passion for the team and creating equal opportunities for all abilities and hopes

to keep spreading the word about the Moline Monarchs as they continue to promote inclusivity and cheer at Moline High School.

The Moline Monarchs hope to continue their success throughout the rest of the season, and Moline High School is excited to have another great group to cheer on its athletes!



Moline Monarchs perform at their debut at the fall olympics held at Wharton Field House

Photo Courtesy of Julia McCowan



Geayden Boggness preparing to take a shot.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Norcross.

Boys and girls basketball kick off their seasons strong

By: Megan Fixen
LO'T Sports Editor



Jaliyah Jackson guards Camilla Velasquez as she prepares to take a shot.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Norcross

The Lady Maroons have been working hard under the leadership of new coach and English teacher Katelyn McNamara this season. They have been preparing for their upcoming games, starting with an exciting Maroon and White Night at Wharton Field House on November 16. There were many fun games for younger girls and concessions and raffles to kick-start the upcoming season. The girls showed off their skills and enthusiasm for the games to come. The Lady Maroons Basketball program will also be celebrating 50 years of women's basketball here at MHS this year. Heidi Norcross, one of Moline's English teachers, is a proud alum who is excited for the 50th year. She played during the '94-'95 through the '97-'98 seasons. She remembers one of Moline's longtime rivals, Rock Island. "It's hard to believe that there was a time when girls' sports weren't around, but this 50th year is a reminder of how far we have come." Mrs. Norcross goes on to say she is hopeful that one day the girls can win a state championship like our boys' basketball team did just a few years ago. Former All-State Lady Maroons basketball player Tasha Weimers, who is a current teacher at Wilson Middle School,

is ecstatic to see some familiar faces for this 50th year. Mrs. Weimers played at Moline from the years 1986 to 1989, and

says, "I have a lot of great memories from the teams I was on, but the best was the memory of my senior year. We had a great year, a great coach, and a great fan base that followed us to all our games. We made it to state in Champaign and ended up finishing 4th with a record of 29-4." Mrs. Weimers says she was surprised to find out it had already been 50 years of girls basketball here at Moline. She is excited to bring some energy and enthusiasm to the girls team.

The current Lady Maroons team will go up against Bloomington Normal on Friday, January 3, and plans to hold a ceremony honoring the alumni from the past 50 years following the JV game. The varsity will tip off at 5 pm. The program is hoping to have a packed house to celebrate the women who have been representing Moline Basketball over the past 50 years.



New coach, Katelyn McNamara, leads a huddle at Meet the Lady Maroons night.

Photo courtesy of Heidi Norcross

And while girls basketball gets excited for their upcoming season, Moline boys basketball is also gearing up for their 2024-2025 season.

With returning players like Trey Taylor, Braden Freeman, and Marcus McQueen, Coach Sean Taylor is looking forward to watching his players show toughness and leadership throughout the season. Make sure to catch the Boys first home game on November 27 where they will face the Limestone Rockets.

We wish both boys and girls basketball team good luck as they begin their new seasons.



BOYS BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

DATE & TIME

OPPONENTS

NOVEMBER 22 @ 5:00 P.M.

MOLINE (SCRIMMAGE)

NOVEMBER 27 @ 7:00 P.M.

LIMESTONE COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 6 @ 7:00 P.M.

STERLING

DECEMBER 10 @ 7:00 P.M.

ALLEMAN CATHOLIC

DECEMBER 17 @ 7:00 P.M.

ROCKRIDGE

DECEMBER 20 @ 7:00 P.M.

GALESBURG

JANUARY 14 @ 7:00 P.M.

QUINCY SENIOR

JANUARY 18 @ TBD

QC CUSTOM TEES (SHOOTOUT)

JANUARY 20 @ TBD

QC CUSTOM TEES (SHOOTOUT)

JANUARY 31 @ 7:00 P.M.

ROCK ISLAND

FEBRUARY 8 @ 5:30 P.M.

NORMAL COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 11 @ 7:00 P.M.

GENESEO

FEBRUARY 18 @ 7:00 P.M.

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The phenomenal finale to the fall sports season

By: Sanaj Kapur

LO'T Editor - in - Chief

As the fall sports come to an end, it is time to recap.

Moline Volleyball had a dominating season this year going 13-1 in conference play, the fourth straight conference title for the Maroons.

Senior Maddie Determan won WB6 Player of the year and amassed an astounding 500 kills during her 4 years. Maddie added, "Moline volleyball has made such an impact on me over the past 4 years. I don't know what I would have done without [it]."

In addition, Sr. Bella Skeffington earned First Team All-Conference. So. Mya Johnson, So. Lataisia Green-Huffman, So. Zoe Perez made the second team. Although the team fell in the regional final to Normal (West), the team is proud of their amazing season.

Moline Girls Tennis continued their reign over the Western Big 6 winning their 7th straight title. So. Calla Graham won the singles bracket, while Sr. Karennia Zemek and Jr. Abby Greenlee won the double's championship.

Calla Graham was also WB6 Player of the Year. Calla applauded the season saying, "This team is full of wonderful women who are not only amazing athletes and fierce competitors but also amazing teammates who are always there for me when I need them."

The team concluded the season undefeated in dual matches and finished second at sectionals sending Calla Graham and Karennia Zemek to state.

Moline Golf continued to excel winning both the boys and girls conference championship. The boys also won regionals and sent Isaac Rumbler to state where he placed third earning All- State Honors.

In addition, So. Isaac Rumbler, Jr. Greer Peters, Sr. Simon Zimmerman, and Sr. Isaac VanderMeersch made the All- Conference Team. Senior Carter Rasche had some heartfelt words expressing "The last 4 years of my life taught me golf is more than just a small white ball, it's a revolving culture that has given me a second family."

On the girls side, Haley Robertson was the individual champ, winning by 4 strokes and earning 1st team All-Conference honors along with Lana Edkin. Natasha Henning and Ally Wyffels earned 2nd team All-Conference honors.



Karennia Zemek and Calla Graham pose at the IHSA 2A State Tournament for girls tennis.

Photo courtesy of Calla Graham.

Girls swimming made a splash this season, placing second at conference and sectionals.

At conference, Jr. Olivia Gustafson broke the decade long record in the 100 yd butterfly. She also qualified through to state winning the 200yd Freestyle and the 100yd backstroke at sectionals.

Senior Captain Skylar Chandlee said her "favorite part was the home meets and senior night. I loved team bonding at our team dinners and hanging out with them!"

Cross Country showed out at conference, with the girls coming in 3rd and boys in 6th. Led by Sr. Lyllian Jorgenson, Fr. Ellis Schlib, Jr. Karen Martinez who earned 1st Team All Conference. While Sr. Harry Vanvooren and Fr. Jazzlyn Cervantes made the 2nd Second Team.

The girls used this momentum to push themselves through to Sectionals with a 5th place finish at the regional meet. Sr. Tatum

Rogers had touching words commending the team "Everyone pushed through obstacles and persevered. I'm very proud of this team and everyone that is a part of it."

Moline Soccer continued their dynasty this season winning a 5th straight regional and 3rd straight conference title. The team finished with a dominating 18-3 record, while only losing one game in conference.

Sr. Dillon Baker made the All State team, while Sr. Nick Palos, Jr. Mo Karoumia, and Jr. Andres Segovia earned All Sectional honors. Although the team fell short in the sectional semifinal to Normal (Community), the team is proud of their accomplishments, with Dillon Baker adding "the season was good, we had big goals. We came up short, but I am still proud of what we achieved and how the past 4 years of Moline soccer have been."

The Football team had a successful season finishing second in the conference with an 8-3 record. The team was also able to secure a play-off berth, defeating Addison Trail in the first round.

Sr. Adrian Cooper earned All State recognition, while Sr. Jenaro Sepeda, Sr. Kayden Banker, Jr. Deanthony Simpson, Sr. Corbin Schnell, and Jr. Nolan Ducey made the All- Conference Team.

Kayden said that "the best times with the team were fighting alongside my brothers every Friday night, knowing that the person next to me was doing the same."

Congratulations to all Moline fall sports teams for their dedication and achievements this season!

By: Anjali Kumar

LO'T Sports Editor

As the fall sports began to wrap up, three remarkable student-athletes advanced to the state tournament for boys golf and girls tennis. On October 18th and 19th, sophomore Issac Rumbler competed in the boys golf IHSA 3A State Tournament. The first day, he had a stellar victory qualifying him for the state finals. In the concluding round, he showed great success, ending with an overall score of 144, listing him third place at state.

On Thursday, October 24th, senior Karennia Zemek and sophomore, Calla Graham participated in the girls tennis IHSA 2A State Tournament. Starting off the first round, Karennia played against Dia Kannan from Edwardsville High School. Her performance was excellent, but sadly, she suffered a final score of 1-6 2-6. The following match, she played in the consolation bracket versus. Leena Mandan from Whitney Young Magnet High School. Unfortunately, she had a very tough match, losing 0-6 1-6.

Going into Calla's first match, she competed against Elena Grmusa from West Aurora High School. Putting up a hard fight, she ended up finishing with a close score of 6-4 0-6 8-10. Her next game in the consolation bracket was versus. Emma Velimirovic from Niles West High School. After a tiring game against a tough opponent, she had a close match with a tiebreaker of 6-7 7-9 4-6.

Recently, junior Olivia Gustafson made her way to state on November 15 to compete in the girls swimming and diving tournament. She had a phenomenal performance placing 33rd in her 100 yard backstroke with an impressive time of 58.92 seconds.

Congratulations to our fall 2024-2025 state qualifying student athletes! All three student-athletes had a successful season, displaying their great effort and hard work.



Junior, Olivia Gustafson, competing at the girls swimming and diving state tournament.

Photo courtesy of Moline Swimming & Diving Instagram Page