

## CAINS BALL-Room Show Tomorrow

#### By Macey Musick CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Rock band students have been preparing all year for the first of two major concerts: Riverfield Rocks The Cain's Ballroom.

There are six middle school and six upper school bands who will play 3-4 songs each throughout the night covering a wide variety of musical tastes.

Despite challenges with rehearsals due to the finishing touches of the new Center for Creativity, bands have been working around their schedules to make extra practice times to make sure their songs are ready.

Over 100 students will be performing at the legendary venue and the band directors are excited to show off a new banner, sell the new merch, and treat audiences to an amazing show.

Many may not realize the magnitude of performing at this venue, which has hosted legends from the Sex Pistols to Jack White.

The entry cost is \$20 per ticket, and \$25 at the door. Doors open at 6:00pm and bands begin performing at 7:00pm. Don't miss it!

# SPEECH AND DEBATE EYES Seventh Straight Win



RCDS Speech and Debate teams are in the height of their seasons. They are pictured here after their February wins at Muldrow.

PHOTO COUR-TESY DAVID WRIGHT

#### By Makayla Morgan STAFF WRITER

Riverfield's Speech and Debate team is leading itself to a seventh straight state title and winning impressive individual awards as well.

"Speak up, act out, win together," is the motto of the program and it appears apt as the participants continue to grow and succeed.

The Speech and Debate teams travel all over parts of Oklahoma to attend these competitions with other schools, in

Haskell, Sequoyah, and more. About a month ago on January 26 and 27, duos and indi-

viduals competed with Tahlequah's students, and the results were amazing.

In the topic of Champs Policy, Trey Pope and Xavier Hood took and third place went Aiden Uddin and Kurtis Villafane.

As for the Champs Public Forum, Kenyon Williams and Memphis Lee scored first place. Trey Pope got second place in the Champs Dramatic Interp and for the Humorous Interp, Jackson Baker earned second place.

Jackson Baker earned second place. Trey Pope got third place for the Champs Domestic Extemp and Sierra O'Malley in fourth place with the Champs Prose Interp.

Lastly, for the Qualifying Interps and Extemps, Sam Ames placed second place and Annika Crader in third with Prose Interpretation.

In Domestic Extemporaneous, Memphis Lee took third place and Junuh Ridenour took second in Foreign Extemp

All of these ravens have done an excellent job with writing and presenting their debates and speeches and have put in innumerable hours of time.

Support Speech and Debate while they try to get their hands on their seventh state title!

### **Internship Week for Juniors Provided Valuable Insight**

By Abby Feken-Cole CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

During the last week of Jan-

But what makes this opportunity so relevant? An internship provides students the ability to experience the work industry, use critical thinking skills, effectively communicate and collaborate, and interact with industry professionals. Not only are these opportunities important for skill development, it allows students to decide whether the field they intern is the right one for them. Junior Wyatt Horten incon Valley, California due to his desire to one day become an engineer.

"[At my internship] I was tasked with benchmarking competitors' devices with the customer engineering team,"said Wyatt. "I tested to see which products would benefit from working with Frore, the company I interned with." ence was insightful, a worthy pursuit, and a valuable experience for students to embrace. Junior Jackson Baker expressed a similar experience interning with Judge Keeley and sitting in on several proceedings in Tulsa and Pawnee. "I definitely felt like it aligned with my career interests,"Jackson said. "I plan for a career in law and possibly a judicial role. I feel like internships help us get a first-hand look at a career which can be helpful in determining if we are really interested or not." Riverfield's internship program not only is critical for

uary, Riverfield presents a unique opportunity for students to spend a week working 30 hours preparing for their future careers.

For seven years, internships have been a graduating requirement for high school juniors who want to gain insight into a future experience in the workforce.

terned at Frore Systems in Sili-

Though the end goal is rewarding, engineering is a rigorous profession. Nonetheless, Wyatt felt his internship experigraduation but also allows students to gain real world experience in their areas of interest before embarking on a college path to that career.

Through these experiences, students not only develop critical skills, they not only deepen their understanding but find clarity in their career aspirations.

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Scholastic All optimizer of the staff, adviser, or school administration.

Online: riverfield.org/community/studentnewspapers.cfm

### **SPRING 2024 STAFF**

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF	Abby Feken-Cole and Macey Music
NEWS EDITOR	Kennedy Patterson
FEATURES EDITOR	Sophie Phillips
COLUMNISTS	
	Esteban Torres-Ortiz
ADVISER	Mrs. Brooke Knight
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### Under the Ocean Floor: Speculating about the Bermuda Triangle

#### By Makayla Morgan STAFF WRITER

What did NASA find in the Bermuda Triangle that made them stop searching it?

The Bermuda Triangle is located in a part of the North Atlantic Ocean, which is where the Mariana Trench is also located.

It's the deepest part of the ocean that goes all the way down to 36,000 feet.

There are a lot of myths about these areas since a lot of submarines, planes, and ships

have vanished out of nowhere, and by this, I mean there weren't any calls of anguish from any radioing and no evidence to where the people or parts of the carriers could've gone.

Mythical creatures are often brought up when speculating about the area. The giant Squid that was washed up on shore, possible sightings of Megalodons, which is an extinct species of shark but said to be the largest fish ever known to the world, and Mermaids which is crazy to even mention because they aren't real, according to experts. All said, humans have only explored 5% of the ocean, so really, what is beyond the depths of the ocean floors we haven't discovered?

It's also scary since scientists from NASA are trying to get humans to transfer to the planet Mars, the question that is taking over Marine Biology and theoretics is what did they find in the waters that makes them want to do this?

These events can totally be about something completely different, but what if?



Could a Kraken be in the Mariana trench or is NASA just concerned about climate change?

PHOTO: HORRORNEWS.NET

## **DISPLACEMENTS CONTINUE IN GAZA**

#### By Kennedy Patterson NEWS EDITOR

As a war continues to rage in Gaza, people are finding places to cling to hope.

In recent weeks, aerial attacks in central and northern Gaza have become more frequent. Hundreds of people are being killed and displaced every day.

According to Human Rights Watch, the concern stems from the fact that International humanitarian law prohibits these kinds of displacements except on a temporary basis, but as Israeli military attacks are leveling neighborhoods and homes, making eventual return to the area improbable despite Netanyahu's claims not to make the displacements permanent.

Before, people were taking refuge in hospitals and other medical facilities, but now they are on the run again because hospitals are being targeted.

As of February 14, only 11 out of the 36 hospitals in Gaza are partially functioning. Israeli attacks on Gaza have killed over 29,313 and injured 69,333 people since October 7.

While working with limited medical supplies, doctors are bombarded by injured people every day. These doctors are forced to try and help people with unimaginable injuries and are left with almost no supplies.

The people in Gaza continue to live in fear. The attacks from Israel continue to worsen, and nobody is sure about the future.

### Struggle to have safe births in Nigeria

# VALENTINES DAY ACTIVI-TIES RAISED MONEY, Helped Those in Need

#### By Macey Musick STAFF WRITER

Rose for a Raven is one of Student Council's biggest fundraisers of the year. Money from this longtime Riverfield tradition helps fund parties and equipment for the Upper School.

Due to the accessibility of online orders this year, over 200 orders for roses came in in the first 24 hours alone!

Mrs. Knight handwrote each of the cards for those online orders, and she said it's always a treat to see the cute messages people write to children of all ages.

Sales have been trending upward from recent years, this year sales were at almost 500 roses. StuCo members and advisers, along with a few extra volunteers, spent countless hours processing the roses, attaching cards, sorting orders, and delivering them to students and staff across campus. NHS also had a major undertaking for Valentine's Day. They tasked students to

create Valentines Day cards and donate candy to spread kindness to Iron gate patrons experiencing food insecurity,

NHS members and members of the Iron Gate service group spent several hours at the facility on Wednesday morning, making meals, distributing their valentines and candy, and playing music for the people gathered.



Holden Williams and Ivie Carson serve coffee at Iron Gate. PHOTO: MARGARET JAMES



### First soccer scrimmages show promise

By Abby Feken-Cole STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, despite time changes and reschedules for middle school teams, Raven Soccer played their first scrimmages.

Their opponent was Mercy

player from view while they made adjustments.

All in all, the two games were a great start to what coaches and players alike will be the best season of soccer Riverfield has had in recent history.

Go support the Ravens at one of the games listed below!

#### By Kennedy Patterson NEWS EDITOR

In Nigerian refugee camps, pregnant women are forced to deliver their children in harsh conditions. It is common for women in these camps to have many children. The limited resources in these camps continue to be an issue. People in these camps cannot afford the food and medical supplies to stay healthy.

In a camp in Abuja, Nigeria, an eight-month pregnant woman interviewed by CNN recalls her home in Wala being burned down by an armed Islamic group, Boko Haram, in 2013. Two years later, she was forced to migrate again with her husband and five children. The woman explains that she looked at having chil-



The makeshift health post in Durami, Nigeria, struggles to keep up. PHOTO:CNN

dren as a way to replace the family members who were lost in the attacks.

There are over 246 communities for displaced people across Nigeria. Families come to these communities fearful of the limited resources but having nowhere else to go.

In these camps, there is typically one birthing suite that consists of a tent and some mats. Nigerian women are forced to give birth in unsanitary conditions, leaving them at high health risk.

Although the problematic situation these women are forced into, they stick together and help where needed. The women in these communities help raise each other's children and remain close throughout each other's pregnancies.

### School, an Islamic school in Norman.

The teams played well, which is great. But even better, Coach Erica Barnard stated that both Riverfield teams were welcoming, inclusive, and friendly to their opponent, who traveled an hour and a half to play RCDS.

Furthermore, as an Islamic school, members of the girls team would sometimes have to stop play to adjust hair coverings. RCDS students assisted in blocking the

### Varsity Soccer (Football)

Date	Opponent	Location	Girls' Kickoff Time	Boys' Kickoff Time
Tuesday, February 27	Scrimmage vs Locust Grove	802 Joe Koelsch Dr. Locust Grove, OK 74352	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Friday, March 1	Cascia Hall	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Monday, March 4	Christian Heritage	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Friday, March 8	Wright Christian	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Tuesday, March 12	Regent	8621 S. Memorial Dr. Tulsa, OK 74133	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Thursday, March 14	*Tulsa Central	3101 W. Edison St. Tulsa, OK 74127	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Tuesday, March 26	*Miami	2000 E. Central Ave. Miami, OK 74354	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Tuesday, April 2	*Commerce	420 Doug Furnas Blvd Commerce, OK 74339	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Thursday, April 4	*Summit	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Monday, April 8	*Verdigris	Riverfield	5:30 pm	7:30 pm
Tuesday, April 16	*Cleveland	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Thursday, April 18	*Inola	420 E. Commercial St. Inola, OK 74036	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Monday, April 22	*Sequoyah-Claremore	Riverfield	5:00 pm	7:00 pm
Tuesday, April 30	FIRST ROUND OF PLAYOFFS			

#### SCHEDULE GRAPHIC COURTESY ERICA BARNARD



# **Apple vision pro** launches

#### **By Esteban Torres-Ortiz** STAFF WRITER

The Apple Vision Pro has been released and most people are surprisingly accepting of it.

It looks like a came out of a future-based movie. It is a Virtual Reality headset that you can use day to day.

It has 12 cameras that let you see your surroundings and it portrays a menu that acts like a phone, you can make calls, and play a variety of different games through the Apple Arcade and generally just do everything your regular phone can do.

I was expecting so much more controversy or fear around a product like this but maybe we have been exposed to this idea for long enough for it to seem like the next step toward the future.

So far the most I have seen against the product is just fear that it will take away all privacy due to you recording every single thing you do and talk about.

Something else people are worried about is that it might take over eventually and might start controlling people by very gradually making advancements so people don't realize but end up taking over, anyways that is a huge what-if but surprisingly common worry.

The Apple Vision Pro came out February 2nd this year and has already made a big impact so we will so where the road takes us whenever they find a way to manage to lower the insanely high price making it more accessible.

OPINIONS

The price for the VR is \$3,500 which is way out of the price range for most people.

My final thoughts on this is that it seems like a nice product but the price is way too high for what you are getting (It can't be that nice, right?) and I support the product but it becoming available to almost everyone seems intimidating just thinking about it like an everyday utility.



You get to look like you're skiing-for only \$3500! PHOTO: APPLE

# THE TRACY ULLMAN SHOW

### By Sophie Philips STAFF WRITER

In my "That Girl" review, I mentioned I'm sure that we are all familiar with The Simpsons. You know, the cartoon about the yellow family? Well, did you know that it all started on a different show? That show is The Tracey Ullman Show.

Tracey Ullman herself started her career in her home country of England. She released a few songs and did some TV shows over there.

In the mid 80s, producer James L. Brooks, who is responsible for the creation of The Mary Tyler Moore Show and all of its spin offs, approached Ullman and asked if she would be interested in doing a "Saturday Night Live"type television show in America. Ullman agreed.

Fun fact: one of the producers of the show was Ted Bessell, who is known for his role as Donald Hollinger on the famous sitcom, That Girl.

When it came time to find other cast members aside from Ullman, that was pretty easy. Ullman had spotted a then relatively unknown Dan Castellaneta at The Second City comedy improv club in Chicago. Ullman asked him to read for the show and he agreed.

Julie Kavner had previously worked with Brooks while playing the role of Brenda Morgensten, the hilarious "kid sister" of Valerie Harper's character, Rhoda, on the show Rhoda, which was a spin off of The Mary Tyler Moore Show. Kavner was at the top of the list of people Brooks wanted to be part of the show. Kavner accepted the offer to be

Other cast members included



The original cast of the Tracey Ullman show in 1987.

PHOTO: REDDIT

Sam McMurray and Joseph Malone.

The show officially first aired on April 5, 1987. The show's theme song was "You're Thinking Right" performed by George Clinton.

The show was a success. When it came to The Simpsons, the cartoon was originally a short segment of the show. Homer was voiced by Dan Castellaneta and Marge was voiced by Julie Kavner.

The shorts were a hit and in 1989, was spun off into its own half hour cartoon called The Simpsons.

The Simpsons is still on

TV to this day with Castellaneta and Kavner still voicing Homer and Marge.

The Tracey Ullman Show unfortunately ended on May 26, 1990, but it still lives on through Ullman's numerous other works and The Simpsons.

It's kind of hard to find the episodes online anywhere, but there are numerous clips from episodes. The show has also never been released on home media at all.

From the clips I have seen though, it's a really funny show. I really recommend giving it a watch.

# **ESTEBAN WATCHES: THE WALKING DEAD**

Welcome to a new series called: Esteban Watches It! I like to watch a lot of movies and shows.

I have been bingeing the original show, "The Walking Dead" on AMC.

It is a captivating story,



become the main antagonists of the show.

Villains, such as Negan, played by Jeffery Dean Morgan, are so much worse because atleast with the walkers they don't completely control you and everything you do.

### **OPINION: MEMES MAKE** THE WORLD BETTER

#### By Makayla Morgan STAFF WRITER

Have you ever seen the meme where the dog named Doge is wearing those sunglasses and making that weird little face?

I have, and I support the opinion that memes make the world a better place.

Memes have taken over the internet and they are related to jokes, and they are used to mock, ridicule, or celebrate present events and cultural trends with the use of a picture.

were to be responsible for that explicit meme were to have people stop carrying them and the work that they do.

A popular place where memes lie, is the app Facebook, usually used most by the Millennials.

Nowadays, memes on the app, TikTok, can be expressed throughout a video with text. It's the same, but it's a video, rather than a pic-

ture I think the memes that are too blunt can be cut off by the groups on Facebook, that are either kid friendly or R-rated

part of the show.

The appearance of the hilarious messages allow me, and other people, to continuously laugh throughout the day and even see things differently than before.

While this can take place, memes can at times exceed the limits and offend people to a great extent that the per-

son

who

As for TikTok, It's your choice to know what content you want to look at, but you are warned.

Therefore, if these guidelines were to be followed by everyone, I think memes could make the world a much better place.

Doge approves!



which pulls you in from the beginning. You get very attached to the characters from the first episode.

Rick Grimes, played by Andrew Lincoln, is the first character introduced in the series. Rick's story is compelling and

through him, we are introduced to the other characters

The first season because it focuses on the survival of the main characters from the zombies and their struggle to find appropriate food and shel-

ter.

As the seasons progress,



is probably the best "The Walking Dead" ran from 2010-2022.

viewers realize that the zombies are not the biggest threat, however.

Other humans, desperate for a better life and better resources,

The Walking Dead is an excellent show and you shouldn't just take my word for it but the millions of people who have watched enjoyed it. IMDB rated the show 8.1/10 from more than one million different people. It is rated for mature audiences due to its violence but it's usually just a little zombie gore, so most viewers should be able to PHOTO: NEW GEORGIA ENCYCLOPEDIA handle it.

The zombie gore

was so enjoyable, in fact, that there was a show called "Talking Dead" that reviewed the show, featuring a "Zombie Kill of the Week.

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# ELMO'S UNEXPECTED OCCUPATION: TV Star or unofficial therapist?

#### By Abby Feken-Cole STAFF WRITER

At first glance, it started as just an average social media check-in: "How is everybody doing?"

Yet the message came from Elmo, the widely known furry red muppet on Sesame Street, who is famous for being adorable, but also for being caring.

The messages came rolling in through various social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, and X (Twitter), and Elmo accepted them, so people started to vent. On X, responses varied from politics and anxiety to money and relationships.

Comments ranged from "I'm at my lowest," said one individual.

"Thanks for asking," said another.

Apparently, people felt safe enough with this childhood character to share open, honest, feelings about how they were doing.

Not all the responses were negative: Chance The Rapper commented: "Honestly, I'm in a really good place rn."Although limited, some comments did receive replies from Elmo where he replied with unconditional support.

So, is Elmo a therapist? Throughout his existence, starting in the 80s, Elmo has shown that he exemplifies the characteristics needed of a gifted therapist, as stated by 20thcentury psychologist Carl Rogers.

According to Rogers on npr.org, characteristics start with congruence, meaning authenticity and genuineness — being real.

The other two core qualities for a therapist, he said, are acceptance that comes from unconditional positive regard, and empathy that comes from understanding another person.

Although Elmo has been unable to reply to the thousands of messages he received, to the ones he has, his responses have been spot-on with advice.

But Elmo has gone on and exemplified what it means to be a caring person; from him, it is who we should learn from.

Always remember that we can all learn from Elmo's example of empathy, acceptance, and authenticity.

Even in this time, it's important to take the time to connect with others and offer support when needed.

So strive to follow Elmo's advice and be a caring and compassionate company in the world.



*Elmo, the furry red monster, bit off more than he could chew when he asked folks on social media how they were doing.* PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

### **Barbie's little sister turns 60**

Well folks, it's time! This month on The World of Dolls, we're going to be discussing the history of Barbie's little sister, Skipper.

Why? Well, this year, in 2024, Skipper is turning the big 6-0!

It all starts in the early 1960s. In 1963, Barbie gained a best friend named Midge. Midge looked very different from Barbie. She had more of the "girl next door" look, compared to Barbie's more



to come.

She also gained some friends in the 60s named Skooter and Ricky. Skipper would retain her original face for a while until 1979. In 1979, Super Teen Skipper came out. She used a brand new face mold. However, by 1982, Skipper's original face mold returned. However, it wasn't long before a new face mold for Skipper was created.

In 1985, Skipper got another new face. This time, Skipper had an open mouth smile. In 1988, Skipper gained another new face. Skipper would use this face up until 1996.

In 1996, Skipper would undergo a complete makeover. They gave her another new face mold. She also got taller (just a bit shorter than the  $11 \frac{1}{2}$  inch Barbie). She also gained two new friends named Courtney and Nikki (who would later become Barbie's friend). Skipper would disappear for a bit between 2003 and 2009. However in 2009, Skipper returned with a redesigned look. She now had brunette hair with a purple (sometimes blue) streak. She also gained an interest in music and technology. This brings us to where we are today. Happy 60th birthday Skipper!

# **Creative Writing Corner**

A Riverfield Upper School Elective class, Creative Writing is taught by Dr. Edwards. The class meets twice a week for students to work on their own individual writing skills. Dr. Edwards said: "One reason I wanted to start this class is because my Ph.D. is in Creative Writing and I saw a lot of potential for the students here to be able to express themselves in writing with a teacher who is well-versed in the canon of poetry and fiction."

Each issue will highlight a different writer in the class. This month features a selection from senior Gigi Williamson's piece "Generations". Contact Gigi directly if you would like to read the full piece!

#### GENERATIONS

The old house smelled heavily of bleach and ammonia.

If one more item was cleaned with either chemical, everyone would succumb to the mustard gas prancing in the air ready to attack.

There was a small thud coming down the stairs that alerted the woman in a maid's uniform. She quickly gave her a mask to try and block the toxic air.

"You know you're not supposed to come out of your room unless it's for school, sweetie,"she said, ruffling the little girl's head.

The little girl held onto her teddy bear for comfort before opening her mouth to speak. "I know mommy but the awful smell is back."

The woman smiled softly, rubbing the little girl's face.

"It's okay, just go into my room for now. I'll deal with the smell later."

The little girl smiled, going in for a hug when there was a pound on the door.

Both girls jumped in sheer terror as the loud pounding came back but this time continuously getting louder and louder as



looked around and saw only one option as the back door was now starting to be messed with.

"I need you to go upstairs and hide. Don't say a word, don't make a noise, and don't come out unless I use our safe word or it's been a couple hours, do what you have to do,"she said, pushing her daughter upstairs as she quickly loaded her gun that was in her uniform. The little girl rushed upstairs and hid as she was told to do. Even though her sight was useless, her hearing rose up like a star in the sky listening to everything happening downstairs.

Both doors were broken down and torn off the hinges causing loud bangs as the metal hit the soft wood.

Shouting, profanities, and blood-curdling screams could be heard from every angle in the tiny little house; but none belonged to a wom-

sexier and mature look. However, people who wanted to buy a Barbie for their little girls but didn't want the mature looking Barbie still weren't fully satisfied.

So, in 1963, Mattel started designing a doll who was to be closer in age to the little girls playing with Barbie. At the time, the average Barbie doll owner was around 9 to 13 years old. So, Mattel created a little sister for Barbie who was roughly about 9 years old. That doll was Skipper.

Skipper hit the shelves in 1964. She would remain by Barbie's side for years



Skipper over the years. Top (from L to R): 1964 Skipper, 1979 Super Teen Skipper, 1985 Tropical Skipper.Bottom (from L to R): 1988 Teen Time Skipper, 1996 Teen Skipper, Skipper now (2024) PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SOPHIE PHILLIPS someone was trying to forcefully break down the metal door.

The woman frantically

an.

This gave the little girl hope that her mother had in fact gotten stronger.

### **COME SUPPORT THE RAVENS!** RCDS VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL FACES OFF AGAINST the OKAY MUSTANGS tonight at 7:30 at the Muscogee Dome in Okmulgee for the first round of the Class A Area IV Tournament Championship game.

A few spots are still available on the spirit bus so that you don't have to make the drive! Contact Mr. Hodges for more info.