



- Learn how to find your favorite book! And why DHS is leaping for Spring sports.



- This student, who excels in debate, accomplishes a goal in the steps of history



# Delta Paw Print



1400 Pioneer Rd

Delta High School

deltapawprint.com

## A PRETTY friendly competition for a great cause



Photos taken by Delta High School Student Council

By Kyndahl Duran

Treyton Sandoval, Gus Butler, Timmy Horn, Hunter Goff, Nathan Scharnhorst, and Andy Barrios, Delta High school seniors, all competed against each other on Thursday, March 17 for the title of "Mr. Panther," and also to raise money for lunch lady, Aaron Lindsey, and her battle against cancer. The Mr. Panther contest consisted of many events. First, the students did a runway performance in prom dresses and heels. Next, the contestants ran into the bleachers for a spirit war to see which

grade level could donate the most money. They also competed in trivia about the high school and Delta, and when one of them got a question right, they got to hold a puppy.

There were also multiple events where the students split into teams. One of them was a "finish the lyrics" contest, then charades. Lastly, a favorite was the skit. Team one, Sandoval, Butler, and Scharnhorst did a skit where Sandoval and Butler competed in a wrestling match and broke into song. With Goff on the drums, Barrios

singing, and Horn slow dancing with senior Baili Hulet, team two did a musical number.

The second-place winner, Butler said, "I wasn't really disappointed. I thought Treyton deserved to win, he did really good. He saved us there with the finish the lyrics, so I wasn't too disappointed. I was happy with my placing," said Butler.

Third place winner, Horn, said, "I wasn't going into it with a competitive mindset. I was there for fun." For these students, there

were many fun activities. The winner of the Mr. Panther contest, Sandoval said, "Probably the walkout was the most fun." Yet Butler said, "Definitely the skit, it was the most fun."

Although there were many fun tasks, the students struggled with some as well. "Our skit was probably the hardest. It didn't really turn out the way we wanted it to, but we had fun doing it," said Horn.

Along with Horn's claim, Sandoval said, "Probably our skit, we did it last minute, so it was kinda hard to

get it down in a day." All in all, the assembly was a success and a very enjoyable experience. "Yeah, I did enjoy it. It was really fun, and it was for a good cause," said Sandoval.

Horn also said, "Yeah, it was fun. It was a good high school experience." "Yep, I really enjoyed it. I really encourage the seniors next year to try and embarrass themselves, and it will be really fun," said Butler.

## "It's better not to come than being late;" students question the effectiveness of lunch detention

By Linda Hayner

Your car breaks down two blocks from the school and it is already 7:45 a.m. As students rush the halls of school, the bell rings obnoxiously. Out of breath you make it to class late by two minutes. Your teacher marks you tardy during attendance and sends you to the office. Commonly, in most schools an unexcused absence or multiple tardies will result in a warning or a detention during lunch.

The DHS student handbook states: "There are no excused tardies," but then goes on to say that, "a student detained by another teacher or administrator shall not be considered tardy provided that the teacher or administrator gives the student a pass to enter the next class. Teachers shall honor passes presented in accordance with this policy."

The school district defines being tardy as, "the appearance of a student without proper excuse after the scheduled time that a class begins." The district never states that there are "no excused tardies" and only goes on to state if a teacher is holding a student they are not considered late.

The disciplinary procedure in the handbook states, "Students who are tardy to class will report to the office. On the third tardy offense students will be assigned to lunch detention. Habitual tardiness will require a parent meeting and may also warrant lunch study hall to make up time missed in class due to tardiness." DHS attendance advocate, Tamara Astin, has estimated that there are about 80 to 100 students late to at least one class weekly. For approximately 60 to 75 of those students, it is their third through sixth time being late, which in turn is a referral to assistant principal Roseann Johnson.

Astin has also estimated that during the two lunch periods at DHS, there are six to seven students in detention each lunch, daily. Astin believes that three to four of these students will turn to it being their sixth or more offense.

"I get a list of students who were late and I call them to the office and just talk to them. Most students have actual reasons like having to help get their siblings ready for school and they just couldn't make it in time to their first hour," said Johnson. "We expect mistakes but we also expect students to own up to it."

According to principal Derek Carlson, detentions for tardies are effective. "About 90 percent or more of students fix the problem themselves. There are very minimal phone calls to a parent or guardian," said Carlson. "We are here to be helpful, not to just make students feel like we are putting them down."

Being late is a common issue. If you are injured and on crutches you might be late to some of your classes, like Allyssa Leib. "This school year I broke my leg. I was on crutches for the first time ever and I was like a lot slower than everyone else in the hallway. Plus the hallways are really crowded. So I was like three minutes late to my class because my classes are so spread out," said Leib. "Most of my teachers understood. I don't think that I was ever marked tardy because crutches are a little bit harder to get around on."

DHS freshman student, Tyrrell Garcia, says he has the issue of being late often. "I think it was around ten times when I last checked," said Garcia. "Just my first hour, mainly sometimes it would be not getting out of the house in time because my parents weren't ready."



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Garcia believes that detentions are effective depending on one thing. "I would say yes detentions are effective. I think it is because I'm getting better with it now. I guess it really just depends on the student," said Garcia.

Junior, Aneida Sanchez, has a reason for being late quite often. "Well, I'm mostly late to my first class and it's usually because I have to pick up my cousins that live on the other side of town, and then take them to the middle school. Then I have to drive back to this side. It's just a lot," said Sanchez. "Or like, for example, today, you can't find any parking."

Sanchez has a belief that the DHS detention policy is not effective. "If they're going to give us like a consequence for being late, a lot of people just don't show up to school if they're already like running late," said Sanchez. "Sometimes it's just better not to come than being late for a reason."

Another DHS student, Joel Martinez, is "chronically" late for helping his little brother get to school on time, even when they start later than the high school. "Well I have to drop my brother off at school every morning and he's very stubborn when he wakes up, so he doesn't get ready," said Martinez. "Then by the time he's already ready, I have ten minutes to get here. Since he doesn't start school till 8:30 a.m, he doesn't worry about the time."

According to K12Engagement, "Some evidence exists that detention does decrease future problem behavior for certain students. At the very least, many students perceive detention as aversive and as an effective discipline practice."

**From Page 1** Yet Martinez believes the consequence for being late is not effective. "It is because I'm getting punished for taking my brother to school and then getting here late," said Martinez. "It's just very dumb that it can't be excused or anything like that and its just not effective."

English teacher Robert Ames believes that being on time is a very important thing for students to learn. "I

think that being on time is a huge, huge thing. I think it is very important. I think that to value other people's time is a strong characteristic," said Ames. "Now I understand that people are late, everybody is late. I think that the idea of having a student who's habitually tardy serve detention, I think that's a smart move. Im understanding if they communicate, because I think that's the other part of the habit."

Math teacher, Rene Cronenberg, is not lenient when it comes to a student being late unless they explain their situation. "If they are walking through the door, I don't give them a tardy, but if they can't be here ready to go, I give them a tardy," said Cronenberg. "We have conversations mainly before school; Who brings you? Can you not get up earlier? And for most it's like, yeah, I'm just pretty lazy. If they

were legit like, they had to work at it, I would take that into consideration."

History teacher at DHS, Paul Shean, believes that the detention policy is not effective. "Effective? No. I think most times when people are tardy, they are repeat offenders. You know five minutes is an awful lot of time between classes," said Shean. "I think there's plenty of time to do what you need to do, but there needs to be probably

more teeth into it for it to be more consistent."

Being late is common not just in schools. People can be late due to work, appointments or even to traffic being slow. The district gives the school the freedom to appropriately judge and excuse tardy students. The effectiveness of a detention depends on the student themselves and the way students communicate their problems with their principal and teachers.

## Jose Renteria, regional "Speaker of the Year" ; just as Ketanji Brown Jackson credits her debate team for initiation into success

Local speech and debate students may head down a historical road as well

By Travis Cantonwine

Speech and debate may have some kids building the skills they need towards success: communication, resilience, intelligence, and confidence.

The recent Supreme Court nominee, Ketanji Brown Jackson, has a shot to become an associate justice of the highest court in the land: the first black woman to be considered for the position. In a University of Georgia School of Law's 35th Edith House Lecture, Jackson reflected that speech is "the one activity that best prepared me for future success in law and in life." Before, she said, "go Panthers" to commemorate the high school, Miami Palmetto Senior High School, that gave her a "strong educational foundation."

The parallels between speech students at Delta High School are harmonious with the law clerk turned historical D.C Circuit Judge. Jose Renteria, a senior with four years of debating skills under his belt, won the Speaker of the Year award for the western Colorado region.

"The exact name of Jose's reward is District Student of the Year," said Danielle Lopez, math teacher, programming teacher, and forensics team advisor for Delta High

School. "He is ranked number one in the district for [accumulating] points. I haven't had a student score over 1000 points since Hannah Owens was on the team."

Owens was a student who excelled in her debate championship, as well as climbing her way to nationals thrice. This year, the National Tournament of 2022 is in Louisville, Kentucky. Renteria is on the roster, and so are several other students who excelled in the regional and state competitions. These competitions determine if students can compete in Louisville.

Joining Renteria are juniors Jenna Reese and Morgan Farmer; and sophomores Nick Serve, Mialosa Randeria, and Ana Asavei. They all agree that speech and debate is not only helpful in real life situations, but "definitely" would credit speech and debate in the event they attain their idea of success.

What skills are they learning to carry the aspirations they have? Ketanji Brown Jackson said learned skills such as creating opportunities, communication, and self-confidence were a product of her hard work in speech. Similarly, Renteria sees the benefits in being a part of his team. As a debate captain, he "builds connections"



picture by Travis Cantonwine

Renteria, Swerve, Reese, Farmer, Randeria, and Asavei all qualify to compete in this summer's National Speech and Debate competition in Louisville, Kentucky

and spends practices by helping other members, as well as assisting coaches to prepare for tournaments.

"I'm in debate," says Renteria. "[which] tends to be political. It increases political efficacy... and [informs me] about how the government works. It makes you think about the people that run things."

Renteria feels that speech and debate created an opportunity for him by pointing out his desired career path. "[Speech and debate] has created my interest for what I want to do for a career and I [may not] be doing it in the first place if it wasn't for speech," said Renteria.

Not only Renteria

found opportunities by participating in speech and debate.

Additionally, throughout his high school experience, Renteria had increased his ability to communicate, learned time management skills, and attained more confidence in his words. "I learned [to improve] the way you speak and get information across so it is a lot more digestible," said Renteria.

Knowing that life skills are attained while putting in the work to publicly debate, speak and/or perform, the students who compete across the country are competitive, and winning does not come easily to many. According to a study conducted

by communication and forensics professors Michael D. Bertanan and Robert S. Littlefield, speech and debate is a form of play and has lost the "richness of the simulation" because of competitiveness.

What is a form of play?

The professors both agree with Scott Eberle, PhD, that a form of play is not defined easily and may be abstract, such as love or creative art. But essentially, play is essential to human development by self reward. According to Eberle, play has six elements: anticipation, surprise, pleasure, understanding, strength, and poise.

Additionally, Bertanan and Littlefield agree that speech and debate enables all of those benefits, and can allow the "means [to be] more valued than ends."

Forensics defined by developmental play helps the activity fall into the same developmental category as physical sports such as football, soccer, basketball, etc. Renteria agrees that debate can give one similar impact on mental and emotional development as a sport.

"Even though it is not a physical thing, you still gain life skills," said Renteria. "In a lot of ways, it's the same type of life skills you get with a traditional sport."

## Goodbye to Daylight Savings?

By Gabrielle Huggins

For the past hundred years or so, daylight savings has been exercised every fall and spring, but is it outdated and unnecessary? Recently its practicality has been called into question with a bill that unanimously passed the Senate. If it gets passed by the House of Representatives and approved by the president, then daylight savings time change will be no more.

Daylight savings was

first introduced in the U.S in 1918, but was soon abolished after World War One due to its unpopularity with the public. Then it was reintroduced in the 1960s when Congress passed the Union time act and has been practiced since. It was first put into place in order to save energy and allow people to take advantage of as much daylight as possible, especially during summertime.

One prominent reason to change the daylight savings

method is to help improve mental health affected by losing and gaining an hour which disrupts sleep schedules and can negatively worsen both mental and physical health by making the body more prone to illness. It can take weeks to reset into a normal schedule again, so is it worth it for that extra hour of light?

If standard time does become permanent, what would really change? Student Autumn Cordell says

"It would be harder to wake up and get to school on time because of how early it would feel." One big change is that it will force students and early risers to adapt to how in the fall they will be waking up, getting ready, and attending school in the dark of the morning. Especially in the winter mornings this could present as an issue. Delta high school junior Elizabeth Cooper says "I don't think we really need daylight savings, but I do like the long sunlight hours in the summer."

Although we would lose the dreaded change of hours in the spring and the toll it takes on one's health, we would also lose the long summer days and relief that fall back gives in autumn. Although it can be frustrating to deal with daylight savings, it is overall a beneficial tradition that gives longer daylight hours and helps students and working class Americans.

# March Madness

By Leeyandel Arias

According to The Charlotte Observer, Yahoo is hosting an event where if you submit a March Madness bracket, the person who has the most accurate bracket will win the Grand Prize: \$25,000, plus an MGM Resort vacation package in Las Vegas valued at \$10,000.

So if you're a college basketball fan, this is the perfect opportunity to make a bracket, but what is March Madness?

March Madness is essentially where the highest ranked teams from around the country are placed into a tournament (March Madness) that hosts a total of 68 teams, and each team must face each other in a single-elimination game

fashion. The winner from each game advances to play other winners. There is a total of seven rounds. Eventually only four teams will be left, and they will be considered the "Final Four."

The winners of the Final Four will then play against each other, and get the chance to compete and win a national championship for their college. And fun fact, the college that has won the most March Madness tournaments is UCLA, who currently has the record of 11 national championships.

Although watching college basketball is exciting and is one of the main reasons why people enjoy March Madness, the big awe factor of the tournament is being able to make brackets and predict the

winners of March Madness. In fact, many people fill out brackets and try to predict the winners of every game so they could compete against other participants who also made brackets in order to obtain many things like prizes, money, or just bragging rights that you guessed winners of each game correctly.

But at Delta's very own Bill Heddles Recreation Center, the rec center hosted a bracket tournament with the community and allowed people to fill out brackets and turn them in. And the person with the most accurate bracket wins a free one-month membership to go to the facility.

Jonathan Ponce, who works at the front desk at the rec center, talks about why he

likes the rec center hosting the bracket competition. "I love how the rec allows people to submit brackets in, and be able to win prizes," Ponce said. "And I like that the rec center allows people from the community to compete against each other."

Not only do people compete against each other across the nation or the Bill Heddles Recreation Center, there are also many teachers and students that make their own brackets at Delta High School. Many teachers, in fact, will put on games during class time and some teachers even make their classes fill brackets out.

While Delta High does not host any officially sanctioned March Madness bracket

challenge with students. Freshman, Tyson Hughes has already made and submitted two brackets. "Filling out a bracket is already fun enough and it gives you the opportunity to compete with friends and family," Hughes said. "But if the school did a bracket competition, I feel like it would be very fun and competitive."

So whether you decide to make a bracket next March Madness or not, March Madness still proves to be one of the most exciting events in all of sports. So if you're a competitive person, March Madness is the perfect event for you.

# TALKING ABOUT BOOKTOK

By Juliana Stagner

If you are on TikTok, you may have heard of something called "BookTok." It's essentially just a section of TikTok where people talk about their favorite books and what they recommend for teenagers. The majority of these books are YA or young adult books.

As someone who has read quite a few of these popular books, I have honest opinions about whether or not some of these books are worth the read.

One of the most read of these books is 'They Both Die At The End' by Adam Silvera. This book is set in a world where at midnight of the day you die, you get a phone call. So you know what day you will die but not how or where.

The book is about two teenage boys who receive this call but don't have anything to do on their last day. They join an app called "Last Friend" where you can find someone else who is on their last day.

The boys, Mateo and Rufus, meet up and both go out of their comfort zones and try each other's interests. The book is just about them

living their last day with no worries as they grow closer to each other.

Overall this book was written very well and had a heartbreaking ending leaving you in tears. Some had conflicting ideas on whether or not this was a good book, but I think it is worth it to read.

Another one of these books is 'It Ends With Us' by Colleen Hoover. This story is about a young woman who moves to Boston to open up a floral shop after the passing of her father. One day she meets a young surgeon named Ryle Kincaid and starts to fall in love with him.

The main character, Lily Bloom, later finds a collection of her old journals from high school when she lived in an abusive household. As she reads about her life, she starts to remember her first love, Atlas Corrigan, a homeless boy who she helped in many ways.

One day as Ryle and Lily are on a date, they run into Atlas which starts to cause problems in their relationship. This starts to make Lily question her life and



relationships as she starts to see different sides of the people she loves. This book is written extremely well and causes you to feel the same heartbreak as the characters do. It does deal with some serious topics

of abuse and sexual assault so be cautious when reading. If you do decide to read it you won't regret it. It is 100% worth your time. Booktok has several book recommendations, so if you need or want to find more

you can just search booktok and you will find many great books to read.

# The story behind St. Patrick's Day

By Alexia Sanchez and Rachel Young

People think St. Patrick's Day is just leprechauns, pinching, and wearing green, but the traditions go way back to St. Patrick himself. Mar. 17 is a day celebrated internationally that started as a religious and cultural celebration honoring the patron saint of Ireland. Irish pride is now celebrated while the holiday was originally tied to religious ideals.

St. Patrick was not born in Ireland but in Britain. There is controversy surrounding whether or not he was actually kidnapped by pirates at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland to be a slave where he was for six years before he finally escaped to France. He later went back to spread Christianity to the Irish. "He had a dream that the Irish were crying for him that they needed him," Elizabeth Stack said in an article by "USA TODAY". "He returns to Ireland and brings Christianity with him. He is who made the Celts and the pagans into Christians."

"It's about the Irish people and something to

do with their religion," said freshmen, Cya Smith.

A legend exists that St. Patrick drove snakes out of Ireland, but according to Stack, the snakes were a symbol for pagans because snakes can't handle the climate in Ireland and are not native to Ireland. According to a National Museum of Ireland spokesperson, when the last ice age ended, many of the plants and animals began to recolonize Ireland. As the ice started to melt, sea levels rose which caused Ireland to be cut off from Britain and the rest of Europe. "Many species, which are found in Britain and the rest of Europe, never made it to Ireland," the spokesperson said. "To this day we have a much more restricted variety of species in Ireland than even in our nearest neighbors in Britain. So while there are a small number of snake species in Britain, there are none in Ireland."

"The origin of St. Patrick's Day probably has something to do with an Irish religion," Kaiden Ring-Bradley, a high school freshman at DHS, said "I

do not celebrate in any other way than wearing green"

The use of the shamrock started because St. Patrick used the three leaves to explain the holy trinity. Each leaf being used to represent the father, son, and the holy spirit. He used simple explanations to convert nonbelievers to Christianity. The three leaves of a shamrock are also said to represent faith, hope, and love. Luck comes in when there is a four-leafed clover. The fourth leaf is meant to represent luck.

Leprechauns are widely associated with St. Patrick's Day. Their roots probably began in Celtic belief in fairies and other mythical creatures. They were said to be grouchy and stubborn, and their jobs were to repair the shoes of other fairies. Leprechauns were known for their mischievous sides, and guarding treasure. Because both St. Patrick's Day and Leprechauns stem from Ireland, people often group them together.

"Aren't there those like leprechaun things?" said freshmen, Katie Foote.

In the past, some people thought wearing green made

them invisible to leprechauns. Leprechauns were known to pinch anyone they could see. Wearing green became a tradition so people wouldn't be pinched and that has carried on over to today.

In today's world, people all around the globe celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Wearing green, drinking, and celebrating

Irish pride are some of the modern ways people celebrate. Knowing where these traditions come from is very important in understanding a holiday, and being more connected to the past and Irish history.



Photo credit: housebeautiful.com

# Spring into spring sports

photo essay by Vandi Horn



**TRAVELLING THROUGH TRACK:** Varsity track takes off at the Warrior Wild West meet in Grand Junction. Pictured in the photos, Nathan Scharnhorst running the 100 meter dash, Raelee McCurdy jumping the long jump, and Baili Hullet clearing the high jump. Overall our Delta team did extremely well over the weekend.



**GOAL FOR GIRLS' SOCCER:** Girls' varsity soccer plays Ridgway and takes the game with a total score of 5-0. The girls are kicking it at 1-2 overall. Their losses go to Grand Junction and Montrose High.

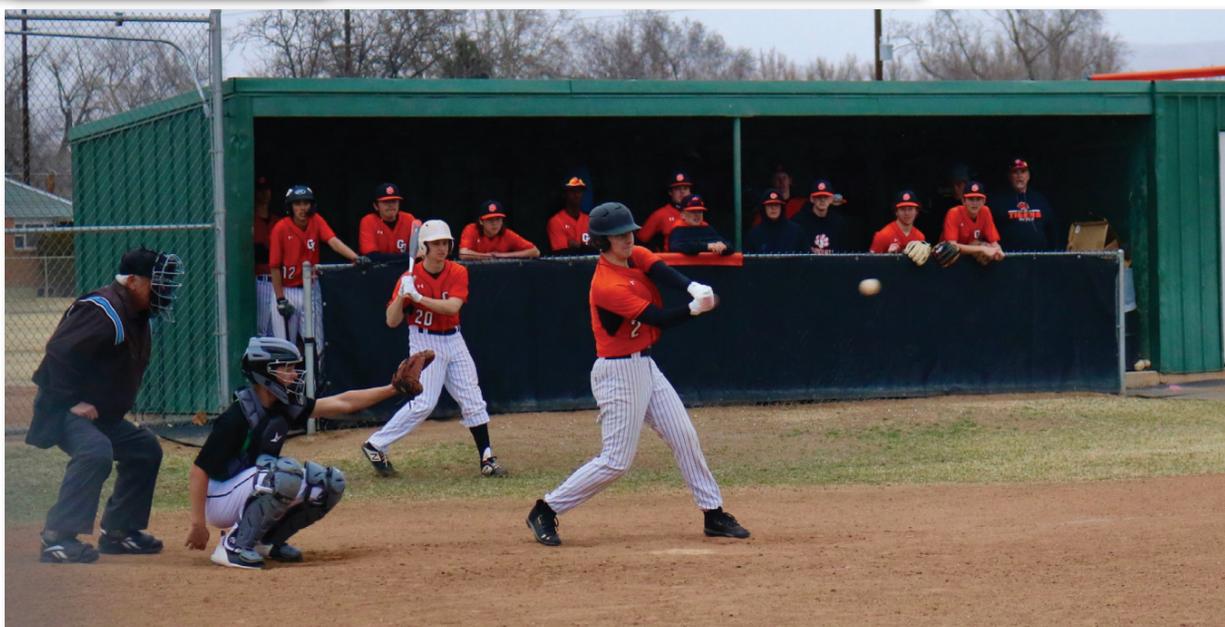


**TENNIS, LOVE:** Varsity tennis serves an amazing start. The double teams played amazing, not dropping a single set across eight matches. Singles did extremely well along with the team. As of right now, the team is sitting with an overall of 4-1.

## BATTLING BETWEEN BASEBALL:

Junior varsity baseball takes the win vs. Grand Junction high on Wednesday nights double header with final scores of 9-6 and 13-5.

The boys are starting with an overall of three wins and no losses.



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