you you you you you you you you you you you you

this is for you

arvadahigh school

arvada, colorado

ARVADAN 2024

volume 110

IF YOU'VE EVER WRITTEN THE NOTES ON YOUR GUITAR SHEET MUSIC SO YOU REMEMBER WHAT CHORDS TO PLAY NEXT IF YOU'VE EVER LOOKED FOR A JOB AT SKATE CITY JUST TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE ONLY TO FIND OUT YOU CAN'T SKATE IF YOU'VE EVER HAD YOUR SOFTBALL GAME RESCHEDULED THREE TIMES IN A ROW BEFORE YOU FINALLY GET TO PLAY IF YOU'VE EVER SHOWN UP TO THE WRONG STADIUM, OR THE RIGHT STADIUM ON THE WRONG NIGHT

this is for you

ARVADAN 2024

this...

bond

006

time

028

push

052

joy

074

is for you

094

this is for you

ARVADAN2024

photo by e. alvares gonzalez

photo by a. higuera martinez

FACE DEFEAT. After defeating the students in the volleyball game at the homecoming rally, science teacher MJ Ytterberg pies Cesar Bonilla-Garcia (10) as part of the victory celebration. The students did not know that this was part of the prize for winning. "It was a fun perk of showing up the students who were talking smack before the match," Ytterberg said. **VICTORY TILL THE END.** At the senior night volleyball game versus Platte Canyon Jazmin Salazar (12) serves during the second set. Seniors on the team were proud to bring home a win for their last game of their last season. "It felt so good to go out with a win," Salazar said. "That was the perfect ending to an incredible time on the team." **STAR QUALITY.** In costume for the fall play, "Shadow Play," Aidan Aragon Ledesma (12) catches a glimpse of the camera before resetting for another run-through of a scene. The fall play featured special video effects to add to the suspense. "The play gave each actor a chance to showcase a carnival act," Aragon Ledesma said. "So, we all stood out."

photo by d. garcia castro

ARVADA HIGH SCHOOL

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9: 170
10: 196
11: 178
12: 156
Staff: 95
TOTAL: 795

this...

is about finding **what fits**

It's waking up at 7:15 a.m. on Thursday even though **having second period off** means you don't have to be here until 10:45 a.m.

It's figuring out whether to ride with Ximena Caldera Ibarra (12) or Chester Monroe (12) to Tokyo Joe's for lunch **(did you order ahead?)**

It's calling in to work so you can make it to Homecoming to live your **pixie hollow fantasy.**

It's studying so hard for DiGi's genotypes test that you totally forget about the **polynomial equations quiz** in Wilson's

It's stopping at Starbucks to pick up Chima's order because **you already know** you're going to be late

It's running stairs again and again without quitting every time Tre' Kent (11) or Bella Ciotti (11) **show you up**

It's going to **boondock's with the squad** for the $10 discount on go-karts and laser tag

because it's **you**

TASTE OF FREEDOM. As the lunch bell rings, Taylor Dye (11) and other students walk through the main lobby towards the entrance. At the main doors, administration checked their student IDs to make sure freshmen stayed on campus. "It slows us down a little bit, but I'm glad we still get to leave for lunch," Dye said. "I don't know what I'd do if I couldn't get lunch off campus."

photo by s. poindexter

IF YOU STAY READY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET READY. Moments before the curtain opens on the fall show, "Shadow Play," actor Tyler Moyle (12) finishes his creepy doll makeup in the green room to make sure it is perfect. Known for being a character actor, Moyle aimed to bring life to characters who were bizarre or awkward. "I love becoming the weird characters," Moyle said. "It helps me discover and play with all these different sides of myself, and it lets me act out a lot of the wild things that I think about. It's fun to lose myself in these personas and become someone totally different for a little while."

photo by d. garcia castro

who *else can do this?*

who else can answer Wheeler's text at 9:40 p.m. reminding you (one more time) to fill out your FAFSA?

who else can tell the volleyball team to "be a goldfish" and have them get what that even means? (Who even came up with it first, Coach K or Ted Lasso?)

who else can convince Castorena to dress up as Abi Rodriguez (10) on Student-Teacher Swap Day AND Twin Day?

who else besides Jerriah Arellano (10) can come back even stronger after leading 2A in receiving yards the previous season?

only you can

And it's because

this is for you.

008 back to school
010 spirit team volleyball softball
012 boys soccer science esports
014 life science philosophy
016 empty bowls toy drive
018 homecoming week
024 trick or treat street
026 choirs val-o-grams

CHECK(MATE) YOURSELF BEFORE YOU WRECK YOURSELF. During an Academy Time session, science teacher Jim DiGiovanni and Kadin Mitchell (10) face off in a chess match. DiGiovanni frequently doubled up on science help and chess practice for his weekly session offerings. "We get to hang out and share something that we all have in common," Mitchell said. "It helps break up the day and keeps things fun and interesting." **HOME(COMING) COURT ADVANTAGE.** As part of the Court introductions at the Homecoming rally, friends Britteny Diaz (11) and Damaris Rubio (11) perform their entrance including a spin and a secret handshake. Before becoming junior representatives, the duo campaigned on social media and by posting fliers in the halls. "Getting nominated to be on the court was a fun risk we took," Diaz said. "I'm glad I got to have that experience with my friend." **ALL DOLLED UP.** Friends at Senior Sunrise show off the jeans they decorated to celebrate the beginning of their final year. "We wanted to do something creative together," Ximena Caldera Ibarra (12) said. "It was a way to showcase our individual personalities but still look cute together."

this bond is for you

BECAUSE WHEN YOU WORK TOGETHER, YOU CAN DO MORE. AND DOING MORE, YOU BECOME BETTER

HOW MANY CLICKS? In the height of FAFSA season, Gear Up adviser Desarie Wheeler helps Nevaeh Castaneda-Hurtado (12) complete her form to qualify for financial aid. Changes in the federal form meant students had more access to grants and other aid for college, but it also meant they had to be extra careful while completing the form. "If [Wheeler] wasn't here to help me, I'm not sure how I could've gotten everything done," Castaneda-Hurtado said. "She definitely helped make sense of the entire process." **MAS MASA.** En la reunión de septiembre de la FCCLA, Caroline Chojolan De León (12) y Anyi Cruz-González (12) miden la masa para las tortillas. El grupo FCCLA se preparó para varios eventos que incluyeron cocina y comunicación con el fin de preparar a los miembros para ser líderes comunitarios y profesionales. "En lugar de aprender estas habilidades solo por uno mismo, estar en este club me prepara para usar esas habilidades para ayudar a otros en el futuro", dijo Cruz-González. **TIME TO FIGURE IT OUT.** At the college fair, Nahum Macias Castillo (11) and Derek Gonzalez (11) ask the representative from CU Boulder about opportunities as well as the application timeline. Recruiters and representatives from over 20 schools attended the fall event to inform juniors and seniors about a broad range of options for education after high school. "Meeting people who actually might look at my applications is really helpful," Gonzalez said. "We hear a lot about these schools, but it's important to have accurate information."

photo by e. alvares gonzalez

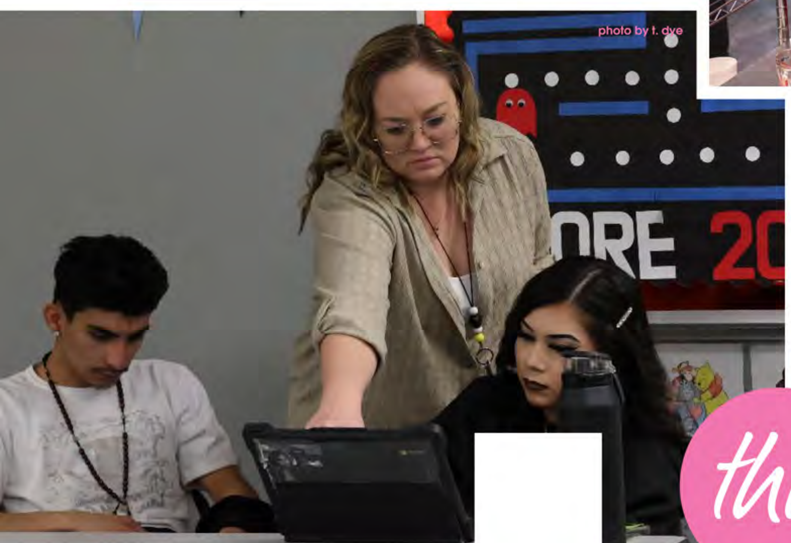
photo by t. dye

photo by p. arellano

this time is for you

BECAUSE EVERY OPPORTUNITY IS A CHANCE YOU MAY NOT GET A SECOND TIME, MAKE SURE YOU DO IT NOW

030 gear up empowerment
032 prostart art classes
034 journalism/ media
036 future bd night economics
038 gic amped coding
040 piano guitar
042 summer camps
046 fashion trends
050 fall play

this push is for you

BECAUSE THE CHALLENGES LET YOU KNOW IF YOU'VE MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE OR IF YOU MUST CHANGE

054 clase de inglés testing
056 new passes cross country
058 math cte: stem
060 english classes
062 football boys basketball marching band
064 photography social studies
066 nutrition science security breach girls wrestling
072 girls basketball boys wrestling p.e. & weights

photo by s. almaguer

photo provided by j. ziegler

photo by t. dye

EYES IN THE SKY. At the annual Jeffcon, MESA members Andre Smith (11) and Meridian Garcia (11) learn about how Jeffco Public Schools uses drones for various purposes. The day-long conference engaged students with practical applications of IT and engineering. "[Jeffcon] challenged some of my preconceived notions," Smith said. "There's a lot more to what the district does with technology than we initially know, so it's interesting to hear that I'm learning things that could eventually land me a job with the district." **SLOW 'EM DOWN.** During the non-conference game against Middle Park, cornerback Joziah Barajas (12) goes for the tackle after the opposing receiver completes a pass. The 21-13 win against the Panthers advanced the football team's overall record to 4-0. "We had a couple of tough match-ups early in the season," Barajas said. "But, those first wins definitely let us know we were on the right track with our strategy." **START AT THE BEGINNING.** In Emily Bertram's AP Lang class, Miali Jackson (11) completes the annotation task at the first station of the lesson. By breaking down the more complex analysis into smaller parts, she was able to prepare for the essay that followed. "It's tough because it's different from other English classes I've taken before," Jackson said. "Taking it apart piece by piece, though, helps me understand what is going on, so I can feel more confident in the next step."

this JOY is for you

BECAUSE ALL OF LIFE'S LITTLE MOMENTS SHOULD BE CELEBRATED, NOT JUST THE BIG ONES

photo by s. almagure

photo by s. almagure

photo by c. yonge

TASTE OF SUCCESS. After the academic awards ceremony, Jacob Risbon (11) enjoys the breakfast treats and refreshments provided for award recipients and their families. The ceremony recognized students' efforts throughout the entire year. "Sure, it happened before school, but the food and my friends being there, too, made it worth getting up early," Risbon said. **WINDS (AND BRASS) OF CHANGE.** As a member of the trumpet line in marching band, Isaac Maez (11) performs his part for the halftime show at the Homecoming football game. The band's show, Seasons of Change, challenged them musically, but rewarded them in competition. "There were a lot of different parts working together," Maez said. "This show challenged us to listen to each other while focusing on our individual part. It was all worth it, though, because the judges at competition who got what we were doing really loved it. That felt amazing." **THE SKY COULDN'T HANDLE IT.** Over summer break, Empowerment Academy teachers Olivia Andrew and Jack Kotarba say their vows at their wedding ceremony in Larkspur. The couple celebrated with family and friends, including several staff members. "What an incredible moment for us to be able to share with the ones we love," Kotarba said. "The whole day was just a blur of happiness, and I couldn't have asked for anything better."

076 memorable moments
078 winter dance week
082 bands and orchestra
084 girls soccer baseball
086 track & field girls tennis
088 spring play
090 prom prep

this is YOU

BECAUSE YOU DO SO MUCH ALL THE TIME, SO WHY NOT REMEMBER IT ALL? EVEN THE LITTLEST DETAILS ARE WORTH IT

096 9th grade portraits
102 10th grade portraits
108 11th grade portraits
114 12th grade portraits
122 staff portraits
126 tributes and ads
134 sports and groups
144 index and closing

photo by f. dye

photo by j. rios

photo by s. [illegible]

NO LAUGHING MATTER. After telling a joke, English teacher Aaron Middleton laughs as Gear Up adviser Desarie Wheeler reacts to his comment. As one of the English 12 teachers, Middleton frequently touched base with Wheeler to make sure he was providing support for seniors as they applied and prepared for college. "She's one of the people I know is always there for our kids," Middleton said. "She's the best person to have on our team because of that." **SPIN ME RIGHT ROUND.** To show off what students do in the art classes, Allison Thompson (12) prepares to throw clay on the pottery wheel at Future Bulldogs Night while Anthony Castaneda (11) assists her. Families of current eighth graders visited to learn more abaout what programs and resources were available for their students as they enetered high school. "I like showing off what we can do here," Thompson said. **DIVE RIGHT IN.** In her Nutrition Science class, Clarice Chavez (11) completes an assignment. Students had to adjust to submitting assignments on Schoology after Echo was no longer available. "It takes getting used to," Chavez said. "At my previous school, we used Google Classroom which was easy. This is more complicated and takes more steps to do some things, but I still like it better than Classroom."

so, what?

What's the **point?**

Why did you finally make the time to read Beloved for AP Lit
the week of the final essay?

how did your capstone presentation go?
(You know, after stressing about putting your portfolio together the day before even though you had the whole first semester to figure that out)

What did you end up doing instead of the Winter Dance when the new attendance policy took place?
(did you go to the anti-dance?)

Why did you help StuCo **make the welcome wall** with advice for the underclass?

That's easy.
Because you could.
so you did.

it all comes down to **you** *because* ...

THERE IS SUCH THING. After the spring academic awards assembly, Alonzo Jimenez-Moreno (11), Logan Johnson (11) and Benjamin Sandlin (11) enjoy breakfast pastries on the second floor bridge. The friends challenged and supported each other's achievements through healthy competition. "It's pretty much our dynamic," Jimenez-Moreno said. "We'll joke around and mess with each other, but we also make sure we're staying caught up on things and doing well overall. We'll see who did the best on assignments, but then we'll help each other out if one of us is stuck. It's great knowing we're showing up for each other."
photo by s. poindexter

AIN'T NO STOPPING US. Despite the designated sections in the stands for each grade, Amiah Picaso (10), Emma Ngewasi (12), Dalilah Aguayo (12) and Carolina Trevino (9) sit together at the winter rally. Students were initially expected to sit in their class sections; but by the winter rally, students began to find ways to sit next to other friends, regardless of their graduation year. "We may be in different grades. We play different sports. We have very different classes," Picaso said. "But, above all that we're friends. So, we sit together. We cheer each other on. That's what matters most."

photo by I. dye

you made this happen

Whether you stopped at Leslie's desk every hour on the dot **to stock up on candy — and advice** on how to live your life – or you talked to Tim when you went up to the security desk **(although you know Ciria had the better tea)**

Whether you spoke at every Socratic seminar, no matter what **(even if you were winging it just a little)**, or you asked Kantner to explain matrices **just one more time** before the test

You figured **this** out

And even when you stood on business **(or maybe this week you didn't)** you still found time to sneak in a tiny nap or an extra episode **in the c-hall nooks** during your off hour

Besides, how else were you going to make it to **three home games on the same night?**

You know you couldn't help but laugh when no one knew **what a scantron was**, but you're sure it had something to do with **a quest and a bus**

so, what's the point?

this is the point. **you.**

WHEN YOU NEEDED A SENSE OF COMMUNITY, YOU CONNECTED. WHEN YOU WANTED TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOURSELF, YOU RISKED IT. WHEN YOU STRUGGLED TO FIND A WAY OUT, YOU KEPT GOING ANYWAY. WHEN YOU FOUND YOU HAD MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE, EVEN THE RIGHT CHOICE AT THE WRONG TIME, YOU CELEBRATED

you did this.