



XU Students Brave Icy Iowa Caucus

Xavier students met with candidates, reporters and journalists at 2024 Iowa caucus

BY LUCA FILIGENZI
Staff Writer

The Philosophy, Politics and the Public (PPP) Honors Program sponsored a three-day trip to the Iowa Caucus in Des Moines, Iowa last weekend.

On the trip, the group made several stops on the campaign trail, seeing candidates such as Florida governor Ron DeSantis, former governor of South Carolina Nikki Haley, former governor of Arkansas Asa Hutchinson and Vivek Ramaswamy. With temperatures in Iowa as low as -20 degrees Fahrenheit, the fiery political debates, events and discussions helped keep the students warm.

The first event of the trip for students was attending a DeSantis rally.

Junior political science major Alfredo Ferguson believed DeSantis “was definitely aiming for an older generation.”

After a quick respite at the

hotel and a night of good sleep, some bad news hit the PPP people.

On Friday, the storm grew more severe, and some of the scheduled plans were canceled in favor of holding up and waiting out the storm, including Haley and former president Donald Trump rallies.

“I thought I was coming here to witness a historic Iowa caucus, and in the midst of one historic event, another shows up in the form of a record setting blizzard,” senior political science major Cole Waymeyer said.

Later that night, the group visited a Ramaswamy event, in which protestors appeared within the crowd and began to yell questions at him. The protestors were asked to leave but began to beat on the windows from the outside.

Braving the sub zero wind-chill, the group drove for two hours to attend the Haley event at the Second State Brewing Company in Cedar Falls. Junior PPP major Mak



Newswire photo courtesy of Alyssa Blandford

Krivka thought the event was particularly insightful. “Ambassador Haley’s event

was great. She spoke clearly about the important things she wants to get done as president. While other candidates focused on what they were against, she spoke about what she was for,” Krivka said.

The group returned to Xavier last Sunday.

Sophomore PPP and political science double major Jake Galvan was grateful for the experience.

“I was expecting very little interaction. I thought I’d be lucky to see them or get a picture... Expectations were greatly exceeded. I shook hands and took photos with all four candidates we saw,” Galvan said.

First-year PPP major Megan Cooper felt the event was a great opportunity for her future and discerning her career path.

“I think it’s a great experience for grassroots politics, since this is the start of the 2024 presidential cycle. Something I can use in my future career,” Cooper concluded.

“Part of the program that I liked most was students getting to meet other students who they did not know and finding out what they had in common as they participated in a part of political history,” Xavier professor and interim Director of the PPP program Dr. Mariani said.

The caucus concluded with Trump winning a 51% majority vote. DeSantis followed Trump with Nikki Haley garnering a 19% vote.

The New York Times published an article detailing the events of the caucus. This included a photograph and caption calling attention to Xavier University and the students in attendance.



Newswire photo courtesy of Alyssa Blandford

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NewsWire Travels to South Korea

Multimedia Managing Editor Spencer de Tenley returns from studying abroad

BY SPENCER DE TENLEY
Multimedia Managing Editor

When initially choosing a location to study abroad, I had only two criteria: It must not be in Europe, and it must be in a city. While these criteria might not appear to be incredibly limiting since most American students who study abroad go to Europe, these constraints would significantly slim my options, but after learning about Sogang University's exchange student program in Seoul, South Korea, I was sold.

Now living in Seoul, South Korea for the last three months, my time has been well spent traveling around the peninsula, making friends from across the globe and drinking lots of Soju. All in all, my experience has been excellent thus far, but that's not to say there haven't been some culture shocks along the way.

Banchan: South Korea is the side dish holy grail of the world. At almost every restaurant, you can usually expect three to six smaller side dishes called banchan on the table for everyone to enjoy.



NewsWire photo courtesy of Spencer de Tenley

While the most famous banchan, kimchi, is provided just about every time, the rest of these dishes are seemingly random and vary depending on where you are and what day you go.

The banchan is always fun and delicious as it caters heavily to a more communal and friendly meal-eating experience, but be prepared to clash chopsticks when you and a friend both reach for the last kimchi.

Elevator courtesy (or lack thereof): After watching the elevator doors close right in my face while motioning for

the riders to keep it open for a second longer so I could join,

I found this rude, but after it happened the second, third, fourth time, I realized this is just the norm. When Koreans are in an elevator, they have places to go and thus will push the "door close" button the second they get in.

Along with a sense of urgency with the elevator door procedure, it is not uncommon to have people reaching every which direction to push the button corresponding with their floor. Granted, this may be due to a supposed language barrier, but, even if a dozen of

us are packed like sardines in an elevator, someone will always snake their arm through to push their button door.

Public transportation: Not to beat a dead horse, but the public transportation is genuinely remarkable. Every major city in South Korea has an easy-to-navigate and extensive public transportation network.

Everywhere in South Korea relies on a T-money card, which you can use when getting on and off any bus or train.

I can't even overstate how convenient this is as it makes

getting anywhere super easy and efficient. Often, even taking public transportation is faster than driving or taking a taxi due to traffic. No more calling an Uber to get home from a fun night out; simply hop on the night bus for the equivalent of a dollar and you are home in no time.

CCTV and safety: Cameras exist just about everywhere in South Korea. At first, these cameras, colloquially called "CCTV," might seem unnerving, but once you get used to them, they are almost reassuring.

The CCTV and the social norm of not stealing make Korea feel very safe. Due to this culture, leaving your credit cards, passports, or anything else crucial out in public is almost worry-free. You can be guaranteed that it is precisely where you left it when you return even days later.

These culture shocks, though, in no way diminish the amount of culture, fun and adventure that South Korea has to offer. Even after being here for a quarter of a year, I have barely scratched the surface of Seoul's almost 10 million-person megacity and even less so of South Korea.

Photo-op: Students Share New Year's Resolutions

BY CLARE MCKINLEY
Staff Writer

At the onset of 2024, students have returned to campus with some goals for the new year. Striving to embody Jesuit values, some students set New Year's resolutions that aim to improve their physical, mental and spiritual well being.

While the challenge of keeping up with a resolution can be daunting, these students are hopeful that they can follow through, at least for a little bit.



NewsWire photo courtesy of Clare McKinley

Sophomore finance and business analytics double major Nick Boyd set out to go to mass more.

"I want to do this so I can get closer with God. I think this will help me also build stronger relationships with others and foundations for everything else in my life," he said.



NewsWire photo courtesy of Clare McKinley

First-year psychology major Lexie Esker's New Year's resolution is to get straight A's.

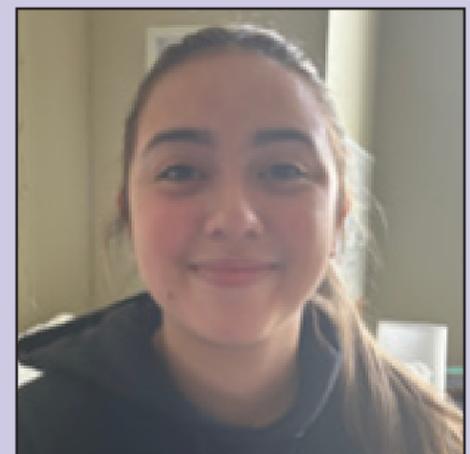
"To achieve this, I really plan on studying more and not missing class... I think I can do this because I did good last semester so I think it will be easy to repeat, so I am really hopeful about my resolution," she said.



NewsWire photo courtesy of Clare McKinley

Senior health administration major JJ Grohs' New Year's resolution is to read one book per month.

"I hate reading, but I need to read so I thought that if I chose something interesting, I would want to read... The book I'm starting out with is *How to Build a Car* by Adrian Newey. I like cars and this guy is like the best at making them, so I think it will be good," he said.



NewsWire photo courtesy of Clare McKinley

Sophomore chemistry major Sofia Castillo's resolution is to eat healthier.

"Last year I ate out a lot and it was not good and way too expensive, so this year I made a promise to only eat out once a week and try to make things with what I have around," she said.



FAA Grounds Boeing 737 Max 9 Planes

BY ISAAH MIESLE
Staff Writer

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) indefinitely extended the grounding of Boeing 737 Max 9 airplanes for new security checks, promising the increase of oversight of the manufacturer by auditing the production of the model last Friday.

The grounding extension came after an Alaska Airlines flight was forced to make an emergency landing when a door plug fell off the fuselage panel mid-flight on one of the airline's Max 9 planes earlier this month.

The administration opened the investigation to determine whether Boeing "failed to ensure (its) completed products conformed to its approved design and were in a condition for safe operation in compliance with FAA regulations,"

and stated that it was notified of additional issues with other Max 9 planes after the Alaska Airlines incident.

The FAA's investigation was prompted by an incident that involved an Alaska Airlines plane departing from Portland, Ore. for Ontario International Airport on Jan. 5. Passengers reported hearing a "loud bang" after the panel broke off the plane at around 16,000 feet altitude shortly after takeoff. The aircraft, which was carrying 174 passengers and six crew members, was able to turn around and land safely in Portland.

There were no major injuries. Aviation experts claim injuries would have been more likely had the incident occurred at a higher altitude.

"This incident should have never happened, and it cannot happen again," the FAA said.

To begin its investigation,

the FAA said that it was mandating further inspections of the fuselage panel — a plug that was meant to cover a hole where an emergency exit could be installed — of 40 Max 9 planes before it would consider returning the jets to service.

Before the announcement, the FAA had been working with Boeing to revise the company's policies for inspecting the planes.

"Boeing's manufacturing practices need to comply with the high safety standards they're legally accountable to meet," the FAA said in a statement.

Boeing contracts Spirit AeroSystems to manufacture the door plug on the Max 9s. They were the subject of a class action lawsuit last year that alleged "widespread quality failures." On Spirit AeroSystems's production line, 50 additional points will be examined in addition to the door plugs for quality checks.

Boeing said that it would also add inspections at its own factory and open their factories to airlines to conduct their own inspections of the manufacturing process.

The FAA also said that it would audit the production and suppliers of Max 9 planes and were considering having an independent entity certifying the safety of certain aspects of the model.

The administration had previously ordered the tempo-



Photo courtesy of flickr.com

Over 170 Boeing 737 Max 9 airplanes have been grounded for new safety checks by the FAA after a fuselage panel blew off a new jet mid-flight.

rary grounding of 171 Boeing 737 Max 9 aircraft with the door plug configuration for inspections, in a decision supported by Boeing. Alaska and United Airlines, which operate the majority of these planes in the U.S., said that they had discovered loose hardware on the panel when conducting inspections on their planes.

"Since we began preliminary inspections on Saturday, we have found instances that appear to relate to installation issues in the door plug — for example, bolts that needed additional tightening," United Airlines said.

A few passengers and one of their family members on the Alaska Airlines flight filed a class action lawsuit against Boeing last Thursday. The claims made was that every-

one on the plane deserves some sort of compensation. Some of the compensation would be treatment for health conditions, psychological injuries, cost of canceling of travel plans, missing work trips and lost luggage.

Mark Lindquist, the lawyer representing the passengers, said the FAA was more proactive about opening the investigation about other 737 models following other incidents.

One passenger allegedly had their head jolted back and forth, which caused a concussion, soft tissue injuries in her neck and bleeding in one of her ears.

Dave Calhoun, the CEO of Boeing, promised transparency in the company's response to the incident, and was "acknowledging our mistake."



Photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org



Disorderly shopper, exploding toilet lawsuit, the "world's ugliest lawns," Haribo mosaic & new road sign rules

BY GAVIN STEELE
Staff Writer

Shoppers were left stunned after a 42-year-old man cannonballed into a Bass Pro Shop's aquarium naked in Leeds, Ala. The man crashed his car into a pole in the store's parking lot, disrobed and spent about five minutes in the water and standing under the tank's waterfall before police intervened. He was charged with public nudity, disorderly conduct, assault on police, two counts of criminal mischief and two counts of reckless endangerment (Jan. 5).

Paul Kerouac is suing Dunkin' for \$50,000 in damages after alleging that a toilet he was using at a Florida Dunkin' location exploded in 2022. He maintains that the toilet explosion covered him with feces, urine and other debris. Kerouac claims that he suffered "severe and long-term injuries" from the explosion and required mental health care after the incident. According to the lawsuit, a Dunkin' employee told him that they were aware of a problem with the toilet (Jan. 5).



Photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org



Photo courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org

The world's largest gummy bear mosaic was created in Wisconsin. The mosaic is 353.1 square feet and was created out of Haribo Goldbear gummy bears to create the company logo. It took about 300 people four hours to build it (Jan. 11).

The Municipality of Gotland, Sweden, created a global competition to choose the "world's ugliest lawn." The contest was meant to raise awareness of water conservation efforts that could divert less water to lawns from ecosystems and keep the environment healthier. The five-judge panel selected Kathleen Murray from Tasmania, Australia as the victor, with the judges noting that her lawn was dry, cracked and sparsely filled with brown grasses (Jan. 14).

The Department of Transportation has implemented a new 1,100-page manual on uniform traffic control devices. This prevents states from having comedic and pop cultural messages on traffic signs. Signs have said, "Visiting In-Laws? Slow down, get there late" from Ohio, "Use Yah Blinkah" from Massachusetts and "Spring Breakers: Does mom approve of your driving?" from Arizona (Jan. 14).

It's More Complex Than a Cosign

A Response to: You Really Want to Cosign a Genocide?

With a whole month since the last *NewsWire* article, a little reminder might be in order for the purposes of this opinion article. In the Nov. 29 edition, an opinion piece by Grace Hamilton was published regarding the ongoing conflicts between the Israeli government and the Hamas terrorist group. In that article, Hamilton's focus revolved partially on why it's important to not forget about this as we go on with our lives — a fair statement. However, there are a few aspects that require debate.

Hamilton's article accuses regular civilians of advocating for a genocide they know far too little about, because they choose to not be involved. Hamilton's final sentence reads, "Israel is okay with genocide. And if you're silent, you are too." Now, I believe this to be a terrible moral thesis for several reasons. My

article does not wish to take a side in the matter, but rather vindicate the idea that being neutral is not akin to committing the crimes you want to stay out of.

Firstly, let's take this entire war, all of it. This is a conflict so complex, with decades of build up. Both sides have committed crimes for reasons it would take weeks to fully understand. Now ask someone to make a stance on it. Most people don't know nearly enough about the situation to have a valid opinion on the matter. Most people that aren't silent don't have a damn clue what they're talking about, undermining the opinions of those that do know. Those that do have good knowledge should absolutely discuss it, but demanding that everyone should work to have an opinion on such a complex matter or be threatened with the guilt of "cosigning a genocide" is a

moral ultimatum I wholeheartedly disagree with.

Secondly, the crimes in Israel and Gaza are horrific on both sides, but both sides are doing it, so choosing a side without absolute reason and evidence is complete arrogance. This is a complex war — wars are never 100% good versus 100% evil. They are run by people with morals, but also people with drives for vengeance, anger or glory. Wars are terrible because they make monsters out of good men, and it should be an absolute last resort for any nation that considers itself modern. The conflict here is no exception; one day Hamas will start the fight, the next day Israel will bomb Hamas, and so on and so forth until a ceasefire. The previous article offered plenty of examples of crimes Israel has committed, but Hamas has done absolutely nothing to forward the

idea of peace for a war they started, whether it be indiscriminate rocket attacks, the rape of Israelis or employing children to murder. Both sides have sinned against humanity, so how do you choose? How do you not be silent and pause to think? Why even take a side? Unless you're Joe Biden or someone who can actually make a worthwhile difference, you don't have to get involved if you don't want to, and you are not cosigning the crimes if you don't.

With all the horrors told to us daily, it's natural to want to take up arms and fight the bad guys. But I believe reality makes choices like these more nuanced. You can choose to get involved; as Americans, we are uniquely privileged with access to information, precedents and an outsider point of view. But, if you don't want to, if you would choose to live your life outside

of the chaos (let's be honest, most get enough in their own lives), you are not committing genocide. You are not murdering civilians. You are not seeking to unseat a democratic government. You are living your life without hurting others, and that is not a crime.



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1-800-GAMBLING Can Go Too Far

Winter break is always a good moment to sit back and relax. A great part of the holiday season is the massive amount of sports content. The NFL is wrapping up its season, college football has bowl season and the College Football Playoffs. College basketball has marquee matchups and there's even some exciting hockey games here and there.

It is, for all intents and purposes, a great time to be a sports fan. However, in recent years, a worrying trend has been rising and reaching a boiling point. That is, the endless tide of gambling advertising in sports and the infiltration of gambling into all aspects of life as a sports fan.

Think of the last time you watched a sporting event. Can you earnestly say that you did not see any sort of gambling content? Whether it's the line, the over under, a FanDuel commercial showing you what life could be like when that parlay finally hits or a backdoor cover that goes viral

on social media, sports in general have become less about the on field product and more about that product's ability to make money for Vegas.

The most blatant example of gambling working its way into sports has been in sports media. ESPN and Bleacher Report both post about gambling regularly, and ESPN has a sportsbook itself. You cannot escape the deluge of content. For example, Bleacher Report has the Instagram profile [@br_betting](#), solely dedicated to posting different gambling results. A quick scroll through the account shows an idealized life of the gambler. There are videos of people celebrating wins, unlikely parlays coming oh so close to hitting, respected media figures talking about gambling and hundreds of bets that people are encouraged to make. All of this is incredibly worrying, as Bleacher Report is a massive sports entertainment site, it is very very likely that children have been and will view this content.

ESPN's new sportsbook will hopefully boost their bottom line. It also seems to be overtaking the network. As I was driving around Louisville during break, I saw a billboard advertising ESPN's sportsbook. There are endless commercials as well. You have Caesars's Sportsbook, DraftKings, FanDuel and whatever new site is up next to capitalize on the new want to gamble your money.

The most worrying is Fliff, an app that allows you to use an in-app currency to gamble. You can use an endless amount of Fliff Cash and coins to keep gambling. It is not a well-regulated app. While it claims to be 17 years old and above, it is still an app without the restrictions that most established brands such as FanDuel or DraftKings have to follow. As long as your Apple account's age is past the minimum of 17, you can download the app. Age restrictions such as these work in theory but often struggle in practice.

We have allowed gam-

bling to become the focus of sporting events, and we have forgotten that not everyone watching or paying attention is even allowed to gamble. What I fear is a new generation of kids who will grow up seeing the glamour of gambling and inundating themselves in that life the moment they can. Any major sporting event draws the wonder of kids to the game. People fall in love with the sports they watch as kids. But as the focus shifts from the sport itself, we are substituting a love for the game for the love of gambling on the game. In effect, we are creating a generation of gambling addicts. Every ad mentions the 1-800 GAMBLING number at the end of their advertisement, and that is the extent of acknowledgement to the depths that an addiction to gambling can bring to you.

Gambling is here, and quickly getting legalized in many states. I am not directly opposed to this. I think the focus must now shift away from its presentation to an audience

where it is known that much of the audience is young and may not fully understand the risks of gambling.

More education about gambling addiction, and addiction in general, is likely needed. American society needs to be sure that the focus of a college football game is the game itself, not how close the over was to hitting is or whether one team covered the spread. I may not have all the answers on how to modify gambling advertisements, but I can say for sure that they need to change. At least, I bet they need to.



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Mean Girls Reboot Does the UnPINKable

Whether that be good or bad, is it enough to save the film from the Burn Book?

BY AUDREY ELWOOD AND HANNAH KREMER

Staff Writers

Get in loser, we're going reviewing.

Originally intended to be a Paramount+ original, *Mean Girls* (2024) came out earlier this month to a surprise theatrical release, and it had some big high-heeled shoes to fill. From many comparing it to the other big "pink" blockbuster of last summer, to the cultural impact the original had on so many womens' adolescences, a lot was riding on this remake.

Did it all live up to expectations? Or did it crash like a school bus into Regina? Well, it's hard to say.

Angourie Rice, who plays

the iconic role of Cady Heron, was insufferable. The Cady we knew from the original film had far more dimension than in the 2024 remake. As a character, she was flat and ultimately had a singing voice that did not live up to the talent of her co-stars. All of the charms from Lindsay Lohan's Cady Heron were wiped, and taking her place was a bland Mary Sue who drives none of the plot and delivers none of the quirky one-liners. Had we been the plastics, she wouldn't be allowed to sit at our table.

And whose idea was it to cast Christopher Briney as Aaron? Yes, that's the guy who plays Conrad in *The Summer I Turned Pretty*. As we watched him act, he seemed like an awkward fit for the

kind-hearted jock type. Next to Reneé Rapp, he might as well have been a prepubescent boy who accidentally wandered on set. All of this is to say, it leads to an incredibly boring leading romance. Thank goodness they both had calculus, because they sure didn't have chemistry together.

The questionable casting was not the only film aspect that felt cheap and plastic.

Product placement was by far the biggest issue. It could not have been more in-your-face. We watched Karen blatantly blast herself with Secret Spray-On Deodorant for at least 5 minutes. Elf Cosmetics also showed up multiple times, even in the middle of musical numbers. All of

this is to say, it was a huge distraction. Is it really necessary to mention SeatGeek as a sponsor of the Mathletes event?

However, the film isn't all a bust. Many of the supporting leads give it their absolute all, including the titular mean girl herself. She's the moment you've been waiting for. Her name is Regina George, and she is a massive deal.

Mean Girls (2024) casting Rapp as Regina George is quite literally the best casting decision they could have made. It's hard to top Rachel McAdams' iconic role, but Rapp takes a new spin on it and looks very hot doing so. Regina is less mean, yes, but this fits much closer to the Regina of the Broadway musical, which this adaptation is based on. It also helps that Rapp's Regina isn't dropping slurs like she did 20 years ago. Rapp's Regina has mastered passive aggressiveness, while still adding a humanistic element to it.

Regina isn't the only apex predator in the supporting cast, either. Janis (Auli'i Cravalho) and Damian (Jaquel Spivey) are perfectly grool and inject a healthy amount of humor into the movie, without being over-the-top.

Basing this adaptation off the musical was perfect. Since it is a remake, the vast majority of the plot is the same. And with a movie so iconic as *Mean Girls* (2004), everyone is already going to know the plot and the oh-so-quotable lines, so the songs add a lev-

el of freshness that the movie sorely needed.

The songs that were included from the stage production were done very well. Specifically, all of Rapp's and Cravalho's numbers stick out. This makes sense. After all, Cravalho is better known for her performance in Disney's *Moana*, and Rapp previously played Regina on Broadway. Half of this movie is a Reneé Rapp music video, and we are not complaining about it.

However, finding the balance between adding new songs and referencing classic moments did prove difficult. As an avid fan of the musical, who has been listening since 2018, not enough of the songs made the cut. "Stop" and "Whose House is This?" were severely missed.

A lot of the most iconic lines met the chopping block, too. Where was our weather report, Karen? Why wasn't your hair big enough to hold secrets, Gretchen? Justice for Karen and her ESPN abilities.

A lot has changed since 2004. It is not your mother's *Mean Girls*. Literally. There was a heavy emphasis on how social media played a role in the girls' self-confidence. So if you're expecting a nostalgia trip, something to feel like middle school, like baking a cake filled with rainbows and smiles, where everyone would eat and be happy... this isn't for you. But if you're looking for something that adds a completely new spin to the original while still being fresh, then this movie is so fetch!



Photos courtesy of commons.wikimedia.org

While our writers found Angourie Rice (left) to flop in her role as Cady Heron, the performances and vocals by her costars Renee Rapp (center) and Auli'i Cravalho (right) were just enough to save this reboot from disaster.

Breaking Down the Big Wins at the 2024 Emmys

BY LUCA FILIGENZI

Staff Writer

The bets are off, the speeches have been played offstage and the 2024 75th annual Emmys have been awarded. Every year, the Emmys bring a range of emotions to television fans as they react to the recipients of the awards handed out throughout the evening.

Moreover, the award show has been a chance for less-sung-about aspects of filmmaking to get their moment to shine on a national stage — production design, film editing, animation and choreography, all get to stand on the same stage and give the same length speech as multi-millionaire actors and actresses.

The shows that won the "big three" were *The Bear* ("Outstanding Comedy Series"), *Succession* ("Outstanding Drama Series") and *Beef* ("Outstanding Limited or Anthology Series") — carrying six, six and 10 total wins respectively.

Wednesday, *The Last of Us*, and *Weird: The Al Yankov-*

ic Story also received several awards at the Emmys.

The win for "Outstanding Variety Special (Live)" went to British singer Elton John for his *Elton John Live: Farewell from Dodger Stadium* livestreamed last concert.

With this win, John joined the list of entertainers who has achieved EGOT status.

There were also shows, such as *Better Call Saul*, *Stranger Things* and *Kenobi* that went home empty handed that night, prompting some television fans to deem their losses as snubs.

This year's ceremony was also filled with moments that will cement themselves in pop culture.

During the presentation for "Best Supporting Actor in a Drama Series," *The Last of Us* lead Pedro Pascal joked on how his competitor for "Best Lead Actor in a Drama Series," *Succession*'s Kieran Culkin, was the one responsible for his broken shoulder.

"(He) beat the sh*t out of me," Pascal joked.

On the red carpet, many fans caught glimpse of a green goblin, prompting many to question who attended the event in the costume.

As it turned out, the culprit was drag queen Princess Poppy, a contestant and representative from *RuPaul's Drag Race*, which won "Outstanding Reality Competition Program."

Lastly, the Emmys paid tribute to the great entertainers lost in 2023, including Alan Arkin, Cindy Williams, Bob Barker, Paul Reubens, and Matthew Perry.



Photo courtesy of flickr.com



BY KAYLA ROSS

Back Page Editor

- Dua Lipa and Seth Myers took several shots out of a Barbie Dreamhouse and got matching tattoos (Jan. 9).
- Ariana Grande faced backlash online after releasing her first single in three years, "yes, and?" The single features lyrics some fans feel are controversial after Grande's alleged relationship with Broadway star Ethan Slater (Jan. 12).
- *Grownups* and *All My Children* star Alec Musser passed away at the age of 50 (Jan. 12).



Aries: Expand your palette. Try things other than Kraft Mac and Cheese.



Taurus: Instead of live laugh love, die cry hate. Happy January.



Gemini: Dressing in real clothes makes you feel better. Give the sweat-pants a rest.



Cancer: Be like Gypsy. Defend your man. Be grateful for the little things in life.



Leo: I wish I was a nepo baby too. But alas, that is just not our reality. One day, all of the influencers will fall but we will have degrees.



Virgo: The Adidas Sambas just make me sad. I really want new Harry Styles music. Buy happier shoes.



Libra: Spinach is in these days. Popeye was strong, and you can be too.



Scorpio: It is too cold out for you to be wearing ripped skinny jeans on your walk to class. In fact, no one should be wearing skinny jeans ever these days.



Sagittarius: Whore top and jeans is out. We're wearing low-rise skirts these days.



Capricorn: MGMT has other good songs beside "Time to Pretend." Stop being a bandwagoner and listen to the whole 2007 album.



Aquarius: "Much study wears the body." -Ecclesiastes 12:12



Pisces: Delete Tinder. No good is going to come of it. It only makes you sad.

Prepare for the Insufferable

BY SPENCER DE TENLEY, MULTIMEDIA MANAGING EDITOR

A new spring semester has begun, and as a result everyone returning to campus either feels refreshed and ready or dreadful and tired. This year, the big trend of resolutions is the "Ins and Outs of 2024." What's in for 2024? Me, b*tches. What's out for 2024? America. These are my Ins and Outs of 2024 after returning to the lovely land of the Big Gulp from South Korea.

Ins:

Target. There is nothing like walking through Target without a care in the world and walking out with a cart full of random things that cost me \$233.08. My first stroll through Target after getting back reminded me that America isn't the worst, I guess. Canes. Look, I love some Korean cuisine, but I need me a slimy box combo, no slaw, extra toast and extra Canes sauce. It is like I've regrown my Canes virginity, and I am craving an intimate, sloppy Canes moment.

K-Pop. End the crunchathon! I already have the pain of watching everyone's Spotify Wrapped be filled with depressing, crunchy and monotonous music. Nothing can light up a party like some New Jeans on the aux, and I need to see it. Trust me, start with some microdosing, and soon enough you can name every NCT member.

Fruit. First of all, I need to eat healthier. Second of all, Americans are not grateful enough for fruit. In South Korea, fruit is treated as a delicacy and is extremely expensive.

Gigi Hadid's Spicy Vodka Pasta. Hot take, but she never left us. She should have never gone "out" in 2021. This dish absolutely never fails. When mother served across the Hellaware River, Gag Werkshington was speechless.

Outs:

GPA. Like tbh why isn't college just pass/fail. Besides the occasional academic validation, the only positive vibes I've received from my GPA is when it stands for Go Piss Girl but spelled wrong.

Country music. NO.

Cars. America has failed us. Our public transit systems are not sufficient in any way. Walkable communities have been proven over and over again to lead to happier lives and improved public health.



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