A tale of two tournaments

Summit League brings heartbreak, elation as one advances to NIT, one to NCAA

“When we started to make that run I thought the roof was going to come off the place.”

Macy Miller
Senior Guard

“To be blunt, it sucks, it really sucks.”

Mike Daum
Senior Forward

SEE MEN’S ON A8

SEE WOMEN’S ON A9
MARCH 11
SA MEETING IN BRIEF

Students’ Association met on March 12 in the Lewis and Clark room of the Student Union. These are the highlights:

WEB ADVISOR TO BE REPLACED BY BANNER
Vice President of Student Affairs and Adviser Michaela Willis announced that Banner, which will replace WebAdvisor, will open for summer and fall course registration on Monday, March 18. “I think you guys will find it really simple to use,” Willis told SA.

BIG EVENT
The Big Event will now be in charge of the event that shares the club namesake. This year, the club’s vision is to incorporate the residents of Brookings. “One thing we’re working on this year is helping those who could use a hand around their house,” Anna Barr, president of the SSC said.

YOUNG AMERICANS FOR LIBERTY CLUB
The club will represent libertarians on campus. “[The club] gives people a third option if they aren’t interested in College Republicans or College Democrats,” Anthony Rudich, club president said.

SA PASSES 18-02-A
The amendment will allow the removal of a student organization from general budgeting. “If student organizations don’t want to be part of the budget, this allows them to step down without having no funding for three years,” Finance Chair Jennifer Mueller said.

SA will meet at 7 p.m. March 18 in the Lewis and Clark room of the Union.

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SA SPECIAL MATINEE FOR SDSU STUDENTS

APRIL 6 | 2:30 PM
SDSU Performing Arts Center

Tickets: $15 (1 per Student ID)
Available at Info Exchange

A portion of each ticket has been generously underwritten.
Hunter and Husted strive toward transparency, outreach, progress

LAUREN FRANKEN
Managing Editor

Carter Hunter and Amanda Husted have both been at-large senators for one year, but they don’t feel their lack of time in Students’ Association will hinder their ability to serve as its president and vice president.

The pair is running on a platform based on three major pillars: transparency, outreach and progress.

Hunter and Husted aim to start live streaming meetings, tabling in the Student Union and revamping the Rabbit Report to include the SA agenda and more details about the meeting — all in an effort to be more transparent with the student body.

“We recognize the importance of the student body getting information from Senate that way we can do our jobs as representatives,” Hunter said. “Because without being able to reach out to them or get them the information they need we can’t get feedback.”

Hunter said the recent uproar with SA’s lack of communication regarding the concealed carry on campus bill “reassured” that he and Husted were running on the right principles.

“Obviously, we wouldn’t be running on it [transparency] if we thought they [SA] were doing such a great job,” Hunter said. “We’re not immune to that and it just happens because we get into a routine where we go to meetings, do our stuff and finish our jobs.”

Hunter and Husted believe regularly conversing with their constituents is an integral part of being successful representatives, which is why outreach is another major pillar of their campaign.

“I think it’s just showing students what SA is because honestly, not a lot of students on campus know what SA is other than a group of people who dress up in suits on Monday nights,” Husted said.

Husted thinks familiarizing students with SA will encourage them to vote and form connections with their representatives.

Last year, the presidential election was uncontested and less than four percent of the student body voted. In 2017, the last time SA had a competitive election, 17 percent of students cast their ballots.

The third pillar Hunter and Husted are running on is progress, and while they each have accomplished things so far in their tenure as senators, they hope to go further with new and existing programs.

Hunter and Husted want to further push accessibility and mental health compensation for students.

“One way we’ve been addressing accessibility in our campaign is talking more about and doing a little more digging into the snow removal policy on campus,” Husted said. “It’s snowing outside, and when you think about accessibility as far as physical disabilities, how can we expect students to get to class?”

They also want to further advocate for mental health days for students who suffer from mental illnesses.

Hunter and Husted said they’ve seen a lot of areas they want to improve and feel they are ready to take on a bigger role in SA.

“We love tradition at SDSU, but we also recognize the desire or the need to change or evolve with diversity and inclusivity and, you know, generating that community,” Hunter said.
Monson and Berscheit aim to empower, advance, execute

ANDREW RASMUSSEN
Reporter

Last year Allyson Monson ran for Students’ Association President with Spencer Harwood in an uncontented election. This year, Monson is the incumbent SA President running for re-election with current SA Senator representing the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, Corey Berscheit.

Monson and Berscheit are running on the platform of empowerment, advancement and execution. They are focused on creating and implementing a positive experience for students here at SDSU.

“A lot of it comes from the passions we have for students, but also the belief that we have in implementing the changes that we want to see and the belief in our leadership to do that,” Monson said.

They hope to see through the various initiatives such as transportation, extended Union hours, expanded supplemental instruction and moving the Office of Multicultural Affairs to the second floor of the Student Union. Projects that have been approved by SA through the General Activity Fee (GAF).

“Together we can empower students with knowledge, we can advance the opportunities that we have right now and we can execute the plans that we set forth,” Monson said.

Through the empowerment pillar, Monson and Berscheit hope to be more transparent by live streaming SA meetings, weekly conversational videos with SA and releasing quarterly reports on SA activity.

“We want to empower students with the knowledge it takes to be an advocate for themselves,” Monson said.

The advancement pillar seeks to provide opportunities for students on campus. They hope to add supplemental instruction, expand the Student Union hours, increase access to counseling through an online portal. They also want to grow student discounts beyond Brookings so that non-local businesses and companies offer benefits with the presentation of a student ID.

“We want to advance those student services that we offer,” Berscheit said. “Ensuring that we can have excellence for students in that capacity.”

The third pillar is to execute the programs that SA has already voted to fund. An off-campus bus route, ensuring student input in the Frost arena renovation, moving the office of multicultural affairs to the second floor and work to make all campus facilities meet accessibility standards.

“We recognize we don’t want to have these lofty goals that are way outside of having any means of obtaining them,” Monson said.

Both Monson and Berscheit tout their experience on SA and other campus organizations. Monson is an admissions ambassador, involved in the Fishback Honors College, a member of LeadState and an active FCCLA alumni. Berscheit is an admissions ambassador, involved in Little International, a member of Barnyard Cadets and intramurals.

They added their different involvement on campus brings a diverse perspective from two different sections of SDSU.

“We really don’t walk in the same shoes and we will be really good at representing different SDSU students,” Monson said.

Monson and Berscheit agreed their time as admissions ambassadors has given them a unique perspective from an administrative view into what prospective students and parents are looking for here at SDSU.

Monson and Berscheit’s campaign is rooted in their tagline “Transforming tomorrow together.” They hope to be the team to lead SDSU in the upcoming year.
Alpha Xi Delta (AXiD) isn’t your run-of-the-mill sorority. In fact, it’s not a sorority at all. AXiD is technically a women’s fraternity.

When AXiD was founded as a national organization in 1893, it was common for men’s fraternities to help start a women’s organization similar to fraternities. Many sororities are technically referred to as women’s fraternities, like Chi Omega and Ceres.

Katie Yunker, the program adviser for Greek Life at SDSU, was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi at the University of Minnesota which, like AXiD, is a women’s fraternity.

“There is no actual difference between a sorority and a women’s fraternity, the difference is purely semantic,” Yunker said. “For most people, especially those who are members of Greek organizations, it is just plain easier to call men’s groups fraternities and women’s groups sororities, even if many women’s groups are technically fraternities.”

In 1968, the AXiD Epsilon Eta chapter was founded at SDSU. The Epsilon Eta chapter is specific to SDSU while other colleges might also have an AXiD, they don’t have that specific chapter.

In the beginning of the fall semester, sororities put on primary recruitment to add more women to their chapter. This is where sororities have a chance to invite women to join their chapter.

Behind the scenes, there is a chance for women to be a part of a growing second family, a way to get involved and a way to give back to a community through fundraising events.

“It was a lot, the first night you meet a lot of people and don’t remember a lot of names but even the first night you get a pretty good feel kind of where you fit in and kind of go from there,” said sophomore animal science and pre-vet major, Lauren Larson.

Larson has been a part of AXiD since the fall of her freshman year. Her brother was in Greek life at the University of South Dakota and really pushed her to join.

“I really wanted to find a home away from home and get that initial big group of friends you could rely on all the time,” Larson said.

Like Larson, Emily Kallem, a junior music education and Spanish major and president of AXiD, decided to join a sorority her freshman year.

“I’m from southern Iowa and came not knowing anyone,” Kallem said. “I decided to go through recruitment because I thought maybe if all else fails I could make a couple friends during the recruitment process and meet some new people.”

Since Kallem plans to be a teacher, she said she liked the idea of raising money toward their philanthropy Autism Speaks. It’s not them looking for a cure and money they raised goes toward helping the families.

“We have a sole sponsorship with Autism Speaks, we are the organization nationally that contributes the most money,” Kallem said.

Some of the events that help raise money include Mac & Xi’s, Football FrenXi, Nacho Average Fiesta and the 5K that is held during Speak Week in April, which is Autism Awareness Month.

There are many other events AXiD hosts to raise money and every year Nationals sets a goal of how much money to raise.

“This year’s goal is $10,000. We are really ahead of track on making that this year which is really exciting,” Kallem said.

Since the national AXiD organization sponsored with Autism Speaks in 2009 they have raised almost eight million dollars.
“Finding something that’s bigger than yourself to work toward, like our philanthropy, it’s really rewarding knowing I’m not just going to my classes in college,” Kallem said. “I’m also raising money for something and constantly working toward a different goal rather than just graduating.”

When a part of AXiD, there are certain responsibilities a member has to uphold to be eligible and stay involved.

“To stay eligible in the sorority, everything is based on a point system. You get so many points for going to a meeting and going to sisterhoods and required events like Nacho Average Fiesta and Mac & Xi’s,” Larson said.

Along with the point system keep up with academics is equally important.

“You’re also dependent on what your GPA is every month, you have to log a certain number of points,” Larson said. “You’re held accountable for your academics which is obviously really important.”

AXiD requires that all the members join at least one other club or organization at SDSU.

“We want to make sure you have other things that you’re interested in and can do more than just be in AXiD and branch yourself out,” Kallem said.

Being a part of a sorority can also be a great networking tool.

“We’re pretty diverse, in that, we know so many people in different majors and so many people in different clubs,” Kallem said. “There are so many opportunities to kind of find other organizations and passions through us.”

The reputation of sororities and fraternities might just stem from people not knowing enough information about them Kallem said.

“I think that there is a bad reputation because some chapters and some Greek systems make bad choices … it doesn’t mean it’s a bad chapter, it doesn’t mean it’s a bad Greek system or university,” Yunker said.

Although nothing of concern, like hazing, has happened at the sororities or fraternities here at SDSU. News about those issues can affect how they are viewed as a whole and could give students the wrong impression of sororities and fraternities at SDSU.

Whether it’s just getting informed about these organizations, or thinking about joining, Kallem says that if it doesn’t work out that’s OK.

“Have an open mind about it … you can have an idea on what you think is best for you, but until you actually talk to people and really understand what each chapter is specifically about you can’t know what you truly want,” Kalem said.
Love is Blind:

Q&A with the couple

HALEY HALVORSON
Lifestyles Editor

How would you describe yourself?

Sydney: Outgoing, bold and bubbly.

Armaan: Open-minded and reserved but when you get to know me, I open up.

What do you do in your free time?

S: I don’t have much free time. I have three jobs on top of school, twirling for SDSU and practicing. I definitely say just relaxing, catching up on homework and hanging out with friends.

A: There is nothing to do here but I’m still getting used to the Midwest. I like to travel and learning new languages. I like watching YouTube videos where I can learn things, like infographic shows.

Why did you want to go on a blind date?

S: I just came out of a long-term relationship about a month ago and so it was just kind of a ‘why not’ and it’s a way to dip my toe back into the dating pool.

A: My friend gave me my number for it, so I kind of just went with it and I’ve never been on a blind date before. Just a new experience since I haven’t done it before.

What was your first impression?

S: We had quite a bit in common as we were both from California.

A: When she said she was from L.A. I was totally shocked, so that was pretty nuts.

What was your favorite quality about each other?

S: His personality, he just reminded me of home.

A: She seemed really outgoing, and said she doesn’t pick and choose her friends she’s kind of friends with everyone which shows she’s open-minded.

Would you go on a second date?

S: No, although we did have stuff in common, we did have different views. I would rather be friends.

A: I probably wouldn’t, she kind of just talked about herself and asked me like one question.

Read the full story on sdsucollegian.com.
**Leathernecks triumph over Jacks in first round of Summit League**

Andrew Holtan

Sports Reporter

The unexpected happened on March 9. South Dakota State University lost in the first round of the Summit League Tournament to Western Illinois 79-76. This was the first time in Summit League history as the No. 1 South Dakota State would fall to No. 8 the Western Illinois Leathernecks.

It was also the first time since 2015 that the Leathernecks would lose to Western Illinois, 79-76.

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With the loss, the Jackrabbits would receive the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, but will still have a playoff opportunity. Since the Jacks won the Summit League regular season, the Jacks automatically qualified for the National Invitation Tournament (NIT).

“Be blunt, it sucks,” Mike Daum said in the post-game interview. “But for us, we’re going to get a bid to the NIT, so we’re still going to play games in the postseason. We know we have games coming up, the sun’s going to come up tomorrow. It’s really no time to get down on ourselves.”

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“I’ve been great shape. We had a great rhythm and pace in the second half where we didn’t play very well. If we wouldn’t have played the second half over again we would’ve been great shape. We had great rhythm and pace in the second half,” Otzelberger said.

Despite trailing by 13 at the half, the Jackrabbits managed to claw their way back and cut the lead to single digits multiple times. But, the Leathernecks would fend off the Jackrabbits each time.

Read the full story on sdsucollegian.com

**Champs again: SDSU tops USD**

Landon Dierks

Sports Reporter

Macy Miller became the all-time leading scorer in Summit League history and led South Dakota State to its ninth title in 11 seasons with a 83-71 win over South Dakota.

If anyone thought SDSU (26-6) or South Dakota (USD) (28-6) weren’t going to go all out for the Summit League tournament title because both are virtual locks for the NCAA Tournament — think again.

Fans of both schools treated to three total overtimes across the two regular-season meetings, so the expectation was another competitive game to decide the conference champion. That was what the crowd inside the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center got — to an extent.

Led by the efforts of senior Miller and Madison Guebert, SDSU’s lockdown defense and efficient offense helped to pull away in the second and third quarters and build on for a win.

“We came here to win this game and this tournament,” SDSU junior Tagyn Larson said.

“We knew there was the possibility that if we did lose we’d still maybe get in [to the Big Dance], but we didn’t want to get in that way. We got in the right way.”

And the Jacks punched their ticket in style, though the back-to-back title run wasn’t always a smooth ride.

USD led 17-15 after the first quarter and built the lead to 32-23 following a pair of free throws from sophomore Chloe Lamb, who scored eight of her 14 points from the free throw line.

The key difference from the first two contests was USD doing most of its work without the services of junior Ciara Duffy, the team’s leading scorer. Duffy went down with a left ankle injury early on and was limited to four points on three shots in just 13 minutes of action — a far cry from her 14.1 points per game average.
Books by women for women

“Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen

“It is a truth universally acknowledged” that Jane Austen was a feminist well ahead of her time.

“Pride and Prejudice” revolves around the five unmarried Bennet sisters, namely, Elizabeth Bennet. Their mother is desperate to match her daughters with one of the two rich gentlemen that sauntered into their small village.

Her most independent daughter, Elizabeth, quickly draws the attention of Mr. Darcy, one of the aforementioned wealthy gentlemen. Unlike every other woman he encounters, Elizabeth doesn’t go weak in the knees as soon as Mr. Darcy pays her attention. Instead, she stands her fierce, female ground and makes him work a little harder than any man would have had to in the late 18th century.

Elizabeth Bennet unapologetically rejects the current society’s expectations of a woman’s role and how she should act in the company of a suitor. She refuses to be made to feel small just because society demands she conform to its idea of womanhood.

“There is a stubbornness about me that never can bear to be frightened at the will of others. My courage always rises at every attempt to intimidate me.”

“Persepolis” by Marjane Satrapi

“Persepolis” isn’t a mere novel about the trials and tribulations of womanhood in Iran; it’s instead a graphic autobiography, or graphic novel written and illustrated by Satrapi, who was a child during Iran’s political and religious time of turmoil in 1980.

Satrapi was a fiery young woman who sought to fight social inequalities under an increasingly strict regime. Because of her tendency to speak out against and reject authority, she is suspended from school. With bombs decimating neighborhoods and killing Satrapi’s friends and family members, her parents decide to ship her off to a boarding school in Vienna.

She struggles against her religion and beliefs, and eventually goes back to Iran, only to leave again years later.

She fights against sexual harassment both inside the workplace and out on the streets.

“Listen. I don't like to preach, but here's some advice. You'll meet a lot of jerks in life. If they hurt you, remember it's because they're stupid. Don't react to their cruelty. There's nothing worse than bitterness and revenge. Keep your dignity and be true to yourself.”


Nafisi wrote her memoir about the time she spent in Iran during the revolution, while the people were living under the rule of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is framed through the perspective of seven female students who meet at Nafisi’s house for a weekly book club.

The club discusses issues of imprisonment, oppression and politics in a society where women don’t experience nearly as many freedoms as Americans.

Nafisi is dismissed from her teaching position for refusing to wear a veil, an act she argues is a government attempt to silence liberal-minded professors.

At a book club meeting, she and the other young women discuss Jane Austen’s “Pride and Prejudice,” and discuss ideas of marriage, men and sex in the novel.

Nafisi inspires the young writers and literature-lovers in her book club to seek creativity, even in a culture where individualism is habitually squashed.

“None of us can avoid being contaminated by the world’s evils; it’s all a matter of what attitude you take towards them.”

“The Bell Jar” by Sylvia Plath

Plath wrote her award-winning novel under the pseudonym Victoria Lucas in 1963. The book may be old, but it’s best described as Edgar Allan Poe meets twisty feminism. It follows the narrator down a spiraling plummet into madness. Plath killed herself one month after the book was published. Despite the darkness surrounding the author herself, the book tackles issues of social inequality — especially through the frame of premarital sex and conflicting expectations of men and women. The protagonist, Esther, survives and the novel ends on a hopeful note, despite her multitude of suicide attempts throughout. Plath evokes empowerment when her narrator is most unsure of herself.

“When they asked me what I wanted to be I said I didn’t know.

‘Oh, sure you know’ the photographer said.

‘She wants,’ said Jay Cee wittily, ‘to be everything.’”

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‘Oh, sure you know’ the photographer said.

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Campus-Wide Ag Day connects SDSU to heritage, industry

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

South Dakota State University has long been known for its agricultural heritage.

On March 20, 2019, the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) will celebrate its ninth annual Campus-Wide Ag Day. This year’s theme, ‘Rooted in Agriculture,’ invites people to share what keeps them connected to the agriculture industry.

It begins with an employer panel 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19 in the Lewis and Clark Room in the Student Union. Ag Day officially begins at 10 a.m. and ends around 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 20 with CAFES clubs and organizations hosting booths about agriculture in The Union. Additional club-sponsored events will be held throughout the week.

The main event, a banquet meal followed by keynote speaker Donna Moenning, begins at 5:30 p.m. on March 20 in the Volstorff Ballroom of the Student Union. The banquet is free and open to the public.

Public interest in food and farming has never been greater.

People want to know who is producing their food and how it is being produced. Moenning, an SDSU alumna and the keynote speaker for the Campus-Wide Ag Day banquet. She will speak about how to respond to consumers in meaningful ways.

Additionally, donors help sponsor free T-shirts that are distributed for SDSU students to wear on Ag Day.

“I always look forward to Ag Day when around 2,000 people on campus are wearing the same T-shirt in support of our event and the agriculture industry,” said Krista Fuoss, president of the CAFES Prexy Council.

Ag Day is organized entirely by the CAFES Prexy Council, which is the student-led governing body of CAFES clubs and organizations.
Three things I didn’t know would happen while studying abroad

QUINCY HANZEN
Columnist

On Jan. 15, 2019 I said goodbye to my hometown of Sioux Falls and my education at SDSU and boarded a flight to a new home — 5,500 miles away at the American University of Bulgaria.

This adventure was undoubtedly intimidating considering I had never flown alone and had never been outside of the United States. Ever since I was a kid, I knew I wanted to travel and saw studying abroad as a great opportunity to do so. These are some things I’ve learned.

1. Culture shock should not be feared, but welcomed

Before I left, I did hours of research on Europe and Bulgaria; however, nothing could have prepared me for the feeling of arriving in a foreign country alone.

Looking around the airport and not being able to read the majority of signs was probably my first run in with “culture shock” and I can assure you it was not the last. However, I have begun to welcome culture shock — it sounds strange, I know. Being “shocked” by a new culture is nothing to be afraid of, it simply is your brain telling you “Wow, this is a new, different and unique place.”

Culture shock is a part of the traveling experience. Here are a few “shocking” things about Bulgaria: Bulgarians don’t use leashes when they walk their dogs, toilet paper is scented, the peanut butter isn’t as good as JIF, they dip their pizza in ketchup and mayonnaise and they have a strange obsession with corn.

2. My awareness of global events has grown more

Living in a country with very different beliefs and customs has influenced my outlook on the world. The education I have been receiving in Bulgaria goes far beyond what I ever imagined — not only inside the classroom, but outside as well.

I am enrolled in four political science classes here and, although the United States is mentioned here and there, the focus is largely on European countries. Coming from a background of knowing little about European politics, I am definitely at a disadvantage and find my classes to be more difficult than they were in the U.S.

In my first two months here, I have learned so much more about global politics than I truly believe I could have at a university back home.

Also, I have been exposed to other cultures by meeting people from around the world and visiting other places. The group of international students this semester consists of German, Dutch, Spanish, French, Belgian, Portuguese, Czech, Polish and more.

Although I am attending school in Bulgaria, I have been able to learn about so many other countries. For example, be prepared when riding in a car with a German driver because they are not used to speed limits, Polish pierogi is so good and some Europeans actually care about the Super Bowl.

3. For the first time in my life, I can say I like sushi

Although I don’t remember my first experience with sushi very vividly, I do know that I was in high school, I threw it up in a napkin and haven’t touched or looked at sushi ever since. However, I ordered sushi at a restaurant here in Bulgaria and absolutely loved it.

But this isn’t a point just about my complicated relationship with sushi.

The point is that trying something new, or giving something you previously believed yourself to dislike another try, won’t kill you (even chicken hearts which I tried once, but won’t again — for a while).

Saying “yes” while studying abroad is pretty much a requirement. I have become so much more open toward new things while being abroad and look forward to that transferring over into my daily life back home.

Sophomore English major Quincy Hanzen is currently studying abroad at the American University of Bulgaria with students from a variety of backgrounds including: Germany, Portugal, Poland, the Netherlands, France, Belgium and Spain.

According to Hanzen, her experience abroad has allowed her to meet people from around the world and visit other places. She believes that studying abroad has been beneficial for her education and personal growth.

Quincy Hanzen is a sophomore English major who is currently studying abroad in Bulgaria. She can be reached at quincy.hanzen@jacks.sdstate.edu
EDITORIAL

Issue: Student votes are low when it comes time to elect student representatives.

Last year’s Students’ Association presidential election was uncontested, and less than 4 percent of the student body voted for Allyson Monson and Spencer Harwood into office.

This year, Monson is running with Cory Berscheit; but this time the election is contested by Carter Hunter and Amanda Husted — and hopefully voter turnout numbers will reflect it.

Student apathy is in no way the senators’ fault. They reach out to constituents via the Rabbit Report, conversations, surveys and various other outreach efforts — but students simply don't care, or maybe they just don't know why voting matters.

Some students found themselves a bit more motivated to get to know their senators when they realized the General Activity Fee (GAF) was increasing and SA was controlling what allocations went where.

It seems that students only talk about SA when they’re upset or disagree with something SA has done or voted on. However, students are only angry after the fact, and like to throw around a “lack of transparency” claim, even though they were the ones who consciously clicked past weekly emails containing the information they claim SA was being ambiguous about.

We, at The Collegian, are worried that the apathy students show about SDSU’s student government elections will reflect the type of citizens they will be when voting legislatures into office in their communities.

This isn't only a problem at SDSU.

In 2016, 1,813 students voted for SDSU’s SA president and vice president. That same year at USD, only 988 students voted in its student government election.

In 2017, the last time SDSU had a contested election, 2,102 students voted, which is just over 17 percent of the total student body. At USD, 1,137 students voted for president and vice president.

This isn't normal responsible adult behavior. In the 2016 Brookings County election, more than 71 percent of registered voters cast ballots. In 2018 more than 64 percent showed up — presumably because voters realize the representatives they elect play a monumental role in passing legislation that directly impacts them.

SA decides where GAF money goes. Senators write and pass legislation that they lobby in Pierre, and those senators can't possibly talk to every single one of their constituents regarding every single resolution — which is why it’s pertinent that students know and attempt to talk with their representatives.

This editorial is our call to action. Don't simply wait until things don't go your way to actively follow Students’ Association.

Pools are open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 19 and 20 at polling booths around campus as well as online from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at saelection.sdsstate.edu.

The Collegian Editorial Board meets weekly and agrees on the issue of the editorial. The editorial represents the opinion of The Collegian.
Softball looks to extend hot streak at Creighton

COLTON PRINCE
Sports Reporter

After going 14-1 in its last 15 games, the South Dakota State softball team will hit the road to play at the Creighton Tournament in Kansas City Missouri.

It'll be a three team tournament, with the Creighton Bluejays and the University of Missouri–Kansas City Kangaroos. The Jackrabbits will face both the Bluejays and the Roos twice within two days.

Creighton

The Bluejays currently sit just below the .500 mark with a 6-7 record, and are coming off of a 2-1 win over the Southern Illinois Salukis, Feb. 24.

Before that, the Bluejays dropped two straight wins to both Southern Illinois and Evansville.

“They have three good pitchers ... Their pitching staff is pretty solid in that category,” head coach Krista Wood said.

“We are going to have be prepared for all three of their pitchers,”

Offensively, the Bluejays don't have much power in their lineup and have combined for three home runs in 319 plate appearances.

As a team, the Bluejays are hitting .266, while holding opponents to a batting average of .251.

“As for offense, looking at their hitters, I mean there isn’t really anybody that stands out with a lot of power,” Wood said. “To me, it looks like they are a base hitting team.”

For the Jackrabbits to find success, the plan is simple: limit their strengths.

“I think the biggest thing for us to beat them is to get something going on offense, and then pitch and play defense to hold the score down.

[Read the full story on sdsucollegian.com.]

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Pohlmeyer qualifies for NCAA National Championships

One. That’s how many qualifiers the South Dakota State wrestling team managed to send to the NCAA National Championships this year.

Just one year ago, the Jackrabbits sent six automatic qualifiers and an at-large bid. A year after sending seven wrestlers to the NCAA National Championships, South Dakota State will send one: Henry Pohlmeyer.

Pohlmeyer, a junior from Johnston, Iowa, earned a fifth-place finish in the Big 12 Championships after Khristian Olivas was unable to continue due to an injury in the match.

Zac Carlson didn’t place at the Big 12 Championships but was thought to be up for consideration at the 184-lbs class. Despite the consideration, Carlson wasn’t selected. The lone 197-lbs wrestler to make the NCAA Tournament was Jacob Seely of Northern Colorado.

Carlson was ranked No. 22 in the latest NCAA Division I Ratings Percentage Index (RPI).

Pohlmeyer and Carlson were the lone two Jackrabbits in the RPI Top 25 rankings.

As a team, the Jackrabbits finished 10th in the Big 12 Tournament, finishing ahead of Air Force and Northern Colorado. Only Pohlmeyer advanced to the second day of the tournament.

As a team, Jackrabbits wrestlers went 6-18 at the Big 12 Championships.

The NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships will take place from March 21-23 at the PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh.
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Gross enters transfer portal

TRENTON ABREGO
Sports Editor

One year after winning the school's first NCAA Division I National Championship in wrestling, Seth Gross has entered the transfer portal.

The transfer portal serves as a pipeline for both athletes and prospective transfers. Athletes can enter their names into a database and wait for a school to call and offer them a new destination to call home.

Gross, who sat out the entire 2018-19 season with a medical redshirt, is now able to talk to different schools about the possibility of transferring, which he was unable to do outside of the transfer portal.

However, South Dakota State's wrestling staff can bar him from transferring to any school.

Another question remains for Gross: will he have another year of eligibility? Gross will be looking to get his sixth-year of eligibility in order to compete during 2019-2020 season.

If he isn't granted a sixth-year of eligibility, Seth Gross's career won't necessarily be over.

Gross mentioned his desire to become an “Olympic and world champion,” in his Twitter video when he announced he wouldn't be able to compete in the 2018-19 season.

Despite entering the transfer portal, Gross doesn't necessarily have to transfer.

In the year without the reigning 133-lbs National Champion, the Jackrabbits hobbled to a 3-10 record.

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15 Johnson - McKinney Quintet
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