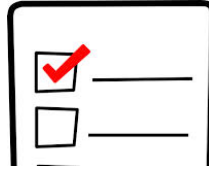




What you need to know about the recent legalization of marijuana in Colorado. Pg. 4



KCHS students respond to the question "What three things do you want to do before you leave high school. Pg. 7

## [SENIOR STRUGGLES]



As the senior class's high school career rounds its last corner, they are busy, busy, busy. Many seniors have jobs and/or play a sport(s), while also balancing schoolwork on top of it all. If this wasn't enough already, they are now responsible for many more things as they plan for the next stage of their lives.

One of the first orders of business a senior has is to get their senior pictures taken and ordered in the first semester. Once this is done, they are in charge of getting their pictures to the right teacher by the deadline date. For the senior video, childhood pictures and a senior picture are to be taken to Mrs. McKinney, a senior picture and a childhood picture along with a parent's note for the yearbook, if wanted, need to be turned into Mrs. Stevens along with a senior picture to be put in the class panel downstairs. Even though that doesn't sound too difficult, on top of everything else going on in a senior's life, it is hard to find the time to get it all done and remember the deadlines apart from the deadlines that they have for everything else going on in their lives, such

as taking the ACT.

Studying and taking the ACT, American College Testing, is a huge step for seniors. Although they may have taken the test their junior year or before, many are striving for higher scores to get better scholarships for college. The higher the ACT score, the more money could be awarded and the less that a student has to pay for college. Along with worrying about scholarships, seniors are busy weighing the pros and cons of which college they want to go to or if they want to go to college at all.

Once deciding that they want to go to college, students tend to struggle with where they want to study. Choosing a college may seem like an easy task, but when it comes time to make the decision many don't know what they want to do. Some are waiting to see if they will be scouted for a sports team somewhere, while others are weighing in the cost of their dream college and realizing they may not get to go there and they have to find somewhere else. Once a college is chosen, students stress about choosing what major they want to declare. Because it is very common for majors to change in a student's college career, some opt to wait until after their first year of college to decide what they really want to do. Others already have their majors planned out and are one step ahead of the rest of the gang. Once knowing that they want to go to college and where to go, they are next faced with the task of affording the education.

## CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



# [1ST SEMESTER HONOR ROLL]

## Superintendent's Honor Roll:

Seniors - Katelynn Gamble, Riann Heft, Lillian Hinshaw, Dena Liggett, Heather Melton, Corbin VandenHoek

Juniors - Samantha Gwin, Micah Kendall, Miranda Kimble, Jessie Williams

Sophomores - McKenzie Heft, Tatum McKinney, Kaitlin Ross, Natalie Stewart, Aubrey VandenHoek

Freshmen - Nicole Ballard, Mackenzie Kendall

## Principal's Honor Roll:

Seniors - Lexi Behee, Trever Powell, Heidee Prosser, Mackenzie Rose, Charity Schmidt

Juniors - Hannah Brown, Madison Cannon, Garrett Kaltenbach, Chelsye Racette, Denisse Ramos, LaTosha Tuttle, Jasmine Williams

Sophomores - Landon Davis, Kelsi Francis, Marissa Kendall, Shayna Lingafelter, Jansen Miller, Alissa Morford, Benjamin Spainhour, Morgen Ulrich

Freshmen - Madison Brensing, Jenner Little, Kylee Morford, Morgan Powell, Tierra West, Janessa Zenger

## Honorable Mention:

Seniors - John Colclazier, Sierra Ralstin, Patricia Torres,

Juniors - Xander Brensing, Elias Lopez

Sophomores - Melanie Brown, Brylee Conrad, Aaron Heft, Dylan Jacks

Freshmen - Joshua Cannon, Frank Cuevas, Stephanie Gwin, James Little



**KEEP UP THE  
GOOD WORK!**





# [THE SCOREBOARD]

## [LADY MAVS]

By Jansen Miller

After practicing for only a short time during break, the Lady Mavericks got back into the routine on Tuesday, Jan. 7, the first day back from break. The first two match ups for the Mavs were against the Fairfield Falcons and the Minneola Wildcats. Both games the ladies performed well, overpowering their opponents by more than 20 points in each outing. Senior Heather Melton put up 23 points in the routing against the Wildcats.

Following the game on Friday, the Mavs faced the Central Plains Oilers. Knowing it would be a tough match up, but nothing they thought they couldn't handle, the Lady Mavs stuck with the Oilers throughout the game, but were unable to overcome the first half deficit, losing the game 39-49.

The next match up for the Lady Mavericks was with the Kinsley Coyotes; the ladies didn't overlook the coyotes and were able to come away with a win of 35-28. With seven of the nine players scoring, each player on the team contributing what was needed to come out with a win.

The last game before the league tournament was against the Ingalls Bulldogs, the Bulldogs were a tough competitor for the Mavs, but the Mavs came to play and won with a score of 49-40. Senior Katelynn Gamble, leading scorer for the Mavs, ended the night with a total of 22 points. Going into league tournament play, the ladies are seeded second. One of the many goals they have had as a team for many years is to hang a league championship banner in the gym. As well as the ladies have played this year, this could be the year.



**Left:** Senior Katelynn Gamble dribbles the ball down the court trying to break away from the incoming trap at half court against the Oilers. *Photo by John C.*

**Right:** Sophomore Kelsi Francis steals the ball and starts down the floor going for the wide open layup. *Photo by Jansen M.*

### LADIES Varsity

Fairfield W 52-26  
Minneola W 67-41  
Central Plains L 39-49  
Kinsley W 35-28  
Ingalls W 40-49

### Junior Varsity

Fairfield W 35-24  
Minneola W 41-18  
Central Plains L 16-3

### JV Tournament

Pawnee Heights W 34-23  
Minneola W 32-29

### MEN Varsity

Fairfield-L-45-55  
Minneola-L-40-49  
Central Plains-L-15-67  
Kinsley-L-42-45  
Ingalls-W-46-42

### Junior Varsity

Fairfield-L-36-39  
Minneola-W-59-33  
Central Plains-L-41-42

### JV Tournament

Ashland-W-58-15  
Minneola-W-59-26

## [MANLY MAVS]

By Payton Miller

Starting off the second semester the Kiowa County boys' basketball team has certainly been working more as a team than ever before. The team has shown their true colors by working hard, respecting others and learning from their mistakes. Even if the team has lost a few games you can tell that it has not fazed them as they continue to work hard against each team that they play.

The team headed into a tough league tournament this year with a few challenging teams in their way. Winning the play in game on Saturday, the Mavs then faced the number one seeded Fowler Goldbugs. The Mavericks stayed with the Goldbugs in the first half down only six, but were unable to pull off the win, sending them to into the consolation match against South Central on Friday. Not able to get on track the Mavericks were unable to defeat the Timberwolves and ended the tournament with a record of 1-2.

**Left:** Senior John Terhune shoots over an Ingalls defender. Terhune led the team with 11 points against the Bulldogs. *Photo by Marissa K.*

**Right:** Senior Micheal Tedder drives in for a layup through the Bulldog defense. Tedder had a total of five steals against the Bulldogs. *Photo by Marissa K.*



# [UP IN SMOKE]

By Corbin VandenHoek

As many of you have probably heard, the legalization of the recreational use of marijuana came into effect Jan. 1 in our neighbor state, Colorado. The 21-and-over legal age to purchase the substance is new to our country and Colorado is the first to allow the use recreationally. 20 states and Washington D.C. allow the use of marijuana for medical reasons, but Colorado has taken a big step in the legalization of it. The state of Washington is projected as the next state to legalize the recreational use of the substance, with many saying it is to happen in the next few months. They have passed the law, it has just not come into effect yet. On Wednesday, Jan. 15, New Hampshire announced that they will also partake in the legalization of marijuana for recreational use. I believe this is a big issue among our generation, so I did some research for you all, knowing it would spark conversation and cause everybody to talk and hopefully think. To begin, I laid out a few of the basic laws, to just give a bit of insight on the matter.

Adults 21 and older can now grow up to three immature and three mature cannabis plants privately in their own space. They can legally possess all the cannabis from those plants (as long as it stays where it was grown) and they can legally possess up to one ounce of cannabis while traveling. Consumption is permitted similar to alcohol, with the same offenses as driving drunk. Smoking is prohibited in public places, with airports even putting in marijuana smoke rooms.

Personally I don't think that this is a bad thing and that the other states of our country should join in! Many of you I know are saying, "What, how can this be good?" or "Corbin, you really think that?"; although many of you may also agree. Nevertheless before you all go trash talking or bashing me, or even don't continue to read my article, please... let me explain.

Marijuana, also known as weed, pot, cannabis or even Mary Jane, has never been reported as the direct cause of death to any human. This means that plain, old, regular marijuana itself has never killed anybody. Deaths linked to marijuana have been linked to what the smoker chooses to do while high. For example: Driving, or using a motorized vehicle. Other deaths that have been linked came from marijuana that has been tampered with. For example: Marijuana coated in LSD. Smoking of the plant itself has never reported as a cause of death. According to one study, any given person would have to smoke over 20,000 joints to die. Another source says 500 pounds in one hour. Between the years of 1997 and 2005 the FDA recorded only 279 deaths from direct and indirect use of marijuana. Of these deaths only 187 of these were from direct use, direct use would refer to the smoker of marijuana, while indirect would refer to a non-smoker, who was potentially affected by the choice of the smoker. A study published in the American Journal of Epidemiology found that rates of obesity are lower by roughly a third in people who smoke pot at least three times a week, compared with those who don't use marijuana at all.

Alcohol on the other hand has led to approximately 2.5 million deaths every year, worldwide. It has led to 800,000 deaths in just the United States alone. 88,000 of these deaths were just from the consumption of the alcohol alone, with no other factors present. For example: binge drinking or alcohol poisoning and overdose. Alcohol is the third leading lifestyle-cause of death in the United States, and has the same effects on the mind of the consumer as marijuana.

The University of Colorado, University of Oregon and Montana State University researchers have said: "it's just safer to drive under the influence of marijuana than it is drunk....Drunk drivers take more risk, they tend to go faster. They don't realize how impaired they are. People who are under the influence of marijuana drive slower, they don't take as many risks".

These are just some of the facts I found through my research and I'm telling you to hopefully get you thinking about your stance on the matter. For many of us, this will become a big part of our future and will affect our generation hugely. In a recent CNN/ORC International survey, 55 percent of Americans voted that recreational use of marijuana should be legalized, with almost half of them saying they have tried it themselves.

Now if you are still reading, you are probably wondering where I'm going with this and how on earth it could be good. I just want to say one word: money. If we're going to allow alcohol to be sold, then why not allow marijuana to be sold? Alcohol has more negative effects on the health of the consumer's body, but has the same effects on the mind as marijuana. Yes, they both interfere with the choices and decisions made by the consumer, but alcohol is legal for recreational use in all 50 states, while marijuana is not.

Marijuana.com has found that the legal limit in Colorado (one eighth of an ounce) has been sold for up to 70 dollars and goes for an average of somewhere between 64 and 65 dollars. Current taxes on marijuana rose from 15 percent to 25 percent. Get this: If every eighth of an ounce of marijuana was sold for approximately 70 dollars, each ounce would roughly be sold for 560 dollars, making one pound of weed worth an estimated 8,960 dollars. With a 25 percent tax rate, the government would be making roughly 2,240 dollars for every pound sold. A pound may not sound like a lot, but divided amongst the people at an eighth of an ounce each, a pound is sold to 128 people. With lines wrapping around buildings and people driving from as far as Georgia all the way to Colorado just to purchase the plant, I have no doubt that you could find 128 people to sell the plant to.

In 2012 somewhere around 313.9 million people lived in the United States and now that number has reached over 315 million, give or take a couple hundred thousand. Using the prices and tax rates I listed above, if even just one eighth of the population, roughly 78 million people, in the United States were to purchase weed, the government could make an estimated 1.38 billion dollars in one day. ONE DAY! That is of course if all one eighth of the people, were to all make purchases in that one day. That's a bit extreme I know, but very possible, if it were legal in all 50 of the states. Colorado alone has a population of 5.5 million and marijuana sales are expected to generate nearly 70 million dollars in tax revenue in 2014. In just Colorado alone! The state projects nearly 600 million dollars in retail and wholesale marijuana sales annually. On the first day, Colorado marijuana sales surpassed one million dollars.

In five days, they made over five million dollars. The [thedenverchannel.com](http://thedenverchannel.com) has a news article written by Russell Haythorn that states, "Because of ambitious entrepreneurs and demand, some experts are forecasting 2.3 billion dollars in legal U.S. sales of marijuana this year, and 10 billion dollars by the year 2019."

Senior John Colclazier states, "First off, the 25 percent tax, that's insane. Second off, if it's legalized we can stop worrying so much about people smuggling it and we can cut down on the border control. Not to mention its medical uses. If 20 states believe that it can help you, then there's obviously something to it."

President Barack Obama also has an interesting stance on the matter. "As has been well document, I smoked pot as a kid, and I view it as a bad habit and vice, not very different from the cigarettes that I smoked as a young person up through a big chunk of my adult life. I don't think it is more dangerous than alcohol," Obama told New Yorker Editor David Remnick. The president is quoted to also say pot was actually less dangerous than alcohol "in terms of its impact on the individual consumer."

Some of you may still be thinking, "What the heck is he thinking?" but I'm here to say: The smoking of marijuana is going to happen. Legal or not, it's still going to happen. So if it's happening, then why are we not taking advantage of that, making marijuana legal, putting crazy taxes on it and making money off of its sales?! Plus, the benefits far outweigh any downsides to the drug. It helps many people fall asleep, relax, focus on studying and even become more creative in their work, not to mention the medical benefits. If you want to learn more, another great article can be found on <https://familycouncil.org/?p=6506>. In no way am I telling any of you that you need to start smoking weed, just giving you all something to think about. We're all entitled to our opinion and I'm simply stating mine.

## [SCHOLARS BOWL]

By Corbin VandenHoek

On Jan. 8, the Scholars Bowl team went to Bucklin to participate in their first meet back after break. Both the varsity and junior varsity teams ended the day with a record of three wins and three losses. Neither team placed.

On Jan 15 the team traveled to Rozel where they took part in the League meet. The junior varsity ended the day with a record of 4-6, not placing. The varsity team on the other hand had a better day, placing third and finished with a record of 7-3. This was the first time the team placed all season. For the varsity meet, the team consisted of seniors Lillian Hinshaw, John Colclazier, Corbin Vanden-Hoek and juniors Denisse Ramos and Cole Kendall. Colclazier made All League while Kendall made All League Team Honorable Mention .

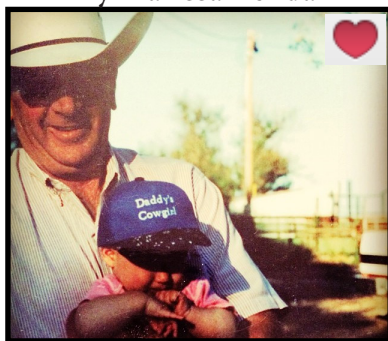
## [SOCIAL SCENE]

By Marissa Kendall



19 likes

hnbrown11 breakfast for lunch! #myfavorite



69 likes

ri\_22 so unreal that he's not here anymore. i always looked forward to that "hey sugar" and those big bear hugs. i still don't understand how someone as amazing as him could be taken from us, but i know he's looking down on me every day. i love and miss you so much, grandpa. you will forever be my guardian angel. 💙



39 likes

tierrawest99 love these people so much 🤔🤔🤔



Senior Trevor Powell signs his letter of intent with Fort Hays State University to play football as a tiger in the upcoming 2014 - 2015 season. Powell had an outstanding career as a Maverick, earning many post-season honors. *Photo by Kayleen S.*



# [FORENSICS]

By Miranda Kimble



Sophomore, and Forensics newbie, Marissa Kendall preforms her piece to a wall, a common occurrence in the class. *Photo by Miranda K.*

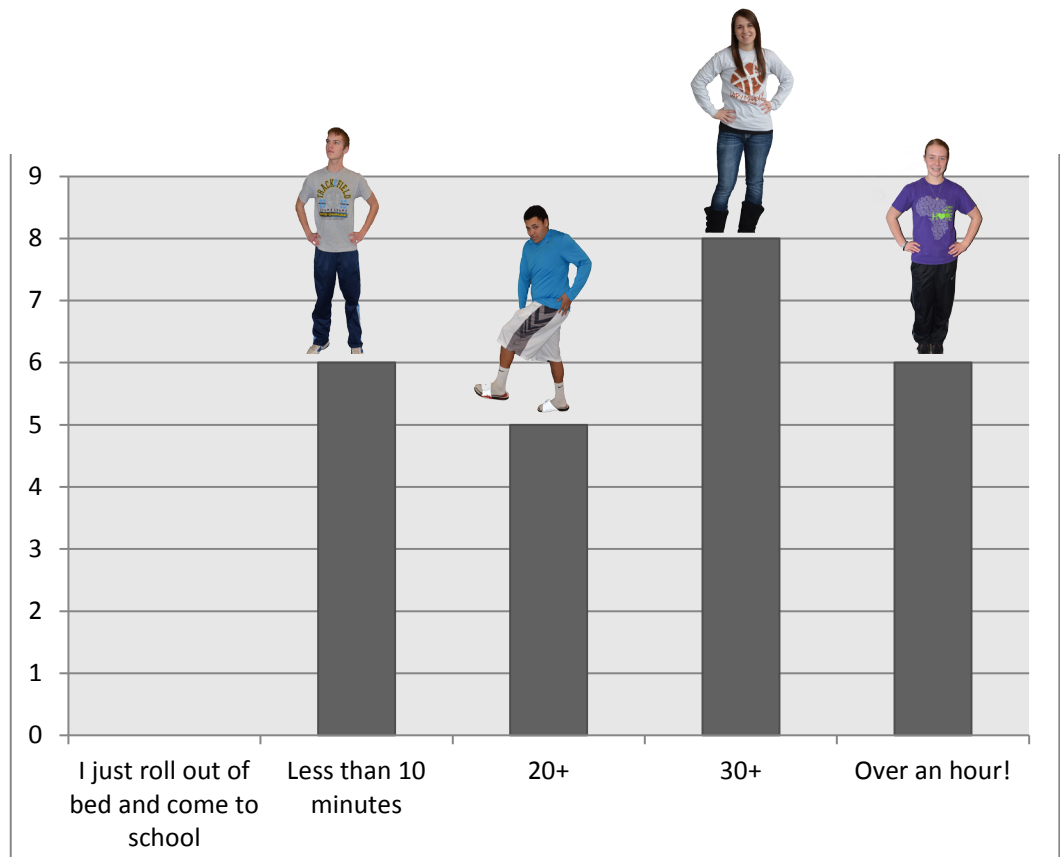
Forensics season 2014 is underway! This year there is a total of 23 students out for forensics this year, 9 of those being new members. "I am extremely excited about the upcoming forensics season! The experienced students have chosen excellent pieces for their first events, and the novices are off to a great start, as well, even though they won't really know what's going on until they attend our first meet at Sterling as observers. I expect us to have an awesome season and to qualify many individual performances and at least one play for State in May." said Coach Kim McMurry in regards to the upcoming season. The team will compete in their first meet on Feb. 1st in Sterling.

**[“If you are lucky enough to find a way of life you love, you have to find the courage to live it.”  
- John Irving]**

# [MONTHLY POLL]

By Jansen Miller

This month, high school students were asked the question “How long does it take you to get ready in the morning?” The top choice was 30 plus minutes. I guess everyone puts a little effort into their appearance considering no one chose the “just roll out of bed” option.



# [ SENIOR STRUGGLES CONT. ]

By Heidee Prosser

Because of the huge cost of college, parents and teachers urge students to take scholarships seriously and apply for as many as possible. In the process of preparing for college, scholarships are the best thing for students, yet they can feel like the worst. At the beginning of every month, high school counselor Melanie Deterding sends an email out with a list of all the available scholarships that month and how to apply. It is highly important that students take the time to apply because if they are awarded the scholarship, it is basically free money, and who doesn't want that? Filling them out and getting everything prepared for the application can be quite a meticulous task, though. Students often have to get two to three references, write an essay or two, provide a resume and sometimes even include a list of all their community service hours and have it all completed by the deadline. If a student only had to do this once or twice, it would be more appealing. Throughout the year though, students will go through the application process over a dozen times and it tends to become overwhelming.

Senior Mackenzie Rose describes her stresses from this year: "Well, I am busy with getting enough hours of sleep every night as well as keeping sickness away. I am completely busy with filling out scholarships, figuring out where I want to go to college and what my major is going to be, having practice every single day through the three seasons, keeping up with my grades, making sure my homework is done every night and participating in two college classes throughout the day. I don't only have school situations to worry about; I have work every Sunday night, sometimes after playing in a tournament all day the day before and doing my chores throughout the weekend. I guess that leaves time for no social life, and if I have a social life, I'm giving up my sleep time. Therefore, senior year is extremely stressful."

As the date of graduation creeps closer, seniors begin to feel the stress of everything going on in their lives including schoolwork, sports, jobs, the ACT, scholarships and the many decisions that they will soon have to make. Despite this, the diploma will make everything worth it and many are eager for what will come next after walking across the stage.

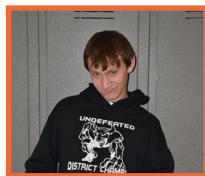
## [ INTERVIEW ]

By Marissa Kendall

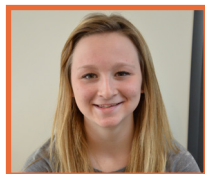
**What are three things that you want to do before you graduate from high school?**



- Convince Hannah to change her hair back to brown
  - Bring my dog to school for show-and-tell
  - Complete Spanish II
- *LaTosha T., jr.*



- I want to start Varsity in basketball
  - Win State in football
  - Be as good as Michael Tedder in Football
- *Sammy, C., so.*



- Go to state in volleyball
  - Go through a whole art class period without Ms. Richard catching me with gum
  - Ace a Physical Science test
- *Alli H., fr.*

## [ SENIOR LAST WORDS ]

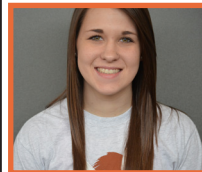
By Corbin VandenHoek



"It goes by fast so enjoy it."  
- *John Turhune*



"Keep good grades and party hard. Just kidding, keep good grades and stay in school!" - *Sierra Ralstin*



"Have fun, do your work, and don't procrastinate." - *Mackenzie Rose*



"I would tell them to not procrastinate too much, and just have fun!"  
- *Charity Schmidt*

## [ DID YOU KNOW? ]

In 1849, David Atchison became President of the United States for just one day. He spent most of the day sleeping. ]

# [CAMERA ROLL]



Photo by Heidee P.



Photo by Marissa K.



Photo by Miranda K.



Photo by John C.



Photo by Marissa K.



Photo by Marissa K.

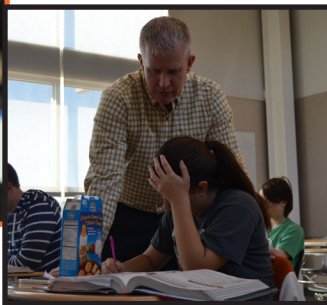


Photo by John C.



Photo by Marissa K.

## [TWEETS OF THE WEEKS]

By Heidee Prosser

@Corbmiesters @Cole\_Kendall33 @lillianhinshaw I can't believe that we got 3rd at League Scholars Bowl. #scholarsbowlsag #redbull  
- John Colclazier, sr. (@JColclazier)

we have three grades in the grade book and we are already having a test, to say the least im stressed to the max.

- Jansen Miller, so. (@jansenmiller11)

Games like this make me miss those pads and that field. Can't wait to gear up next year.

- Erik Torres, so. (@BIG\_EdiddyT)

## [VIDEO OF THE MONTH]

By John Colclazier



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