



THIRD SEMESTER

by Madelyn Augustine

The two-week Winter Break was over in a blink of an eye and before we knew it we were trading our **SNOW BOOTS** and **SLEDS** for **PENCILS** and **SCANTRONS**. The hallways are filled with chatter as friends meet up and compare their third semester schedules and share every little detail about their trips to the snowy mountains of Colorado or tropical beaches of exotic places.

Just as we were getting used to our new classes and back on a school routine, talk of a Snow Day consumes every conversation and all of our Twitter feeds. The suspense builds as everyone waits for one of Superintendent **DR. JIM SUTFIN'S** infamous **SNOW DAY** or **GO DAY** tweets. In a legendary mic drop video, Sutfin gives the students and staff just what we asked for: a snow day.

Boys in every grade spent their snow day glued to their PS4 or Xbox controllers playing the most popular game of the year, **FORTNITE**. Others chose to spend the day relaxing at home and a few took advantage of the fresh snow and went **SLEDDING** down Black Elk's notorious hill.

On a day meant for showing **LOVE**, February 14, the country was devastated by the news of a **HORRIFIC** school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Claiming 17 lives, the tragedy inspired students across the country to join forces to fight for the **SAFETY OF STUDENTS**.

Several **WILDCATS** took part in the nationwide walkout on March 14 that made both local and national news. The students **PEACEFULLY** stood outside of school holding posters that demanded something be done to help make students safer while at school.

With the end of the semester nearing **JUNIOR CLASS BOARD** members start to create the decorations for this year's **PROM**. They also send out the formal invitations to every senior. Prom planning started to become the topic of discussion at several lunch tables as friend groups try to make plans for the special night.

After a week filled with last-minute projects, midterms and finals, students get to relax on the last Friday of the semester and cheer on our **UNIFIED BASKETBALL** team as they take on our **Q STREET RIVAL**, Millard South. A **PACKED GYM** full of fans cheered on the team in green to a **VICTORY**.

NINE WEEKS filled with obstacles that tested us, changed us and helped us were coming to an **END** and all we could think about was our **SPRING BREAK** plans.

DIGGING IN Examining a frog, junior **ASHLEY VILLARREAL** points out specific points on the frog's head before starting her dissection. Students in Zoology class spend the semester learning about different types of animals and then dissecting them. "At first I didn't want to do the frog dissection because I thought it was going to be gross," Villarreal said. "It ended up being my favorite dissection. It was cool to see inside it."



TAKE A STAND Bearing the cold, senior **RYAN HOWARD** holds up a poster during a walkout. Students nationwide walked out of school March 14 to protest gun laws. "I thought it was important to show support to the victims of the Florida shooting," Howard said. "It's so personal because it's happening to kids our age and something needs to change."

TECHNIQUE IS KEY Zoning in on her project, sophomore **CARLEIGH SHIPLEY** adds final details to her oval container. Shipley had to create an oval container with any theme that she wanted for her Advanced Pottery class. "My container was Fortnite themed," Shipley said. "I took Pottery because I wanted to try something different than a normal class."

WILDCAT POWER Racing up the court, junior **KAREEM FERGUSON** dribbles the ball on a break away. The second annual Unified Basketball game resulted in a home court victory for the Wildcats. "I was a little nervous to play in front of the crowd," Ferguson said. "My favorite part was playing with everyone and cheering on all the other players."