

MAY 17, 2019 Issue 11 Volume 80



#### THE WILDCAT EXPERIENCE

E. Voigt

After almost four strenuous years of high school, Greeley Central students are about to leave the Castle that they currently call home. Central is home to a diverse group of students who have had different Wildcat experiences that shaped them all the way to senior year. From athletes to thespians to the academically focused students, we can all agree going to Greeley Central is something truly special.

As seniors are about to leave for college, we look back at how our high school experience was. Senior Aubree Raimer said, "It changed me for the better. I think the variety of different people and the diversity opened my eyes in a good way." Senior Rhiannen Thero said, "GCHS provided everything and more with what I've wanted and dreamed of from a high school." Greeley Central is a school that helps students grow and figure out who they truly are. This school puts the effort into helping us succeed. When talking about her experience, Kayla Brower said, "I definitely discovered my confidence through getting the opportunity to create so much art here and getting to better myself at the thing I love most. I found my voice in the arts magnet program and I'm really thankful for all the opportunities the arts teachers gave me to shine in the program. They have prepared me for the next steps of achieving my dreams!"

Going to one school for four years brings many memorable moments and experiences. Valedictorian Gavan Blackburn said, "I really enjoyed the friendships that I made and the after school activities I participated in." Brittney Monroy, who is graduating early, said, "I would say my favorite moment was cheerleading. It was a gateway for me to be the person I am today." Through all the good memories, we're going to miss so much from Central as we further our lives. Teachers, friends, and activities will always be cherished and missed. Senior Esmeralda Olmos said, "I'm going to miss seeing teachers and friends everyday and I'm going to miss the moments where we all came together." Mazlyn Freir had a similar answer. "I'm going to miss seeing my friends and family everyday! They all play a huge role in my life but I'm going to college across the state so I won't get to see them as much next year."

As we think about our experience, we consider if we would've done anything differently as high school comes to an end. Some wouldn't change a thing about their experience. Monroy said, "I wouldn't change anything about my experience because we need to learn things and our choices shape us for the better. Brower said, "I wouldn't change anything because I know who I am and who I am becoming is because of everything that has ever happened to me and I know it's going to end up beautiful." Others wished to get a little more involved at GCHS. Raimer said, "Probably just step out of comfort zone more than I did." Blackburn said, "I would join more clubs."

One more week until Greeley Central is just a memory for seniors. The castle has provided so much for us to find ourselves and be happy with who we are. This school is full of diverse students who put blood, sweat, and tears just to finally walk across the stage and step into the world. I feel confident that I can speak for all seniors and say that Greeley Central will strongly be missed and we are thankful for all the opportunities it gave us.

MAY 17, 2019 Student Life

#### WILDCATS COMMIT TO PLAYING AT THE NEXT LEVEL

E. Matier

This year's senior class has been a powerhouse for Greeley Central athletes. Naomi Hidalgo broke the all-time scoring record at Central, Aubree Raimer broke a 30 year shot put record, and Andrew Alirez finished the year as the #1 ranked high school wrestler in the country. As a school, it will be a shame to watch these athletes leave; however, I know that these athletes will exceed at each of their respective colleges.

Both Naomi Hidalgo and Hattie Sheets have committed to play basketball at the collegiate level. Naomi will be playing at South Dakota School of Mines and Hattie will be at Hasting College. Caesar Loma will be playing baseball at Otero Junior College. Andrew Alirez will be attending University of Northern Colorado to continue his wrestling career. Simon Kelati will be attending Western State University for both Track and Cross Country. Finally, Aubree Raimer will be attending Colorado State University for throws on track and field. From all of us at Greeley Central we wish our athletes their best in the future.

#### PROS AND CONS OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE

B. Molina

When choosing what college to attend after high school many students take cost into consideration. Community colleges are (as many know) much much cheaper than attending a standard University. Aims for example has an instate tuition roughly \$6,000 cheaper than that of University of Northern Colorado . This does however come at a different cost. Going to a university has its benefits. The overwhelming majority of universities with on campus housing is quite high. Also, attending a large college does mean more funding for the institution meaning there are usually more services available. On the contrary, many people feel overwhelmed by a large population of students and would prefer a smaller, more personal educational setting. Aims (like many other community colleges) offers a smaller, closer to home setting while still having an impressive amount of services. Regardless of what you choose, community colleges shouldn't be completely discredited from you list of options, and are a completely realistic option for those on a budget.

## **ADVICE TO MY YOUNGER SELF**

B. Monroy

Every year, people learn new things about themselves that they never know what to do with because advice was never given to us. Advice I would give to my younger self is:

Antonio you don't know it yet but you're gonna be a person no one will ever forget. You are going to go through hardships with being accepted and loved. You will feel all alone and maybe even like the whole world is against you. You are going to be bullied; disrespected, made fun of, but none of that matters, you know who your are and what you are made of. One day you realize you are not the same person you were in 6th grade and that you are more than that. You "realize" that you're not Antonio, but Brittney. It starts to come to you that you are different from a many other kids. You find a passion for cheerleading and are to scared to try out. You find the braveness deep down in the bottom of your heart to try out. A teacher, Mrs. Holmen, encourages you and pushes you to try out. An amazing woman, Coach Lisa McGee, believed in you and accepted you on to the team. You're going to be scared and nervous but it's okay; the team will love you for you being you. Don't worry about the people who don't accept you; they mean nothing to you. Worry about the the ones who love and support you. Cheerleading is going to be a gateway for you to get to know who you are and to be your true authentic self. You're going to start finding confidence and sassiness in yourself that you never thought you would have. You are going to be memorable and definitely a person of to remember. Always remember to cat walk with your head held up, your hand on your hip, your hair done, makeup snatched, and your face on fierce mode. You are and will always be, loved. Much love, Older you.

## CONGRATULATIONS

## Senior Scholarship Recipients

Anna Rutledge: Judd K. Fulton Memorial Scholarship

JC Pride Class and Dignity Scholarship

Alfredo Ochoa Hernandez:

Mildred S. Hansen Scholarship

Stampede Scholarship

The Josh Jarman Memorial Scholarship

Emily Nolin: Mildred S. Hansen Scholarship

Axel Villarreal Conachas:

Mildred S. Hansen Scholarship

Izel Guzman: Mildred. S. Hansen

Makayla Martin: Mildren S. Hansen

Maria Serna: Mildren S. Hansen

<u>Tesfalem Tsige:</u> Mildred S. Hansen

Winograd Family Scholarship

The Glen L. Butch Butler Memorial Scholarship

<u>Alex Arredondo:</u> The Richard Blake Memorial Scholarship

Naomi Hildago: South Dakota School of

Mines Basketball Scholarship

<u>Andrew Alirez</u>: University of Northern

Colorado

Madeleine Dreiling: Lyster Family Scholarship

David Delgado Memorial Scholarship

Gavan Blackburn: Sansons fund Scholarship

Jon Arroya Zavala: Jerry and Anna Wardell Scholarship

Jackson Hayslip: Clarence Clark Scholarship

<u>Aubree Raimer:</u> Colorado State University Track and Field <u>Schlolarship</u>

Aaron Emery: GCHS Faculty Scholarship

Brian Magruder: The GCHS Faculty Scholarship

<u>Jaslyn Reyes:</u> Dell Scholarship Stampede Scholarship

Lesley Alvarez Rivera:

The McDonald's Ray Kroc Award

Naomi Hildago: South Dakota School of Mines Basketball Scholarship

Andrew Alirez: University of Northern Colorado

MAY 17, 2019 <u>Senior Issue</u>

#### **DISAPPOINTING SENIOR PRANKS**

T. Menard

The senior prank is a pivotal part of the high school experience. The prank is one of the many staples that tie up the end of the year and send off the students into summer with some enjoyable memories from the year. Lately, however, it seems that many senior pranks have left students dissatisfied with the result. In the past two years, the pranks have consisted of oil left on the floor near the stairs, causing many students to fall and some to injure themselves in the process; the following year the senior prank was merely a painted Spongebob meme that was trending that year and was hung over the west entrance. While these aren't necessarily bad pranks, there is a lot of room for improvement. One GCHS senior said, "You know I was kind of disappointed but 'yolo'. There wasn't even a senior prank this year so I don't really know what else to say about it." You have to keep in mind that there are limits to certain ideas but as long as nothing is damaged, what is stopping the senior classes from ending the school year in a truly memorable way.





#### WHAT MAJOR WILL YOU BE PURSUING IN THE FALL?

B. Mena Rodriguez



Graduation is around the corner and seniors have already applied to college and also selected the college that they will be going to. Seniors have a major in mind that they will pursue in college. They will either study nursing, criminal justice, teaching, and the many more options that the colleges provide. Seniors selected their major because they have a certain interest in the major or someone influenced them to follow up that career path. Lizet Olivas, a senior at Central, said, "My major will be a surgical technician, I decided to be a surgical technician since I've always wanted to be in the medical field or in an operating room." Elexis Alvarado, a senior at Central, said, "I decided to major in human services and law enforcement." These seniors will go on to college to follow their own career path. They will become who they have dreamt of since they were toddlers, or when they found interest in medicine, law, communication, etc.. Olivas adds on, "I have been interested in medicine for a while and I have been taking Aims classes since my junior year and I will continue in the fall". Seniors are all at different spots, all seniors will walk the stage and graduate on May 25 they will continue their dream and career path in the fall.

### WHAT SHOULD BE CHANGED AT CENTRAL NEXT YEAR?

#### T. Menard

Every year, there seems to be new ideas that are thought up that could help improve the Castle. So as we come to a close, let's consider a few solid ideas from Cats all around the Castle in ways that have potential to benefit our school. Let me ask you this question, if you drive to Central everyday, what is the biggest problem that you face? Simple anwer: parking.

Look it's no secret that people drive to school without their license, inevitably taking parking spaces you, a licensed driver, could use. And it's no secret that people will park in the designated no parking areas in order to save them a few steps to the west entrance. But what if the surplus of unlicensed drivers wasn't the problem? Northridge and West seem to get by with ease when it comes to there location of a large lot. If we were to remove the grass divider that separates the larger parking lot from smaller lot and create one massive lot, then problems with parking would decrease very effectively.

Creating a paid-for-pass system could help organize the flow of the parking lot where seniors and juniors would get the "first come first serve".

Another big change for the next year should be the length of lunch time. See, the problem with lunch is that most people end up being late to their 5th block class so en extension to the lunch period would result in potential better attendance records. Just a few ideas to consider as we head into the 2020 school year.

#### **OPENING TO THE NEXT CHAPTER**

B. Mena Rodriguez

Seniors will be graduating on May 25, after spending thirteen years in school and experiencing many things these past years they will move on to college and begin a next chapter of their life. They have studied for the SAT, taken challenging courses, and enjoyed the various dances throughout the years. Knowing that graduation is around the corner, every senior has a plan after high school either to work after high school or attend an in or out of state college. Emily Ward, a senior at Greeley Central said, "Over the summer I plan to attend Millennium Dance Company in LA to train for dance." Erin Serrano, a senior at Central, also says, "I plan on making new memories in the summer and furthering my education in the fall." This next chapter will lead seniors to who they will become in the future. Either to work up to be a nurse, doctor, or anything that they're passionate in. As most seniors already



have in mind what college they will be attending and also majoring in. This next chapter in their life they will be becoming responsible adults in college pursuing their future. Tyler Schmep, a senior at Central, said, "I will be attending Colorado Mesa majoring in human services or criminal justice" Serrano adds on, "I will be attending the University of Northern Colorado for the nursing program" Ward adds on "I will be majoring in marine Biology since I'm fanisantied in marine and the animals." We all have different interest that will determine our future.



#### **ADVICE TO FRESHMAN**

#### B. Mena Rodriguez

To the class of 2023, our GCHS seniors have advice for you. You will now begin to experience the games, prom, homecoming, and also the long nights of homework. High school is exciting but also stressful. The first day of high school isn't always the easiest, but you will be around Wildcats that will help you find your classes also with anything that you need.

Here are somethings you should pay close attention to such as deadlines, important class meetings-you wouldn't want to miss those! It will be your first year in a new environment with different people, but you will find yourself around people who have the same interests, and classes as you. There are clubs available, sports, and Arts Magnet. Yazmin Garcia, a senior at Greeley Central, said, "Get involved as much as you can but don't overload." You can be involved in so many things that Central provides.

Choose your classes wisely, you wouldn't want to be placed in a class that you have no interest in. You have the opportunity to choose your classes. If you choose to be placed in AP class, just know that it requires work, study time, and your own knowledge. Gracia adds on, "study on time make sure you have your study group for every class because some classes are difficult than others." Have a well-organized time management for your homework and clubs, you wouldn't want to be all over the place. Set a time when you start your homework, when you get out of practice or clubs manage yourself so you can complete your work on time! It will be a new year with new beginnings don't be scared to try things out put yourself out there.

#### **SENIOR BBQ**

G. Oliva



Greeley Central will continue tradition this year with our Senior BBQ. The Senior BBQ will be on the last day of school on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 6 o'clock pm. There is also a senior meeting at 7 o'clock pm after the BBQ. Family and friends are said to be invited also. The BBQ is a very important part of senior year.

It's our last time to have fun with our fellow senior Wildcats one last time before taking our next step closer to our future. Our teachers are a big part of our education and have had a big influence in our lives. They will also be there to make this tradition happen.

Our teachers, would love for all seniors to be at the senior BBQ. It's an important part of our senior experience. If you haven't gotten involved with any senior activities this year, attend the senior BBQ.

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Alexis Padilla

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Jay Rhine

Deborah Villalpando

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Ethan Matier

#### **IS HIGH SCHOOL REALLY IMPORTANT?**

E. Voigt

High school is an experience that means a lot to some students and not to much to others. We're all familiar with the different groups of people you see in high school in movies from the "popular" kids to the kids that struggle to fit in. But does social status and popularity in high school really matter?

High school is a time to find yourself and prepare for your future plans. These years are where motivation and hard work really pay off if you decide to go to college or start working after high school. Sadly, many students think their social ranking is more important than their education. High school is only a small portion of our lives that won't matter in the next few years at all. Of course we can all agree that we can have some of the best memories during this time, but I don't think we should care as much as we do. Senior Lucio Avlos said, "I've made good friends in high school but none of this will matter in a few years besides my education."

To the students who think high school is the most important time of their lives, it's really not. Education is definitely important, but spending all your time worrying about who your friends are, isn't worth it. Popularity will not matter at all in the next few years, so focus on what makes you happy, not others!

#### THE BOETTCHER SCHOLARSHIP

S. Rotter

For you who don't know the Boettcher scholarship is the most honored scholarship in the state and is bestowed upon the top students in the state. The scholarship is a full ride to any school in Colorado. To get this scholarship, you have to have above average scholastic ability, leadership skills, outstanding character and have community service. Greeley Central is lucky enough to have one of these incredible students walking in its halls. This student is Taylor Henderson, Henderson is a straight A student taking multiple



AP classes. She plans on attending CU boulder to major in English. She explained in an interview how writing has affected her life and helped her get through hard times. This makes sense because she aced the essay part of the application. The essay is a long thought out paper where you talk about your life and why you deserve the boettcher. So it's no surprise that she was chosen for this prestigious scholarship and

honor. Along with all of this she is also involved in the arts playing the role of Bailey in this year's musical *Barnum*, along with many other roles in past productions. So wildcats we have an amazing student going great places and it's going to be a shame letting her go.

#### **DANIELS FUND**

Photo Submitted to Yearbook by student



#### S. Aldridge

The Daniels Fund is a two or four-year college scholarship for high school seniors in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The scholarship is a full ride, so you can attend any school and it will pay for EVERYTHING. It covers your tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and any other expenses you may have in college. The Daniels Fund is distributed to 218 seniors across the four states, based on involvement in your community and showing financial need. Out of the 218 seniors, Darling Perez, a student at Greeley Central, received the Daniels Fund. Perez will be attending CU Denver and major in biochemistry and forensic pathology. She described how she felt like a "fish in the ocean", competing against 1,850 other students in the four states. Perez explains, "If you put your mind to it anything is possible, but at the same time I was also doubtful." One thing she added was the qualifications for the scholarship, "Thank god it wasn't based on GPA, instead they focus on your characteristics and your personal and academic goals."

#### SENIORS WITH SIBLINGS

I. Gifford

This year is the end of an era of senior GCHS students attending school with their younger siblings. Once these soon-to-be graduates leave for college, younger siblings will be alone at home and in school, some for the very first time in their lives. Central is home to many sets of siblings which you can identify by walking through the halls and having to take a double-take to make sure you saw the right one. Freshman Oliver Voigt is the younger brother of senior Emma Voigt. When asked about how he felt about soon being the only sibling in his family to be attending central, he said: "It's definitely going to be different. I've had her ahead of me for pretty much my whole life." He adds, "Nothing huge is gonna change other than one less person at home." Hannah Canterbury, a sophomore, is the younger sister of senior Katie Canterbury. When interviewed she claimed, "I'm so proud of Katie's hard work and I know she will accomplish great things in the future as well. However, I'm also going to miss her a lot." An empty house after



seniors go to college is a big change for everyone, parents and siblings especially. Facing different high school experiences can separate siblings, but when one graduates its still a big change

#### **INJURED ATHLETES: WHAT'S AT STAKE**

#### K. Hale

Eric Church, a senior at Greeley Central, was a week away from signing to college on a football scholarship. Then disaster struck! The week prior to his signing he got a severe ankle injury that prevented



Finlandia University of Michigan, the college he was going to attend, from giving him the scholarship. Church said "It sucks [losing my scholarship] because like my whole life has been around football and all I wanted to do was play college football and then now I can't because of something stupid." Church continued "You look at it as in high school you're trying to get your name out there to get into college and then in college trying to go pro so [being out] you miss this opportunities to get your name out."

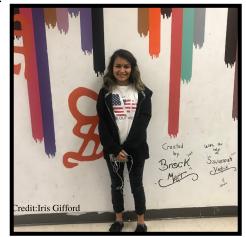
It definitely sucks losing something so big but luckily, Church said that he has other offers from colleges to play once he is healed. He plans to take a year off to heal and work until he is able to continue his career, hopefully, in college

#### **SENIOR SUMMER PLANS**

#### I. Gifford

Summer break is the endgame for each school year, the one thing that students can look forward to -even from the first day of school. But this summer, things are changing for seniors. This could be the last time they will be surrounded by their family and friends before college and one last time to relax before everything in their lives change drastically. Summer break is a constant in every student's life since they start school, so what do they plan to do with their summers? In an interview with Rachel Guerrero, she

answered, "I mainly plan on working and preparing for college. After high school I would like my summers to include working, concerts, and maybe some summer classes. But for this summer, I want to be more active, hike, and adventure around Colorado. I won't personally miss high school summers because I think they're about the same as college, only a little less stressful." Senior Anayme Ramirez states, "My plans for this summer is to get a job and travel to Texas and Jalisco to spend time with family and have fun. Something new I want to try this summer is to go to the Bailes in Jalisco with my brother. I'm not gonna miss high school summers because I use to have to stay in and do nothing all day and now as I'm getting older I know I'll have more freedom and I'll be able to do what I want during the summer." Seniors - you have one last opportunity to enjoy your freedom, so do it safely and have an amazing summer!



## **GCHS JOURNEY**

D. Lucero

This is the last year in high school for seniors and people graduating in May 2019. Most of them have been attending Greeley Central for the past four years. The four years in high school is a journey, you'll make lots of memories and you'll either have a bad, or good experience. Some are going to be sad that it's ending and others will be happy and ready to start the next chapter in life, but the whole high school experience will come to an end, eventually.

Erika Luna, a senior here at GCHS, said, "My Central experience consisted of a lot of fun, emotional, and amazing moments." says Luna. There will be a lot of ups and downs in high school, but you'll more than likely remember the good times. "The best part of attending Central was that I was able to meet new people within classes, clubs and sporting events." Luna added. Going to school events is a good way to have fun and a good time with friends. It'll be some of the best moments in high school. But it's not always good. You'll have bad and stressful times during high school too. You'll want to cry and give up, but you just have to pick yourself up and keep going, because it will get better. Luna explains, "The worst part of attending Central was that I would stress so much because of a lot of class assignments were due within the same week and I had to balance that with work and other things in life."

Time management can be stressful. Managing your school work and personal life can be tough but you have to find things that work for you and stay organized. You will learn a lot of things in high school as well. Luna says, "The most important thing I learned is that there are wonderful teachers here, that will help you and that Central is such a great place!" Erika Luna has some advice she'd like to give to the underclassmen. "I would say to participate in many school activities because even though 4 years seems long, it will go by fast and you'll miss it. Enjoy your time here." Make sure you enjoy your time here in high school. It truly is a wonderful experience and will fly past you in a blink. Cherish it and make it some of the best years of your life.

### **GRADUATION PARTIES**

E. Glynn

With graduation just around the corner, seniors are starting to plan graduation parties and sending out invitations. Graduation parties normally happen either right after the graduation ceremony, or a couple days afterwards.

Seniors don't necessarily have to have a party, they could just have the ceremony and be done. Other seniors could have two parties, either back to back or one after the ceremony, and then another one a couple days later. The parties are open to anyone with an invitation, plus whoever they bring with them as long as they don't crash it.

Brittney Monroy junior is an early graduate here at Greeley Central and she plans to do hers next year when she is suppose to graduate. Graduation parties can be whenever you want, but make sure to send out those invitations so they can RSVP.

credit: Evelyn Glynn



## **POST GRADUATION PLANS**

Daniel Nega: "I am extremely excited to graduate. My plan after graduation is to get to start working and attend Regis University college and study mechanic engineering or business, and hopefully get scholarship to run cross country for them."

Ifrah Hirsi: "I am actually junior, but I am graduating early, because I feel like I am ready for college experience, and I am really excited to graduate. I am thinking about attending University of Colorado Boulder into the field of psychology."

Zaid Gebremichael: "I am attending Aims Community college to study social work"

Kayla Brower: "I am going to New York City to major in Musical Theatre at AMDA (America Musical and Dramatics Academy)

Emilser Vicente Argueta:
"I am going to Aims to major in law, to become a police officer"

Sheny Garcia
Fuentes: "I will be
taking a year off of
school and work, and
then go to UNC to be
Police Officer"



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