

# THE KOOTENAI CHRONICLE

A PUBLICATION OF THE 2022 KOOTENAI JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALISM PROGRAM



Harrison Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students received dictionaries from the St. Maries’ Elks Lodge as part of an annual tradition. (Photo Credit: Tess Davis)

## New SRO on Campus

WYATT BARTLETT

Officer Austin Norris, from the Kootenai County Sherriff, was appointed as the new School Resource Officer at Kootenai School District this summer.

When he was a child, he was deeply inspired by his parents—his father a lieutenant and his mother working in court services. Norris graduated from Cal High and enlisted in the United States Army, where he served for 5 years. Shortly after joining, Norris was injured and relocated to work as Mortuary Specialist for the military. Following his discharge from the military, Norris spent a number of years operating an excavation company.

After dissolving the company, Norris began his career with the Kootenai County Sherriff and was hired at Kootenai. He says that he loves his job. His purpose at Kootenai is to protect the campus and make sure that students are walking the line and behaving. His goal is to positively affect the students and build relationships with each of them.

When not at Kootenai, Norris enjoys spending time with his family, camping, going to country concerts, and getting tattoos.



Officer Austin Norris smiles for the camera with Harrison Elementary students after an art class in the district library. (Photo Credit: Wyatt Bartlett)



Kootenai community members enjoy the performances from the **United States Air Force Band and the Sergeant Singers** at Kootenai High School Gymnasium on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. (Photo Credit: Susan Rodgers)

## Kootenai Hosts US Air Force Band

OLENA GOODMAN & MARY NELSON

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, the United States Air Force Band traveled to Kootenai High School as part of their national tour. The performance included the Concert Band and the Singing Sergeants.

Mr. Scott Davis, Superintendent and Harrison Elementary Principal, had invited the band to come as part of their tour. During the evening, the lead conductor, Sergeant Don Schofield awarded a plaque and picture to Davis to thank him and the Kootenai community for welcoming their band and supporting the United States Air Force.

The performances throughout the evening were absolutely amazing. They played numerous songs throughout the night, and from varying genres—classical, jazz, big band, Broadway, and patriotic. Some examples of songs played were *Jupiter* from Gustav Holst’s *The Planets*, *Freedom* by Wynonna Judd, *The Stars and Stripes Forever* by John Philip Sousa, and *Everybody Says Don’t* from Sondheim’s *Anyone Can Whistle*.

At one point during the evening, a young girl from the front row, named Mia, was selected to come and assist the lead conductor. She was given the baton and simple instructions on rhythm, speed, and volume.

She then conducted the entire band on her own. It was delightful to watch the young girl conduct with grace and ease, yet having no previous experience.

Following her conducting, Schofield granted Mia a United States Air Force special edition coin. She was challenged to keep it on her at all times and show it to military representatives as a sign of her time with the concert band. Lucky for Mia, the coin also included a QR code that allowed her to download all of the songs from the band’s repertoire.

The crowd pleaser of the evening came when the Singing Sergeants performed with the band a collection of songs from the hit film *The Greatest Showman*. The crowd danced and sang along to *The Greatest Show*, *A Million Dreams*, *Come Alive*, *Rewrite the Stars*, and *This Is Me*.

The evening ended with a moving tribute to all the individuals and family members present that served in the branches of our US military—Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force. The band, along with the singers, performed the songs for each branch, while veterans, active duty, and family stood for their branch. Schofield made his way around the gymnasium shaking hands and thanking everyone for their service to our country.



WORLD

The World Says Goodbye to the Queen  
The Death of Queen Elizabeth II and Aftermath

TYLA DITTMAN

On September 6, 2022, Queen Elizabeth II sadly passed away. Shortly before, Buckingham Palace had notified the media that Queen Elizabeth had been under medical treatment but was no longer comfortable in the palace. On September 30<sup>th</sup>, the royal family released the cause of death—old age.

Queen Elizabeth II reigned for 70 years, died at the age of 96, and was the longest serving Monarch in English history.

The funeral included twelve long days of mourning, and the actual funeral service was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent on the funeral and numerous contributions, flowers, and gifts were given to the royal family.

A procession, led by the royal family and the royal navy, walked down The Mall in London to the funeral location at Westminster Abbey. U.S. President Joe Biden was among thousands who paid their respects and attended the funeral. Queen Elizabeth was then buried next to her husband, Philip, and her parents and sister. The burial itself was an entirely private ceremony for the royal family.

The Queen’s passing has impacted much of the world, and of course, the United Kingdom. The people mourned greatly over the passing of their beloved leader. According to the Associated Press, more than 1,000 Paddington bears and other gifts were left as a tribute in London and Windsor. These gifts will be donated to a children’s charity, Buckingham Palace said.

Queen Elizabeth had spent the last many years tying up loose ends and ensuring that the family would be firm and ready. King Charles III will be crowned on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at Westminster Abbey. The coronation is a time of celebration and a sign of hope for a grieving nation.

However, King Charles will face a big task. Politically, the United Kingdom is facing double-digit inflation, risk of recession, numerous strikes and a fall in sterling following the Queen’s death. The UK is seeing less buyers and a slower economy—a challenge he must address.



Queen Elizabeth II was the longest serving Monarch in English history (Photo Credit: Getty Images)



Queen Elizabeth II’s funeral cortege borne on the State Gun Carriage of the Royal Navy travels along The Mall in London, Monday, September 19, 2022. (Photo Credit: Associated Press)



Prince Charles III will be crowned as King of England on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. (Photo Credit: Associated Press)

*I have in sincerity pledged myself to your service, as so many of you are pledged to mine. Throughout all my life and with all my heart I shall strive to be worthy of your trust. – Queen Elizabeth II*

CALENDAR

Important Dates

CALI MAZZA

NOVEMBER

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 2-5   | Scholastic Book Fair   |
| 3     | Harrison Elementary and Kootenai Jr/Sr High School Parent-Teacher Conferences (4-7pm)  |
| 3     | Jr. High Fall Sports Awards (5pm)  |
| 4     | Harrison Elementary and Kootenai Jr/Sr High School Parent-Teacher Conferences (8-12pm) |
| 5     | PTO Holiday Bazaar (10-4pm)  |
| 6     | Daylight Savings Ends  |
| 12    | NBC Basketball Clinic for Kootenai School District Students                            |
| 14    | Kootenai School District School Board Meeting  |
| 15    | Harrison Elementary Good Citizens Assembly   |
| 17    | High School Girls Basketball Game (Priest River 5:30pm)*                               |
| 19    | Kootenai Shooting Sports Harvest Shoot Fundraiser (8-4pm)                              |
| 21-25 | Kootenai School District Thanksgiving Break  |
| 24    | Thanksgiving Day   |
| 28    | Jr. High Boys and Girls Basketball practice begins                                     |

DECEMBER

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 3     | Christmas in St. Maries   |
| 13    | Harrison Elementary Christmas Concert and Kids College Family Night |
| 19-30 | Kootenai School District Christmas Break                            |
| 25    | Christmas Day   |

\*For additional sports schedules, visit <https://www.sd274.com/athletics>

ENVIRONMENT

Death Cap Mushrooms

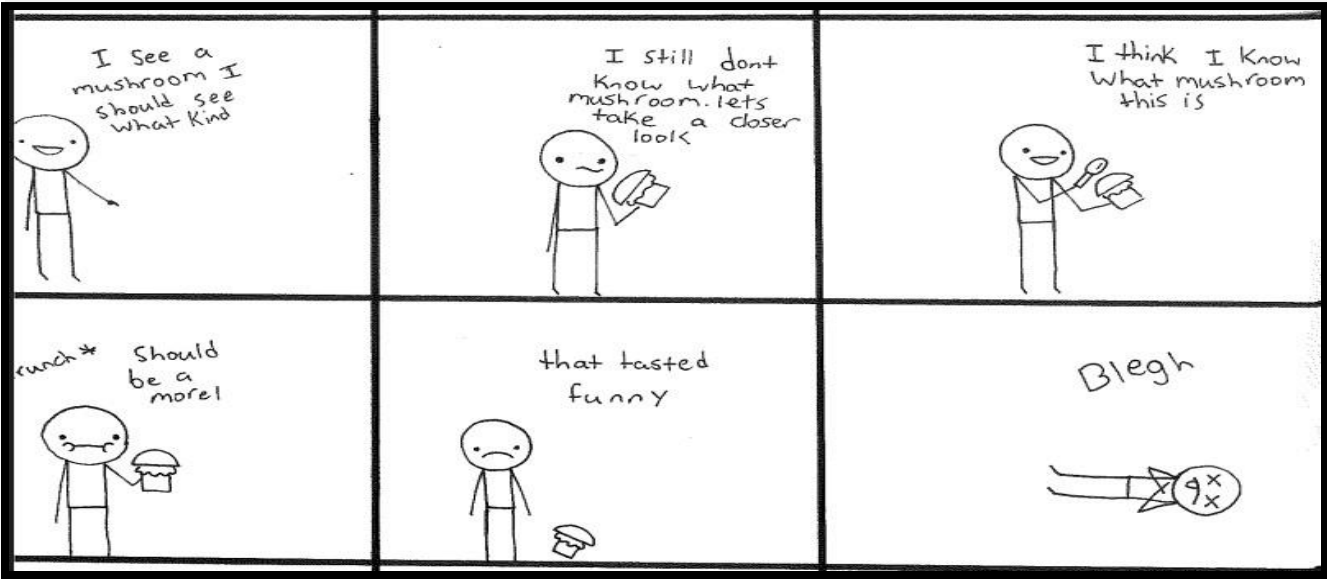
ANNABELLE PARRISH

The death cap mushroom has made it to the Northwest. According to KTVB 7, toxic mushrooms are not uncommon in the northwest region but this particular type is new. This new mushroom, although first found in 1727, was recently discovered for the first time in Idaho by Susan Stacy, in Boise.

The mushroom, called “The Death Cap,” because one bite can be deadly. The death cap can kill a human 6-24 hours after ingestion. There is no antidote for the death cap mushroom once ingested. Toxins from the mushroom block the production of DNA and starts to kill cells throughout the body, focusing on the liver and kidney. The toxins can only spread if consumed, so you can touch them without incident. Just a reminder to stay safe when you are hunting for morels this season.

AIDEN BRAZ

Tales of the Mushroom Hunter





HARRISON ELEMENTARY

Harrison Elementary Welcomes New Teacher

HAZEL STEVENSON

Over the summer, Harrison Elementary sought a new elementary teacher and was pleased to hire Amy Myers. Myers was offered the position of first-grade teacher, gladly accepted, and moved with her husband and two sons to their newly purchased property in Idaho.

Myers was born and raised in Wisconsin but moved to Washington to obtain her undergraduate degree, and St. Louis, Missouri for her graduate degree.

Myers began her teaching career when she filled in for a teacher to help out at a local school.

She then realized that she loved teaching. In her own words, “I didn’t choose teaching, teaching chose me.” So far it has been a success. First graders interviewed said “She is nice and funny,” and “It is so fun when she lets us play games!”

Myers has taught high school and middle school worldview, logic, and current world problems. One of her favorite subjects has been Mock Trials. She has also worked with kids with Dyslexia and tutored all ages in Math and English.

Although Myers is more accustomed to teaching older students, she wanted to try something new and work with younger students. She desires to teach her students to read, write, do math, and see that learning can be fun.

**HARRISON ELEMENTARY**  
Kindergarten: Sara Odekirk  
First Grade: Amy Myers  
Second Grade: Ashley Rauch  
Third Grade: Tess Davis  
Fourth Grade: Shelley Bresnen  
Fifth Grade: Kelsea Cloud



**HOMECOMING TAILGATE:** Bre John and Stacia Dorman serve a walking taco to Kootenai father, Jake Hanson, during the Booster Club’s hosted tailgate party before the Homecoming Game.

COME ON OUT FOR A BASKETBALL GAME ON  
NOV 30<sup>TH</sup>  
PASTA BAKE, GARLIC BREAD AND DRINK FOR \$8.

FUNDRAISING

Boosters & PTO Raise Funds

AALIYAH BECKMAN & NIKKI SCHOONMAKER

Whether helping Harrison Elementary or Kootenai Junior/Senior High School, two parent organizations are credited with abundant fundraising efforts. The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) raises funds for the elementary school and the Booster Club raises funds for the junior high and high school, including athletic programs. Both organizations have a lot in common, but they have unique events planned for this next year.

PTO will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 5th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Vendors, games, food, and a talent show will be part of the Bazaar activities. Vendors can contact Nancy Maitland or Carrie Hugo for details. PTO will also be hosting the annual Scholastic Book Fair from October 29th-November 7th, and will have the fair open during the Bazaar. The PTO will also be hosting Santa’s Workshop and raffling off Holiday Baskets during the Christmas Concert in December.

This year, Boosters has been successful with the Cinnamon Roll fundraiser and with Kootenai Carry-Out—during home games, Boosters provides an affordable and delicious meal for families to purchase. Boosters uses the funds to support activities throughout the school, purchase uniforms for the teams, and give back to the Kootenai Community.

KOOTENAI SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kootenai Launches Preschool Program

IVA HUGO

As Harrison’s population increases and new families move to the area, parents are seeking new educational opportunities for their children. Kootenai responded to this recent need with the introduction of a preschool program.

This program was funded by the Coeur d’Alene tribe, providing sixty-five thousand dollars for food expenses and any additional costs. The United Way has also provided eleven thousand dollars, for the same costs.

The head teacher for both age groups is Katie Chase. Chase worked as a child care program coordinator for Coeur d’Alene School District for 18 years, working specifically with the infant toddler program and preschool. She has also worked for other preschools and as a special education para in Gresham Barlow School District.

Bailey Boyce, assistant teacher, joins Chase, with experience as a para, nanny, and daycare employee.

The program includes children from the age of 3-4 years old. The 4-year-old class is in the morning from 8:15-11:15, and the 3-year-olds class is in the afternoon, from 12:15-3:15.

Preschool gives them a head start and makes it much easier for them to learn when they enter their elementary years.

Each of the groups has a very educational day. Starting off the day, the four-year-olds learn how to count, and learn their basic numbers. Then in the afternoon, the 3-year-olds are taught basic motor functions and learn to listen to directions. Both classes are focusing on developmentally appropriate learning and emotional skills.

In between their learning, each class has a snack time, playtime, and recess. The Preschool itself is open every Tuesday through Thursday.



**3-Year Old PRESCHOOL STUDENTS:** (L to R) Eloise Como, Connor Reinhardt, Colt Wunderlich, Huxley Kughn, Bronson Edmonds, Hazel Como



KOOTENAI HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2023 Rocks Homecoming  
Contests, Tailgates, Music, and Football

CAMDEN STROBEL

Homecoming is typically one of the most important events for a high school, and this year was no exception for Kootenai Warrior fans. Students and staff spent the week dressing up, playing games, and competing for the highest points and awards.

This year’s in-school activities and competitions were based on four different music genres. Each class represented a different genre of music. The Freshmen class represented classical music, the Sophomore class represented Hip Hop, the Junior class represented country music, and the Seniors class represented Rock and Roll.

High School hallways were decorated--the Freshmen’s classical lights for the entry, the Sophomores’ cds hanging from the roof and a turn table and speakers, the Juniors’ bandanas and ropes, and the Seniors’ rock and roll albums along the walls. The halls were judged by the kitchen staff, and the Seniors won. They were awarded the Golden Plunger.

Students also received points for dressing up in pajamas, babies versus senior citizens, high school stereotypes, Halloween costumes, and Hawaiian.

The highlight of the week was the annual tailgate party hosted by the Kootenai Booster Club, the reunion of alumni and community members, and the High School Football game.



SENIORS dressed for Halloween Costume Day show off their School of Rock and Roll Hallway. (Photo Credit: Kootenai Social Media)



CHEERLEADERS are a new sport for Kootenai this year and a great addition to the Homecoming spirit. L to R: Caylee Wilcox, Sydney Murdoch, Jojo Wilson, Bailey Murdoch (Photo Credit: Susan Rodgers)

**KOOTENAI WARRIORS TRAP TEAM** won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Idaho Clay Target League Fall 2022 Season. Seth Cook, Freshman and second year shooter with the team, won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Overall as well as Top Male Shooter. Brooklyn Charles, 7<sup>th</sup> grade athlete and second season shooter, won 2<sup>nd</sup> place among female shooters and 4<sup>th</sup> place Overall. Sadie Rose Davidson, 7<sup>th</sup> grade athlete and second season shooter, won 3<sup>rd</sup> place among female shooters and 5<sup>th</sup> Overall.

*The Trap Team will return in the Spring 2023 season to defend their State Championship Title.*



RECIPE

Pumpkin Spice Latte Cupcakes

OLENA GOODMAN

The smell of fall always includes pumpkin. So why not add to the fun? These pumpkin flavored cupcakes will turn your day around and put a smile on everyone's faces.

Ingredients for the cupcakes:

1. ¾ Butter unsalted softened
2. 2 cups granulated sugar Eggs 3
3. 15oz Pumpkin puree
4. 1 tsp Baking powder
5. ½ tsp Baking soda
6. ¾ cup Buttermilk
7. ¼ cup Coffee + 2 tbsp espresso

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and line the muffin tins with cupcake liners. Combine the wet ingredients together with the softened butter and the granulated sugar. Beat eggs one at a time until light and fluffy. Finally, beat in the pumpkin.

Combine the dry ingredients, in a large mixing bowl, whisk together flour, pumpkin spice mix, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Make the coffee espresso mixture--warm ¼ cup of coffee and add 2 tbsp of espresso and mix well.

Mix the wet and dry ingredients together--Slowly add the flour mixture into the wet ingredients. Alternate with the buttermilk and the coffee to avoid over mixing. You want the batter to be moistened and not over mixed. Equally fill muffin liners with the cupcake batter.

Bake in the oven for 20-25 minutes. Check with a toothpick to make sure they are done before removing them from the oven. Set the cupcakes to cool completely before adding a whipped cream cheese frosting and drizzled with caramel sauce.

KOOTENAI HIGH SCHOOL

ASB Coin Drive

CAMDEN STROBEL

Just a few weeks into the first quarter, Kootenai received the upsetting news that Doug and Becky Napierala’s son had been a tragic accident while working. Coach Napierala and Becky had to travel to Seattle to come along side of their son during his surgery and healing process. In their absence, the community rallied.

In addition to donations from the community and Boosters, following Homecoming festivities, the Kootenai High School Associated Student Body (ASB) also wanted to contribute and show their support.

The ASB is led by Tuesday Glessner, Callie Smith, and Connor Lupo. Original plans for ASB this year included additional assemblies to generate school spirit, movie nights, and a lock-in. But supporting “The Nap Fam” was of first importance. Mr. Michael Stroh, leadership advisor, and the leadership students led a school wide coin drive raising \$1,832.17 for the family.



SPORTS

Rauch’s 7<sup>th</sup> Year of Cross Country

MADDY SWISHER

The Kootenai Jr and Sr High School Cross Country coach, Ashley Rauch, has been running in sports like cross country since her own Jr. High years. She loves these types of sports and was given an opportunity to be a coach at Kootenai. She has now been the cross country coach for seven years

The cross country team has been fairly small in the past years, but has seen slight growth this year. The fall season team included three runners from the Jr. High and four runners from the High School.

The team practiced five days a week, and often traveled to different locations for practice. Usually, the team would practice running for their games by going to a location where the terrain had the same consistency of land when compared to their upcoming meet. For example, sometimes they would run on bedded down straw-like land to match terrain for a meet.

They usually went to Mrs. Whipple’s home (a High School teacher that lives locally) and would run the loop around her house. They would also train in Harrison, Goosehaven Rd in St. Maries, and on Flats Loop.

Coach Rauch liked to make their practices fun and set running goals for prizes. She likes to encourage good posture while running, good attitude, breathing, positivity, and encouraging words. No put downs allowed. The competitive meets varied in running distance, but would usually be around ½ a mile each. Students run on their own and earned individual medals rather than team awards. This season, Hazel Stevenson earned a 2nd place medal at the 5th Annual Spartan Invite and a 9th place at the Troy Invitational. Juni Stevensons earned a 5th place medal at the 5th Annual Spartan Invite and a 7th at the Troy Invitational.



**JR HIGH VOLLEYBALL** celebrates their end of season game by honoring their 8<sup>th</sup> Graders. Front: Samantha Cannon, Bianca Dittman, Dani Davidson; Back: Olena Goodman, Ziva Roodhouse, Delilah Arlt, Danielle Myers, Tyla Dittman, Sadie Rose Davidson, Iva Hugo, Brooklyn Charles, Tayla Woodward, Hunter Charles (Photo Credit: Mary Nelson)

SPORTS

Jr. High Volleyball Success

DANIELLE LEAS

The Jr. High Girls Volleyball team had an outstanding season this fall. Following a dry spell for quite a few seasons, this year’s team broke the losing streak and went 6-3. The 14 players—six 8<sup>th</sup> graders, four 7<sup>th</sup> graders, and four 6<sup>th</sup> graders—worked hard this season and celebrated their wins. Only three games were lost—one against the Clarkfork Wampus Cats (who they later defeated), and two against Genesis Prep Jaguars.

Nicki Charles, head coach, motivated her athletes through positive reinforcement, goal setting, and her infamous end of season awards. Her favorite parts of coaching were watching her players get better with each practice and game and watching them come together as a team.

During practice, she breaks down each of the skills and concepts to ensure that her team can grow with the basics. She looks forward to building for the future and having a solid volleyball program at Kootenai. She knows that her players will be prepared for Varsity volleyball once they reach high school.

SPORTS

Q & A with Coach Jerry Brown

LOGAN STROBEL

After the Jr. High Warriors Football won their first game this season, 44-20 against Lakeside breaking a 2-year losing streak, we knew it was time to get the inside scoop from Coach Jerry Brown. Staff Writer, Logan Strobel, set out to ask Mr. Brown these questions:

**What is it like coaching for the Warriors?** There are highs and lows. It is difficult with our small numbers. We are the smallest school in our league, so it makes it that much harder to get numbers. 20% of our students play football. That is pretty good, but that still only works out to ten bodies. That makes it hard to scrimmage, or if someone goes down with an injury. But no one can question the motivation our people have!

**What do you think of the team this year?** We have some skilled people and some younger

people. They are learning to mesh. We have come a long way. It’s exciting.

**Who else is helping you this year?** Jason Strobel And Vince Wilcox. They brought a plethora of knowledge, insight, and two more sets of eyes.

**How do you keep your players motivated during game time?** Often the players can do that themselves. One great play really can get the team going and we can build on that. Everyone has a positive attribute and we need to use that to strengthen all of us. We build each other up.

**What do you think was the winning factor for your game against Lakeside?** The kids knew that they could execute. It's harder to know if the kids are bigger, stronger, and faster. But when we showed up to the game we realized that they were the same size as us.

**How has the Lakeside win changed the attitude of your team and coaches?** We felt good, but the game that changed our mindsets was the first Clarkfork game. Until the last 14 seconds, we had them.



**JR HIGH FOOTBALL** celebrates after their final game of the season (Photo Credit: Heather Wilcox)



EDITORIAL

Toxicity on the Internet

ALYCE BREDE  
STUDENT EDITOR

The internet has several benefits, like how it helps with communication and organization. But what about the drawbacks? Users, unfortunately, can act ‘toxic,’--also known as toxicity on the internet. Toxicity is when a person, or a group of people, acts rude towards others.

It’s not that common in the real world, but on the internet, people can say whatever they want with little to no consequences. With that, toxicity becomes more common. On the internet, people attack others for what they believe in, how they dress, how they type, spell, and more.

Toxicity can cause several issues over the internet with mental health because of bullying, like depression. However, removing access to the internet is not a solution, the internet isn't the issue.

Users usually act toxic for attention or to let out the anger and pent up emotions. Words are typed that would never be said out loud or in person. Sometimes, unknowingly make statements that have toxic effects. Sarcasm can also be taken as toxic behavior because audio cues aren’t visible.

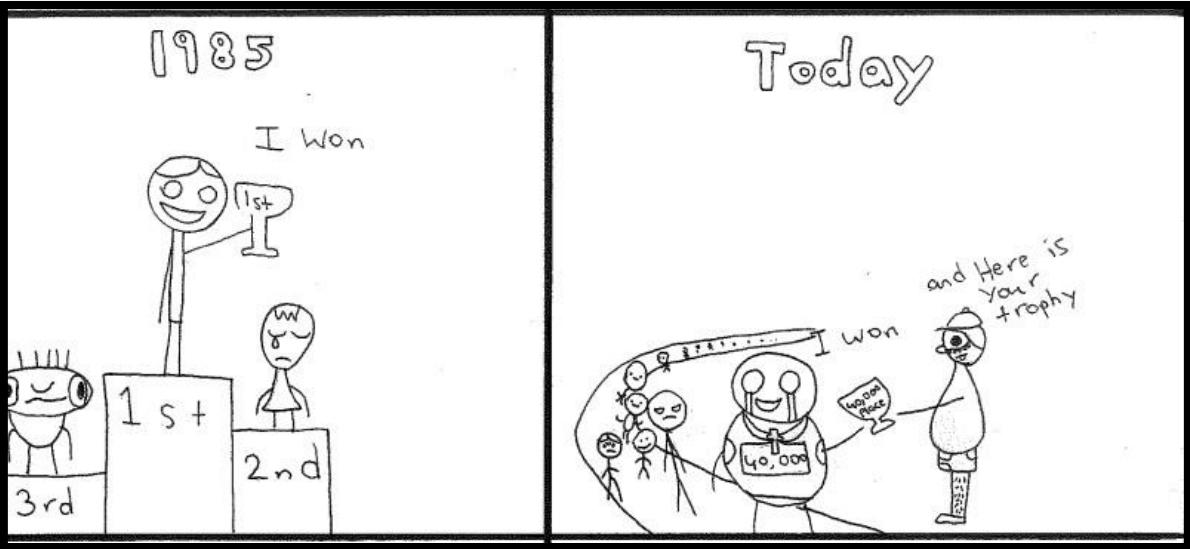
But is toxicity really all that bad? The way I see it, toxicity has several different ways it can come up and people react differently. Is it damaging sometimes and harmless other times? Users have different opinions, as well as perceptions when it comes to comments. Maybe the solution to this problem is by ignoring the comments altogether.

Or do we need something more drastic? A reset? A ctrl-alt-delete to stop the program and reboot? With over 6 billion internet users, worldwide, how do we truly address internet issues? We can’t delete it, there’s too much, and we can’t turn back now.

Perhaps, at this point, all we can do is check our own behaviors.

ISAIAH GALLE

A Modern Mindset



LUCIUS ANDREWS

Introducing Mr. Rodriguez



DAD JOKES FROM KOOTENAI DADS

“I’m afraid for the calendar...it’s dates are numbered.” – Matthew Greer, HS Science

“What did the momma cow say to the baby cow? It’s pasture bed time.” – Kris Buchanan, Agriculture

“What concert costs just 45 cents? 50 Cent featuring Nickleback.” – Jerry Brown, JH Science and Social Studies

“What did the dad buffalo say to the son buffalo when he left for college? Bye son.” – Terry Schoonmaker, 6<sup>th</sup> grade student’s Dad