

# Panther's Tale

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Derby High School student newspaper

## A look inside...



Page 3: Check out the quizmap to figure out which '90s celeb you are

## Newspaper Index

Cover	01
Designed by Reese Cowden	
Student Life	02
Designed by William Henderson	
Entertainment	03
Designed by Luis Lozano	
Sports/Opinion	04
Designed by Lilly Macormac	

## HOW 'BOUT THOSE CHIEFS?



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Story Nik Shay

Teacher Michelle Forsberg wasn't shy about who she wanted to win the Super Bowl on Feb. 12. Forsberg is a diehard Kansas City Chiefs fan. She wore a Chiefs shirt every day in her own version of a mini-spirit week leading up to the Super Bowl that pitted the Chiefs

against the Philadelphia Eagles. "On Friday, there were a couple who wore jerseys, so I gave them candy," Forsberg said. The Chiefs beat the Eagles 38-35 on a Harrison Butker field goal with eight seconds to go. Patrick Mahomes, despite an ankle injury, had three touchdowns

and overcame a 10-point deficit. The Chiefs won their second Super Bowl in four years. Forsberg decided the best way to celebrate was by going to bed. "My husband went outside and lit some firecrackers," she said.

## Safety first when device discovered

Story by Sara Collins and Arabella Hounsshell

You open Snapchat. Wait. Is someone holding a bomb? Is it a grenade?

What are we going to do? Why hasn't anyone done anything? Do I say something?

2:35 p.m. — Fire alarms sounded. Students walked outside on Jan. 25 thinking that it was a fire drill during homeroom.

"We had issues with the phone system and the intercom system is tied to it. I was concerned I could get into mid-sentence and maybe information would not be said," principal Tim Hamblin said. "And we were directly being told by law enforcement to evacuate the building and, at that point, we can't take a kid's word for it if it's not real. We can't risk that, so a decision was made then, pull the fire alarm."

2:51 p.m. — Derby Public Schools sends out message that DHS is being evacuated due to a suspicious device.

"As soon as we evacuated the building, knowing the time of the day, I called transportation and asked if there was any way we could start sending buses up," Hamblin said.

But questions arose among students and staff about the "suspicious device." For those brief moments, it meant immediate danger.

"I immediately informed the district, my superintendent," Hamblin said. "What happens at that point is the director of communications is then called in and they start crafting a message to get out to parents as quickly as possible."

3:30 p.m. — Skylert notified families that it was an inactive grenade.

Since Jan. 25, students and staff have been concerned about the safety of the high school.

DHS has 2,187 students. With four members of security, two School Resource Officers, that's a ratio of 364-1.

"If we are going to do anything to improve security, it's getting more security staff," security staff member Paul Burke said.

What about metal detectors? Wichita public schools just purchased some for their schools. Maybe more cameras?

"Where do we draw the line between school and prison?" Burke asked. "We want the school to feel safe, but at a certain point it starts to feel like a prison if we add more security technology."

Sophomore Lacey Baney agreed. "I don't think people would be dumb enough to bring things that would cause a need for metal detectors," Baney said. "I think if they were to (add metal detectors), it would just add to the stress of school and make it feel more prison-like."

In a survey of 30 teachers, 23 said more security staff is needed.

"It's way too easy for students to do whatever they want because there aren't enough people to watch them," airbrush teacher Roger Scovell said.

Junior Eli Gibbs agreed. "I think to improve security we need more cameras and more security people," Gibbs said. "There are so many things that could be stopped if there were more people."

The security staff checks locked doors as much as possible throughout every period even then things are still happening.

"We just have so many exit doors. If somebody just wanted to walk out, they pretty easily could do that," security officer Keith Watkins said.

When issues arise without the necessary staff, panic could ensue.

"The job can be stressful sometimes, but I think we handle everything pretty well," Burke said. "We haven't had any major problems or incidents besides recent events."

Mass shooting opinion, see page 4

Senior Thomas Owens pairs his brown heeled boots with fishnet tights.

A large part of many's gender expression includes clothes, which have for many years been part of people's identity.

The symbol of a flower is typically seen as a female one. But flowers aren't just for girls; boys want them, too.

Putting on a face of makeup is often used to represent the gender expression of whoever wears it.

Senior Thomas Owens describes what gender means to him.

Women's sports are still seen as "inferior" to men's, however, what's the difference?

"Not many people like being in that box, so I and others believe that box is a trap. And once you leave that box, then you'll be much better off," senior Thomas Owens said.

Illustrations by Trey Marczynski

# BEYOND BINARY

## Moving past the societal bounds of gender

Story by Sara Collins and Trey Marczynski

People may think that gender is black and white, man or woman. "Gender is fake," junior Gillian Noffert said.

Gender to many, is how they see themselves, not based on anything biological. "It means your identity, like how you see yourself, and how you want others to see you," sophomore Nephel Moore said.

In mainstream history and media, though, gender is the idea of 'man or woman and nothing in between.' Some don't want to be part of that restrictive society.

"The word gender, I believe, is a box," senior Thomas Owens said. "Not many people like being in that box, so I and others believe that box is a trap. And once you leave that box then you'll be much better off."

Others see it differently. "Gender doesn't really mean anything to me, because I don't know if I have a gender," Noffert said.

Society was relegated to the same gender binary, but in recent years, many have

begun to break out of that cage and express their gender in different ways.

Gender expression can be a collection of different things — how you talk, what parts of a song you sing. Often, though, gender expression is showcased in clothing choices.

"I feel more masculine when I wear certain clothes," Owens said. "It's the same case for when I feel feminine. Yet even though I might wear clothes that are 'gendered,' it's all just how I feel that day that determines how I actually feel."

In 1966, John Mooney suggested that the word gender should be used to describe the socially constructed differences between men and women, which differed from 'sex' which is the biological differences, according to the Kinsey Institute. Although based on biological sex, the male and female gender are created by society not by biology.

Biological sex may be used by some to create expectations, but gender is not what creates the expectations. Instead the

expectations create gender.

"I like to dress up and do my makeup, but at the end of the day when I look at myself, I don't see girl or boy, nor do I feel either of those things. I just feel like I'm both and neither at the same time," Moore said.

Some don't believe that femininity and masculinity are separate but instead rely on each other to exist.

"I don't think that masculinity and femininity aren't necessarily one or the other, they have to exist together in order to exist properly. So feeling masculine includes feeling feminine and vice versa," Noffert said.

The idea of the gender spectrum — ranging from masculine to feminine — doesn't mean you fall into one single spot.

"I identify as gender-fluid but that doesn't mean that I float through the spectrum," Noffert said.

"It just means that I am the gender spectrum. Male and female all at once."