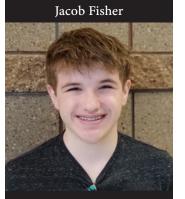


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Editor, Journalist, & Broadcaster





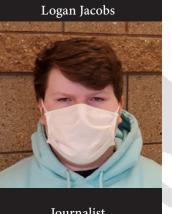
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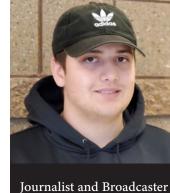
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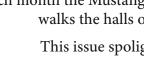


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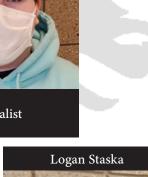
Lauren Johnson



Journalist



Journalist and Broadcaster



Jaxson Miller

Journalist & Sports

Commentator



# NOVEMBER, 2021



This Issue's Artist Spotlight: Trent Regner

## Feature

# Artist Spotlight: Trent Regner

Each month the Mustang Post features a student artist who walks the halls of Sheyenne High School.

This issue spolights senior Trent Regner.

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The Rise of the UC and MMA Popularity



# Local College Tuition Assistance Offers Hope

# By Ameera Gaal

Paying for college is undeniably expensive. According to U.S. News data, college tuition prices are a lot higher today compared with two decades ago.

In just the 2020-2021 school year to the current 2021-2022 academic year, tuition rates at both private and public National Universities have increased by at least 2%.

With tuition on the rise, the stress of having to pay to get an education to secure a better-paying job has become a reality.

Here are some colleges in our state that take steps to help lessen the stress and anxiety that come with tuition.

Starting in the Fall of 2021, all students

in Concordia College will benefit from a new lower tuition cost: reduced by more than \$15,000 from 2020-21a decrease of 35%.

They offer scholarships like Excellence Scholarships which are automatic academic scholarships ranging in value from \$5,000 to \$12,000 annually which can add up to \$20,000 to \$48,000 over four



NDSU's main gate leads students and staff into the campus's generous greens pace and boulevards.

### years.

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Also offers guaranteed Scholarships calculated by cumulated high school GPA and ACT/ SAT scores.

NDSU offers nearly \$3.5 million in scholarships to new first-year students. Nearly half of this year's first-year students received an award. Concordia College provides student and faculty unity through a community-focused campus near the Red River.

Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) offers automatic, competitive, and need-based scholarships to freshmen based on high school GPA and ACT, are awarded at the time of admission.

MSUM Foundation offers scholarships gifted by alumni, businesses, friends, and foundations to incoming, current, and graduate students.

MSUM also offers financial aid to help pay for educational expenses. Once your financial need is calculated, they will attempt to meet your needs with funds from available financial aid programs.

MSUM doesn't just offer financial aid for tuition, they also offer



NDSU's campus is sprawling yet ingrained in North Fargo's neighborhood.

financial aid opportunities for studying abroad with over 300 scholarships solely for studying abroad.

MSUM offers students who don't feel so great about their grades a different route to be admitted!

Chosen for over 20 years in a row as one of the top public regional colleges in the Midwest by U.S. News & World Report, Valley City State University (VCSU) offers the top scholarship program among all public universities in North Dakota.

Just this year 97% of Valley City State University students received grant aid in 2018/2019.

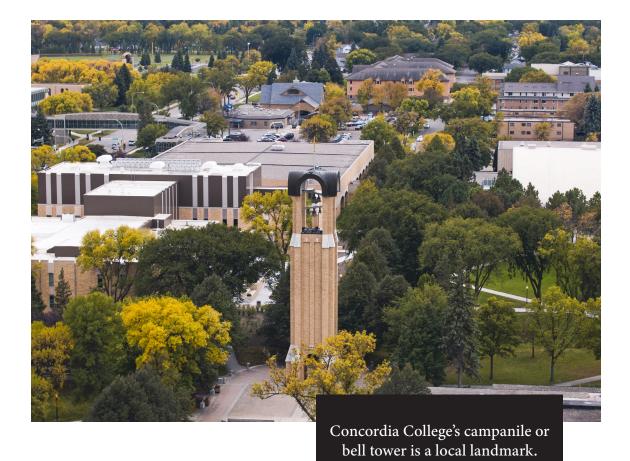
VCSU provides

financial assistance to eligible applicants through grants, loans, scholarships, employment, and other student aid programs.

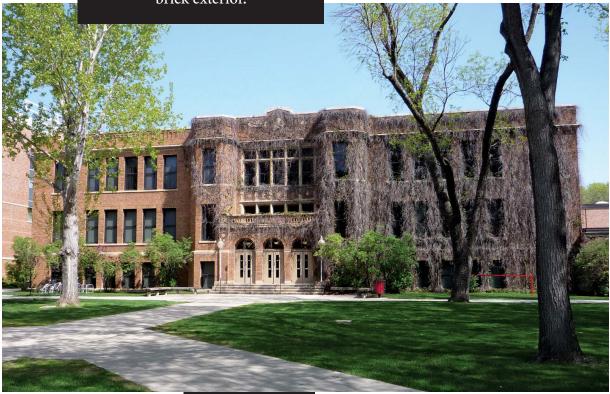
Transitioning from high school to college can be overwhelming.

You're embarking on your own, starting a new chapter in your life. For those stressing this new life chapter and today's uncertainties, we hope that we have made things a little easier.

From researching academic support to developing strong faith within yourself, the following Universities can help incoming freshmen get organized and build a foundation for college success.



MSUM's Weld Hall is an iconic building with its vine-covered, brick exterior.



# EXPERIENCE THE CONCORDIA **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

# **COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS**

7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 Memorial Auditorium, Concordia College

**FREE** Tickets Available for High School Students Details: ConcordiaCollege.edu/ChristmasVisit



Giving Thanks



## By Lauren Johnson

As November rolls around many Americans start looking forward to Thanksgiving. While this holiday is known to be an American holiday, seventeen other countries also take part in a similar occasion. Although it may not all consist of the classic turkey and mashed potato dinner, it is just as important.

Every year on the second Monday of October, Thanksgiving is celebrated in Canada. This dates to the year 1578. Meaning that it was established as a holiday around 40 years before America made it official. Canada and America share many similarities on this holiday such as turkey for dinner, and watching the Canadian Football League with family members.

Due to Puerto Rico joining the US territory in the 19th century, multiple citizens adopted the majority of traditions on this holiday. It is celebrated on the same day being the fourth Thursday of November, but they put their own twist on the holiday. Usually there is Turkey, whether it is roasted or stuffed with mofongo, a mashed plantain dish.

Germany has a celebration called "Erntedankfest" which simply translates to "harvest thank festival." Unlike America and Puerto Rico, this takes place on the first Sunday in October instead of in November, and the festivities of this occasion consist of church services, a parade, dancing, food, and music. Later in the night there is an evening church service that is followed by Lanternenumzug, or in other words a "lantern parade." Many people relate the atmosphere as something similar to a country fair.

# **FALL PHONE RELEASES** WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



## **By Jacob Fisher**

As the holiday season quickly approaches, phone manufacturers have rushed to draw the eyes of consumers from their current phones to the best devices money can buy. Apple, Google,

and Samsung have or will release phones in the coming month, sparking excitement and curiosity for the next generation of phone innovation.

Samsung unpacked their newest arrivals last month in the form of the \$999 Galaxy Z Flip 3 and the \$1800 Galaxy Z Fold 3, two collapsible phones that introduce the future of device design in their best form yet. Both foldables are significantly upgraded from their last-gen

The Galaxy Z Fold 3, left, and the Galaxy Z Flip 3, right, in a Samsung presentation

**"Differences** 

choles, not

[in features] boil

down to personal

proferenesend

compromises."

counterparts, featuring a smooth 120Hz display, enabling a fluid viewing experience on every aspect of the device.

Likewise, the Galaxy Z Flip 3 and Fold 3 now include a topend Snapdragon 888 processor along with a much needed IPX8 water resistance, giving protec-

> tion for 1.5 meters underwater for 30 minutes. Samsung does note that there is no dust resistance due to the hinges on the Z lineup.

Prices have also dropped a couple hundred for each foldable, with the Z Flip 3 topping off at just under \$1000, and the

enthusiast grade Fold 3 dropping from \$2000 to \$1800. Both users and reviewers give positive reception. According to The Verge

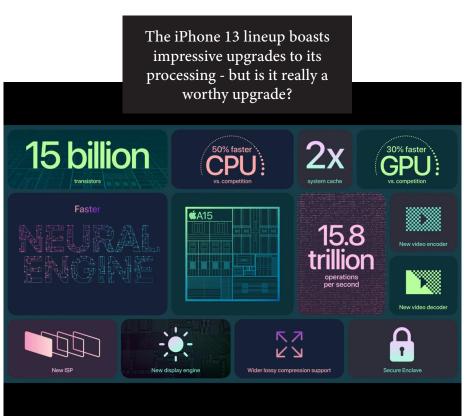
for the Flip 3: "Differences [in features] boil down to personal preferences and choices, not compromises." The main points of contention for the Z lineup is poor battery life and suboptimal cameras.

However, reviews emphasize just how fun and futuristic both devices are. As stated by TechRadar for the Fold 3: "[You are paying for] the wow factor of being able to pull a phone out of your pocket and unfold it to not only reveal a 7.6-inch tablet-like display, but to also show that you're symbolically ahead of the technology curve." Most reviewers agree that the Flip 3 will be the phone for most people due to its appealing size and price point.

Meanwhile, Apple engineers have produced another flagship giant, despite the little amount of change to this year's product. The iPhone 13 lineup is far from a revolution in the Apple ecosystem. Rather, it is a few but important changes that add up to be an upgrade worthy for those who have a several generation old phone, but maybe not for those who already have the newest device.

The main selling point of this year's iPhone is two-factor: the battery life and cameras. For the battery life, Apple reports 1.5-2.5 more hours of battery life compared to last generation's equivalent models. For reference, 9to5Mac speculates that battery life could be as long as 22 hours

impressive upgrades to its worthy upgrade?



for video playback on the iPhone 13 Pro, a full five hours longer than the iPhone 12 Pro.

Likewise, cameras will look noticeably better than the competition on the iPhone 13. According to Dieter Bohn of The Verge, Apple's night mode is superior, macro shots through the wide-angle lens are gorgeous, and, put simply, "there isn't another phone that can match the iPhone 13 Pro [for photos]."

These changes are not industry-shaking, but with the iPhone 13 lineup now receiving a smaller camera notch, 120Hz screen on select models, 10% faster processing, and a 1TB storage option (for all those 4K clips!), it might just be a worthy upgrade for those who are looking for something familiarly fantastic. Prices for the iPhone 13 Mini, 13 base model, 13 Pro, and 13 Pro Max are \$699, \$799, \$999, and \$1,099 respectively.

The Google Pixel 6 features better build quality, a killer camera array, and a two-tone design while coming in at \$599 for the base model and \$899 for the Pro version. This device is sure to turn some heads.

With Samsung's traditional flagship lineup supposedly months away from announcement, competition remains between three tech giants through foldable, traditional, and pure speculation. Yet, with all phones recently announced embodying the spirit of innovation, none of these companies should fold quite yet – just the Z lineup.

# **GOVID-19**

# Still Affecting Us

On September 9th President Joe Biden required the vaccination of government employees by November 22nd of 2021 including military with each branch having their own deadline.

Privately owned businesses may implement their own rules on this vaccine. Rules such as when you have to get the doses by, if you still must take COVID tests, and whether a mask will still be needed are just a few examples.

Places such as Sanford Heath Medical Centers in Fargo, North Dakota have issued a mandate where all employees must be vaccinated November 1st.

nated.

While there are those who agree with vaccination, others cite potential side effects such as "becoming infertile," yet "the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine received full approval by the FDA on August 23rd, 2021."

Since the first outbreak of COVID back in 2019, there has been varied brands of vaccines that have been released. The most prevalent and well known in the United States are the Moderna, Johnson & Johnson, and Pfizer.

Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines show equivalent efficiency rates while still in the initial stages. Currently the FDA and CDC recommend the states to pause on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine due to the risk of blood clots. Yet when it comes to companies it was never specified in the mandate as to which one workers had to get.

10

## **By Lauren Johnson**

Due to this Sanford mandate, many workers in these companies have reported "feeling safer" and more "comfortable" knowing that others are following the rules and getting vacci-



# THE NEW WALKER Fills BIG Boots

Jared Padalecki, former star of the hit horror TV series, Supernatrual, in his new role as Cordell Walker, a Texas Ranger who has returned from an undercover assignment.

## By Catlyn Anderson

Walker is the reboot of the old Walker Texas Ranger(1993) on CW and HBO Max, but it is nothing like the original show.

At the start of the series, Cordell Walker is a tall, handsome, Texas Ranger with a strong moral code, and he meets his wife Emily on a gravel road outside of the Walker family ranch. Cordell kisses Emily goodbye, before she leaves to take food and water to the Mexican immigrants trying to get into America.

This scene sets up the primary conflict for the first season and his undercover assignment.

Cordell does undercover work and he is learning how to parent his two teenagers

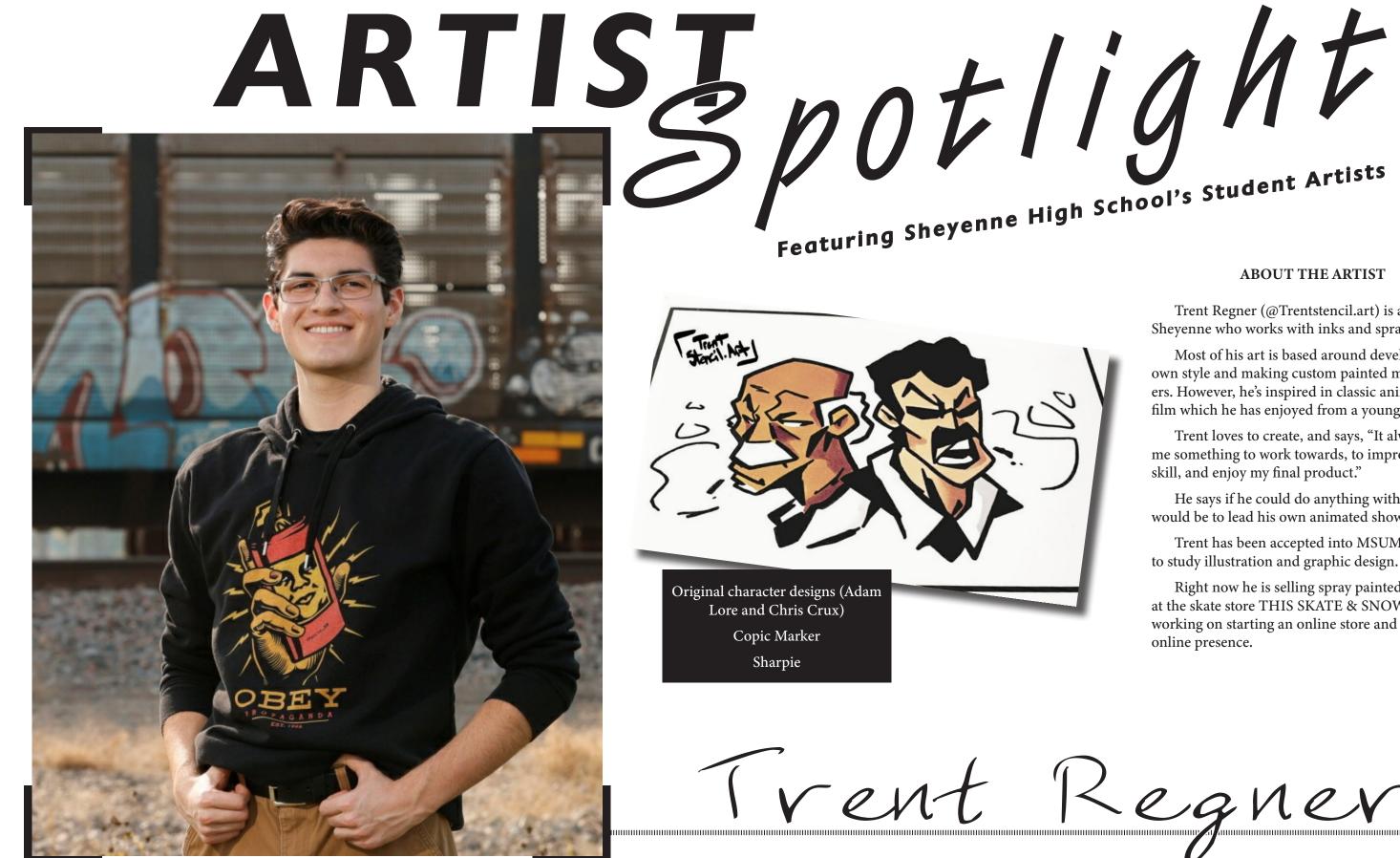
When meeting his new partner, Micki Ramirez, she gives Cordell a run for his money. Micki is a Mexican American Ranger with a mind of her own and a story to be told.

Many characters have a part in how Cordell evaluates life, both personally and professionally. Cordell's brother, Lliam, is the ADA (Assistant District Attorney). Lliam is a part of both Cordell's personal and professional life. Another character that has an impact on Cordell's life is his best friend Hoyt. Hoyt has struggled to stay on the straightened arrow. When Hoyt finally gets his life together, he is stabbed and killed.

Cordell does undercover work, and he is learning how to parent his two teenagers. At it's core Walker is more of a family drama, than a procedural drama. Viewers will enjoy some of the humor in the drama. Cordell gets himself in a few pinches during the first 18 episodes.

This series is good because it shows how the bond of family is a strong bond to have.

Be sure to watch season 1 on the CW app and on HBO Max. Season 2 began on October 28th 2021, at 8:00pm central time.



Original character designs (Adam Lore and Chris Crux)

Trent Regner



## **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Trent Regner (@Trentstencil.art) is an artist at Sheyenne who works with inks and spray paint.

Most of his art is based around developing his own style and making custom painted movie posters. However, he's inspired in classic animation and film which he has enjoyed from a young age.

Trent loves to create, and says, "It always gives me something to work towards, to improve my skill, and enjoy my final product."

He says if he could do anything with his art it would be to lead his own animated show or movie.

Trent has been accepted into MSUM and plans to study illustration and graphic design.

Right now he is selling spray painted grip tapes at the skate store THIS SKATE & SNOW as well as working on starting an online store and growing his online presence.



# **FROM PARA TO ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT LOOKS FORWARD**

### **By Jacob Fisher**

Mr. Williams, the former head principal of Sheyenne High School, spent just one year as the head of the building. This year,

he now takes a senior position in the West Fargo School District as the assistant superintendent.

Why did he take the job? According to him, it's simple. He needed to make a bigger impact.

Vincent Williams has been in the educational field for 18 years. For the former Fargo North history teacher, he finds teaching to be his purpose.

"I consider education to be a calling in life," Williams stated. "When I graduated from Moorhead State University, I went into working as a paraprofessional in Ben



The new assistant superintendent's District 2021 photo

Franklin Middle school in Fargo and I've been in education ever since."

For Williams, teaching is a deeply personal endeavor. He believes much of his success in

> education today is due to the work of his own childhood educators where he was raised in Chicago.

"I didn't see a future for myself," he remarked. "I honestly believed I'd go down a path that was not good, so to have teachers and coaches take time and invest in me, that made me want to give back to others as that's why I eventually went into the field of education. To give back."

Now a leader in the West Fargo School District, the former Sheyenne High School principal does much of what he strived to do his whole



career. He continues to improve the school district through working directly with principals, staff, and parents.

However, a quick lesson Williams learned is you can't please everyone. The new assistant superintendent commonly finds himself trying to answer hard questions and find ideal solutions that aren't the exact fit he hopes for.

Yet, he is committed to looking forward for not only himself but the school district. His key policy goal is the soon-to-be-implemented academy model, a format of curriculum where standards are directly based on students' career interests.

From his time at Sheyenne, Williams still misses the mornings as principal. For him, it was nearly therapeutic.

"Being out in the hallways, greeting students; that was the best part of my day. There are days when you get up in the morning, and there's a dark cloud hanging over you, but when I got to work, and sitting in the hallway, and kids smiling, and giving me high fives, that just made my day," Williams recalled.

"[What] I want [all students] to know about Sheyenne is [that] you have teachers who care dearly about you. Not just necessarily about your academic success; they care about you as a human being, and if there's anything you need, you have people in this building who are there to help you and I will always advocate for you to reach out if you ever need help."

"This is an amazing school, like a family, and I'm glad you have the chance to experience this as your high school."

Buisness Manager Levi Bachmeier, Asst. Superintendent Agre, Superintendent Slette, and Mr. Williams at a district meeting



Mr. Williams on vacation with his family in South Dakota

# The Rise of the UFC and MMA Populatity

## By Logan Staska

Martial Arts are combat techniques that come from many different countries and cultures and are used for self defense and sport. Before MMA, matches where held within the singular sport, but on November of 1992 the UFC, Ultimate Fighting Championship, officially started mixing the forms of combat.

Since the beginning of the violent sport, Dana White, president of the UFC, has been traveling throughout the world looking for talented athletes trying to find the next super star.

He located star fighters from everywhere including Africa; where he found Kamaru Usman, Francis Nganou, and Israel Adesanya, Brazil; where he found Anderson Silva, Royce Gracie, and Jose Aldo and many other fighters from different countries in Europe, Australia, Asia, and North America.

Dana White's brilliant business moves grow the popularity of the UFC with the sport combining all forms of martial arts from all the different countries making the sport more interesting.

Also, UFC is gaining major popularity because fighters will walk into the octagon with the flag of their home country. This action makes fans cheer for their home fighter such as the Olympics.

Conor McGregor is the most famous





Connor McGregor lays punch into Dustin Poirier's face during UFC 257

fighter in the UFC and whenever he has a fight the crowd is



bombarded with Irish flags, showing the Irish natives are cheering for their home-townboy. This action is also showed with other fans such as Michael Chandler fans waiving United States flags when he fights.

The UFC has support from companies that enhance the sports

popularity such as Monster Energy Drinks, Body Armor and Reebok providing footwear for fighters. These sponsors help the sport increase in popularity along with major celebrity influence such as stand-up comedian and UFC commentator Joe Rogan. Joe Rogan draws attention to the UFC with his podcast the Joe Rogan Experience.

Just like in boxing, the UFC has a PPV (pay-per-view) system. The PPV helps increase the hype for the fight by making viewers more interested in the headlining fight. The first payper-view sold 86,000 dollars.

> One fighter who sells a high amount of PPV is Conor McGregor. He gets the entire world to view into the fight with his intense trash talking at press conferences. Hate him or love him, you're watching the fight.

Khabib Nurmagomedov and Connor McGregor are the reason for the largest pay-per-view in UFC history selling 2.4 million dollars.

While the UFC is the most popular organization in combat sports, they have been having a battle with boxing for the most popular combat sport. Boxing and the UFC intertwine with each other putting the best strikers against

boxers to see who would win.

Connor McGregor was the light at the end of the tunnel for the UFC when he went to box Floyd Mayweather, but unfortunately the Irish striker couldn't take down the undefeated champion.

Mayweather has the highest PPV sold in any combat sport selling 4.3 million views generating 600 million dollars.

With all the steps taken to get the UFC where it's at today, the UFC will be able to keep increasing in popularity with new headlining fights like Dustin Poirier vs Charles Oliveira on December 11th. With these headlining fights the UFC will grow in viewers and participants.









Draw

No fighter was able to KO, TKO, or submit the other opponent and they both fought good enough and judges were unable to come up with a decision.





# Submission:

Forcing opponent to tap out by either choking or bending limbs in uncomfortable positions to win.

Technical-Knock-Out: oppent is no longer able to fight but is still consious



# Cinema of Past & Present a Sh

# **By Carter Phillips**

On October 16th at the Fargo Theater the halls were filled with organ music that birthed from the auditorium. Buster Keatons first feature length film 'The Three Ages' was depicted on the screen, but it is from 1923 meaning it has no sound. It is a silent film, a relic of a dead age.

The silent era of cinema is the most important simply because it was the Genesis of its art-form. Because there was no sound, the first auteurs discovered that to tell a story well, they have to convey the plot visually. This made for films with much stronger effort and style.

Today however the majority of silent cinema is forgotten by the general public and the small amount of people who watch them is dwindling.

Besides Mary Pickford, Buster Keaton, and Charlie Chaplin which movie stars of the time are even remembered? And more importantly, does it matter that these films are slowly becoming

less and less relevant to contemporary moviegoers?

In 1996 Susan Santog wrote an essay titled: The Decay of Cinema and it brings up many points that Martin Scorsese would later vocalize.

Cinema is becoming tarnished by the people running the American film industry. It's no longer about telling good stories, it's about world building, marketing, merchandise and controlling the monopoly.

People stopped watching movies for stars, only famous characters. Not because they

A N In space no one can hear you scream. ALIEN

TOM SKERRITT SIGOURNEY WEAVER VERONICA CARTWRIGHT HARRY DEAN STANTON JOHN HURT IAN HOLM & YAPHET KOTTO PARKER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER RONALD SHUSETT PRODUCED BY GORDON CARROLL, DAVID GILER AND WALTER HILL DIRECTED BY RIDLEY SCOTT RY BY DAN O BANNON & RONALD SHUSETT SCREENPLAY BY DAN O BANNON MUSIC JERRY GOLDSMITH PANAVISION\* EASTMANA KODAK COLOR\* RESTRICTOR OF PRINTS BY DELUXE\* 70MM COLORDON FTERED WORD HOLD CARROLL ON DITH CENTRE GONDTHACK AVAILABLE ON DITH CENTRE FOR RECORDS & TARKE (a),

cares.

Alien.

In the year 2015 I saw a silent movie for the first time, which was so old that by then everyone involved in it was dead. It was the 1925 adaption of The Phantom of the Opera, Universal Pictures first foray into the horror genre.

It was unlike anything I'd ever seen. It came from a completely different world. I witnessed ghosts returned to life. I had a window into that past.

The whole cinematic grammar was different. The frame rate, aspect ratio, acting style, musical accompaniment, color tinting and visual quality all toppled together to create an enchanted, unsettling and most importantly uncanny experience.

The main poster for 1979's blockbuster hit: 'Alien'

care, but because everyone else

Streaming services curate what films each person watches through algorithms. Films become lost in the flow, leaving only the big-budget films recommended. Unless somebody seeks them out, there are no ways to find the next Rocky, Star Wars or

What followed was a fascination with these films and a desire to watch as many surviving as I could.

They were made simply because they could be made. Despite limitations, people pursued. It wasn't about theater domination to the masters of cinema, that was just a benefit.

This otherworldly atmosphere, sheer creativity and historical relevance is what attracted me.

Contrast this with the money makers of today. They're fun and they entertain but are they lasting? How long has it been since cinema became something special!? Not just white noise to play from Netflix while you wander around on your phone.

When was the last time you went to a film at the movie theater and really felt something? The last time you got lost in a story, that you wondered, "How did they do that?", or simply felt any emotion other than distraction from reality?

Cinema is not dead, the

recent Dune film is a major stepup from most blockbusters of today, however it is an exception.

Still, where are the next franchise starters. They live only as streaming service originals.

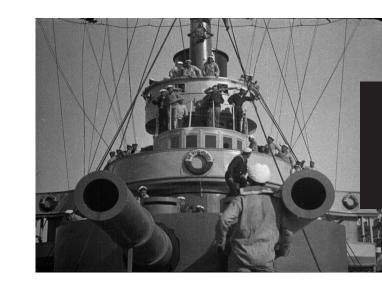
The way we watch films is changing too. It's loosing its social appeal. The movie theaters have been on the decline sense television but now if a film comes out, most people just wait until it is dropped on a streaming service and now people can do that on release date depending on the film.

It used to be an event to go to the cinema, like church for storytelling. They used to be grandiose and elegant. Most importantly, it was social. You were stuck in a room, with a bunch of strangers, but it didn't matter. In the cinema everyone was equal. Everyone just sat down and watched a movie.

So what is all this rambling leading to? How do I conclude?

The main take away is that silent cinema is something I love, and it's slowly being forgotten. Nobody notices any historical or artistic relevance to these films.

There's a thing about films. They outlive they're creators. They are made to be eternal, to be a statement on the person who made them and to represent humanity through the confines of plot. Yet people nowadays don't give old films a chance just because they have a preconceived notion that all of them are boring. To deprive yourself of this is to deprive yourself of art.



**Bronenosets Potemkin** (Battleship Potemkin) A revolutionary propaganda film (1925)

Der Golem, wie er in die Welt kam (The Golem: How He Came Into the World) A pivital example of the german expressionist film movement (1920)







The Big Parade A monumental war romance film (1925)

Lon Chaney The Man of a Thousand Faces (1883 - 1930)





Claire Bow, The 'IT' Girl (1905 - 1965)

Roscoe 'Fatty' Arbuckle (1887 - 1933)





# November Monthly Awareness

# By Brooke Markworth

Awareness months shed light on health conditions and cultural activities by celebrating specific events and bringing people together by sharing themselves and opening up to others about similarities between one another.

Once publicized, knowledge of these conditions and cultural differences are promoted.

This month, November 2021, focuses on Epilepsy Awareness, Lung Cancer Awareness, National Adoption, National Gratitude, Pancreatic Cancer Awareness, and many more.

While different organizations came up with the idea to advertise events and diseases, it is up to the people to ac-

knowledge and learn more information about these illnesses.

For example, the "COPD Learn More Breathe Better Campaign" encourages people who are interested in raising awareness for this cause, to spread the word and educate others. Members and supporters can do this by leading discussions, hosting events, and gathering more information on the medical condition.

Not only are health issues promoted, but cultural and everyday conditions as well.

National Native American Heritage Month is

the month of November. People come to discover and appreciate the traditions and histories that Native Americans and their tribes have brought into America and other locations globally.

During the month of November, Americans acknowledge National Career Development Month. Established by the National Career Development Agency, the campaign's goal is to celebrate professional development and support others to achieve their career and life goals.

Each month websites and help organizations are





more pronounced to allow people to get help and show support for others.

National Family Caregivers Month is a month to recognize and appreciate the caring people who look after and take care of a family member in need. These 78 million people deserve recognition for the hard work they do, both mentally and physically.

By engaging in these events and discussions, it can be easier to raise awareness and show support for health conditions, everyday accomplishments, and cultural appreciation.

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# MARVEL UNIVERSE CHANGES DIRECTION



## By Keona Munowenyu

"Marvel turned us into zombies," commented director Denis Villeneuve. Villeneuve's harsh criticism of the superhero genre is shared by another accredited director Martin Scorsese. The director of Taxi Driver and Raging Bull shares the same idea that Marvel movies "[aren't] cinema" and compared them to "theme parks."

These criticisms may be an explanation for Marvel's rebranding and release of characters like Captain America and Black Widow. Madeline Lapreziosa from Screen Rant says Marvel Studios' Phase 4 movie release has been a difficult transition for the company suffering from "not having a longterm release strategy for the COVID-19 era."

However, Marvel's films have been successful despite the initial chaos stemming from Scarlet Johansson's lawsuit against Marvel Studios for unfair compensation and the chances they took on the heavily acclaimed Shang Chi release strategy.

International Reporter for Deadline news, Nancy Tartaglione, reports, "the worldwide figure makes Shang-Chi the No. 4 biggest Hollywood title of 2021," which is an impressive turnout for Marvel's first Asian-led superhero film.

More than its box office success NBC news cultural critic, Ani Bundel, reports, "the film's focus on family and tradition also makes it unlike any Marvel offering so far—at first blush, Shang-Chi seems to fall into this tradition with the "evil father," but even this trope has layers." A refreshing change from the usual "theme park" Marvel films.

Furthermore, even the way Marvel studios went about the shows WandaVison and The Falcon and the Winter Soldier reveals the change of direction Marvel is taking with its production release. The Ringer remarks that Marvel using a TV medium is "more extended and flexible than a feature film," since "MCU movies don't stop to smell the roses." This commentary concludes that "releasing so many CGI bonanzas in a row has [also] taken a toll," and might be a reason for Marvel's change of direction.

While Shang-Chi, The Falcon and the Winter Soldier, and WandaVison have great feedback and have paid off despite Marvel studios lack strategy for their 2021 movie/tv show releases Senior Contributor for Forbes states, "Black Widow is a fine MCU film—perfectly average in every way—and I'm not sure that's enough to justify its existence." This criticism is not an off the handle remark considering accredited director Martin Scorsese stated that Marvel movies "[aren't] cinema," and Black Widow does little to disprove this statement.

Marvel movies may just be "theme parks" to a certain extent but as long as revenue from Theaters and Disney+ comes pouring in viewers of these films may find solace that the Marvel theme park will now include a more diverse cast of superheroes and characters with a genuine storyline.











Wanda Starring Elizabeth Olsen Image courtesy



Captain America Starring Anthony Mackie



Shang-Chi Starring Simu Liu Image courtesy of

