

ACADEMY TIMES

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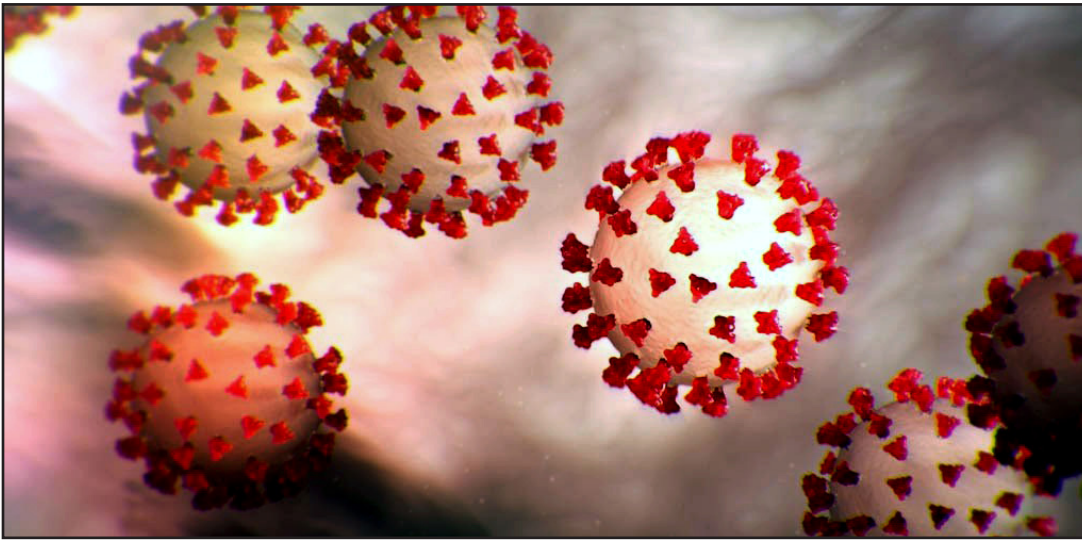
March 2020

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Editorial Board

Adam LaBarre Editor-In-Chief ~ Nya Bentley ~ Jacob Baez ~ Greg Nowinski ~ Kiyari Hopkins

Corona Virus Update



An image of the Coronavirus

County of San Luis Obispo

**By Nya Bentley &
Greg Nowinski
Staff Writers**

The Coronavirus (also known as COVID-19) is a virus that originated in Wuhan, China at a wet market, a type of food market that sells exotic food animals. One of the animals that were being sold was a bat that was assumed to be in contact with another animal that caused the virus. Once those bats were sold, the virus started to spread worldwide.

As of the time of writing, there have been 116,152 confirmed cases and 4,088 deaths worldwide.

Besides China, Italy has the largest amount of confirmed cases (9,172). The entire country has been in quarantine since March 3.

A 17-year-old Italian resident, Maddalena Lobuono, talks about her experience.

"The government said that all of Italy is a red zone. Being under quarantine is very stressful. You can't go

out of your house unless you are buying food or going to work. All schools are closed until April 3rd. Bars and restaurants are open from 6 am to 6 pm."

Since COVID-19 is spread through germs, limit the number of social gatherings. The more people there are together, the higher the chance someone gets infected.

Try to not touch your face. The germs contacted can go inside your body and weaken your immune system,

and wash your face hands frequently.

With the Coronavirus spreading through Europe like wildfire, Italy has gone into code red- a complete lockdown.

On the other side, China and the rest of Asia are already beginning to see a let up of the virus spreading and releasing some previously imposed restrictions.

The United States has been stuck between a rock and a hard place. The government needed to make some decisions and fast. They have implemented a joint travel and trade ban on products and people coming from Europe.

According to USA Today, "In his televised speech outlining the ban on Wednesday, President Trump said it will last 30 days, though the written proclamation made room for the possibility of extending it based on guidance from the Secretary of Health and Human Services."

Bottom line: the travel ban with Europe will remain "in effect until terminated by the president."

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The 2020 Democratic primaries show what is wrong with American politics

By Owen Roberts
Staff Writer

Joe Biden is currently leading the delegate count for the 2020 Democratic primaries. He has 847 pledged delegates to Bernie Sanders's 685. Elizabeth Warren, who recently suspended her campaign, is in a distant third place with 69.

Going into the Iowa Caucus, there were 11 remaining candidates, 6 of which were considered viable: Joe Biden, Bernie Sanders, Pete Buttigieg, Elizabeth Warren, Amy Klobuchar, and Michael Bloomberg.

Most polls had Sanders as the leader in Iowa, including Emerson College which had him up 7 points over the second place finisher. However, Buttigieg finished with 14 national pledged delegates to Sanders's 12, even though Sanders finished with 43, 581 popular votes to Buttigieg's 37, 572.

Following a New Hampshire debate where both Sanders and Klobuchar performed well, Sanders pulled out a popular vote victory with 25.6%. This victory benefitted him going into a debate in Las Vegas, Nevada ahead of the state's caucuses.

This was the first debate to feature billionaire and former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg.

In his first presidential debate ever, Bloomberg appeared nervous and unprepared. The other candidates attacked him over his support for stop and frisk as mayor and his past sexist comments against women.

Sanders demolished the Nevada caucuses, winning a staggering 51% of Latinos, the state's largest Democratic

voter bloc. He finished with 24 national pledged delegates, winning over second-place Biden by 15. Although most candidates would receive positive media coverage following such a victory, the media had the opposite response.

Chris Matthews, former host of MSNBC's *Hardball*, compared Sanders' victory in Nevada with the German army's invasion of France. "I was reading last night about the fall of France in the summer of 1940. And the general, Reynaud, calls up Churchill and says, 'It's over.' And Churchill says, 'How can that be? You've got the greatest army in Europe. How can it be over?'" He said, "It's over."

After Sanders had pulled within 2.4% of Biden in South Carolina on February 22, Jim Clyburn, a prominent African-American congressman representing the state's 6th congressional district, endorsed Biden. This endorsement was arguably the turning point of the entire race.

Biden won a shocking 48.7% of the popular vote and 39 national pledged delegates, compared to Sanders's 19.8% and 15 national pledged delegates. Although this was a decisive first-time primary victory for Biden, polling in the upcoming Super Tuesday states did not indicate that his victory would carry him back to his previously-held frontrunner status.

When it became clear to the Democratic establishment that Sanders was the clear frontrunner, Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar both dropped out and endorsed Biden. Elizabeth Warren stayed in the race through Super Tuesday.

Biden stunned everyone by winning 10 of 14 states on Super Tuesday, when no one expected him to win more than 6. Biden won Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Maine. Sanders won California, Utah, Colorado, and Vermont. Sanders was expected to win each of the states he won, plus at least Texas, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Maine.

Although Sanders responded to his poor showing by going after Biden's record with regards to war, trade, and Social Security, it did not help him one week after Super Tuesday.

Sanders won North Dakota and tied with Biden in Washington State, but he lost Idaho, Missouri, Mississippi, and Michigan. Given that Sanders won Michigan in 2016 over Hillary Clinton and the state represents his working class base, his loss there may be his most damning so far.

The events of the Democratic primaries so far represent what is wrong with American politics: the influence of corruption and corporate media. For the Iowa caucuses, the Iowa Democratic Party hired a company known as Shadow to develop an app that was used during the voting process. The app was funded by both Hillary Clinton and Pete Buttigieg, the latter who actually appeared on the ballot. IDP officials claimed to have mistakenly forgotten to stress-test the app. Results later showed that the app changed the vote totals from Black Hawk county, among others. These "mistakes" were not accidental.

Bloomberg's involvement in the race shows just how

much money can influence the democratic process. He donated \$300K to the DNC prior to the Nevada debate so they would eliminate the individual donor threshold requirement.

He also donated \$800K to the Democratic Grassroots Victory Fund, which is the conglomeration of all the state parties, so local television stations would give him positive media coverage.

He also spent \$500M on television ads where he falsely insinuated that President Obama had endorsed him. His unprecedented spending helped him reach as high as 13% in some national polls, when he hadn't campaigned in nearly any states.

Finally, the events that transpired from the reaction to Sanders's victory in Nevada through Super Tuesday show the influence that the political and media establishment have on the electoral process.

The media didn't cover Sanders positively after his win in Nevada, saying that he couldn't beat Trump and would destroy the Democratic Party. However, after Biden's win in South Carolina, they said he was the best person to take on the president in November. With all the other candidates dropping out and the media's positive coverage of Biden, rural and suburban middle-aged and older voters came out in droves for Biden on Super Tuesday, putting him back into first place in the delegate count.

That is the issue with our political system: it doesn't matter how much enthusiasm or support a candidate has, if the party's elites and the media choose to work together to deny that candidate and boost their candidate, they can.

History of St. Patrick's Day



Gallery Yopriceville

By Aiden Lang
Staff Writer

St. Patrick's Day, also known as feast day, is an Irish holiday celebrating the patron saint of Ireland- St. Patrick. St.

Patrick was taken to Ireland as a slave when he was 16 in the late 4th century. He then

escaped slavery and fled Ireland, but returned years later to convert Ireland to Christianity. He established churches, monasteries, and schools throughout Ireland, and, according to legend, drove out the snakes from Ireland.

It is said that he used a shamrock to explain the trinity, which is now a worldwide understood Irish symbol. The high number of Irish emigrants from Ireland to the Americas is why we celebrate St. Patrick's Day and have St. Patrick's Day parades in Boston, Chicago, New York City, and many other places throughout the U.S.

Influential women in history



Howard Miller

By Jake Lang
Staff Writer

Women have always played a critical role in history, even if they haven't always been recognized.

There have been the big names in history like Amelia Earheart who circled the world in a plane. Marie Curie

who discovered Radium, Curium, and Einsteinium all of which were radioactive, and ended her life in the pursuit of knowledge on the topic. And, Rosa Parks who stood for both colored rights as well as women's rights by refusing to give up her seat to a white man on the bus.

No one can deny they've heard of at least one of these women.

But there are other women who have done things like these incredible examples to much less recognition, and it is time we change that.

J.K Rowling is a household name for being the writer of the Wizarding world of *Harry Potter*, but she's also a woman who tells little girls that they cannot be labeled by anyone but themselves and should follow their own paths.

Moreover, not many people know, but should, is Sally

Simp or Pimp?



Mel Magazine

By Noel Angus
Staff Writer

Over the course of the last couple of years, the word "simp" (sympathizer) has been under a lot of speculation and criticism.

As per the top definition on Urban Dictionary, a simp is: "Basically someone who gives redundant and over-the-top attention to women that are of far less value than the attention or praise given."

An example of a "simp" would be a woman complaining about the school dress code and your male friend automatically becoming a "femonist" about the situation to gain the woman's attention.

The word targets men that either want a woman's attention, or to mock men for respecting women.

An Aerospace student said, "The word simp if used in the way people use it can be very offensive to the person getting spoken to, but in some cases, the word "simp" is actually needed."

This word is unnecessary and actually pretty rude to men that are just trying to be a gentleman. We should not use words like that because at the end of the day, respect is respect, and if a man genuinely agrees with women on certain situations, they should not be discriminated for it.

Ride, The first American woman who went into space in 1983. Overall, Ride was the third woman in space after the USSR. At the age of 32, she remains the youngest American astronaut to have traveled to space.

There's a famous poster from WWII with a woman saying "WE CAN DO IT" I bet you didn't know her name, that's Rosie the Riveter, and she never existed, but was the motivational activist for women's working rights.

Rosie was meant to encourage all women to work in the factories and shops that used to be men only. But when the country needed soldiers, it was the women who demonstrated

they weren't going to sit and wait idly by, but take action and assist their husbands, brothers, or even sons.

Another group of women who took action during the second world war were the Night Witches. This was a group of women who flew planes and bombed German camps during the night by turning off their engines and flying silently over enemy territory dropping their payloads.

If you ever think there isn't enough women who have done great things you're wrong, there's plenty, it's just that we aren't recognizing them for the great things they've done.

Does Cancel Culture even work?



*By Meajah Edney
and Nya Bently*

Cancel Culture is the practice of no longer supporting someone, typically a celebrity, who has done something problematic. But what does being problematic mean? And do people who are “cancelled” change their behavior? The purpose of cancel culture is to show that prejudiced or bigoted beliefs and the way those beliefs are manifest in actions -- homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, racism and sexism, or sexual assault, misconduct, harassment or abuse -- are not accepted or tolerated in today’s society. But does cancelling someone work?

Kevin Hart was “cancelled” in 2018 when a series of tweets and homophobic jokes he made from July 2009- January 2011, during his comedy special, “Seriously Funny,” surfaced after he was named the host of the 2018 Academy Awards.

Hart has apologized for his jokes multiple times

during multiple interviews prior to the 2018 Oscars. In July of 2015, during an interview with Rolling Stone, Hart referenced PC culture: “I wouldn’t tell that joke today, because when I said it, the times weren’t as sensitive as they are now. I think we love to make big deals out of things that aren’t necessarily big deals, because we can. These things become public spectacles. So Why set yourself up for failure?”

Hart’s jokes were offensive to members of the LGBT community. The tweets reference physically harming his son for showing femininity by playing with traditionally “girly” toys, insinuating that gay men are not “real men,” illustrating classical heterosexual insecurity. Hart is a 40 year-old straight man. It’s understandable why he might’ve developed this mindset; however, this is no excuse for what was said. Homophobia is homophobia whatever the year. Hart’s upbringing and societal status might give insight into why

he said the things he’s said; but it’s no excuse.

Hart has not been successfully cancelled. He is still an actor who earned 59 million in 2019 according to Forbes Magazine. His “The Irresponsible Tour” was the biggest comedy tour in 2018 selling more than 1 million tickets, and he has launched a new comedy streaming service, “Laugh Out Loud.”

Kevin Hart is not the only person who caused a controversy on cancel culture. In 2017, the white youtuber Felix Kjellberg, commonly known as “Pewdiepie” live streamed himself playing a video game. When Kjellberg became angry, he shouted he referred to another player as the N-Word before catching himself and substituting a vulgarity for the word. However, the damage was already done. He was faced with backlash and several articles were written about the event.

A few days later, Kjellberg posted a video titled “My Response” responding to the controversy. He claimed the word just “slipped out” and was ashamed of his actions. However, many of the people who saw the video didn’t consider it sincere.

A year later, he posted a video named “RATING YOUTUBER APOLOGY VIDEOS”. He looked at other youtuber’s apology videos and criticized them, including his own. He criticized his word choice in his original video saying he hates he said “It was in the heat of the moment.” Was his re-apology sincere?

If popular reaction is any guide, then us apparently came across that way, because Kjellberg hasn’t been cancelled either, since the N-word incident he has gained around 70 million subscribers, and that wasn’t his only brush with controversy. Months before the N-Word incident, he was dropped by Disney’s Maker Studios after posting a number of videos with offensive material.

The vast majority of celebrities today have done something “problematic” in the past. “Cancel Culture” has the expectation that everyone has a pristine past and ignores the realities of our society. This doesn’t mean we shouldn’t actively hold everyone accountable for their problematic actions. Some celebrities, such as Kevin Spacey, paid dearly for the transgressions. While Louis CK is struggling to recover, the prospects look bleak for Kevin Spacey.

The ways different celebrities navigate cancellation shows something about society: If Cancel Culture were truly about holding people accountable then it would be in support of redemption, however, in practice that is far from the truth.

This article was published in the *Hartford Courant’s* Fresh Talk section on March 3, 2020. The Fresh Talk section encourages students under 30 to take a strong view on a topic and write about it.

Black History Month Celebration



Mrs. Wright

By Marquise Rivera
Staff Writer

AAE celebrated Black History month on March 5th. The school community worked together to plan and decorate for an evening event.

The night was filled with

entertainment, and there were over 120 people that came to watch the live performances and to enjoy the delicious food.

The dinner was catered by First Harvest. Special guest speaker, Nekita Waller, who is Connecticut's 17th Troubadour, spoke at the

event. She is a versatile singer and is also the first African-American solo artist to take on the role of the troubadour. Waller sang a song that's beat was remixed by a 7th-grade student Aiden Waller whose beat amazed the audience.

At the end of the show, Mrs. Vita, the school security

guard, presented her hand-made knit items such as clothes and other accessories in a runway style fashion show.

Special thanks are in order for Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Patterson who organized the event.

Winter Olympics



Mrs. Quinn and Mrs. Sinesi's team

Mrs. Quinn



Bowling

Greg Nowinski

By Cortland Carbone
Guest Writer

On March 3rd, 2020, our AAE High School took part in Student Council's annual Winter Olympics event. After weeks of preparation and anticipation, it was so incredible to see smiling faces, laughs, funky

dance moves, impressive athleticism, trivia knowledge, and sportsmanship.

Winter Olympics represents our AAE community coming together as one- we're all part of collective experience and collective joy on this day. Teams got to work and play with those we may not see every day, and it was

awesome to look back on the memories everyone created when the day was done!

Whether it was dancing, fun-facts, or sports, everyone brought something to the table and embraced working collectively not only in their separate teams but as one AAE Team!

36 Teams

18 Games

4 AAE HS Grades

20 Student Council Members

1 Incredible Event

1 Incredible Community

We'd like to thank every staff member at AAE for working alongside us and having fun in the process. A special thanks to Ms. Manby for her unconditional support.

Corona's attack on seniors

Just a woman's dilemma?



Meajah Edney

Seniors trying to cope with a loss of their last year



thelily.com

Confronting equity in the bathroom

By Jacob Baez
Editor

With the overwhelming COVID-19 virus comes along the small side effects.

Though not significant as the concerns for our safety, the cause and effect it is having towards our school's seniors and graduating students nationwide is still important and should not be forgotten.

End of the year events serve as rewards and celebrations to a student's successes, and seniors should have it best of all, as they have completed the meaningful 12 year journey.

All students strive to meet this checkpoint in life. Although the outbreak has caused these events to be canceled, and at best, postponed.

Yes, the fun events are the least of everyone's worries, but having something to look forward to is very important for morale and motivation.

Now, as a senior, not even knowing when you'll receive your diploma or the last time you get to see your highschool peers is an unprecedented fear.

It is understood that hopefully these events are moved, but there are some that will not be, like end of the year trips to celebrate.

The only thing that will be postponed is graduation, not day trips with your friends.

But still, there is something about having a predestined date for your entire school career and having it change.

The day will change, the hype will be overshadowed by the virus, and maybe less people will be there when it is all over.

All of this takes away from the value and depreciates the purpose of these events. Regardless, there is no one to blame.

This is something we all have to overcome while our generation lives through history in the making.

By Brendon Hunter
Staff Writer

If there is free toilet paper in every bathroom, why can't there be tampons and pads in girls' bathrooms?

It's a necessary need for females to have them, but they are not readily accessible like toilet paper, also a necessity.

So, what do you do if you don't have what you need? It might be embarrassing to ask someone for this, especially for young girls. It's not something men often think about, but it's how it could feel for a woman.

There should be feminine products in bathrooms because it's equitable.

Some females in the world can't afford all the necessary items, and if society is not requiring people to carry around their own toilet paper, then why are we asking women to carry what they need.

In the article, "Toilet Paper

Is Free In Public Restrooms. Why Aren't Tampons?" Free The Tampons founder Nancy Kramer (@NancyKramer) tells Here & Now's Eric Westervelt (@Ericnpr), "The consequences of not having access to [menstrual] products are pretty humiliating, and really a loss of dignity."

She explains, "There's just nothing that's the equivalent. But I think that as we are having more awareness around this issue, we're seeing these states saying, 'This isn't OK in schools.'" and I think next we'll see it more in restrooms in the future because this is an issue of equity.

Kramer concludes, "I think it's a matter of, what do we need to tend to our normal bodily functions? And menstruation is a normal bodily function that we have absolutely no control over. Again, I think that if men got periods, frankly I don't think we'd be even having this discussion."

Feminism in America



Seventeen Magazine

By Meajah Edney
Staff Writer

Feminism is a very misunderstood movement for a number of reasons, from a lack of education/knowledge on the topic to its misrepresentation in the media.

The movement has been demonized by people who misunderstand its goals which then causes people to hesitate from calling themselves feminists.

By definition, feminism is the advocacy of women's rights on the basis of the equality of the sexes. However, for a very long time only focused on the issues of upper-middle class white women.

The advocacy of women's rights both socially and politically for decades has been one-dimensional and ignored women that face discrimination in areas not only associated with their sex but their race/ethnic background, sexuality, gender identity/expression and socio-economic status.

We have been through 3 waves of feminism, each one focusing on a unique set of women's issues both socially and politically. Third wave feminism, which started in the 90s, emphasized the practice of "intersectionality" which can be described as an

understanding on how one's social and political identities combine and overlap (or intersect) in order to form unique identities.

For example, the experiences of a black woman differs from the experiences of a white woman, i.e, white women don't experience discrimination based on race, so they only experience misogyny. Black women experience discrimination based on race and sex, described as misogynoir (the angry black woman stereotype paints black women as irrationally mad and their anger is written off as hysterical opposite to men's).

First wave feminism (1848-1920) focused on political equality for (white) women, specifically a woman's right to vote. The Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 is what started the first wave, organized by Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

The abolitionist movement and the women's rights movement were heavily integrated at the time, Mott and Stanton were known abolitionists. Even though women of color were strong forces in the movement like Sojourner Truth, Maria Stewart, and Frances E.W Harper, white women separated themselves

from them and were then established as the heads of the movement.

A letter from a white woman to Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony's newspaper, The Revolution, writes: "If educated women are not as fit to decide who shall be the rulers of this country, as 'field hands,' then where's the use of culture, or any brain at all?... One might as well have been 'born on the plantation.'" This was a direct reaction to the 15th amendment, which allowed black men the right to vote.

Second wave feminism (1963-1980s) focused on pay equality, educational equality, and reproductive rights, which resulted in the Equal Pay Act of 1963, which theoretically banned unequal pay amongst the sexes, and a number of supreme court cases led to married and unmarried women gaining access to birth control. Title IX led to education equality, and Roe v Wade in 1973 secured women's reproductive freedom.

During this time black women were advocating to put an end to the forced sterilization of women of color and people with disabilities, which has been an ongoing issue for decades; however, the mainstream feminists of the

time showed that it wasn't the main priority of the movement and the practice continued.

The thing that makes third wave feminism so special is that it arose with the goal of intersectionality. Third wave feminism was supposed to pave the way for women of color, LGBT+ women, poor women, and women from all over the world to feel included in a movement that they have been rejected from since its inception.

However, as the third wave progresses we are seeing the voices of the women from those demographics being ignored. Instead, we see white feminists like Amy Schumer and Lena Dunham, who have been called out for their racism and one dimensional activism.

White feminism describes the feminist theories that focus on the struggles of white cisgender women without addressing other forms of oppression like race, sexuality, gender identity/expression, and socio-economic status.

In this era of social media, 'white feminists' seem to have an even bigger platform than before, even though the third wave was meant to put an end to this type of archetype.

Like many things in history, the feminist movement is white-washed while the history provided started in 1848 the fight for women's equality goes back further than that, especially outside of western context. Being a feminist is much more than wearing a pussy hat and screaming at men. It's a centuries long fight for social and political equality, which is far from done.

Girls basketball wins first round at states!



Score board showing final score of 34-44

By Jacob Baez
Staff Writer

The Girls Varsity Basketball team won their first round State Tournament game tonight at home against Derby, 44-34.

The round 2 game was scheduled to be at Old Lyme. AAE is in the ninth seed and Old Lyme is seeded 8.

Unprecedented NBA shutdown



By Dorian Williamson
Staff Writer

The NBA is indefinitely suspended due to concerns of the coronavirus also known as (COVID-19). The confirmed cases are up to 129,641. The deaths are up to 4,749 and the recovered number is up to 68,670. The first confirmed case amongst the NBA Athletes is Rudy

Gobert. He was confirmed to have the virus on March 11th, 2020 and this is also when the NBA was announced to be indefinitely suspended. Many NBA Players are understandably upset by the situation, and many came out with statements on the virus. Days before he touched every mic in the recording room and he got the virus after.

AAE wins big at CT Science and Engineering Fair



Jonathan Bell and Devesh Kakkar

By Jonathan Bell
Staff Writer

Through the week of March 9th, 26 students competed in the Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF). Working under Dr. Bellinger or Dr. Aramli, 16 extensive research projects

were submitted, the most AAE has ever completed in a year. Eight of these projects made it to the Finalist round, all receiving awards and prize money. Four of our students (representing two projects) were the winners of their categories, and became International Science and Engineering Fair Finalists. Johnathan Bell and Devesh Kakkar, Trevor Brunette and Chris Reed, ISEF Finalists, are awarded an all-expenses-paid trip to Anaheim, California to compete on the International High School level. The titles of both projects are: "Augmentation of Static Omnidirectional Venturi Flow Systems to Optimize the Efficiency of Wind Energy Harvesters While Mitigating Acoustical Sensitivity and Other Adverse Environmental Impacts" (Bell and Kakkar), and "Cyber Attack Identification in the Electric Power Grid by Anomaly Detection" (Brunette and Reed). AAE now has 7 total students or alumni who have competed on the international stage over the last 3 years. This is a feat only surpassed by a few schools in the state.

AAE's Boxer: Thayless Werleman



Nel Benitez

Werleman

Thayless Werleman take part in her very first sanctioned boxing match. She won, and rocked it! She has been working extremely hard for months getting ready for this, all while still working hard in classes and keeping up on her grades.