

# THE **C**urrent

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April 1st

Celebrating the Beautiful Life of  
*≡ Alycia Ziegler ≡*

# THE CURRENT STAFF



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**SCAN FOR  
ONLINE ISSUES**



The Current is the official student publication of Three Rivers Community College. The Current is written, edited and designed by students.

If you would like to contribute to The Current, email submissions and ideas to:

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# In Celebration of Alycia Ziegler

Remembering Alycia, Director of Student Activities and Beloved Character

Article by: Max Hillyer & Johnathon Santangelo

**F**un, upbeat, caring, and compassionate are just a few of the many words to describe Alycia Ziegler. She brought joy and passion to our school in a way that no other person can replicate.

Known for her involvement as the Director of Student Activities, she made sure every student felt welcome and safe on our campus. Whether she knew you or not, you felt in the right place when you were with her. Her charm and sense of humor made a stranger feel as if they were longtime friends.

Her love for the TRCC students, faculty, and staff didn't just start with her student activities position; it started when she was a student here herself.

Starting in 2013, as a student, Alycia formed several connections with clubs and activities within TRCC. She earned several executive leadership positions, one of which was president of the Student Government Association.

Alycia then became a student worker, where she formed connections with students and forever



changed the culture on campus. School was nothing new to Alycia, as after she obtained her Associate in Liberal Arts and Sciences degree at Three Rivers, she went on to obtain her Bachelor of Science in Marketing at UCONN and then a Master of Education in Higher Education and Administration from Boston University. During this time, Alycia became an advocate for many students within the LGBTQ+



*Alycia was much more than just a boss to me, outside of work, she was the most important person to me.*

*-Jordan Chenette*

community, student mental well-being, and health rights. Alycia volunteered for Autism Speaks and served on the OutCT board, promoting numerous events supporting the LGBTQ+ community.

In 2014, Alycia received the 40 Under 40 Award, which recognizes young professionals who excel in areas of leadership and community. In 2017, students gifted her the Lavender Award at the first Lavender Graduation she helped establish at Three Rivers. This brought attention and recognition to students who are a part of the LGBTQ+ community within our school.

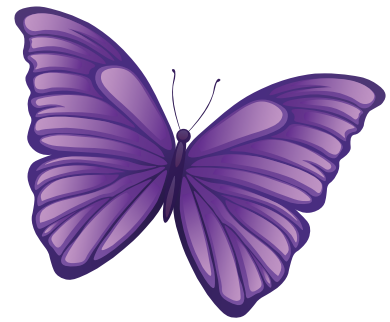
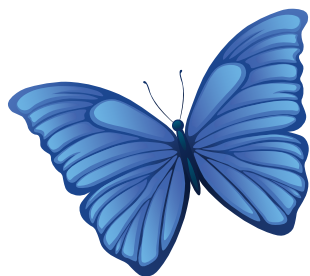
Which then brought her into 2019, where Alycia rose to become the Director of Student Activities. Her leadership roles only helped her with her goals and aspirations for reaching equity and equality for all. The endless support provided by Alycia has helped many people throughout her life, in and out of the school system.



Alycia Ziegler's legacy will continue to shine on Three Rivers and the entire community surrounding her. What she brought out and gave us in her life is truly extraordinary. She will forever be remembered as a remarkable woman with a big heart and bigger dreams to make this world a better place.







In honor of Alycia's impact on the Three Rivers community and her family, a celebration of life was held in the multi-purpose room on March 21st. Hundreds attended the event, including friends, family, students, and colleagues, to reflect on her beautiful life.

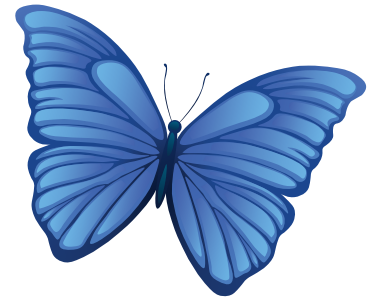
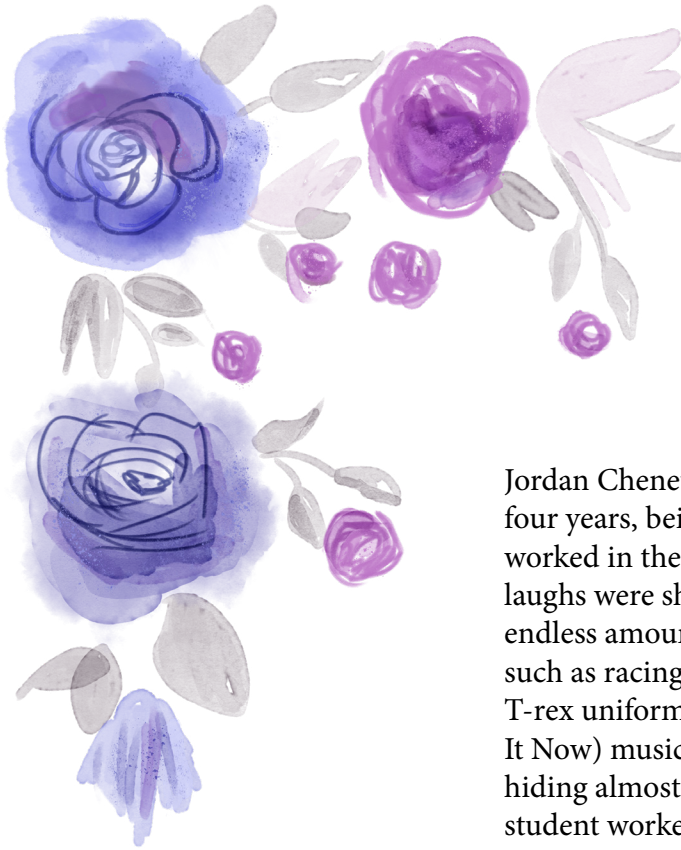
Loving greetings and reflections commenced instantly, and the room was swiftly filled with people remembering Alycia and sharing their multitude of funny, unforgettable moments everybody experienced. A captivating slideshow was presented, showcasing Alycia's positive infectious personality in each photo, and easels were laid out throughout the room, displaying photos of Alycia's energetic childhood and her abundant family. Alongside the photoengraved memories were a plethora of cards that attendees signed in commemoration of Alycia.

One attendee said that the event was very heavy and a lot to take in at first. After a short intermission, however, their grief turned into something more positive, knowing all the attendees truly loved Alycia.

"It really helped me conceptualize her impact and that I wasn't alone in my grief. I feel a lot better about coming."

Greetings and remarks were prompted by CT State Three Rivers President, Dr. Mary Ellen Jukoski, where she gave a heartfelt speech on her experience and honor of working in tandem with Alycia for numerous years. During her opening remark, she continued to praise Alycia's joyful life, adding that "her kindness, compassion, and radiant spirit will be cherished forever."

"You will always be in our hearts." Dr. Mary Ellen Jukoski said before passing the invitation to share the reflections they had with Alycia.



Jordan Chenette has known Alycia for nearly four years, being by each other's side as they worked in the Student Programs Office. Many laughs were shared as Jordan recalled the endless amount of time spent with Alycia, such as racing down the C-wing in inflatable T-rex uniforms, quoting the SEAGULLS! (Stop It Now) music video daily in the office, and hiding almost 300 tiny cut-out prints of the student worker's faces for Alycia to find the very same day.

"Alycia was much more than just a boss to me; outside of work, she was the most important person to me." Jordan said, shortly before ending her remarks with a heartfelt thank you to the attendees and, most importantly, to Alycia.



*Her kindness, compassion, and radiant spirit will be cherished forever.*

*-Mary Ellen Jukoski*

Kevin P. Kelly, Associate Dean of Enrollment, recalled more hilarious memories he shared with Alycia. One of the most memorable pranks Alycia pulled on Kevin was when he

was graduating with his degree, where she somehow got access to the database for the diplomas. In classic Alycia fashion, she took this opportunity to change Kevin's diploma and make him graduate with a "Tiddlywink" doctorate.



Alycia's niece, Cecilia, also came up to the stand to tell the multiple wild stories that they experienced together. Cecilia mentioned the random obsession with goats that Alycia garnered right after seeing a herd of them



during their trip to the petting zoo: “I’ve never seen her run so fast.”

As Cecilia recalled, Alycia wanted to adopt three goats and name them “pancake, french toast, and waffle,” as the audience burst into beautiful laughter.

For her niece, it was a heartbreaking moment to say goodbye to her aunt Alycia, and she reminded the audience that Alycia will always live in all our hearts. Cecilia expressed her love once more before thanking the room.

Alycia’s father recalled the countless memories and the fun-loving, testy behavior they both shared with each other. Her father continuously praised the number of lives she touched in a positive light and expressed how proud he was.

“I’m very proud. I’m extremely proud of her... I’m so happy she impacted so many people’s lives.”

Alycia’s wife, Amy, shared her thoughts and words in memory of her loving wife. As laughs were shared with their matching humor, such as Amy reassuring the audience, “If you thought you knew how much of a handful she was, you didn’t.” Amy continued to speak about Alycia’s generosity and supportive personality, describing how much Alycia truly loved her space in Three Rivers.

Shortly before leaving the podium, Amy wholeheartedly cherished their everlasting relationship: “We complimented each other really well.”

Rebecca Kitchell, Associate Dean of Student Development and close friend to Alycia, began the closing remarks for the community. “Thank you so much for being here. I know how much Alycia loved a good celebration and a good event.”



Rebecca assured that Alycia was much more than just a coworker; she was a dear friend as well. “Alycia, you will be missed and never forgotten.”

Before thanking the audience for attending the celebration, Rebecca recalled the simple yet fond reminder that Alycia would always tell her: “She used to always tell me, ‘I got you.’ I got you too, in my heart, forever.”

Knowing Alycia would hate a sad ending, Rebecca said one last thing before letting the attendees laugh about it.





“And in classic Alycia fashion, as she always used to say, ‘there is a shit ton of food in the back!’”

As we bid farewell to our esteemed Alycia, may her legacy continue to inspire and illuminate the path for future generations in the TRCC community and beyond.





# Empty Bowls, Full Hearts: Community

## A Recipe for Compassion and Generosity

Article by: Derek Denis

**O**n March 6th, Student Programs hosted the Empty Bowls event, bringing the community together to raise money for TRCC's food pantry. The event featured a basket raffle, student-made pottery, and various soups that were donated by local restaurants.

Professor Sean Langlais shared his experience, stating, "My part in the Empty Bowls event was to help throw some of the bowls. I came down to see how they were selling and was very impressed [...] It is always a lot of fun to throw [...] the bowls."

Eventgoers had the opportunity to purchase \$5–\$15

clay bowls and pick up a delicious cup of soup to support the food pantry. The soups were donated by the cafeteria, Illiano's Grill, Jack's Brick Oven, Engine Pizza, CT Department of Transportation, AZ Roofing, Spear Bro's Tree Service, Irene's, and bread from Vocatura's bakery.

To top off the night, the basket raffle winners were randomly picked by students who attended the event. A plethora of baskets were raffled off to support the generous cause. The diverse selection included the "Game Basket," "Let's Cook," "Spring is Coming," "Good Reads," "Toddler Fun," and more.



Attendees browsing student-made bowls



# Unites in Support of the Food Pantry



Cafeteria staff welcomed visitors to have bowls of soup & other refreshments



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Soup sponsors:













Empty Bowls brought together a multitude of people in the Three Rivers Community to support a great cause: to raise money for the Food Pantry.

The Three Rivers Food Pantry was created with the intent of helping students and members of the community during difficult times. Whether a

student needs a snack or a meal to feed their family, the Food Pantry is there to help.

The community of Three Rivers understands the financial compromise many students make in order to receive an education. With multiple donations from various restaurants, events like Empty Bowls





Group picture of all TRCC students attending the event.

show how far Student Programs and the Norwich community are willing to go to support their students' education and wellbeing.

The Empty Bowl's event was another successful event from Student Programs and displayed their dedication to helping out the community.

For more information about TRCC's upcoming events, scan here:





# Exploring Futures: Three Rivers

Current & Future Scholars Met with all of TRCC's Program of Studies

Article by: Johnathon Santangelo



Attendees approach the criminal justice booth, hosted by professor Jeffrey Nixon

Three Rivers hosted a vibrant and engaging college fair on March 20th, where both current college students and incoming high school students gathered to explore academic opportunities and chart their educational paths. The fair, held in the multipurpose room, served as a nexus of information, connecting a wide variety of students with the various programs of study offered by TRCC.

The event was met with a plethora of aspirations, with students from diverse backgrounds converging to

explore the dozens of educational avenues available at Three Rivers. What made this fair particularly noteworthy was the personalized approach it offered, catering to both those already enrolled in college and those on the brink of transitioning from high school to higher education.

For current college students, many of whom are navigating the journey of selecting a major, the fair provided invaluable insights into their choices. Booths representing each program of study were set up,



# Hosts Dynamic College Fair

staffed by knowledgeable professors and students ready to engage with attendees. These booths served as a guiding light for those who might be indecisive or wondering which program of study to enroll in, not just with brochures or papers of information but with personal conversations about the programs in an honest tone.

From liberal arts to STEM disciplines, from healthcare to business, each program had its own dedicated space, adorned with informative displays and manned by faculty and students passionate about their respective fields.

The atmosphere buzzed with excitement and possibility as students interacted with mouthpieces

from various programs. Questions flew back and forth, conversations sparked, and connections formed. It wasn't merely about gathering information; for many, it was about forging connections and finding one's place in the academic landscape.

Whether they were current college students grappling with major decisions or incoming high school students embarking on their academic journey, the event served as a crucial point of guidance and recognition.

As the attendees departed, they carried with them the information and insight of their academic aspirations, and we hope to see them this upcoming fall semester!



Attendees talking to professor Philip Mayer, economics and political science

# Navigating Obstacles: Lack of

## Students & Faculty Face Challenges Due to Unsatisfactory Campus Design

Article by: Johnathon Santangelo

**B**eginning in the Fall 2023 semester, Three Rivers has seemingly fallen short on providing accessibility for those with diverse physical needs. While Three Rivers continues to strive for equal opportunity, student success, and advocating for the community, there's a clear gap for basic navigation within the school.

One incredibly noticeable failure is the motion-controlled doors in both the clocktower and main entrances, which allow those with mobility issues to pass through the doors. For the past two semesters, these motion detectors have been pending maintenance ever since the problem arose.

There is still no time frame for when this issue will be resolved.

This has caused some frustration for the students and faculty who require motion assistance, which usually results in the security department helping out those who cannot open the doors for themselves.

This issue is far from just being a handicap restraint. Constantly opening heavy doors can put a strain on individuals with physical disabilities or chronic conditions. Motion-detecting doors alleviate this strain by





# Accessibility on Campus

automatically opening and closing, minimizing the physical effort required to move through doorways. For the large portion of students and faculty here at Three Rivers, these motion-controlled doors make it easier for students with mobility challenges to enter and exit buildings independently without needing a second body to assist them.

“We’re grateful that security is at the front desk to assist, but it would be nice if the doors worked,” Rebecca, campus security, expressed when asked about the disparity.

Motion-detected doors play a vital role in enhancing accessibility, convenience, safety, and inclusivity for college students who are handicapped or motion-challenged, ultimately contributing to a more equitable and accommodating campus environment.

Hopefully, with people growing more tired of the problem and increased awareness, Three Rivers will take action to ensure these motion-controlled doors can operate as usual.



# The Annual Irish 5K Marathon

Runners Celebrated St. Patrick's Day Weekend in Downtown Mystic!

Article by: Jesse Bisunia

On the rainy day of March 23rd, the annual Mystic Irish 5k was held on Pearl Street in Mystic and kicked off at 10 a.m. Marathon runners and casual fitness enthusiasts participated in celebrating the event during the week of St. Patrick's Day. The attendance was estimated to be around 500–600 runners, and the city of Groton provided police escorts for the marathon.

The highly anticipated run started at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Pearl Street and traveled north, where it then turned onto Grove Avenue, continued straight onto River Road, and maintained the course for a little over a mile until it turned around and returned down the same

“*The rain won't stop us from running this 5k run.*” —Event Goer



Group of marathon runners at the start of the race.



# Conquers the Streets of Mystic



Street banner advertising the Mystic Irish Parade & road race.

track. The winners of the race would have a reserved spot to march in the Mystic Irish Parade the following day. Event goers and anyone interested could donate \$5 to the Scholar Program to help families in need participate in Groton's Parks and Recreation programs and receive a pair of green Speed Laces as a thank-you gift. The runners who run the marathon with the green laces are eligible for additional prizes.

"The rain won't stop us from running this 5k run... I don't know if I'll win it but we'll see what happens" - Pete Fitzpatrick, event goer.



# TikTok Faces Potential Ban

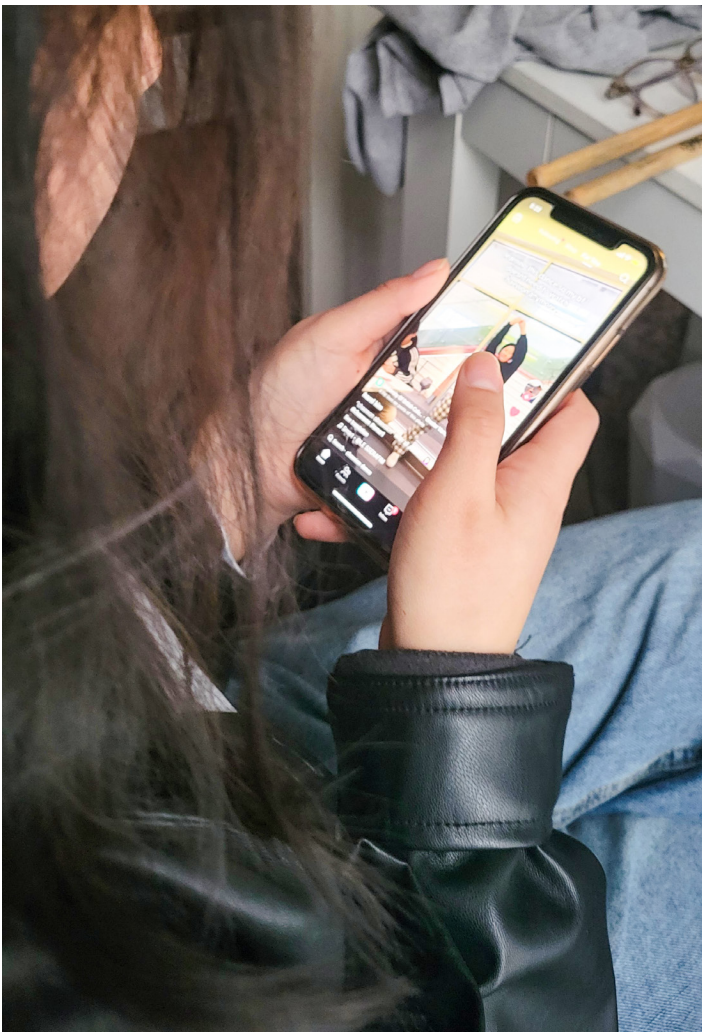
The Entertainment App of a New Generation Hangs by a Thread

Article by: Benjamin Garay

Currently, social networks have become an indispensable tool for many people. From older adults to small children, they all own at least one account on popular social networks. Facebook, X, and Instagram are some of the most popular social networks that have made a great impact on society. But there is one that marked a before and after in the entertainment of many

and in the business vision of companies, and it had to be a foreign company. TikTok, launched in 2016, is a social network where you can watch and share short videos, which surprisingly became popular around the world. It caused a great impact, especially for young audiences, since making short videos that became popular was much easier, and the simple editing and quick views made people fall in love with this app. Many people, especially adults, began to criticize the application for encouraging young people to do “silly dances” or stupid content, but little by little these trends became normal.

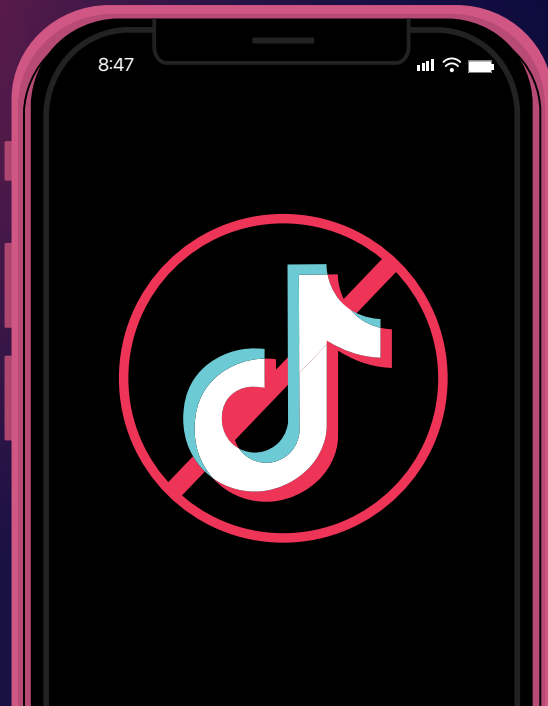
To this day, Tik Tok is the “popular” social network of the moment. With more than 4.7 billion downloads by the end of 2023, TikTok has many users who continue to upload content. Which caused concern for the US government. On Wednesday, March 13, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a law that forces the company that created TikTok, ByteDance, to disassociate itself from the app or be banned from U.S. app stores. Many people criticized the decision of the US government, but it is clear why they decided on this law. It has a lot to do with the vulnerability of each person’s personal information.



TikTok user scrolling on the home page

The risk that TikTok poses to the government is much greater than most people think. The exposure of the data and personal information of many people in the company and the possibility that it was shared with the Chinese government is a danger to the privacy of many. And exposing that information to a government that





is not ours is something that is scary, even for the American government. The House of Representatives gave ByteDance a period of 6 months to leave TikTok and sell the app to another company that can be monitored from here; otherwise, they would ban the app from the entire country. So far, ByteDance denies having a relationship with the Chinese government, but senior officials are not sure if that claim has been verified.

For now, we are waiting for an action from ByteDance, whether it will sell the app to a company monitored by the U.S. or you will be completely banned from the country. But all this news caused it to be a highly discussed topic on various discussion sites. Because it would be goodbye for an app that brought a change in the way of watching videos. Some of the young people who have been in this app since its inception are the ones who have criticized the situation the

most. If the possibility of TikTok being banned passes, it would not be a big change since many social networks apply this short video system to their applications. Like Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. All of them have already adapted to this trend, so the banning of TikTok would not affect society.

Without a doubt, TikTok changed many things that are popular today, but the risk it represents to our security must be solved. If you must be banned from the country for the sake of keeping our information safe, then most will understand the decision that was made, and another alternative can be found for this app.



# The Legacy of Akira Toriyama

## A Farewell to the Creator of *Dragon Ball*

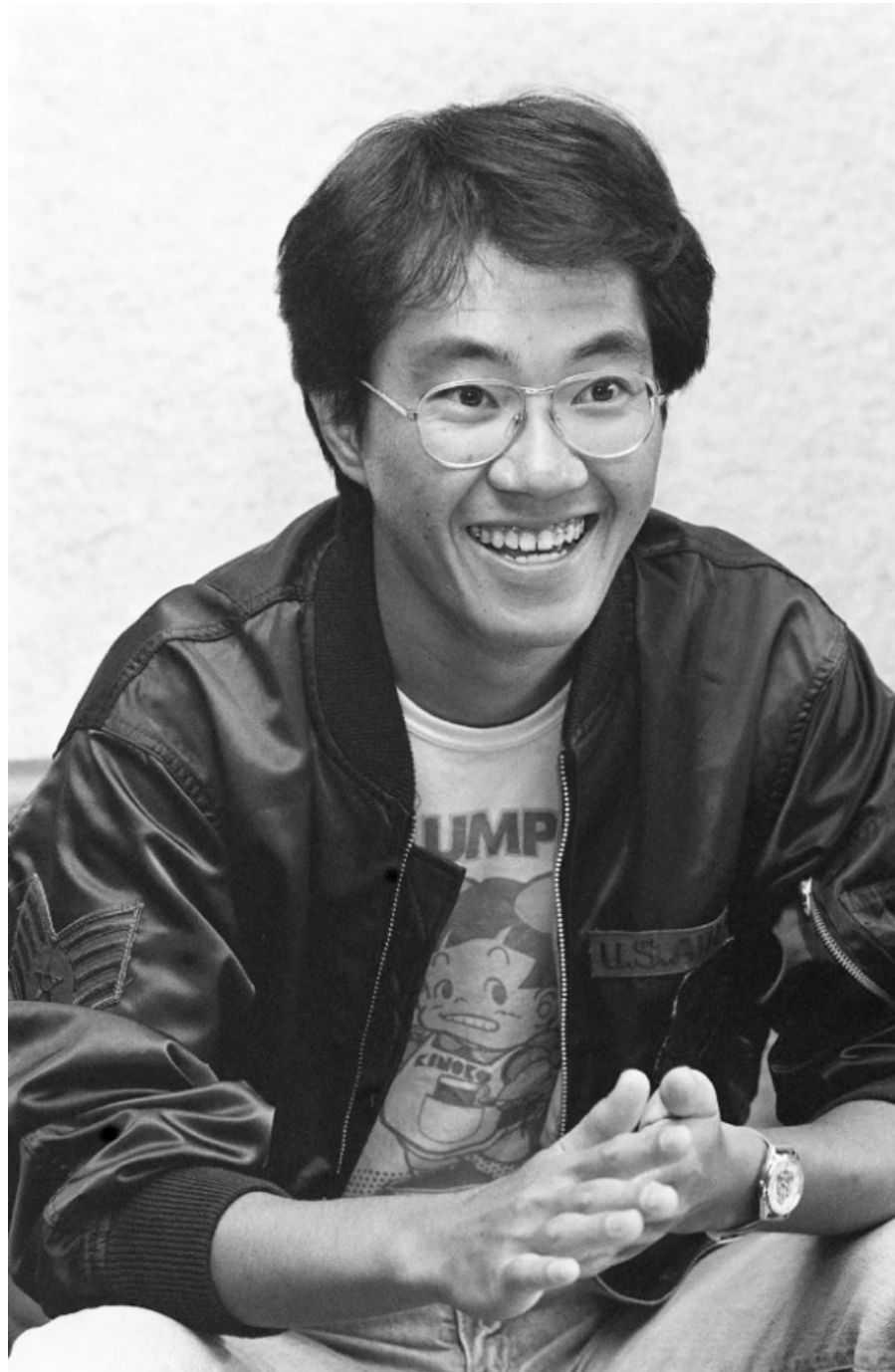
Article by: Benjamin Garay

**W**e have all grown up with an animated series that we watched as children. We spent a lot of time watching TV because it was our way of entertaining ourselves in those days. There are many animated series that marked our childhood, and one of them that stood out the most and remained in the memory of many, who even now, being older, are still fans of the franchise, was Dragon Ball.

Dragon Ball, for some, was the first Japanese animation they saw (anime) and a source of inspiration for several creatives currently working in the animation industry who are now an influence for recent generations. Its creator, Akira Toriyama, was an inspiration for several artists, writers, filmmakers, and animators from around the world.

Unfortunately, Toriyama-san departed this world and passed away on March 1st, at the age of 68. It is sad news for the entire entertainment world because one of his most influential figures put an end to his journey, and many of us will remember him for the great works that he left in his legacy. Here we will review all the achievements that the teacher Toriyama achieved during his career.

Akira Toriyama was born on April 1 in the town of Kiyosu, Aichi Prefecture, Japan. Since he was little, he has liked to draw, especially vehicles and animals. His interest in being a manga



Akira Toriyama, May 1982  
Photo: AFP

artist began when he read “Astro Boy,” one of the works of the “father of manga,” Osamu Tezuka. It was the only way he entertained himself at that time—drawing imitating Tezuka-san’s anime style. At age 23, he applied for a newcomer entry in the weekly shonen jump. And after many talks and discussions with his editor, Toriyama released his first manga for Shonen Jump called “Wonder Island” in 1978.

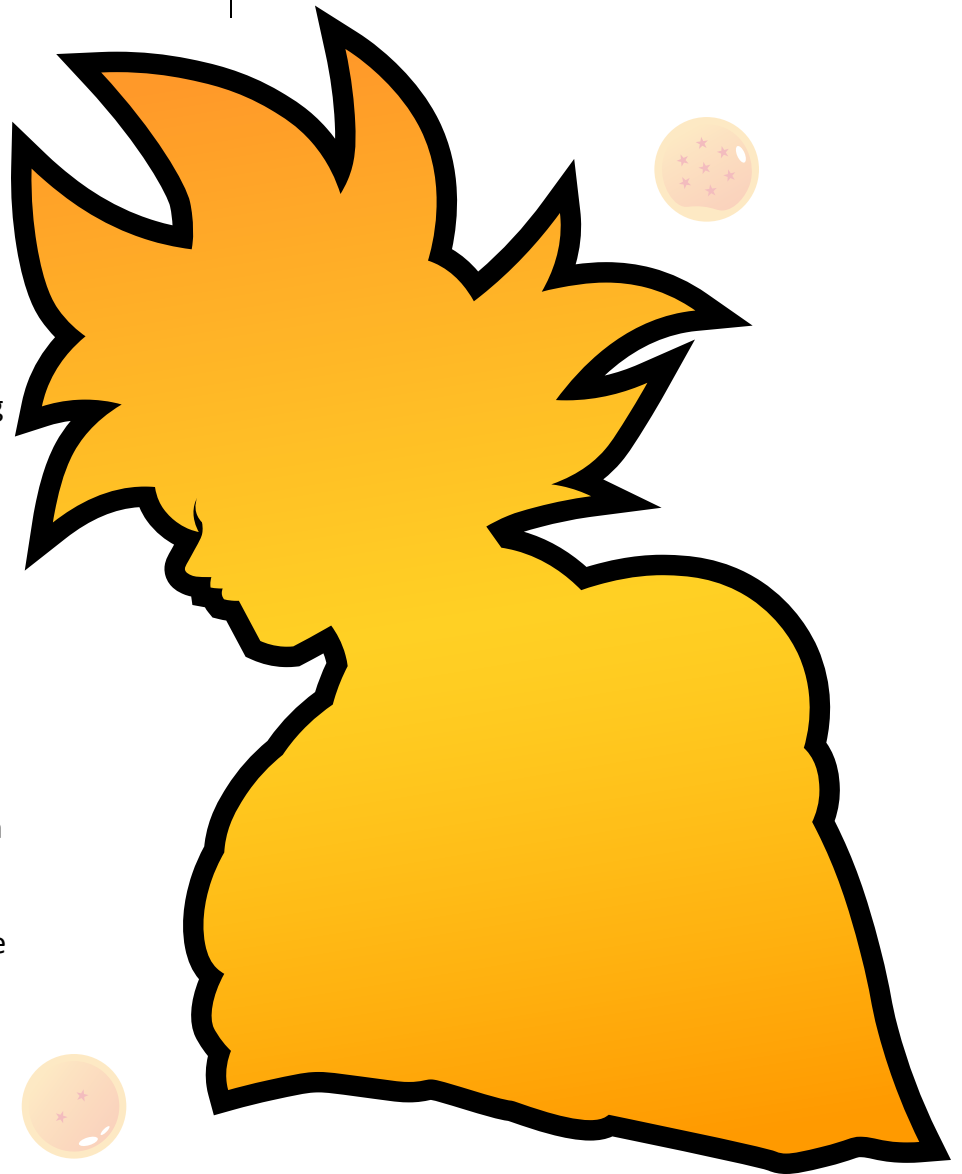
The first success that Toriyama-san drew was “Dr. Slump” in 1980. Thanks to this work, he won his first recognition at the Shogakukan Manga Awards in 1981 as the best shonen or shojo manga of the year. That same year, he obtained an anime adaptation of his work, thus gaining more popularity and recognition within Japan. The Dr. Slump series ended in 1984.

In 1983, Toriyama would be thinking about his next serialized work. His editor recommended making a kung fu shonen manga since he knew that Toriyama was a fan of traditional kung fu films. This same year, he would release a one-shot called “Dragon Boy.” So popular was the one-shot that the publisher decided to serialize the story in 1984, thus changing the name to “Dragon Ball.”

Toriyama’s new story gained popularity in the country quickly and sold many physical copies. Many consider it the most influential manga series in history, being an inspiration for many authors. As if it were not enough in Japan, the popularity of the manga spread abroad, allowing the distribution of the manga volumes around the world, thus gaining between 300 and 350 million copies sold worldwide and counting in the

present. Obviously, being popular would mean that offers to adapt the manga into an anime would arrive. Toei Animation is the main studio that would animate Dragon Ball and allow distribution around the world. The series began broadcasting in 1986. In this way, many more people would know about Dragon Ball, and its popularity would increase to levels never thought possible.

Akira Toriyama was not only a manga artist but also worked as a character designer for video games. The most popular are Dragon Quest and Chrono Trigger. He was recruited in 1986 for “Dragon Quest,”





developed by Chunsoft (now Spike Chunsoft) and produced by Enix (now Square Enix). An RPG for the NES that ended up being a great success in Japan and thus motivating Toriyama-san to work on this franchise until the last days before his death. Thus, Dragon Quest is a franchise that continues to this day with many sequels and spin-offs. In addition, another great video game in which he was in charge of designing the characters is the acclaimed "Chrono Trigger," a classic RPG game for the SNES. developed and produced by Square (currently Square Enix).

On March 8, Akira Toriyama's death was made public, announcing that on March 1, he had died due to an acute subdural hematoma, a condition

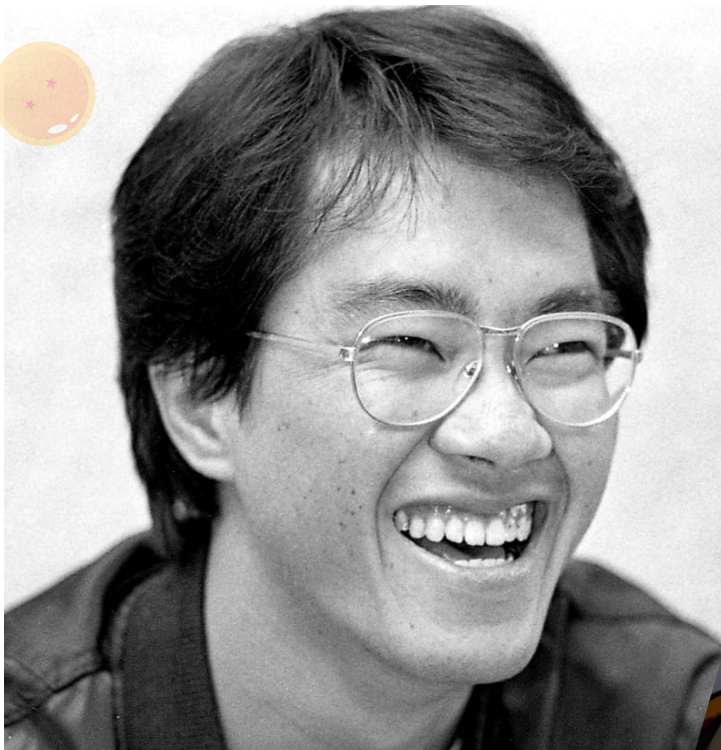
in which blood collects between the skull and brain. After the announcement, many people showed their condolences through social networks. Many artists left a message of gratitude for Akira Toriyama because he managed to inspire a new generation of creatives who love art and good stories.

His legacy has marked the childhood of many, and he will be remembered for being the person who brought us the most influential works in the world of entertainment. All of us, despite our age, have enjoyed at least one of his franchises. So we must also be grateful for the good memories.

Rest in peace, Akira Toriyama.

## Akira Toriyama

April 5, 1955 - March 1, 2024



PACO FREIRE/SIPA USA VIA AP

# The Final Four is Ready to Tip Off

UConn vs ALABAMA | NC STATE vs PURDUE

Article by: Jesse Bisunia

The Elite Eight was jam-packed with crazy underdog stories and finished with Alabama surviving #1 UNC and shocking the basketball world by making it to the Final Four for the first time in program history, with North Carolina State upsetting Marquette and Duke as the only remaining teams not ranked in the top 10 entering the tournament. The matchups are set for this coming Saturday in Arizona: Connecticut vs. Alabama and NC State vs. Purdue. Who will punch their ticket to the championship game?

There are many headlines in the sports world surrounding the remaining four teams, and at this point, we've seen crazier things happen in the tournament. Alabama and NC State are the two biggest surprises to make it this far, so to count them out just yet is foolish, but their ticket to the promised land won't come easy. Their opponents for Saturday are UConn and Purdue, respectively, who are the only two teams from the Elite Eight to have beaten all of their opponents in the tournament by double digits. A statistic that includes the last 10 games for the University of Connecticut. The reigning champions and highly-favorite Huskies have been on a tear as of late and show no signs of slowing down. They went on a 30-0 run against Illinois to further prove the severity of their dominance. For all of the non-basketball followers that don't get what that means, it means that at one point in the game, the Huskies scored 30 points before Illinois scored their next point. Everyone loves a Cinderella comeback story, but if you're a betting person, UConn's -800 moneyline odds against Alabama wouldn't give you a jaw-dropping payout. Across the bracket, NC State faces their biggest challenge of the tournament, but it wouldn't be their first rodeo against a top-5-ranked team. NC State is familiar with that retrospective and has been taking care of their own business to get them to this point as a 12 seed. It's hard to go ahead and predict a UConn vs. Purdue matchup with the hungriest teams being the other two, but I guess that's why we play the games.







# Treading the Line with AI

## The Duality Between Beneficial & Concerning

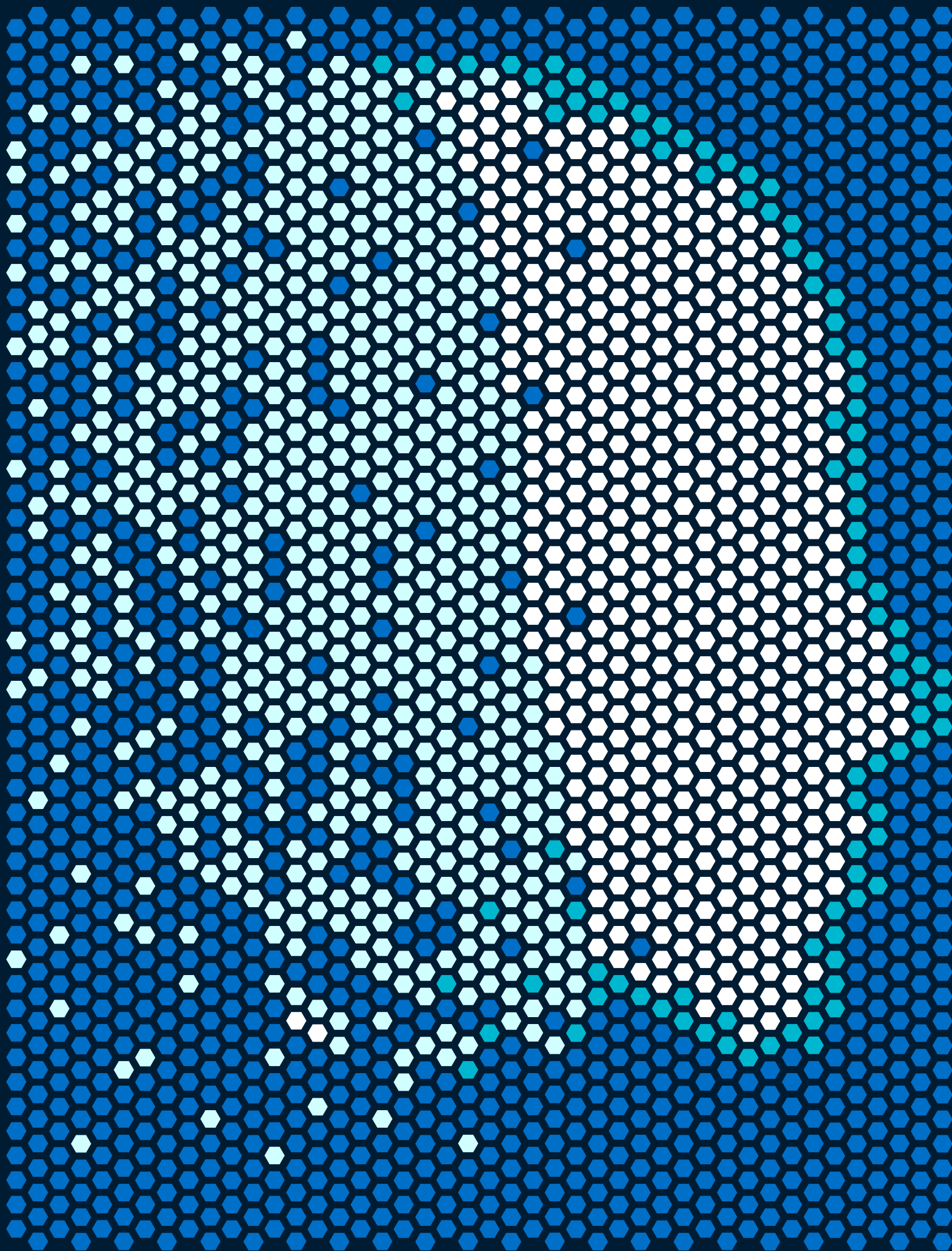
Article by: Max Hillyer

The world we live in is rapidly expanding with technology. There are revolutionary inventions that benefit humankind and the way we all live. Artificial intelligence was created as an external source to help us in various ways. From solving simple math algorithms to designing unique art pieces, AI does jobs and wonders. There is speculation and concern for the creation and use of artificial intelligence. It is an intelligent software that has the ability to think almost like a human and accomplish many activities humans can and can't do. It is easy to see what is wrong with AI. It can take away job opportunities in many fields and uphold human-like tasks. In some cases, AI can even be better and more proficient than a typical worker.

Artificial intelligence has been a questioned idea for many years, not just in today's time. By the mid-20th century, artificial intelligence was a big revolutionary idea that had many researchers, scientists, mathematicians, and philosophers question it. One of them was a man named Alan Turing. Turing's ideas suggested that if humans use available information as well as reason in order to solve problems and make decisions, why can't machines do the same? The only problem with continuing this research was the technology available at the time. Computers could only execute commands, not store or remember them. In 1956, the Dartmouth Summer Research Project on Artificial Intelligence was a conference hosted by two men named John McCarthy and Marvin Minsky. The idea of the conference was to bring together top researchers in various fields around the world and collaborate in an open-ended discussion about AI. This event would have a significant effect on the concept of artificial intelligence, as it was considered that it could actually be possible. Since then, AI has made its way across the world, being

involved in computer sciences, cars, banking, marketing, and manufacturing. Moore's Law, which estimates that the memory and speed of computers double every year, has finally caught up and even exceeded our needs. In the 21st century, artificial intelligence is a staple in many parts of our lives. There are many things AI is good for. It can run twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, take human error out of the equation, and work constantly and consistently. AI can be given an instruction and complete that instruction almost with ease, in a fraction of the time a person can. In Forbes Magazine, they said, "Humans simply can't match AI when it comes to analyzing large datasets. For a human to go through 10,000 lines of data on a spreadsheet, it would take days, if not weeks. AI can do it in a matter of minutes." This could hurt job opportunities and employees working in certain jobs, such as marketing and manufacturing. From a business perspective, it would make sense, as it would cost less money and work would be done at a more rapid pace.

Time spent doing numbers and equations isn't everything in this world. Many things require the human touch, which AI has no match for. Depending on how you look at it, just the idea of learning can be withheld with the use of AI. With programs like "ChatGPT" and even "My AI" on the Snapchat app, homework assignments and quizzes can now be done with the help of a third-party source that can cover and answer any question in a matter of seconds. With all this in mind, it is safe to say that AI is beneficial for us, as long as we have control over it. Losing our grip and making AI responsible for tasks we will no longer do will make it that way in the future. Being able to control when and how we use AI is key to the success of ourselves and the software. This is not a dangerous subject, as long as we don't make it





# Bass Restring Guide

Article by: Max Hillyer

In the last issue, I showed how to properly restring and clean your guitar. This lesson will cover how to properly restring and clean a bass. This is crucial and important for your bass and your playing. Old strings will build up grime and dirt from your fingers and will start to make the instrument feel worse. If the strings are never cleaned or replaced after a lengthy time, they can even cut your hands. Cleaning the bass keeps it fresh and just as good as when you got it. Who doesn't want a polished-up axe in their arsenal? This lesson will have a step-by-step process on how to restring and clean your bass so you can keep rocking out and having fun.



**1** These are all the important materials to have on hand when starting. A good string cutter is most important, especially when dealing with thicker and bigger bass strings. A cloth with fretboard lemon oil and guitar polish is all you would need for the cleaning process.



**2** There is no string winder, as the tuning machine heads for the bass are usually bigger than a typical guitar's one. Using your hands is just fine for this. If you want to loosen the string, wind the tuning machine to the right in a clockwise motion.



**3** Once all the strings are loosened, use the string cutter to cut each of the strings. Once all the strings are cut, wrap them up together and dispose of them in a safe way. The sharp edges of the old strings can hurt not just you but also pets and animals.



**4** Use the guitar polish and clean the body and headstock of the guitar. It is ok to spray directly on the bass, as long as you make sure you wipe everything down. Clean with a cloth in a circular motion. You should see your instrument start to shine much better than it did before.



**5** Use the fretboard lemon oil to clean the fretboard. Spray the lemon oil on each of the frets and use the cloth to wipe it down. As the cleaner dries on the wood, you should see it become darker than it



**6** When putting on the new set of strings, make sure to cut the ends two tuning head spaces away from the one you are currently working on. This is very important, especially when restringing for bass.



**7** After cutting the ends of the strings, you need to insert the string from the top of the tuning machines. Once the end of the string is secure and inside the tuning machine, slide the string down one of the grooved edges. This will allow the wrapping to happen when turning the tuning head.



**8** Make sure that when you are restringing, you are turning the tuning machine heads in a counterclockwise movement. This will ensure that all the strings are directed inside the headstock.

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ON  
STAGE  
AND  
PLAY



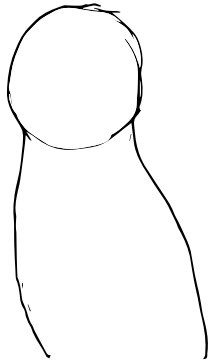
# Derek's Drawing Tutorial

Article by: Derek Denis

**D**rawing is a creative activity that can be done anywhere at any time. However, many people are intimidated by this artform because of how complex it can be. What many people do not know is that you can draw anything you want by breaking it down into simple lines and small steps.

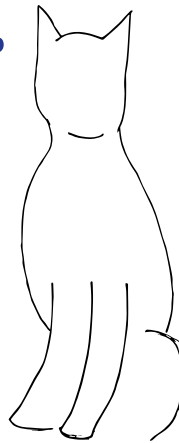
Here is how to draw a cat in six easy steps!

1



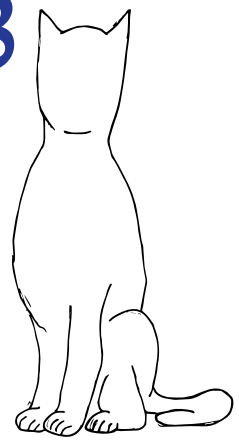
Start by drawing a circle. It does not have to be perfect, and you can change the shape later! Next, draw two lines that curve in opposite directions.

2



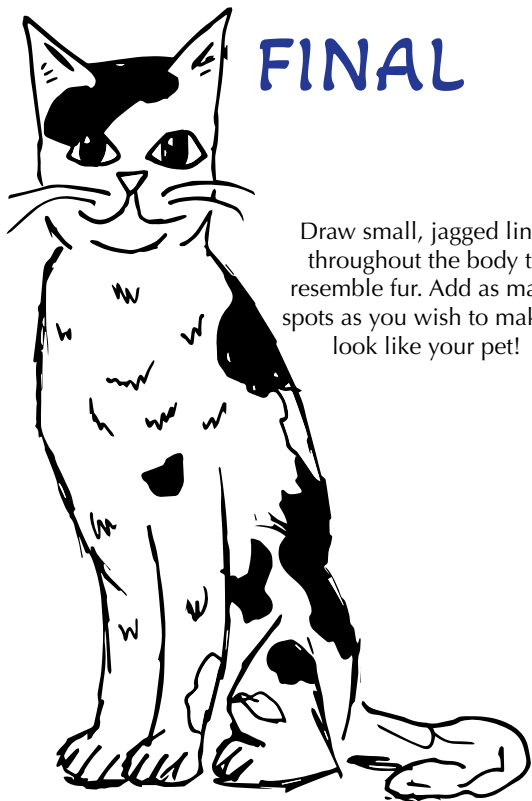
For the ears, draw two triangles. Erase the corners of the circle that you no longer need. For the cat's back leg, draw a half circle at the bottom of the body. For the two front legs, draw two rectangles that look like noodles.

3



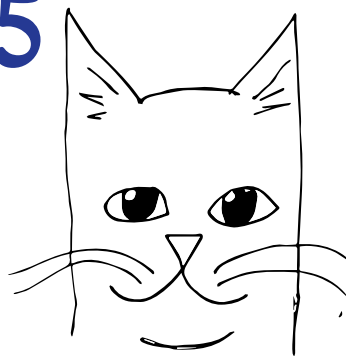
Adjust the legs by straightening the bottom and keeping the top round. Draw the paws by making half circles with curved lines that start from the bottom. Add more detail to the back leg by drawing a backwards "L" at the bottom of the half circle. Draw a small half circle on the opposite side, with a "C" shape on top. Draw a noodle shape for the tail.

FINAL



Draw small, jagged lines throughout the body to resemble fur. Add as many spots as you wish to make it look like your pet!

5



For the mouth, draw two "C" shapes that start from the end of the triangle. Inside these shapes, draw long lines to resemble the cat's whiskers.

4



Draw two football shapes for eyes. The ears should have diagonal lines to resemble fur. The nose is a simple, upside-down triangle!

## Word Search #6

J D J T I I J U B Z S R E F A  
H M W H H W K A F H R G Z M U  
P N F D N N K F M L E A M O I  
W P E A D R M W T G W R X K L  
W O M B L O O M R P O D Z B Y  
P L Y C D L E O I P H E Y C E  
W L E H S R W L F M S N K U R  
H E U D I L U V J A B X N L V  
U N J P Y T F J T I O R B F R  
N R Q B B O Y G Z L D J E M H  
I B O G W C L Z I X J H E P W  
A S B U T T E R F L Y X S G I  
R L V K N W L A P R I L P S U  
I W E E F A M G T I L I O Q X  
O E X K A Y O U D T R V F R U

### Word Bank

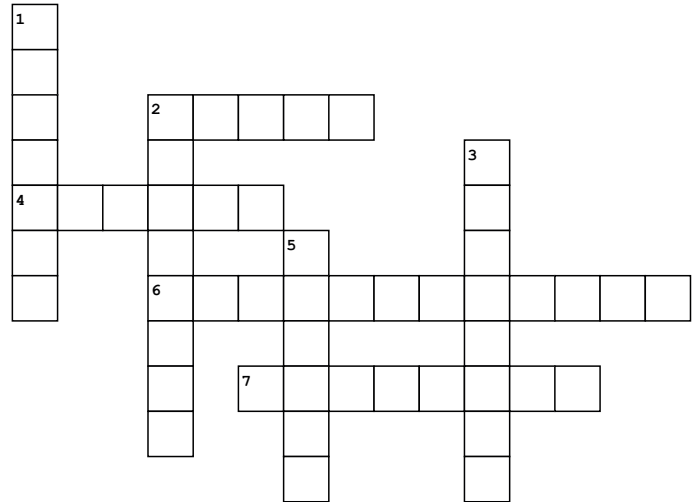
- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1. April</b>     | <b>6. Grow</b>    |
| <b>2. Showers</b>   | <b>7. Bloom</b>   |
| <b>3. Butterfly</b> | <b>8. Pollen</b>  |
| <b>4. Tulip</b>     | <b>9. Rain</b>    |
| <b>5. Bees</b>      | <b>10. Garden</b> |

## Scavenger Hunt #6

Find the hidden TULIP in this issue of The Current and email the answer to [thecurrentspring2024@gmail.com](mailto:thecurrentspring2024@gmail.com). Find the hidden items in all 6 issues of the 2024 Spring Semester for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon giftcard!



## Crossword Puzzle #6



### Across

2. The adjective describing a new and crisp feeling.
4. The beginning growth of a new plant from a seed.
6. The process of renewal and growth after dormancy.
7. The transformation of landscapes into lush and verdant environments.

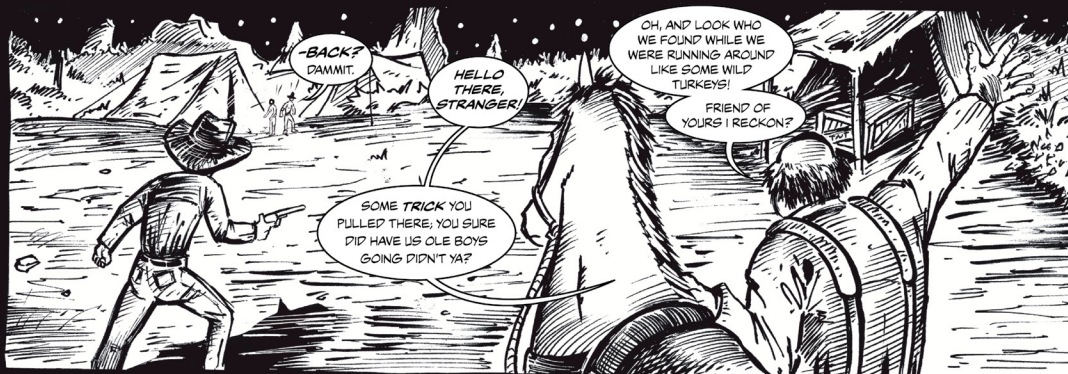
### Down

1. The colorful emergence of flowers.
2. Plants often \_\_\_\_\_ during spring in a healthy or vigorous way.
3. Energy and liveliness that spring brings to nature.
5. What plants do after a harsh winter.

ACROSS: 2. Fresh, 4. Sprout, 6. Regeneration, 7. Greening  
DOWN: 1. Down, 2. Flourish, 3. Vitality, 5. Regrow

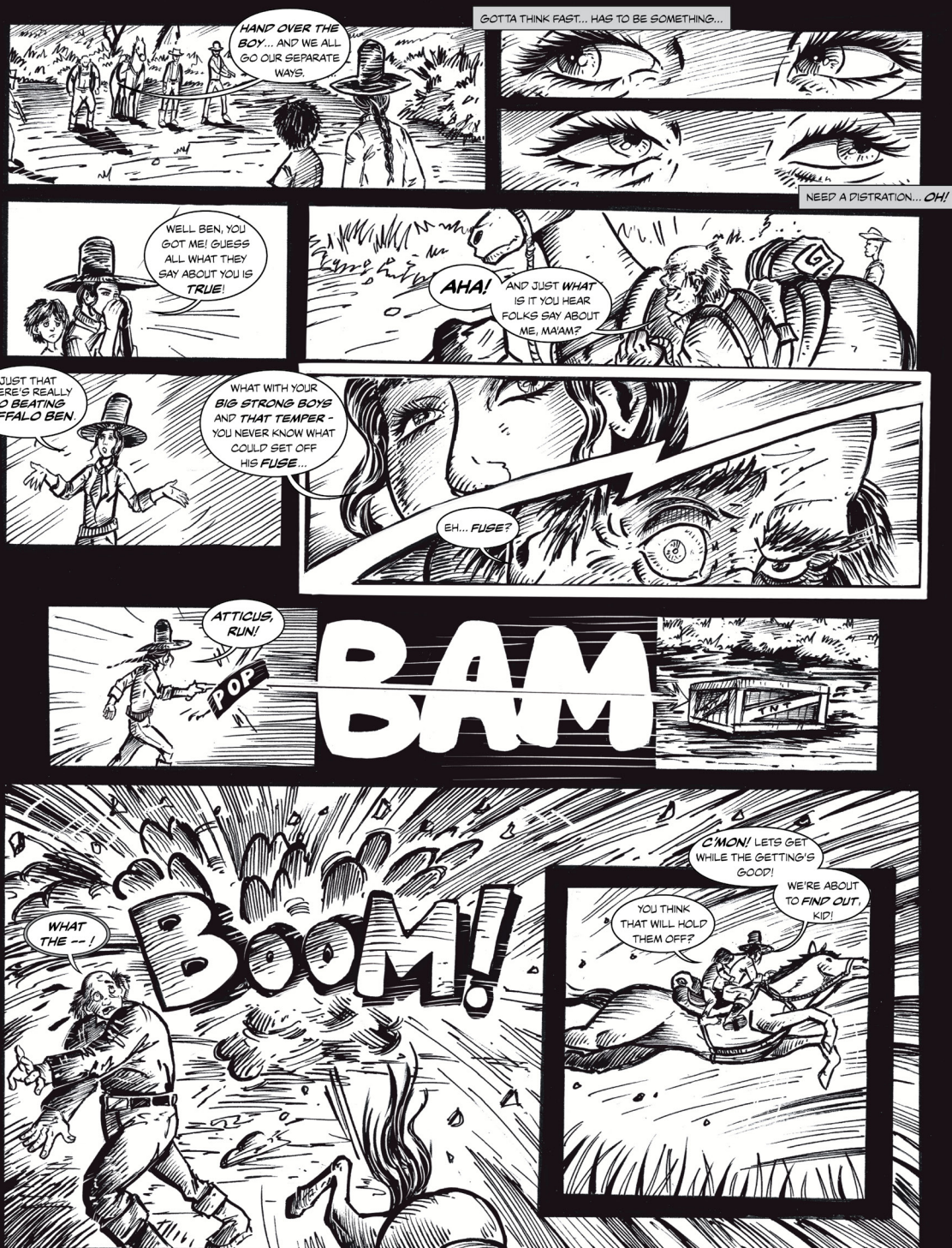


Wyoming. February, 1876. Buffalo Ben's Camp.



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Annie Crowe - Part 4: The Escape.

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