

# G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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## To Repeal Or Not is No Longer a Question

By **Mattie Jones**

It's relatively safe to assume that most Americans have heard at least something related to "net neutrality." If not, net neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers must treat the data and engines found on the Internet with a "neutral" approach. This approach means that Internet providers cannot discriminate against any website or search engine or charge users to access those websites, platforms, and other online resources. Repealing the concept

known as "net neutrality" would allow Internet providers to charge their customers even more than the initial fee they already pay to have Internet connection, while allowing big businesses and corporations the ability to dodge these fees and also gain faster connections and higher quality Internet than the rest of the population.

The neutrality principle is a fairly new concept in relation to the existence of the Internet, having just been established in 2015 during the Obama Administra-

tion. Since the concept is so new, it's easy for many people to believe that the lack of neutrality won't have much of an impact on the way they use the Internet. That idea, however, is not well supported. The Internet has changed immensely in the last three years, with an increase in social media platforms, demand for online textbooks and educational resources and availability of free WiFi, to name a few. While this does not necessarily mean that repealing net neutrality is a bad thing, there's no guarantee for success.

On November 21, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced their intent to repeal the concept of net neutrality, and many Americans expressed disapproval. Regardless of the 85% of the population that opposed the repeal of the bill, a final vote held on December 14, 2017 ruled in favor of the repeal three to two. Immediately after the vote went public, both Netflix and Google released statements voicing their intent to fight the repeal and take legal action

against the FCC. Minnesota's attorney general also announced that the state of Minnesota will be suing the FCC in order to overturn the repeal on a basis of its limitations on free speech. While the retraction of the neutrality bill isn't supposed to take effect until March at the earliest, there is a small chance that one of the legal disputes will change the ruling in place. The best chance Americans have of remaining under a neutral Internet is to rely on organizations and providers that contest the repeal of net neutrality.

## The Cheerleading Program at Riggs Grows

By **Gracie Jones**

Many T.F. Riggs basketball fans have taken notice of the growth of the cheerleading squad—it's difficult not to, as the squad has expanded from five to 13 girls since just last year. Although last year's cheerleaders Maddie Jones and Jessica Weber have graduated, junior Sabrina Kintz and seniors Gracie Jones and Augustine Boland have returned this year to be a part of this larger squad. The cheerleaders are now able to execute two stunt groups, giving the cheerleaders twice the spirit. On top of this, the cheer-

leaders have gained the ability to accomplish cheers and stunts they have never been able to try before. The ability to do off-the-grounds stunts, such as cradles and show-n-go's, gives the cheerleaders more unique routines. When asked about the addition of new girls, coach Jill Caauwe said, "Having more athletes means being able to achieve more goals and attain more skills." Sabrina Kintz, co-captain of the girls' basketball cheer squad, adds to this by saying "It's a lot of fun with more girls. All my best friends are cheering with me,

I love it!" Both socially and fundamentally, the large squad seems to be a good thing. What caused this cheerleader boom?

When asked about her reason for joining, cheerleader Bailey Nelson said, "I wanted to be more involved in school activities, and a lot of my friends are in cheer as well, so I wanted to spend time with them." Whatever the reason, the plethora of cheerleaders is promis-

ing for the future. Coach Caauwe said, "It is exciting to see new interest in the sport and I hope it continues to grow."



Photo by Bob Grandpre  
**Sammie Axtell shows off her skills at a basketball game in Pierre**

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## How to Keep your Resolutions

The holiday season is winding to a close. As schools begin to open back up for the second semester, students are returning with a plethora of new outfits and new attitudes. Everywhere, people are saying "my New Year's resolution is..." as they get back into the groove of everyday life. The beginning of January is filled with the motivation to better ourselves and the people around us. The beginning of February, however...that holds a different story. Most of the time, resolutions have been cast aside after the first few weeks of the year, completely forgotten about un-

til the next year rolls around. No matter how many people say that this is the year they will keep their resolution, most still give up. If 2018 is really the year you would like to keep your resolutions, you've come

### EDITORIAL

to the right place.

We'll admit that we have been guilty of not keeping our resolutions. With the busy schedule and the new opportunities that often come with the New Year, it's hard to remember to set aside time to make sure you are keeping up on whatever you told yourself you were going

to do. Many of the things you are going to read online are going to say something that resembles the SMART approach to goal setting. SMART is an acronym that stands for "Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound". While this acronym is good for *creating* the goals you'd like to achieve in 2018, it does not help you *keep up* on those goals.

The most important thing to remember is that although New Year's resolutions are a tradition, don't feel obligated to have one just because everyone else does. If you feel that there's nothing for you to change in the coming year, don't let other

people pressure you into making a resolution you know won't last. If you do choose to have a resolution, however, make sure to remember to make time to see it through. Balancing out your schedule to make room for your resolution involves is the best way to ensure you are going to keep up on it. One last thing to remember is that if you do find yourself slipping away from your routine or you do forget about your resolution at some point, pick it up again! Any day is a good day to find motivation to better yourself, and you can make resolutions at any time during the year.

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Thank you to all that made this issue possible!

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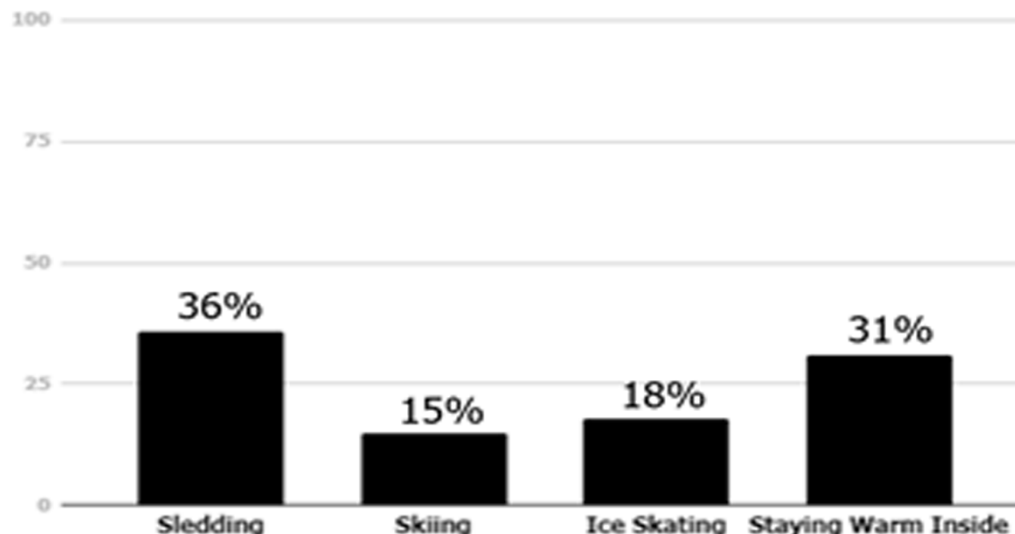
### What's hot and what's not this month

...to Christmas break!  
...to homemade food  
...new beginnings  
...to seeing family and friends that live far away  
...to football  
...to Dairy Queen gift cards  
...to secret Santa  
...to snow  
...to playing with dogs  
...to sleeping in  
...to pretty landscapes  
...to Christmas sweaters  
...to vacations  
...to sales at Bath and Body Works  
...to spending quality time with the ones you love  
...to motivation and New Year's Resolutions

...to the start of the semester  
...to below zero temperatures  
...to having to pretend to like a gift  
...to not getting invited to Christmas parties  
...to forgetting deadlines  
...to working during break  
...to eating too much food  
...to being forced into awkward conversations  
...to wet socks  
...to feeling obligated  
...to breaking Christmas decorations  
...to your car refusing to start  
...to shoveling snow

Compiled by Kailee Schultz

## Favorite Winter Activity



COMPILED BY ANNA HABERMAN



## Tax Plan to Open Up the New Year

2017 has been a thriving year for comedians -- why? Comedians such as Seth Meyers, Samantha Bee, Trevor Noah and others all seem to specifically target politics. With everything that has happened in the White House and beyond, some political happenings seem too absurd to be real. The new item in the hot seat is the Republican Tax Plan. The tax plan will create large cuts -- which would normally excite people. Who wouldn't want to pay less taxes? But as it so happens, the public is quite opposed to the new plan. Some argue that this tax cut will increase the national debt and that the plan will majorly benefit big corporations and the wealthy (President Donald Trump included). Some of the top comedians mentioned earlier have been quick to "joke" about the tax plan, while some quite seriously opposed the plan. Samantha Bee compared the tax plan to the Burn Book from Mean Girls. Seth Meyers also called out lawmakers for stretching the meaning of an "average American family", and Trevor

Claire Mohr  
POLITICS

Noah even jumped in, exposing Republicans who once complained of Obama increasing the national debt that now have no problem with the new plan. In addition, real estate owners who live in high tax states and have high mortgages are not too pleased. With the new plan, tax deductions will greatly increase and the tax brackets -- the ranges of incomes from a household that will be taxed at a certain rate -- will also experience a change. The rates for each bracket have increased for each different type of household with an expiration date of 2025. The average tax cut will be around \$1,600 in 2018. Many complaints come from the middle class saying the top 1% of Americans will benefit from this tax cut the most. The middle class won't see much of a change in their tax cuts the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) says. According to the JCT, a household making between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 a year would see a cut of \$500, and most Americans are not making an income that high. The new tax plan will commence on January 1st, 2018, giving an interesting start to the new year.

## A Bucket List for the New Year

Dear Ava and Ally, First things first, I'm a sophomore. Coming back from break everybody always says, "How are you going to make this semester better?" I never have an answer. I don't have a bad life or anything, but I don't know what to do either. I feel like I'm wasting my time. My life just always seems to be missing something. I want something exciting to happen. I'm at the age where I'm older than the characters in books who are accomplishing so much, but I have succeeded in nothing. I don't know what I'm really asking for, but I know I want something to do. I want to have something to remember when I graduate. Since I don't have to

plan and stress out for the next nine weeks (at least), I want to know how to have fun and enjoy my teen years. Sincerely, Spry Sophomore, Dear Spry Sophomore, In discussing your issue, we feel like the best advice is to give you some examples on how to make use of these long winter months: Basketball games (not just boys, girls want support too) Wrestling and gymnastics Hockey (the game can be really exciting) Iceskating (free open skate on Fridays (with no games) and Sundays - just pay for rentals)

Ava and Ally  
ADVICE

Movies (*Star Wars*, *Jumanji*, *Ferdinand*, *Insidious: Last Key*, *Pitch Perfect 3*, *The Post*) (five dollars on Tuesdays and matinees) Sledding (when it actually snows) Watching vine compilations Having your friends over to watch movies or play board games (don't care if board games are boring just laugh because you get to spend time with the people you love) Go to PAWS and play with the kittens and pups (if you aren't allergic) Late night fast food runs Dam runs (driving around the dam for no apparent reason

- especially at night) Sleepovers. This is a bucket list of things to get done this third quarter, and we wanted to put a little twist on this issue. If a reader completes this list and documents it (meaning pictures not lies!), or completes the most out of all the submissions, they will receive a prize (a cool one that is worth, like, six dollars (or more, depending on how much work you do)). We want to see people getting involved in the school and having fun in the community. You can send your documentation to Mr. Bonhorst and we will organize it and keep track. Thanks for participating! L8r Sk8r, Ava and Ally

## Trends Recap for 2017

2017 was filled with a lot of interesting trends -- shaving your eyebrows, buying ridiculously expensive electronics, and eating gold, just to name a few. With the start of 2018, it's only appropriate to take a look at all the best and most popular trends of 2017. Snapchat's "Discover" feature was filled with "best trends" articles throughout the week leading up to New Years. Tastemade, a "Discover" story all about food, named things like the sushi donut, charcoal

Kailee Schultz  
TRENDS

snacks, freakshakes, avocado toast and mermaid food some of the top food trends of 2017. BuzzFeed posted a YouTube video about some of the best fast food of 2017, which highlighted the Blue Raspberry Freeze from Taco Bell, the Flamin' Hot Mac N' Cheetos and cereal shakes from Burger King and the Grand Mac from McDonald's. BuzzFeed also made a video showcasing some of the "trending" events of 2017, or the events

that went viral online. These items included the kickstarter for Romphim, a romper for men that went viral in May, the total eclipse in August, DIY slime searches that peaked in June, the "Salt Bae" video from February and Bitcoin, whose value peaked in December. BuzzFeed also shared some of the most popular movies, such as DC's *Wonder Woman* and Stephen King's *It*, as well as the most viral social campaigns, like

the Women's March and the backlash received from Kendall Jenner's Pepsi ad. Other trends and "trending" events from 2017 were President Trump's inauguration, the #MeToo social media campaign, fidget spinners, and the infamous iPhone X. Trends seemed to have reached a peak in 2017, but 2018 is a new year and is sure to bring even more show-stopping items and events.



# New Year...

T.F. Riggs students share their New Year's Resolutions... or the reason they don't have one

## New Me

### Kaylee Becker - Senior

"Spending more time with my grandparents."



Photo provided by Kaylee Becker

### Levi McKinley - Freshman

"I think mine would be to gain at least 10 pounds...It'd help me a lot in my running career."



Photo provided by Eryn Louis

### Hanna Jerome - Sophomore

"Only eat 9 bagel bites instead of 10."



Photo provided by Gracie Jones

### Addie Johnson - Freshman

"I'd say a job; I need them dolla bills y'all!"



Photo provided by Eryn Louis

## Same Me

### Trevor Wheelhouse - Freshman

"I don't believe I need to fix anything."



Photo provided by Gracie Jones

### Audrey Maunu - Senior

"I do not have a New Year's resolution. I can't keep them."



Photo provided by Gracie Jones

### Kade McTighe - Senior

"I don't feel like I need one."



Photo provided by Gracie Jones

### Ronnie Walton - Junior

"...uh, I better get on that."

### Lee Snyder - Junior

"I do everything right anyways."

### Morgan Magdanz - Junior

"I don't have one because I always break them."



## Basketball: The Best of Both Seasons

By Natalie Mohr

The 2018 basketball season has officially started! The Governors already have five games under their belt with a record of 1-4. Their first game was at home against Aberdeen, which ended in a 38-49 loss. The Governors, however, are confident that the game's score is not an indicator for how the rest of the season will go. Their first win of the season was against Yankton with a score of 45-34. This year's team is fairly young, having graduated 11 seniors, including key play-

er Bradley Dean, last year. The only returning starter this year is Peyton Zabel. The Govs last game before the new year was a double header against O'Gorman. They took a hard loss with a score of 33-53. The team will use the holiday break to rest and prepare for their upcoming games in January. Win or lose, the student body is ready to cheer on our Governors throughout their season.

The Lady Govs basketball season is also in full swing. They've played six games already, with a record of 2-4. The Lady Governor victories were

against Sturgis and Huron. Pierre held a double header against O'Gorman on December 22, where the girls took a loss of



Photo by Bob Grandpre  
Junior Jack Maher takes a shot against the O'Gorman Knights

43-70. That was their last game before the holiday break. They will jump right back into things in the new year with eight games in January. The team went from having five seniors last year to only one senior, Erika Stout, this year. The returning starters for the team are juniors Kylie Kessler and Emily Mikkelsen. Like the boys, this year's team is somewhat young, having 7 underclassmen out of the 17 girls on varsity. The Lady Govs are looking forward to the rest of their season and hope to keep improving their record.

## Capitals Travel to North Dakota

By Phil Adam and Kailee Schultz

The Oahe Capital hockey team had a hot start to the 2017-2018 season. The Caps ended preseason play with a record of 8-0. The Caps opened regular season play with a 9-1 win against Aberdeen. The team then slowed down, losing three of their last four games. The inexpe-

rienced and young team got back on track with a 6-4 win against Watertown. Over the break, the varsity team traveled up to Dickinson, North Dakota, for a "Border Battle" tournament. Although the games were not a part of league play, they gave the boys great experience and play time. The first game against Mandan, ND, ended in a score of

4-5 in overtime. The second game against Dickinson ended in a 2-9 loss. The third and final game of the weekend, played against Williston, ND, ended in a shootout after a scoreless overtime period, where the Caps fell 3-4. The Caps look to improve as they resume play following the holiday break at Huron on January 5th.



Photo by Nicole Moiseed  
Forward Andy Gordon facing off in Dickinson

## Wrestling Underway

By Hattie Schaffer

The Governor wrestling season has started with a bang. The Governors placed 5th at the Watertown tournament, the first of the year. Then, they headed off to Black Hills for the highly competitive Rapid City Tournament. The Govs earned first place as a team, which is a very big accomplishment. 10 out of the 16 wrestlers place in the top eight, and Will and Lincoln Turman both were individual champions, which helped lead the team to their victory. The team then went to Elkpoint and placed second as a team despite having many members sick. The Governors' wrestling team also won the Aberdeen dual. They are having a great start to the season and are hoping to have their success continue. The first home meet for the Govs is Tuesday January 9th, so please come and support. Go Govs!

### Girls Hockey

**Last game:** 2-9 loss against Mitchell  
**Next game:** January 6th at Watertown  
**Record:** 3-6 (league record)



### Girls Basketball

**Last Game:** 43-70 loss against O'Gorman  
**Next Game:** January 5th at Rapid City Stevens  
**Record:** 2-4

### Gymnastics

**Last match:** December 28th at Rapid City  
**Next match:** January 4th in Pierre

## Boys Basketball

**Last game:** 33-53 loss against O’Gorman

**Next game:** January 5th vs. Rapid City Central

**Record:** 1-4

## Wrestling

**Last match:** 1st place at Aberdeen Dual

**Next match:** January 5th at Bismarck



Compiled by Phil Adam

## Swimming

**Last Meet:** December 16-17 at Sioux Falls

**Next Meet:** January 6-7 at Aberdeen

## Boys Hockey

**Last Game:** 6-4 win against Watertown

**Next game:** January 5th at Huron

**Record:** 2-3 (league record)

## Gymnastics Season Begins

By Addy Smith

The Lady Governors’ gymnastics team is starting their season out strong as they put their first weeks of hard practice to the test. The Lady Govs have competed in several meets and have come away with success so far. At their first meet, the Huron Quadrangular on November

30th, the Lady Govs took home first place, with an overall score of 135.650. At their second meet, that took place on December second, the Lady Govs placed sixth out of 13 overall. The Lady Govs then attended the Hub City meet in Aberdeen. Out of a total of 14 teams, the green and white took home fourth place, with an over-

all team score of 135.200. After a long wait, the Lady Govs will finally get to host the Pierre Triangular, here in Pierre, on January fourth, and the Pierre Invitational on January 13th. As the state gymnastic meet starts to get closer, the Lady Govs are working hard to qualify. So far, Mikah Moser has secured her all-

around spot in the state gymnastics meet, and has received qualifying scores for bars, beam and floor. Sophie Bullard has also received a qualifying score on floor. As the season continues, the Lady Govs hope to have more qualifiers for the state meet. Best of luck to the Pierre gymnastics team on the rest of their season!

## Interview with the Oahe Lady Capitals Girls’ Varsity Team

By Julia Snoeijen

The Lady Capitals’ hockey team consists of nine high school girls and six middle school girls. I just joined the girls hockey team this season and I’m really liking it! Because of this, I decided to do an interview with the other girls so they could tell you more about what it’s like to play hockey. I interviewed junior Amy Gilkerson, sophomore Jessa McTighe, and sophomore Kaitlin Swenson to get a peak into the girl’s hockey team.

**Q: What is your position?**

*Amy:* Center

*Kaitlyn:* Left Wing

*Jessa:* Defense & Right Wing

**Q: How Long have you been playing hockey?**

*Amy, Kaitlyn, Jessa:* 12 years

**Q: What is the most fun thing about playing Hockey?**

*Amy:* When practice get cancelled (haha jk). The friendships that I have made through hockey.

*Kaitlyn:* Being around my friends everyday doing what we love to do.

*Jessa:* Hanging out with friends and gaining friendships on other teams.

**Q: What is your favorite hockey memory?**

*Amy:* Getting pulled over in Madie Brink’s grandma’s car. We had like 8 of us in a little car.

*Kaitlyn:* When I was little my coach would bribe Jessa and I to play well by giving us a starburst after each shift.

*Jessa:* All memories that in-

clude hockey are good so all of them!

**Q: What is the funniest thing that has happened?**

*Amy:* Just being with everyone is a funny thing.

*Kaitlyn:* How Jessa managed to get on the ice for practice with her skates on the wrong feet.

*Jessa:* Yes I remember that!

**Q: What happens in the locker room?**

*Amy:* What happens in the locker room stays in the locker room!

*Kaitlyn:* You don’t want to know!

*Jessa:* A lot of crazy weird things I’m not going to talk about.

**Q: Best song to get pumped up**

**on before a game?**

*Amy, Kaitlyn:* “Downtown” by Macklemore

*Jessa:* “Fireball” by Pitbull or “Downtown” by Macklemore



Photo by Melissa Schultz  
Kaitlyn Swenson guards the goal as Amy Gilkerson chases the puck



## Bachelor of the Month



Photo By Tayler Larsen

**Evan Rumrill, 12**

**Personality:** Dull

**Hair Color:** As gold as Pony Boy

**Eye Color:**  
Byzantine Blue

**Favorite thing about yourself?**  
My KD ratio in Bad Eggs (1.66)

**Pursue of be Pursued?**  
Be pursued

**Final words?**  
That was disappointing.

**Favorite pick-up line?**  
If this was a meat market, you would be the prime rib

**Favorite Movie?**  
*Shawshank Redemption*

**Favorite Song?**  
"Hotel California"

**Ideal date?**  
Hanging out at the Pierre City Pool

## Bachelorette of the Month



Photo By Tayler Larsen

**Anna Haberman, 12**

**Personality:**  
Quiet and awkward

**Eye Color:**  
Blue

**Hair Color:**  
Dirty Blonde

**Favorite thing about yourself?**  
My cat, Bo

**Favorite Movie?**  
*Grease*

**Pursue or Be Pursued?**  
Be pursued.

**Final Words?**  
See ya never

**Favorite pick-up line?**  
I have a cat, he would like to meet you

**Ideal date?**  
Dinner and a movie

**Favorite song?**  
"Aging Out of the 20th Century"

## Joy to the Arts!

By Bailey Nelson

December is a time for cheer and joy, and of course, music! Hopefully everyone made it to the band and choir concert "Rejoice with Heart and Voice" on December 19th, because we definitely have talent on the fine arts side!

This year's concert was put on by Mrs. McKeithan leading Symphonic and Concert Band, and Mr. Bauck leading Treble, Chamber, and Concert Choir.

When asked about her first year of high school choir, Freshman Jordan Morley says, "I did choir in 7th and 8th grade with Mr. Bauck as the director. At first, I thought it a bit intimidating since the high school choirs are extremely talented, but I really fit in right away so that was cool. Unfortunately, I'm not in the band so the only thing I can really tell you about them is they're really good!"

The choir performed songs such as "Hark! The Her-

ald Angels Sing", "No Room, No Room" and "Mary Did You Know." The band, on the other hand, performed, "Lux Aurumque", "Joyride" and "Sleigh Ride", the song that utilizes the infamous slapsticks. Senior percussionist Kaylee Becker, who was given the opportunity to use the slapsticks in her final year, says "Playing slapstick is something I have wanted to do since I went to my older siblings' Christmas concerts. It was a blast and I loved doing it with Arden!" Arden Koenecke, also a senior, plays percussion alongside Becker.

Senior Claire Mohr, when comparing this concert to past ones, comments, "It's added emotional pressure to make it the best one because it's the last we'll [seniors] ever have."

Great job to everyone who performed in the concert for both the band and the choir. It was a great start to the holidays!

## December Sibling Rivalry

Caytee (9) and Casey (12) Williams

**Q: How would you describe each other in three words?**

A: Casey: Airhead, basic, ratchet.

Caytee: Lanky, Tarzan, nosy.

**Q: What do you guys fight about the most?**

A: Casey: Me stealing her pizza rolls.

Caytee: Him being a snitch.

**Q: Who wins most of the fights?**

A: Casey: Me.

Caytee: Me.

**Q: What do you like most about each other?**

A: Casey: She sounds like Phoebe from *F.R.I.E.N.D.S.* when she tries to think.

Caytee: He is dumb, so I can use it against him.

**Q: If you could, what would you change about each other?**

A: Casey: I would change her indie rock/grassroots vibe before she starts wearing those small, tinted, circular glasses that don't even have prescription.

Caytee: I would change him being over dramatic.