



T.F. Riggs High School The Governor

Pierre, SD 57501

Volume 80, Issue 3

Riggs Student takes eighth place in state-wide Big Idea

Competition

BY NEVAEH STARR

Every year students in Ms. Ulmen's Introduction to Business class participate in South Dakota's Big Idea Competition. To compete, students must tap into their inner-entrepreneur and create a unique business idea! This includes analyzing the needs of their community and applying their passion and skills. Jacob Elbersen knows this process all too well. After inspiration hit him while talking with his friends online, Jacob created Burger Builder which took eighth place in the 2021 state-wide competition.

Jacob describes Burger Builder as "a Subway-style fast-food restaurant" and "a crossover of a Build-A-Bear and Burger King" where customers can customize their burgers. Although he loved the entire process, Jacob's favorite part was combining creativity with business: "My favorite part of the project was creating the menu because I had to really think about the pricing of the different options and sides. People are willing to pay more for certain items than others."

After presenting his business to the class, Jacob sent Burger Builder to the South Dakota Big Idea Competition's panel of judges. His



Jacob Elbersen (Second row, fifth) poses with his fellow award-winners after winning eighth place with his business idea Burger Builder (Photo Credit: Big Idea SD).

business was rated on criteria such as creativity, market opportunity, and competition, and Jacob earned eighth place out of the entire state! His eighth place grab meant he was invited to the final competition in Aberdeen where he presented his business idea in front of his peers.

When asked about his experience, Jacob gives it his full recommendation: "I would totally recommend the competition to others because it

allows you to create an idea. You may find out it's easier to start a business than you'd think."

If the South Dakota Big Idea Competition sounds right for you, you can head to <https://bigideasd.com/> for more information on the 2022 competition. The site also includes value tips and tricks students can use to prepare!

February Sneak Peek:

SPORTS:

- Feb. 5: Hockey Pink the Rink
- Feb. 5: Gymnastics ESD Meet
- Feb. 11-12 Gymnastics State Tournament
- Feb. 19: Wrestling Regional Tournament
- Feb 24-26: Wrestling State Championship

FINE ARTS:

- Feb. 2: Choir Small Group
- Feb. 15-16: Spring Play Auditions
- Feb. 16: Band Small Group

New Year's Resolution: Say Sorry and Mean It

BY KAILEY WALLMAN

At daycare, a kid steals a toy from another kid. "Say you're sorry!" At school, someone teases another kid about their grades. "Say you're sorry!" A friend breaks a promise. "Say you're sorry!" As we have said countless "I'm sorry's" over the years, the phrase has become meaningless to many. "I'm sorry" has become a band-aid statement and impulsive response.

It's currently January, which means everyone will be creating their New Year's Resolutions. I think our New Year's Resolutions should focus on social skills and healthy relationships- this includes analyzing why we say sorry. Are we truly sorry? Or are we just sorry we got caught?

Personally I believe the reason we say empty "I'm sorry's" is because of how we were taught to receive apologies. When we were young, we were taught that the appropriate response to "I'm sorry" is "It's okay." In reality, the majority of actions worth apologizing for are indeed not okay. As the individual receiving an apology, it is not your responsibility to provide the apologizer with a sense of accomplishment, comfort, or relief from guilt. This is why a better alternative for "it's okay" is "thank you." Thank them for apologizing, thank them for realizing they hurt you, thank them for caring about you and your feelings, or thank them for taking responsibility for their actions. You are in no way obligated to accept their apology. Healthy boundaries are important to have, and sometimes people can't repair the bridge they have burned.

I believe more emphasis should also be placed on the actions following the apology instead of the apology itself. It's one thing to apologize, but that apology is invalid without a change in actions. Roy Lewicki, a professor emeritus of management and human resources at The Ohio State University's Fisher College of Business, has studied the science behind apologies. Lewicki and his co-authors conducted a research project that revealed that there are six different elements to an apology: expression of regret, explanation of what went wrong, acknowledgment of responsibility, declaration of repentance, an offer of repair, and request for forgiveness. While an apology is stronger and more effective if it includes at least four of the six elements, two of them in particular are especially important: acknowledgment of responsibility and an offer of repair.

As apologies have turned into impulsive reactions, the idea of admitting wrongdoing and changing your actions is not as common as it should be. That's why the latter of the two elements is important in fixing the way we say apologies. It's a simple method that helps put emphasis on actions rather than words.

Apologies are a crucial skill to learn because we, as humans, are all bound to make mistakes that are apology-worthy. They are important communication skills, which are necessary to preserve healthy relationships in your life. We have grown so accustomed to society's faulty apology system that we haven't stopped to evaluate more beneficial and healthier ways to apologize. So, next time you are on the giving or receiving end of an apology, I hope you will make a conscious effort to improve yourself and your relationships by implementing some of the techniques above.

January Staff

Student Reporters:

Hannah Gibson
Nevaeh Starr
Olivia Swenson
Kailey Wallman
Maegan Walsh
Kara Weiss

Editors:

Aubrey Hofmeister
(Assistant)
Nevaeh Starr
(Lead)

Advisors:

Ms. Anderson
Ms. Frank

Contributors:

Vick Becker
Jacob Elberson
Jenna Kruger
Alexis Moran
Ariana Vazquez
Maegan Walsh

Thank you for all that made this issue possible.

The policy of T.F. Riggs High Governor is to report the news accurately and objectively and to provide a forum for the expressions of its readers views. Views expressed in this editorial reflect the concerns and opinions of the editorial board and not the opinions of the individual reporters, editor, adviser, or faculty.

Published as an extra-curricular activity by the newspaper staff of T. F. Riggs High School, 1010 E. Broadway, Pierre, SD 57501, Telephone 605.773.7350

Meet the Clubs at T.F. Riggs!

BY NEVAEH STARR, VICK BECKER, JENNA KRUGER, MAEGAN WALSH, ALEXIS MORAN, ARIANA VAZQUEZ

Whether you're a freshman looking to meet new friends, or a junior needing to expand your resume, it's never too late to join one of the many clubs Riggs has to offer. In fact, there are so many clubs they have been split up into four categories: journalism, job preparation, merit-based, and hobbies & life skills. While it might seem daunting, never be afraid to reach out to club advisors or your peers to learn more about each club!

JOB-PREPARATION

STEM Savvy:

Are your science classes not enough? Do you need more science in your life? If so, join STEM Savvy! Every month members meet with an expert in a STEM field to create activities, games, and interactive lessons for kids grades 6-12. "It's a great way to explore different STEM careers," says member Nevaeh Starr. "My favorite part of STEM Savvy is working with the kids! They're always very willing to learn new things." For more information you can contact advisor Bree Oatman (breeoatman@sd-discovery.org)!

Future Farmers of America (FFA):

If you plan on pursuing a degree in agriculture, you might want to join FFA! FFA aims to educate students on different agricultural fields while building their skills as leaders. Members participate in multiple conferences during the year, which focus on both careers and leadership! These conferences are also a good way to meet people from across the state. FFA also provides around \$2 million worth of scholarships to their members. Feel free to email advisor Cody Jakobson (cody.jakobson@k12.sd.us) or any of the annually elected officers: President Jenna Kruger, Vice President Mckia Brink, Secretary Jasmine Hays, Treasurer Xandar Schmitgen, Reporter Tristan Spencer, or Sentinel Taylyn Cass.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA):

Although business is in the name, FBLA is much more than that! FBLA is an organization dedicated to encouraging students to learn about careers in the business field. Members in FBLA work to grow their leadership skills, become more active in their communities, and connect with their peers. FBLA is a nationally recognized organization, and your membership is sure to be recognized by college admissions and future employers. The organization also offers a \$500 scholarship to outstanding FBLA members. FBLA is a great way to network! Every fall and spring, FBLA hosts state-wide leadership conferences. The conferences allow members to explore business-related topics, and strengthen their skills as leaders.

Members on a local-level also participate in a wide variety of volunteer projects throughout the year, such as food drives and a Christmas family! "My favorite part of FBLA is definitely our volunteer projects," says member Nevaeh Starr. "I love getting to work with my community!" If you'd like to know more about FBLA, you can contact Advisors Ms. Ulmen (cheryl.ulmen@k12.sd.us) and Ms. Rezac (brittanie.rezac@k12.sd.us). You can also reach out to any of the following officers: President Nevaeh Starr, Vice President Ellie Jo Simpson, Secretary Ellie Smith, Treasurer Jacob Roberts, and Reporter and Historian Emily Lingle.

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA):

HOSA is a brand-new organization at Riggs! HOSA works with students hoping to enter the health field and provides them with valuable education, experience, and leadership. This includes state and nation-wide conferences that feature health professionals, public speakers, and competitive events related to health science and careers. HOSA is just getting started this year, so new members are very welcome! Talk to advisor Ms. Lucas (katherine.lucas@k12.sd.us) for more information!

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA):

FCCLA is a technical organization that focuses on careers and leadership surrounding family and the community! FCCLA's main goal is to develop members' creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, and community leader skills. Members have the opportunity to travel the country by attending national and statewide conferences, and competing in a wide-range of events including Culinary Arts, Sports Nutrition, Public Speaking, Fashion Design, Journalism, and Child Development! To join FCCLA, students must have past or current enrollment in any FACS class. If you're interested, you can email advisor Ms. Jordan (lakisha.jordan@k12.sd.us)!

HOBBIES & LIFE SKILLS

Knitting & Crocheting Club:

If you're looking for a new hobby or are interested in developing your knitting skills, you should join Knitting and Crocheting Club! Members don't need any prior knowledge to join, and current-members are very happy to help any new members learn. Members participate in both individual and group projects! "Sometimes our meetings don't even consist of knitting and crocheting at all," says member Maegan Walsh. "Occasionally meetings will be about planning upcoming craft projects or making various season-themed garlands. We also enjoy the occasional sweet treat!"

The Knitting and Crocheting Club is stress-free, and members will learn the vintage art of working with sticks and yarn while also making new friends. Dedicated members also receive an award certificate at the end of the year, which looks nice on any college or scholarship application. Knitting and Crocheting Club meets every Wednesday after school from 3-4. Although members can bring their own needles and yarn, there will be some provided! You can talk to advisor Ms. Rezac (brittanie.rezac@k12.sd.us), or co-founders Maegan Walsh and Claire Koenecke for more information.

Art Club:

If you stop and look at the walls at T.F. Riggs, you'll find large, vibrant murals and unique canvas paintings. Most of these were created by members of Art Club! Members in Art Club create artwork to display around the school to make Riggs more vibrant and welcoming. Some of this year's projects include the Homecoming backdrop painting, wind chimes, and colorful rocks for the entrance of the school.

Art Club meets once a month in Ms. Kokesh's room to discuss or complete art projects. If you're thinking about tapping into your creative side, please reach out to advisors Ms. Kokesh (jill.kokesh@k12.sd.us) and Ms. Schaefer (christina.c.schaefer@k12.sd.us).

Book Club:

If you love to read, or are looking for book recommendations, you might be interested in joining Book Club! Every month, members decide on a book to read for the month. Book genres range from fantasy to historical fiction, and members are always welcome to suggest their personal favorites! The following month, members meet again to discuss what they've read, and pick the next novel to dive into.

"Sometimes life gets so busy, it can be difficult to find a time to read," says member Nevaeh Starr. "Book Club encourages me to find time in the day to pick up a book and read. It's also a great way to expand your library. I've gotten to enjoy some novels I would have never thought to read if not for Book Club!" Please talk to advisor Ms. Kringel (pam.kringel@k12.sd.us) if Book Club interests you!

Spanish Club:

Calling all current or future Spanish-speakers! Spanish Club is for those who can speak Spanish, want to learn Spanish, or are just looking for a fun time. During the weekly meetings, members participate on games and activities that introduce them to new Spanish words, phrases, and concepts. They also plan volunteer projects, South-American country-themed potlucks, and craft activities. "One of my favorite events we've planned has been Dias de Los Muertos night," says member Nevaeh Starr. "The entire community was invited! Everyone enjoyed some traditional foods, painted sugar skulls, and played games."

No prior knowledge is required to join Spanish Club, and members meet almost every Friday before school. Advisor Mr. McLain (jim.mclain@k12.sd.us) is happy to talk to any student who is interested in joining!

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA):

FCA is a national and local organization that aims to spread the word of Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes. Pierre's chapter meets in Ms. Paula's classroom at Jefferson every Wednesday night at 8:15. Members share devotions, eat snacks, and get to know each other! The group also participates in fundraising opportunities and game and movie nights.

FCA is open to all high school students, regardless if they are an athlete or not. You can talk to Senior Vick Becker with any questions you might have!

JOURNALISM

Newspaper:

If you love to write, newspaper is for you! Every month, student reporters write articles ranging from opinion pieces to local features. At the end of the month, their writing is featured in the monthly edition of *The Governor*. "Writing for the newspaper is an amazing way to become more involved in your community. I've made some great friends and learned so much about my peers and teachers," says editor Nevaeh Starr. "It's also a great way to improve your writing skills!"

Members are free to write about whatever interests them, and aren't required to write for every edition. If you'd like to learn more about newspaper, you can reach out to advisors Ms. Anderson (elizabeth.anderson@k12.sd.us) and Ms. Frank (melinda.frank@k12.sd.us), or editors Nevaeh Starr and Aubrey Hofmeister!

Yearbook:

Did you know that Riggs's yearbook *The Gumbo* is created by students? That's right! Through design, journalistic writing, photography, and editing, students on yearbook archive the year for their peers. Whether you like to write, take photos, or use computer software, there's just about something for everyone! To join Yearbook, you can talk to advisor Ms. Blachette (charis.blanchette@k12.sd.us)!

MERIT-BASED

National Honors Society (NHS):

Every year, juniors and seniors with a 3.5 or higher GPA are invited to join NHS. They are also expected to possess the NHS Pillars of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. Being a member of NHS is considered a very prestigious award, and members can apply to a number of scholarships. Upon graduation, NHS seniors earn a yellow cord for their gown for their membership!

For more information about NHS, you can contact advisor Ms. Rogers (kim.rogers@k12.sd.us).

National Art Honors Society (NAHS):

NAHS is an organization that recognizes artistic individuals who have displayed tremendous potential in school through their creative artistic skills and academics. It provides members with peer recognition, leadership growth opportunities, and college and career preparation. NAHS also gives its members plenty of scholarships!

NAHS meets once a month to work on projects such as murals, or discuss volunteer activities like art classes for kids! For more information on the requirements to join NHS, you can contact Ms. Kokesh (jill.kokesh@k12.sd.us).

Music Honors Society (Tri-M):

Do you have an ear for music? If so, you might be interested in joining Tri-M! Tri-M is a music honors society for band and choir students. It works to increase music engagement and appreciation through hosting events and community service, and by raising awareness of music in the community. Members of Tri-M are incredibly active in the community. They volunteer at Feeding South Dakota and PAWS Animal Shelter, work concessions for Riggs sporting events, and help out at GMMS and Riggs band and choir concerts. Members are also viable for some amazing scholarships!

Tri-M normally meets every Monday before school in the band room for fifteen to sixty minutes. Tri-M member applications are open to all band and choir students from October 29 - November 29. Applications can be found through a link on the Tri-M Instagram page, [pierretrim6441](https://www.instagram.com/pierretrim6441), or by scanning a QR code on posters throughout the school. For more information, you can talk to advisor Ms. McKeithan (mackenzie.mckeithan@k12.sd.us) or any of the following officers: President Kate Mullett, Vice President McCahl Schmitz Secretary and Treasurer Ariana Vazquez, and Historian Alexis Moran.

Coming Soon: *The Devil and Daniel Webster* and *The Eight Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life*

BY HANNAH GIBSON

Exciting things are happening in Riggs's Fine Arts department! On January 28 and 29, the drama cast and crew will be performing two one-act plays: *The Devil and Daniel Webster* and *The 8 Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life*. Both feature student casts and crews; however, while *The Devil and Daniel Webster* will be directed by Mrs. Hodges, *The 8 Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life* will be the directorial debut by junior Kate Mullett.

The Devil and Daniel Webster is the story of Daniel Webster, a lawyer who defends Jabez Stone, a man who sold his soul to the Devil, in court. Director Mrs. Hodges has commented that the show "has a lot of interesting themes" and

that her favorite part is the end of the trial over Jabez's soul.

The 8 Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life is a simple comedy about—you guessed it—*Pokemon Go*. Told in a series of short scenarios presented by many performers, each playing multiple parts, the show explores the many dangerous scenarios that could happen while playing *Pokemon Go*: robbery, mind-control, cliff-jumping-hey, it's all possible!

Regarding her upcoming debut, Director Kate Mullett has said "It's been amazing getting to see and direct everything that goes into a production before it goes on-stage." Her favorite part of the journey so far has been

getting to see the improvement from auditions as everyone becomes more comfortable with their roles. She further states that the effort put into the show by the cast and crew has been a driving force of the show, and she is excited to show it off!

The one-act plays will be performed at 7:00 the evenings of January 28 and 29, with *The 8 Ways Pokemon Go is Destroying Your Life* performing first. A brief intermission will be held before the following performance of *The Devil and Daniel Webster*. Admission will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students, though activity passes will be accepted. Be sure to come by and watch these shows be brought to life!

Anything Goes Auditions

Approach in February

BY HANNAH GIBSON

Brush up your singing skills and dust off those acting chops—Mrs. Hodges has just announced the spring musical: *Anything Goes*.

Anything Goes is a musical set aboard a sailing ocean liner. It follows a nightclub singer, Reno Sweeney, on her quest to help her friend Billy Crocker win the heart of his love, Hope Harcourt. The real problem? Hope is already engaged to a wealthy lord. Reno, however, is determined to help her pal. Reno joins forces with criminal Moonface Martin and, through a combination of "elaborate disguises, tap-dancing sailors, and good old-fashioned blackmail", the duo begins on a quest for romance.

Auditions for *Anything Goes* will be held on February 15 and 16 after school and will consist of a dance and warm-up. Soon after, the group will split up, with some going with Mr. Bauck for singing auditions and some with Mrs. Hodges for reading excerpts. Auditions are open to any students in grades 9-12, so we hope to see you there!

Paint it Pink: Oahe Capitals

Prepare for Pink the Rink

BY NEVAEH STARR

Fort Pierre's Expo Center is about to turn a vibrant pink. Athletes sporting pink jerseys will battle it out on a hockey rink dyed pink. The bleachers will turn pink as excited hockey fans deck themselves in pink or clothing that supports those fighting cancer. February is Cancer Awareness Month, and every year Pierre's hockey team, the Oahe Capitals, hold their annual fundraiser Pink the Rink. Senior Olivia Swenson is especially excited for Pink the Rink: "I really enjoy seeing the whole community come together. It is really special to skate in memory or in honor of our loved ones. Every year Pink the Rink is such a great event, and I am excited to see what my last one holds!"

Pink the Rink begins on February 5 at Fort Pierre's Expo Center. There will be five games (Girls U14 @10:45 a.m., Bantam A @12:30 a.m., Girls Varsity @2:30 p.m., Junior Varsity @4:45 p.m., Varsity @7:00 p.m.) throughout the day, with fundraising opportunities spread in between them! The Oahe Capitals hope to see you there!

Season Summary: Girls Volleyball

BY KARA WEISS

Pierre's volleyball team had a phenomenal season! The team went 15-5, beating big teams like Harrisburg and Rapid City Stevens. They won their playoff game against Yankton 3-0 to go to the state tournament for the first time since 2016. These were all huge accomplishments, especially considering how young the team is, with only two senior athletes. At State the girls lost three hard-fought games against Brandon Valley, Huron, and Harrisburg, to earn eighth place.

"This season was a great start to what we want Governor Volleyball to look like. The girls set goals for themselves and worked not only on their technical skills, but also their mental game to be strong enough to compete against the best teams in volleyball." says Head Coach Tiffany Stoeser. "As a team, the goals we set this season will likely be expectations next season, and that is a part of growing as a group. I am proud of all that the girls have accomplished this year and of the expectations they set for our younger athletes in the Governor Volleyball Program."



Front Row: Campbell Boddicker, Danielle Beck, Reese Terwilliger, Jenna Bush, Ayvrie Kaiser, Makenna Schleweway, Lily Sanchez
Bottom Row: Hannah Lemieux, Maddy Swenson, Aleise Christopherson, Addison Cumbow, Remington Price, Grace Soma, Abigail Kropp
(Photo Credit: @GovernorsVolleyball on Facebook)

Season Summary: Boys Football

BY KARA WEISS

The football team, once again, had a strong, rewarding season. After starting the season with a tough loss against Harrisburg, the team pulled through and had seven consecutive wins against other AA competitors.

Although they ended the regular season with a loss to Brookings, they once again found their feet and beat Watertown and Aberdeen Central in the playoffs for a spot at the dome. The championship game against Tea was off to a rough start, but they battled back from a halftime score of 7-21. The boys won 30-27 with an interception, leading to a winning field goal with 4 seconds to go. This was their fifth title in five years!



Athletes on the Pierre Governor's football team celebrate their five-peat at the Dakota Dome
(Photo Credit: Josh Jurgens, South Dakota Public Broadcasting)

Sibling rivalry

COLLECTED BY OLIVIA SWENSON

Chance (10) and Chase (11) Carda

Q: Who's the favorite of the family?

CHANCE: Me

CHASE: Chance, by a lot

Q: How would you describe your sibling?

CHANCE: Airbender

CHASE: Idiotic, clueless, brown-noser, and many more

Q: What do you like most about your sibling?

CHANCE: His big forehead

CHASE: He usually listens to me when I tell him to do something

Q: What do you hate the most?

CHANCE: His big forehead

CHASE: He always finds a way to snore in my ear whenever we're at a hotel

Q: What's the dumbest thing your sibling has ever done?

CHANCE: Tried to 1v1 me in *Fortnite*

CHASE: One Easter we were fishing on our boat. We all had our hands in the water, and Chase decided to try and splash me by shooting his BB gun in the water. He hit my hand instead, and the BB is still embedded in my hand today

Bachelorette of the month

COLLECTED BY OLIVIA SWENSON

How would you describe yourself in one word?

Diligent

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Living in a big city with a cool job

What's your biggest pet peeve?

Lazy people



Claire Keonecke, 12

If you could travel somewhere, where would you go?

Norway

What movie could you watch over and over again?

Mamma Mia

What's your favorite pickup line?

"Do you believe in love at first sight or do you want me to walk by again?"

What do you look for in a significant other?

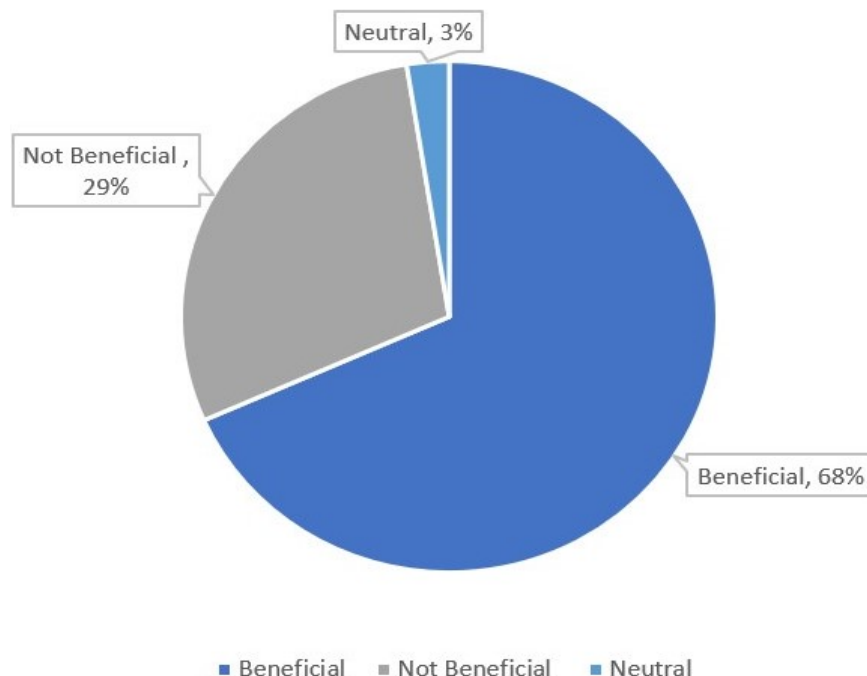
Intelligence

If you could describe yourself using a song, which song would you choose and why?

"I bet you think about me (Taylor's Version)" - because I'm hard to forget

Are New Year's Resolutions Beneficial?

COLLECTED BY MAEGAN WALSH



Bachelor of the month

COLLECTED BY OLIVIA SWENSON

How would you describe yourself in one word?

Enchanting

Where do you see yourself in five years?

AZ, being funded by a sugar mama

What's your biggest pet peeve?

People with zero drip



Turner Starr, 12

If you could travel somewhere, where would you go?

Dubai, to find myself a sugar mama...

What movie could you watch over and over again?

Wolf of Wall

Street- It's inspiring!

What's your favorite pickup line?

"Have you always been this pretty? Or did you have to work at it?"

What do you look for in a significant other?

Heart, humor, and a low amount of Instagram followers

If you could describe yourself using a song, which song would you choose and why?

"Pretty Boy Swag" by Soulja Boy- It's self explanatory