



## Evading obstacles

UNL fishing team competing against the best **LOCAL, A3**



## Final Four set

Aztecs, Hurricanes grab last two spots **SPORTS, B1**

Monday, March 27, 2023

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

journalstar.com



KENNETH FERRIERA, JOURNAL STAR

Brooklyn Green, a fifth grader at Lakeview Elementary School, recently published her own chapter book.

# 'Ambitious and curious'

Lincoln fifth grader publishes her very own book

ZACH HAMMACK  
Lincoln Journal Star

Figuring out the number of children who can say they've published a book isn't easy. Don't worry, Brooklyn Green has already tried.

But it's safe to say Lincoln is home to at least one thanks to the 11-year-old fifth grader, who can now call herself a published author.

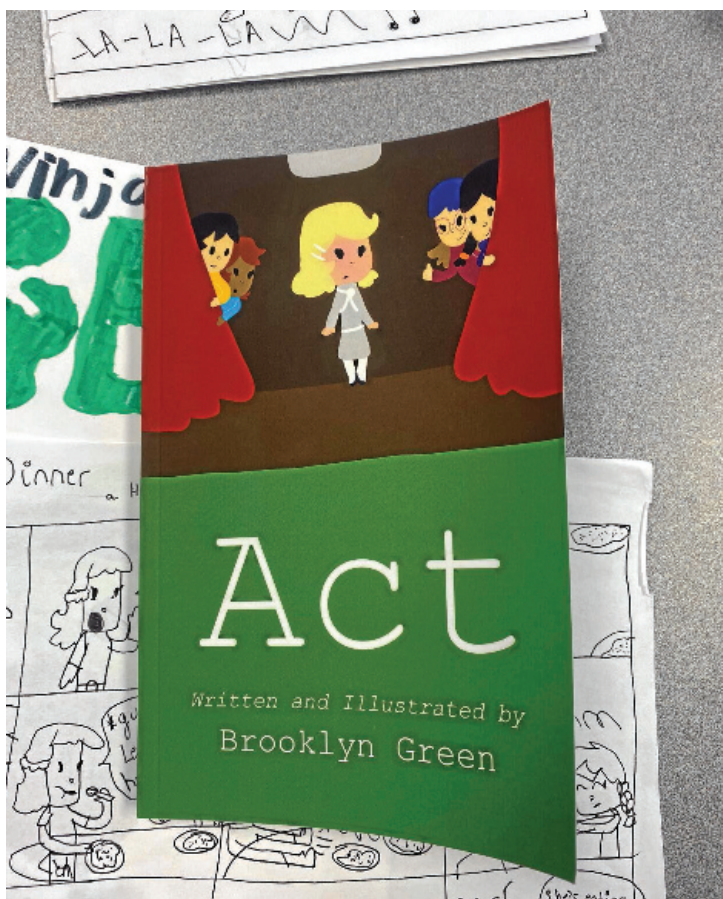


Green

Brooklyn, who attends Lakeview Elementary School, recently published her own chapter book titled "Act" — complete with her own illustrations, cover, ISBN (International Standard Book Number), binding and all.

"When I started this, I probably never would have guessed that it actually would be a book you can hold in your hands," Brooklyn said as she cradled the green paperback in the Lakeview school library last week. "But when I start something, I'm a little stubborn about it."

The book follows a sixth grader cleverly named Grace Benning-



ZACH HAMMACK, LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR

"Act" follows a sixth grader named Grace Bennington in Maple Ridge, British Columbia, who tries out for a school play and must unravel a mystery when some key props go missing.

ton (the initials are Brooklyn's reversed) in Maple Ridge, British Columbia, who tries out for a school play and must unravel

a mystery when some key props go missing.

Writing has "just always been there" for Brooklyn, who has

### Get a copy

Anyone interested in owning a copy of "Act," a chapter book published by Lincoln fifth grader Brooklyn Green, can call or text 402-975-0598 or email greenyj4@icloud.com to receive a purchase link.

spun tales from a young age. When she can't go to bed, she tells herself a story to help her fall asleep. In third grade, she wrote a fantastical story about a germ-turned-ninja when her class was doing a unit in health.

But one of her favorite genres is realistic fiction, which puts the reader in a situation that could actually happen. She tried writing a couple of short stories in that vein, but it wasn't until she started writing "Act" that she thought about publishing her work.

"After the first page, I said to myself, 'This is the one I want to publish,'" she said.

She started writing it toward the end of fourth grade and finished the first draft in June. Then, with the help of her father Joel Green, came the edits. She designed her own cover, too.

By the end of the year, a manuscript was ready to head to Joe Christensen, Inc., a local

Please see **BOOK**, Page A2

## Abortion ban could harm patient care

Bill's sponsor, doctors clash over its effect

SARA GENTZLER  
Flatwater Free Press

A six-week abortion ban that may become Nebraska law worries the state's pre-eminent doctors' organization, which fears doctors could risk felony charges if they violate it — even though criminal charges aren't explicitly in the bill.

Some Nebraska doctors worry that the potential criminal charges, and the ban itself, will cause a chilling effect for doctors and endanger their pregnant patients.

"We're all going to be thinking in the back of our minds: Is this OK? Is my patient sick enough? Does this qualify as a medical emergency?" said Melissa Mathes, an OB-GYN in Omaha, mentioning an exception in the bill meant to save pregnant women from death or major physical impairment. "And there's going to be pauses in care where we have to either get a second opinion or go to our ethics board ... in our particular institutions or hospitals."

"But there's going to be a delay in a patient's care, and sometimes that delay ... a couple of hours or a day can be truly detrimental and potentially deadly for patients."

The bill would ban most abortions after embryonic cardiac activity is detected, roughly six weeks. That's before many people find out they're pregnant. It would likely make the vast majority of legal abortions currently performed in Nebraska illegal.

LB626 previously appeared likely to get the 33 votes needed to overcome a filibuster. But on March 15, Republican Sen. Merv

Please see **ABORTION**, Page A2

## Ukraine demands emergency UN meeting

KARL RITTER  
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine's government on Sunday called for an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council to "counter the Kremlin's nuclear blackmail" after Russian President Vladimir Putin revealed plans to station tactical atomic weapons in Belarus.

One Ukrainian official said Russia "took Belarus as a nuclear hostage."

Further heightening tensions, an explosion deep inside Russia wounded three people Sunday. Russian authorities blamed a Ukrainian drone for the blast, which damaged residential buildings in a town just 110 miles south of Moscow.

Russia has said the plan to station tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus comes in response to

Please see **UKRAINE**, Page A2

## Eating disorders surging

Crisis spurs state legislative action

JESSE BEDAYN  
Associated Press/Report for America

DENVER — Stranded at home amid pandemic lockdowns in spring 2020, Emma Warford stumbled down a social media rabbit hole in her quest to get in shape. Viral 28-day fitness challenges. YouTubers promising "hourglass abs." Diet videos where slim-stomached influencers peddled calorie-tracking apps.

Warford, then a 15-year-old starting volleyball player, bought a food scale and began replacing

meals with energy drinks hawked by social media stars.

Soon, her calorie cutting became a compulsion. By the season's end, she began volleyball games benched, too feeble to start. A year into the pandemic, her heart rate slowed and she was rushed to the hospital.

Stories like Warford's are why lawmakers in Colorado, California, Texas, New York and elsewhere are taking big, legislative swings at the eating disorder crisis. Warford, who's now in recovery after two years of treatment, is among nearly 30 million Americans — about the

Please see **EATING**, Page A2



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI, ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

The Colorado state Capitol in Denver is pictured Jan. 9. Lawmakers in states including Colorado, California, Texas and New York are taking legislative action to help combat the eating disorder crisis.

GET THE FULL BENEFITS OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

**Subscribers:** Activate your digital account to get updated stories, photo galleries, videos, the E-edition and hundreds of additional puzzles, games and comics. Visit [journalstar.com/activate](http://journalstar.com/activate) today.

**Weather**  
Afternoon showers  
**High 45 • Low 24**  
FORECAST • A8

**Inside**  
Classifieds B5 Puzzles B7  
Comics B7 Sports B1-B5  
Nation/World A7 TV B6



6 18134 00002 7