The Rise of AI

Graphics by Alexis Pragides & Olivia Brzek

A new use for nuclear energy

IRENA ILIC
EDITOR IN CHIEF

U.S. Energy Sources 2023

Energy source

- Petroleum — 35.4
- Natural gas — 33.6
- Renewable energy — 8.2
- Coal — 8.1
- Nuclear — 8.1

0   10   20   30   40

Quadrillion BTU (British Thermal units)

Data from the U.S. Energy Administration

ALEXIS PRAGIDES / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a big computer and—like any technology—it needs electricity to run. Yet, with the rise of AI usage around the country, companies are realizing they need large amounts of energy to power this big computer. Data centers and cloud computing are necessary for AI to run but finding a source of energy large enough to power these is a challenge.

Microsoft has taken a big leap—using nuclear power to power its AI system. The topic is controversial among many, however, as the multi-trillion dollar company wants to restart the Three Mile Island Nuclear Reactor in Pennsylvania. The company would use the electricity from the reactor to power its data center. Without a constantly running data center, Microsoft's AI would not be functional.

Nuclear power plants generate about 20% of all electricity in the United States. Nuclear energy is created through a process called fission, consisting of the splitting of atoms which results in the production of heat. Uranium, a highly radioactive chemical element, is used to fuel most nuclear power plants.

Nuclear power plants consist of nuclear reactors which are the heart of the plant. Power plants typically have more than one reactor to produce high amounts of energy. These reactors are used to initiate fission and cause a chemical reaction. Uranium is placed into the reactor through fuel rods. Hundreds of fuel rods filled with uranium make up the core of the nuclear reactor. The fuel rods are cooled by being immersed in water. The heat created by fission turns the water into steam. The steam produced is used to spin a turbine which generates electricity.

Nuclear energy is widely considered to be environmentally friendly since it is nearly carbon-free while many other energy sources are not. It is also considered a reliable source of energy as it is available 24/7.

Despite all the benefits of nuclear energy, there are highly hazardous dangers too. Nuclear reactors occasionally fail and cause catastrophic damage to the environment and citizens in surrounding areas, making neighborhoods uninhabitable. Even though reactors are designed to contain radiation, accidents happen.
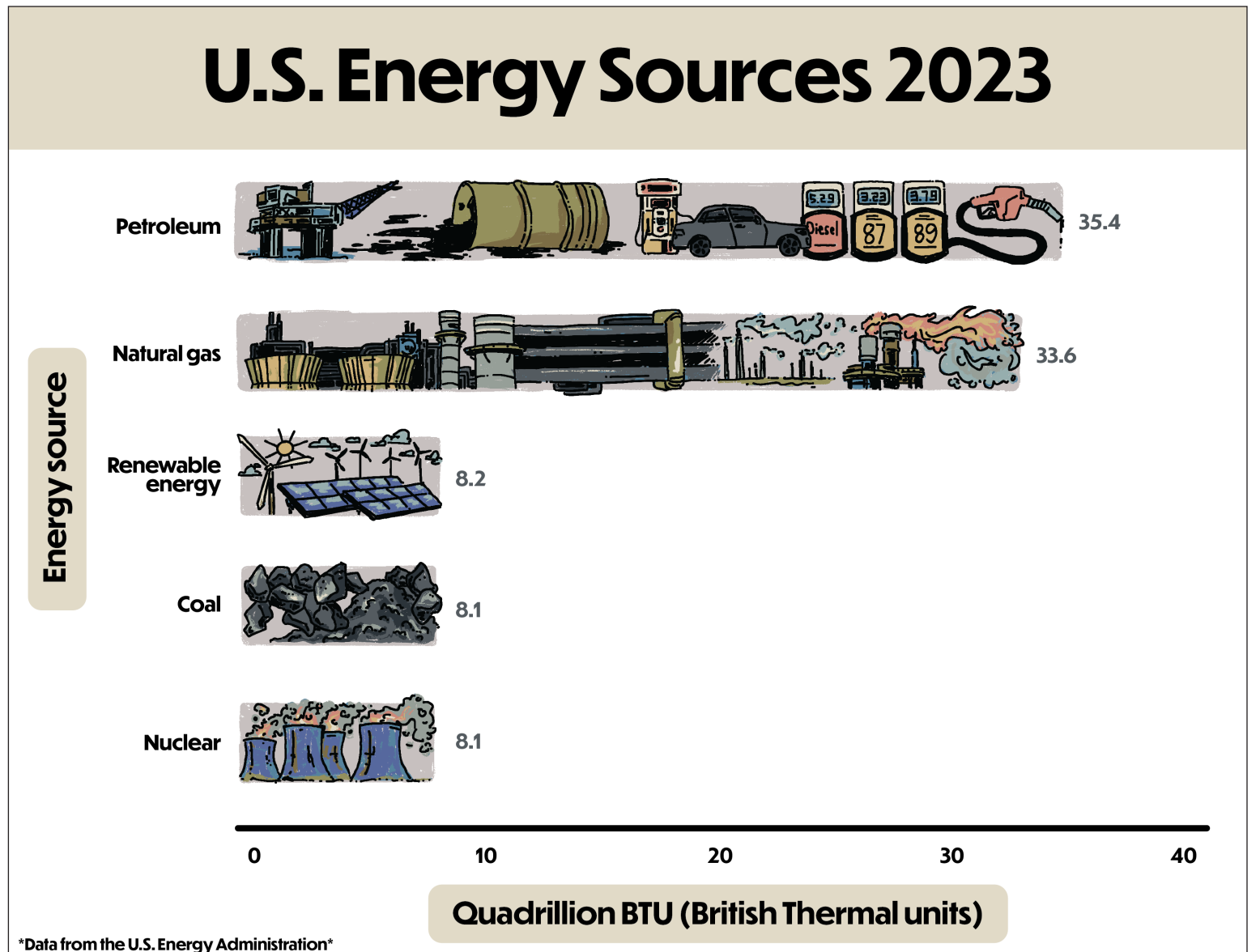
The largest nuclear disaster in history occurred in 1986 with the explosion of a reactor at the Chernobyl Power Plant in northern Ukraine. On April 26, 1986, following human mistake, reactor No. 4 exploded and caused a partial reactor meltdown. The explosion released large amounts of radioactive material into the atmosphere forcing residents of the city of Chernobyl to evacuate in the early hours of the morning on April 27. The radioactive material traveled throughout Europe, carried by the wind, and those by the Adriatic Sea were forced to stay indoors as the radiation levels so far from Chernobyl were deemed dangerous for human life.

It is reported that between 50-185 million curies of radiation were released into the atmosphere from Chernobyl. The disaster left millions of farmland contaminated and resulted in deformed livestock and crops. The toll on human life was even larger. The number of cancer and radiation poisoning-related deaths connected to Chernobyl is in the thousands, with people in Europe still suffering from the after-effects today.

A nuclear disaster similar to the one experienced in Chernobyl occurred in the U.S. at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania. Considered the most serious nuclear disaster in U.S. history, on March 28, 1979, an accidental automatic shutoff of the core of Reactor 2 occurred. Human error contributed to the succeeding partial core meltdown. The accident did not result in the release of major radioactive material into the atmosphere but an evacuation was put into place.

Reactor 1, which was not harmed in the accident, resumed operation in 1985 but was shut down in 2019. Reactor 2 has been deemed unstable as damage was too severe to resume operation.

Microsoft wants to use Three Mile Island to power its AI data center. AI data centers require massive constant amounts of energy to function.

Computer science professor Dr. Osama Abuomar comments on the reliance of AI on data centers, "AI operations consume a lot of resources such as space, power, cooling, and networking connections, so data centers will help to tackle such requirements."

Data centers are necessary for AI platforms to run properly and Microsoft is looking for a way to minimize energy costs while maximizing efficiency.

"Although some current data centers can support AI high-density workloads, as GPU-based deployments continue to evolve (requiring more rack densities) there may be a need for new structural designs of these data centers. Consequently, this adds more cost and requires more space and computational resources which might be a tremendous challenge for some companies, organizations, and even countries going forward" said Aboumar.

The company is claiming that the revival of Three Mile Island will not only benefit their AI but also the surrounding community. It's estimated that the project will create over 3 billion dollars in tax revenue and bring more than 3,000 jobs back to Pennsylvania.

> **It's estimated that the project will create over 3 billion dollars in tax revenue and bring more than 3,000 jobs back to Pennsylvania.**

The contract is still under review as Microsoft is partnering with Constellation Energy, an American energy company.

The contract is a 20 year deal and the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant is projected to re-open in 2028 with a new name, Crane Clean Energy Center.

Re-opening the power plant requires a restart of reactor 1 which demands approval from the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. In order to receive approval, the reactor must pass multiple safety reviews as well as receive permits from the local and state government. The current permits for the plant expire in 2034, yet plans for extended permits are already in the works.

For the reactor to pass inspection, it needs to undergo a restoration. A new turbine, generator, main power transformer and cooling and control systems need to be installed.

The project is a long way from completion yet other large tech companies have already been looking into nuclear power long before Microsoft.

In early 2024, Amazon purchased a data center in Pennsylvania right next to the state's Susquehanna nuclear power plant. Amazon plans on solely using part of the energy output by Susquehanna.

Microsoft is part of a trend that has the potential to get bigger among powerful technology companies in the future.

Do AI tools boost or hinder students?

EMMA BERTOTTO
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Every day, artificial intelligence (AI) grows more in our daily lives. More people are beginning to use its tools, especially college students. AI tools are reshaping how students approach their studies, from research aids to writing assistance or even revising their papers.

There is constant growth in the use of AI among students, delving into the benefits, challenges, and implications of this technological shift. However, there are negative consequences that should be taken into consideration.

Artificial intelligence encompasses a range of technologies designed to mimic human cognitive functions.

These include a wide range of technologies such as machine learning, natural language processing and robotics. In this way, AI allows computers to perform specific tasks such as understanding language, recognizing patterns and making decisions. The technology can analyze large datasets, automate processes and provide personalized experiences, making it increasingly valuable and useful across various fields.
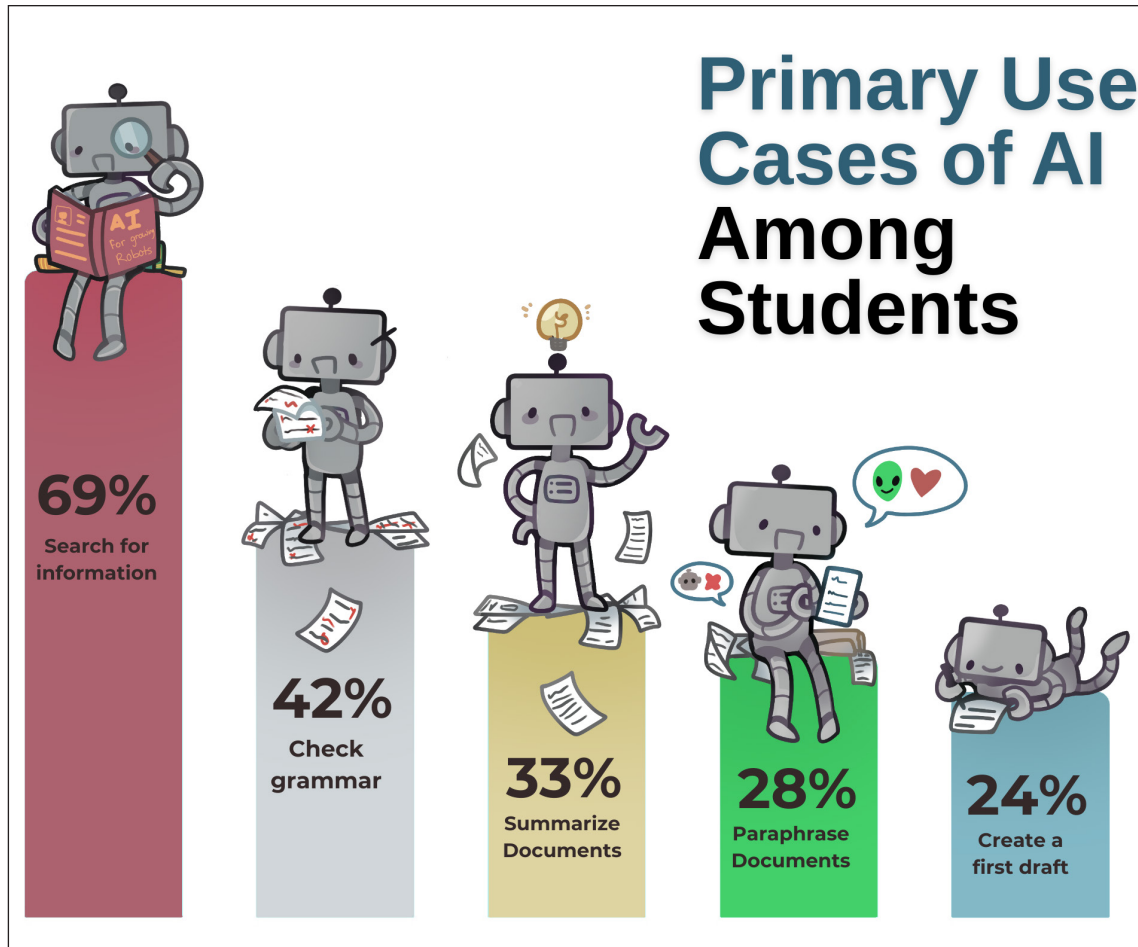
This rapid growth can be attributed to several factors, such as the easy availability of AI applications or the growing recognition of their potential to enhance learning outcomes. Several educational institutions are adapting to this technological shift.

Educators are incorporating AI into their curriculum, providing students with access to tools that facilitate research, writing and personalized learning experiences. This gives back a broader trend toward digital integration in education, with AI becoming an essential component of the modern academic landscape.

Despite all the benefits, the growing reliance on AI is also raising concerns. As students increasingly incorporate AI tools into their studies, the importance of self-regulation and awareness becomes a predominant factor.

The ability to recognize when one is being over reliant can be a key aspect of responsible AI usage.

Dr. Mardy Philippian, college writing professor at Lewis University expressed, "A user has to be able to say to themselves, okay, this is something

Primary Use Cases of AI Among Students

69% Search for information

42% Check grammar

33% Summarize Documents

28% Paraphrase Documents

24% Create a first draft

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

I'm overly relying on... the line between relying on AI and simply listening to AI is very thin."

Self-awareness is crucial for maintaining academic integrity and fostering genuine learning. When students recognize their reliance on AI, they can take intentional steps to engage with the material more deeply. This means not just accepting AI-generated content at face value, but critically assessing and building upon it to formulate their ideas and build their thoughts and beliefs.

By doing so, students not only enhance their understanding but also develop essential skills in critical thinking and creativity.

Without this conscious effort, the risk of superficial engagement looms large, potentially undermining educational journeys. Cultivating self-awareness allows students to use AI as a valuable tool for enhancement rather than reliance, enriching their overall learning experience.

Although AI has a lot of substantial benefits, it is worth acknowledging the inherent risks with its use in education. As Dr. Daniel Kissel, chemistry professor at Lewis University, asks, "In what ways can it be helpful and can it be abused?"

This question encapsulates the dual nature of AI technologies. While artificial intelligence offers significant advantages, like the ones explained above, there is also the potential for misemployment.

It is crucial for students to balance the temptation to rely on AI with the need for authentic engagement with their coursework. The importance of maintaining one's unique voice in academic work cannot be overstated. As highlighted by Dr. Kissel, "You want to be able to use it to be more efficient, but still maintain your own voice and go back in and make sure it's written the way you want it to be written."

While AI can assist in organizing thoughts or developing new ideas, final submissions should be able to reflect student's own insights and perspectives on that specific subject. This approach not only preserves students' individuality but also reinforces the values of their academic work.

Dr. Kiessel also pointed out, "AI can help you gather your thoughts and express your data, but you just want to make sure it's in your own voice."

AI can play a collaborative role in the learning process. Students can enhance their understanding by using AI to organize and articulate ideas, but at the same time making sure that their unique perspectives and insights are maintained.

A survey from the Digital Education Council, describes how students across 16 countries utilize AI in their schoolwork. Sixtynine percent of respondents use AI primarily for searching for information. Following closely, 42% use AI to check grammar, highlighting its role in improving writing quality. Other notable uses include summarizing documents (33%), paraphrasing (28%) and creating first drafts (24%).

The integration of artificial intelligence into the educational landscape offers both exciting opportunities and significant challenges for students and educators alike. The 2024 Global AI Student Survey indicates that a significant number of students utilize AI tools to enhance their learning experiences.

However, this reliance underscores the importance of self-regulation and critical engagement with AI-generated content.

By responsibly navigating the complexities of AI in education, students can harness its potential to enrich their academic journeys while preserving the integrity of their learning process.

Ultimately, fostering an environment that encourages discussion on AI's role in education will empower both students and educators to adapt and thrive in an AI-driven world.

IRENA ILEC
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
irenailic@lewisu.edu

TYRA CORPUZ
MANAGING EDITOR
tyrarayavcorpuz@lewisu.edu

ANABEL AGUILAR
WEBMASTER
anabelaguilarramir@lewisu.edu

LUNA SCHAFER
NEWS EDITOR
lunacuevaschafer@lewisu.edu

EMMA BERTOTTO
ASST. NEWS EDITOR
emmabertotto@lewisu.edu

JADA LAW
OPINIONS EDITOR
jadaalaw@lewisu.edu

JOHN COLAYO
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR
johnjeusgcolayo@lewisu.edu

RAYNE GRABOWSKI
CO. TEMPO EDITOR
raynegrabowski@lewisu.edu

LILY COOKE
CO. TEMPO EDITOR
lilyccooke@lewisu.edu

STEPHANIE AGUILAR
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR
stephaniekaguilar@lewisu.edu

DELANEY COLEMAN
ASST. CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR
delaneyscoleman@lewisu.edu

GRANT DORSEY
CO. SPORTS EDITOR
giannambelcastro@lewisu.edu

KREE NUNNALLY
CO. SPORTS EDITOR
kreejnunnally@lewisu.edu

JACOB GUERNON
CAMPUS LIFE & OPINIOINS
COPY EDITOR
jacobgguernon@lewisu.edu

JOANNALY SANCHEZ
TEMPO & NEWS
COPY EDITOR
joannalyasanchez@lewisu.edu

JADA HARVEY
SPORTS COPY EDITOR
jadalharvey@lewisu.edu

STEPHANIE AGUILAR
ONLINE COPY EDITOR
stephaniekaguilar@lewisu.edu

KALEY MURRAY
LAYOUT EDITOR
kaleymmurray@lewisu.edu

GIANNA CIACCIA
LAYOUT EDITOR
giannaciaccia@lewisu.edu

DANA EUSKE
LAYOUT EDITOR
danameuske@lewisu.edu

ALEXIS PRAGIDES
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
alexispragides@lewisu.edu

OLIVIA BRZEK
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
oliviasbrzek@lewisu.edu

MATTHEW CARLSON
SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR
mattcarlson2003@gmail.com

VANJA BOGDANOVIC
NEWS & CAMPUS LIFE
PHOTOGRAPHER
vanjabogdanovic@lewisu.edu

MATTHEW CARLSON
SPORTS & TEMPO
PHOTOGRAPHER
mattcarlson2003@gmail.com

BRYNN KOEHLER
NEWS & CAMPUS LIFE
CONTRIBUTOR
brynndkoehler@lewisu.edu

CHRISTIAN GOODE
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR
christianlgoode@lewisu.edu

SHANNON MASHEK
MODERATOR
masheks@lewisu.edu

Industries merge with intelligence

LUNA SCHAFER
NEWS EDITOR

In 1956, a computer scientist and professor at Dartmouth College created the word "artificial intelligence."

Over the years, society has had front-row seats to the evolution of technology and how it helps develop everything that surrounds us.

Over the last couple of years, the new phenomenon has been more noticeable than before and is taking over.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a technology that presents both a great benefit and a threat to individuals in different professional fields.

In 1956, John McCarthy, a professor at Stanford University created a summer project at Dartmouth University on artificial intelligence, which credited him for the invention of the term.

McCarthy's pioneering contributions laid the foundation for modern AI, including the development of formal systems for reasoning and problem-solving.

As the years have gone by the invention has developed across the world, even to the point that it has infiltrated the everyday lives of many individuals.

However, many have concerns that AI will be taking over people's jobs, leaving many unemployed.

University President David Livingston, talks about the matter by stating that AI has become a tool everyone should take advantage of, rather than being afraid of.

He reasons that the tool can help individuals with easier tasks, such as taking notes during meetings, suggesting schedules, and so on. Although this used to be the job of a person, Livingston insists that AI will push individuals to learn more than just the basics of their job.

Fears of AI come mainly from sci-fi movies where robots take over everything, leaving humans without purpose.

Nevertheless, this will not be the case for a long time if individuals decide to learn more than just the basics.

It is true that the invention has been improving more rapidly than expected, however, artificial intelligence is currently only performing basic tasks that humans have mastered.

As it learns faster than a human when it comes to mistakes, it does not have the originality that a human brain has. After all, it was humans that invented it.

Livingstone believes Lewis will be using the invention
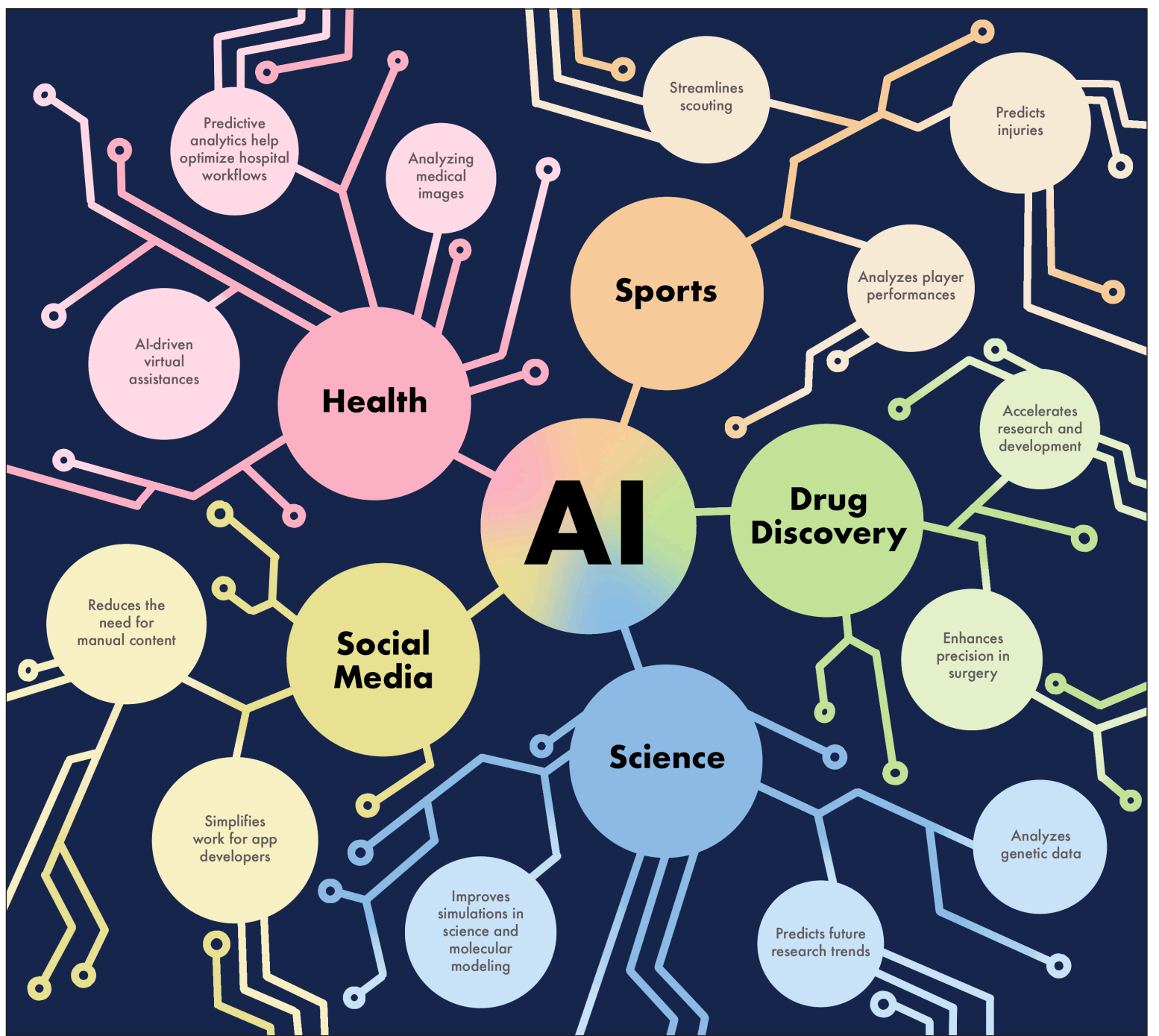
soon to provide detailed minute notes from various meetings that professors, directors and so on have. This will allow everyone to go back and look at the more detailed notes than those taken by hand.

In the past four years, AI has been used in professional environments more and more due to its easy access and accuracy. In fact, it has grown to be used by different businesses by 270%.

When it comes to the health sector of the professional world, it enhances diagnostics, personalizing treatments and streamlining operations.

Not only that, but it aids in analyzing medical images, predicting diseases and customizing therapies based on patient data.

AI-driven virtual assistants and chatbots provide patient support, while predictive analytics helps optimize hospital workflows.

In drug discovery, AI accelerates research and development, and in surgery, it enhances precision with robotic systems. Remote monitoring tools allow real-time patient care and AI also supports clinical decision-making by analyzing medical data.

According to the Breast

Cancer Organization, about 9% of US radiologists use AI mammography or breast imaging which has been proven to lower false positives by 6%.

According to the Breast Cancer Organization, about 9% of US radiologists use AI mammography or breast imaging which has been proven to lower false positives by 6%.

Just like in the health department, AI is a great tool used in the scientific world. It automates routine tasks, assists in drug development and improves simulations in fields like climate science and molecular modeling.

AI accelerates genomic research by analyzing genetic data and aiding biotechnology.

It also generates new hypotheses, facilitates collaboration and predicts future research trends that can help scientists come up with more

hypotheses for diverse issues across different fields.

On the other hand, AI has become very popular amongst social media, since this is where it became more noticeable for everyday users. For example, the "For You" page across social media platforms, the invention creates personalized suggestions about the content the user may be interested in.

Because of this, it makes lives easier for those working for the app, since they are not responsible for creating patterns for the billions of users on apps such as Instagram, Facebook, TikTok and more.

When talking about Lewis University as a business, Livingston comments, "We are a $185 million business." He goes on to explain that the school is in an extremely competitive environment where it needs to constantly improve.

He says, "We need to prepare our graduates for how to use AI appropriately in the professional setting.

So if you are studying finance or you are studying elementary education or you are studying aviation, criminal justice, you need to know how a police department, hospital or an airline

is using artificial intelligence so you walk in prepared as a graduate."

Sports is another important area that AI has been touching on, even if it's not as noticeable as the public might think.

In this area, AI is revolutionizing sports management by enhancing performance analytics, optimizing fan engagement and improving marketing strategies.

It allows teams to make data-driven decisions by analyzing player performance, predicting injuries that could take out players for the season and streamlining scouting and recruitment processes.

President Livingston insists that AI will never provide the comfort that a person does when someone calls the office to request assistance with a matter, or that artificial intelligence cannot come up with original ideas that have not been put up on the internet. He insists that although some jobs might be at stake, if individuals decide to enrich their knowledge with more than just the basics, then AI will still have a long way before it takes over humans.

Dependence on AI platforms puts adolescent brain development at risk

BRYNN KOEHLER
CAMPUS LIFE & NEWS
REPORTER

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, artificial intelligence's (AI) presence in the lives of American teenagers has been rampantly increasing in both their personal and educational lives.

Even as students returned to the in-person classroom, AI's development during remote learning has followed.

There are many positives to the use of AI in everyday life, particularly involving social and cognitive development among adolescents.

According to research by the International Journal of Computing and Artificial Intelligence, AI provides a window to education that is tailored to individual educational needs and facilitates access to necessary information.

It also has the potential to enhance socio-cognitive development through the use of chatbots, which make counseling and mental health services more readily available and normalized.

With regulated integration into everyday life, AI has the potential to enhance adolescent cognitive and social development.

The problem is, however, the use of AI is not particularly regulated. Its popularity has led adolescents to overuse AI platforms, such as ChatGPT and OpenAI, leading to a notable decline in the development of critical mental and socio-cognitive faculties.

For starters, AI's ability to mimic human conversation diverts users from using and developing cognitive processes required for social interactions and critical thinking, according to the National Journal of Medicine.

Furthermore, the immediacy and human-like nature of chatbots can lead people to use them more conversationally, sometimes even instilling a sense of trust into them as though it is a real person.

Chatbots can be a potential resource for people struggling to reach out about mental health issues, but unregulated use can lead to cognitive overdependence and cause AI to become a replacement for genuine interaction.

Chatbots build their responses off algorithms and user preferences, making for a very one-sided conversation unique to the individual's interests.

Real human conversations require much more critical

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

thinking and complex cognitive function, elements that are vital in brain development in adolescent years. By replacing real conversation with chatbots, adolescents miss out on vital socio-cognitive development.

According to the National Journal of Medicine, AI Chatbot Induced Cognitive Atrophy (AICICA), is a real phenomenon that refers to the deterioration of cognitive fac-

> **Despite the name, AICICA isn't unique to chatbots; it can come from an overdependence on any type of AI platform.**

ulties due to a lack of maintenance resulting from relying on AI to do the brain's job.

With remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, AI emerged as a helpful online classroom resource, giving students and teachers ready access to information and study materials.

However, similar to chatbots, the use of AI in the classroom has gotten out of hand.

Plagiarism and cheating issues aside, the convenience and immediacy at which AI can supply information and create unique ideas from a simple assignment request has led students to neglect brain functions necessary for critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity and memory retrieval.

Seeing as brain development doesn't come to a stop until well into a person's mid-twenties, high school and college years are an especially risky time to miss out on maintaining functions necessary for brain development.

"I think that there's a lot of things, in chemistry especially, that are very very sensitive and very very delicate and it's really really easy to have a very small detail completely change the outcome that you were hoping for or expecting," says Kiersten Smith, a junior double majoring in biology and chemistry, and President of the Chemistry Club at Lewis.

The brain is a delicate structure and missing out on years of frontal lobe development due to AI is detrimental to completion of brain development.

Smith explains, "I think AI is a very powerful tool, and it has access to so much information, and I think it can be a good way to find information really quickly, but then you also have to look into validating those sources."

Modern AI, such as ChatGPT, is still a relatively new and developing software.

Although it has access to information that has been validated, it also has equal access to information that is not reliable.

Another study reviewed by the National Journal of Medicine suggests that the presentation of information resulting from AI can lead to a student's inability to distinguish between accurate and fake information.

The persuasiveness of AI chatbots leaves adolescents vulnerable to adopting gullible behavior, which is another manifestation of an atrophy in critical thinking skills.

"You go to college and you pay thousands of dollars to do it, and one of the things I think you pay for is the ability to critically think and learn things at a much deeper level that AI may not necessarily be able to explain or teach you," Smith adds.

College is a prime time for older adolescents to hone

their skills and prepare to enter the workforce, and it is a privilege that many are not afforded.

The development of critical thinking, problem-solving and interactive skills is crucial for those learning how to enter a professional environment. Adolescents become more and more dependent on the use of AI and neglect the maintenance of vital cognitive functions, building barriers to finding success in the adult world.

"I think that with anything, there are positives and negatives to using AI.

It can be a very good tool to have in your arsenal, but it could also become dangerous and lead to missed opportunities and wrong information," Smith says.

As it stands, the overuse of AI in both the personal and educational lives of adolescents is having detrimental effects on cognitive development.

The positives, however, could be the overwhelming opposite - with the regulation of the use of AI having the potential to enhance not only the cognitive development of these young adults but also their future.

Confronting ethics & morality in Artificial Intelligence
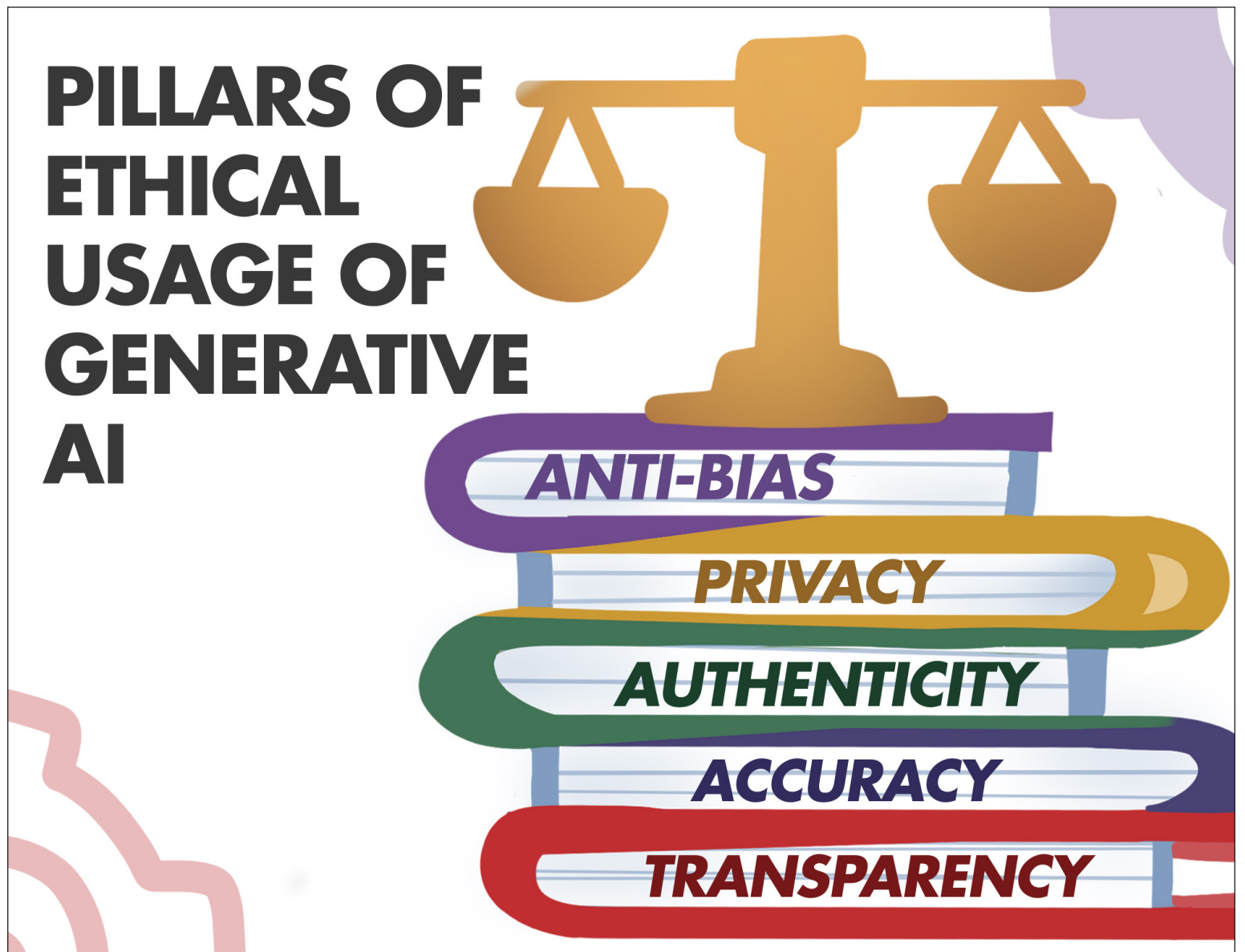
JOHN JEUS COLAYO
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR

Throughout human history, emerging technologies have presented unparalleled potential while simultaneously posing significant hazards. When partnered with a lack of respect for the welfare of others, technological advancement occasionally results in significant misery. Although there are grounds to believe these adverse effects will be temporary, this may not hold factual in every situation. Numerous areas of our day-to-day activities already incorporate artificial intelligence (AI) in some form or another. An excellent illustration of this is AI that improves effectiveness in decision-making, writing essays and productivity across a variety of areas.

This technology is only one example of how artificial intelligence weaves itself into the activities and relationships we engage in daily.

Artificial intelligence is already integrated into several facets of everyday life. Streaming services such as Netflix, Max, Hulu and music platforms like Spotify and iTunes employ AI to deliver tailored suggestions based on user activity. These suggestions are not arbitrary; they are derived from advanced algorithms that assess watching and listening behaviors, preferences and the specific times at which material is engaged. These platforms improve user experience by presenting information that fits with an individual's interests and preferences.

Artificial intelligence is not only revolutionizing our personal life, but also substantially influencing the professional environment. Numerous monotonous jobs, traditionally performed by humans, may now be automated by AI. This automation enhances efficiency and production, enabling individuals to concentrate on the more intricate and innovative facets of their roles. AI-driven software may manage data input, scheduling and customer support via chatbots, alleviating the burden on human staff and decreasing mistakes.

The integration of AI into culture provokes intriguing ethical considerations. In 2019, the Chinese technology firm Huawei declared that an AI algorithm successfully composed the final two movements of Symphony No. 8, the incomplete symphony begun by Franz Schubert in 1822, 197 years prior. What occurs when artificial intelligence possesses the ability to generate artistic creations independently? To what degree can copyrights be ascribed if human authors are supplemented by robots and algorithms? Should an algorithm be acknowledged as an author and possess the same rights as an artist?

The artwork generated by AI necessitates a redefinition of the term "author" to adequately acknowledge the creative contributions of both the original creator and the algorithms and technology involved in the artistic production.

Creativity, defined as the ability to generate innovative and unique material through imagination, is fundamental in an open, inclusive and pluralistic society. The influence of AI on human creativity warrants meticulous consideration. Although AI serves as a formidable instrument for creativity, it prompts significant inquiries on the future of art, the rights and compensation of artists and the integrity of the creative value chain.

The essential factor for maximizing AI's potential is establishing a data-friendly ecosystem characterized by uniform standards and cross-platform compatibility.

Artificial intelligence relies on data that can be examined immediately and applied to specific issues. Access to data that is "available for exploration" within the research community is essential for effective AI development.

A McKinsey Global Institute study indicates that countries that encourage open data sources and data sharing are more likely to experience advancements in AI. The United States possesses a significant edge over China in this context. Global assessments of data openness indicate that the United States ranks ninth worldwide, while China ranks ninety-third. Currently, the U.S. lacks a cohesive national data strategy.

There are few mechanisms for enhancing research accessibility or platforms that facilitate the acquisition of fresh insights from proprietary data. Ownership of data and the extent of its public domain are often ambiguous.

Numerous urban schools in the U.S. utilize algorithms for enrollment decisions, taking into account factors such as parental preferences, area characteristics, income levels and demographic backgrounds. West and Allen (2018) reports that Jon Valant, a researcher at Brookings, states that Bricolage Academy in New Orleans prioritizes economically disadvantaged applicants for up to 33% of its available seats. In practice, however, the majority of cities have chosen categories that privilege relatives of current students, children of school staff and families residing within the school's extensive geographic vicinity. Forty-five enrollment options are likely to vary significantly when such concerns are taken into account.

Depending on the configuration of AI systems, they can enable the elimination of mortgage applications, assist in solving discriminatory practices or aid in the screening and compilation of rosters based on unjust criteria. The considerations influencing choices regarding programming significantly impact system operations and customer effects. The regulations under the Right of Publicity (ROP) legal right that prevent unauthorized use of a person's image and name for publicity provide that individuals own "the right to decline personalized advertisements" and "may challenge 'legal or similarly consequential' decisions rendered by algorithms and request human intervention" through a detailed explanation of the algorithm's process in producing a certain result. Each guideline aims to safeguard personal data and inform individuals about how it functions.

There are a lot of moving parts when it comes to the moral and ethical implications of AI and its imminent singularity. Although these technologies have the ability to greatly improve efficiency and production. They also carry a great deal of risk, including the possibility of job loss, invasions of privacy and even existential hazards. In the end, the proliferation of AI could question core beliefs about humanity. Despite this, people may use these technologies as an advantage if problems are tackled in a careful manner.

Even if people can't see into the future to tell how AI will evolve, humanity can handle these concerns with seriousness. They deserve to make sure AI is built and used responsibly and ethically.

Everyone from scientists to lawmakers to the general public must work together to put rules and laws into action. One way to demonstrate AI's value is to include the scientists and lawmakers. It is possible to uphold the concepts and values that are fundamental to human development without sacrificing them.

Crucial to the progress of AI are the ethical considerations that come with it. The development of trustworthy, responsible and socially useful AI technologies that meet ethical standards and contribute to society's well-being depends on the people's ability to understand, address and incorporate ethical issues into AI systems.

PILLARS OF ETHICAL USAGE OF GENERATIVE AI

ANTI-BIAS

PRIVACY

AUTHENTICITY

ACCURACY

TRANSPARENCY

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ESPN should hire writers to report on "underserved" leagues, not use AI

GRANT DORSEY
SPORTS EDITOR

All articles published by The Flyer are written by staff members. AI is not used for our articles.

On Sept. 5, San Diego Wave forward and two-time FIFA World Cup champion Alex Morgan announced in a social media post that she would be retiring from soccer after playing professionally for 13 and a half years.

Her last game would be at home at SnapDragon Stadium on Sept. 8 against the North Carolina Courage. Morgan only played 13 minutes, matching the number on her jersey, before being substituted off to finish her career. The Courage rolled past the Wave, however, with the game ending 4-1.

In ESPN's recap of the match, there was no mention of this being Morgan's last game or the significance of her career. The recap only included a play-by-play of the match, highlighting the goals, saves and important fouls. You may be wondering, how did a sports journalist not include one of the most prominent and important American women's soccer players of all time in this recap?

A sports journalist did not write this article—generative AI did.

ESPN announced they would launch "game recaps for underserved sports using AI" according to a press release published on Sept. 5. These "underserved sports," men's lacrosse and women's soccer specifically, are not covered enough by large sports news organizations like ESPN in the first place.

They explain in their press release that their generative AI "allows ESPN staff to focus on their more differentiating features, analysis, investigative, and breaking news coverage."

Having generative AI write articles for sports that are "underserved" is not only lazy but also unethical. If a sports news organization realizes some sports leagues are "underserved," should they not hire someone to cover the league to show as an organization they care and think it is important to write about?

ESPN already has several dedicated National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) writers, including Jeff Kassouf, who is the lead NWSL and United States Women's National Team writer. Kas-

Research by **Newsguard** found that, as of September 2023, 467 news websites out of the 8,000 that they track are entirely AI generated with little to no human oversight.

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

souf's new role was created before the start of this NWSL season, in conjunction with ESPN now having broadcasting rights for the league. He also wrote a story for ESPN about Morgan's last game on Sept. 8.

Kassouf founded The Equalizer in 2009 to cover women's soccer in the United States.

There are currently no dedicated writers for the Premier Lacrosse League (PLL). While ESPN lists on their website three writers in the lacrosse section, they also write or commentate for other sports.

The PLL, whose season ended on Sept. 15 after the Utah Archers won back-to-back championships, does not have many stories listed in the news section. All of the stories listed in the PLL section, however, were written by ESPN's Generative AI Services. Videos listed in the news section of the website were created by ESPN staff.

ESPN has not been the only sports news organization to have generative AI write sports recaps. The Associated Press announced in 2016 they would be launching "robot journalists" to write about Minor League Baseball (MiLB), a league AP tried writing about since 2006, but did not have enough journalists on staff to cover all the teams and leagues. MiLB consists of five full season leagues, which adds up to 120 teams needing to be covered.

Many journalists who cover "underserved" sports like women's soccer and men's lacrosse are independent and usually write for free or when they are not on the clock.

There are a few dedicated platforms that pay their journalists to cover these leagues. Independent websites like The Equalizer and Lacrosse All Stars are news organizations that are dedicated to reporting on their respective sports. In independent media, most journalists that are paid to write do so through contract

work. If something major is happening in a league, then these news organizations will search for a journalist to cover the breaking news.

It's interesting that ESPN owns Inside Lacrosse, a website dedicated to covering men's and women's lacrosse across the country. Inside Lacrosse has their own television show called Inside Lacrosse TV, which airs on ESPN for one hour twice during the college season.

If ESPN has an interest in college lacrosse, why wouldn't that interest continue when those athletes further their careers in a professional league like the PLL? ESPN should add a professional section to Inside Lacrosse to have writers to cover the league.

When these leagues grow, sports news organizations will start to find writers and reporters to cover them. The Women's National Basketball League (WNBA) is a great example of this. While the WNBA is still growing in its coverage, the amount

of writers for it has grown in the past few years due to increase in viewership. Writers from independent WNBA fan websites like Winsidr have gone on to write for Just Women's Sports and Sports Illustrated.

With generative AI getting better and better with every prompt it is given, the writing will improve over time. Sports news organizations like ESPN will continue to rely on generative AI to fulfill their writing needs and not use the writers they already have at their disposal. This will also stop young and aspiring writers from getting a chance to showcase their writing abilities and landing a coveted writing job for their favorite news organization.

The best thing about sports is that it is not all about what happens in the game. It is about the emotion and the high stakes in every game or match. If we do not have human writers to talk about the highs and lows of sports, then what is the point?

Earn Both Your Bachelor's and Master's Degrees Sooner in a Fast-Track Program

You understand the value of education and how it can impact your future. So why not give your future the best opportunity possible?

Our **Fast-Track: Bachelor's-to-Master's programs** allow you to complete both your bachelor's and master's degrees in **less time than it would take you to earn each one separately.** You can begin the program during the senior year of your undergraduate program.

To apply to the program, you must have:

- Completed a minimum of **75 credit hours** of undergraduate coursework with a cumulative **GPA of 3.0 or higher.** This GPA must be maintained while taking graduate courses in your senior year.
- Submit an application to the Fast-Track: Bachelor's-to-Master's program and be approved by the program/department.

Programs include **Aviation, Business, Technology,** and more.

Visit the **Lewis website** for a full list of available programs.

You can apply via the **myLewis** portal on the Records and Registration page.

Application to a Fast-Track: Bachelor's-to-Master's program does not replace official application and admission to the graduate program. Application must be made to the graduate program consistent with University policy as outlined in the graduate catalog.

Questions?
See your Academic Advisor for more information.

Campus Crossword
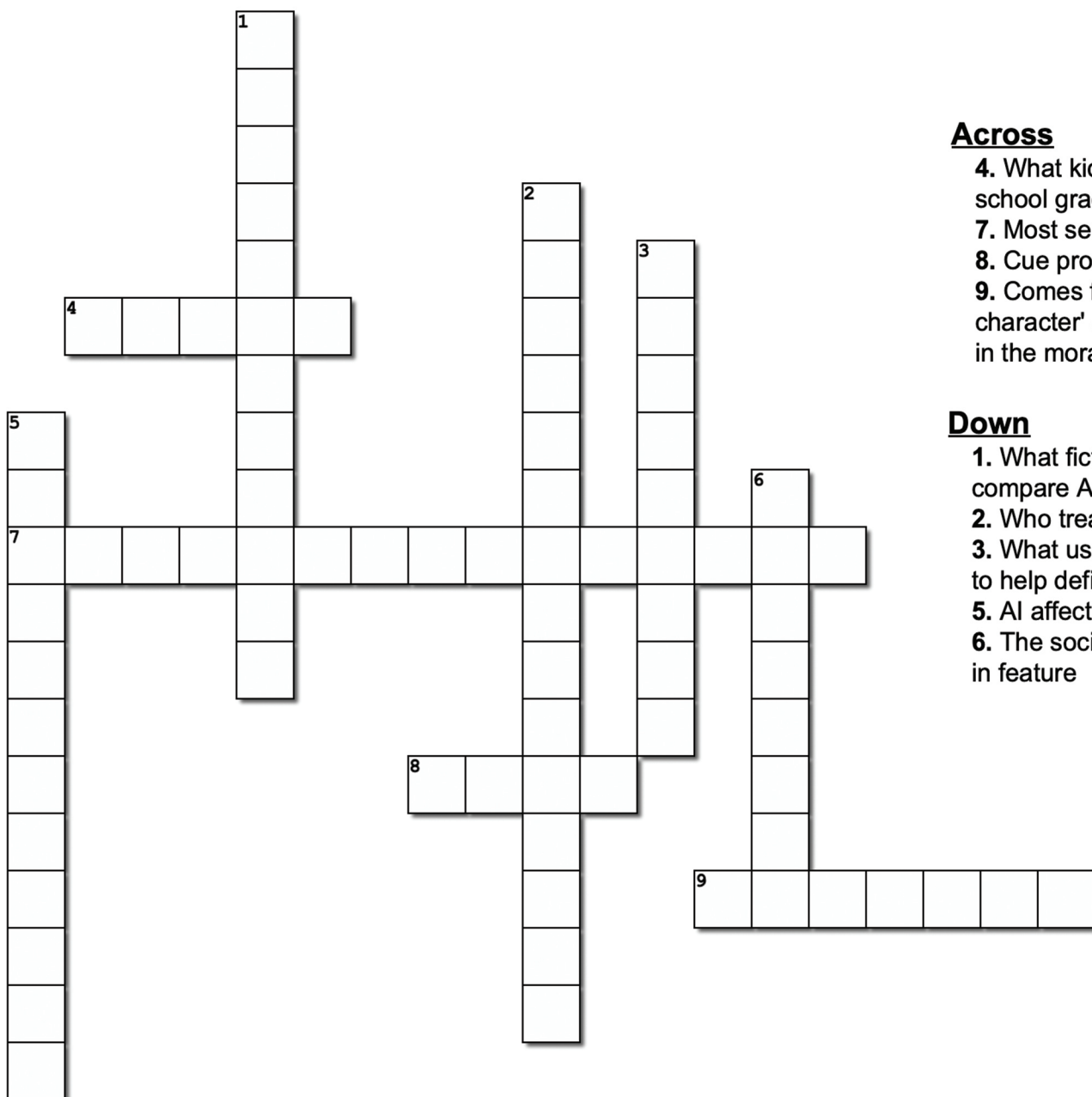
Across
4. What kids TV show helps improve overall high school grades and reading levels?
7. Most serious nuclear disaster in U.S. history
8. Cue program used at Lewis's Theater
9. Comes from the Greek word ethos 'moral character' and describes a person or behavior as right in the moral sense

Down
1. What fictional character did Professor Mustafa compare AI to?
2. Who treats injured athletes?
3. What useful tool can be found in online textbooks to help define words faster?
5. AI affects the _____ of an artist?
6. The social media platform that has My AI as a built-in feature

RULES:
-Complete the crossword puzzle by reading the stories
-Return completed puzzle to room JP-012 before Nov. 7
-First 3 winners to present a completed puzzle win a gift

The downfall of creative thinking

JADA LAW
OPINIONS EDITOR

All articles published by The Flyer are written by staff members. AI is not used for our articles.

There are numerous Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications that are evolving at a swift pace everyday. A survey done by Pew Research revealed that approximately 55% of Americans are using artificial intelligence in their everyday lives. As great as this invention may seem, it can lead to us relying more on artificial intelligence rather than our own minds. Inevitably, this causes society to lack creative thinking skills as a whole.

The concept of human creativity can be defined as having the ability to think and come up with ideas that are truly out of the box. Seemingly stringing together completely unrelated ideas and making them into your own is how an innovative mind works.
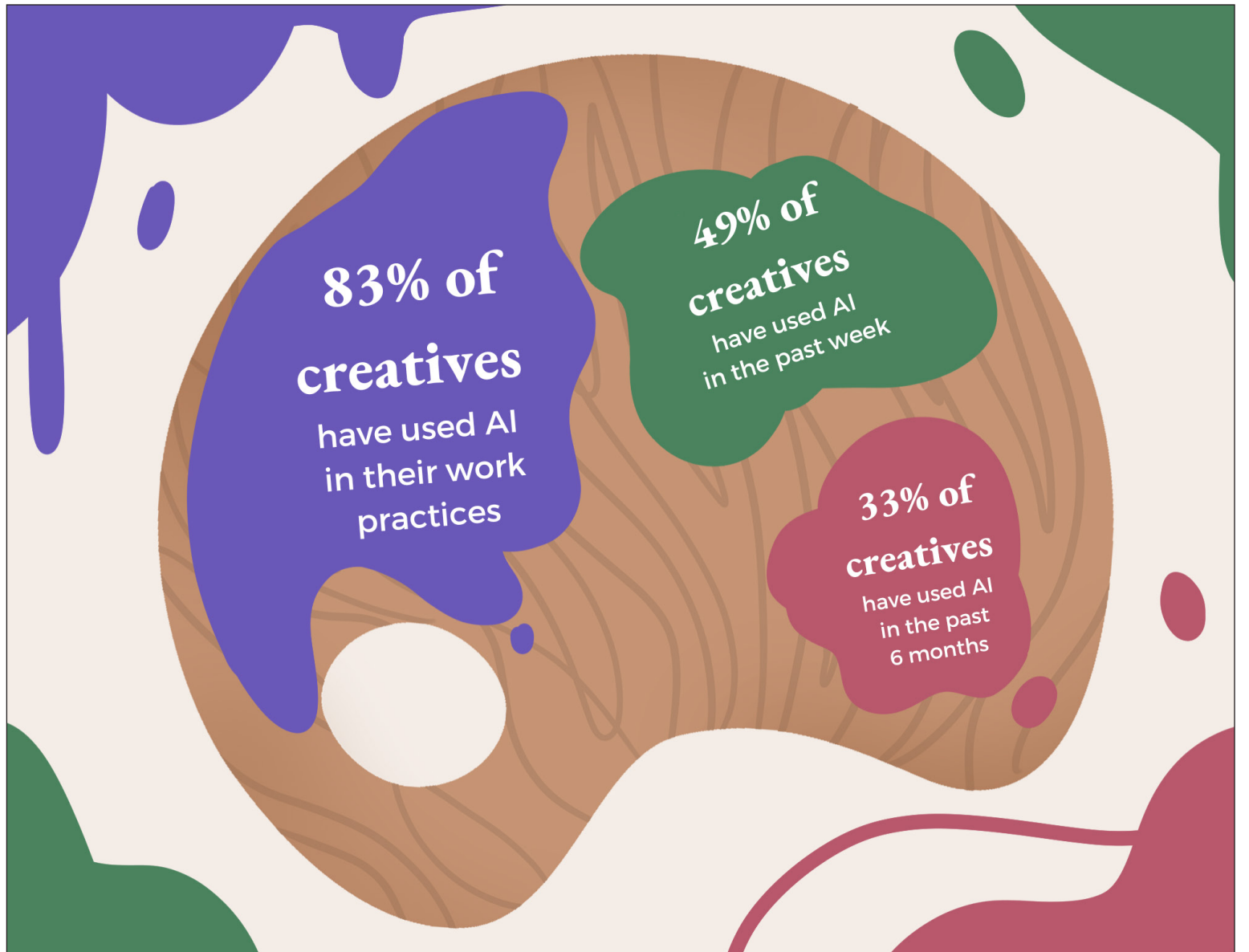
This definition completely contrasts artificial intelligence. According to an article from MIT Technology Review, the AI-generated stories ended up sounding more similar to each other than those created entirely by humans. The extensive use of artificial intelligence forces pieces of work to be turned into homogenous content. This further emphasizes a potential decrease in overall creativity amongst people who overuse artificial intelligence in their work.

However, there are some arguments stating that artificial intelligence can be a tool to enhance creativity. Though this can be considered to be true, artificial intelligence can only do so much within its robotic limits. AI, by its nature, lacks emotional intelligence. This indicates that yes, it can be of assistance, but it is extremely limited.

Lewis University English Professor Jamil Mustafa gave insight into the idea of artificial intelligence being utilized as a resource.

"Generative AI isn't producing original work. It merely scrapes existing data to train machine-learning algorithms to create something that appears to be a novel product of human intelligence," stated Mustafa. "In other words, AI takes the work of many human beings and recomposes it. Some view this process as a form of intellectual theft."

The core of what makes human beings creative is their ability to be innovative and bring their own ideas to fruition. Artificial intelligence does not have the capability to do the things that the human mind can. So, the more it's continuously used, the less we see the invention of new and fresh ideas from the human mind.

Mustafa compared this idea of artificial intelligence to Victor Frankenstein. But, instead of body parts being stitched together it's words, images and ideas.

"The result is new but not truly original, and arguably monstrous. If today's AI were to evolve into true artificial intelligence and could actually think for itself, then it might collaborate with us—or, like Frankenstein's monster, it might turn on its creator," Mustafa stated.

As previously mentioned by Mustafa, artificial intelligence hasn't quite yet evolved into thinking for itself, but it has quickly taken over the arts one by one.

According to an article by The Guardian, the making of art within artificial intelligence is just one click away: from an Edward Munch-style Kermit the Frog to "The Lord of the Rings"' Gollum eating a watermelon, the art generated returned "startlingly accurate" moments later.

Art is known as a form of self expression that people take their time with. Some even put their blood, sweat and tears into one piece which can take a considerable number of days, months or even years.

Seeing people just type a couple of words into a generator to get artwork they claim on their own is uncanny. Creativity seemingly loses all it's meaning at the snap of a finger because art is no longer being made by humans and is instead replaced by computers.

The same thing can also be said about writers. An article written by BBC explained how a company introduced ChatGPT to their team of writers. There's a fear that in the future ChatGPT will take over for journalists.

The adoption of artificial intelligence is not only ending creativity but taking people's jobs. Interestingly enough, ChatGPT still has to be edited because it doesn't sound "human" enough. So, it raises the question of the software's worth? Yes, it's quick and cheaper but, it can't beat what it was modeled after, which is the human mind.

"At present, in my own discipline of English studies, it's more of a hindrance than a help because it tempts writers to take shortcuts," stated Mustafa.

Artificial intelligence is a software that has drastically changed society's creativity as a whole. In such a short time period artificial intelligence has taken over so many jobs, swiftly turning seemingly difficult art forms like writing and painting into an easy task that can be done with the click of a mouse. Being able to create went from humanized to digitalized and may be the downfall of creative thinking in the end.

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

83% of creatives have used AI in their work practices

49% of creatives have used AI in the past week

33% of creatives have used AI in the past 6 months

10:25

The Lewis Flyer
@thelewisflyer

Tell us about your experience with Chat GPT!

Updated theater technology improves sound and production

RAYNE GRABOWSKI
CO-TEMPO EDITOR

Advancements in technology have been occurring rapidly over the past few decades. From smartphones to electric cars, many organizations have been taking advantage of the growing field. Theaters have been one of the groups to integrate new technologies to improve the quality of performances and entertainment incredibly.

Theaters use technology in many different areas, shown by the profession of theater technicians—also known as "techies." Lighting and sound often have cues that are organized in an online system.

Actors have wireless microphones that must be managed by a technician. Additionally, sets are commonly designed in an online format and use power tools in order to be built.

Sound has exponentially benefited from technological advancements.

An example is in the program Dolby Atmos, which is a surround sound system with specific settings for theaters.

The surround system allows for sound to come from speakers in different locations. The differing locations make the sound more realistic and make the overall experience more immersive for the audience.

Most theaters that use this program are in the cinema business, though all theaters are beginning to adopt this technology.

At Lewis, there are several wireless microphones used. These microphones hook up to a radio signal which the sound board is then able to control.Additionally, Lewis uses a program called Qlabs to set up digitally created sounds for shows.

Music clips and various other scenes are used in this program. These sounds can add a sense of realism to the show while also fulfilling basic pre-show functions. Andrew Nelson, Lewis' technical theater director, discussed the history of sound technology in the space, "Audio recording and playback for sound on theater productions commonly included CD players or cassette tapes."

The brilliance of sound is in the subtlety of it.
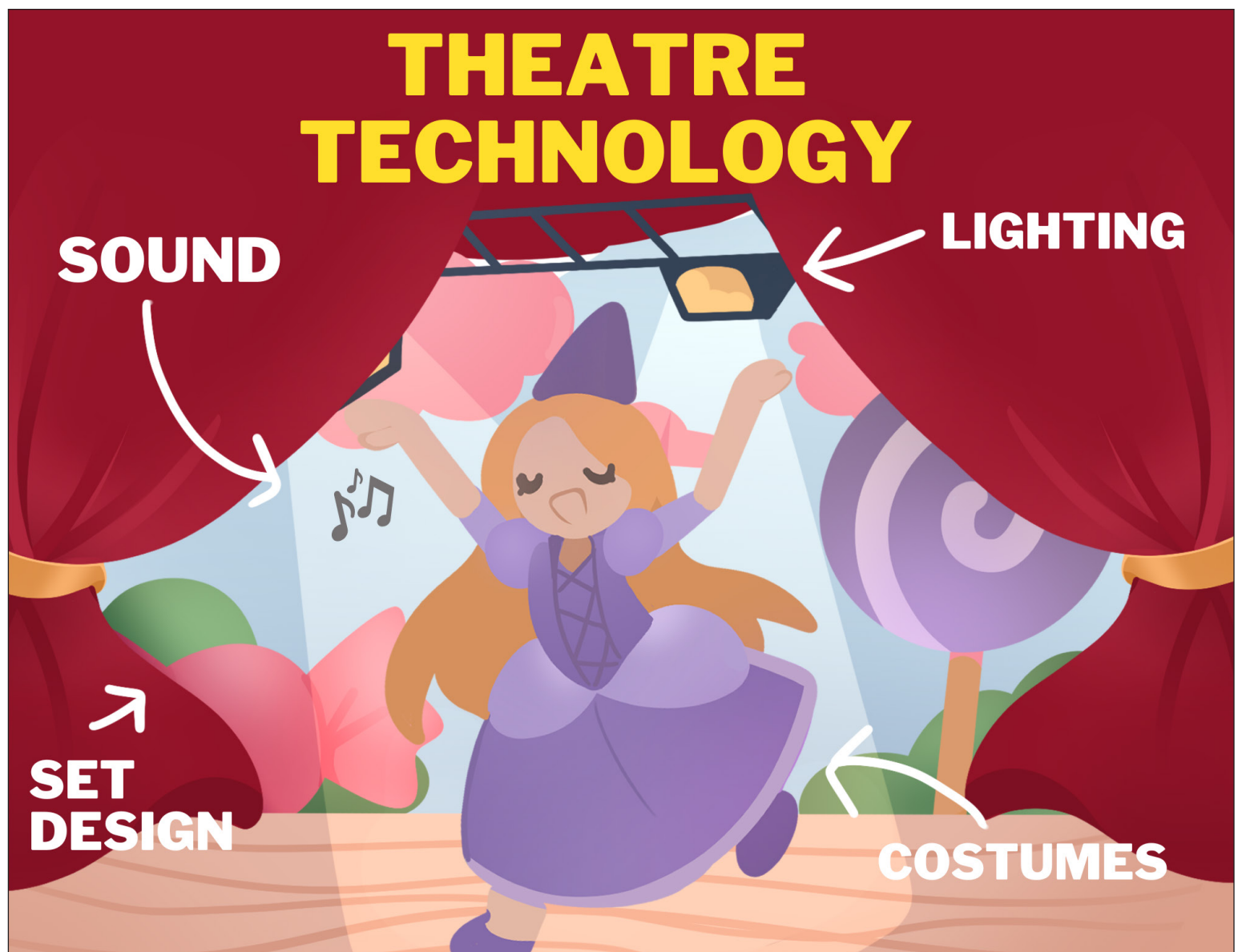
"The Outsiders," which won a Tony award for best sound design, highlights this. The show used L-ISA for their performances. L-ISA is part of L-Acoustics, a brand of equipment designed to use surround sound.

The sound design team used the different perspectives sparingly so as to not draw the audience's attention from the main show. With L-ISA, however, the audio engineer can mix the sounds of the band. In "The Outsiders," audience members were surprised they couldn't see the band due to how clear the sound was.

"The Outsiders" is not the only show using this type of technology on Broadway. Sound designers being interviewed by NPR state that this technology is the standard equipment nowadays, with it specifically being implemented in both "Hell's Kitchen" and "Illinoise." These shows thrive off the technology they use, even more so with the use of electronic instruments such as guitars and bass rising in popularity. Many speakers are common, with

the sound mixer of "Hell's Kitchen" reporting between 230 and 240 speakers being used in the theater. That is the most speakers on a show currently being shown on Broadway.

Another show using L-ISA technology is "Here Lies Love." The sound designer conducted a demonstration of the technology used.

The theater itself has six different areas that need to be filled with sound, making it a difficult task. Sound designer Cody Spencer's solution was using over 200 speakers.

The sound also had to reach the actors as well on monitors, as the large stage made it so actors could not hear each other naturally when on opposite sides.

Spencer used this to his advantage, making voices come from different directions. This created an effect where the audience automatically knew where to look, as if it were a pull, from only the sound cues given.

Shows in smaller spaces have to use different technology though. "& Juliet," another show on Broadway, uses d&b technology.

In the show, the system cuts out the low-mid frequencies of the voice, which designers often bring down themselves due to its problematic tendencies. Since the sound mixer isn't taking out from the total sound of the microphone, it allows a clearer sound to be projected in the space. Additionally, this also creates less feedback between all the actors' microphones, which is especially useful in the small space.

Despite the show being smaller space-wise, the smart use of this program allows it to run smoothly while still having the new surround sound technology as the rest of Broadway.

New sound technology has improved the flexibility of shows alongside the appearance of the equipment. New technology is smaller and wireless, allowing an operator to control the microphones through a soundboard (usually located in a technical booth).

Going digital makes it so sound cues can be cut and edited without damaging a physical disc for sound cues. However, Nelson mentioned that "...an analog sound mix-

ing console is very reliable and what you see is what you get." Digital audio introduces new problems, he stated, particularly changing settings from updates and the possibility of power issues. NPR also touches on the history of sound technology, specifically how actors had to project in order to be heard. Of course, the microphone only does so much, but it is a huge help to those onstage.

In musicals, actors must be heard over the band, not within the band.

NPR reports that composers would create a pocket of the band that the vocalist could fit into, but with new technology that technique hasn't been needed.

Overall, sound technology has greatly improved the quality of shows both on and off Broadway.

Sound designers are able to create more of an environment within shows, calling on the natural responses people have to sound. While there are some drawbacks, the new technology has created an immersive experience for audience members to dive into.

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY

SOUND

LIGHTING

SET DESIGN

COSTUMES

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

New technology threatens the authenticity of music

TYRA CORPUZ
MANAGING EDITOR

Artificial intelligence (AI) seems to be a new technology that arose in the last few years. However, it has been in the music industry for much longer than people realize. From autotune to songwriting generators, AI has been a tool used to assist in the creative and production processes of artists like Cher and Madonna throughout the decades.

Technology back then may not have been as advanced as it is now. However, it has become more and more prominent within the music production process as time goes on. The issue with AI is not that it will take over musicians as a whole, but rather affect the authenticity of an artist.

The relationship between AI and music dates back to the 1950s. Professors from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign composed the first computer-generated string quartet piece, "Illiac Suite," with an ILLIAC I computer—one of the first supercomputers to be built at a university. The piece was written through algorithmic composition and performed by real musicians, marking the turning point of how computers could help the creative process. Forty years later, with the invention of autotune, AI could be utilized in live performances and for stylistic matters.

Today, around 60% of musicians are already using AI to create music. In a poll Ditto Music conducted in 2023 surveying 1,299 independent artists they found 11% used AI for songwriting, 20.3% for music production, 30.6% for mastering music and 38% for creating music artwork. AI has always been a tool to help rather than hurt, especially with new independent artists. AI can cut down so many costs that could go into production or mastering. It can allow artists to utilize looping technology, expand their music videos, create taglines, etc. — but does AI ruin the authenticity of their work?

Assistant professor of music at Lewis University, Dr. Adrianne Honnold, defined authenticity through "street cred" and the "perception of audiences." It becomes a marketing and tactical standpoint.
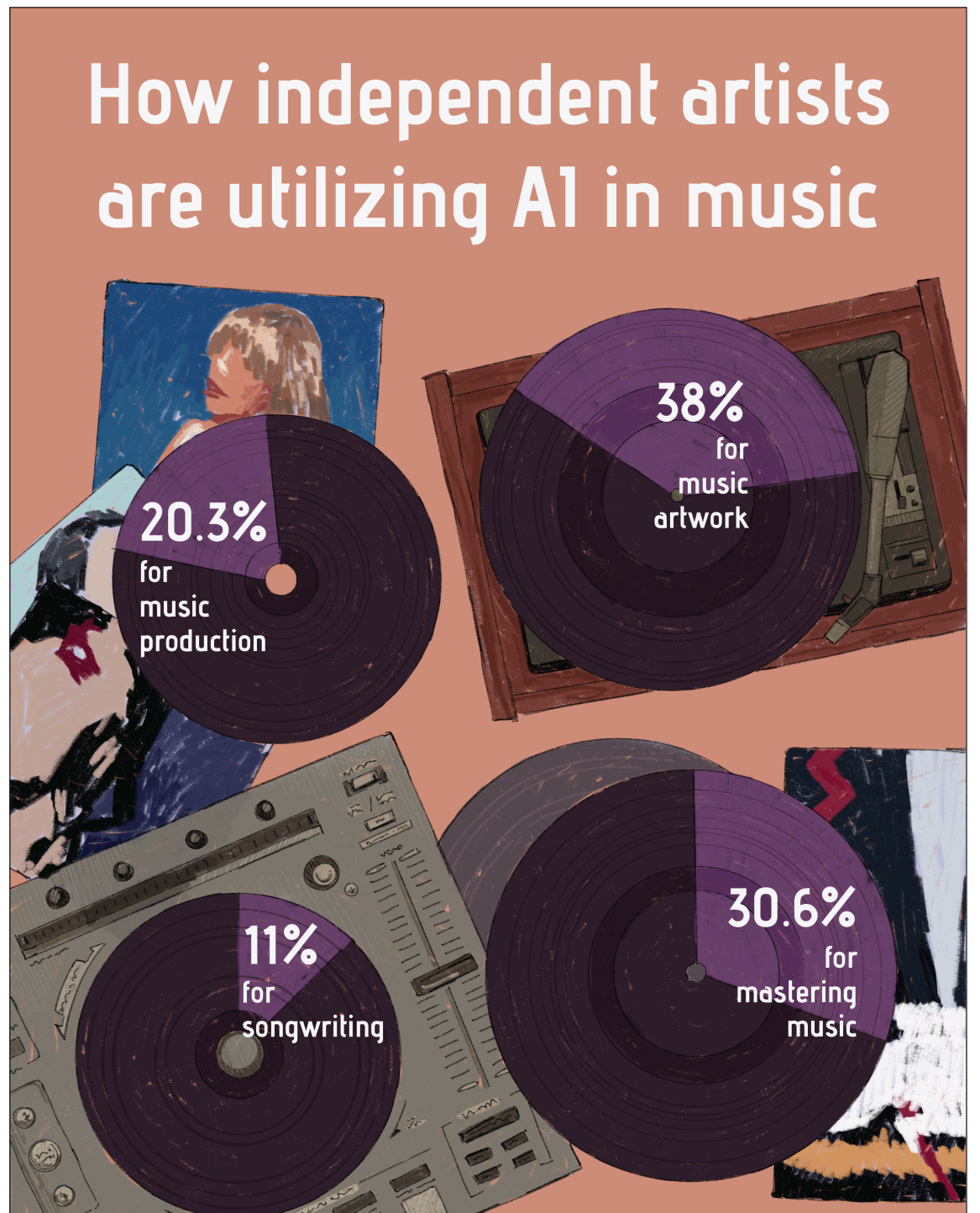
While yes, it is important for these artists to be truthful in their work, they often pull from the emotional stories and connections to their genre that could appeal to the masses. So when AI creates a song, whether it be a style or the recreation of an artist's voice, it lacks the emotion an actual human being gives a song.

Honnold comments on the meaning of authenticity in popular music, "Popular music by definition is for the people, right? It's for the mainstream audiences. That being said, it gets kind of tied closely to genre to style." She gives examples such as the genres of country and rap: Kendrick Lamar rapping about Compton even though he is from Los Angeles or Taylor Swift making country albums even though she grew up in Pennsylvania. Their authenticity is not questioned even though they are not necessarily a part of where their genre originated.

This whole conversation kicked off with Drake after he released a song utilizing an AI-generated voice of Tupac. In his song, "Taylor Made Freestyle," Drake created verses that utilized both Tupac's and Snoop Dogg's AI-generated voices, which caused Tupac's estate, Howard King, to threaten to sue the singer. In a statement to Billboard, King wrote, "The unauthorized, equally dismaying use of Tupac's voice against Kendrick Lamar, a good friend to the Estate who has given nothing but respect to Tupac and his legacy publicly and privately, compounds the insult."

His legal issues tie into the problem of authenticity and copyright through AI music. It has become so advanced that it can replicate almost any artist's voice. However, is it still how the audience perceives the music that makes it inauthentic? Drake received mounds of backlash for the use of AI to recreate Tupac's voice, yet when the remaining members of The Beatles utilized AI to remaster an old demo of John Lennon and enhance his voice, that was celebrated and accepted.

The use of AI needs to maintain the credibility of the artist as the voices being used need to be honored and respected. With Drake, his use was unauthorized and used to release a diss track, but for The Beatles, their use was to honor John Lennon

How independent artists are utilizing AI in music

20.3%
for music production

38%
for music artwork

11%
for songwriting

30.6%
for mastering music

ALEXIS PRAGIDES / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

one last time. The authenticity of each artist was derived from their motives.

Not only is the authenticity at risk, but also the legality of copyright. It's not just Drake who is using AI to recreate people's voices, but the general public as well. People are creating songs using these AI voice generators making Olivia Rodrigo sing The Weeknd songs, or even Plankton from Spongebob sing Queen. These types of uses have led several music production companies to release statements about the copyright and integrity of an artist's work and image.

Warner Music Group had sent letters to music streaming platforms to block AI training on their songs. The company stated, "We expect our platform partners will want to prevent their services from being used in ways that harm artists," and that they have "a moral and commercial responsibility to our artists to work to prevent the unauthorized use of their

music and to stop platforms from ingesting content that violates the rights of artists and other creators."

Commercially, using AI to recreate artists' sounds and voices is causing several issues within ownership. However, though the AI is impressive, you can still hear the robotic tones of the computer-generated sound. Honnold commented on this issue, "AI is currently not able to replicate human experiences and emotions; it cannot match the organic and intimate expression of feeling and meaning through song. There might come a time when it does and it's very difficult to speculate about what that will look like or sound like, but I guess we can take solace in the fact that we as humans will always create music and art."

AI threatens the future of the music industry with its issues of authenticity and copyright. However, it can also create easier ways for

people to create music. As mentioned, independent artists utilize different forms of AI to cut costs on their production or artwork, or even The Beatles using AI to enhance the voice of John Lennon. There are several instances in which AI can help improve music. AI music production companies released statements on their goal of AI, such as Soundful's statement on how their program is meant to promote diversity and inclusion as well as embrace transparency.

Honnold concluded the relationship between AI and music with this statement, "humans have been walking on the earth for 50,000 years and we've been making music the whole time, I think we will continue to make music. Try to stay positive and use it as a tool that benefits [and streamlines] us. It's ok to embrace some aspects of it."

Social platforms and users embrace advancing technology

LILY COOKE
CO-TEMPO EDITOR

Social media has been around for years but the way people are using it has the potential to change the game completely. The integration of AI into social media has caused conflicting views across the board—people are either embracing it with open arms or running away scared.

Whether it is AI-generated photos, videos, audio, captions, use for analytic advice or any content in general, it has played a massive role in how social media users navigate and use platforms. There are people who use AI as a tool and others who utilize it for malicious purposes.

The world of social media allows the entire globe to connect through screens, and throughout almost every social media platform, AI is in use. These users can generate posts, hashtags, captions and even get information on certain analytics to help boost their engagement through AI systems.

For example, on Snapchat, "My AI" is a feature where AI is built into the app and you can ask it questions, send pictures, etc. and it will give you feedback on what you sent or asked. Another example is Meta AI on Instagram and Facebook. It is a form of AI designed as a direct message where the user is contacting AI.

Users can look up information about someone or a topic, find a profile they are looking for or even play trivia games with it.

Though AI can be useful, opinions on whether it will be more of a benefit or a drawback to people's jobs differ vastly.

The director of athletic communications and manager of the athletic department's Instagram (GoLewisFlyers), David Bork, is skeptical about the topic. He stated, "I am not sure there are any benefits right now, but they said it is supposed to make people's job easier with all the advancements. But it can also hurt them because it is not a real life person so some accuracy might not all be there."

With the fast-paced advancement of technology dealing with AI, there is not much knowledge of what it is capable of. This leads to

<AI>
<social_media_market>
<BY_2026>

$3,714.89 Million

MONEY

YEARS
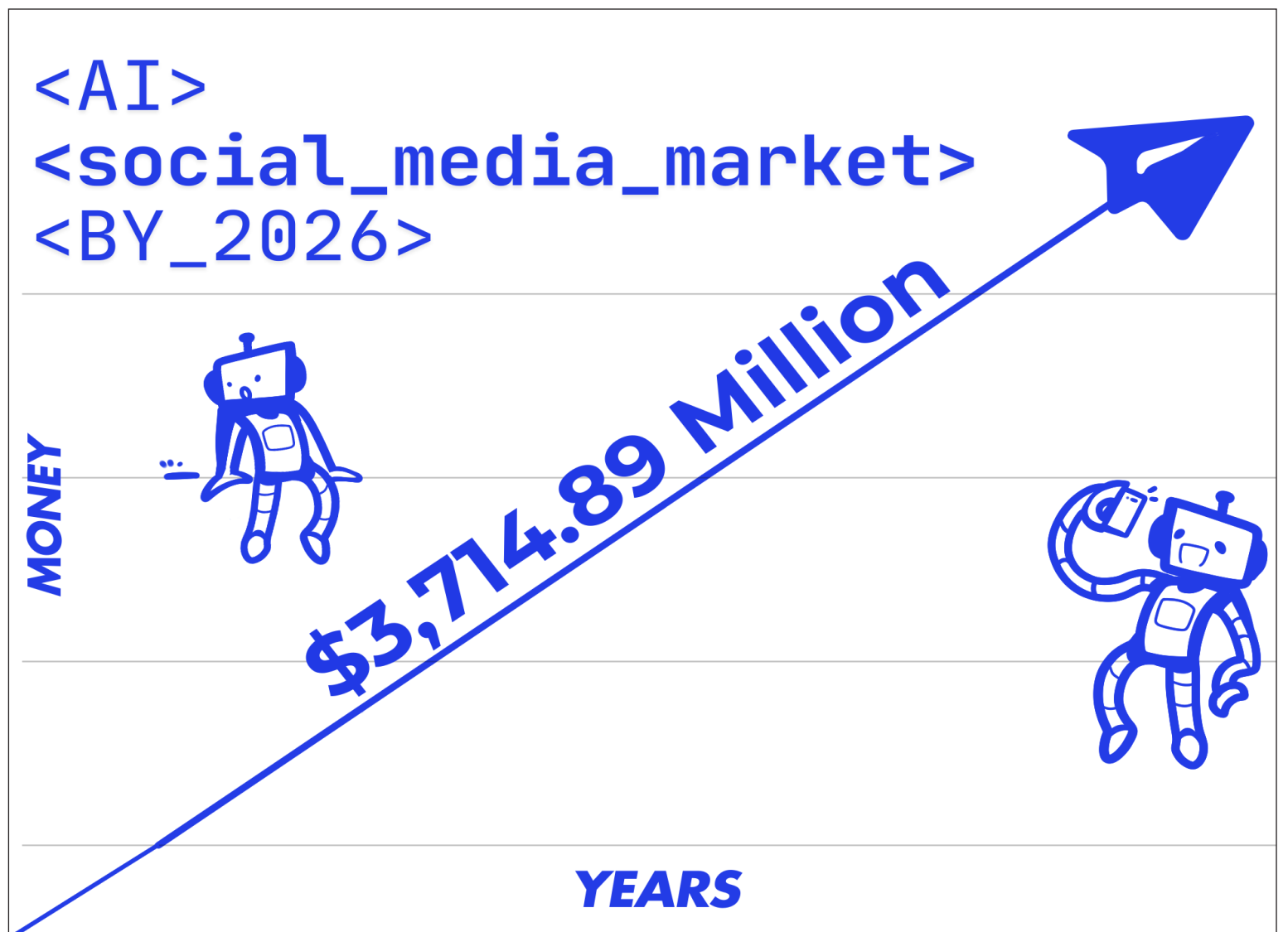
OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

various opinions on how AI is perceived. The unknown about artificial intelligence is scary to some but exciting to others, and what really matters is how it is being utilized.

Whether it is being used for something fun like a game such as trivia or tic tac toe or being used to educate yourself on an important subject, there is still very little information known about what artificial intelligence is capable of.

When referring to how AI influences people's posts, many believe that the content you post reflects the type of engagement you get. This is where AI comes in. Bork makes a point that everyone wants what gives them the most engagement. "I believe it influences them big time because people always want to get that scoop, that trending news story that can break the internet or help them get followers, likes, engagement to drive content to their platform," said Bork.

According to Forbes, the AI social media market is supposed to reach $3,714.89 million by 2026. As the market continues to grow, so does AI.

Content produced by arti-

ficial intelligence keeps advancing and if it continues to increase, there will most likely be a decrease in the authenticity and credibility of sources.

While AI can be useful in some areas, it can also be harmful by spreading fake news. AI-generated photos, audio and even videos are massive right now and while some are harmless, some are responsible for misleading the public.

For example, TikTok users will often use political figures' voices to say certain things that are incredibly unrealistic. Audios of Barack Obama and Donald Trump have been generated through AI of them playing video games together.

Another example being AI generated photos of concepts that are untrue such as made up animal species and fictional characters and events.

With new and upcoming forms and types of AI, the general population is creeped out or excited about this technological situation and advancement.

Media manipulation created by AI is a main factor of why fake news is spread throughout social media platforms. Most AI-generat-

ed media is very believable and the amount of fake news that people tend to fall for is created by AI. Social media users who spread this fake news will use AI platforms such as ChatGPT to make false stories, images, audio and pictures. Bork says "It is insane and scary to see all the things AI can generate now.

> **Media manipulation created by AI is a main factor of why fake news is spread throughout social media platforms.**

Especially when news stations and social media platforms post them because it makes the picture so believable you can't tell if it is real or not."

Anything that news stations post to the public will spread. Now, with AI, there is a more likely chance for

words and stories to get twisted into fake news that is then posted on social media platforms which are open to anyone in the public. This will lead to the mass spread of false information across all platforms. Some platforms even have an "AI generated" feature that detects and tells users that the post is AI-generated. For instance, on Instagram, there is an option to mark if you are using AI-generated images or content.

If not marked, the platform will put a warning or disclaimer saying that information or content is made by AI.

The AI involved in social media is evolving very quickly. This can lead to a lot of different opinions on how AI is seen in social media. The amount of AI usage across the world is huge, and fake news generated by AI can cause a lot of negative opinions.

However, it also can be used as a tool to help grow a social media account or post.

Whether people see it as a tool or as a threat, it has a big impact on how people use media platforms.

From stigma to strength: How technology elevates neurodivergent success

STEPHANIE AGUILAR
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Neurodiversity, a term first coined in the mid 1990s by disability activist Judy Singer, explains how inner neurological workings of all humans have variations and differences. Just like bodies, no two human brains work in the same exact way. There is a basic structure of how most human brains work, yet there are differences in every brain. This base model is what many refer to as neurotypical.
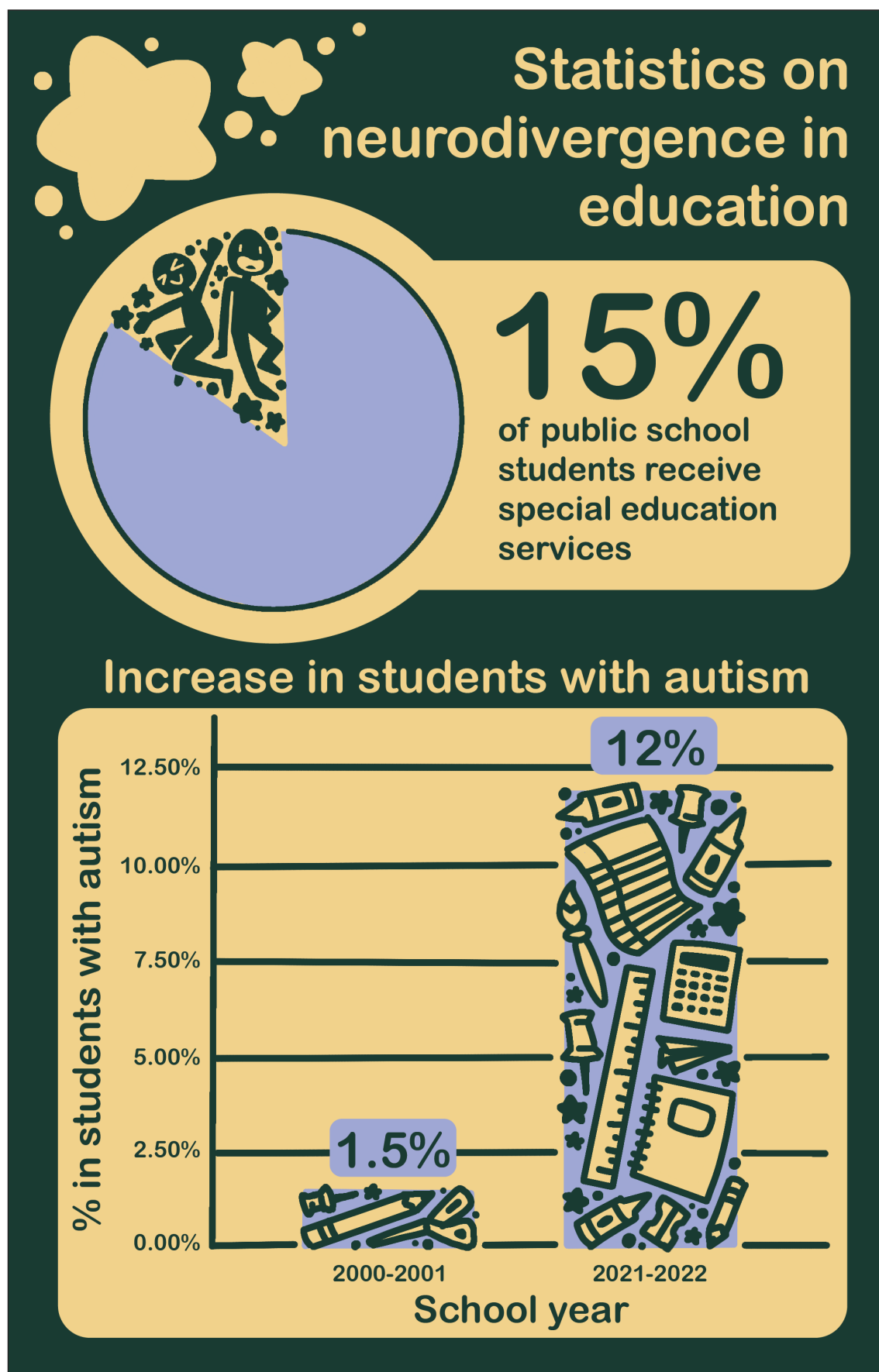
Within neurodivergence, there are brains that do not fit the base model and operate in ways that are not seen as common. People with brains who operate in these different ways have been labeled as neurodivergent. With the evolution of technology, the medical field and society have made significant advancements in the study of the diagnosis of neurological differences with the hope of creating a more inclusive and progressive stigma around people who are neurodivergent.

There are many forms of neurodivergence. Some of the most common include attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism spectrum disorder, dyslexia and epilepsy. A common word used with forms of neurodivergence is the word, "disorder," which brings out a negative connotation. An important part of reshaping the way neurodivergent individuals are perceived is to reshape the negative stigma that surrounds them.

Disorder often relates to something that should be cured. Dr. Mardy Philippian, English professor at Lewis University who has a focused study on disabilities studies, explains "In disability studies, we refer to these [neurodevelopmental disorders not as disorders], just as neurological expressions because the language of 'disorder' is heavy handed. It participates in a long history of not acknowledging and reducing a person's agency in the world and their value as a human being."

To understand neurodivergent individuals, there are two models—the medical model and the social model. The medical model portrays neurodivergence as a group of disorders or lifelong conditions that can be seen as disadvantages with intervention being typically applied to "fix" or eliminate the disabilities. On the contrary, the social model highlights the humanity side of neurodivergence.

Dr. Daniel Wendler, a keynote speaker on disability, explains how the social model views neurodivergence, as coined by Mike Oliver. In Wendler's presentation, "Strength in Neurodiversity: Creating a Workplace Where Everyone Can Belong," the social model emphasizes disability is not the result of a condition, but the result of an environment that is not designed to include accommodations for those with different needs. Society is automatically designed to meet the needs of those who fall into the category as "typical," but those with different needs are not always considered.

The social model of neurodivergence acknowledges neurodevelopmental variations as a different, not lesser way of living. This social model has direct effects on workplaces and academic institutions, influencing legislation that requires accommodations to be made for neurodivergent individuals. Technology advancements have made a drastic impact on the possibilities for accommodations that institutions, like Lewis, can provide to ensure all students have the same opportunity for success.

Accommodations are an important benefit that are available for students to help adhere to each individual's needs and create a more inclusive environment for students of all abilities. Technological evolution has provided accommodations such as text readers and hyperlinks in online textbooks for students.

Dr. Philippian explains that, "these hyperlinks, the highlighted words in textbooks that you can click on and get the definition, help students jump to a definition of a word and back to the original lecture, so they get definition then context. It's a simple thing that facilitates these students learning in a way that their minds prefer."

Acknowledging that students absorb and reiterate knowledge in different ways provides them with the chance to learn in an environment that works for them. Talk-to-Text applications assist those with ADHD and dyslexia with assignments when writing and typing is not sufficient for these students. Adaptive learning softwares that use AI, like Khan Academy and DreamBox, have also been introduced within institutions to help students who have different cognitive processing speeds and non-traditional styles of learning.

Where society and technology are today is just the tip of the iceberg for the amount of accommodations and possibilities that institutions can provide for students. A local college, Aurora University, is one of the first institutions to take advantage of these technological possibilities in their new Pathways Program.

The Pathways Program allowed the university to design and build a dormitory for neurodivergent students. This dormitory adheres to those who have sensory sensitivities so the lighting and color schemes are executed with students in mind. Neurotypical students are offered housing elsewhere on campus to ensure that all the students who need such accommodations have the ability to get them.

"They're trying to do something that really in a way puts their money where their mouth is. As if to say, 'Look, we want students here. We understand that there are multiple needs that students come in with. How do we accommodate that in a way that makes them feel like not only are they welcome, but we are designing the environment with them in mind?'" Dr. Philippian explains.

A program like the Pathways Program and the advancements of technology that allowed this concept to become a reality, proposes the concept to other institutions that it is possible to go above basic requirements for accommodations and provide a better way of acknowledging neurodivergence in education.

Adopting an inclusive and forward-thinking approach to addressing neurodivergence among students can significantly boost the success of institutions. By embracing neurodiversity and leveraging technological innovations, society can empower neurodivergent individuals to thrive, breaking down the negative stigma associated with being labeled as "neurodivergent."

Lewis University is dedicated to providing on-going and advanced accommodations to students. For more information on receiving accommodations, contact the Center for Academic Success and Enrichment (CASE) or schedule an appointment by calling 815-836-5993 or emailing learning-access@lewisu.edu.

Statistics on neurodivergence in education

15% of public school students receive special education services

Increase in students with autism

12.50% / 10.00% / 7.50% / 5.00% / 2.50% / 0.00%

% in students with autism

1.5% — 2000-2001

12% — 2021-2022

School year

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

The impact of new technology on adolescent development

DELANEY COLEMAN
CAMPUS LIFE

Generation alpha, anyone born between 2010 and the mid-2020s, have been notoriously known for how often they use screens to entertain themselves. Is it the parents shoving screens in their faces to avoid tantrums and hard feelings? While that's still speculation, there are some cold hard facts about how technology impacts children today.

When human babies are born, their palms face outward. As our bodies develop and change, our palms naturally turn inward because of the activities we do on a daily basis. People use their hands to hold pencils and write things or curve their fingers to type on a computer. These actions curve our hands when we stand naturally.

Kids are not being taught to hold pencils or scissors as much at home because they only need to swipe and touch things on their iPads and electronic devices. Therefore, their finger dexterity is not hitting the markers it needs to when starting kindergarten, putting a strain on teachers. These children should have already learned how to color with crayons and markers or cut paper with scissors but instead they use their hands minimally.

Early elementary schools have already started to incorporate Chromebooks for students and utilize iPads in everyday learning. Emma Morgan, a junior education major, was asked about the effectiveness of these tools in the classroom. "As an education major, I see the negative effects of technology use among children. Many children who are overexposed to screens are more likely not to develop social skills and more likely to develop emotional or behavioral problems."

Screen time at home has been used as a scapegoat for a lot of mental challenges and temperament problems in children. Some of the negative effects of technology, such as excessive violent video games, can cause increased anger, lowered empathy and desensitization to violence, which is what parents are concerned about the most. However, there are benefits to monitored screen time, especially television. TV shows such
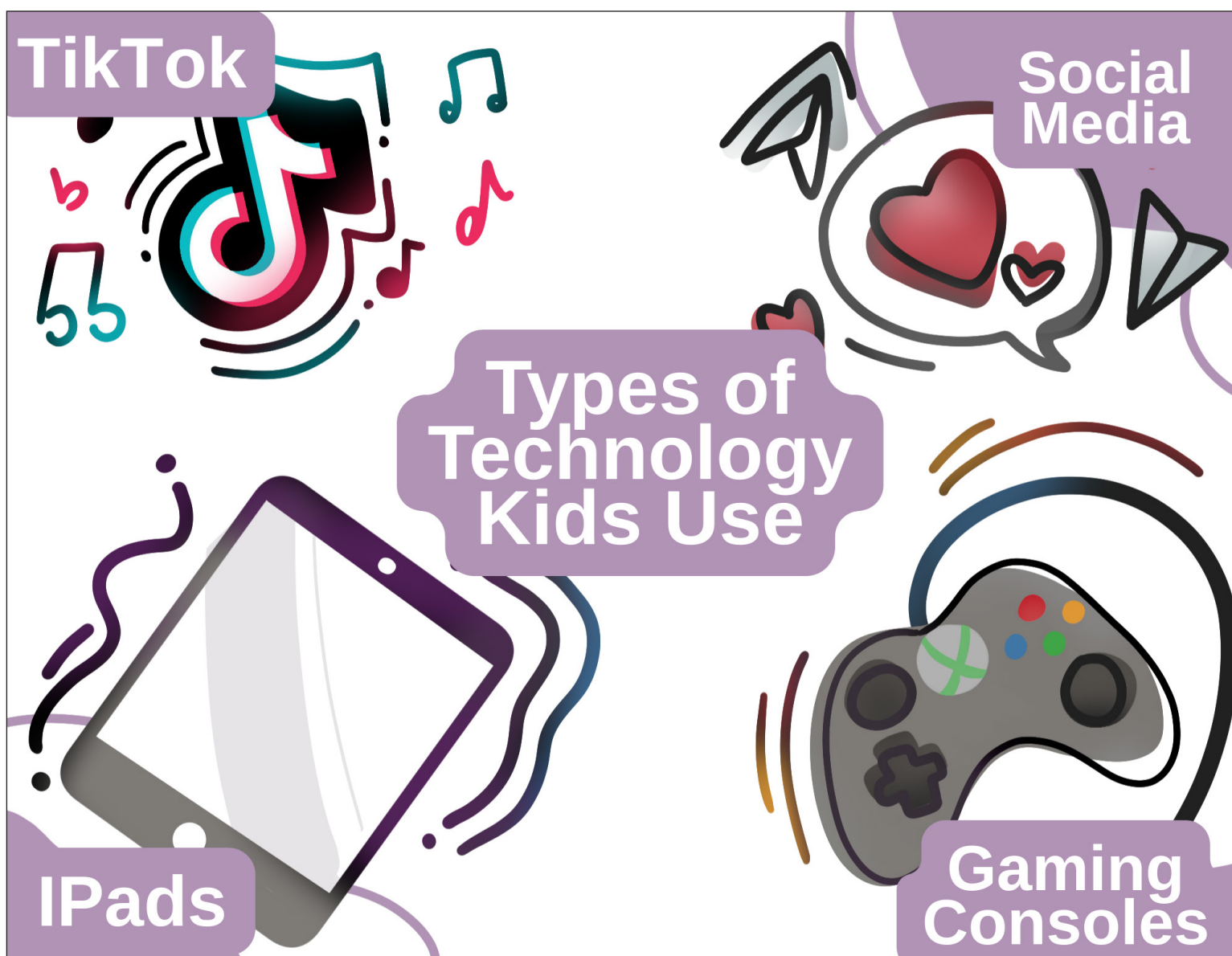
as "Bluey" and "Sesame Street," watched when young, improve overall high school grades and time spent reading. There is no justified evidence that television use lowers concentration levels or affects attention spans.

Morgan reflected on how parenting styles have evolved to include technology. "Many parents just put their children in front of a screen instead of talking to them, which decreases their language development." While the benefits of screen time can outweigh the negatives if monitored correctly, the negatives can certainly overpower the positives if there are no restrictions on how much the child is exposed to. Communication and working through problems is vital to higher learning and understanding how the world works. Without proper language skills, students revert to pointing and using vague body language to get their point across. Technology has turned all students into visual learners.

The oldest generation alpha child is about fourteen years old as of this year, which means that most of them grew up in virtual class-

rooms, with streaming services and the entire world at their fingertips. Any minute unsupervised could lead to a child going down the wrong rabbit hole and learning something that they probably should not. While having so much information at the ready is a great privilege, there is also the potential for great harm.

Even for those of us who had to endure parts of high school in Zoom classrooms exclusively, the amount of core curriculum that needed to be cut for students to finish the grade was catastrophic. While those years of high school are important, the first few years of elementary school are crucial aspects for children to successfully develop. Having them online impacted their learning immensely. Students experienced necessary curriculum cuts, unmonitored use of computers at home and no social opportunity to make new friends. These children are being passed on to grades while missing core skills in math, science, reading, spelling or writing.

A lot of people are blaming the "No Child Left Behind Act" for children being

pushed into the next grade even though they are failing. However, that could be because of a limited understanding of what this bill actually is doing to help children. The act is helping keep schools accountable for low test scores and proficiency levels among students, yet also keeps schools from withdrawing education from underprivileged children. It increases pressure on schools to have high test scores to keep high government funding. The act neglects to acknowledge that some children are not good test takers and a lot of children have different learning styles.

Social media has proved to be something that helps adolescents not only create friendships, but sustain them through constant communication with each other. It is easier to message others with the safety net of a screen. If they don't like the person they're chatting with, they just stop and there is no consequence of seeing them in person.

A positive aspect of social media has been how girls specifically lift each other up. It is not a secret that posting pictures on social media and

comparing themselves to celebrities has caused body dysmorphia and other harmful things in the minds of young girls. But these new adolescents are more resilient and don't care as much about how they look.

On the other hand a lot of young adults, such as freshman nursing student Briana Leon, feel the opposite way, "Social media has definitely made me feel more insecure with my body image. I've been a victim to comparing myself to others on all social media and I think many people portray how one should or needs to look on social media and people run with it."

Emma Morgan was also asked about how social media has affected her growing up, "I catch myself comparing myself to what others are wearing or doing. I know this is something I should not care about because I am happy with where I am at in my life, but I think social media has normalized this for some people."

Overall technology's effects on adolescents has advantages and disadvantages to current and future generations as it continues to develop.

TikTok

Social Media

Types of Technology Kids Use

IPads

Gaming Consoles

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

The near future of baseball: Artificial umpires

KREE NUNNALLY
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Strike! The umpire gives this call when a pitch is in a position to hit, known as the strike zone, but the player doesn't swing.

Whether or not the batter agrees, what the umpire says is final. This raises the question.

What if there was another eye looking at the strike zone?

This eye would not be human, it would be artificial intelligence (AI).

An automated ball-strike (ABS) system is looking to be used in Major League Baseball (MLB) as soon as 2026.

These ABS systems have been referred to as "robo-umps" according to CBS Sports.

This system uses Hawk-Eye camera technology to determine if a pitch is thrown through the strike zone tailored to each batter.

According to the MLB, the strike zone is the area over home plate between the top of the batter's uniform pants and the batter's shoulders.

The ABS has been used in the minor leagues, Triple-A baseball and inspired the majors.

In MLB, the ABS will be used as a challenge system.

In a complete ABS system, ball-strike calls are automated, with the human umpire relaying these calls through an earpiece and handling other duties like safe-out calls, balks, catcher interference and checked swings.

However, the umpire must still be prepared to make their own ball-strike calls in case the automated system experiences a glitch.

This may be useful as the average MLB pitch comes in around 94.1 miles per hour and continues to increase each year.

This puts an increasing amount of pressure on the umpire to make the right call in a quick moment.

Some say the automated zone is too tight compared to the human created strike zone. Additionally, when a ball is being thrown, catchers often use a tactic called "pitch-framing" in order to make the pitch look like a strike. The addition of ABS wou

ld take away the need for this skill, possibly decreas-

According to the Findings of the MLB

11% of team personnel favored full-time ABS

28% of team personnel favored umpires making calls full-time

61% of team personnel favored the challenge system

OLIVIA BRZEK / GRAPHIC DESIGNER

ing the value of certain catchers when it comes to recruitment.

The catcher's ability to frame is not a major part of why they are recruited, but it still plays a significant role.

If the catcher can slightly frame a pitch to make it look like a strike in a matter of milliseconds, they are considered to be very talented.

Now, with the ABS system i nvolved, this takes away a skill from catchers that they have been taught to do their whole lives, and changes the game in a major way.

On the other hand, junior organizational communications major, Patrick Rotherham, pitcher on the baseball team disagrees with the use of ABS.

He believes that even though the umpire's calls affect his pitching, "there are bad calls on both ends of the spectrum…a pitch that should be called a strike might be called a ball and vice versa," so umpires hurt and help at the same time.

Umpires have been shaping the game of baseball since the sport first introduced officials.

Many sports have officials who dictate major decisions that can lead to a team's win or loss.

Introducing AI into officiating takes away some of the power officials have had for a long time.

In tennis, the Hawk-Eye technology was first introduced in 2006 at the Nasdaq-100 Miami Open.

Hawk-Eye has continued to be used in other tournaments such as the U.S. Open and Wimbledon. So far, it has received mixed reviews. Close calls near the line are decided by this technology.

There is typically a human line judge, but the Hawk-Eye technology has been added for increased accuracy.

The technology in tennis has an average margin of error of almost four millimeters. MLB's Hawk-Eye technolo

gy has an average margin of error of almost three millimeters. The accuracy of the robo-ump is very accurate compared to the human eye.

Rotherham believes "baseball is a game of mainly failure and that includes the umpires". In baseball,

striking out 70 percent of the time is still considered to be a great batting average.

Error is expected from the players and is accepted—it goes the same way for umpires. No one is expected to be perfect in baseball. Rotherham believes the use of computers and artificial intelligence overriding umpires dehumanizes the game.

If the ABS is implemented in MLB the same way it is in the minor leagues, each team will have a limit on the amount of balls and strikes they can challenge.

So far in Triple-A, it has been a success. The limit allows coaches to dispute calls when they do not agree, but also does not solely rely on artificial intelligence to make the decision for every pitch.

According to Rob Manfred, the commissioner of MLB,

says that games will only be officiated by artificial intelligence sometime soon.

The ABS system is on its test run in Triple-A and will determine its use in the major leagues. As of right now, the ABS system is running strong and is looking like it will make its debut in MLB next year.

MLB created a survey and found 61% of team personnel favored this new challenge system.

On the other hand, 28% favor umpires making full-time calls and the remaining 11% are in favor of full-time ABS calls.

Love it or hate it, artificial intelligence is on the rise and is entering aspects of life that no one could have expected. With the ABS system in baseball, there is no telling what sport artificial intelligence will be a part of next.

For more sports stories, please visit www.thelewisflyer.com

How AI can shape sports medicine

CHRISTIAN GOODE
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a pinnacle of today's society. AI can be used in many different ways such as in sports medicine and rehabilitation for injured athletes. This new feature can be used to analyze analytics, prevent injury, create routines, monitor vitals and diagnose injuries. However this brings up some ethical questions of whether or not the world should allow AI to step into jobs meant for people. The increase of newer technology also comes with a decrease in the need for workers.

One advantage of AI is its ability to look at the analytics and learn athletes' movements and understand what movements are correct or incorrect in professional athletics. This could help coaches in understanding what to do to improve form or for athletic trainers to see what bad habits athletes are doing. This can help them move towards better practices that can ultimately help increase future performance. Allowing AI to see how much play-time and practice players are getting can allow it to break down their analytics and movements. This can make sure athletes are not overworking their bodies and can get the proper rest they need.

Today runners and everyday people wear FitBit's, Apple Watches and step counters that track their movements. According to the National Library of Medicine, wearable devices that track athletes movements can be very helpful when it comes to improving performance. These different devices already have the power to monitor motion and can read vitals such as heart rate, breathing, sleep and body temperature. If big companies can create a device that both monitors and relays analytics directly to athletes, then AI can help alert them of an unusual vital sign and suggestions of how to fix it.

If artificial intelligence is given the opportunity to analyze these athletes' movements, then it could teach athletes better ways to prevent injury. AI could predict issues that may come up if a continuation of improper movements or form is present.

Neil Erasmus is a freshman international student from South Africa, part of track and field, and studying computer engineering. Erasmus states, "[AI] could see patterns that a normal person would overlook and it is more in tune to see finer details and make predictions. " Ultimately, athletes could not only see their movements and critique their form, but they could also see what movement is improper.

Another aspect of AI is its ability to diagnose injuries and illnesses where websites cannot. For example, if AI was given the ability to analyze all information collectively, such as vitals, motion and athletes movements, then it could help determine what issues or injuries a player has.

An article published by the National Library of Med-

Up to 30% of jobs are projected to be automated by AI by mid-2030

icine states that artificial intelligence can save time for doctors. It can help by organizing patients' information into spreadsheets, diagnosing patients and possibly serve as a second opinion and provide material that a doctor or athletic trainer could miss.

If AI could be used effectively in this field, it could save countless hours of going to the doctor or athletic trainer. This could also allow AI to come up with stretches or exercises that could be beneficial to athletes and can provide them with a quick and speedy recovery.

Trainers do not just treat a patient and send them on their way. There are additional processes necessary in order to get an injured area back to proper functioning. Not only do they diagnose athletes but they also guide them through recovery. Stretches and exercises are key in recovery in order to regain full strength and become even stronger. AI

could play a crucial role in developing exercise routines and daily stretches. This would eliminate some of the work that an athletic trainer would have to do to help these players, and allow them more time to focus on helping other athletes who need attention.

Some consider artificial intelligence to be a danger to society. Many people believe it is taking jobs that people need, leaving more and more people unemployed. Places like stores and fast food restaurants all have seen the introduction of artificial intelligence into their workplace. Things like self checkout at Walmart and the kiosks at McDonald's are all automated jobs that people used to have.

Other concerns about adding artificial intelligence into places like sports medicine are that it may evolve into a cheaper and easier alternative than training, educating and paying athletic trainers. If technology continues to

move the way it currently is, less and less people will be required for jobs and sports medicine could take a substantial hit in the near future if AI takes over.

Erasmus claims, "the most important job of an athletic trainer is treating [physically] and I don't think that it is entirely possible right now." Unless robotics also takes a giant leap in technology, an athletic trainer will always be needed for any sort of physical help an athlete may need.

AI has the potential to play a critical role in influencing the future of sports medicine. AI could help make the workload significantly lighter, not only athletic trainers, but also for athletes. This could save time, money and relieve plenty of unnecessary stress. However, with every good thing comes drawbacks. As artificial intelligence evolves, the more it becomes integrated into society's everyday lives and can take jobs that people need.