

Chauvin Charged Again

DEREK CHAUVIN, THE FORMER officer charged in the murder of George Floyd, has now been charged with nine counts of felony tax evasion. Chauvin and his wife, Kellie May, have both been found guilty of underreporting their joint income by \$464,433 for the past five years.

This past June, revenue investigators started a review into the Chauvins' finances for failing to file Minnesota income tax returns from 2016–2019 and for fraudulently filing tax returns from 2014–19. The review details that the couple were both in good financial states and that Derek Chauvin performed a considerable amount of off-duty work. Most of this extra work was not reported on their taxes. According to an MPR article, the Minneapolis Police Department requires approval for outside employment, but they do not track the amount of hours or money their officers make.

It has been estimated Derek Chauvin made \$95,920 while working security at the El Nuevo Rodeo club 2014–2019. Sadly, the establishment was one that was burned down during the riots. It's been found that Chauvin worked multiple security jobs, but he failed to report most of his income from those as well.

Kellie May Chauvin is also being charged with tax fraud after more than \$66,000 from her photography business was not reported. Along with this, prosecutors allege that the Chauvins claimed they had residency in Florida when they purchased a \$100,000 BMW, when in reality they resided in Oakdale, MN. Kellie May Chauvin claimed they changed their residency to Florida because it was cheaper to register a car. Kellie May Chauvin filed for divorce on May 31, less than a week after the murder of George Floyd. With the divorce still pending, she has asked for both residencies: her home in Oakdale, and the house they own in Florida.

When the investigations started, Kellie May contacted Derek while he was in prison. She warned him about the investigation. He advised her to talk to "who we have used to handle cases for many years." Kellie supposedly named this person as her father in law, and didn't want to get him involved. He used to do the couples taxes, and she feared he would be mad they had not done them for years. With the investigation coming to a close, it is estimated that the Chauvins owe about \$22,000 in back taxes, and \$11,000 in fraud penalties.

Neuralink

BY HAMZA ISMAIL

ELON MUSK IS A man known for taking daring and innovative tasks. He has invented a flame thrower, "unbreakable" truck windows, and new electric cars, but his versatility appears to be growing with Neuralink. Neuralink is a neurotechnology program founded in 2016 with the goal of curing many brain diseases with an implant in your brain. Despite Elon's failures, Neuralink is a growing company that promises a cure to many neurological diseases. So, the question must be asked, how real and safe is it?

Neuralink starts by implanting a BMI, or a Brain Machine Interface, which allows the brain to communicate with the device, like how a person with paralysis can move a mouse. Neuralink's BMI is named The Link, which you can access on mobile devices or your computer through their app. It's much more than a simple interface. With the electrodes planted in between the neurons, the hope is to read and understand the information traveling between the cells and to stimulate the right electrodes into creating positive responses in the brain. Is Elon Musk planning to erase paralysis from the brain? No, but Neuralink is a worthy endeavor. If the technology helps end paralysis and other brain diseases, then it must be pursued. However, Neuralink has dangers that the company has not yet solved.

First, the procedure is a surgery that is too complex for normal surgeons to perform. According to the website, "the threads are too fine to be manipulated by hand and too flexible to go into the brain on their own... We are innovating on robot design, imaging systems, and software, to build a robot that can precisely insert threads through a single 8 mm skull opening while avoiding blood vessels." Nobody wants blood vessels popped anywhere, let alone in their brain. The brain is a complex and important organ, so any surgery has its level of risk.

What about the risk of a cyber attack? Hackers today can do so much with the internet: they can access government files, hack devices, and steal personal information from a person. With Neuralink, a person is essentially putting a mini computer in their brain waiting to be hacked. According to Cybnit, "A hacking attack is happening every 39 seconds in the US. On a yearly basis, every third person in the country is affected by hacker attacks." In the US, that means millions of people, and none of them have a chip in their brain. The possibility of a hacker stealing information from you is pretty high, not to mention the likelihood of the chip malfunctioning.

Elon Musk is a very innovative man, but Neuralink still needs time to be developed. If that time comes with low risks, it wouldn't be bad to get a BMI. It might blow your mind.

The Future of Winter Sports

BY RENE ELIAS

FALL SPORTS HAVE BEEN canceled before our very own eyes - the next season in jeopardy is winter sports. As a sports photographer, I tend to look forward to those cold Saturday football games outside and the volleyball games inside of the Gangelhoff Center. I enjoy looking up and seeing the past championship banners hanging from the rafters. It does not seem like it was long ago that the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference canceled all sports until the end of the calendar year. The question must come up, will there be any winter sports this academic year? If so, what is to expect from winter sports?

The University of Minnesota has resumed Gopher football, and it seems to be a positive sign in the right direction. Many players want an opportunity to play their sport since they have dedicated the off-season to enrich their skills to become the best player they can be. As for the competition, though, a problem arises because traveling for competitions puts the players' safety at risk due to the pandemic. As fans, we want to see our Golden Bears back on the fields and courts with the stadiums packed again. Safety is the number one priority. So, whether winter sports continue on or not, Concordia will be thinking of the health and safety of the players and the community.

In my personal opinion, I do believe that sports will resume once again. I think soon we will see fans back in the stadiums watching games. I attribute this opinion because restaurants, bars, and gyms are slowly opening back up. After leaders in the community see that people can be together and safe, they will start sports seasons back up again. As people grow accustomed to this new lifestyle, the majority of the public does comply with safety guidelines such as social distancing and wearing masks. The players have worked very hard to prepare for their seasons, and I think soon we will see their hard work pay off in their competitions. For people who are going into their final season, this may be their last chance to showcase their skills. We all know that a lot of changes have happened due to the pandemic, one of those being the lack of sports on the professional and nonprofessional level, and it feels very strange not having that normalcy. Having sports would bring back some normalcy into our daily lives. Yearly traditions such as homecoming weekend, the basketball showcase, as well as playoffs are all things that we look forward to, and without them, the fall and winter seasons feel void. Hopefully that void is filled with a full stadium come the time that winter sports begin to take place.