



NHS & Music Trip



On January 11, senior NHS, band, and choir members took a trip to Minneapolis and the Chanhassen Theatre. They attended the musical "Footloose." Ally Abraham said, "I had a lot of fun and it was a trip to remember."

Early Graduation



Four seniors graduated on December 19. A blizzard postponed the early graduation from December 16. The graduates personalized their graduation by giving their mothers a rose during the ceremony. Mallie Lehtola said, "Life is not easy for anyone. We get to play the game ONE time. We have one life. One life and one opportunity to give your all."



Photo Credit: Steph Bawdon

The boys basketball team talks about a play in the Sioux Valley game. On Tuesday, January 10, 2023, Hamlin boys showed off their new jerseys. "It was a great environment playing in the Pentagon against a really good team, and it's always fun to get new jerseys and to wear them for the first time in a game like that," said the junior guard Tyson Stevenson.



Photo Credit: Steph Bawdon

Hamlin basketball teams debut their new black jerseys in the Throwback Classic against Sioux Valley. Hamlin and Sioux Valley girls' teams were undefeated going into the game. Senior Kamryn Wadsworth said, "Wearing black jerseys for the first time in Hamlin history was the coolest memory ever! Running out on Heritage Court wearing black for the first time was like no other feeling! We are undefeated so far in both retro jerseys!"



Senior Spotlight: Gracelyn Leiseth

Gracelyn Mae Leiseth was born to David and Lisa Leiseth on May 25, 2005. She joined her siblings Mason, Tristen, and Faith. Track & field, volleyball, working out, and enjoying nature are her interests. Success in athletics and being a part of many clubs are her most significant high school accomplishments. In athletics, she made it to state volleyball as a sophomore and junior, placed first in shot put and discus as a sophomore, and placed first in shot put and second in discus as a junior. Her parents have kept her going when she feels like giving up, for they continually push her and encourage her to do her best. The most inspirational person to Gracelyn is her mother, Lisa, because she is a loving mom, friend, and co-worker. She always works hard and cares for others with kindness. Gracelyn will always remember the school pride involved with making floats, skits, powderpuff, and pranking underclassmen during homecoming. "Do your best and enjoy the moment," is her advice for underclassmen and future seniors. In ten years, Gracelyn sees herself with a teaching degree and possibly married with kids.

Interest in Chess

Chess has taken Hamlin High School by storm. With a new match taking place every period, students have ample opportunities to take their turns at the strategic game. This traditional game is generally played with two people taking turns moving their pawns. Each piece has certain limitations on their movements, and whoever checkmates the other's king comes out victorious. The starters of this newfound trend are Mr. Engels and Freddy Vizcaya. The running score of chess games between the two "trendsetters" can be seen on Mr. Engels' white board.

For beginners who are wanting to get into the chess world, Mr. Engels advises them, "Just watch a video on it, start small, learn how the pieces move, and go from there."

One game is all it took to hook Damian Zuniga-Luffman for life.

"I saw Mr. Engels and Freddy playing, and I had to join right away. That night I went home and watched a ton of chess videos, determined to be able to play with the best players at Hamlin," said Zuniga-Luffman.

Although there have been rumors of a chess club starting, nothing has been made official.



Mr. Engels and Damian Zuniga-Luffman play each other in a chess match. This is one of the many games that has taken place at the end of fourth period in Mr. Engels' classroom.

How did you spend your blizzard days?

"Watched Netflix"- Madelyn Trowbridge

"Baked Christmas goodies"- Cambria Juppe

"Hung out with family and read books"- Aili Leonardi

"Rode snowmobile"- Alissa Lehtola

"Played Fortnite, NBA 2k23, and hung out with friends"- Jonathan Leonardi

"Snowboarded"- Nia Thompson

"Surgery, immense pain, cleaned my nose 10 times a day"- Watson Grantham

"Made cookies with Devan"- Abby Berg

Favorite art project?

"Roadic Symmetry"-Abel Talsma

"Dr. Seuss House"-Rosalie Arnold

"Tunnel Book"-Trevor Langdeaux

"Piggy Bank"-Kaydence Nebel

"Color Wheel"-Aylin Homola

"Clay Pots"-Elin Ritola

Gloves vs. Mittens

80% Gloves

20% Mittens



Senior Spotlight: Daylen Kangas

Daylen Thomas Kangas was born on May 8, 2005, to Joe and Teresa Kangas. He has seven sisters and one brother. Daylen enjoys playing hockey, snowboarding, hunting, dirt biking, and wakeboarding. His favorite class in high school was Food Concepts senior year because he was able to make donuts. Daylen works at Sodak Construction as a framer, trimmer, and sider. His advice for underclassmen is, "Don't procrastinate. It's not worth the YouTube video you watched." If Daylen could travel anywhere, he would go to Niseko, Japan. In ten years, he sees himself with his own finish carpentry business and married with kids. Daylen's most memorable moment in high school was when the vacuum in shop class started on fire, and everyone was evacuated from the school building.

Drip & Brew Recommendations

Drip

“Hot Triple Espresso with Cream and Peppermint Syrup”-Daylen Kangas

“Flamingo”-Jenna Johnson

“Top Gun”-Anika Bludorn

“Drip Latte”-Ava Beld

“Palm Beach”-Kristi Kangas

“Berry Burst”-Aubrin Homola

Brew

“Sugar Plum” or “Blue Wave”-Maranda Smith

“Peach Cobbler” or “Sugar Plum”-Jaime Neuendorf

“Cookies and Cream Frappe”-Jayci Trowbridge

“Sleigh All Day”-Ally Abraham

“Iced Brown Sugar Cookie Latte” -Katelyn Marchand

“Iced White Chocolate Mocha with Cold Foam and Caramel Drizzle”-Grace Opdahl

Winter Concert



Kaden St. Pierre sings his solo in “Let It Be Christmas” in the Winter Concert. “I learned my solo in two weeks,” said St. Pierre.

Favorite President Survey

★ **President’s Day is February 20!** ★

“Barack Obama”-Tyson Stevenson

“Woodrow Wilson”-Daniel Kopman

“Donald Trump”-Grace Opdahl

“Abraham Lincoln”-Ellyana Prouty

“Donald Trump”-Scott Wendling

“Barack Obama”-Dawson Noem

“George Washington”-Gradyn Smith

“Abraham Lincoln”-Mrs. Nebel

“Theodore Roosevelt”-Mr. Engels

Senior Schedules

Seniors received a pleasant surprise just before Christmas break when they were called into the band room for a meeting with Mr. Hulscher and Mr. Sheehan. The school board had decided to relax seniors’ schedules by allowing more free periods. As long as seniors will earn enough credits to graduate, they will be allowed up to three free periods, provided they have senior privileges. If senior privileges are lost, free periods are treated like study halls. With free periods on the line, seniors have more incentive to keep their grades up and be present.

Senior Spotlight: Kamryn Wadsworth

Kamryn Christine Wadsworth was born November 30, 2004, to Travis and Michelle Wadsworth. Lexi, Kylee, and Jackson are her siblings. Her favorite class in high-school has been Mr. Engels’ American Government because they did 15-20 minutes of notes, and the rest of class was free time. Some of her hobbies are going to the gym and hanging out with family and friends. She works with her dad on the farm. Her advice for underclassmen is, “Don’t let high school fly by. Enjoy every moment.” A favorite song of hers is “Women like You” by Lee Brice. If she had an opportunity to go anywhere, she would travel to Europe with Ally. In ten years, she sees herself graduated from college with a teaching degree and married with kids. When Kamryn feels like giving up, her family is what keeps her going. An inspirational person in her life is her sister Lexi because she inspires Kamryn to be a better person. Making it to many state tournaments has been her greatest accomplishment throughout high school. If she were an animal, she would be a lion because they are strong leaders. Kamryn will always remember the memories made with her classmates and through sports.



Wrestling

On January 12, Hamlin-Castlewood wrestlers competed in a quad at the Hamlin Education Center versus Clark-Willow Lake, Sioux Valley, and Deuel.



New Year's Resolutions

"Gain weight and exercise less"-Jeff Johnson

"Waiting for next year"-Mr. Krumm

"Drink more water"-Cristhian Rodriguez

"Relax more and spend less money"-Mrs. Symens

"Read more books"-Georgia Johnson (fifth)

"Do more art"-Maisie Olsen (second)

"Stop procrastinating"-Katelyn Marchand

"Be a better teacher"-Mr. Engels

"To not text my ex"-Tara Twait

"Save money"-Cambrie Beld

Vietnam Presentation

On December 12, six members of the Vietnam Veterans of America came and gave a presentation about the Vietnam War. One veteran from each branch of the military spoke about his experience in the service during the Vietnam conflict. Each talk was accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation with pictures. There were also display boards set up with pictures and maps from Vietnam. After the presentation, the students were encouraged to walk around to take a look at the photos and talk with the veterans.

Senior Spotlight: Tyler Opdahl

Tyler John Opdahl was born on February 4, 2005, and is the son of Tony and Jill Opdahl. He has three siblings: Sam, Brooke and Joel. His favorite class was History with Mr. Engels. Tyler said, "Mr. Engels was chill." He enjoys farming and is part owner of Opdahl Farms. His advice for underclassmen is, "Get your work done." His favorite movie is "The Wolf of Wall Street." If Tyler could travel anywhere in the world, he would go to the Bahamas. Someone who inspires Tyler is his dad because he has taught him so many things. If he were an animal, he would be a calf because he spends time feeding them every day. Tyler will always remember the feud between Walker and Katelyn. He is also an active member of the Hamlin County 4-H and often takes exhibits to the state fair.



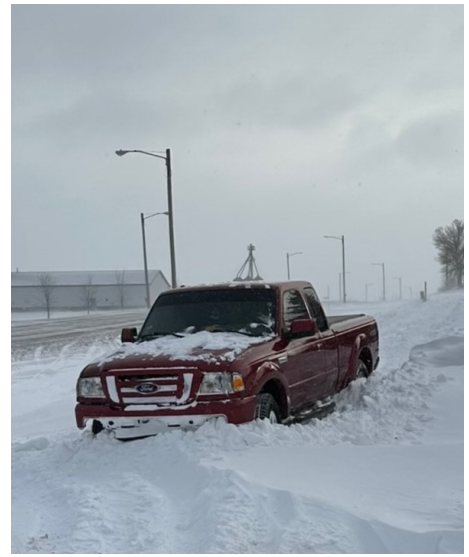
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Angel Tree

Every year, Hamlin School puts on the Angel Tree to help provide gifts to families in need. A tree is adorned with anonymous cards that state the needs of children. The tree is placed by the main office where staff, parents, and community members can take cards to fulfill. Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) helps to fulfill any of the remaining cards and wrap all of the gifts. Typically, Mrs. Shelby Popham and Mrs. Alyssa Mittleider take a group of SADD students to finish all of the shopping, but weather got in the way this year. A four day blizzard cancelled the shopping trip and cut short the time students had to help out, Mrs. Popham and Mrs. Mittleider ended up finishing everything by themselves. Angel Tree provided around 200 presents to 60 children.



Guess Who Was Stuck



See answers on Mrs. Schultz's door.

Basketball Cheerleaders



Mr. Ryan Stormo is the new CTE teacher. He graduated from Hamlin High School in 2001. Stormo is married to Tiffany, and they have four boys: Rupert, Burk, Messur, and Bruce. When asked why he wanted to teach here at Hamlin, he said, "I get to work where my kids go to school and someday have them in my class." He was previously employed at Mills Property Management. Stormo's favorite thing about being here has been meeting new people. His hobbies include doing stuff with his boys and spending time with his wife.