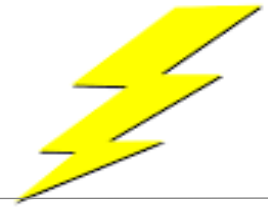


CHARGER CHATTER



Hamlin Education Center

NESC Basketball Tournament



Fellow NESC teams battle it out on January 17, 2023. The teams pictured above competed in the senior division. The tournament was hosted at Hamlin, and around 250 athletes and coaches attended.



Isaac Sheehan defends the ball during one of his basketball games. Each team played three games throughout the day. Sheehan said, "In the last game, I made a three!"



Aiden Abraham hands the ball to a teammate during the game. NESC brought three teams to the tournament. One team competed in the junior league (pictured above), and two competed in the senior league. Abraham said, "It was a lot of fun, and I hope to be able to do it again."



NESC cheerleaders cheer during halftime of one of the games. There were ten different delegations that attended the tournament. Cody Swenson said that a big thanks goes out to volunteers from DSU for working as refs. Thanks also to clock and score keepers, as well as the HUCS volunteers for setting up, tearing down, and working concessions.



Senior Spotlight: Wade McDaniels

Wade Robin McDaniels was born on April 14, 2005, to Grant and Ruth McDaniels. He is the oldest of eight children: seven boys and one girl. Snowmobiling, hunting, and working are a few hobbies that he really enjoys. Wade works for Basin Construction & Drain Tile doing dirt work, excavation, and construction. If his options were limitless, Wade would like to go to the Colorado backcountry to go elk hunting. If he could travel anywhere in the world he would go to Europe. Wade's advice to underclassmen is, "Stay ahead in your work. Don't fall behind." His greatest accomplishment throughout high school is just making it through and passing all of his classes. In ten years, Wade sees himself continuing to work at Basin while raising a family with his wife.

Senior Spotlight: Damian Zuniga-Luffman

Damian Zuniga-Luffman was born on September 22, 2004, to Tanya and Marcellino Zuniga. He has one sister, Tatiana. Damian has a very fond attraction to the gym and lifting weights. His advice for underclassmen is, "Hit the gym." He works as a custodian at Hamlin Education Center. Damian's favorite movie is "The Wolf of Wall Street." Damian's favorite quote is, "What color is your Bugatti?" His greatest accomplishment in high school was failing photography. His favorite class was U.S. Wars during sophomore year because it was full of awesome people. An inspirational person in Damian's life is Ronnie Coleman because of his well-known sayings, "Lightweight Baby" and "Yeah Buddy!"



Groundhog Day

This year the groundhog spied his shadow on Thursday, February 2. As legend has it, this leaves us with six more weeks of winter. According to livescience.com, the groundhog is only accurate about forty percent of the time.

"If winter comes, can
spring be far behind?"
— Percy Bysshe Shelley

Senior Spotlight: Austin Koistinen



Austin Harold Koistinen was born to Jerome and Lisa Koistinen on October 27, 2004. He is the oldest of nine kids and has three sisters and five brothers. Austin's favorite class in high school is American Government because hanging out with Mr. Engels is always a good time. His hobbies include RC airplanes, skiing, ping pong, and Spikeball. For the past three years, Austin has worked for Witt Construction. His advice for underclassmen is, "Don't procrastinate. It's not worth it." The "Red Rising" series by Pierce Brown is his favorite. If he could travel anywhere, he would go to Scandinavia. In ten years, Austin sees himself married with a professional pilot job. His greatest accomplishment in high school was getting his private pilot certificate. An inspiration in Austin's life is his dad because he is a man of many talents.

State Wrestling



State Wrestling Photo Credits: Grace Everson

Guess the Shoes



* See answers on Mrs. Schultz's door *

Favorite Candy Heart Phrase

- "Marry me" - Mrs. Beld
- "Goalz" - Troy Randall Jr.
- "Call me" - Katelyn Marchand
- "Hug me" - Estelle Wendling
- "Hot stuff" - Emily Pekkala
- "I love you" - Mileah Hilliard
- "Hmu" - Lynnae Beld

Spring Break Plans

- "Bothering my siblings" - Briana Soler
- "Going to the Rocky Mountains" - Owen Taschner
- "Relaxing" - Lynn Popham
- "Staying home" - Kalen Smith
- "Going to Kansas" - Ceanna Hubbard
- "Going on a Caribbean Cruise" - Michelle Bartels
- "Going to my grandma's house" - Laura Larson
- "Working" - Miranda Koistinen
- "Working at Breakout" - Lili Hennen
- "Hanging out with friends" - Allie Matson

Senior Spotlight: Ava Beld

Ava Christine Beld was born on March 3, 2005, to Shanna and Orlando Beld. She is the oldest of 11 children. She has five sisters and five brothers. Her favorite class in high school was Mrs. Mac's Astronomy and Environmental classes because of all the great memories made. Some hobbies and activities she enjoys are volleyball, Spikeball, and spending time with her family and boyfriend. This past summer, Ava worked at Area Lawn Works, but during the winter she works for Hendrickson Heating and Cooling. Her advice to the underclassmen is that it's not worth giving up on your last year of school. If Ava had the opportunity to travel anywhere in the world, she would go to the Maldives. In ten years, she sees herself married with a couple of kids. Ava said, "My greatest accomplishment through high school was not failing any of my classes." Ava also said, "I will always remember playing Uno in Vickie's last period study hall and beating Walker every time."



Journalism Staff: Ally Abraham, Ava Beld, Lola Beld, Lynnae Beld, Clara Carstensen, Paola Gallardo Zamora, Lily Halling, Aubrin Homola, Jenna Johnson, Claudia Kangas, Daylen Kangas, Kristi Kangas, Austin Koistinen, Brielle Koistinen, Kaylie Kysar, Gracelyn Leiseth, Katelyn Marchand, Wade McDaniels, Jaxley Meyer, Annie Smith, Maranda Smith, Estelle Wendling

Senior Night



Senior Night Photo Credits: Steph Bawdon

After the senior night games, seniors Brennan Kesler, Kamryn Wadsworth, Brooklyn Brandriet, Ally Abraham, and Rylan Bawdon grab a fun photo with the fat heads. Both teams went home with a win against Clark/ Willow-Lake. "Crazy... That is all I have to say about that," said Bawdon.



Senior basketball players gather together before the Clark/ Willow Lake games. Brennan Kesler, Ally Abraham, Kamryn Wadsworth, Brooklyn Brandriet, and Rylan Bawdon celebrated their basketball careers on February 16, 2023. "It all became very surreal, and I can't believe my high school basketball career is coming to an end!" said Abra-

Congratulations to AnneMarie Smith (1st), Ella Levijoki (2nd), and Alyssa Miller (3rd) who placed in their respective weight classes at the Yankton powerlifting meet!

Guess the Student

- a) Girl, long brown hair, hazel eyes, in 12th grade, 5'2", loves weightlifting and semi-trucks
- b) Girl, long brown hair, blue-green eyes, in 11th grade, 5'6", likes helping old people
- c) Boy, short brown hair, in 12th grade, 5'8", had heart surgery when he was little
- d) Boy, short brown hair, hazel eyes, 5'8", in ninth grade, likes to ride dirt bike/spending time outdoors
- e) Boy, blonde hair, blue eyes, 6'1", in 12th grade, drives a silver car

* see answers on Mrs. Schultz's door *

Did You Know?

St. Patrick's Day

- It was originally celebrated in Ireland.
- The date is March 17 because St. Patrick is believed to have died on March 17.
- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in America, not in Ireland.
- In Ireland, people celebrate by having parades, music, dancing, and eating special foods.
- The color of St. Patrick's Day was originally blue.

Senior Spotlight: Gavin Prouty

Gavin Glenn Prouty, the son of Brian and Sunny Prouty, was born on December 7, 2004. He has three siblings: an older sister, McKenna, a twin brother, Kasen, and a younger sister, Ellyana. His favorite class in high school was Mr. Engels' class because they were able to distract him very easily. His hobbies/interests include watching dumb movies with his friends. "Kung Pow" is his favorite movie. Gavin's advice for underclassmen is for them to be exactly like his friend, Damian Zuniga-Luffman. "Lightweight baby," is a quote from Damian that helps Gavin get through moments of giving up. If he had the opportunity to travel anywhere in the world, Gavin would go to Italy. In ten years, Gavin sees himself as a lawyer who flies planes. His greatest accomplishment throughout his high school career was getting the school record in the 4X200 meter relay. Someone who inspires Gavin is John Yonker because he is the best five base player ever, in Gavin's opinion. Something Gavin will always remember is when he and Damian were recording a video for class and Damian could not see out of the mask he was wearing, so it took them an hour to film it.



100th Day of School



Lola Beld and Estelle Wendling dress up on February 2 for the 100th day of school. Middle school and high school students participated in a scavenger hunt, while elementary kids completed activities that involved the number 100. "We are the cutest grandmas you ever did see!" said Lola.



First grader Kami Koistinen assembles a paper gumball machine to celebrate the 100th day of school. Students participated in many other activities throughout the day.

Snowboarding vs. Skiing

"Snowboarding" - Cecil Wendling

"Snowboarding" - Jax Kangas

"Snowboarding" - Tyson Stevenson

"Skiing" - Lynnae Beld

"Snowboarding" - Josh Kopman

"Snowboarding" - Lily Halling

"Snowboarding" - Landon Smith

"Skiing" - Mr. Nei

"Snowboarding" - Jerek Bludorn

"Skiing" - Brynn Kopman

"Snowboarding" - Jenna Johnson

Hockey Skates vs. Figure Skates

"Hockey Skates" - Emily Pekkala

"Neither" - Mr. Krumm

"Hockey Skates" - Heath Johnson

"I don't even know the difference"
- Luke Fraser

"Hockey Skates" - Briley Bludorn

"Figure Skates" - Mrs. Beld

"I don't skate" - Daniel Kopman

"Hockey Skates" - Jaxley Meyer



Senior Spotlight: Kaylie Kysar

Kaylie Marie Kysar was born on May 16, 2005, to Ryan and Carrie Kysar. She is the third in the family with four sisters and two brothers. She currently works at the Bullpen as a waitress and also cleans offices at Hamlin County Farmers Co-op. Some of the things she enjoys are spending time with her friends and family and playing volleyball. Weightlifting has been one of her favorite classes in school because of the friends she took it with. Kaylie's advice to students is, "Shut up and do your work." Her sisters have inspired her the most throughout her life. If she could travel anywhere, she would go to Bora Bora. In ten years she sees herself married with a family of her own.