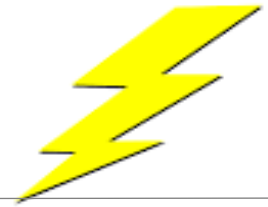


# CHARGER CHATTER



Hamlin Education Center

## Polar Plunge



On March 4, 32 NESc members from Hamlin, Castlewood, Estelline, Clark, and Waverly plunged into the frigid waters of Lake Kampeska to raise money for Special Olympics. They raised just under \$9,000. The temperature was fairer than in recent years; however, jumper Emily Everson said, "It was cold!"

## Time to Read



Read Across America Week was February 27- March 3. The theme was "Time to Read" and each day had a dress up theme. Pictured above are students wearing sweatshirts that could be read.

## SADD Conference



On March 24, the spring SADD conference was held in Watertown. Cory Greenwood and Ashton Gill opened the conference before students participated in interactive activities with other schools' SADD members. Nine SADD students attended the event.

## State Special Olympics Basketball

The NESc Rockets, consisting of athletes and partners from Hamlin, Clark, Castlewood, Estelline, Waverly, and Lake Preston, participated in the State Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Sioux Falls on March 24-26. Sixty-two teams played through the weekend. The Junior Rockets team consisting of Hamlin's Tate Everson, Watson Grantham, and Aiden Abraham went 2-2 and earned bronze medals. Both Senior Rockets teams earned gold medals going 4-0 and 3-1, respectively. Players included Eva Koisti, Emma Schultz, Isaac Sheehan, Landon Lee-Winner, Danicka Seidell, Talayna Opdahl, and Emily Everson. Mr. Swenson and Mr. Sheehan were the coaches.

A skills competition consisting of passing, dribbling, and shooting drills was also held. Caleb Leiseth earned gold, and Wesley Grantham earned silver. Team Skills earned an overall silver.

Each delegation was recognized in an Opening Ceremony before the Sioux Falls Skyforce game on March 24. Saturday night consisted of swimming and an "I Hate Winter" Dance. Sunday concluded the tournament with the championship games and awards. Spirit/Sportsmanship awards were given to individuals showing great sportsmanship, attitude, and effort throughout the whole season and tournament. Four NESc students earned this award, including Isaac Sheehan. Congratulations, Isaac!

(See photos on page 7.)

# Third Time's the Charm

**Flandreau**

**42-32**

**Red Cloud**

**57-35**

**Wagner**

**58-55**

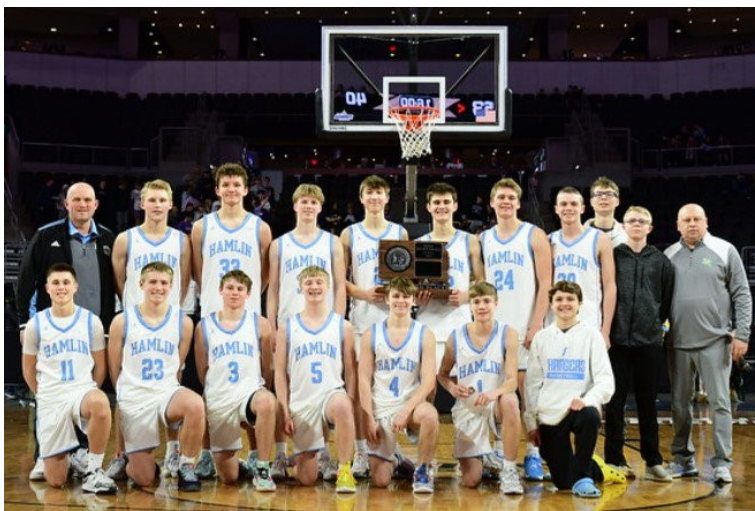


**Girls Basketball Photo Credits: Steph Bawdon**



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# It's Our Time



# Third Place

**Sioux Valley**

**72-64**

**Dakota Valley**

**63-77**

**Elk Point/Jefferson**

**53-40**



**Boys Basketball Photo Credits: SDPB**



## Senior Spotlight: Brielle Koistinen

Brielle Lillian Koistinen was born to Jerald and Charlyn Koistinen on December 26, 2004. Her six brothers are Jason, Blake, Kordel, Tyler, Ethan, and Kamden. Brielle currently works at Cabinet Concepts and Hamlin County Farmers Co-Op. Outside of work, her interests include skating, volleyball, reading, and spending time with her friends and family. Culinary has been her favorite class because she learned skills she will use in the future and was able to eat the food made in class. The people who have inspired her the most have been her parents and her grandma, Lillian. "Be the type of person you want to meet," is the advice Brielle has for other students. In ten years, Brielle sees herself married and raising a family.

## Opinion on OBX 3

"I like Rafe Cameron"- Lily Halling

"Far from reality, action packed, hot girls" - Turner Stevenson

"Repetitive" - Novalei Wendling

"Trash" - Gavin Prouty

"Not as good as the other seasons" - Abby Berg

"It was alright" - Carson Stormo

"Pretty good" -Rylen Smith

## Favorite Fries

"Any place but McDonalds"- Evalyn Gustafson

"McDonalds" - Olivia Singrey

"McDonalds" - Trig Heinrich

"McDonalds" - Anna Beld

"McDonalds" - Mr. Neuendorf

"McDonalds" - Madelyn Trowbridge

"Buffalo Wild Wings" - Roselie Arnold

"Buffalo Wild Wings" - Jack Stormo

"Chick-fil-a" - Cambria Jouppe

"Chick-fil-a"- Adrianys Cabrera

## Favorite Flower

"Baby's breath" - Abby Berg

"Sunflower" - Tiahna Lea

"Pink rose" - Freddy Vizcaya

"Black orchid" - Mr. MacDonell

"Daisy" - Alyssa Miller

"Yellow flowers" - Ceanna Hubbard

"Sunflower" - Mr. Engels

"Rose" - Naveah Ramirez

"Rose" - Elda Medina Diaz

## Senior Spotlight: Ellie Koistinen

On May 18, 2005, Ellie Sue Koistinen was born to Erika and Darwin Koistinen. Jasper, Keaton, Laramie, and Ida are her four siblings. Ellie is employed at Kirst Cafe and Confections. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, drafting/designing houses, card-making, crocheting, and hanging out with friends. Food Concepts has been her favorite class at Hamlin because she likes to cook. Her accomplishments in high school include getting her license despite her fear to drive and moving to another state her senior year where there has been a whole new living environment. Ellie's hard-working mom inspires her to always keep going, even in difficult times. "Do your school work and get it done, so you can graduate," is her advice to underclassmen. In ten years, Ellie envisions herself married and starting a family or just working and living life.



# HUCS Presentation



A HUCS presentation was held for the Hamlin middle and high schoolers. Mrs. Grantham spoke about how to include everyone, including those with special needs. She talked about how someone can make their day by simply just saying "hi." Kady Swenson, Kaden St. Pierre, and Jerek Bludorn spoke about their experiences in Unified P.E. and Unified sports and how they have been able to have an impact and how their own lives have been changed as well. The three seniors helped Mrs. Grantham complete demonstrations to explain how differently some kids see things. The presentation was inspiring and motivating to encourage others to be positive role models.

## Middle School Oral Interp

Ms. Jensen is the advisor of the newly formed middle school Oral Interp group. Seven students currently participate. The format is the same as high school, except they don't go to regions or state. The goal of middle school Oral Interp is to make its members more practiced and confident. They will also have a better understanding of the rules and can try out all of the categories. Their first meet on April 1 was cancelled due to weather. Jensen said, "Soon I want to be one of those schools where we are really, really good."

### Senior Spotlight: Gabriel Hersey



Gabriel Caleb Hersey was born on April 24, 2005, to Sterling and Carrie Hersey. He has six siblings. Gabe's favorite class in high school was Auto/Weld because it was a lot of fun working on pickups and four-wheelers. Some of his hobbies are hunting, fishing, and working on small engines. Gabe works for Ron's Saw Shop in Watertown, SD. His advice to underclassmen is this: "The harder you work, the greater the reward." His favorite books are those written by Patrick McManus. If Gabe had the opportunity to travel anywhere, he would visit Alaska. In ten years, Gabe sees himself still working at Ron's Saw Shop. The quote that has kept him going is, "The climb is ugly, but the peak is beautiful." Gabe's dad is an inspirational person in his life because he has taught him many helpful things. Gabe will always remember Mr. Engels teaching while standing on a chair.

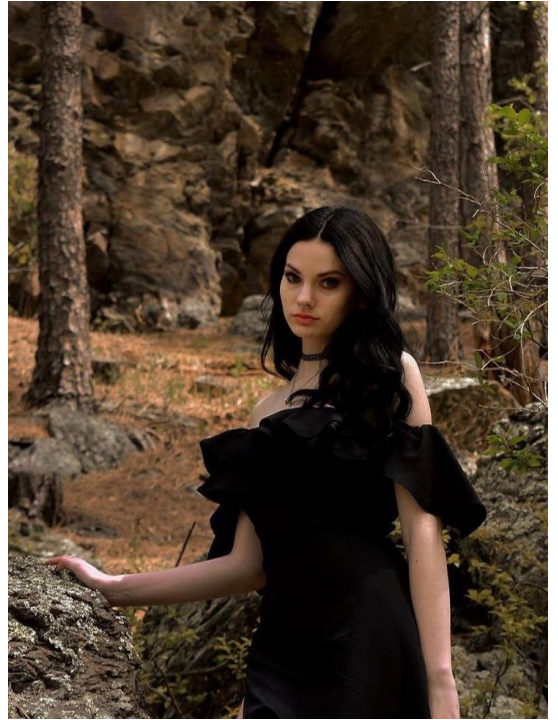
### Senior Spotlight: Devan Berg

Devan Arvo Berg was born on October 11, 2004, to Seth and Mandi Berg. He has seven siblings: Levi, Connor, Abby, Malia, Brielle, Cole, and Ivey. Some of Devan's interests include cars, diesels, and outdoor things. If he had the opportunity to travel anywhere, he would travel to Dubai. Devan's advice to underclassmen is, "Get senior privileges." A quote that keeps him going is, "We are all going to die, so do what you want." One of Devan's biggest accomplishments throughout high school has been doing concrete and cranes for four years at Sentry. His mom inspires him the most because she lives day to day and makes the best of her life. He compares himself to an eagle because they are willing to fight to get what they want. Devan will always remember cutting his hand in shop class and missing school. In ten years, he sees himself owning a business and having a family.



## Senior Spotlight: Tara Twait

Tara Lynn Twait was born to Lee and Lisa Twait on April 6, 2005. She has five siblings: three sisters and two brothers. Tara spends her time working at the Farmer's Union Co-Op and volunteering at the Parkview Assisted Living in Bryant. Her favorite movie is the 1939 production of "Wizard of Oz." English has been Tara's favorite class in high school because she enjoys writing. Tara's great accomplishments from high school include maintaining a good GPA, being a dual credit student, and being on the Honor Roll. Given the opportunity, Tara would like to travel to Japan because she thinks it is a beautiful country. Tara's advice to underclassmen is this: "Choose the people you surround yourself with, carefully." An inspirational person in Tara's life is her sister Lexi because she is independent and has made a huge impact on her life. An animal Tara would compare herself to is a sloth because she likes to sleep. "Don't promise to live forever; promise to forever live while you're alive," is a quote that has kept Tara going. In ten years, Tara sees herself owning her dad's graphic design business, Cutting Edgz Inc. Tara will always remember the many hours she spent trying to figure out a complex calculator.



## Senior Spotlight: Jenna Johnson

Jenna Marie Johnson was born to Justin and Jolene on August 12, 2005. She is the oldest of seven children; her siblings are Makenzie, Chloe, Heath, Mitchell, Zachary, and Jett. Jenna's favorite class in high school was her dual credit Microbiology class. Jenna said, "I have never learned anything like it." Some of her hobbies are wakeboarding, cliff jumping, wake surfing, snowboarding and spending time with family. Currently, Jenna is working as a CNA. Her advice to underclassmen is to stay on top of your homework and work ahead if you feel motivated. Jenna's favorite book is "A Night Divided." If she had the opportunity to travel anywhere, she would go to the Cayman Islands. In ten years, she sees herself graduated from college with a RN degree and married with a few kids. Her mom is the one who keeps her going when she feels like giving up. The person who inspires her is her dad because he always works hard and has good advice.

## Senior Spotlight: Maranda Smith

Maranda Renee Smith was born on January 30, 2005, to Jared and Heidi Smith. She is the fifth of ten kids, with four brothers and five sisters. Her favorite class was Mr. Engels's fourth-hour class in the first semester of her junior year. There were only 14 students in it, and all the memories and inside jokes are unforgettable. Maranda works at Brew Co. Coffee in Lake Norden and cleans for Adrienne Olsen. If she had a chance to travel anywhere, she would road trip around the US and visit family and friends on both coasts. Her advice for underclassmen is to enjoy it while it lasts; the last year is the best one and goes super fast. Maranda has always been a daddy's little girl. He keeps her going, and she likes to always make him proud. She will never forget the cheat sheet written on the black tables in Mrs. Mac's classroom. In ten years, Maranda sees herself married with a baby or two.





# NHS Induction



## Senior Spotlight: Walker Kopman

Walker James Kopman was born to Clark and Tina on April 16, 2005. He has six siblings: Samantha, Caleb, Hailey, Sawyer, Emmett, and Sydney. His favorite class in high school was Mrs. Jacobson's English class in tenth grade because she was the best. Some of his hobbies are working and going to Great Shots with the boys. He works with his brothers feeding cattle. Walker's advice for the underclassman is to never let a girlfriend stop you from finding a wife. "Guts 'N Gunships" by Mark Garrison is his favorite book. If he had the opportunity to travel anywhere, he would go to the Bahamas. In ten years he sees himself feeding 10,000 head of cattle. A quote that has kept Walker going is, "It is what it is." Buying a tractor was his best accomplishment in high school. Caleb has been an inspirational person in his life because he has been like a dad to him. Walker says, "I will always remember watching Shayne Fritz dislocating her shoulder in gym class."

## Senior Spotlight: Landon Smith

Landon Jon Smith was born on June 23, 2005, to Wayne and LouAnn Smith. He is the youngest of nine children: four boys and five girls. Landon's hobbies are hunting, fishing, and snowboarding. He works at Sentry as a welder. Landon's advice to underclassmen is, "Do things right the first time." If Landon had the chance to travel anywhere in the world, he would like to go hunting in Africa. When he feels like giving up, a quote that keeps him going is, "Patience is a virtue, but there comes a moment when you must stop being patient and take the day by the throat and shake it." Landon's greatest accomplishment throughout high school was winning the Lake Area Weld-off. He will always remember the day Adriana and Autumn got in a brawl in math class. In ten years, Landon sees himself living in the country and working as an engineer.



**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 Spotlight: Troy Randall Jr.

Troy Dean Randall Jr. was born to Troy and Koleen Randall on May 28, 2004. Troy has two siblings, Brody and Brooklyn. Troy's tenth grade English class with Mrs. Jacobson was his favorite high school class because of all the good times. Football, racing, wrestling, hunting, fishing, and hanging out with friends are a few of Troy's hobbies. He works at Elite Drain and Sewer Cleaning. "Don't fall behind. Listen to your teachers," is the advice Troy gives to underclassmen. In ten years Troy sees himself owning and operating a business. When Troy felt like giving up, his girlfriend at the time was the one who kept him going. A quote that he likes is, "If you like water, then you already like 72% of me." Troy will always remember the time when he broke the sprinkler in the gym while playing Five Base, causing the game to be banned.



## Senior Spotlight: Katelyn Marchand



Katelyn Sylvia Marchand, the daughter of Damian and Donna Marchand, was born on December 15, 2004. She has an older sister Brooklyn and a younger sister Ashlyn. Her favorite classes in high school were Mr. Engels's Psychology and Sociology classes because she was always laughing. Katelyn enjoys doing almost anything as long as it is with her family and/or friends. She works at Prairie Lakes Hospital in Wattertown as a medical/surgery care technician. Her advice for underclassmen is to think before you do things but also not forget to have fun. If she had the opportunity to travel anywhere, she would go somewhere warm outside of the country because she has never left the United States and wants to be tan. One person who has kept her going when she felt like giving up is her dad because no matter what he

is going through, he continues to put his family first. She knows that she can go to him for anything and everything. Katelyn will always remember all of the small moments of laughing in class and losing her voice after football games.

