STEP BY STEP



The Scout
2019-2020

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546 shoes are walking around in the David City High School halls.



In Spanish class, Barrett Andel, Ava Neujahr, Hailie Fuller, and Emily Ewert work on a project.



Braxton Small, Lydia Ockander, and Clayton Harris perform in the one act play.



At a cross country meet, Trinity Boss and Hannah Gangwish cheer on Neil Olson.

2019-2020 Junior-Senior High Enrollment: 262

Grade 12: 44 Grade 11: 40 Grade 10: 50 Grade 9: 46 Grade 8: 38 Grade 7: 44



Senior Jaymee Lee works on her Advanced Art project.



At the DC speech invite, sophomore Grace Farmer shakes sophomore Lydia Ockander and juinor Maya Couch's hands as they accept their fifth place honors award for duet.



In March, junior Ethan Zegers works on a shop project in the last week in school before the transition to distance learning.

Being a Scout



Above: After winning the cupcake war competition during FFA week, freshman Kathryn Johnson, senior Jaymee Lee, freshman Katie Pflum, senior Skylar Busch, and sophomore Brenna Windedahl take pictures with their "Under the Sea" cupcakes.





Left: Students in English 9 celebrate finishing "The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet."

Left: Seniors Jacson Valentine and Zack Barlean work together against coaches in a pep rally before state wrestling.

A NEW WALK OF LIFE

"A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step." - Lao Tzu

The first day of the 2019-2020 school year began fresh as students excitedly chattered with friends at the opening assembly. They were met with new kids, new teachers, and new steps.



Above: Acting petrified, senior Ashlee Marvin and juniors Rachel Roemmich and Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert perform in the district one-act competion. David City performed "The Awakening of the American Spirit" and placed third.

Everyone was prepared for their journey as schedules were becoming memorized and new teachers becoming familiar. Students gained a number of new opportunities to leap at as freshly turned ninth graders could finally participate in high school sports. Seniors put their best foot forward while eagerly counting down the days until graduation.

As the first semester began, an online gaming competition, esports, was added to our organizations. Students were able to compete against each other and other schools on computers, VR, and on the Nintendo Switch. More recently added programs like Ambassadors and junior high speech marked their first and second full year in operation.

Step by step, our school has been improving opportunities for students and more. We have also been working on adding new buildings and making renovations. We have been following a ten-year plan that will allow future generations to continue to learn in David City. After the elementary's gym and classrooms, the high school new commons and weight room over the past few years, new work has been started preparing new offices and high school classrooms.

Our school and curriculum continue to positively change, step by step, as do the students. DCHS 2019 to 2020 is sure to be filled with memories, growth, and opportunities throughout.



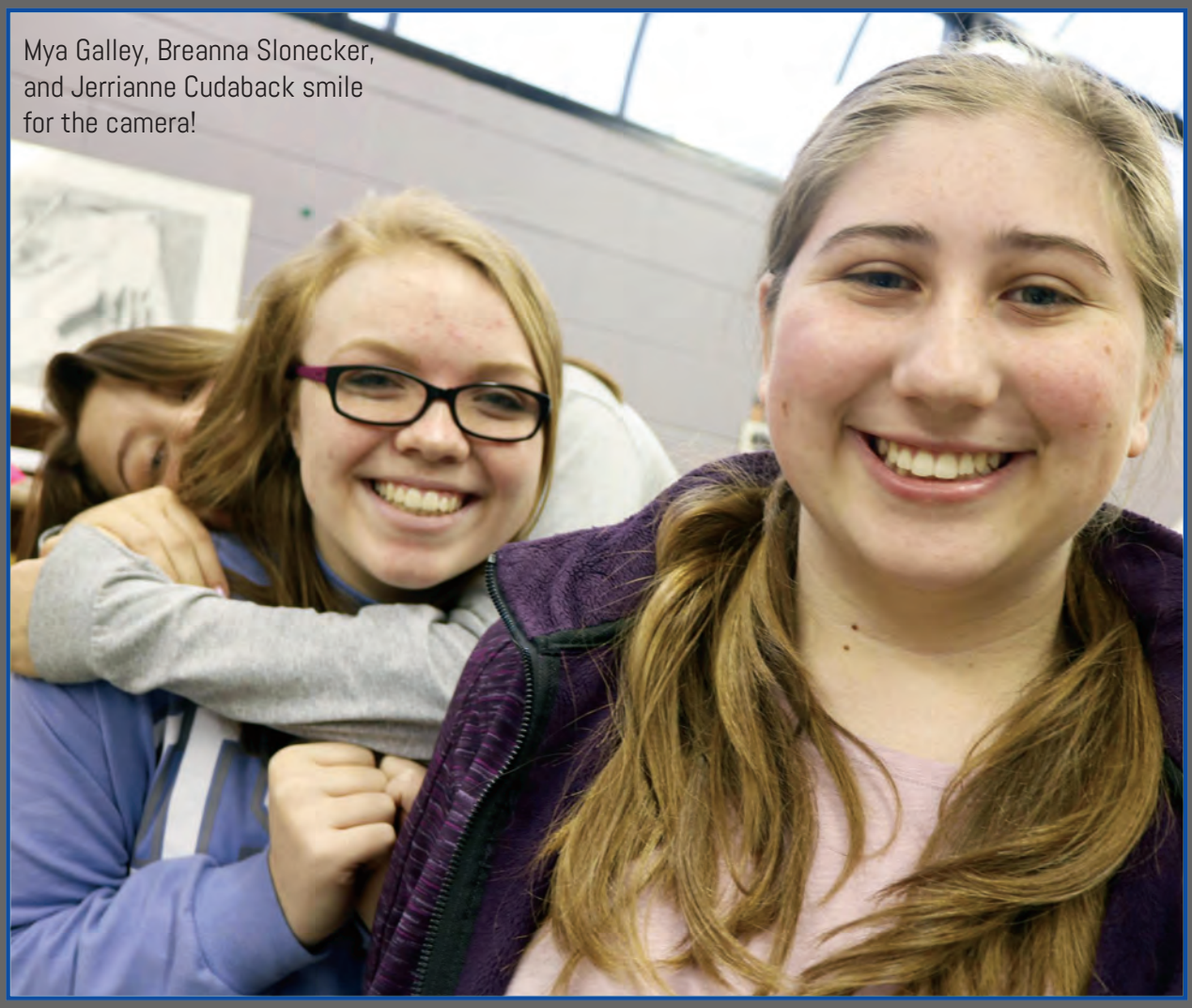
Above: In the school kitchen, freshmen Braxton Small and Carly Schmid create a smiley face on their cherry pie in FCCLA.





Left: Junior Griffyn Roberts, senior Chase Romsheck, and junior Nycholas McDonald-Gebert enjoy a game of cards.

Left: Running in a junior high house competition, seventh grader Kailey Blum runs as her teammates watch.



Mya Galley, Breanna Slonecker, and Jerrianne Cudaback smile for the camera!



Emily Johnson



Tyrian Cummings



Madison Masek

WALKING INTO NEW FRIENDS

Portraits



Jazlyn Vazquez-Zavala and Allison Coil



McKenna Pavel and Ashley Villalba Pena



Heidi Alvarado and Kirsten Bell



Juniors Alex Rachow and Ethan Zegers have fun in the weight room.



Left: Juan Peres and Isiah Howlett



Right: Maya Couch

Heather Allen
Amy Backstrom
Lisa Bales
Tracy Behrns
Elizabeth Betzen
Joseph Brumm



Aaron Carlson
Todd Carmichael
Catherine Chmelka
Cortney Couch
Court Croghan
Chad Denker



Jenna Didier
Morgan Doehring
Adam Ebbeka
Robert Evans
Megan Fiala
Trey Frey



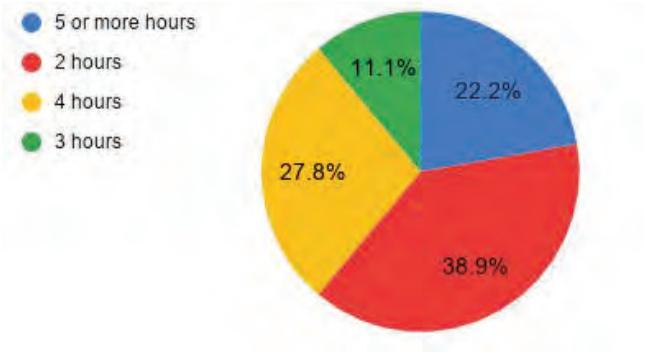
Ronda Gestring
Tiffany Heins
Rodney Hoeft
Pam Kabourek
Kenneth Kovar
Patrick Koziesk



STEP INTO A BETTER EDUCATION

Staff Portraits

How much time do you spend grading each week?





Nancy Krenk
Trevor Krenk
Teri Messerer
Sara Miriovsky
Dillon Nerud
Diane Noonan

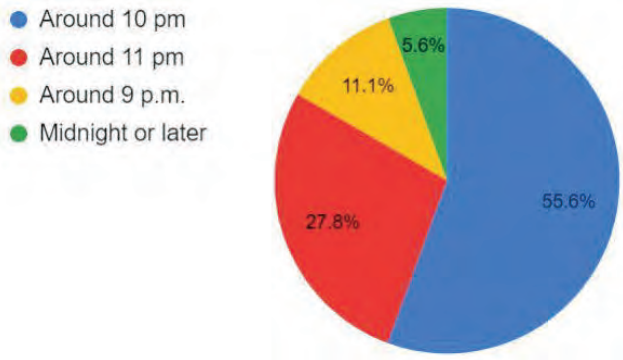
Jarod Ockander
Sarah Oltjenbruns
Amy Sander
Sam Schlautman
Pamela Schmid
Aimee Scribner

Ed Sieck
Brandon Sobota
Lisa Spitz
Anton Stuchlik
Tahner Thiem
Carole Unger

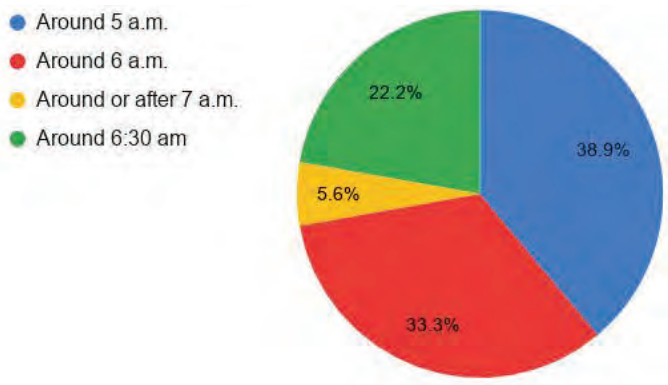
Laurel Valentine
Tom VanWinkle
Robyn Warner
Travis Worm
Tonya Zegers

Life in a Teacher's Shoes

What is the average time that you go to sleep?



What is the average time that you wake up?



Victor Alonzo
Barrett Andel
Jazmen Birkel
Dakota Blair
Sidnee Busch
Angel Carias



Avery Couch
Caden Denker
Emily Ewert
Hunter Faz
Hailie Fuller
Dylan Garretson



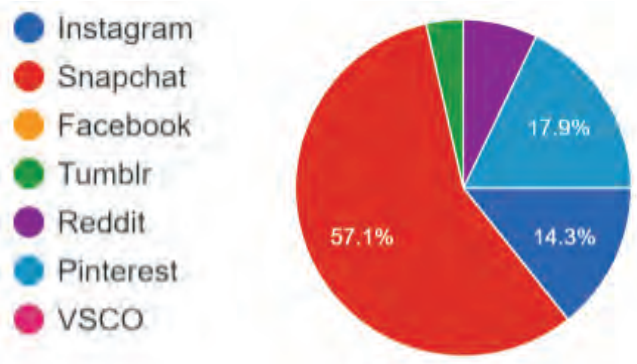
Jeremiah Gibbs
Savannah Gregory
Kaydense Hansen
Joshlynn Heibel
Wesley Johns
Kathryn Johnson



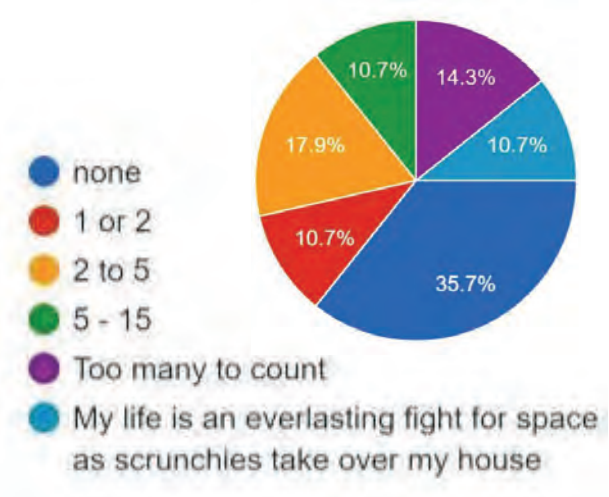
Jennifer Juan Tomas
Courtlyn Keeling
Chase Krafka
Samantha Krafka
Hayleigh Larsen
Colin Mills



What is the best social media?



How many scrunchies do you own?





Mikah Mittleider
Ava Neujahr
Valori Olson
McKenna Pavel
Katie Pflum
Dominic Prothman

Juan Ramirez
Adan Rodriguez
Ava Schlotfeld
Carly Schmid
Carson Scribner
Mitchell Shanahan

Braxton Small
Cadence Smaus
Reese Soukup
Natalie Summers
Keetyn Valentine
Carlos Vazquez-Zavala

Jayden Velazquez
Ashley Villalba Pena
Fabiola Viscarra
Lillian Wielgus
Cassidy Wieser

A CHANGE OF PACE

Freshmen

You can stress or you can finesse
-Courtlyn Keeling

That was swagtastic
-Carly Schmid

I only accept apologies in cash.
-Braxton Small

AND I OOP SKSKSKSKSKSK
-Carlos Vazquez-Zavala

Jesus Alonzo
Darwin Arcos
Neely Behrns
Trevor Belt
Zachary Bongers
Nicholas Carlson



Madison Craig
Jerrianne Cudaback
Tre' Daro
Maci Dion
Lili Eickmeier
Grace Farmer



Haden Forney
Jayson Fountain
Sebastian Fuller
Mya Galley
Sabastian Gillespie
Emily Glodowski



Seth Golden
Johnathan Hodyc
Emily Johnson
Hunner Juzenas
Annakah Kelley
Anastasia Kephart



Jayden Lee



IF THE SHOE

The sophomores have spoken. The most likely to...

...become a millionaire: Dylan Masek





Dylan Masek
Logan McDonald
Jack McKay
Kaidence Morlan
Lydia Ockander
Jordan Palik



Shawn Pruss
Joe Raymundo
Amber Robak
Kennen Robinson
Ashley Rodriguez Grado
Brett Romshek



Simon Schindler
Rylee Schmid
Alexus Schmoll-Sabata
Jaley Schultz
Breanna Slonecker
Brian Solis Soriano



Ethan Underwood
Madison Valish
Alesha Wallingford
Brenna Windedahl
Alysha Yellowbird Steele
Grace Znamenacek

FITS, WEAR IT!

Sophomores

...get a heart attack from watching a scary movie: Lydia Ockander





...get married first: Kaidence Morlan

...become a Tik Tok star: Grace Farmer

...marry a celebrity: Brenna Windedahl



Kordell Abel
Payton Andel
Kaitlyn Belt
Natalie Blum
Adam Coffin
Allison Coil



Maya Couch
Samantha Eaton
Olivia Egwuatu
Harley Eickmeier
James Escamilla
Christian Faz



Garrett Foster
Jaymison Fountain
Kayla Gay
Natelya Gibbs
Salea Gillespie
Tyler Graybill



Clayton Harris
Koby Harvey
Shelby Hein
Keyan Helgoth
Nancy Howlett
Jacob Ingwersen



Madison Jenson
Aiden Kluck
Jordan Kracl
David Maxwell





Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert
Nycholas McDonald-Gebert
Cavan Navrkal
Abby Nelson
Alexa Pflum
Alex Rachow



Griffyn Roberts
Rachel Roemmich
Lauren Vandenberg
Jazlyn Vazquez-Zavala
Dylan Vodicka



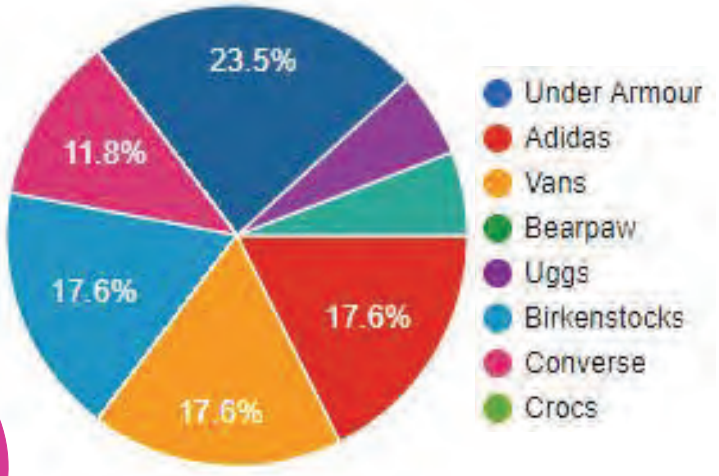
Brooke Windedahl
Ethan Zegers

ONE STEP AT A TIME

Juniors

"Buckle up. High school is a ride." -Christian Faz

Favorite Shoe Brands



"The only time I set the bar low is for the limbo." -Payton Andel

"I would like to thank my arms for always being by my side. My legs for always supporting me and finally my fingers because I could always count on them." - Shelby Hein

"You can't have a rainbow without a little bit of rain." - Natelya Gibbs

A YEAR IN THEIR SHOES

Class of 2020

Last laughs, last sports event, last test, last memories. Senior year is full of experiencing everything one last time. Although it's a sad goodbye to the good memories and good people, it's also a big step forward. It's the start of a new future and better things to come. Some members of the DCHS class of 2020 started in David City in preschool. Others didn't come until the past few years. But no matter when they came, all seniors have precious memories and valuable lessons from their time at DCHS that they will take with them as they graduate.

After a memorable fall semester, the typical senior experience took a step in an unexpected direction with a sudden global health crisis. From not getting to finish out the school year in normal conditions to not getting the traditional graduation ceremony, the class of 2020 experienced a lot to say the least. But this unanticpated upheaval did not detract from celebrating the completion of their high school careers. Rather, this experience made everyone at DCHS more appreciative of the time we have spent together and allowed the community to celebrate the senior class in new ways.

As senior Spencer Allen put it in his graduation speech, "Our class has learned to have resilience in the face of loss and recovery in the face of change. We don't have 20/20 vision for the future, but because of the difficult times we've gone through and the experience we've gained because of them, we will be able to navigate and succeed in the new normal that is our future."



On Halloween, several seniors show off their costumes in the gym. Seniors and other students also had the opportunity to dress up during homecoming week and themed days during FFA week and the last few weeks before winter break.











1. At the end of the football season, senior football players join with their classmates to commemorate the last home game.

2. During halftime at a home football game, senior Madison Hoeft guides little kids through a routine.

3. Seniors Sophia Mefford, Brittney Palik, and Skylar Busch prepare the breakfast cart in the morning for the rest of the students to enjoy.

4. Positing for a photo, seniors Brock Tiemeyer and Juan Peres jump through their leg as senior Wayne Moore stands behind with thumbs up.

5. On March 17, many of the senior class girls take a group photo before classes start. This would be their last day of face-to-face instruction in their senior year and high school career.

From the Mouth of a Senior

From a Newer Student
Yamilet Solis Soriano said:

"I transferred here last year, and I really like the school and how welcoming everyone was when I came."

Advice for Underclassmen
Bryanna Reyes said..

"Make sure you are involved in all your lasts. The last fooball game, last homecoming, and last prom because once you walk across the stage, that's the last of the last in high school."

SENIOR PORTRAITS 2020



Spencer Allen
University of Nebraska - Lincoln



Heidi Alvarado
College



Zackary Barlean
Northeast Community College



Hunter Behrns
Northeast Community College



Kirsten Bell
College



Hunter Betzen
Workforce



Kyle Blum
Workforce



Samantha Boswell
University of Nebraska - Omaha



Skylar Busch
College of St. Mary's



Brandi Craig
College



Clayton Denker
University of South Dakota



Ethan Dietrich
Wayne State College



Anton Grapevine
Workforce



Darin Hall
Workforce



Madison Hoeft
Northeast Community College



Isiah Howlett
Workforce



Neleigh Kovar
Northeast Community College



Dalton Krause
Workforce



Jaymee Lee
Northeast Community College



Ashlee Marvin
Wayne State College



Madison Masek
Northeast Community College



Austin Mastera
Omaha Metropolitan Community College



Bryanna McAuley
Central Community College



Hunter McDonald
Workforce



Sophia Mefford
Southeast Community College



Ivy Joe Miller
Central Community College



Wayne Moore
Concordia University



Vivian Palencia
College



Brittney Palik
Wayne State College



Riley Paseka
College



Juan Peres Saurina
College



Gunner Poulas
College



Bryanna Reyes
College



Chase Romshek
Central Community College



Anthony Scribner
Wayne State College



Trista Slonecker
Northeast Community College



Yamilet Solis Soriano
Workforce



Madison Soukup
Wayne State College



Miranda Stearns
Northeast Community College



Kaden Stenzel
National Guard



Brock Tiemeyer
Southeast Community College



Jacson Valentine
Central Community College



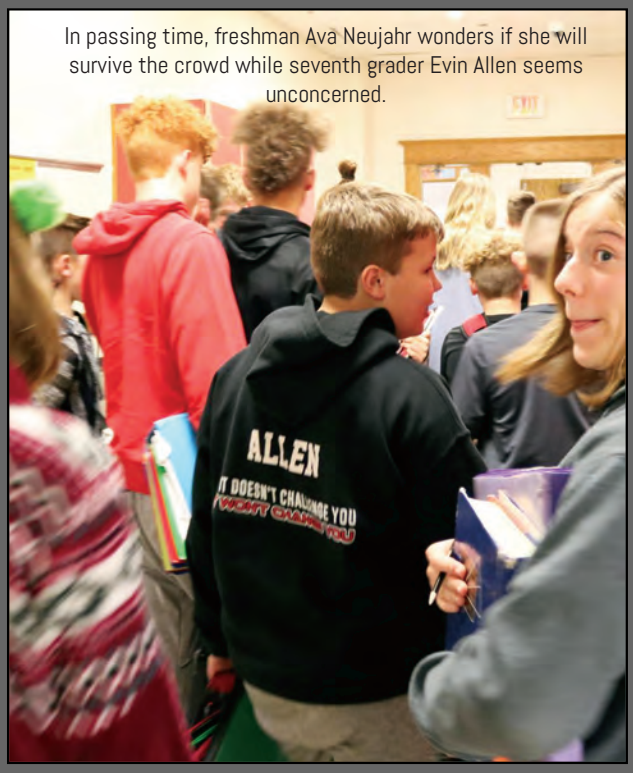
Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro
University of South Dakota



Amber Voboril
Wayne State College

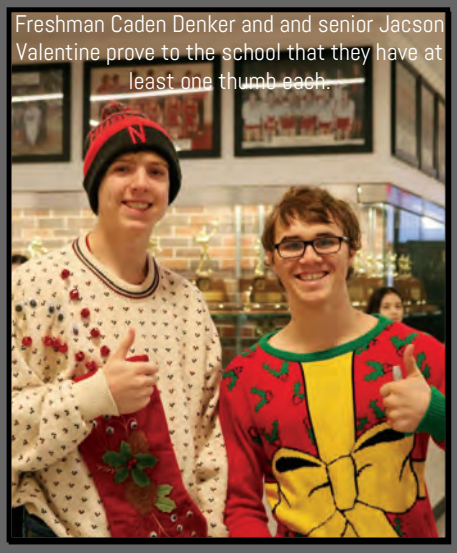
RUN INTO SCOUT LIFE

Student life



In passing time, freshman Ava Neujahr wonders if she will survive the crowd while seventh grader Evin Allen seems unconcerned.

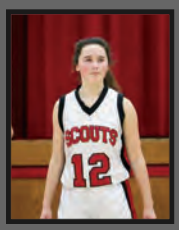




Freshman Caden Denker and and senior Jacson Valentine prove to the school that they have at least one thumb each.



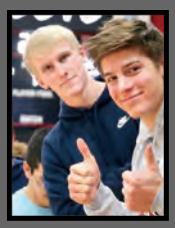
Seniors Spencer Allen, Neleigh Kovar and Ashlee Marvin show how to rock "Old Timers Tuesday" during homecoming week.



Watching the action closely, freshman Kaydense Hansen waits to be passed the ball at a home basketball game.



In the weight room, senior Austin Mastera gets video instructions from Mr. Brandon Sobota.



Seniors Hunter Behrns and Clayton Denker give a confident thumbs up. All is well at David City High!



On Pink Out Night, a very large flamingo was spotted cheering on the Scouts!



Left: It's not all fun and games for these guys. Senior Anthony Scribner, junior Garrett Foster, sophomore Darwin Arcos, senior Chase Romshek, and sophomore Jordan Palik take esports practice seriously.

Below: Everything is A-OK with freshman Avery Couch and sophomore Grace Farmer.





Sophomore Kaidence Morlan thinks she know the answer but can't decide if she should risk raising her hand while Lydia Ocander stays hydrated with two water bottles.



In class, senior Hunter Betzen tries to ignore classmate Madison Hoeft. Senior Juan Peres watches.



Sophomores Lili Eickmeier, Lydia Ockander, and other classmates ponder their choices in the Jostens catalog.



In junior high band, eighth graders Blake Lukert and Neil Olson practice for an upcoming concert.



Proudly showing off their wrestling hardware are senior Jacson Valentine, junior Jacob Ingwersen, senior Wayne Moore, and junior Dylan Vodicka.



Senior Brittney Palik cheers on the Scouts!

WALKING ACROSS THE BOARD

Homecoming

Homecoming in a Nutshell

Homecoming 2019. On Friday, October fourth the kickoff pep rally was filled with the exciting news of the theme being "Scouts Got Game." Dress up days and the homecoming candidates were announced. This year's homecoming candidates were Spencer Allen, Kirsten Bell, Skylar Busch, Clayton Denker, Ethan Dietrich, Neleigh Kovar, Sophia Mefford, Wayne Moore, Jacson Valentine, and Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro. The following Sunday, the school hosted the anual homecoming kick-off bonfire. Some of the activives included the cheerleaders dancing, coaches speaking about their seasons, and many games.

Homecoming week was kicked off in style by wearing pajamas on Monday, dressing up as an old timer on Tuesday, dressing as a twin on Wednesday, wearing nerd attire on Thursday, and of course wearing Scout colors on Friday! As the homecoming game followed, the football team played Twin River and won 42-18. After the game, all the candidates stood on the track in the freezing weather waiting for coronation. The 2019-2020 homecoming king and queen were Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro and Jacson Valentine. To end the night, everyone headed to the homecoming dance to enjoy great music, make unforgettable memories, and have fantastic food.



1.


6.


7.

6. Near the end of school on homecoming day, the band plays the school song as the pep-rally comes to an end.

7. DCHS students are filled with joy during the homecoming day pep rally. The students would later enjoy the game and dance. Senior Heidi Alvarado said that this homecoming was "by far the best because of the music and the amazing burgers!"



1.In the homecoming kick off pep rally, students show their excitement for homecoming as they continue the DCHS tradition of sharing good and bad examples of homecoming dress up day attire.
2. Homecoming canidates Skylar Busch and Spencer Allen guess the other canidates' names with English teacher Jarod Ockander as they wear mouth guards.
3. Cheering in the kick off homecoming pep rally, sophmores Brenna Windedahl, Breanna Slonecker, and Jaley Schultz show their Scout pride.
4. All the students who dressed up for "nerd day" on Thursday show off their costumes.
5. Showing off the proper way to dress for pajama day are juniors Brooke Windedahl and Clayton Harris partnered with seniors Brittney Palik and Austin Mastera.



2.



3.



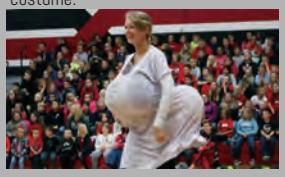
4.



5.

Dress Up Winners!

Below: Senior Neleigh Kovar struts across the gym during the Friday pep-rally showing off her amazing "old timer" costume.



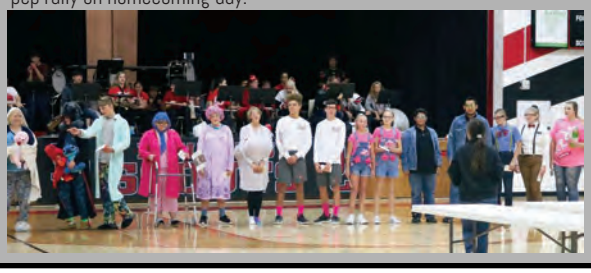
Wednesday - Twin Day
1st: Darwin Arcos & Jonathan Sosa Palencia
2nd: Lexi Forney & Jaiden Ray
3rd: Tre Daro & Jack McKay

Monday - Pajama Day
1st: Spencer Allen
2nd: Neil Olson
3rd: Hailie Fuller

Tuesday - Old Timer
1st: Neleigh Kovar
2nd: Parker Robinson
3rd: Madison Jenson

Thursday - Nerd Day
1st: Jaymee Lee
2nd: Cassandra Maxwell
3rd: Zach Bongers

Below: All the dress up day winners line up to collet their prizes at the pep rally on homecoming day.



SCOUTS GOT GAME

Homecoming



1.

Homecoming Day Pep Rally: Homecoming Candidates


2.



3.



4.



5.

1. Seniors Clayton Denker and Kirsten Bell run around the gym spraying silly string to get everyone pumped for the night's football game.

2. Holding up their posters showing off different board games, seniors Ethan Dietrich and Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro enter the gym as homecoming candidates start to be introduced.

3. Giving senior Neleigh Kovar a piggyback ride, senior Jacson Valentine holds up their candidate poster.

4. With the great "Candyland" poster, seniors Spencer Allen and Skylar Bush smile as they walk into the gym.

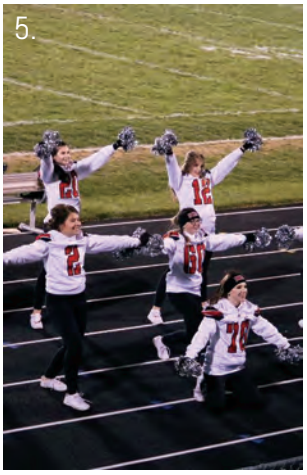
5. Seniors Sophia Mefford and Wayne Moore enter the gym smiling with excitement to be homecoming 2019 candidates.















1. The football team forms a huddle during the homecoming game against Twin River on Friday night.

2. Freshman Emily Ewert helps classmate Hayleigh Larsen with her hair at the homecoming dance.

3. After the homecoming game, seniors Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro and Jacson Valentine show off their crowns on the track as the new homecoming king and queen.

4. Celebrating being homecoming canidates, Kirsten Bell and Clayton Denker play the "mouth guard" game at a pep rally.

5. The cheerleaders finish a cheer to pump up the crowd during the homecoming football game.

6. At the beginning of homecoming week, the homecoming candidates line up outside before school starts to take a picture.

7. David City and Twin River go head to head on homecoming night. The Scouts come out with the win.



Above: After the football game, the homecoming court is recognized and the king and queen, Jacson Valentine and Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, are crowned.

STEPPING INTO 2020

Pep Rallies, Activites and Assemblies

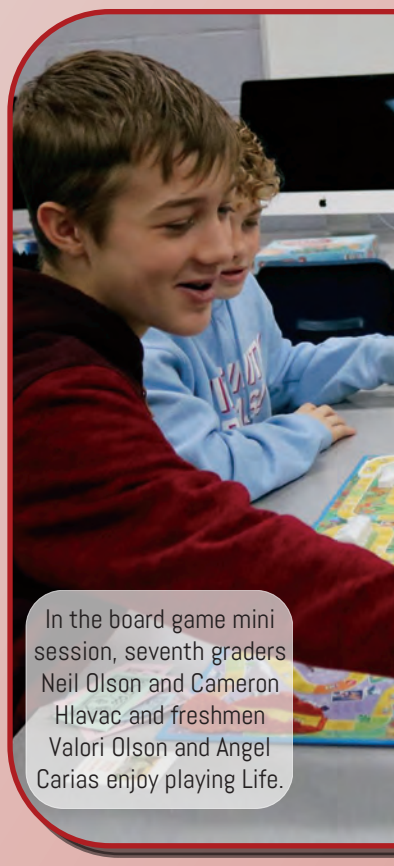
The last day of school before winter break allowed students to attend mini sessions led by teachers. They were able to pick from an assortment of topics. Just a few that were offered were hunting, canning, origami, and board games.



Above: DCHS students watch Principal Cortney Couch speak at the first assembly of the school year.



Right: Junior and senior high students dance in the dance room in a mini session before winter break.



In the board game mini session, seventh graders Neil Olson and Cameron Hlavac and freshmen Valori Olson and Angel Carias enjoy playing Life.



Above: On Veterans Day, eighth grader Tristan Schmit speaks to the assembly. Each year social studies teacher Lisa Bales works with her eighth grade students to prepare a video and present it at the Veterans Day program.

You've heard of Christmas in July, but how about Christmas in October? Hallmark Cards, Inc., owner of the Hallmark Channel, hosted a special event on October 30, 2019 in honor of thier founder J.C. Hall, who was born in David City. Thousands of people from all over flooded into town for music, hot cocoa, and lots of Christmas cheer!









Left: On the first day of the school year, senior Jacson Valentine, senior Spencer Allen, sophomore Ethan Zegers, and senior Zack Barlean are all smiles before the beginning of school assembly.





Above: Timpte, one of the biggest employers in David City has provided a new program for high school students to gain real world experience. They allow students 18 and older to leave school early to work for them. They even pay them! This year, senior Kyle Blum, junior Tyler Graybill, and senior Dalton Krause were officially signed into Timpte's apprenticeship program.



Hallmark brought a whole assortment of attractions for all ages. There was a tree lighting ceremony and even a live camel by a manger scene!

CLOSED

Unexpected Steps: The COVID-19 Global Pandemic

WHAT IS COVID-19?

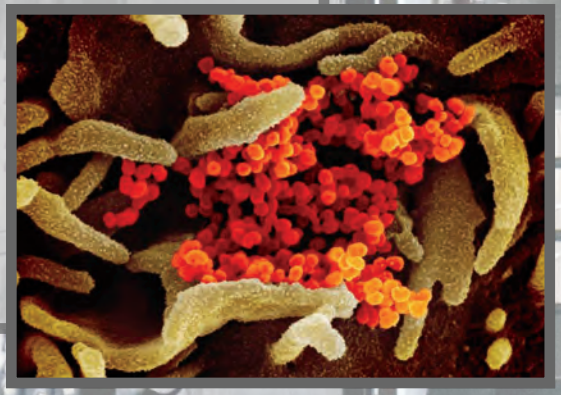
COVID-19 (coronavirus disease identified in 2019) is the name of the disease caused by a novel coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, China in late 2019.

- It is spread person to person when you come in contact with the respiratory droplets of an infected person.

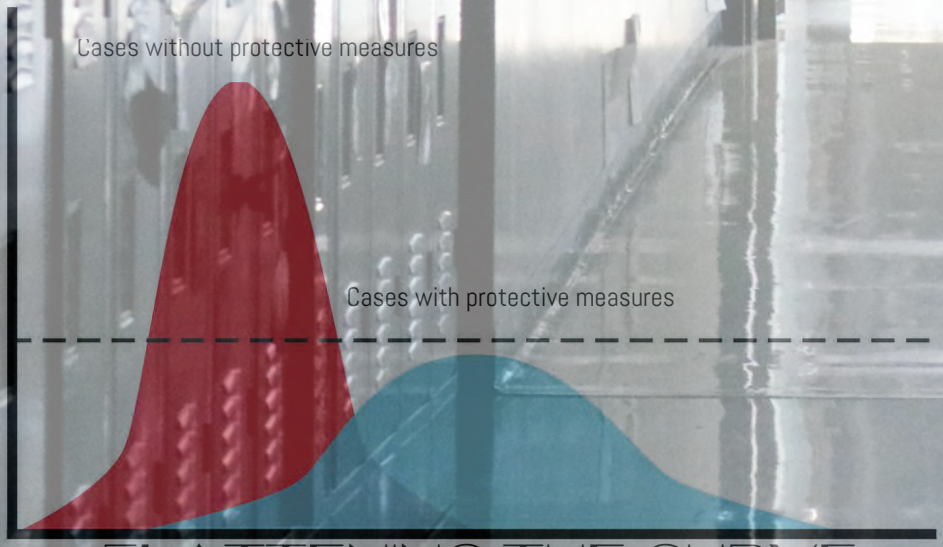
- COVID-19 can cause a variety of symptoms. Common symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, and muscle pain, but more continue to be found as this is a new disease. Symptoms can be so mild that people don't know they have the virus, and they can also be severe, causing hospitalization and death.

- Because this is a new virus, humans have no immunity to it, and there is no vaccine to protect us from it.

- Everyone is at risk for COVID-19, but the elderly, those who are immunocompromised, and those with other pre-existing medical conditions are more at risk.



"The graduates of the class of 2020 have achieved historical immortality. There will never be a time that people won't talk about this year without talking about how COVID-19 shut us all down. No school. No sports. No social contact. No normal."
- Principal Cortney Couch



FLATTENING THE CURVE

SOCIAL DISTANCING & STAYING SAFE

In order to "flatten the curve," meaning to make lifestyle changes to reduce the rate of infection, people across the globe started practicing social distancing. This meant limiting person-to-person contact. Non-essential businesses closed or had employees work from home. Schools started teaching remotely. Places of worship were closed and streamed services online. Several states issued stay-at-home orders. Here in Nebraska, we were encouraged to follow the CDC's social distancing guidelines including staying six feet apart from other people, avoiding crowded areas, and wearing face masks when out in public.

SARS-CoV-2 images courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

COVID-19 TIMELINE

"We are living in a historic time, and watching everything unfold is like watching a movie... It's hard seeing stories of people young and old getting sick and losing."
- Teacher Lisa Bales

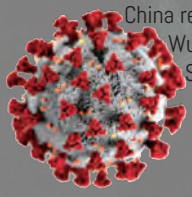
TOILET PAPER SHORTAGE



Across the country, coronavirus fears led to items flying off the shelves. Some were understandable, like hand sanitzer and cleaning supplies. But one item left people scratching their heads. Toilet paper. By early March, stores in David City, like Dale's Food Pride pictured above, joined businesses nationwide and across the globe that struggled to keep up with demand.

"I was very worried as a senior. I immediately starting thinking about prom and graduation and my activities."
- Senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro

Dec. 31, 2019



China reports a cluster of a phenomena in Wuhan, part of the Hubei province. Seven days later it is classified as a new coronavirus.

Jan. 13, 2020

China publicly shares the genetic sequence of the new virus.



Jan. 21, 2020

The first U.S. confirmed case of the novel coronavirus is identified in Washington. Nine days later, the new virus is declared a global health emergency by the World Health Organization.

Feb. 11, 2020

The novel coronavirus is officially named severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, SARS-CoV-2. The disease it causes is named COVID-19.

Feb. 26, 2020

Brazil reports its first case of COVID-19. By the end of February, the novel coronavirus has been found in all continents but Antarctica. China, Italy, and Iran are hit particularly hard.

March 6, 2020

Governor Pete Ricketts announces Nebraska's first confirmed case of COVID-19, an Omaha woman who had recently been out of the country.

March 7, 2020

News of a possible exposure at a Special Olympics event in nearby Fremont worries David City residents.



March 11, 2020

The World Health Organization classifies the novel coronavirus as a pandemic. Nebraska reports its tenth case. The NSAA closes the high school boys basketball tournament to everyone but immediate family members and coaches. Nationally, there are over 500 confirmed cases of COVID-19.

March 13, 2020

Governor Pete Ricketts declares a state of emergency, joining many state governors who have already done so. President Trump officially declares a national emergency.

March 16, 2020

Governor Pete Ricketts limits gatherings to no more than 10 people. U.S. COVID-19 cases top 3,000. The NSAA suspends all practices.

March 17, 2020

David City Public Schools holds the last day of school physically in the building.

March 25, 2020

Online classes begin at DCHS. Over 50,000 COVID-19 cases are confirmed in the U.S.

April 2, 2020

Following the directed health measure sent out by Governor Ricketts one day ago, DCPS announces school will remain online for the rest of the academic year.

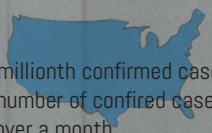
April 17, 2020

Butler County's first confirmed case of COVID-19 is reported. Nebraska reports over 1,100 cases.

April 21, 2020

Over 200 COVID-19 cases are tied to a meat packing plant in Grand Island. Possible food shortages due to COVID-related food supply chain issues make the national news.

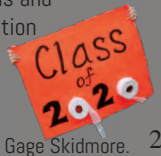
April 28, 2020



The U.S. records its millionth confirmed case. It has had the largest number of confired cases in a single country for over a month.

May 16, 2020

DCHS hosts a graduation parade and streams an online graduation ceremony. Across the country, high schools and colleges are postponing graduation ceremonies or finding new ways to celebrate their seniors.



*All COVID-19 information is current at the time of this yearbook's publication in June 2020.

Pete Ricketts image courtesy of Gage Skidmore.

STEPS IN A

Teachers: What online resources are you using for your classes?

"Teambuildr.com has been huge in allowing us to continue putting out workouts to a large number of students without any issues."
- Strength and Conditioning Teacher Travis Worm

"Google Classroom, Loom, IXL, and email for students to ask questions."
- Math Teacher Sam Schlautman

"I've been learning how to use tools like Flipgrid, EdPuzzle, Screencastify, and Zoom, while becoming more familiar with Classroom and Google Forms."
- Spanish Teacher Teri Messerer

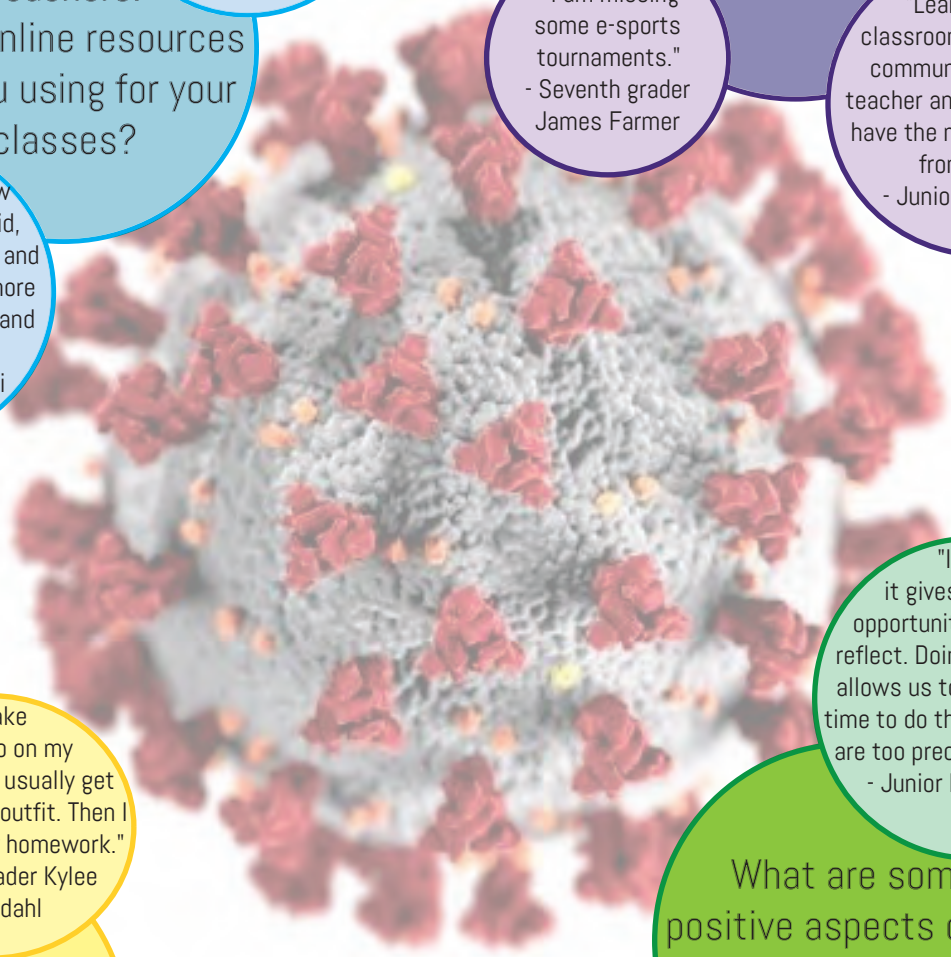
How has the coronavirus pandemic affected you?

"I miss friends and the teachers. I wasn't ready to stop going to school that soon. I thought I had eight weeks left."
- Senior Amber Voboril

"Not being able just to get up and go somewhere or hang out with friends."
- Senior Miranda Stearns

"I am missing some e-sports tournaments."
- Seventh grader James Farmer

"Learning in the classroom it is easier to communicate with the teacher and learn when you have the materials right in front of you."
- Junior Maya Couch



What is your daily routine like?

"I wake up and go on my phone. Then I usually get ready with my outfit. Then I eat and do my homework."
-Eighth grader Kylee Windedahl

"If I am working, I work from 6 am - 2 pm. I will take a nap after work and then do homework. But if I'm not working, I wake up around 10 am and start working on my homework."
- Senior Madison Hoeft

What are some positive aspects of not having normal school?

"I think it gives us a good opportunity to relax and reflect. Doing school online allows us to learn and take time to do things we normally are too preoccupied to do."
- Junior Payton Andel

"I can make my own schedule and eat whenever I want."
- Sophomore Grace Znamenacek

"We are starting to become more and more thankful for the little things in life."
- Social Studies Teacher Dillon Nerud

 SARS-CoV2 image courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

NEW DIRECTION

Distance Learning During a Global Pandemic

A Week of Distance Learning

The school week ran Wednesday through Tuesday.

On Mondays, parents and guardians could pick up a school week's worth of breakfasts and lunches for their students.

Students typically had 1-2 assignments per week per class.

Teachers and students used a variety of online tools to continue learning. Students watched live classes, videos of their teachers teaching, and more. Teachers were available for help 8 am - 4 pm Monday through Friday.

In school, students and staff are used to change. From assemblies to snowstorms to fire drills, we regularly adapt when faced with interruptions and challenges. It's what we do. But nothing could have prepared schools for a global health crisis. After the emergence of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV2), schools across the globe started to shut down. David City followed suit with our last day of face to face instruction on March 17, 2020. Teachers spent a week preparing to teach online, and distance learning began.

Teaching and learning online brought a hefty set of challenges. Most teachers used Google Classroom and other Google apps paired with online tools to deliver instruction. They learned how to use new technologies that best suited their subject area. Even though they were unexpectedly thrust into this situation, DCHS teachers found elearning challenging, strange, but also rewarding.

"We have to go in for meetings on Tuesdays, and it's crazy to see all of the lockers open with nobody in the hallways. It's also weird recording videos of lectures with me being the only one in the room" said social studies teacher Tom VanWinkle.

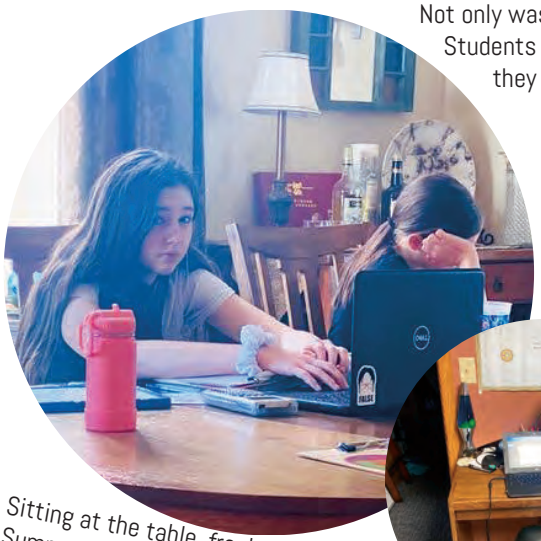
"I really miss my students! I miss seeing them every day... an empty classroom is not the same. I miss the smiles and energy that my students brought every day to my room!" added business teacher Jenna Didier.

On the student end of things, there was a different set of challenges. Many teachers assigned all homework for the school week on Wednesday, so some students found this overwhelming. Trying to balance online school, family responsibilities, work, and other activities was an ongoing process. Others just struggled without the support of a teacher being physically there to assist them.

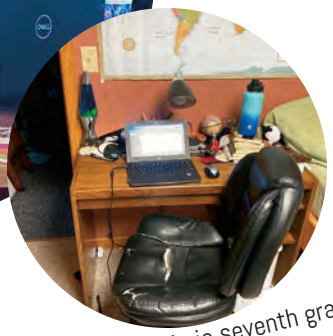
Personal struggles of students? "I did not expect to lose motivation so quickly," shared seventh grader Stanley Allen.

"Trying to stay organized and keep myself focused. I get distracted very easily," said sophomore Maci Dion.

Not only was this experience a challenge, it was an opportunity for growth and learning. Students and staff learned they are capable of much more than they previously thought they were. After all, necessity is the mother of invention.

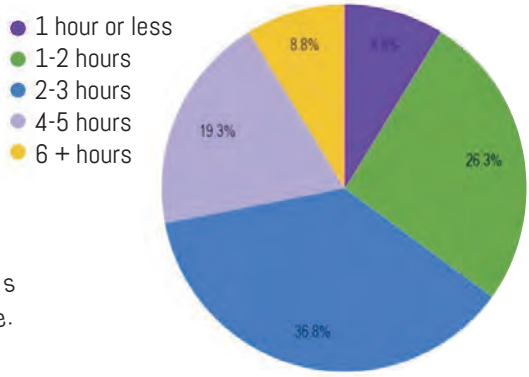


Sitting at the table, freshman Natalie Summers works on her homework.



This is seventh grader Neil Olson's work space while stuck at home.

DCHS Students Share: How much time do you spend on homework per day?



TAKING NO STEPS

Social Distancing and Staying Home During a Pandemic



Imagine that you were suddenly told you would have seven weeks of school to spend at home. What would you do in your time not spent on homework, work, or household duties? This is the question faced by DCHS students and staff when our school followed a directed health measure issued by Governor Pete Ricketts. DCHS closed person-to-person schooling for the remainder of the school year.

Students relied heavily on social media to communicate with their friends. Snapchat was the most popular social media used by DCHS students, followed closely by TikTok.

"I'm on TikTok and Snapchat almost all day," said seventh grader Alexis Harris when recounting part of her daily life at home.

Most students spent several hours a day, some over six hours a day, on social media to stay connected while stuck at home. The rise of new apps like Houseparty allowed for easier access to group video chats.

Twenty seven percent of DCHS students started a new hobby while stuck at home. Others worked to develop abilities and talents they already had.

"Workouts like bike riding, running, flipping tires, sprinting by pulling a tire, and using 80's weights,"are how sophomore Zach Bongers described spending his free time.

"When I have spurts of motivation and I have no work to do, I tend to clean. I've been trying to train one of my dogs, I watch tv, and listen to music," said freshman Ava Schlotfeld.

It wasn't easy physically distancing ourselves from one another for months, but we made it through, step by step. We've learned that we have to change, grow, and develop to floruish, and the only way we can do that is together.

New Hobbies & Other Activities at Home



New Hobbies
"Making bread, drawing, and crocheting."
- Freshman Savannah Gregory



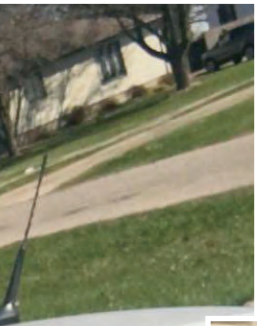
New Hobby & Activities
"I got chickens and have been taking care of them! Also, I got a softball net to practice more in softball."
- Freshman Emily Ewert



Activities to Stay Busy
"Fishing, shooting hoops, playing with dogs, and being on the trampoline."
- Eighth grader Keaton Kloke



Activity to Stay Busy
"Landscaping"
- Seventh grader Grant Arps



Left: When seventh grader Sam Smith set out on his bicycle in town, the last thing he thought he'd see was former Nebraska inside linebacker Mohamed "Mo" Berry. Here Smith snaps a photo with the football player.

Below: On her porch, English teacher Sarah Oltjenbruns displays her new quarantine project, gardening in pots.



Unexpected Challenges



"I didn't get to have my dance recital. It broke my dance family's heart because we have worked so hard for so many months for that performance and didn't get to have it."
- Sophomore Breanna Slonecker



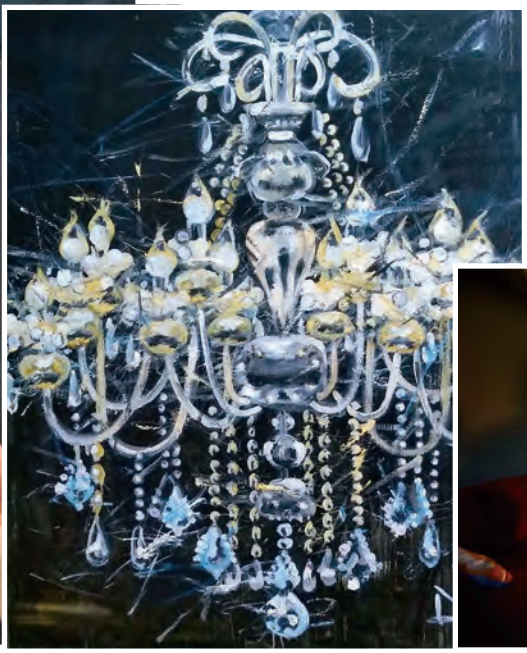
"I didn't expect to be so bored. I thought that I would find something to do at least, but it's harder than it looks."
- Seventh grader Meagan Jahde



"My brother turning on the heater saying he is cold when it is 80 degrees out"
- Senior Anthony Scribner



"I never expected the huge mental block that comes with working from home. I found that at some points, I would just look at my computer screen, not doing any work."
- Junior Maya Couch





Middle left: In her time at home not teaching, art teacher Diane Noonan continues to put her artistic talents to work. One of her most recent paintings is still untitled.

Left: Sophomore Natalie Summers has fun roasting marshmallows for s'mores with her family. Her family also spent time during quarantine going fishing and playing cards as a family.



Having fun with sidewalk chalk, eighth grader Kaitlyn Palik and her younger brother Kai bond outside.

What were the most popular Netflix shows at DCHS in quarantine?

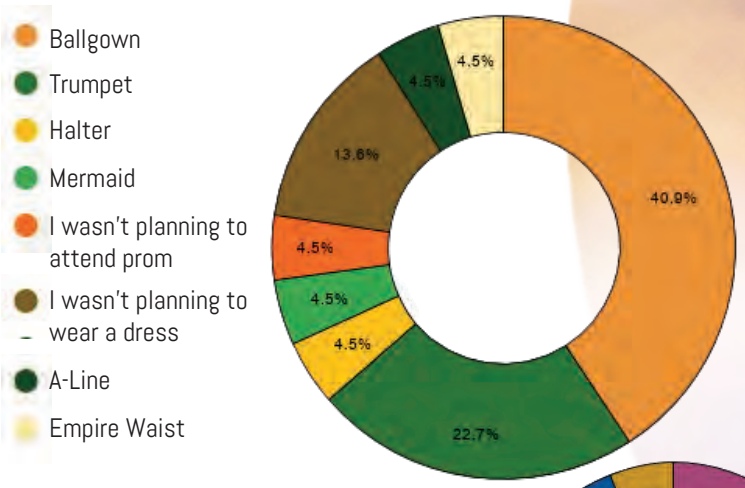
Outer Banks
All American
Tiger King
The Office
Criminal Minds
Supernatural
Grey's Anatomy
Glee
The Ranch
The Midnight Gospel

CHANGING OUR PACE

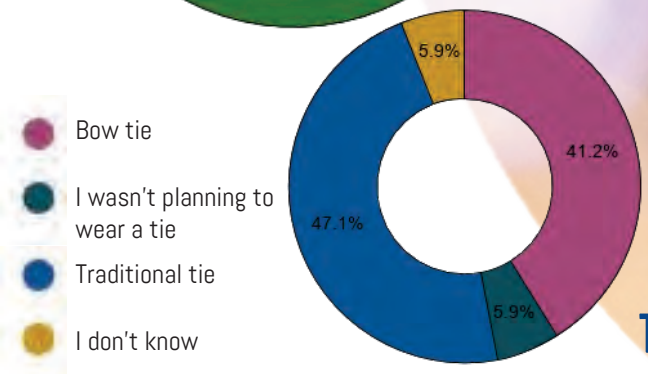
Prom 2020

Prom 2020 was certainly one to remember. Although COVID-19 prohibited the traditional prom that most students are used to, DCHS students were still able to come up with creative ideas to celebrate in small groups. Seniors and junior put their prom gear to use by getting dressed up and taking pictures with their dates and friends at home. Many shared these pictues on different social media platforms for all family and friends to enjoy. Some students chose to host their own personal prom and decorated a specific room with lights and music. Some even took part in various online proms hosted by celebrities across the country. No matter how prom was celebrated, it's certain that this prom is one for the record books.

Dress Silhouette



DCHS Students Respond: If you were able to go to prom, what would you wear?

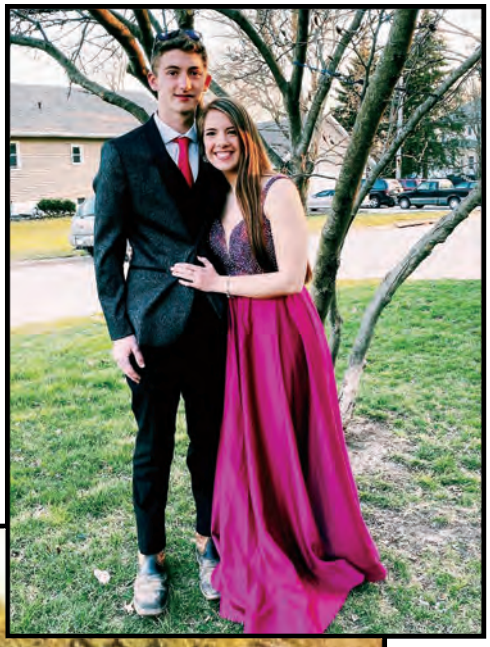


Tie Type

"We celebrated by setting up my garage with lights and having chicken alfredo and raspberry cupcakes for dessert. We ended the night with a campfire."
- Senior Kirsten Bell



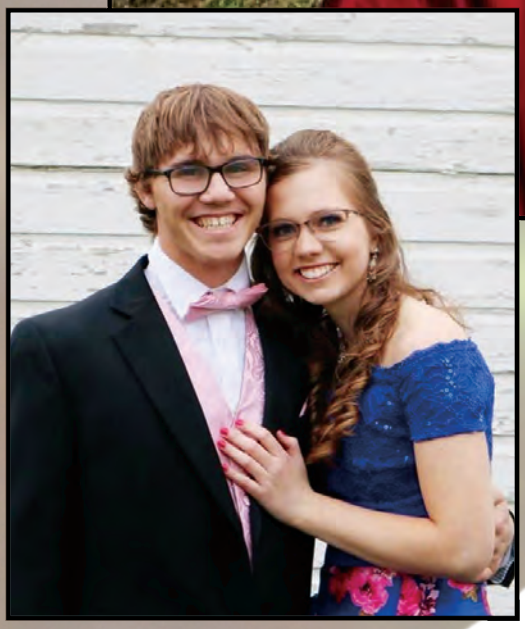
Left: Posing with her dog Daisy in front of the pond at the David City park and golf course, senior Brittney Palik shows off her prom attire.



Right: Madison Hoeft, a senior, models her prom dress with her date.



Showing off their face masks and prom dresses, juniors Shelby Hein and Payton Andel enjoy a nice night at the David City park and golf course.



Left: Seniors Jacson Valentine and KIrsten Bell spent their last prom with each other and even put togther a party room to celebrate.

Right: On the railroad tracks, senior Sophia Mefford poses in a lilac ballgown with her prom date.



STEPPING INTO THE ADULT WORLD

Graduation 2020

Graduation. A day to look back at where you've been, to look at where you are now, and to look forward to the future. It may seem almost impossible to celebrate the end of your high school academic career in a global pandemic, but DCHS seniors celebrated with style.

Seniors took part in a virtual graduation ceremony that was streamed online for family and friends to see. After the virtual graduation ceremony, a parade around town was held with a fire truck and sherrif's vehicle leading the way. At the conclusion of the parade, students received their diplomas through their car windows. Having a less-than-traditional graduation ceremony didn't take away from the chance to look back.

"Personally, I think one of our greatest achievements dates back to our elementary years. Never have I seen a class so talented as to get every single thing we did at recess banned at some point or another. Football, basketball, dodgeball, kickball, variations of tag, four square, yes, and even tetherball," joked Wayne Moore in his graduation speech.

But the seniors are also looking at their lives now and the future. "We see beyond the borders that have closed and beyond the political debates about what the future holds. Our class was born around the time of 9/11, and we're graduating during a worldwide pandemic.... We are strong, and we will survive," said Amber Voboril in her graduation speech.

Above all else, DCHS seniors graduate knowing they have ended this chapter of their lives with an exciting new chapter ahead. As Voboril said in her speech, "The next chapter of our lives is our future, and I'm certain that it will be bright even in these times of uncertainty."

Graduation Parade

After the graduation video was streamed online, many well-wishers lined the streets around David City to cheer on the graduating seniors.





Above: Heidi Alvarado poses by balloons, one of four backgrounds, that was used in order to make the 2020 virtual graduation video.



Above: In lieu of a normal flower given at a traditional graduation ceremony, Jacson Valentine gives his mom a balloon flower after getting his graduation video photos taken.



Above: Standing in front of several cameras, Darin Hall poses with his diploma. All seniors came to school individually to have many photos and a video taken. These were later put together in a virtual graduation video.



Above: Jaymee Lee and Vice Principal Robyn Warner snap a photo together after Lee completes her photos for the virtual graduation ceremony.



Above: Preparing for a green screen photo, Samantha Boswell waits for Adam Ebekka to take her picture for the virtual graduation ceremony.



Congratulations to the DCHS Class of 2020

Back Row: Gunner Poulas, Anton Grapevine, Spencer Allen, Kaden Stenzel, Brock Tiemeyer, Hunter Behrns, & Madison Masek. Fourth Row: Clayton Denker, Austin Mastera, Madison Soukup, Jaymee Lee, Juan Peres, Riley Paseca, Kyle Blum, & Kirsten Bell. Third Row: Anthony Scribner, Ethan Dietrich, Darin Hall, Chase Romshek. Hunter Betzen, Hunter McDonald, Brandi Craig, Bryanna McAuley, & Miranda Stearns. Second Row: Wayne Moore, Amber Voboril, Jacson Valentine, Dalton Krause, Isiah Howlett, Zack Barlean, Madison Hoeft, Skylar Busch, Brittney Palik, & Vivian Palencia. First Row: Neleigh Kovar, Trista Slonecker, Ashlee Marvin, Samantha Boswell, Byanna Reyes, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Heidi Alvarado, Sophia Mefford, Ivy Joe Miller, & Yamilet Solis Soriano.

Right: Juan Peres, Ethan Dietrich, Jaymee Lee, Ashlee Marvin, and classmates visit after the parade.



Below: Dr. Chad Denker hands his son Clayton Denker his diploma.



Below: All smiles, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro receives her diploma from Principal Cortney Couch and Vice Principal Robyn Warner.

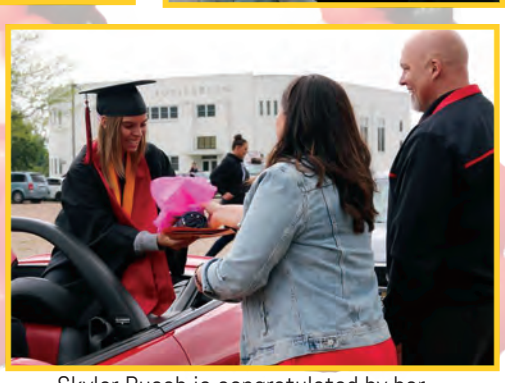




Sporting a decked out vehicle, Bryanna McAuley makes her way through the parade.



Heidi Alvarado grins with her tongue-in-cheek bedazzled graduation cap.



Skylar Busch is congratulated by her principals as she graduates high school.

RUNNING TO COMPETE

Sports




Football


Girls Basketball


Cross Country

Angel Carias, Braxton Small, Clayton Harris, Jacson Valentine, Dalton Kraus, Ava Schlotfeld, Ashley Villalba Pena, Ava Neujahr, and Courtlyn Keeling


DCHS softball players Miranda Stearns, Neleigh Kovar, and Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro

Softball



Boys Basketball



Volleyball



Spencer Allen

Wrestling



Junior Maya Couch, seniors Miranda Stearns, Sophia Mefford, Madison Masek, Ashlee Marvin, and Vivian Palencia, sophomore Kayla Gay, and freshman Katie Pflum enjoy a home football game.



Natalie Blum

Dance



Brittney Palik, Brenna Windedahl, Grace Farmer, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Brooke Windedahl, Grace Znamenacek, and Breanna Slonecker

Cheerleading

RUNNING THE FIELD

Football

2019-2020



The Scouts prepare for kickoff against Stanton in the first game of the season. David City defeated the Mustangs 19-12.



Preparing for introductions, the Scouts line up for their pre-game "Tunnel Walk."



At a home football game, head coach Robert Evans surveys the field while assistant coaches Travis Worm and Dillon Nerud have a discussion behind him.



Top Row L-R: Coach Trevor Krenk, Head Coach Robert Evans, Dylan Vodicka, Spencer Allen, James Escamilla, Gunner Poulas, Nicholas Carlson, Caden Denker, Clayton Denker, Seth Golden, Juan Peres, Coach Chris Bode, and Coach Trey Frey.
Middle Row L-R: Coach Dillon Nerud, Jake Ingwersen, Ethan Dietrich, Alex Rachow, Wayne Moore, Tre Daro, Hunter Behrns, Jack McKay, Trevor Belt, and Coach Travis Worm.
Front Row L-R: Jordan Kracl, Dylan Garretson, Harley Eickmeier, Cavan Navrkal, Chase Krafka, Collin Mills, Barrett Andel, Dominic Prothman, and Dakota Blair.



The Scouts line up in an I-Formation on the line, attempting to score the touchdown.

Honors

All-District: Wayne Moore, Clayton Denker, Dylan Vodicka, and James Escamilla
Honorable Mention All-District: Spencer Allen, Hunter Behrns, and Harley Eickmeier
Lincoln Journal Star Academic All-Star Athletes: Spencer Allen, Clayton Denker, Wayne Moore, and Dylan Vodicka

Scout Pride

Take a positive attitude, mix it with some hard work, and you have the 2019 Scouts football team. The Scouts had high expectations coming into the season. The biggest change in David City football this year was new head coach Robert Evans. The Scouts started strong by winning their first three games against Stanton, Syracuse, and Conestoga. But they faced tough competition against top-rated teams throughout the regular season, later competing in the toughest C-2 district in the state. Despite these challenges, the team never gave up.

"I was impressed and encouraged with my student-athletes' ability to be resilient. While we dealt with lots of adversity, our young men continued to be positive and worked to get better every day," said Coach Evans.

The Scouts ended the regular season in a heartbreaking loss to the #5 rated C-2 team North Bend. But the hardworking Scouts are already looking ahead to next year. For future success in Scout football, Coach Evans believes underclassmen will need to commit themselves to the weight room and become three-sport athletes. The summer weight room opened on June 1, and upcoming Scouts are already at work for next year.





1. Hearing the roar of the ecstatic crowd, senior Hunter Behrns runs the football in for a touchdown.

2. The Scouts prepare for the game to start after completing warm ups.



Right: Showing off their bright colors for the neon game, sophomores Dylan Masek and Jayden Lee pose for a photo before preparing to film the game.

RUNNING THE BASES

Blue River Panthers Softball

"Sauce on them!"

This saying, one the Panthers used in the huddle before each game, meant to play your best and play hard. The Blue River Softball team is a co-oped team made of David City, Shelby-Rising City and East Butler.

The 2019 season had a lot of ups and downs. Freshman Cassidy Wieser said that through them all, the team would stay "unified and together." The team worked as one, and the girls supported one another in practices and games. It's no wonder senior Sophia Mefford's favorite softball memory was "getting to bond with teammates and picking on the coaches."

The Panthers ended their season with ten wins, a big accomplishment for the team. They also beat Lakeview for the first time in school history! Even though the team always didn't get the outcome they wanted, they still "sauced on them!"



Shelby-Rising City players Aspyn Harrison, Kira Pavlik, Cassie Ziemba, Cassandra Schonrock, and Allie Neujahr, and David City player Miranda Stearns stand in the circle before their first triangular of the season. There they ended up going 0-2.



Assistant Coach Beth Bohuslavsky cheers on the JV team from third base.



Head Coach Greg Jahde watches the team playing defense, ready to correct any mistakes.

2020 Seniors

The 2020 class has 11 seniors playing softball between the three schools. Freshman year for the 2020 seniors was the first year the schools started a co-op softball program. Co-oping the team was the best decision for the Panthers because of the lifelong friendships made.

"Seeing the growth from the seniors, since their freshman year" was Head Coach Greg Jahde's favorite memory of the seniors.

Seniors included: Miranda Stearns, Madison Masek, Sophia Mefford, Neleigh Kovar, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Abby Shoenrock, Taylor Steager, Erin Timoney, Aspyn Harrison, Morgan Jones, and Tori Ratkovec.





Before one of their home games against Wilber-Clatonia, the Panthers take a fun group picture. Blue River ended up winning 5-1.



Blue River Panthers Softball 2019

Front Row L-R: Morgan Jones, Abby Shoenrock, Neleigh Kovar, Asypn Harrison, Sophia Mefford, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Miranda Stearns, Madison Masek, Erin Timoney, and Taylor Steager.

Back Row L-R: Assistant Coach Beth Bohuslavsky, Hayleigh Larson, Emily Ewert, Elena Murray, Claudia Renninger, Natalie Martensen, Alexa Carter, Cameron Kocian, Taylor Hays, Allie Neujahr, Kira Pavlik, Sierra Rhynalds, Cassidy Wieser, Carissa Schoenrock, Cassie Ziemba, and Head Coach Greg Jahde.





Left: Seniors Neleigh Kovar and Madison Masek stand in their defensive positions waiting for the ball to be hit.

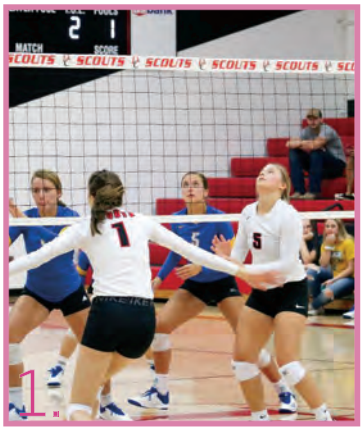


Above: East Butler senior Morgan Jones warms up David City freshman Hayleigh Larsen before the JV game v.s. DC West. Soft toss is a warm up the team does before every game.

CAN YOU DIG IT?



Volleyball



1.


2.


3.

Work hard. Play harder.

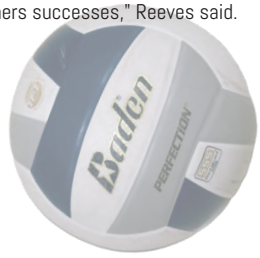
The 2019-2020 Scout volleyball team hit the court running. Each day the girls came to practice ready to work, ready to try new things, and ready to come together. Step by step, the team worked to overcome hurdles, make changes due to injuries, and hone their skills to have a successful season. During each practice, the girls started with a daily warm up. Then they cornered up and heard a quote and the emphasis of the day. Practices started with a lot of fundamentals and ended with scrimmaging.

The season was full of memorable moments on the court. For head coach Tali Reeves, it was a five set win in sub-districts. The Scouts were down 4-10 and came back to win 16-14. For some members of the team, it was the funny things that happened in practice. One day while hitting lines, a ball was rolling under the net while junior Lauren Vandenberg was hitting. She tried to use her soccer skills to stop the ball with her foot, but she stepped on it instead and wiped out.

But the memorable moments didn't stop off the court. "[A memorable moment was] when we won our first or second game of the year. It was one of our first winning streaks. There was always a speaker on the bus, so they would play music really loudly. And I mean really loudly," said freshman Avery Couch.

The Scouts made great strides forward over the season. Coach Reeves was very proud of the progress the team made in both their ability to play and their ability to support one another. "The girls showed extreme growth in their fundamentals. During practice and games you could tell the girls played for each other and celebrated each others successes," Reeves said.

As the season came to an end, the team was also proud of what they accomplished and started looking ahead to next year. With the loss of only a few graduating seniors and the advancements made this season, the future looks bright for the Lady Scouts.









New Match Records

Most Digs in a Match: Neely Behrns, 31
Most Assists in a Match: Payton Andel, 47

Favorite Memory



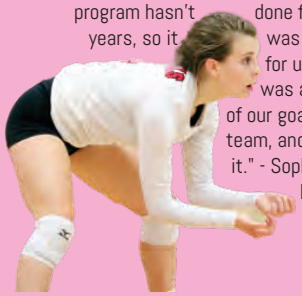
"The team getting together right before a game and doing speed walking competitions as a way to warm up for the game and bond as a team."
- Sophomore Jaley Schultz



"The time I got to spend doing what I love. Being surrounded by an amazing group of girls and having a coaching staff that wants nothing but the best for you is truly wonderful!"
- Junior Shelby Hein

Proudest Moments

"One of the things that I am most proud of is winning our first sub-district game. It was something our program hasn't done for a few years, so it was pretty big for us. This was also one of our goals as a team, and we reached it." - Sophomore Lili Eickmeier



"I got closer to everyone on the team. I made new memories."
- Sophomore Alesha Wallingford



On Oct. 28, 2019, sophomore Emily Johnson, sophomore Lili Eickmeier, junior Maya Couch, senior Madison Hoeft, and freshman Avery Couch warm up on Pink Out Night before their game against Twin River. The Scouts defeated the Titans in three sets. Junior Natalie Blum had five serving aces on the night, and junior Lauren Vandenberg had 15 digs.

1. As junior Maya Couch prepares to spike the ball, junior Payton Andel watches. Andel had a record-setting season with 616 set assists, later becoming the school record holder for assists in a career with 1,630.
2. Juniors Lauren Vandenberg and Maya Couch block the ball hit by a Saint Paul opponent. Both girls earned post season honors with Vandenberg earning Second Team SNC All-Conference with Couch recieving honorable mention.
3. Setting the ball, freshman Sidnee Busch prepares her teammates sophomore Jaley Schultz and freshman Cadence Smaus to spike it into Saint Paul's court.
Right: The 2019 DCHS Volleyball Team
Top Row L-R: Rylee Schmid, Valori Olson, Cadence Smaus, Avery Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, Maya Couch, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, and Kaidence Morlan.
Middle Row L-R: Ashley Rodriguez Grado, Carly Schmid, Madison Hoeft, Emily Glodowski, Shelby Hein, Keetyn Valentine, Payton Andel, Alesha Wallingford, Kirsten Bell, and Kaydense Hansen.
Front Row L-R: Zoe Kastl, Jaley Schultz, Mya Galley, Sidnee Busch, Samantha Krafka, Natalie Blum, and Lili Eickmeier.



RUN LIKE THE WIND

High School Cross Country

What would you do if you had 30,000 dollars a week? For the high school cross country team, instead of money, they have steps. Each week a cross country runner takes about 30,000 step just running! While the average American takes about 6,000 steps in one day, cross country runners do the same, plus another 6,000 just in running!

So why do all this running willingly? Freshman Ava Neujahr said that it's all about her teammates. "I feel like I have a lot of fun in it. It's usually something that a lot of people hate, and no one on our team even likes running, but we all do it anyway,and we all have fun doing it."

Junior Clayton Harris said that "cross country is so small that we are actually more like a little-big family." Having a strong bond with your teammates can truly make a sport season much more enjoyable than when there isn't much of a bond at all.

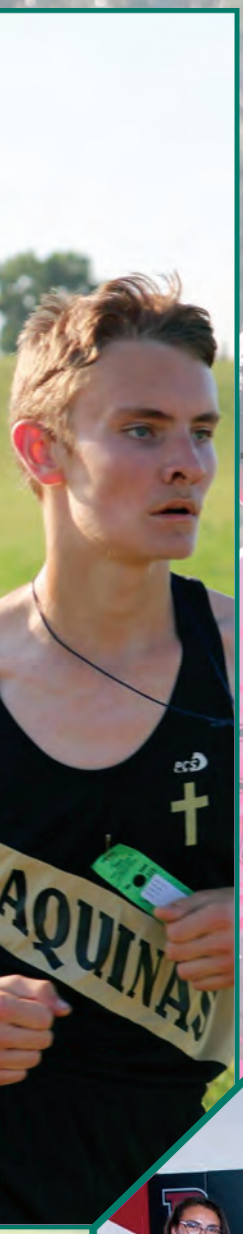
To build and keep this strong bond, a team needs to kick back and have some fun. For the cross country team, their version of fun included jamming out on bus rides, the usual chocolate milk, and baa-ing, yep, baa-ing. Harris explained that "Jacson Valentine started this chant at one meet [Scotus] and we all started "baa-ing" like sheep. The coaches got mad, but the team was all laughing." That sure is one way to pump up a team before they run! No matter what, the David City High School Cross Country team is always there to pick one another up and cheer on everyone, making it a very enjoyable sport, even if you don't feel like running 30,000 steps each week.





Right: Persevering through the heat, freshman Courtlyn Keeling nears the finish line.





Left: 22:59 is what freshman Braxton Small ran at the Scotus meet. His drive to always improve shows as he improved to a run of 22:08 at one of his later meets, the Aquinas Invite.

Below: Freshman Ava Neujahr pushes herself as she nears the end of her last lap around the cross country course.



At the Aquinas Invite at the David City Golf Course, senior Dalton Krause runs neck and neck with a Wayne opponent to get to the finish line.



Fighting her way to the top, freshman Ashley Villalba Pena runs her hardest finishing right behind her teammate, freshman Ava Schlotfeld, with a 33:26 run at the Aquinas Invite.



Junior Clayton Harris strides with pride as he starts off the Scotus meet on the right foot. Harris later finished with a run of 22:10, getting closer and closer to his goal of running below 20 minutes.





2019 Junior and Senior High Cross Country

High school members in black. Junior high members in red.

Back Row L-R: Ashley Villalba Pena, Jacson Valentine, Clayton Harris, Braxton Small, Angel Carias, and Dalton Krause.

Middle Row L-R: Neil Olson, Alex Thoendel, Ava Schlotfeld, Courtlyn Keeling, Joseph Scribner, and Hannah Gangwish.

Front Row L-R: Grant Arps, Trinity Boss, Ava Neujahr, Drew Langan, and Stanley Allen.

ONE STEP CLOSER TO SUCCESS

High School Wrestling



Junior Dylan Vodicka wrestles at NE State Duals.



Simon Schindler



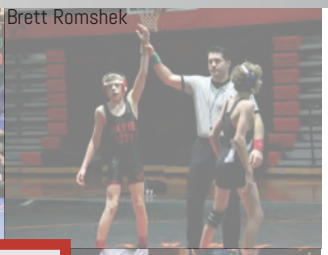
Samantha Krafka



Jacob Ingwersen



Jacson Valentine



Brett Romshek

If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you. This is a quote the wrestling team lives by. The 2019-2020 David City wrestling team aimed to outwork other wrestling programs in practice in order to achieve their goals. From time in the weight room to time on the wrestling mat, they did just that. At the end of the season, the team walked away with a successful tournament in Montana under their belt, numerous championships and individual medalists at meets, a third place at state duals, and a first place state title. But it wasn't just the physical work that made the team successful. It was also the mental work and the support of one another.

"We are all very close and get along very well. We build each other up and push each other to do their best," said senior Jacson Valentine.

Head coach Tahner Thiem was pleased with more than the success of his team. They overcame adversity as they battled injuries and a challenging schedule all season. "I was proud of the coachability of the team this year... they were serious when they needed to be and had fun at appropriate times."

With the fun memories and new experiences, it's no wonder the 2019-2020 wrestling season is one to remember.

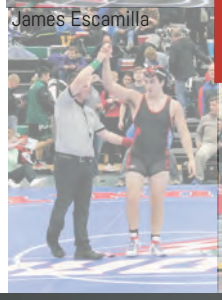




Barrett Andel



Zack Barlean



James Escamilla



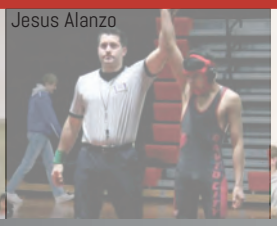
Tre Daro



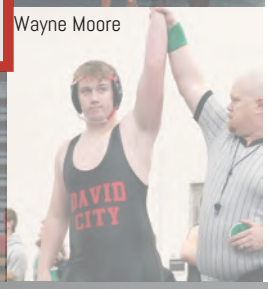
Zachary Bongers



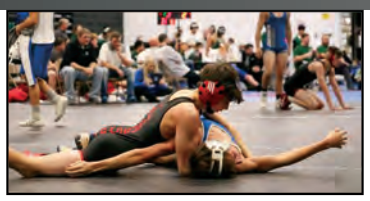
Clayton Harris



Jesus Alanzo



Wayne Moore

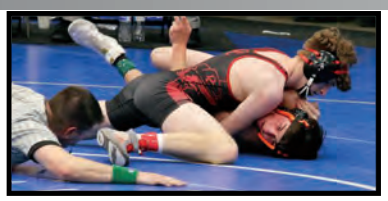


On day two of NE Duals, sophomore Simon Schindler works to pin his opponent.



The 2019-2020 Scouts Wrestling Team

Back Row L-R: Student Manager Madison Masek, Jacob Inwersen, Wayne Moore, James Escamilla, Tre Daro, Dylan Vodicka, Spencer Allen, Clayton Harris, and student manager Ivy Joe Miller. Middle Row L-R: Simon Schindler, Ethan Underwood, Ethan Zegers, Carlos Vazquez-Zavala, Harley Eickmeier, Chase Krafka, Zackary Barlean, and student managers Savannah Gregory and Heidi Alvarado. Front Row L-R: Student manager Carly Schmid, Samantha Krafka, Jesus Alanzo, Jacson Valentine, Barrett Andel, Zachary Bongers, Brett Romshek, and student manager Sidnee Busch.



As junior Ethan Zegers pins an opponent, the crowd cheers.





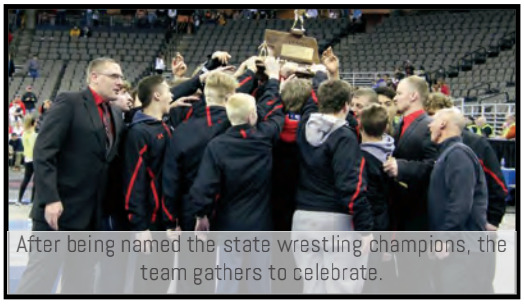
Above: Senior Jacson Valentine wrestles at the NE duals against O'Neill. Left: The team takes a picture with the state champion plaque.



Senior Wayne Moore wrestles for fourth place at the state tournament.



At the state tournament, senior Zack Barlean wrestles for sixth place.



After being named the state wrestling champions, the team gathers to celebrate.



Seniors Spencer Allen, Jacson Valentine, Wayne Moore, and Zack Barlean all celebrate their team's victory at the state tournament.



Throughout the season, the coaches chose wrestlers who wrestled well to give hammers to. All the state qualifiers received a hammer to show their sucess.

NSAA State Wrestling Results

Team:
State Champions

Individual Results:
Zack Barlean
6th at 138 lbs

Jacson Valentine
2nd at 145 lbs

Dylan Vodicka
1st at 170 lbs

James Escamilla
2nd at 195 lbs

Wayne Moore
4th at 220 lbs

Jacob Ingwersen
2nd at 285 lbs

1. Medalists in Montana: Top Row: James Escamillia - 6th, Spencer Allen - 5th, Tre Daro - 8th, and Jacob Ingwerson - 7th. Bottom Row: Dylan Vodicka - 5th and Jacson Valentine - 7th.

2. The David City wrestling team and coaches Tahner Theim and Matt Bates take a photo after the tournament.



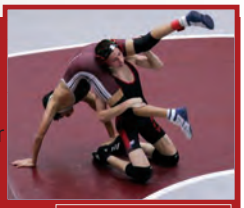


Sophomore Tre Daro gets ready to take take down his opponent.



Montana

Everyone knows the David City wrestling team to be hardworking, and this year their work paid off through a very unique experience. The team was invited to compete in a tournament in Sidney, Montana. Their flights and hotel stay were paid for! Most of the wrestlers agree that this was a highlight of their season. As senior Wayne Moore said, "This trip was a once in a lifetime experience for the seniors that aren't going to wrestle after high school and have never wrestled outside of Nebraska."



Sophomore Zach Bongers takes down his opponent.



In the Madison game, senior Hunter Behrns runs the ball up the court.



Sophomore Seth Golden works past Clarkson/Leigh opponents to put up a layup.



Hustling quickly, sophomore Jack McKay and freshman Dominic Prothman run to their side of the court.



Standing off court, senior Brock Tiemeyer looks for an open teammate to pass the ball to.

From the Coach's Mouth:

"We are certainly going to miss our seniors from this year. They laid the groundwork in which future teams can hopefully build off of. We are looking forward to building a team that not only the school but the community can be proud of. "
- Coach Aaron Carlson

RUNNING THE COURT

BOYS BASKETBALL

Form shooting. Stretching. Drills. More drills. Live scenarios. 5 on 5 work. Freethrow competitions. These activites are typical in a David City high school boys basketball practice. With a new head coach, seven seniors, and several excited underclassmen, it was sure to be a year of growth and change at David City.

"I think adjusting to any new coach is a challenge for any team," said new head coach Aaron Carlson. "However, as the year went on I believe our chemistry as a team got better and they understood our philosophy as the season progressed."

Progress they did. As the year continued, the boys continued to develop their skills and build their relationship as a team. Ending the year with 867 points on the season, hopes are high for the return of Scout basketball next year.



Sophomore Seth Golden tips off at the beginning of the game.



Boys Basketball 2019-2020
Top Row L-R: Hunter Faz, Mitchell Shannahan, Dakota Blair, Dominic Prothman, & Darwin Arcos.
Middle Row L-R: Caden Denker, Jack McKay, Seth Golden, Cavan Navrkal, Jordan Kracl, & Jayden Lee.
Front Row L-R: Ethan Dietrich, Austin Mastera, Brock Tiemeyer, Hunter Berhns, Gunner Poulas, Juan Piris, & Anthony Scribner



The Scouts line up for their pregame walk out.

JUMPING WITH

Lady Scout Basketball

Score! The girls basketball team was off to a fresh start with first year coach Beth Bohuslavsky. Another thing that set this year's team apart was the complete lack of seniors. This youthful team worked to build skills that will take them into next year. The players were motivated to do well on and off the court. This year of growth has provided opportunities for players to learn how to bounce back from setbacks, meet challenges head on, and keep a positive mental attitude.

Before each game, the Lady Scouts listened to music to pump them up and heard advice from the coaching staff. The girls were thankful for all of their coaches. Freshman Keetyn Valentine said, "I couldn't have asked for a better coach. Coach B is always willing to talk to you about how you can improve. She always has something for you to work on or get better at. Not only is she there for the team in playing basketball, but she is also there to give us advice on life skills that we need in the future."

And of course, the girls were also thankful for each other. "I think my teamates and I work together really well. We get along great, and we want to spend time with each other outside of practice. This team bonding allows us to push each other on the court without anyone getting offended or hurt. We care for each other, and I think that is what makes us a really strong team," said junior Maya Couch.

With no seniors leaving and a talented group of eighth graders entering high school next year, the future looks bright for the Lady Scout basketball team.









Above: Juniors Maya Couch, Payton Andel, and Lauren Vandenberg and sophmores Lili Eickmeier and Neely Behrns come out of a time out, prepared to take on Malcolm.

Most Exciting Moment

" It [the East Butler game] was a tight game the whole time, and we were playing really well. We played our hearts out and had momentum the whole game. We went into overtime which was really excting."

- Junior Payton Andel

THE SCOUTS







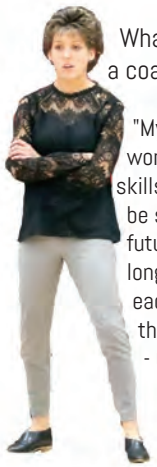


1. Junior Natalie Blum prepares to pass the ball away from a Clarkson Leigh opponent.
2. At the beginning of the game, junior Maya Couch tips off against Malcolm.
3. After a second place finish at the annual David City Holiday Tournament, the basketball team stops for a photo.
4. The 2019-2020 Girls Basketball Team. Back Row L-R: Emily Johnson, Neely Behrns, Avery Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, Maya Couch, Olivia Egwuatu, and Shelby Hein. Middle Row L-R: Payton Andel, Katherine Johnson, Natelya Gibbs, Keetyn Valentine, Emily Glodowski, and Lydia Ockander. Front Row L-R: Kaydense Hansen, Emily Ewert, Courtlyn Keeling, Natalie Blum, and Lili Eickmeier.
5. Looking up the court, junior Payton Andel looks to pass the ball to a teammate.
6. Sophmore Lili Eickmeier plays defense against a Clarkson/Leigh opponent.
7. Watching the game closely, the basketball coaches look for ways the team can improve.
8. Sophmore Neely Behrns waits for her teammate to throw the ball in the court.
9. During a junior varsity game, freshman Kaydense Hanson puts up a strong defense.





Coach's Corner



What are your goals as a coach?

"My goal is to build great women with character and skills that they will use to be successful in their future. I hope to have a long-lasting impact on each individual that comes through the program!"
- Coach Beth Bohuslavsky



Above: Sophomore Grace Znamenacek guides preschoolers through a cheer in the week long little kids cheer and dance camp. The kids performed this cheer at a Friday night football game.



Above: During homecoming week, dancers and cheerleaders combined sporting the Scouts football jerseys while leading the crowd in a cheer.



Above: During a girl's basketball game, first year cheerleader and sophmore Grace Farmer cheers loudly and proudly.



Above: Senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, who was in cheerleading since her freshman year, performs a cheer to excite the crowd during a timeout at a home baskeball game.

The DCHS cheer squad has been around for many years. Uniforms change, squad members change, and coaches change, but one thing never does. The desire to build school spirit.

"My favorite part about cheer is bringing others' spirits up as well as having fun and being peppy while I cheer on my classmates when they compete," said senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro.

Each year, eight students are chosen to represent the cheer team after tryouts. They are then given the task of learning all the cheers for each season over the summer so that they can start school off with spirit. They cheer at home varsity football, volleyball, wrestling, and basketball games. This year Jenna Didier took over the role of coaching cheer along with Morgan Doering. This is the third consecutive year the cheer squad has had a new coach.

Coach Dider was pleased with the girls in her first year as a cheer coach. "The leadership that came from the senior girls this year was remarkable! They were such good role models to the younger girls on the squad, and they were always going above and beyond to give it their all," Didier said. "I was proud of [the squad] at every game, event, and performance because they always represented themselves, our team, and the school very well. "

This year's senior cheerleaders may graduate, and students may move away, but there will always be new cheerleaders stepping up to spread school spirit.



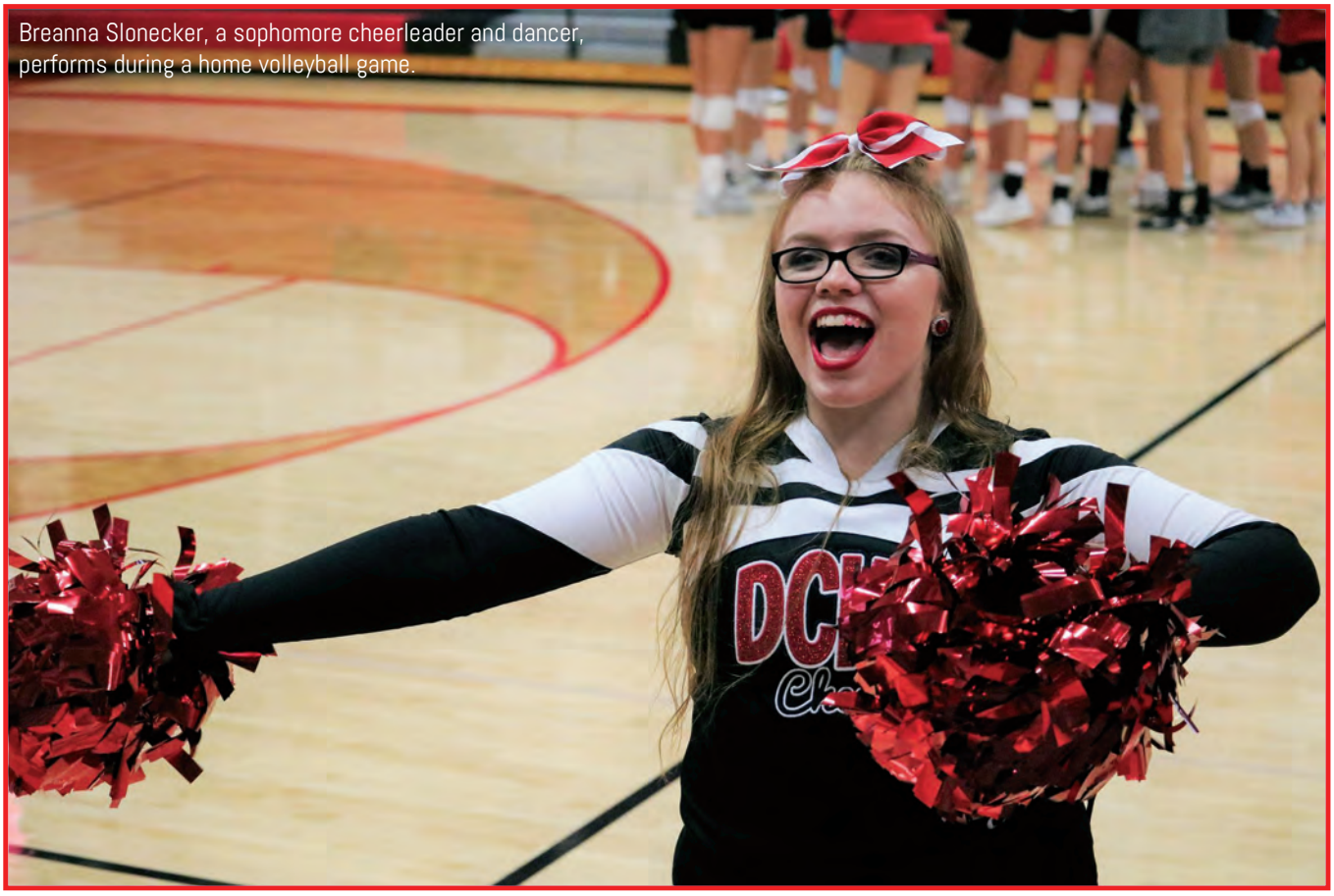
Back L-R: Brenna Windedahl, Grace Farmer, & Brooke Windedahl. Middle L-R: Breanna Slonecker, & Brittney Palik. Front L-R: Grace Znamenacek, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, & Jaley Schultz.



Brenna Windedahl Grace Farmer Grace Znamenacek

PUTTING PEP IN YOUR STEP

Cheer



Breanna Slonecker, a sophomore cheerleader and dancer, performs during a home volleyball game.

"The best part of cheer is getting to see the student section fill with excitement and get the players and audience riled up."
- Junior Brooke Windedahl



Breanna Slonecker | Jaley Schultz | Brooke Windedahl | Brittney Palik | Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro

STEP TO THE BEAT



Above: At the homecoming pep rally, senior Brittney Palik does a turn during the guy girl dance in the high school gym.



Above: During the halftime performance at the end of the little kids cheer and dance camp, junior Natalie Blum has a blast with little kids.



Above: The platinum dancers have fun performing at a basketball game.

Platinum Dance Team

"Five, six, seven, eight."

These words, said by senior Brittney Palik, start the halftime show of the David City Platinum Dancers. The dance team's journey started in May with practices and camps continuing into July. Why so much practice before the start of the school year? They learn all five dances that they will perform throughout the school year before school begins. Each dance takes two-three days of practice to learn the basics. Then the team perfects the routine during the school year. With many dancers also being athletes, 6:30 am practices allowed the dancers to perfect their routines.

The dancers are on the team for many reasons. Some joined due to their love of dance. Others joined to spread school spirit. For new member and sophomore Emily Johnson, the reason was, "Getting out of my comfort zone and learning new dances with everyone on the team."

Other than dancing, the platimun dancers also help the school in other ways. "Homecoming! The girls worked SO hard on homecoming. Many people don't know how much time and effort the girls put into homecoming to make it the way it is," said new dance team coach Anna Kouba.

Sharing words of encouragement before each time they step onto their dance floor, these girls will continue to spread positivity on and off the court and field.



DCHS Platinum Dance Team 2019-2020
Back Row L-R: Lili Eickmeier
Middle Row L-R: Brittney Palik, Madison Hoeft, Natalie Blum, & Emily Glodowski
Front Row L-R: Emily Johnson, Shelby Hein, & Breanna Slonecker



At the homecoming pep rally, senior football players and the dance team perform the traditional guy girl dance. This year it took three days of practice to learn.

All smiles, the platinum dancers love performing for an excited crowd.



The platinum dancers perform a routine at a home basketball game.



Above: On the Sunday before homecoming week, the dance team performs at the homecoming bonefire.

A Step in the Wrong Direction

A Spring with No Sports

High School Track



2020 David City Boys and Girls Track Members

First Row L-R: Shelby Hein, James Escamilla, Dylan Vodicka, Christian Faz, Harley Eickmeier, Clayton Denker, Hunter Behrns, Gunner Poulas, Darin Hall, Ethan Dietrich, Madison Soukup, Vivian Palencia, & Miranda Stearns
Second Row L-R: Kaidence Morlan, Hailie Fuller, Dylan Garretson, Lili Eickmeier, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, Clayton Harris, Olivia Egwuatu, Maya Couch, Payton Andel, Natalie Blum, Lauren Vandenberg, & Zoe Kastl
Third Row L-R: Hayleigh Larsen, Cassidy Wieser, Mikah Mittleider, Dominic Prothman, Barrett Andel, Caden Denker, Lydia Ockander, Jack McKay, Nicholas Carlson, Juan Ramirez, Fabiola Viscarra, Kathryn Johnson, & Ashley Villalba Pena
Fourth Row: Emily Ewert, Avery Couch, Kaydense Hansen, Braxton Small, Courtlyn Keeling, Carlos Vazquez-Zavala, Dakota Blair, Colin Mills, Angel Carias, Sidnee Busch, Ava Neujahr, & Carly Schmid

The David City track team was practicing hard for their 2020 season, however, COVID-19 had other plans in mind. Athletes had only two weeks of practice when they got the news that practices were cancelled and that school was going online. This meant two important things: no contact and no track. Understandably, the athletes weren't too thrilled about this.

Junior James Escamilla said, "It makes me sad knowing I won't be able to compete and hang out with friends during track season."

Despite not having organized competitions, many athletes made the most of it, running or working out at home.

 Background photos are from the 2019 track and golf season.

High School Golf

The David City golf team was not expecting their time to get cut short. They were looking forward to long days spent at the golf course, but the novel coronavirus changed that. Senior Spencer Allen explained how most golfers feel when he said, "It's disappointing that my last season got cut short and we didn't get to compete at all. However, I'm thankful for what I learned from V-Dub [Coach Tom VanWinkle] in the time I had with him."

Teammates, including junior Kordell Abel, agree with Allen's sentiments. "We definitely would've took state," Abel said.

Golf coach Tom VanWinkle also felt their disappointment. "We have a strong team with three golfers returning from last year's top ten finish at the state tournament, and I thought that we would have a great chance to compete to win each event that we participated in this season. We are very fortunate that we have a young team with many good players coming back next year for a chance to make a run at another state tournament."

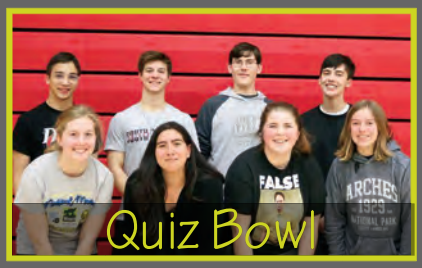
Despite the season being cancelled, many golfers spent time golfing in their backyards and the course when it opened. Even though the season was cancelled, all was not lost. When the country and state started to reopen after being shut down, the team was invited to play at a quasi-state tournament by Oakland Craig on June 29 and 30. This tournament essentially determined who the elite teams in the state were this year in class C. But no matter if the golfers play at the meet or in their backyard, the David City golf team enjoys the game wherever they are.

2020 David City Golf
Back Row L-R: Wesley Johns, Carlos Vazquez-Zavala, Valori Olson, & Cadence Smaus
Third Row L-R: Seth Golden, Tre Daro, Natalie Summers, & Kennen Robinson
Second Row L-R: Keyan Helgoth, Jordan Kracl, Ethan Zegers, Kordell Abel, & David Maxwell
First Row L-R: Anthony Scribner & Spencer Allen



RUNNING TO NEW

Clubs & Organizations


Quiz Bowl


Cassidy Wieser

Speech


Nycholas McDonald-Gebert and Mason Schall

Esports


Scoop


Harley Eickmeier, Zackary Barteen, and Wayne Moore

Student Council


Keetyn Valentine, Lydia Ockander, Miranda Stearns, Spe[illegible]en, Payton Andel, Jacson Valentine, and Kirsten Bell

FFA


Ambassadors

PLACES


FCA


FCCLA


Wesley Johns and Jayden Velazquez
Zero-K


Choir


Yearbook


Band


One Act


Stay-U


Jack McKay, Jaley Schultz, and Maya Couch
NHS

STEPPING TO DIFFERENT BEATS

Ambassadors

"The club is very open and accepting of all those who join! I find that the Ambassadors is not only a way to learn more about each other and each heritage, but also to understand and accept one another!" - Junior Maya Couch

A few years ago after attending a workshop called the "Latio Summit," a group of students were inspired to create an organization that celebrates diversity at David City High School. The students got together with Spanish teacher Miss Teri Messerer, and after much planning, the Ambassadors program was born. It has been changing DCHS since it was introduced last year, and in this club, students are able to "step to different beats" as they express and explore their heritage and different cultures.

The Ambassadors program currently has six leadership members in total with around 25 people attending the monthly meetings. Messerer said, "I feel like we are beginning to create opportunities to celebrate diversity and educate others." She later added, "I think its a unique organization that focuses on cultural diversity, so students who participate can enter college with a greater appreciation for the cultures around them."

Senior Heidi Alvarado is one of the original creators of the Ambassadors program and has continued to stay involved ever since. As far as activities she said, "We made tomales and locker signs, t-shirts, and held a cultural appreciation night to appreciate the backgrounds of some parents and students." She also shared that the Ambassadors program has opened her eyes after hearing people overcome their obstacles throughout life coming from a Hispanic heritage.

The ambassadors have worked to follow a mission list that they put together last year. One goal included on the list is to promote open communication about cultural differences and to create a sense of unity. Another one is to educate and encourage appreciation of cultures represented within our school. But at the end of the day, the mission is more than checking items off a list. It's promoting positive change and living proudly knowing who you are.



Left: Some of the Ambassadors have a Hispanic hertiage and are familiar with making tamales with their families. Making them in the FCS kitchen was a fun time to connect with each other.



Left: Ambassador members work in the kitchen to prepare tamales for "Senior night" during the basketball game halftime where the Scouts played against Cennetenial.



Left: Freshman Juan Rameriz holds up tamale ingredients in the kitchen.



Above: Senior Heidi Alvarado and junior James Escamilla work together all smiles.

Below: Signs like this, surrounded by information about other countries DCHS students have connections to, were displayed in the new commons and in the hallways.



STEPPING UP OUR GAME



E-sports

This year David City added a new organization, esports. This new extracurricular gives students another opportunity to do something they enjoy through school. Coach Adam Ebbeka explained, "Esports is competitive video gaming. It is taking video games and treating them as you would any sport, forming teams, practicing, developing skills, devising strategies, and competing against others." The esports team set off with a bang, earning second place in Overwatch at the state competition in the fall.

"Being our first year, I was just excited to have a team make it to state. It was awesome to take second place," Coach Ebbeka said.

According to sophomore Simon Schindler, esports is a lot of fun and very competitive. During practice, they play games and practice by going over strategies. Depending on which game you choose to play, esports is about strategy and figuring out what characters work well for you. Members can choose between five games Iwith different options in the spring.

Esports tests a player's knowledge and challenges them to use logic and strategy. It's a lot more mentally challenging than people think video gaming is. For example, the StarCraft team basically taught themselves the game. Coach Ebbeka said, "It's a pretty complicated game that none of them had played before, and they ended up doing pretty well." This shows that students involved in esports really have to think outside of the box and challenge themselves in every practice and competition.



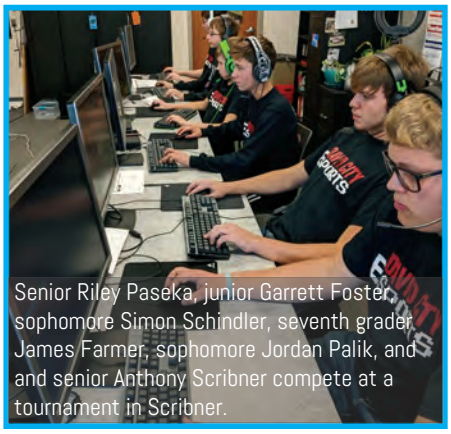
Above: At the tournament at Grand Island Northwest, eighth grader Tristan Schmit and seventh grader James Farmer are interviewed by Channel 4 News.



Above: Striking a pose, seventh grader James Farmer enjoys practice as eighth grader Tyrian Cummings plays with a VR headset on Halloween.

What was the most memorable moment this year?

"Our LAN Parties were always a favorite for everyone, and the three tournaments we attended were really good times, but the most memorable is probably competing at state. Personally though, the whole year was memorable for me because it was so great being involved with such a fun group of students"
- Coach Adam Ebbeka



Senior Riley Paseka, junior Garrett Foster, sophomore Simon Schindler, seventh grader James Farmer, sophomore Jordan Palik, and and senior Anthony Scribner compete at a tournament in Scribner.



Members of the esports Overwatch team compete at a tournament held at Midland University.



2019-2020 Esports Team

Back Row L-R: Riley Peseka, Anthony Scribner, Darwin Arcos, Garrett Foster, Nycholas McDonald-Gebert, Griffyn Roberts, Sabastian Gilliespie, Koby Harvey, Alexander Thoendel, & Coach Adam Ebecca. Middle Row L-R: Ashley Villalba Pena, Chase Romshek, Clayton Harris, Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, Jonathan Palencia, Mikah Mittleider, & Neil Olson. Second Row L-R: Salea Gillespie, Grace Znamenacek, Joseph Scribner, Simon Schindler, James Farmer, & Jayden Velazquez. Front Row L-R: Angel Carias, Jordan Palik, Brett Romsek, Tyrian Cummings, & Tristan Schmit.

RACING AGAINST THE CLOCK

Quiz Bowl

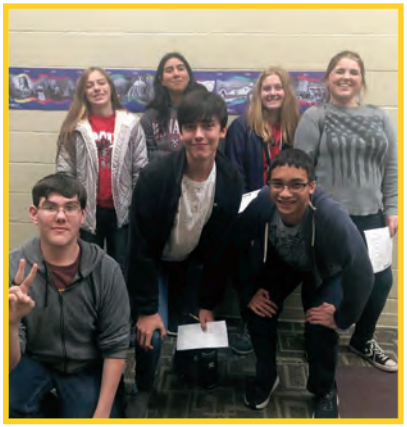
Buzz! In quiz bowl, any subject related to school can be a question. This year the quiz bowl team had nine planned competitions including seven in person, one on the radio, and one big online questionnaire where they answer 240 questions within two hours. Although the season was ended early by COVID-19, quiz bowlers still had plenty of time to be tough competition at the contests they were able to attend.

To prepare for these competitions, the team started practicing in October. They had live practices on Mondays where they were put into groups and had 15-20 minutes matches against each other. Sponsor Lisa Bales said, "I get practice questions and contest questions through a company called Knowledge Master. I'm so glad I don't have to come up with them because it would be tough to find great questions from so many subject areas!"

But quiz bowl doesn't just involve knowledge. It also involves strategy and knowing your teammates. Sophomore Alysha Steele said, "Each of us has a specific subject we are really good at, but if anyone knows an answer, they can just buzz in." For example, Alysha enjoys math, and one of the problems she answered in a competition involved an f(x) notation.

But in the end, quiz bowl is about more than just winning. It's about hard work, learning, and always putting your best foot forward. Bales said it best when she said, "I am proud of their commitment and their effort... those times when they battled back for a win make me very proud."

1.Aleutians 2. four 3. diamonds 4. Columbia



Back Row L-R: Ava Neujahr, Alysha Yellowbird Steele, Valori Olson, & Jasmyne McDonald
Front Row L-R: Anthony Scribner, Braxton Small, & Clayton Harris



After a competition, the quiz bowl team enjoys lunch in the cafeteria.



Minds at work, sophomore Alysha Yellowbird Steele and freshmen Valori Olson and Braxton Small get ready to answer some questions!

Example Quiz Bowl Questions

1. The only North American territory occupied by the Japanese in World War II was a couple of islands in what archipelago?

2. How many edges meet at each vertex of an octahedron?

3. What gems are found in rock called blue ground?

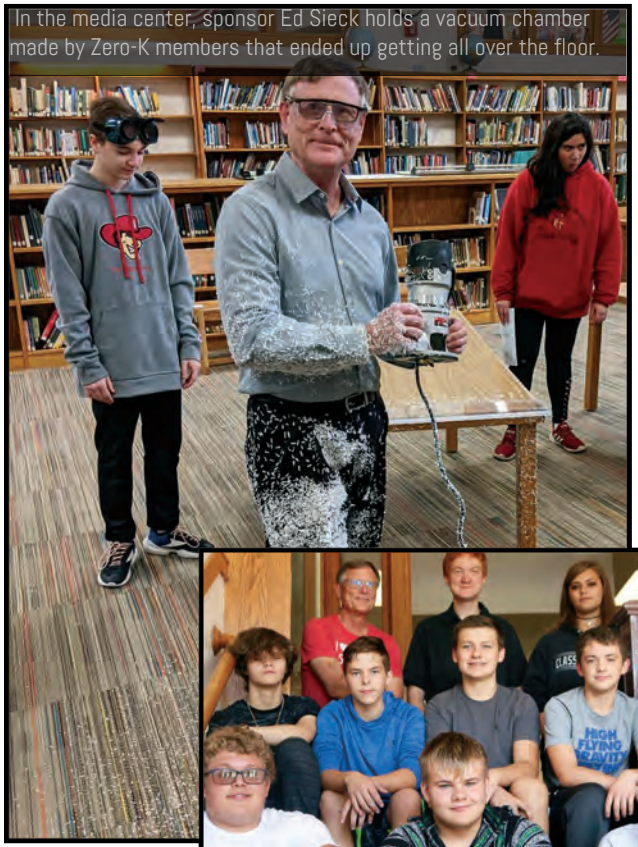
4. You must travel through what country to get from Venezuela to Panama?

STEPS TO THE FUTURE

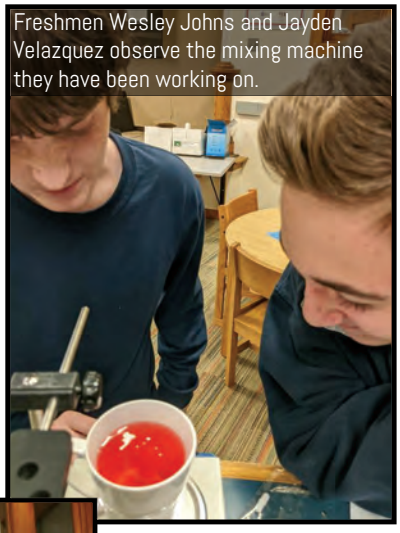
ZerO-K

From a fruit-flashlight to a hovercraft, ZerO-K has done it all. And they've had a blast, sometimes literally, doing it. Senior Riley Paseka said, "The number of experiments done in a month varies because of some experiments taking longer to complete." For example, Paseka worked on melting plastic and forming it into different shapes for months. One popular experiment they did was making giant airplanes with eggs in them to see who could fly it the furthest without the egg breaking. Another experiment was a catapult that launched a container with an egg in it to see whose could go the furthest without breaking. They really like their eggs.

Of course, not all experiments come to fruition. "Our biggest challenge is completing the science projects... Acquiring materials and having time to complete them was another problem we had to overcome," said ZerO-K sponsor Ed Sieck. Not all experiments got to be carried out due this year to COVID-19, and the annual spring camping trip was cancelled. But even if an experiment doesn't turn out or even get to be tried, it's still fun to be creative. With ZerO-K members in their own access period at the end of the school day and a summer to plan before school resumes, these inventive minds will be sure to be back next year with more ideas and experiments in the works.



In the media center, sponsor Ed Sieck holds a vacuum chamber made by Zero-K members that ended up getting all over the floor.



Freshmen Wesley Johns and Jayden Velazquez observe the mixing machine they have been working on.

Above: ZerO-K 2019-2020
Back Row L-R: Ed Sieck, Adam Ebbeka, & Alexus Schmoll Sabata. Middle Row L-R: Sabastian Gillespie, David Maxwell, Chase Romshek, & Mikah Mittleider. Front Row L-R: Riley Paseka, Kennen Robinson, & Neleigh Kovar



This year, ZerO-K members were able to visit Morrill Hall on UNL's campus in Lincoln. Here they pose in front of a woolly mammoth skeleton.

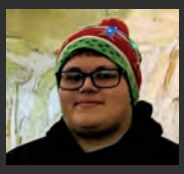
What is your favorite experiment that you have done?

"Three of my personal favorites we've done are the Fruit-Flashlight, hovercraft, and aluminum smelter. "



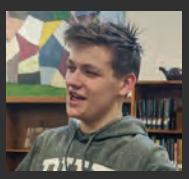
- Zero-K sponsor Ed Sieck

"Making giant airplanes that we put eggs in and seeing who could fly their airplane the furthest without breaking the egg."



-Senior Riley Paseka

"My favorite experiment done in Zero-K is a plastic melting project. We are learning about how we can help reduce the plastic waste littered around the world and we wanted to find a way to eliminate this problem."



- Senior Chase Romshek

MARCHING TO THE BEAT

Band

1. At a home football game, Sebastian Gillespie and other band members pump up the crowd as part of the pep band.
2. Freshmen Wesley Johns and Kaydense Hansen play together in front of friends and family on the December 16th concert.
3. At the Christmas concert, freshman Reese Soukup plays her flute.
4. Junior Garrett Foster plays the xylophone at the Christmas Concert.



"When I play in band, I forget everything else," said sophomore Jordan Palik. Band is an activity that makes you forget about stress and other worries while you are playing. You focus on the beat and the sounds of the players around you.

Being involved in band requires your full attention. Band director Joseph Brumm said that he wants students to focus on the quality and goals of practicing, not on the actual time spent practicing. This hard work and focus have led to several marching band awards including excellent ratings at Pierce and Columbus and a superior rating at the Oxbow Marching Festival.

"When you are a smaller marching band, every member's contribution means so much more than an individual in a larger group. There are more chances for mistakes to be seen when there are so few students on the field," said Brumm.

Concert band season was disrupted in the spring due to COVID-19, but the musicians persevered. Band members recorded individual parts of one song that Brumm put together in a video of the students all performing separately but together. Not even a global pandemic will stop these talented musicians from marching to the beat of their own drums!

Band 2019-2020:

Back Row: Braxton Small, Anthony Scribner, Darin Hall, Clayton Harris, & Angel Carias
Middle Row: Valori Olson, Jaley Schultz, Madison Soukup, Samantha Krafka, Lydia Ockander, Kaydense Hansen, Reese Soukup, Wesley Johns, David Maxwell, & Kennen Robinson
Front Row: Natalie Summers, Sabastian Gillespie, Jerrianne Cudaback, Garrett Foster, Jordan Palik, & Ethan Dietrich.



STEPPING UP AN OCTAVE

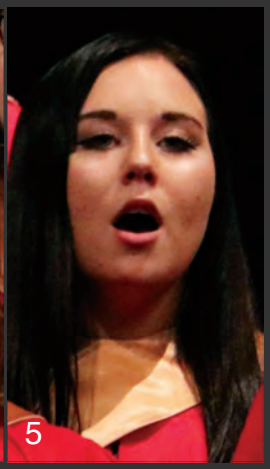
Choir


1


2


3


4


5

An octave is a series of eight notes. You can sing in higher or lower octaves. Most males sing in lower octaves in the tenor to bass ranges. Females typically sing in the higher octaves from soprano to alto. But no matter what octave they sing in, the DCHS choir students sing with all their hearts as they practice and put on strong performances.

This hard work and dedication pays off after a successful performance at a program or concert. And for some, it's when you are selected to the UNK Honor Choir. This year, five students were chosen to attend including Adam Coffin, Clayton Harris, Riley Paseka, Grace Znamenacek, and Kaidence Morlan.

Choir isn't just about the music. It is also about the memories made along the way. One memory that will stick with this year's choir is performing at the Hallmark event. On October 30, they performed on a cold night in the middle of downtown David City. Although they had to learn four songs for the event in a short period of time, most members can agree it was a great bonding experience that they won't forget.

Much like concert band, the choir also lost out on district music and other spring opportunities due to COVID-19. However, they also managed to record their individual parts of a song that choir director Joseph Brumm put together into a video. The DCHS choir members will continue to sing, pandemic or no pandemic, and enjoy every moment of it.



Above: Choir members perform in a video put together by Joseph Burmm. The video was published on the David City Music Twitter account for the community to enjoy.
Left: 1. Watching the director, freshmen Angel Carias, Dominic Prothman, Cassidy Wieser and sophomores Kaidence Morlan and Madison Craig sing at the DCHS Christmas Concert.
2. Choir members perform their best in front of the audience on December 16th.
3. Between songs, members are all smiles at their concert.
4. Freshman Ava Schlotfeld performs at the yearly winter concert.
5. Singing in the middle row, freshman Cassidy Wieser shows off all the hard work she has put into the daily 46 minute practices at school.

JUMPING INTO JOURNALISM



The Scoop

Over the years the school newspaper, called The Scoop, has changed a lot just like any other thing would. With new events to cover, new students, and a new sponsor last year, things are always changing in the journalism department! Student journalists need to take great care when writing stories, and it's a much more time consuming process than most students realize. Writing stories involves research, attending events, interviewing people involved, and writing and editing a draft before publishing it. Some stories also take longer than others to write. Junior Maya Couch said, "In Scoop, there are a variety of stories like sports, feature, opinion, etc. For sports stories or small events, they need to be out a week after it happened at the latest. Stories like features and opinions can take up to two weeks to complete."

In spite of all the normal interruptions faced in a school year and an unexpected interruption with the COVID-19 pandemic, advisor Trevor Krenk was pleased with the success of the staff this year in spite of the challenges. His goal was "[t]o get our new members knowledgeable about the journalism process. Everyone worked together very well to achieve this goal."

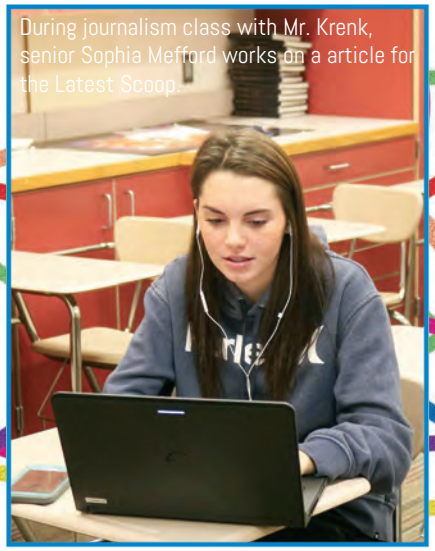
"This is my fourth year in Scoop, and honestly, a lot has changed. I am now the lead photographer and an editor when I started off as just a little thing writing stories," said senior Neleigh Kovar. With Scoop students in different grade levels, it will be exciting to see what is covered in The Scoop with all the changes that next year will bring!



Scoop Staff
Back Row L-R: Alexa Pflum, Abby Nelson, Rachel Roemmich, Maya Couch, Sophia Mefford, & David Maxwell
Front Row L-R: Bryanna Reyes, Nancy Howlett, Neleigh Kovar, & Zoe Kastl

What is your favorite type of story to write about?

"My favorite types of stories to write in journalism are the opinion articles. I like them because I can type without the fear of biased information in my article because it's my opinion! I also like opinion articles because you can write about whatever you want as long as it's school appropriate."



During journalism class with Mr. Krenk, senior Sophia Mefford works on a article for the Latest Scoop.



LACING UP MEMORIES

Yearbook

A yearbook is full of memories that you want to keep. The yearbook staff works hard all year long to make sure that the perfect yearbook is created. After all, you don't get to make homework that other people pay for in very many classes!

This year, the staff chose the yearbook theme Step by Step. Sophomore Brenna Windedahl said this was chosen because "our school is improving step by step as one." The school and students are going through small changes and improvements, including the building itself.

One thing that makes this year unique is that the entire staff and one adviser are new. This means there was a lot to learn in order to produce a high quality book. But there were bigger challenges.

"Hands down, the biggest challenge presented this year was completing a book amid the COVID-19 pandemic. We had regular Zoom meetings, emailed each other multiple times a week, created and sent surveys to students, begged staff and students for pictures, and attended virtual yearbook workshops to learn new ideas on how to complete a yearbook in this unprecedented time," said yearbook advisor Sarah Oltjenbruns.

But this challenging time meant yearbook students rose to the challenge. One thing is certain. The 2019-2020 yearbook staff had a unique experience that will never be forgotten.



Above: In the hallway during yearbook class, sophomore Brenna Windedahl practices taking pictures with a yearbook camera.



Right:
First Semester Yearbook Staff
Back Row L-R: Miranda Stearns, Maci Dion, Grace Farmer, & Dylan Masek
Front Row L-R: Emily Glodowski, Madison Masek, Brenna Windedahl, & Alesha Wallingford

Below:
Second Semester Yearbook Staff
Back Row L-R: Brenna Windedahl, Maci Dion, Grace Farmer, Dylan Masek, & Avery Couch
Front Row L-R: Alesha Wallingford, Madison Masek, & Miranda Sterns





FCCLA advisor Tonya Zegers shows freshman Sidnee Busch how to form the top of her pie at Pies and Exercise.



Poking holes in his pie crust, seventh grader Justin Pruss creates airflow so the pie doesn't bubble over when cooking.



Seniors Skylar Busch and Sophia Mefford work together to roll out the pie dough and transfer it to the pan.



Working on her pie crust, seventh grader Rebecca Fitch focuses intenly to make sure it is exactly how it needs to be.

At the district STAR competition, all 18 of David City's competitors qualified for the state competition. DCHS students earned ten silver and eight gold medals.



At the national Cluster meeting in Dallas, Texas, eighth grader Chloe Zegers recieves third place on the consumer math test.



Seventh grader Rebecca Fitch throws a frisbee during the FCCLA tailgating party before the September 13 football game.



STEPPING INTO LEADERSHIP

FCCLA

What DCHS organization sent students all the way to Dallas, Texas this year? FCCLA! In November, seventeen students attended the National Cluster Meeting in Texas. Students also competed in skills or demonstration events, and this year two students earned medals. Freshman Braxton Small placed second in fashion sketch and eighth grader Chloe Zegers placed third in the consumer math test. In between the many workshops, students visited the Sixth Floor Museum, Perot Museum of Nature and Science, and Reunion Tower. Of course, students on a school trip meant there were some funny moments. Small said, "While in Dallas, there was a pool and I didn't have swimming trunks, so I borrowed a girl's shorts."

Members that could not attend Cluster had plenty of other opportunities to develop their public speaking and leadership skills and make new memories. The corn maze is where many members have the most fun. Students have to bring in a toy of five-dollar value that is donated to Toys for Tots in order to travel to go to the corn maze. Senior Amber Voboril said her favorite part was, "petting the animals at the petting zoo and making our way through the path in the dark."

An event for students to participate in that provides growth in many areas is STAR Competition (Students Taking Action with Recognition). Students have to take many steps to be ready to compete. They are required to create a planning process page, a board or portfolio, and their speech. Participants then have to memorize their speech. This year eighteen students presented at districts, and all eighteen advanced to state in April. Advisor Tonya Zegers said that STAR is an "opportunity for growth with public speaking and leadership. Members who participate are the ones who go above and beyond." Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic, April's state convention was not able to be held this, but this didn't make the members any less proud of their accomplishments.

This year the organization tried Pies and Exercise. Seventeen students showed up with cans of filling to make a pie for Thanksgiving. While the pies were baking, members played kickball utilizing Student Body. This created memories and bonding experiences for everyone involved. No matter if it is a service project, competitive event, or or just a chapter visit to the corn maze, you can bet DCHS FCCLA members will continue to step up to learn, grow, and have fun.

DCHS FCCLA

Back Row L-R: Joseph Scribner, Valori Olson, Reese Soukup, & Ava Neujahr
Third Row L-R: Natalie Summers, Cadence Smaus, Ashley Rodriguez Grado, Yanette Adame, Carly Schmid, McKenna Pavel, Ashley Villalba Pena, Braxton Small, Rebecca Fitch, & Hannah Scriber.
Second Row L-R: Stephanie Ramirez, Alexis Harris, Jazmen Birkel, Courtlyn Keeling, Sidnee Busch, Nancy Howlett, Bryana Reyes, Kayla Gay, Miranda Stearns, & Vivian Palencia.
Front Row L-R: Zachary Bongers, Kaitlyn Palik, Kennen Robinson, Bryanna McAuley, Madison Soukup, Jaymee Lee, Ashlee Marvin, & Ivy Joe Miller.
Not pictured include Justin Pruss, Parker Robinson, Hannah Gillett, Chloe Zegers, Caden Denker, Kaydense Hansen, Carley Schmid, Carson Scribner, Jayden Valazquez, Jerri Cudaback, Maci Dion, Koby Harvey, Skylar Busch, Sophia Mefford, Beatriz Ramirez, Amber Voboril, Angel Carias, Jace Rerucha, Samantha Boswell, & Juan Ramirez.



STAR Competition

The 2020 State STAR Competition was cancelled due to COVID-19. Judges from the state level looked at all of the scores around the state from districts and decided which advanced to nationals.

National convention will be held virtually over the summer, so during the week of May 18-21, students could go to school and record their presentation to send into the national level.

STEPS TO A BETTER FUTURE

FFA



Advisor Catherine Chmelka's dog Kida was a familiar face at DCHS this year.



"My favorte part of FFA is being able to interact with people, gain leadership, and the fun things we get to do like travel."

-Miranda Stearns



2019-2020 FFA Officer Team

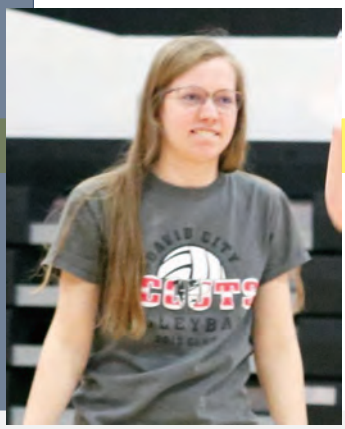
Spencer Allen, Kirsten Bell, Payton Andel, Miranda Stearns, Lydia Ockander, Keetyn Valentine, & Jacson Valentine.

Are you interested in agriculture? Maybe you like animals and you want to learn more about them. If so, FFA is for you. FFA is an international organization that promotes and supports agricultural education. But FFA also teaches you leadership skills, career skills, and helps you grow and develop as a person.

David City FFA memebers had another busy year. From livestock and land judging to Husker Harvest Days to FFA week activities, FFA members were always on the go. They also gave back to the community through a community service project each month, barnyard elementary outreach, breakfast at school, and creating centerpieces for banquets. It was a year of growth, change, and greater interaction with the community.

"I have been proud of the amount of buy-in for the program I have received this year... I am proud of the members' commitment to the chapter and to growth within the chapter," said FFA advisor Catherine Chmelka.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic meant there was no state convention in April, members still can look back at the year with a smile. With trips to national convention, various competitions across the state, and activities here in town, David City FFA members have a lot they can take forward with them as the step into the future.



"My favorite memory is the barnyard. Not only do we get to spend all day with animals, we get to teach the younger generations about agriculture as well as allow them to interact with the animals."

-Kirsten Bell



FFA members attend a meeting in the ag room.

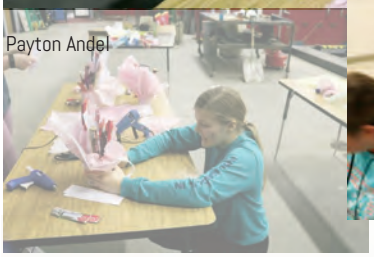
2019-2020 FFA Members

Kordell Abel,Yanette Adame, Spencer Allen, Stanley Allen, Barett Andel, Payton Andel, Kirsten Bell, Hunter Betzen, Jazmen Birkel, Natalie Blum, Jerri Cudaback, Tre Daro, Caden Denker, Lili Eickmeier, Harley Eickmeier, Emily Ewert, James Farmer, Grace Farmer, Rebecca Fitch, Haden Forney, Lexi Forney, Hailie Fuller, Emily Glodowski, Tyler Graybill, Clayton Harris, Shelby Hein, Keyan Helgoth, Joshlynn Heibel, Emily Johnson, Hunner Juzenas, Courtlyn Keeling, Aiden Kluck, Neleigh Kovar, Chase Krafka, Samantha Krafka, Drew Langan, Austin Mastera, Jack McKay, Ivy Joe Miller, Caven Navrkal, Lydia Ockander, Logan Ratkovec, Vivian Palencia, Brookyln Palensky, Alexa Pflum, Dominic Prothman, Justin Pruss, Braden Radford, Jace Rerucha, Tristan Schmidt, Anthony Schrader, Jaley Schultz, Anthony Scribner, Joseph Scribner, Cadence Smaus, Sam Smith, Johnathan Sosa-Palencia, Miranda Stearns, Kaden Stenzel, Natalie Summers, Keetyn Valentine, Jacson Valentine, Lauren Vandenberg, Dylan Vodicka, & Brenna Windedahl

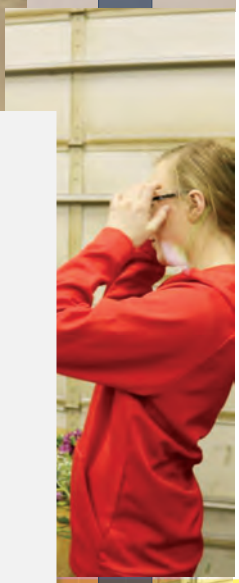

Payton Andel, Shelby Hein

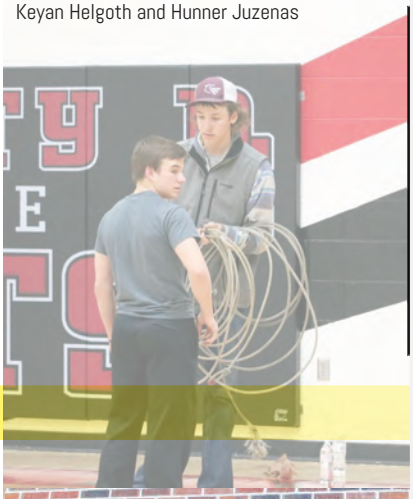

Keetyn Valentine


FFA members working in the ag room.


Payton Andel

Keyan Helgoth and Hunner Juzenas





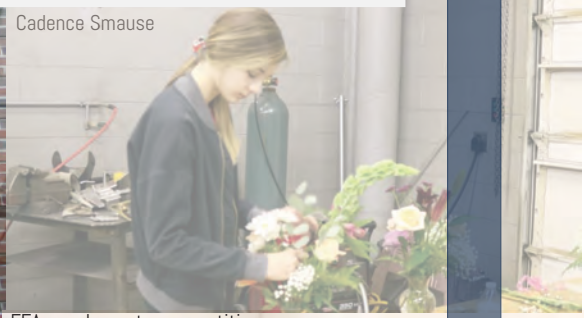


What is your favorite thing about being the FFA advisor?

"Wow! What a difficult question to narrow down. I would say definitely the leadership and character development that comes naturally with all of the community oriented projects, career development events, and leadership development events. Through agricultural education, I am able to interact in a different light than most other teachers by having them in the classroom, in FFA, and through supervising students in their Supervised Agriculture Experiences!"

-Catherine Chmelka, DCHS FFA advisor


FFA Officer Team


Cadence Smause


FFA members grabbing some lunch


Grace Farmer


FFA members at a competition

WALKING AS ONE

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

FCA, or Fellowship of Christian Athletes, is a welcoming organization at David City that is made of the many talented athletes from middle schoolers to seniors. This organization allows student to come together though sports and religion.

They congregate to pray every wednesday. Devotions (Devos), listening to music, fun icebreakers, Fields of Faith, Weekend of Champions, Coaches' Dinner and Leadership Camp are a few of the many events that FCA holds for its members.

Why do people join FCA? First year member freshman Hailie Fuller explains it best when she said, "It is a great way for me to get closer to God, but also to other people as well."

Activities like the Christmas party held every year in the school help bring each other closer. All members were invited to munch on Christmas cookies, chat with their buddies, and pray. Junior Olivia Egwuatu enjoyed many activities in FCA, but her favorite behind the scenes moment this year was,"[w]hen Jacson Valentine always asked for lobster on nights we had meals!"

But no matter how much fun the activities are, how talented of an athlete you are, or how much you enjoy being around your friends, at the end of the day, this group is all about growing closer to God. As advisor Teri Messerer said, "FCA is a group of people who share a desire to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ. We lift each other up during times of struggle and celebrate together during times of joy. We grow in our faith and worship God together."



Above: Members of FCA gathered together in the gym to play a game called "Ninja" as some watched from the sideline.



Above: During the Coaches' Banquet hosted by Ron Brown, the members and coaches all gathered in a large circle to pray.



FCA 2019-2020

Back L-R: Drew Langan, Tre Daro, Olivia Egwuatu, Jack McKay, Clayton Harris, Maya Couch, Shelby Hein, Payton Andel, & Ethan Dietrich. Middle L-R: Dylan Vodicka, Jacson Valentine, Clayton Denker, Keyan Helgoth, Abby Nelson, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, Emily Ewert, Natalie Blum, Spencer Allen, Avery Couch, & Barrett Andel. Front L-R: Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Caden Denker, Hailie Fuller, Brayden Johnson, Meagan Jahde, Hailey Glodowski, Lili Eickmeier, Lauren Vandenberg, & Emily Glodowski.

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" - Psalm 133:1



Junior Lauren Vandenberg paints a design on a young girl's face during the Hallmark Christmas event held in downtown David City.

LEAPING TOGETHER

Stay-U

Stay-U members leapt together as they set out again to promote healthy lifestyle choices by avoiding drugs and alcohol. This year a few activities Stay-U put on were an ice cream/movie night for members to enjoy. They also took part in Trunk or Treat on October 25, hosted by PTO. After deciding a theme and decorating the trunk of a car, members handed out candy to participants and had fun interacting with little kids. Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic, they were not able to hold their annual middle school fun night in the spring, and June Jam was cancelled. But that doesn't mean the year ended on a negative note.

"[The] majority of the members of STAY-U are truly committed to being drug and alcohol free. They are willing to stand up for each other and their beliefs and work hard at encouraging others to choose the same lifestyle," said advisor Amy Sander.



In the new commons, senior Ethan Dietrich addresses the group.



Right: Stay-U members enjoy a movie night in the new commons.



Stay-U 2019-2020

Back Row L-R: Clayton Harris & Wayne Moore. Middle Row L-R: Kirsten Bell, Harley Eickmeier, Clayton Denker, Dylan Vodicka, Spencer Allen, & Anthony Scribner. Front Row L-R: Payton Andel, Laruen Vandenberg, Shelby Hein, Natalie Blum, Maya Couch, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, & Brittney Palik.



Left: During Trunk or Treat, freshman Ava Schlotfeld, senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, junior Clayton Harris, and senior Anthony Scribner show off their sea-themed trunk.

STEP UP TO SUCCESS

NHS



Above: NHS members pose in their "Scare Away Hunger" costumes with the donations given by DCHS students to families in need.
Back Row L-R: Anthony Scribner, Clayton Harris, Clayton Denker, Brittney Palik, Maya Couch, Lauren Vandenberg, & Spencer Allen.
Front Row L-R: Skylar Busch, Natalie Blum, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, NHS sponsor Tiffany Heins, & Harley Eickmeier.

NHS, or National Honor Society, is an organization that promotes and honors scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Throughout the year, NHS members work to live out those pillars in their daily lives.

Each year, NHS hosts two familiar events. One is "Scare Away Hunger," an annual service project held on Halloween. Students bring canned food items to wear a costume to school. Senior Clayton Denker shared this was one of his favorite moments in NHS "because a large majority of the school participated, making it even more memorable and enjoyable."

The second big event is the annual Blood Drive. The blood drive brings in people from all over the community. But this isn't all NHS does. The favorite memory of junior Clayton Harris this year was "Going around and giving the new teachers goodie bags. This helped us connect very well."

But NHS members also make time to have fun. When new NHS members have been selected, they get a surprise during the school day. NHS sponsor Tiffany Heins said, "Students [currently in] NHS surprise them and then send out formal invitations to the dinner and congratulating them." From surpising one another to giving back to the community, this group of students wil continue to step up to be successful and help those around them.



Returning NHS Members
Back Row L-R: Clayton Harris & Wayne Moore
Middle Row L-R: Kirsten Bell, Harley Eickmeier, Clayton Denker, Dylan Vodicka, Spencer Allen, & Anthony Scribner
Front Row L-R: Payton Andel, Lauren Vandenberg, Shelby Hein, Natalie Blum, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, and Brittney Palik.



New NHS Members Spring 2020
Back Row L-R: Maci Dion, Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, & Emily Glodowski. Front Row L-R: Grace Farmer, Jack McKay, Keeyan Helgoth, Lili Eickmier & Jaley Schultz.



Left: Signing her name, sophomore Emily Johnson is inducted into NHS as junior Maya Couch and senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro look on.

Right: Sophomore Jaley Schultz holds a candle while waiting to be inducted.



LEAPING TO LEAD

Student Council

Student council has been around for a long time. It's a great group of high school students that promotes leadership and creates a welcoming environment for others. Math teacher Amy Backstrom has been the advisor for the DCHS student council organization for 25 years. "Throughout the years it has decreased with the number of kids due to other activities going on, its harder for them to stay involved," Backstrom said.

Although we may have smaller numbers, that doesn't mean we haven't been active. This year four students attended the state student council convention at Norfolk High School, enjoying the speakers and attending several mini-sessions. Student council members continued to help with Parent Teacher Conferences.

And in the middle of all the activities, the purpose of student council remains: to address the concerns of the student body. As senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro said, her goal is to "create an environment where everyone feels welcomed and that their opinions matter."



Student Council 2019-2020
Back Row L-R: Clayton Denker, Caden Denker, Ethan Dietrich, Clayton Harris, Jack McKay, Wayne Moore, Skylar Busch, Kaydense Hansen, Spencer Allen, & Dylan Vodicka
Middle Row L-R: Avery Couch, Maya Couch, Harley Eickmeier, Zackary Barlean, Kirsten Bell, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Haden Forney, Ava Neujahr, and & Tre Daro
Front Row L-R: Neely Behrns, Emily Johnson, Payton Andel, Shelby Hein, Keetyn Valentine, Natalie Blum, Lili Eickmeier, & Hayleigh Larson



Above: Seniors Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro and Kirsten Bell pose with boxes of macaroni and cheese, putting the box on the the shelf in the pantry at the elementary school.



Right: Outside the elementary school, senior Zackary Barlean hands boxes of cereal to freshman Keetyn Valentine to be put into the pantry for the backpack program.



Left: Junior Maya Couch, senior Skylar Busch, and freshmen Kaydense Hansen and Avery Couch wait to hand out cookies and drinks to the passing parents, students, and teachers during parent teacher conference.

LITTLE STEPS, One Act 2019 BIG LESSONS

This year David City High School brought an impressive performance and important life lesson to audiences with “Awakening the American Spirit." This twist on the 1940s explores how Americans of Japanese ancestry were mistreated in the United States. The actors close with a captivating scene where the townspeople finally realize that it is not right to judge people based on their skin color. In this 30 minute play, an extremely meaningful message is portrayed.

DCHS students typically join one act because they enjoy acting or their friends are in it. But this year, students found that the play's message hits close to home. “We still see this happening in today's world, just with different races,” said senior Ashlee Marvin.

In order to create an awesome performance, everyone took things step by step. How exactly does a high school student portray a character living 80 years in the past? Junior Clayton Harris said, “We take everything into consideration: reactions, meaningful gestures, motivation of being somewhere, and the internalization of our character. From the lead role to a background character, we take everything step by step. Throughout our script, we set the mood. It's really all about connecting each of those steps.”

Just like every other extracurricular, it can't be all work at all times. There still needs to be fun and relaxed moments. To lighten the mood, teammates can always rely on freshman Braxton Small. His fellow teammate, Clayton Harris, explained how Braxton is definitely one to get everyone to laugh. “His relationship with [Coach Jarod] Ockander is hilarious! Ockander will tell him to 'do the thing' and Braxton will 'do it.' By 'do it,' I mean he presses his lips together and throws up peace signs. We all copy Braxton, and it's just one of those useless things we do.” Laid back moments like this make practices enjoyable and performances unforgettable for everyone.



One Act Cast and Crew 2019

Front row: Emily Glodowski, Brenna Windedahl, Angel Carias, Samantha Krafka, Grace Znamenacek, Samantha Eaton, Kirsten Bell, Neleigh Kovar, Jacson Valentine, Sophia Mefford, Ashlee Marvin, Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro, Vivian Palencia, Skylar Busch, Bryanna McAuley, Heidi Alvarado, Brittney Palik, & Jaymee Lee. Second Row: Natelya Gibbs, Nancy Howlett, Abby Nelson, Brooke Windedahl, Sidnee Busch, Avery Couch, Kaidence Morlan, Clayton Harris, Ava Neujahr, Braxton Small, Cassidy Wieser, Maya Couch, Lydia Ockander, Rachel Roemmich, Carly Schmid, Madison Masek, Madison Soukup, & Katie Pflum. Third Row: Lauren Vandenberg, Natalie Blum, Jack McKay, Barrett Andel, Natalie Summers, Tre Daro, Spencer Allen, Dylan Vodicka, Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, Valori Olson, & Fabiola Viscarra. Back Row: Payton Andel, Shelby Hein, Madison Hoeft, Lili Eickmeier, Coach Jena Mentik, Anthony Scribner, David Maxwell, Coach Jared Ockander, Caden Denker, Madison Jensen, Juan Ramirez, & Chase Krafka.



Right: The Bakemono spirits attack senior Jacson Valentine to protect junior Clayton Harris. Harris commands them to let him go in the next scene.

"Racism is a big problem in today's society, and I was happy that we could stand against it in an entertaining way."

- Senior Neleigh Kovar

Right: Three bullies, played by senior Jacson Valentine, sophomore Tre Daro, and freshman Braxton Small, beat up Kanji Moe, junior Clayton Harris, for being a different race.





4.

1. Ominously angry, the Bakemono spirits threaten sophomore Tre Daro's character, Thomas.
2. In the closing scene of the play, senior Neleigh Kovar and junior Clayton Harris hold hands as senior Jacson Valentine apoligizes for mistreating Kanji Moe, played by Clayton Harris.
3. Before the first home performance, juniors Natelya Gibbs and Nancy Howlett fix freshman Valori Olson's hair.
4. Sophomore Lydia Ockander, senior Neleigh Kovar, senior Skylar Busch, and junior Maya Couch get into a fight on stage.



1.



2.



3.

WALKING TOWARD YOUR GOALS

High School Speech

Did you know?

Contest speech has nine official categories in the state of Nebraska: Duet acting, oral interpretation of drama, poetry, serious prose, humorous prose, extemperaneous, persuasive, informative, and entertainment. Some meets offer extra events students can compete in.

At the Aquinas Invite on Feb. 22, freshman Angel Carias practices his speech before the meet begins.

Early in the season, junior Maya Couch practices at the Jan. 25 Lincoln Southwest Invite.



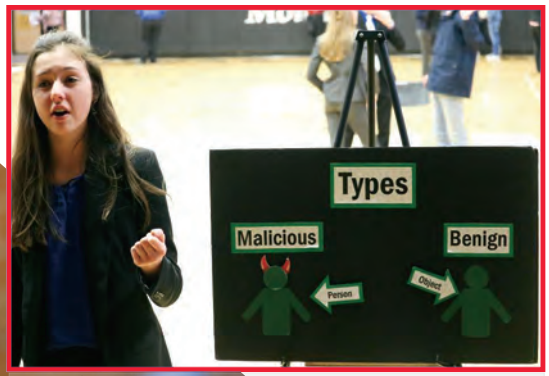
Above: Former DCHS students and speech team members return to help with speech practice. Speech team practices run long, sometimes until 10:00 pm.



Above: After the competition is over, the speech team relaxes as they wait for the awards ceremony to begin.



Above: Freshman Braxton Small, freshman Cassidy Wieser, and junior Jasmyne McDonald-Gerbert enjoy their taco Tuesday with a break during speech practice.
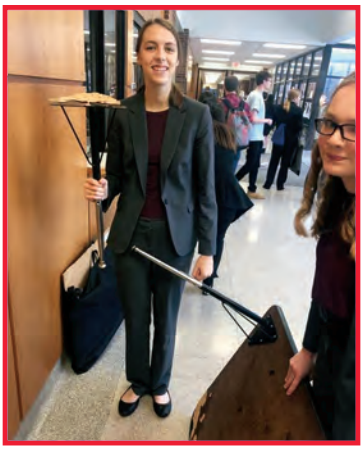


Above: Shortly before competition begins, freshman Natalie Summers rehearses her speech.

Conference Speech

Returning to a new speech season after taking second at the state competition last year, the David City speech team started their season running. With a busy schedule and hopes to earn a state title, David City's speech team members immediately began to practice, practice, practice.

What does a speech practice look like? Practices take place all over the school in empty classrooms. Students rehearse their speeches in front of an empty room, a teammate, or a coach, typically a combination of the three. As students present, they are timed to ensure their speaking time is in the allowed time for their event. When they are finished presenting, the teammate or coach gives them feedback so that they know what to do to improve. Typically speech students will go over the same part of their speech multiple time to get it right. At some practices, speech students read ballots (pieces of paper with feedback from speech judges) from a previous meet and focus on using their comments to improve.

All of the team's practice paid off. Throughout the season the team placed well at their meets and had numerous individual medalists. Coming fresh off of a conference title, the speech team was excited about their chances at the district speech meet. Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic had other plans. On Friday, March 13, speech students learned there would be no district speech meet. With the cancellation of the state tournament, the 2019-2020 speech season came to an early end. While this was devestating for speech team members, there is no doubt that it will fuel their fire next year.



Above: Oh no! At the Spartan Invite, junior Maya Couch and sophomore Lydia Ockander show off the meet's first victim,"Timothy the Table."

Below: Junior Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert grins as she waits for results.



Below (top): Freshman Avery Couch practices one of her speeches.
Below (bottom): After being declared champions, junior Maya Couch & sophomore Lydia Ockander embrace as teammates Kirsten Bell and Braxton small look on.







Above: The David City conference speech team shows off their championship plaque. Back Row: Valori Olson, Kaidence Morlan, Grace Farmer, Clayton Harris, Maya Couch, Braxton Small, Avery Couch, Keetyn Valentine & Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert
Front Row: Brenna Windedahl, Grace Znamenacek, Ava Neujahr, Angel Carias, Cassidy Wieser, Kirsten Bell, Natalie Summers, Lydia Ockander

At the conference speech meet held at David City, the team won their twelfth consecutive conference title.

Individual Results

Duet:
Maya Couch & Lydia Ockander - Champions
Kirsten Bell & Braxton Small - Runner Up

Entertainment:
Kirsten Bell - 2nd
Lydia Ockander - 3rd

Extemporaneous:
Valori Olson - 5th

Informative:
Grace Znamenacek - Champion
Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert - 5th

Serious:
Clayton Harris - Runner Up
Keetyn Valentine - 3rd

Persuasive:
Clayton Harris - Runner Up
Valori Olson - 4th

OID:
Now & Then (Ava Neujahr, Cassidy Wieser, Avery Couch, Natalie Summers, & Angel Carias) - 6th
Hercules (Grace Farmer, Brenna Windedahl, Kaidence Morlan, Jasmyne McDonald-Gebert, & Braxton Small) - 3rd

Humorous:
Maya Couch - Champion
Angel Carias - 4th

Poetry: Kaidence Morlan - Champion
Keetyn Valentine - Runner Up

JUMP INTO JUNIOR HIGH



Blake Lukert


Kaydance Smith




Brayden Johnson


Brock Dubbs and Jason Escamilla


Junior high students participate in a house competition in the high school gym.



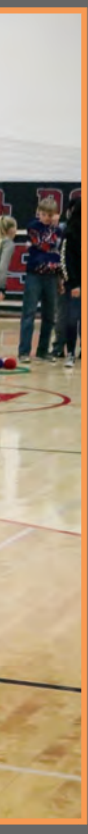
Brison Flowers, Ella Brokaw, and Parker Robinson



Joseph Scribner, Tristan Schmit, and Mason Schaal



The junior high football team





Alexis Forney and Viana Venegas



Neil Olson



James Farmer



Hannah Scribner, Laylani Kasik, Kailey Blum, Kaydance Smith, and Emily Coffin

Evin Allen
Stanley Allen
Grant Arps
Kailey Blum
Trinity Boss
Ethan Buresh-Marick








Keaton Busch
Alexandro Cabrales-White
Katilyn Ewert
James Farmer
Rebecca Fitch
Brison Flowers








Alexis Forney
Hannah Gangwish
Hailey Glodowski
Alexis Harris
Ashton Hjort
Hayliegh Hladky








Cameron Hlavac
Meagan Jahde
Laylani Kasik
Caeden Kelley
Addison Kuhlman



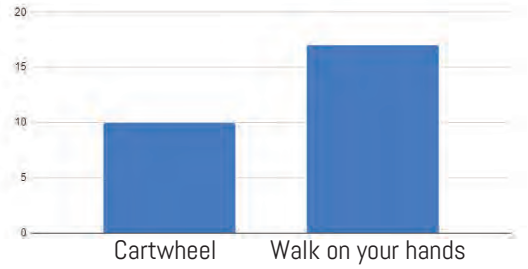




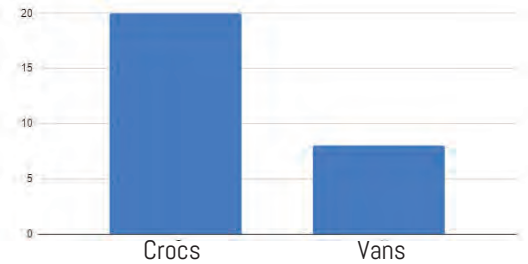
STEPS INTO A NEW

Seventh grade. A new building, new teachers, new classes, and new extracurricular activities. The DCHS Class of 2025 got off to an energetic start in their first year of junior high. It was a year of change, growth, and overcoming obstacles. Through the good times and bad times, this group persevered as they stepped into a new beginning.

Would you rather walk on your hands everywhere or cartwheel everywhere?



Would you rather wear Crocs or Vans?





Israel Martinez
Liberty Moore
Davi Neves De Mont Serrat
Neil Olson
Brooklyn Palensky
Emily Poulas



Justin Pruss
Stephanie Ramirez Lopez
Jaiden Ray
Jace Rerucha
Natalie Robak
Parker Robinson



Lukas Sabata
Mason Schaal
Cally Schmid
Hannah Scribner
Kaydance Smith
Sam Smith

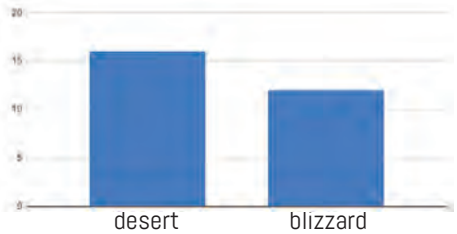


Reese Svoboda
Sophie Valish
Viana Venegas
Ashlyn Walker
Rodger Yates

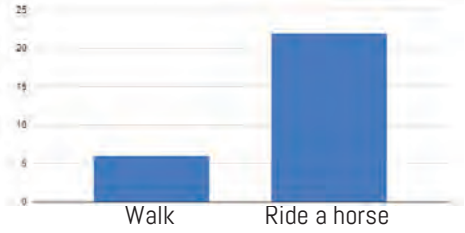
BEGINNING 7th Grade

Seventh Graders Speak: Would You Rather?

Would you rather walk in a desert or a blizzard?



Would you rather ride a horse to school or walk to school?



Yanette Adame
Geovanni Barrios-Hernandez
Ella Brokaw
Areli Carrera Soriano
Vianet Carrera Soriano
Emily Coffin



Tyrian Cummings
Carolina Dancer
Brock Dubbs
Grace Eickmeier
Jason Escamilla
Justine Fountain



Hannah Gillett
Raven Harvey
Hunter Hlavac
Brayden Johnson
Rosie Juan Tomas
Keaton Kloke



Drew Langan
Blake Lukert
Cassandra Maxwell





















Alexia O'Dell
Brandon Ohnemus
Braxten Osantowski
Jazmine Palencia Juarez
Kaitlyn Palik
Tori Price



Braden Radford
Logan Ratkovec
Kendall Schindler
Tristan Schmit
Anthony Schrader
Joseph Scribner



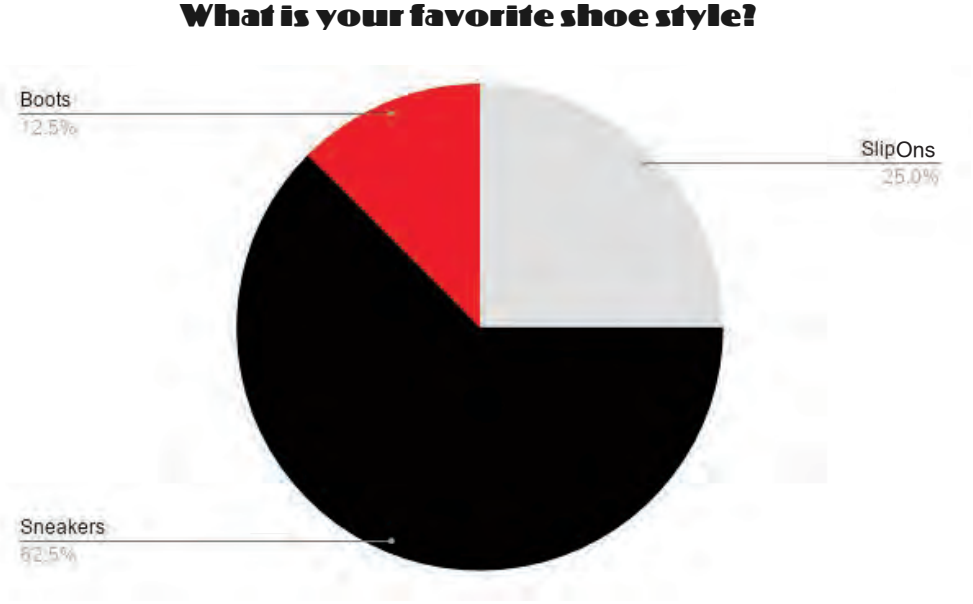
Jonathan Sosa-Palencia
Alexander Thoendel
Dulce Visoso
Jazmine Wielgus
Kylee Windedahl
Chloe Zegers

WALKING THE LINE

8th Grade

The year you walk the fine line of being in middle school but nearly being in high school.





Left: 1. Tyrian Cummings 2. Hunter Hlavac 3. Jazmine Wielgus and Justine Fountain 4. Brayden Johnson 5. Volleyball team 6. Joseph Scribner 7. Jaiden Ray, Cassandra Maxwell, and Laylani Kasik

STEPPING UP

Junior High Football

When asked what brings the team together, seventh grader Keaton Busch said, "Winning." That is exactly what they set out to do. Throughout the season, the 2019 David City/Shelby-Rising City junior high football team continued stepping up their playing with every game.

David City Junior High and Shelby-Rising City football unified as one last year and have become closer as a team. The players wear a DCHS uniform and a Shelby-Rising City helmet to represent both schools.

As eighth grader Jason Escamilla said, one of the things that keeps them going is "the coaches because they keep encouraging us." Every season new players join, and others leave. But step by step, this team's friendships and supportive coaches mean that they will continue to step up to learn, grow, and evolve as athletes.



Above: Eighth grader Brock Dubbs kicks off the game against Malcolm, launching the ball high into the air. Dubbs was an active member of the team and played on starting lineup.



David City/Shelby-Rising City Junior High Football 2019

Back Row L-R: Israel Martinez, Riley Osantowski, Anthony Schrader, Landon Silvia, Brock Dubbs, Anthony Schultz, Collin Vrbka, Jason Escamilla, Aiden Zimmerman, & Blake Lukert.
Middle Row L-R: Isaac Whitmore, Lucas Sabata, Dalton Pokorney, Gavin Ohnemus, Parker Robinson, Logan Ratovec, Jace Rerucha, Brayden Johnson, Micah Lane, Evin Allen, & Ethan Buresh-Marick.
Front Row L-R: Cameron Hlavac, Caden Schafer, Keaton Kloke, Reese Svoboda, Jaydon Hansen, Brandon Ohnemus, Deegan Vargus, Ethan Fjell, Sam Smith, & Keaton Busch.



Above: The David City/Shelby-Rising City junior high football team rejoins during a timeout at the only home game they play in. The team's coaches from David City included Matt Bates and Tahner Thiem.



Above: During at football game, seventh grader number 20 Reese Svoboda lies on his back while eighth grader Logan Ratkovec rushes to assist player number 11, Jayden Hanson, to defend against their opponents.



Eighth grader Keaton Kloke prepares to launch himself to tackle an opposing player.

LACING TOGETHER



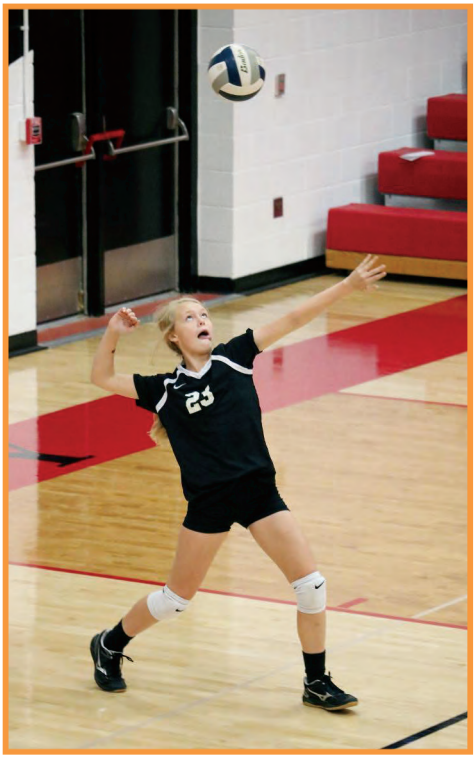
Junior High Volleyball

The gym was almost completely silent against the sound of the volleyball bouncing. Seventh grader Katilyn Ewert steps up to serve the ball at the David City home tournament. The referee blows the whistle, she throws the ball into the air, and smack! The ball goes over the net as she moves into her position on the court. The "A" team later went on to win the tournament.

The 2019 junior high volleyball team consisted of 22 players with head coach Drew Rodine and assistant coach Teri Messerer. The season was filled with memory making, team bonding, and many wins.

Seventh grader Laylani Kasik enjoyed the season because of what happened on and off the court. "We're all a big family together as a team," Kasik said. David City recruited 14 new seventh graders since last year and continue to grow every season. This builds on the experience of the rest of the team. Many of the eighth graders started playing volleyball in third grade!

And between practices drilling the fundamentals, playing on the court, and traveling to and from games, the team still managed to have fun. From eighth grader Grace Eickmeier's favorite volleyball memory of going to the park and practicing diving on the sand volleyball court to encouraging each other on the court, the junior high girls volleyball team will continue to lace together and make memories.



Above: Seventh grader Kaitlyn Ewert steps backs as she prepares to serve the volleyball on the "A" team at a home volleyball tournament.



Junior High Girls Volleyball 2019

Back Row L-R: Coach Teri Messerer, Hannah Scribner, Justine Fountain, Emily Coffin, Hailey Glowdowski, Alexis Forney, Grace Eickmeier, Yanette Adame, & Coach Drew Rodine.
Middle Row L-R: Carolina Dancer, Jaiden Ray, Emily Poulas, Kaitlyn Ewert, Chloe Zegers, Layani Kasik, Jazmine Wielgus, & Brooklyn Palensky.
Front Row L-R: Kaydance Smith, Addison Kulman, Meagan Jahde, Viana Venegas, Kaitlyn Palik, Kailey Blum, & Cally Schmid.

Below: Rising to her tiptoes, seventh grader Kailey Blum sets the ball for a teammate to spike. Blum played as the setter for the "A" team all season.





Above: DCHS junior high volleyball players wish Oceola players good luck near the net just before a home game begins.

RUNNING TO NEW HORIZONS

Junior High Cross Country

Can you imagine playing a sport where you don't get to rotate out with other teammates? This is the nature of cross country. When running, you are the only person that can run for you, so you can't rotate out when you are tired. This is why the team runs 2-3 miles every practice. It may not be easy, but practice pays off. Seventh grader Hannah Gangwish said they "run hills at different paces or run around town... they are very helpful." The team had multiple medalists this year and several new personal records.

But cross country is more than just running. It's also growing closer to your team. On the bus rides back from their meets the team would listen to music loudly as they celebrated a successful meet. One of the team's favorite songs to listen to was "Stacy's Mom." Eighth grader Drew Langan said, "There were a lot of funny moments, but the funniest was when we were all singing and Jacson [Valentine] started screaming to the bus next to ours."

'It's a family," said junior high cross country coach McKenzie Jakub. Before each meet, the them huddled around and said a prayer. After a warmup shakeout run, they discussed the race and how to step up their game. Stepping into cross country is more than just running long distances. It is working together, persevering in the face of challenges, and pushing yourself to do more than you thought you were capable of with the support of family with you.

Eighth grader Drew Langan and seventh grader Stanley Allen enjoy chocolate milk after a meet.



At the Scotus Invite, seventh grader Neil Olson tries to keep his lead against two other runners.



Trying to be the beat her personal record, seventh grader Hannah Gangwish races toward the finish of the Scotus Invite on September 19th.





Seventh grader Trinity Boss races toward the finish line at the Scotus invite on September 19. Boss placed seventh and eighth grader Alex Thoendel placed third at this meet.

2019- 2020 Junior & Senior High XC Teams

(High school in black. Junior high in red.)

Back Row L-R: Ashley Villalba Pena, Jacson Valentine, Clayton Harris, Braxton Small, Angel Carias, & Dalton Krause; Middle Row L-R: Neil Olson, Alex Thoendel, Ava Schlotfeld, Courtlyn Keeling, Joseph Scribner, & Hannah Gangwish; Front Row L-R: Grant Arps, Trinity Boss, Ava Neujahr, Drew Langan, & Stanley Allen



ONE PIN AT A TIME



Junior High Wrestling

"Take losing and turn it into learning. You never lose, you always learn." This piece of advice, the best that eighth grader Keaton Kloke said he's been given, explains the mentality of the junior high wrestling team. Wrestling is an intense sport that requires you to be at the top of your game. It is the hard work physically and mentally that has made the team have a successful season.

Several of the junior high wrestlers believe wrestling is the toughest sport they have participated in. Eighth grader Brayden Johnson said that the coaches are a lot tougher than other sports, and conditioning is very difficult. But this actually helps all around. Kloke said, "It prepares you for football because it helps you get mentally tough."

The team's hard work led to many individual medals and victories over the season. With the eighth graders entering high school next year and a new group of seventh graders entering junior high, it's clear that the David City wrestling program will continue to be strong in the years to come.



Did you know?
Wrestlers have to have certain shoes to support their feet and ankles. They also have added traction so that they don't slip during matches.



At a home meet, seventh grader Lukas Sabata works to take down an opponent. At the York invite, Sabata and teammates Keaton Kloke, Kendall Schindler, Jace Rerucha, & Brayden Johnson took home first place honors.



Seventh grader Sam Smith attempts to get an oppenent off his back.



Eighth grader Jason Escamilla attemps to pin his oppenent.



2019-2020 Junior High Wrestling
Back Row L-R: Evin Allen, Brayden Johnson, Jason Escamilla, Israel Martinez, Lucas Sabata, & Ethan Buresh-Merick; Front Row L-R: Keaton Busch, Braden Radford, Stanley Allen, Jace Rerucha, Sam Smith, Kendall Schindler, & Keaton Kloke



Between matches, coach Travis Worm talks to eighth grader Brayden Johnson.

STEPPING ON THE COURT

MS Boys Basketball

"Take advantage of every opportunity that is provided to you and try out as many sports as possible in your junior high years. Enjoy the ride!" said middle school coach basketball coach Tom VanWinkle. Being a middle school boy can be pretty fun. You are able to participate in junior high sports and try new activities. In the winter, you can go out for BOTH basketball and wrestling. This year many boys did just that, with over 20 boys going out for junior high basketball. It was a year of learning, growing, and having fun.

"It was amazing to see how each member of the team found their comfort zone and found ways to contribute in a number of ways to allow the team to be successful," said Coach VanWinkle.

The season had its ups and downs, but the team ended 6-2 on the season. More important than a winning record, though, was the memories the team made along the way. From eighth grader Brock Dubbs' most exciting moment of the season, "Honestly probably beating Milford because we never beat Milford, especially in basketball," to the memories made on the bus rides, the junior high boys basketball team will continue to step up on and off the court, having fun and and trying new things one step at a time.



Below: Defending against a Twin River opponent, eighth grader Cameron Hlavac concentrates as teammate seventh grader Evin Allen looks on.



Above: In the Twin River game, eighth grader Brock Dubbs puts up a shot. Dubbs scored 26 points in the game.

Dubbs was proud of the team's season. "[I was proud of] how many games we won. The team last year was mostly eighth graders. This year we won more than last year. We only lost two games," Dubbs said.



Seventh grader Reese Svoboda passes the ball to classmate Keaton Busch at the Feb. 11 home game against Twin River. Svoboda's most exciting moment this season? "Getting a three-pointer at Central City."



"I tried to rip the ball away from the kid and ended up rolling. A foul was called on me," says eighth grader Lukas Sabata about this moment in the Twin River Game. This year the team worked on how to correctly handle jump balls.

WALK BEFORE YOU RUN

MS Girls Basketball

This year, the majority of the junior high girls basketball team was made up of seventh graders. Because of this, practicing the fundamentals was a big part of their basketball season. They worked to improve themselves in many aspects of the game, and their work paid off.

"At the beginning of the season, we had to run 10 up and downs down the court in 75 seconds. We probably had 10 or more people not make it. At the end of the season, we ended up having everyone make it in that 75 seconds, and most of us made it in 60," seventh grader Hailey Glodowski said.

But no sports season is complete without funny things happening. One memorable moment this year was when seventh grader Natalie Robak did a ballerina turn with a basketball. Another was when seventh grader Megan Jahde passed the ball to a referee because she thought the ref was a teammate.

Between the funny moments, the serious moments, and those in between, the junior high girls basketball players will continue to have fun, learn, and grow as players and as people.



Above: The 2019 Junior High Girls Basketball Team
Top Row L-R: Natalie Robak, Justine Fountain, Grace Eickmeier, Hailey Glodowski, Hannah Gangwish, Jazmine Palencia, & Trinity Boss.
Middle Row L-R: Viana Venegas, Emily Poulas, Katilyn Ewert, Hannah Scribner, Tori Price, & Laylani Kasik.
Bottom Row L-R: Rosie Juan Tomas, Kaitlyn Palik, Meagan Jahde, Alexis Harris, Addison Kuhlman, Kailey Blum, & Cally Schmid.



"I fouled out the very first game. We had a rough start, but then it came to a pretty good ending. We won the last game of the season."
- Seventh grader Laylani Kasik



Above: In the elementary gym, seventh grader Alexis Harris passes the ball to classmate Cally Schmid.

Right: Eighth grader Emily Poulas (40) makes her way past an opponent while seventh grader Cally Schmid plays defense.





Above: At the East Butler game, seventh grader Kailey Blum drives around opposing players. Blum said, "A tournament in Milford is where we had our first win. We were the most happy about beating Schuyler because we beat them by a lot."

Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone

Junior High Speech

From the team placing runner-up at the Northwest Viking Voice Middle School Tournament to the speech season ending early because of the coronavirus pandemic, the 2020 junior high speech season is one these speech members will remember.

DCHS junior high speech students were only able to attend two meets, the home speech meet and the Northwest Viking speech meet. Something the team was very proud of was when all speech students earned a top six finish or an honorable mention at the Northwest Viking speech meet. Many speech students also medaled at the home meet.

With a team that has only two returning members, the speech team had a huge learning curve as this was the first opportunity for most speech members to ever participate in a speech meet.

"The speech students improved in their individual events through practicing at school and at home. But they also improved in many other areas from learning what the different speech events are to knowing how to give each other constructive criticism to understanding how to interpret a speech meet schedule and get to their rooms on time," said junior high speech coach Sarah Oltjenbruns.

Full of memorable moments like seventh grader Neil Olsen's favorite, "When Hannah Scribner got first and screamed 'No!' because she wanted someone else to get it" and huge strides forward, the junior high speech team will be back next year ready to step out of their comfort zones once again.



Junior High Speech 2020
Back row L-R: Joseph Scibner, Neil Olsen, & Evin Allen
Middle row L-R: Israel Martinez, Hannah Scribner, & Hunter Hlavac
Front row L-R: Viana Venegas, Justine Fountain, & Jazmine Wielgus



Right: Due to COVID-19, hand sanitizer with our school label was brought to the team's last speech meet. It was also the last meet in the state of Nebraska this year.



Left: At the home speech meet, seventh grader Viana Venegas rehearses her speech to a wall.



Right: Seventh grader Neil Olson brings his stuffed rooster to every speech meet.



Left: At the GI Northwest meet, the awards were wooden ornaments that could be put on a Christmas tree.

RACING TO THE BUZZER

Junior High Quiz Bowl



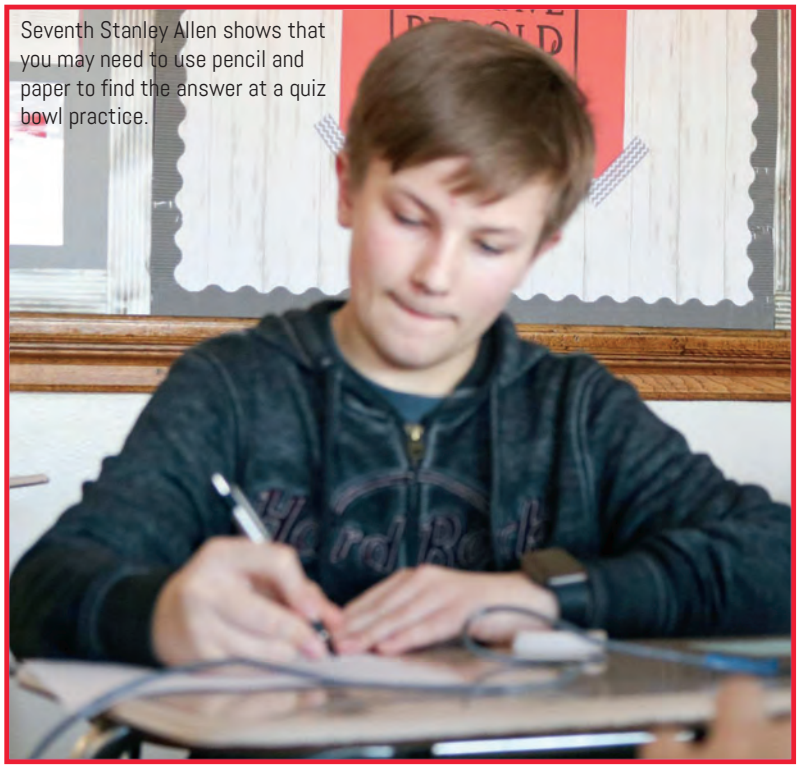
Listening to the next question, eighth grader Tristan Schmit is ready to answer.



Racing against the clock, seventh grader Stanley Allen, prepares to answer the guestion before anyone else can.



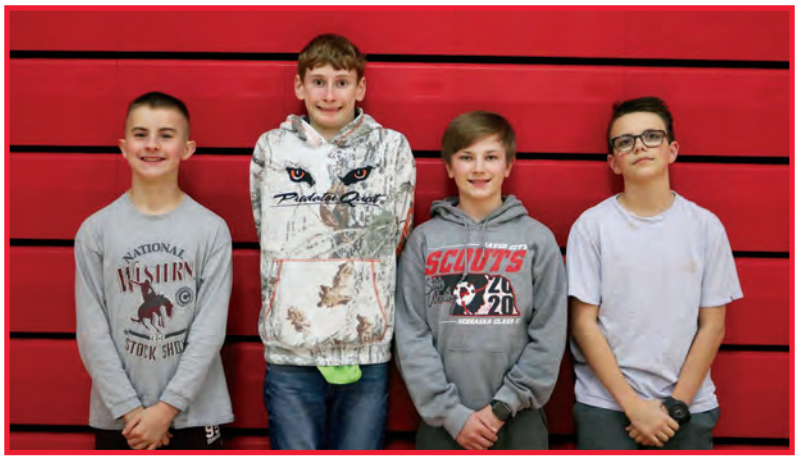
During an access quiz bowl practice, seventh grader Sam Smith thinks about the answer.



Seventh Stanley Allen shows that you may need to use pencil and paper to find the answer at a quiz bowl practice.

"I loved their energy and commitment to the team even though our season was cut short."

These words from quiz bowl sponsor Lisa Bales sum up this year's junior high quiz bowl season. With only four students on the team, the boys had to step up as each answer counted. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic cut the junior high quiz bowl season tragically short as it only runs in the second semester. The team was able to participate in only one contest that was held at Concordia Junior/Senior High in Omaha. The team hopes to have a full season next year where they can do their best to race to the buzzer.



Junior High Quiz Bowl 2019-2020
Sam Smith, Joseph Scribner, Stanley Allen, & Tristan Schmit

WALKING THE STAGE

Junior High Music

Andante. Adagio. Dolce. Fortissimo. If these words sound foreign to you, you're right! Music students learn many foreign words, especially Italian words, as they go through music classes.

This year junior high music students had a busy year. With returning eighth graders and new seventh graders working to build up their skills, this group of young musicians is constantly working to improve.

"The students performed in three concerts and were looking forward to performing in small groups and as a whole band at the East Butler contest before everything was cancelled," said director Joseph Brumm.

In spite of COVID-19, the year was still enjoyed by all. The year's highlight? The winter concert. The entire 7-12 music department gathered together for a massive band and choir song to end the night. Now that is music to our ears!


1.


2.


3.

1. Seventh grader Neil Olson plays the baritone in band practice.
2. During second period, eighth graders Kylie Windedahl, Chloe Zegers, and Kaitlyn Palik wait for for their turn to come back in.
3. Eighth grader Blake Lukert plays his saxaphone in the band room.


4.


6.


5.

4.Seventh graders Hailey Glodowski, Reese Svoboda, Ashton Hjort, Meagan Jahde, Jaiden Ray, and Kaydance Smith perform at DCHS.
5. At the fall concert, seventh graders Hannah Gangwish, Trinity Boss, and Addison Kuhlman watch the director as they sing.
6. Eighth grader Kylee Windedahl plays her flute rehearsing for a concert.

Stepping up to competition

Junior High House

Below: Seventh grader Grant Arps sprints during a house relay as eighth grader Hunter Hlavak gets ready to run.



Red, blue, black, and green. Four different colors for four different houses. These houses were designed to bring students together in friendly competition.

This year competitions were in a variety of areas like trivia, sports, and relay races. The winner of the access-long battle gets the flag stand with their house's flag in their home room. "They [the competitions] were really fun, and they were more competitive than I thought," said eighth grader Brayden Johnson.

But not only do they compete against each other, they also work together. This year, all the junior high Houses banded together to create over 150 Christmas cards for the residents of both The Villa and David's Place. All seventh and eighth graders contributed two cards to the event, made during access period.

"It's actually pretty fun even though I'm really bad at drawing," said seventh grader James Farmer.

It doesn't matter if these junior high students are competing or giving back to the community, as long as they're together, they'll have fun doing it.



Above: A team of five students work on a trivia challenge at the January house competition.



Seventh grader Justin Pruss sprints during the Team Yahtzee competition.



Above: Drawing carefully, seventh grader Stephanie Ramirez creates a Christmas card for a nursing home resident as part of a House service project.



During the Feb. 12 Team Yahtzee competition, seventh grader Evin Allen watches his teammate run.



In September's speed volleyball house competition, seventh grader Rodger Yates waits for his teammate to serve the ball.

FOLLOWING

Junior High Life

There's no doubt about it, most people would love to be a kid forever. But when these kids got to middle school, they were excited to be growing up. With junior high sports and activities, new classes, and the hope for a junior high dance, the seventh and eighth grade class kept busy making memories with their classmates and friends!

What was your favorite memory from school this year?

"That one day I didn't feel like I was going to fall over and die becuse I was tired."
- Eighth grader
Joseph Scribner



"Everything. It was all really fun, and I'm going to miss it!"
- Eighth grader
Jazmine Wielgus



"Winning first at a home wrestling meet after getting knocked out."
- Seventh grader
Lukas Sabata



"My favorite memory is probably when I choked on water in choir."
- Seventh grader
Meagan Jahde



IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS

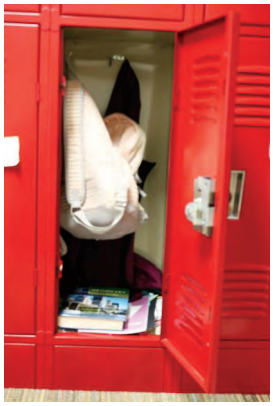
What's in your locker?



"The things that are included in my locker are my backpack, folders, notebooks, a binder for classes, a pencil box, and usually a book."
- Eighth grader
Brayden Johnson

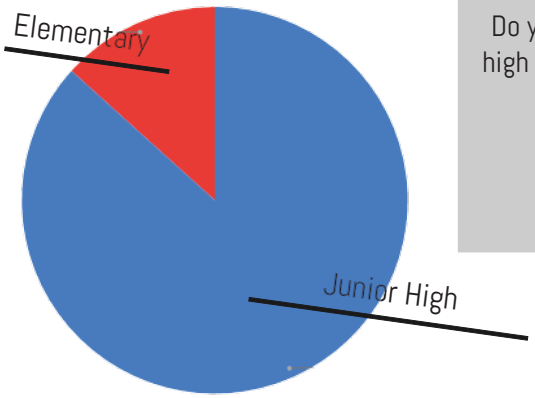


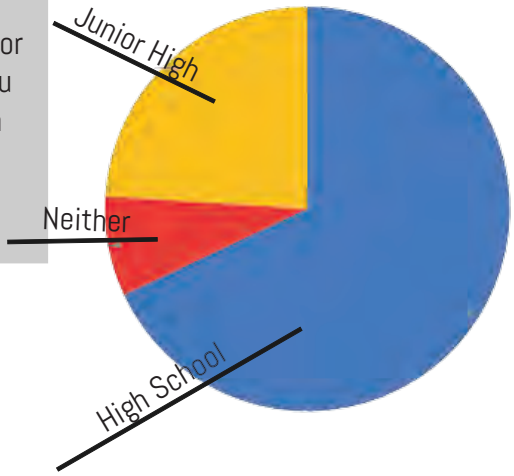
"I have a lot of crazy things in my locker, but some things are a bookbag, a bunch of coats that make my locker look a mess, some books, and money."
- Seventh grader
Cally Schmid



"Some things that are in my locker are papers, pencils, my bookbag, and some old art projects."
- Eighth grader
Kaitlyn Palik

7th Grade:	8th Grade:
Do you like junior high or elementary school better?	Do you like junior high, or are you ready for high school?





YOU NEVER WALK ALONE

"Walk on with hope in your heart, and you'll never walk alone."
Oscar Hammerstein II

In the 2019-2020 school year, we took many steps to get to where we are today. A speed and agility program has been added as a step to help improve our athletes. New organizations have flourished, and accomplishments have been made.

We brought home gold as the wrestling state champions. FCCLA was able to qualify every single member competing in STAR to the state competition. The speech team won their twelfth straight conference title. More would likely have followed if COVID-19 hadn't ended our school year early.

But in spite a global pandemic, we made it. Step by step, we came together and worked our way through. From daily emails to video conferencing doing distance learning to people stepping up to celebrate healthcare workers and graduating seniors, our school, community, country, and world show that it really is true. You really never walk alone.



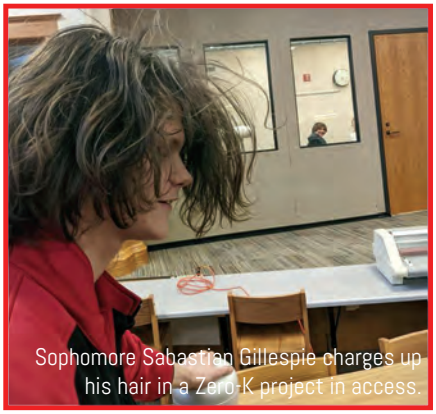
Showing off her "Old Timer Tuesday" outfit, junior Madison Jenson struts her stuff during a homecoming pep rally.



At the last junior high speech meet of the year, seventh grader Hannah Scribner and eighth grader Joey Scribner show off their second place duet medals.



On the last morning before schools close due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students walk into school.



Sophomore Sabastian Gillespie charges up his hair in a Zero-K project in access.



Junior high cross country members prepare to start their race.



Practicing for an upcoming tournament, esports members senior Anthony Scribner, junior Garrett Foster, sophomore Darwin Arcos, senior Chase Romshek, and sophomore Jordan Palik work on their Overwatch



On Halloween, students who wore costumes meet in the gym during access period for juding. Freshman Wesley Johns hopes to win a prize!



Being a Scout



Before the first One Act performance, sophomore Brenna Windedahl does freshman Fabiola Viscarra's makeup.



Teacher Jarod Ockander poses with an omelette he made in his mini course before winter break.



On a dress up day before winter break, senior Daphne Vizcarra-Navarro and AD Ronda Gestring wear ugly Christmas sweaters.





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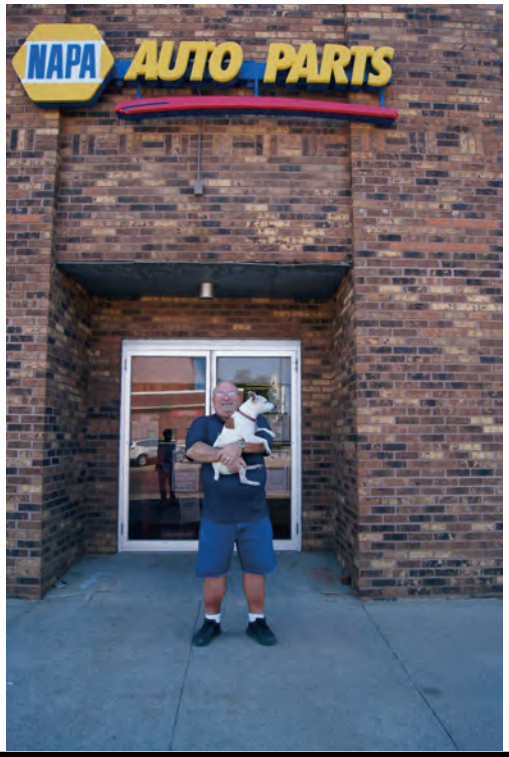
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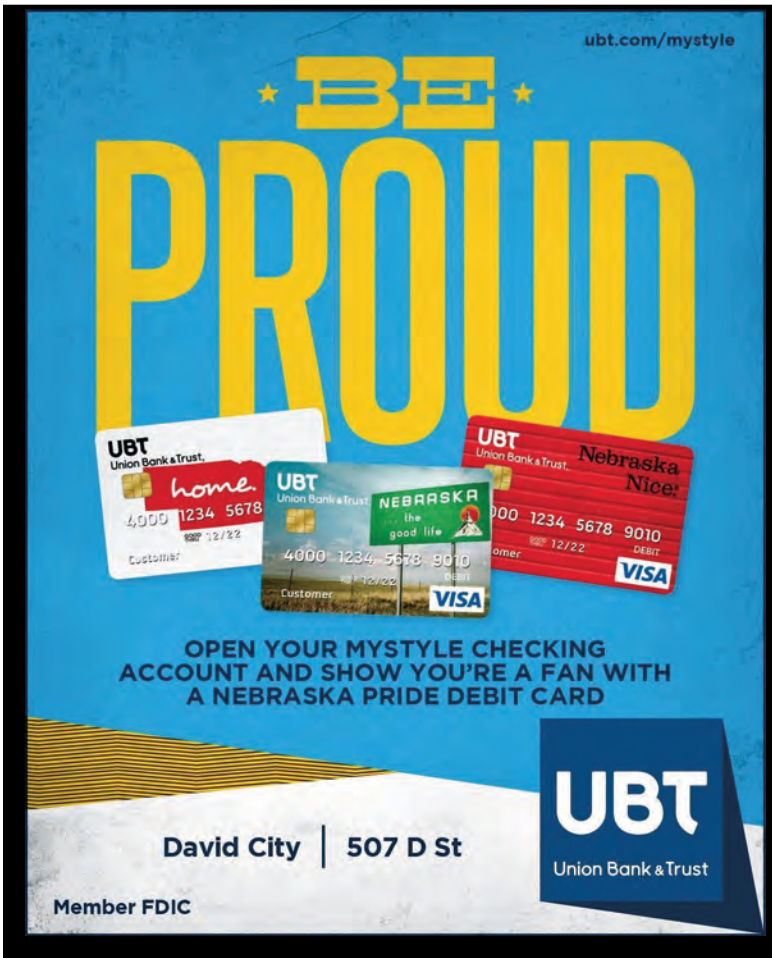
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Sophomore Dylan Masek and junior Tyler Graybill play five point pitch at the pitch mini session before winter break.



At the end of the period, sophomore Cody Adle is all smiles.



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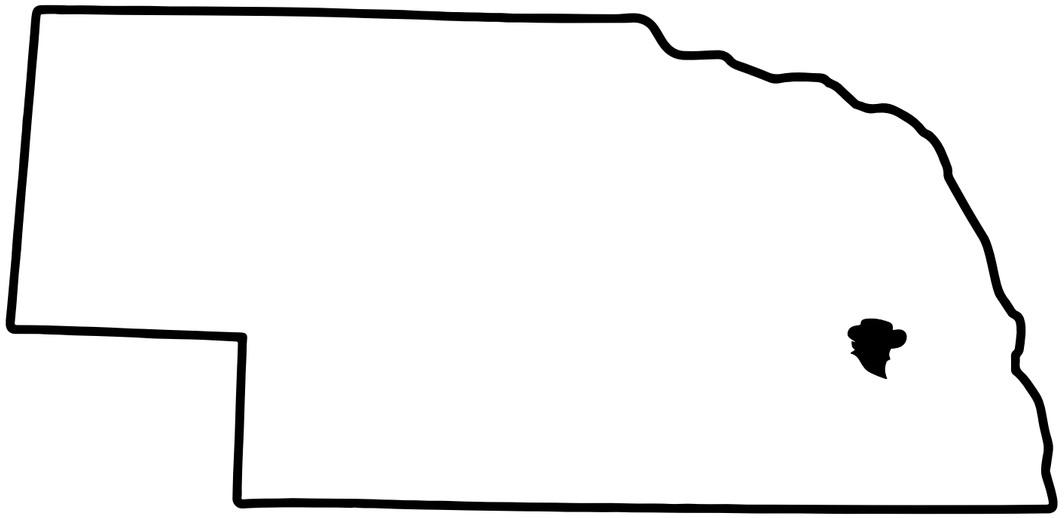
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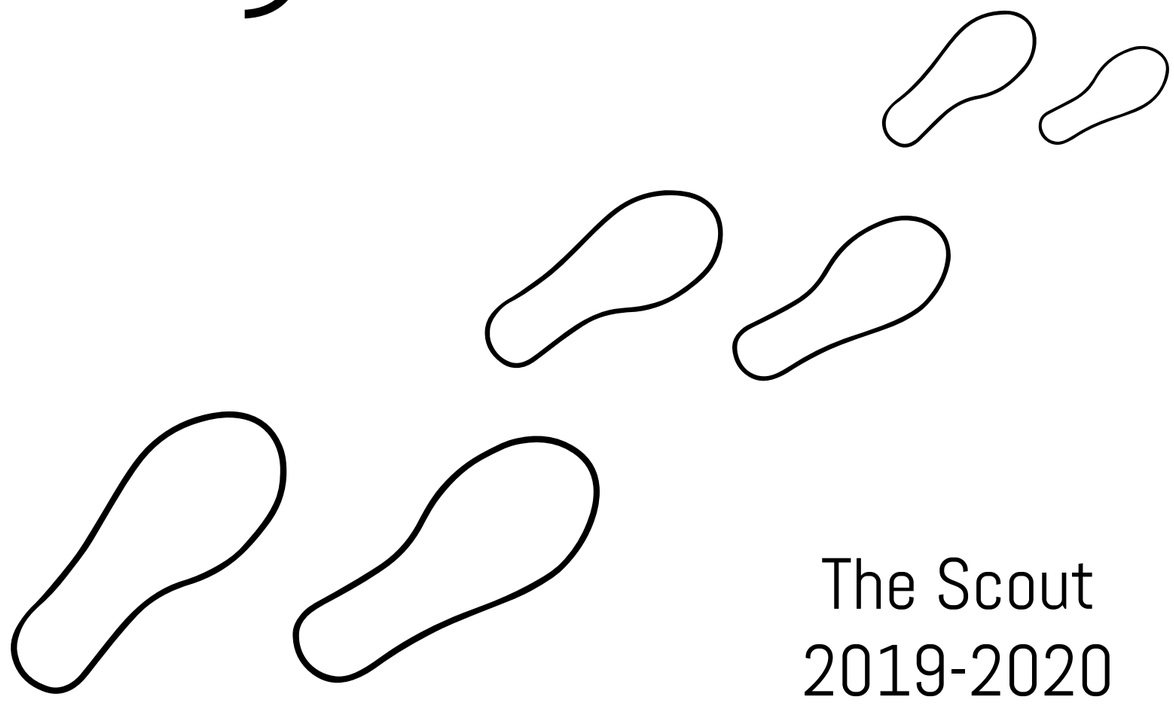
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